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## Critical Care Ambulances Saving Golden Hour in Kashmir Winter

Zaid Bin Shabir

With winter heightening health issues especially chest problems, a critical-care ambulance is tackling another season of emergencies in Kashmir.

Since the rate of heart attacks rises in winters, the medics say, the fatalities can be saved if the patient is treated in the golden hour.

"This is where our ambulances save the situation," Dr. Riyaz Ahmad, head of the ambulance service, said.

"The aim of these ambulances is to save lives and



pre-hospital mortality by providing emergency medical transport and critical care.

We've specialists at our control room, who monitor every single call to check if it's really

a medical emergency. Then these calls are transferred to the medical technician who

**WE PROVIDE PRE-HOSPITAL CARE FUNCTIONING AS EMERGENCY ICU** while patients are being transferred to the nearest and qualified medical centers for definitive medical care."

refers this call to the ambulance pilot. Then a patient is given an estimated time in which the ambulance will reach their place. Our only goal is to reach as soon as possible."

Equipped with five-channel patient care monitors, ECG

machines, lifesaving cardiac defibrillators, oxygen supply and other emergency ancillary equipment, these ambulances handle any medical or surgical emergency.

Set up in 2019, the critical-care ambulance brings emergency healthcare service to some of Kashmir's godforsaken lands, where people have to carry patients on shoulders.

The medical service is currently functioning in Srinagar, Baramulla, Anantnag and Kupwara.

"Last winter, we carried a pregnant woman on a stretcher from a remote | [More on PIO](#)

JKSI Recruitment Scam

## CBI Files Chargesheet Against 24 Accused

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** The CBI on Saturday filed a charge sheet against 24 people, including a former BSF commandant, in a case related to the police sub-inspector recruitment scam in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

In its charge sheet filed before a special court in Jammu, the CBI said Yatin Yadav of Rewari, the mastermind, had accessed the question paper of the examination conducted by the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board through Pradip Kumar Katiyar, an employee of a printing press based in Delhi's Okhla.

Yadav used a network of middlemen and officials of Jammu and Kashmir Police and central paramilitary forces to target aspirants willing to cough up Rs 20-30 lakh to get through the recruitment process, the officials said.

Through the exam, 1200 posts in the Jammu and Kashmir Police were to be filled up.

Those charge-sheeted include Yadav, Katiyar and former Border Security Force (BSF) commandant Karnail Singh. Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and BSF personnel and middlemen, most of them in judicial and police custody, are also among those charge-sheeted.

The Central Bureau of Investigation registered a case in the matter on August 3 this year on a reference from the Jammu and Kashmir administration to investigate the allegations of | [More on PIO](#)

## IN FURTHERANCE TO CONSPIRACY, CANDIDATES WERE TAKEN TO

Karnail Singh and provided the leaked question paper in lieu of money. A few accused from J&K made arrangements for providing the leaked question paper to the candidates at Gangyal (in Jammu)."

## A Sea Of Change In J&K After August 2019: LG



Observer News Service

**New Delhi:** Claiming that the efforts of the Prime Minister have nurtured and fulfilled people's aspirations, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that abrogation of Article 370 marked the beginning of a new era of peace & progress in Jammu and Kashmir and removed social disparities.

"J&K is on the move and full of self-confidence it is marching forward on the path to progress," Sinha said.

He made these remarks while delivering the keynote address at The Chanakya Dialogues organized by Chanakya Forum here on Saturday, an official spokesperson said.

The LG, he said, maintained that the progress of Jammu Kashmir has been the top priority and commitment of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Temporary Provision of Articles 370 & 35A restricted the growth. For a very long time, discrimination was normalized. Separatism, Terrorism, Corruption and Dynastic politics had disempowered the common citizen," the LG said.

"A sea of change can be witnessed after August 2019. Abrogation of Article 370 marked the beginning of a new era of peace & progress in J&K and removed social disparities. The efforts of Prime Minister have nurtured and fulfilled people's aspirations," he added.

Terming equal | [More on PIO](#)

## Bukhari's Show Of Strength In Srinagar Rally Says No Election Can Bring Back Special Status, Demands Statehood

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party chief Altaf Bukhari on Saturday said his party will hire the country's best lawyers to fight in the Supreme Court for the restoration of Articles 370 and 35A.

Addressing a public meeting at Sher-e-Kashmir cricket stadium here, Bukhari also demanded that Jammu and Kashmir's statehood be restored.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre revoked the special status granted to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution and divided it into two union territories -- Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

It also abrogated Article 35A which allowed the state to define its permanent residents.

Taking dig at his political opponents, Bukhari said that the politics of betrayal being played by the leaders here have always pushed the people to the wall, but the Apni Party will never indulge in such tactics and would always speak truth before the people.

"I want to tell you people that the Apni Party can't bring Article 370 back after forming the government, but it can only be restored through the



**JAMMU AND KASHMIR'S SPECIAL STATUS CANNOT BE BROUGHT BACK** through any election and those who are saying so are befooling the people and they do not have any shame".

Supreme Court (SC), where the case is subjudice at present.

"He said Jammu and Kashmir's special status cannot be brought back through any election and those who are saying so are befooling the

people and "they do not have any shame".

The issue is in the Supreme Court and I promise you we will hire the best lawyers of India to fight for their restoration even if we have to spend crores of rupees.

"We will fight in the Supreme Court as our case is strong and we will get Articles 370 and 35A back through our lawyers," Bukhari told the gathering, said to be the largest political power show in Srinagar after 2019.

"Our destiny is with India only, but whatever our

sufferings are, are because of India itself. However, these issues can only be resolved by India only," he said and appealed to people not to fall into the trap of those leaders, who make only tall promises.

"You divided our state into two... union territories. We want our statehood back. Today, the people have come here so that I take this up with the prime minister and tell him that this is your promise, this is the promise of the home minister of India, kindly restore the status of J&K as it existed on August 5, 2019 | [More on PIO](#)

## Situation In Eastern Ladakh Unpredictable: Army Chief

Press Trust Of India

**New Delhi:** The situation in eastern Ladakh is "stable but unpredictable", Chief of Army Staff Gen Manoj Pande said on Saturday, amid the lingering border standoff in the region with China.

In an address at a think-tank, Gen Pande also said the Indian side is looking forward to the next round of high-level military talks with China for resolution of the remaining issues.

"We are looking at date for the 17th round of talks," he said.

As far as PLA's force levels are concerned, there has been no significant reduction, he



said referring to the overall situation along Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh.

He was addressing the 'Chanakya Dialogues', a think-tank.

On development of

infrastructure by China in border areas, the Army chief said it is going on unabated.

About the Indian Army's military preparedness in the region, he said "our transition to winter | [More on PIO](#)

## DC Bans Heating Gadgets Ahead Of Winter, Faces Flak

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** The administration in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal on Saturday imposed a blanket ban on the sale, storage and use of electric appliances during winters, evoking sharp criticism from the political parties.

Invoking orders under Section 144 CrPC OF 1973, the Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal Shyambir imposed blanket ban on the storage, sale, possession and use of heavy heating appliances like blowers, heaters, radiators, etc to avoid any collateral damages to electric supply.

"It has been apprehended that non-judicious use of electric appliances such as blowers, heaters, radiators, etc may cause damages to transmission lines due to heavy load resulting in disturbance in the hassle-free power supply," the order reads.

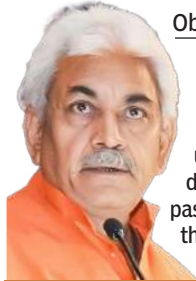
In view of the fast-approaching winter season and to avoid collateral damage to the electricity supply due to heavy load on the transmission system by use of heavy heating appliances which are not permissible... the District Administration Ganderbal imposes a blanket ban on the sale, possession, storage and use of such electric appliances in the district, the order further reads.

According to the order, by using the above-mentioned electric appliances there is every apprehension of short circuits which ultimately results in fire incidents during the winter season which causes loss of life and property.

The DM Ganderbal said that in order to provide hassle-free electric supply to consumers as well as government offices and hospitals and to avoid unscheduled power cuts | [More on PIO](#)

## 'J&K Education Rankings Excellent Now'

Observer News Service



Lt Governor (LG), Manoj Sinha Saturday said that the rankings and studies in the higher educational institutes and universities in Jammu and Kashmir were excellent due to the good atmosphere prevailing here in the past 2-3 years. Sinha said that he was optimistic that the concerned administration of these institutes will further improve it. | [More on PIO](#)

**JAMMU KASHMIR HAS BEEN RANKED TOP PERFORMER** in developing a strong startup ecosystem. The industrial sector in the UT of J&K is growing to new heights with massive investment proposals. The development projects in the districts are being taken up in consultation with people to ensure their needs are fulfilled on priority."

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

#### Case Filed For Threatening Scribes

Police on Saturday filed a case against militants and handlers belonging to Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and one of its offshoots for sending threat letters to journalists in Kashmir.

"Case registered against handlers, active terrorists & OGWs of terror outfit LeT & its offshoot TRF for online publication & dissemination of a direct threat letter to Journalists & reporters based in Kashmir.

"FIR No. 82/2022 U/S 13 UAPA, 505, 153B, 124A & 506 IPC in Shergari PS," Srinagar Police wrote on Twitter.

TRF or The Resistance Front, which is believed to be a shadow of the LeT outfit, had issued an online threat to a few media houses in | [More on PIO](#)

#### Man Held Over Celebratory Gunfire

Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday arrested a man for opening fire during a marriage ceremony here in this capital city.

According to a police spokesperson, Moin Khan of Peerbagh area was arrested for resorting to celebratory fire during a marriage ceremony in Alooohibagh area thus endangering lives of the guests.

In a tweet, Srinagar Police informed, "One Moin Khan S/o Ghulam Mustafa Khan R/o Peerbagh arrested for firing from his licensed pistol during a marriage ceremony in Alooohibagh and endangering lives of others. FIR no 83 registered in Shergari PS, pistol also seized. The person | [More on PIO](#)

#### 25 Injured In Jammu Bus Accident

Over 25 persons were injured in a road accident that took place in Rameen Makhian area of Akhnoor in Jammu district on Saturday, reports said.



News agency KNO reported that the accident took place when a bus skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge near Rameen Makhian Morh. They said that over 25 passengers were injured in the incident and they were being evacuated to a nearby hospital.

#### DC Shopian Suspends 2 VLWs

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya on Saturday suspended two village level workers (VLWs) for financial irregularities at their respective Halqas. The suspended VLWs or Panchayat Secretaries have been identified as Yasmeena Jan, Panchayat Secretary, Halqa Handew and Abdul Hamid Bhat, Panchayat Secretary, Halqa Saidapora-A. Besides, an enquiry team has been constituted, headed by Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Shopian, Manzoor Hussain (having members including Assistant Commissioner, Panchayat and Ex. Engineer REW

#### 2 Migrant Workers Injured In Attack



Two migrant worker on Saturday were shot at and injured by terrorists in Rakh-Momin area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district, police said. #Terrorists fired upon & injured two outside labourers in Rakh-Momin area of #Anantnag. Both the injured are being shifted to hospital for treatment," Kashmir Zone Police said on Twitter. | [More on PIO](#)

#### Man Involved In Hit & Run Case Arrested

The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday claimed have solved a hit and run case in central Kashmir's Budgam district within hours by arresting an accused person involved in the commission of crime.

Police Post Soibugh received an information at about 1030hrs, an accident was reported at Hakermullah Budgam, wherein an unknown vehicle hit and injured a pedestrian namely Iman Gulzar age about 15 years, daughter of Gulzar Ahmed Hajam resident of Harkarmulla Budgam, a police spokesperson said. The injured was taken to JVC Hospital | [More on PIO](#)



# Fruit And Veg: Is It Better To Peel Them?

Many people's default when preparing fruit and vegetables is to peel them. But often, it's not necessary. There are important nutrients in the peel. And, what's more, discarded fruit and veg peels contribute to climate change.

Fruit and vegetables are rich sources of vitamins, minerals, fibre and many phytochemicals (plant chemicals), such as antioxidants (substances that protect your cells from harm). Not consuming enough of these nutrient-rich foods is linked to an increased risk of chronic diseases, including cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes. In 2017, the World Health Organization reported that around 3.9 million deaths a year worldwide were attributable to people not eating enough fruit and veg.

Eating 400g of fruit and vegetables a day, as the WHO recommends, is difficult to achieve for many people. So could consuming fruit and vegetable peel help with this issue by adding important nutrients to people's diets?

They can certainly contribute. For example, nutritionally important amounts of vitamins, such as vitamin C and riboflavin, and minerals such as iron and zinc, are found in the peel of seven root vegetables: beetroot, field mustard, wild carrot, sweet potato, radish, ginger and white potato. And the US Department of Agriculture shows that unpeeled apples contain



15% more vitamin C, 267% more vitamin K, 20% more calcium, 19% more potassium and 85% more fibre than their peeled equivalents. Also, many peels are rich in biologically active phytochemicals, such as flavonoids and polyphenols, which have antioxidant and antimicrobial properties.

Another reason to not discard peels is their effect on the environment. According to the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, uneaten food, including peel,

generates 8%-10% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions. (Food rotting in landfills releases methane, the most potent greenhouse gas.) New Zealand alone reports an annual wastage of 13,658 tonnes of vegetable peels and 986 tonnes of fruit peels – a country with a population of only 5.1 million people.

Given the nutrient content of peel and its contribution to food waste, why do people peel fruit and vegetables at all?

Some must be peeled as the outer portions are inedible, don't taste nice, are hard to clean or cause harm, such as banana, orange, melon, pineapple, mango, avocado, onion and garlic. Also, peeling may be a necessary part of the recipe, for example, when making mashed potato. But many peels, such as potato, beetroot, carrot, kiwifruit and cucumber, are edible, yet people peel them anyway.

Pesticide residue

Some people peel fruit and veg because they are concerned about pesticides on the surface. Pesticide residues are certainly retained on or just below the surface, although this varies according to plant species. But most of these residues can be removed by washing. Indeed, the US Food and Drug Administration recommends that people wash produce thoroughly under cold water and scrub it with a stiff brush to remove pesticides, dirt and chemicals.

Cooking techniques, such as boiling and steaming, can also reduce pesticide residue. But not all pesticide residues are removed by washing and cooking. And people who are concerned about their exposure to pesticides may still wish to peel. Lists of pesticide contents for fruit and vegetables are available in some countries, for example, the Pesticide Action Network produce one for the UK. This can help you to decide which fruit and veg to peel and which peels can be eaten.

If you want to find out more about fruit and vegetable peel and what to do with it, there is lots of advice online including help on how to use peels for composting, to feed a wormery, or incorporation into recipes. With a little investigation and creativity, you can help to reduce waste and increase your fruit and vegetable intake. Surely it's worth a try? And you'll be helping to meet one of the UN's sustainable development goals: to halve food waste by 2030.

## Scholarships This Week

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

Scholarship Name 1:  
U-Go Scholarship Program

Description: U-Go invites applications from first-year meritorious young women currently pursuing professional graduation courses such as teaching, nursing, pharmacy, medicine, engineering, etc. across India. The scholarship aims to support promising young women to continue their education.

Eligibility: Open for young women pursuing first year of professional graduation courses such as teaching, nursing, pharmacy, medicine, engineering, etc. in India. Applicants must have secured at least 70% marks in their Classes 10 and 12. The annual family income of the applicant from all sources must be less than INR 5,00,000.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 60,000 per year for up to 4 years  
Last Date to Apply: 30-11-2022  
Application mode: Online applications only  
Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/UGO1](http://www.b4s.in/observer/UGO1)



Scholarship Name 2:  
HDFC Badhte Kadam Scholarship 2022-23

Description: HDFC Badhte Kadam Scholarship aims to provide financial assistance to help high performing students from underprivileged backgrounds to continue and complete their education. Open for students in Class 11-12, those pursuing undergraduate courses and competitive exam coaching.

Eligibility: Indian students who are currently studying in Class 11 to undergraduate (general and professional).

Students with Disabilities studying in Class 11-12, pursuing undergraduate courses, diploma/ITI, and vocational courses.

Candidates preparing for competitive examinations such as NEET, JEE, CLAT, and NIFT at a recognized coaching institution.

Must have obtained at least 60% marks (80% for coaching students) in the previous class or board exams (Note: There is no minimum marks required for Students

with Disabilities).

Annual family income of the applicants should be below INR 6,00,000 (for Students with Disabilities, it should be below INR 8,00,000), from all sources.

Special consideration will be given to girl students and students who are going through any kind of crisis (lost a parent/both parents, terminal illness in family, etc.).

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 1,00,000

Last Date to Apply: 30-11-2022  
Application mode: Online applications only  
Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/HTPF12](http://www.b4s.in/observer/HTPF12)

Scholarship Name 3:  
Saksham Scholarship Program for Drivers' Children

Description: Mahindra Finance invites applications for the 'Saksham Scholarship Program for Drivers' Children' from students belonging to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Telangana. The scholarship is meant to support underprivileged and meritorious children of drivers (all

light motor vehicles and small commercial vehicles such as Taxi, Jeep, Car & delivery vans such as Pickup, magic, school van etc) holding a valid driving license who are studying in Class 1 to postgraduation level

Eligibility: The applicants must be currently studying at Class 1 to postgraduation level in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Telangana. Applicants who are pursuing studies from Class 9 onwards must have scored 60% or more marks in the previous final examination. The annual family income of the applicant from all sources must not be more than INR 4,00,000.

Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship ranging from INR 5,000 to INR 20,000 for 1 year

Last Date to Apply: 31-12-2022  
Application mode: Online applications only  
Short Url: [www.b4s.in/observer/SKSP1](http://www.b4s.in/observer/SKSP1)

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Bandipora.

FAX: 01957-225533. e-mail: ee\_rnb\_bandipora@yahoo.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No: (145) of 2022-23 DATED:-11-11-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory J&K e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on percentage age basis from approved and eligible Civil registered with Union Territory J&K Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of work	Estt. Cost (Rs.in lacs)	Cost of Tender document (IN Rs.)	Earnest money (IN Rs.)	Time of completion	Time & Date of opening of Bid	Class of contractor	Major Head of Account
1	Re-modelling of DDC's Office Chamber Block "B" Mini Secretariat Bandipora.	4.64	200 (Indicate name of work with NIT serial no. on TR)	9280.00	20 days	18-11-2022 at 4:30 PM	DEE	NFB Grants

Position of AAA= Accorded.

1.The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information , eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the Departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:

1. Date of issue of Tender Notice	11-11-2022
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 11-11-2022, 6:00 PM
3. Bid Submission Start date	11-11-2022, 6:00 PM
4. Bid Submission End date	18-11-2022 upto 04.00 P.M.
5. Last Date for receiving the hard copy (Original DD & EMD)	Hard copies shall be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as lowest bidder (L1) at the time opening of tenders. The cost of tender document will be collected through e- Challan/ Treasury 0059. However the successful bidders will submit the same after the opening of Bids online. Note:-All bidder must upload EMD in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora @2% of advertised Cost
6. Date & time of opening of Bids (online)	18-11-2022 at 4:30 PM in the Office of the Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Bandipora.

Note: The Bidder will mention the Contact No. and Bidder Name in the BoQ

2.Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender documents under MH-0059 in shape of Treasury Receipt favoring to Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Bandipora (tender inviting authority).Indicating S.No of Nit, Name of work and Earnest Money / Bid Security in shape of CDR / FDR pledged to Executive Engineer (R&B Division Bandipora (Tender receiving authority)

3. The bidder who is declared as L1 shall deposit 3% Performance security of the allotted cost in shape of CDR/ FDR

Pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora (Tender inviting authority) and the 2% EMD shall be Released in favour of the successful bidder only after the receipt of 3% performance security.

4. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the Bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened on same website in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Bandipora (tender receiving authority).

5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

6. The earnest money shall be fortified, if :-

a. Any bidder/ tendered withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c. Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

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

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

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

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in para -1.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original/ photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically/ by registered post/ through courier before the date specified in para-1

f. The bidder who is declared as L1 shall deposit 3% performance security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Bandipora Tender issuing authority and the 2% EMD shall be released only after the receipt of the same.

a. The tender/ bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirement as laid down in NIT.

b. All other terms, conditions are as per PWD Form-25 (Double agreement)

S/d.  
Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Bandipora

DIPK-13351/22

No:-EE/R&B/Bandi/6311-17  
Date: 12-11-2022.

SAD DEMISE

Spouse of Mohammad Sadiq Akhoon is No More

With profound grief and sorrow it's to be informed that wife of Mohammad Sadiq Akhoon of Check Sadrabal Srinagar has left for heavenlyabode on 12 November 2022.

Ina lill la hi Wa Ina illahi Rajaoun

May Almighty Allah grant her highest place in Jannah. Ameen.

Ijtami Fateh Khwani will be held on 14 November 2022 at ancestral graveyard at Check Sadrabal near NIT Srinagarat 07:30 morning.

Ladies are requested not to bring fruits etc.

Bereaved:

Mohammad Sadiq Akhoon (Husband)

Mohd Yasin Akhoon (Son)

Bashir Ahmed Akhoon (Son)

8494096255 9419865320

inf

Khan Family Bereaved

With profound grie, we inform the demise of Ab. Rashid Khan (Ex. Employee Transport Depty) S/o Late Gh. Qadir Khan R/o Ganderpora, Eidgah who expired on 11th of Nov. 2022 (Friday). May Almighty Allah grant Jannat ul Firdous to the departed soul. His congregational Fateha Khawani will be held on 13th of Nov. 2022 (Sunday) at 10:30 am at his ancestral graveyard Fakir Makbara Dana Mazar, Waniyar near Police Post.

From Brothers of Late Ab. Rashid Khan

pib

Office of the Principal

Govt. Boys Higher Secondary Institute

Palhallan Pattan Kashmir

No; 2462/HSS/Ptn dated 12-11-2022

Tender Notice

The undersigned invites the sealed tenders from registered publishers affixed with revenue stamp worth Rs 02 for printing of school magazine of Govt. Higher Secondary Institute Palhallan. The specifications of the Magazine are as under;

S.No:	Particulars	Details/Specifications
1	Paper Size	18X22 /4
2	PAPER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Black And White pages (80 GSM) = 90 PAGES</li> <li>Photograph Papers (170 GSM) = 16 Pages (GlassY</li> <li>Multicolour printing title cover (300 GSM) (Laminated)</li> </ul>

- The tenders should reach to the office of undersigned within 05 days during working hours from the date of publication of this notice.
- The undersigned reserves the right to reject any tender without any notice.

Principal  
Govt. Goys Higher Sec. Institute  
Palhallan 193121

fko





## KU Law Students Express Gratitude To Controller Exams

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Students at the school of law have expressed their joy and gratitude to the controller examinations at the University of Kashmir for announcing their results within a reasonable time frame.

In what is called to be an achievement in the examination history of Kashmir University, the results of BALLB & LLB (Hons) were declared within a few weeks by the examination wing of Kashmir University.

The students of the School of Law pay thanks to the newly appointed Controller of Examinations Majid Zaman for the timely declaration of results.

Gazi Muzamil, a law student who is also the President of the J&K Students Movement, described it as historic.

He said, "our results were declared within a few weeks, saving us valuable time. The results of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th

and 5th semesters of the LLb were pending since 2020, but after being taken over by Prof. Majid, they were declared in a few days."

The document work in his office has become hassle-free now, and the students are having full access to the office of the controller which is being widely appreciated by the students' fraternity, Gazi said.

Adil Thakur another student said that earlier It would take months or more for the university to evaluate the results and hold exams.

"The change in the office has revamped the process of evaluation and has been a sign of relief for the students," he said.

The new controller is student-friendly and works beyond the official working hours in his office which is rare in varsity. He added

Pertinently, the examinations were transferred from the Law Department to the Controller Examinations in August of this year for 5 years.

## Free Diabetes Screening Camp To be Held At GMC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Department of Biochemistry, GMC Srinagar & Associated SMHS Hospital is going to organize free diabetes screening, monitoring camp for faculty, students, general public in the lawns of GMC, Srinagar outside the

Department of Biochemistry on World Diabetes Day, 2022 on 14th of November (Monday) from 10:00 AM to 01:00 pm. Wherein investigations of Diabetes panel, Fasting/Random Blood Sugar, Glycated Hemoglobin (HbA1C) and spot urinary microalbumin will be done free of cost.

## LCMA Starts Plantation Drive In Dal Catchment Area

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Vice Chairman LCMA, Dr Bashir Ahmad



Bhat on Saturday kick started a plantation drive in the catchment area of Dal Lake.

70 students from different schools also participated in the said drive and they were

made aware about the importance of a tree and these drives develop a responsive behaviour among children.

Speaking at the vent, the Vice Chairman LCMA said that planting more trees is the need of the hour as these measures will help to arrest the silt and erosion which is affecting the lake.

He informed that this season LCMA is going to plant about one lac plants in the catchment area of Dal Lake. He urged people to plant the trees.

Gulzar Ahmad, Collector LCMA; Irfan Bahadur, Secretary LCMA; Masood Ahmad, Ex.Engineer LCMA; Khurshid Ahmad, Ex. Engineer and Project Officer WMD and officials of LCMA were present at the event.

## Police Arrests Man in Hit & Run Case

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar Police on Saturday said it arrested a youth in connection with a hit and run case.

"Accused namely Sahil Nayaz Kuchay of Baghat ar-

rested in a hit & run case wherein a elderly person was hit by a scooty which fled from the spot. The elderly person is battling for life in Al-shifa hospital. FIR no.83 registered in sadar PS. Scooty also seized" Srinagar police tweeted.

## Pirbagh Resident Arrested For Opening Fire During Marriage Function

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police on Saturday arrested a Peerbagh resident for 'endangering lives of others' by opening fire during a marriage ceremony in Srinagar, Srinagar Police in a tweet said.

One Moin Khan S/o Gh-

ulam Mustafa khan R/o Peerbagh arrested for firing from his licensed pistol during a marriage ceremony in Alooohibagh and endangering lives of others. FIR no 83 registered in Shergari PS, pistol also seized. The person is a habitual offender in this regard, Police tweeted.



## Patients Urge Govt To Make Heating Systems Functional In Hospitals

Heating systems to be made functional from 15 November, says Official

Agencies

Srinagar: Amid low temperature, the patients as well as attendants have urged authorities to make heating systems of all hospitals across Kashmir functional especially during night hours.

Several attendants as well as patients said that hospital authorities even in tertiary care hospitals don't operate Heating System in the hospitals as a result they shiver in present harsh chilly conditions.

They said that during night hours, patients as well as attendants are shivering in hospitals, so the government must

direct concerned officials to operate heating systems.

"It is very difficult to stay in hospitals mainly at night due to cold conditions as heating systems haven't been made functional yet," said a patient, admitted in GMC associated hospital.

He said that as of now the government should have made the heating system functional and keep them operational for a few hours during night hours.

Bashir Ahmad, an attendant with a patient at SMHS Srinagar said the authorities have not started the heating system yet.

He said that the government must take cognizance of

the issue and there are chances that patients can catch cold in these circumstances.

Patients and attendants have requested authorities to start central heating systems in all hospitals immediately so that they won't suffer anymore.

A senior health official said that there is a norm that the heating systems in hospitals are being made functional from 15 November.

Before that the Mechanical Engineering Department concerned with the Central Heating system in hospitals test the heating systems, he said, adding that health systems will be made operational from 15th November. (KNO)

## National Lok Adalat Held at J&K High Court

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A National Lok Adalat was held in the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Srinagar wherein a number of advocates and litigants participated to seek amicable settlement of their cases pending before the High Court.

A number of cases were

taken up and disposed off after amicable settlement was reached at inter-se the parties and subsequently, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey handed over the cheques regarding various MACT cases, to the concerned claimants.

Later, the Advocates and

litigants appreciated successful resolution of their disputes through such alternative dispute redressal system. They expressed their desire to have such an alternative mechanism of settling disputes cordially for delivering viable, efficient and inexpensive justice to the common people, in place, in future as well.

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Sgr-Jammu highway - ( Open )  
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<div><div><div>HIJRI</div><div>CALENDAR</div><div>17 Rabi ul Sani</div><div>1444</div></div></div>	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	5:37
	ZUHR	12:14
	ASR	3:51
	Magrib	5:30
	ISHA	7: 52

## This Day In History

- 1642 - Battle at Turnham Green outside London: King Charles I vs English parliament
- 1673 - Prince Willem III/Raimundo earl Montecuccoli conquer Bonn
- 1715 - Battle of Sheriffmuir during Jacobite rebellion. Battle inconclusive but Government forces halt advance of Jacobite army lead by Scottish Earl of Mar
- 1775 - American Revolutionary forces capture Montreal
- 1781 - British troops occupy Negapatam, Ceylon (Sri Lanka)
- 1851 - Telegraph connection between London-Paris linked
- 1865 - US issues 1st gold certificates
- 1918 - Russia cancels Treaty of Brest-Litovsk
- 1921 - US, France, Japan and British Empire sign a Pacific Treaty.
- 1935 - Anti-British riots in Egypt
- 1954 - 1st Rugby League World Cup: Great Britain beats France 16-12
- 1979 - Ronald Reagan in New York announces his candidacy for US President
- 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 Leghari elected president
- 1994 - Sweden agrees to join European Union
- 1997 - UN pulls out arms inspection teams from Iraq
- 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.
- 2002 - Iraq disarmament crisis: Iraq agrees to the terms of the UN Security Council Resolution 1441
- 2008 - Equity research by Deutsche Bank states that Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and the Philippines should not experience a recession, despite potential harm to economic growth from falling commodity prices and possible weaker exports
- 2009 - The Netherlands officially exits the recession after experiencing 0.4% growth in the third quarter, but recovery for the Netherlands still remains fragile as the country is highly dependent on exports to maintain the recovery

*From KO Archives*

## '50 Percent Indians Are Corrupt'

AGENCIES

**N**EW DELHI: Almost 60 per cent of Indians using government services end up paying bribes, according to a recent survey commissioned by India's Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). But only 20 per cent actually filed complaints against such corrupt practices.

The study was carried out by the Centre for Media Studies (CMS), which interviewed 2,576 visitors to government offices in five cities across the country from October 31 to November 4.

More than 60 percent of respondents said the problem of corruption was not being tackled seriously and that the judiciary was largely ineffective. Most of the respondents agreed the offices for securing driving licenses and civil supplies were the most corrupt in all five cities — New Delhi, Lucknow, Madras, Hyderabad and Pune.

One-third of respondents admitted to using "influence or favour" to get the service they needed. The survey noted that members of the business community and the self-employed topped the list of bribe givers. According to the survey, the government departments in Lucknow and Hyderabad were the most corrupt. About 42 per cent of people said the departments operated "Middle men" who acted as a paid conduit between the public and officials. The public departments covered by the survey included electricity and telephone boards, civil supplies, driving license and local and urban development offices.

(Kashmir Observer, November 13, 2000)



## Afghanistan Living World's Most Severe Hunger Crisis: UN



Agencies

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) warned in a report on 11 November that Afghanistan faced an unprecedented crisis in 2021, leading to a rapid increase in acute food insecurity this year.

Since March 2022, the country has been suffering one of the largest and most severe hunger crises in the world; affecting 22.8 million people — equivalent to more than half of the population — as a result of prolonged drought, the US-led conflict, political instability and Covid-19, the document reflects.

The Afghanistan Chamber of Agriculture and Livestock warned of the severe agri-food crisis facing the country and called on international aid organizations to support the agricultural sector.

"We call on the (FAO) to support Afghan farmers for the coming year, and on the Taliban government to prevent food

prices from rising," said the deputy director of the Chamber of Agriculture and Livestock (ACAL), Mirwais Hajizada.

According to ACAL statistics, more than 40,000 hectares of agricultural land were destroyed by floods throughout Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the government of US President Joe Biden is still in the process of deciding whether to return half of Afghanistan's foreign reserves currently held in the Federal Bank of New York.

Earlier this year, the White House unilaterally decided to keep half of Afghanistan's \$7 billion in reserves, with the other half having been earmarked to pay the families of the 11 September victims.

Other countries hold some \$2 billion of Afghan reserves.

According to the UN, Afghanistan's food crisis was severely exacerbated after Washington and other donors halted aid that funded 70 percent of the government budget.

## Centre On Why Scheduled Castes' List Excludes Dalit Christians, Muslims

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Centre has defended the exclusion of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims from the list of Scheduled Castes, saying historical data shows no backwardness or oppression was ever faced by them.

Contending that Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims cannot claim benefits which Scheduled Castes are entitled to, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in an affidavit in the Supreme Court said the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order of 1950 does not suffer from any unconstitutionality.

The affidavit was filed in response to a plea of NGO Centre for Public Interest Litigation (CPIL) seeking extension of reservation and other benefits to people from Dalit communities who converted to Islam and Christianity.

The ministry also submitted that the identification of Scheduled Castes is centred around a specific social stigma that is limited to the communities identified in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950.

The Constitution (Scheduled Caste) Order, 1950, "does not suffer from any unconstitutionality inasmuch as the exclusion of Christianity or Islam was due to the reason that the oppressive system of untouchability that leads to economic and social backwardness of some Hindu castes was not prevalent in Christian or Islamic societies", the affidavit said.

The Order "was based on historical data which clearly established that no such backwardness or oppression was ever faced by members of Christian or Islamic society", it said.

"In fact, one of the reasons for which people from Scheduled Castes have been converting to religions like Islam or Christianity is so that they can come out of the oppressive system of untouchability which is not prevalent at all in Christianity or Islam," the affidavit said.

The ministry also refused to agree with the report of the Justice Ranganath Mishra Commission that recommended inclusion of Dalit Christians and Dalit Muslims in the Scheduled Castes list, and said it took a myopic view.

## Rajiv Gandhi Killers Walk Out Of Jail After 31 Years

Press Trust of India

**CHENNAI:** Nalini Sriharan, her husband and three other convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case were released from Tamil Nadu prisons on Saturday evening.

Immediately after she was released from the special prison for women in Vellore, Nalini went to the Vellore central prison from where her husband V Sriharan alias Murugan was released and became emotional upon seeing him.

Murugan, along with Santhan, both Sri Lankan nationals, were taken in a police vehicle following their release to the special refugee camp in Tiruchirappalli in the state.

Two other Lankan nationals — Robert Payas and Jayakumar — released from the Puzhal prison here, were taken to the special refugee camp in Tiruchirappalli to be lodged there.

Earlier, another convict who was set free in May earlier, Perarivalan, along with his mother Arputhammal received the duo at the Puzhal prison.

The prison officials set into motion the process of releasing all six of them including four Sri Lankan nationals,



following the receipt of the Supreme Court's Friday order copy setting them at liberty.

The Supreme Court on Friday set free Nalini Sriharan and five other remaining convicts, who are serving life terms for about three decades in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, noting that its earlier order releasing another convict A G Perarivalan was equally applicable to them.

Earlier in the day, with relief writ large on her face, Nalini on parole for a month was escorted by the police to sign at the Katpadi police station.

Late in the afternoon, she was taken to the Vellore prison to complete the formalities pertaining to her release.

Similarly, the Supreme Court's order copies were

sent to the Puzhal and Madurai central prisons where the remaining persons have been lodged.

"Nalini Sriharan is all set to walk out of the prison this evening. She will be a free woman and would decide on her future," her advocate P Pugazhendhi, said when contacted.

It was not immediately clear if she would stay in Chennai or join her daughter in London. "She will take a call on this," Pugazhendhi told PTL.

Asked about the fate of her husband, a Sri Lankan national, the senior counsel said the state government would decide.

"Santhan had already expressed his intention to return to Sri Lanka. Initially, they may be lodged at the Sri Lankan refugee camp," he said.

## Himachal: Moderate Polling As Voters Trudge Through Snow To Elect New Govt

Press Trust of India

**SHIMLA:** From Shimla to the icy heights of Spiti, people across Himachal Pradesh voted on Saturday to elect a new state government. The state recorded a voter turnout of 65 per cent.

It is a crucial test for the BJP hoping to beat precedent and return to power as well as for the Congress looking for electoral revival. Voting began at 8 am on a slow note but picked up as the day progressed and the sun warmed the winter chill.

By 3 pm, 55.65 per cent of the electorate had voted, the Election Commission (EC) said. Polling was scheduled to end at 5 pm.

The highest polling of 62.75 per cent was recorded in Lahaul and Spiti district, followed by 60.38 per cent in Sirmour and 58.9 per cent in Mandi, Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur's home district.

As voting got underway, people could be seen basking in the sun as they waited for their turn, and some, in the higher reaches of the mountains, trudging through the snow to reach



polling stations.

IN PICS| Himachal polls: Voters turn up from high altitude to snow-capped regions

Till 3 pm, Seraj in Mandi and Sujanpur recorded 65 per cent polling, the highest among the 68 assembly constituencies. Anni constituency recorded polling of 62.4 per cent, Arki 40 per cent, Churah 34.68 per cent and Dalhousie 38.44 per cent, among others.

In an early morning message to voters, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged them to enthusiastically participate in the "festival of democracy" and register a voting record. In a tweet, Modi also greeted young voters who will be exercising their franchise for the

first time.

Braving the cold, a large number of centenarians voted in the assembly elections with 105-year-old Nari Devi exercising her franchise in Churah in Chamba and 103-year-old Pyar Singh in Shimla.

The EC had made special arrangements for the elderly and persons with disabilities at polling stations.

There are over 1.21 lakh elderly above 80 years in the state, with 1,136 being centenarians.

In Chasak Bhatpuri, an 83-year-old woman was among those who cast their vote in the Bharmaur constituency in Chamba, the farthest in the state, the poll panel said.

## Ayurveda's Spread Was Stopped By Invaders, Reviving Again: RSS Chief

Press Trust of India

**NAGPUR:** Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Saturday said the spread of Ayurveda had stopped because of invasion by foreigners earlier, but now this ancient system of medicine is getting recognition again.

He also said steps need to be taken so that Ayurveda gets global recognition.

Bhagwat was speaking at 'Ayurveda Parv', an international conference organised here by the Ministry of Ayush. Ayush stands for Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy.

Union Ayush Minister Sarbanand Sonowal and Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant were present on the occasion.

"Spread of Ayurveda among people had stopped due to invasion by foreigners. But Ayurveda is again getting recognition and it is time to expand the knowledge related to Ayurveda," Bhagwat said.

"So how should we take Ayurveda forward? The way is that everyone should get affordable and simple medical treatment, and for this, there is no better option than Ayurveda," he added.



Ayurveda in its purest form should be practised, so that it gets international recognition, Bhagwat said.

Speaking on the occasion, Sonowal said that since the last seven years, Ayurveda has been getting international recognition.

He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for boosting Ayurveda by forming a separate Ayush ministry, and said this system of medicine was earlier neglected.

"Until 2014, the market size of the Ayush industry was only USD 3 billion. But in the past eight years, it has grown to USD 18.1 billion globally and will further rise to USD 23 billion by 2023," the Union minister added.

Sawant said Ayurveda is seeing 'achhe din' under the leadership of PM Modi.

## Israel Admits Shin Bet Tracked Journalists Using Mobile Phone Data

Agencies

The Israeli government has admitted that its national intelligence service, the Shin Bet, used databases of cell phone companies to monitor the activities of journalists, as well as other professionals trained to protect privileged information, such as doctors or clergy, according to Haaretz.

Using the database, the agency can work out where a journalist is based on their mobile phone location, as well as who they talked to and for how long.

This was revealed by Tel Aviv in response to a petition filed with the Supreme Court by the NGO Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), which asked the court to strike down a clause in the law regulating Shin Bet operations concerning its power to require operators to hand over information on calls or messages, according to Middle East Eye (MEE).

The law, passed in 2002, has been criticized for its semi-clandestine nature as it is not subject to public scrutiny, although the head of the Shin Bet is obliged to seek permission from the prime minister

and the attorney general every three months, and once a year before a committee of the Knesset.

The Supreme Court is now analyzing the regulation since, in the opinion of ACRI, it incurs several unconstitutional errors by involving an invasion of privacy and taking away journalists' right to the protection of their sources.

The government now has three months to inform the Supreme Court whether or not it decides to amend this law, Haaretz says. However, the Israeli state has already asked the Supreme Court to dismiss the request on the grounds that "data collection is vital to the agency's operations" and "has already provided essential help in dismantling terrorist attacks and saving lives."

On 26 October, Israeli forces managed to track down and kill at least two leaders of the Lion's Den resistance faction after infiltrating the group's infrastructure using the blacklisted Pegasus spyware.

According to Israeli newspaper Yedioth Ahronoth, Pegasus helped Tel Aviv obtain "accurate intelligence information and thwart (retaliatory) operations" by the resistance.

## NEWS MAKERS

## Delhi Woman Kidnaps Baby For Sacrifice To Bring Dead Father To Life: Cops

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** A 25-year-old woman was arrested in south-east Delhi for allegedly kidnapping an infant to sacrifice him to bring her dead father to life, police said on Saturday.

The child was recovered safely from the accused, identified as Shweta, a resident of Kotla Mubarakpur, they said.

She was previously involved in two cases of robbery and burglary, police said.

On Thursday around 4 pm, information was received that a two-month-old boy was kidnapped by an unknown woman from Garhi area, they said.

A team comprising sub-inspector Rajinder Singh, head constables Ravinder Giri, Sher Singh, Sachin Saroha, Neeraj Kumar and Dinesh Kumar, and woman constable Poonam was formed to crack the case. The team was led by SHO Amar Colony police station Pradeep Rawat.

According to the police,

introduced herself as member of an NGO working for Jachcha-Bachcha care.

Shweta promised to provide free medicine and consultation to the mother and the child. Later, she followed them on the pretext of examining the newly born baby, police said.

On Wednesday, the accused also came to the family's home at Mamraj Mohalla, Garhi, for the check-up of the baby.

On Thursday, she came to their home again and convinced the mother of the child to hand over the infant for outing. The mother asked her 21-year-old niece to accompany Shweta, a senior police officer said.

The accused woman came to Neem Chowk, Garhi and took the infant in her car with victim's niece Ritu. On the way, the kidnapper offered cold drink to Ritu, due to which she fell unconscious. Later, the kidnapper dumped Ritu in Ghaziabad, the officer said.

After gaining some consciousness, Ritu informed her family that the child had been

kidnapped, police said.

During investigation, police checked the CCTV footage of the area and identified the registration number of the vehicle, they said.

On Thursday around 4 pm, a tip-off was received that the kidnapper would come near Arya Samaj Mandir, Kotla Mubarakpur. Police conducted a raid, apprehended the accused and recovered the infant safely, the officer said.

Shweta disclosed that her father had died in October. During the last rites, she came to know that human sacrifice of an infant of the same gender "could revive her father and bring him to life," the officer said.

To execute this superstition, she started searching for an infant boy in the area. She went to Safdarjung Hospital in maternity ward and introduced herself working in an NGO for newly born child and mother, police said.

Later, she met the victim mother. To win her confidence, she often visited the infant and the family, they said.

## Gujarat Riots Convict's Daughter Gets BJP Ticket For Upcoming Polls

Press Trust of India

**AHMEDABAD:** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has fielded the daughter of a 2002 post-Godhra Naroda Patiya massacre case convict from Naroda seat of Ahmedabad for the upcoming Assembly elections.

Payal Kukrani, 30, the daughter of Manoj Kukrani who is one of the 16 convicts in the Naroda Patiya riots case in which 97 Muslims were killed, is also among the youngest candidates fielded by the ruling party this time. She is an anaesthetist.

The Gujarat High Court had in 2018 upheld the conviction of Manoj Kukrani and 15 others in the Naroda Patiya riots case. Kukrani, who was sentenced to life imprisonment, is currently out on bail.

Talking about the BJP's move to field her, Payal Kukrani said, "I am grateful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, state BJP president C R Paatil, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and all party workers and members. My mother is a corporator and my



parents have long been associated with the BJP. I had participated in the election process in the past." She said if she wins the election, her priority would be to develop the constituency and resolve the issues faced by the local people.

Her mother Reshma Kukrani, a local BJP corporator, said that she would provide complete support to her daughter and make sure that she wins the election.

The Kukrani family belongs to the Sindhi community that dominates the area. The BJP

fielded Payal Kulkarni instead of giving another chance to sitting MLA Balram Thawani. Some BJP workers in the area have expressed unhappiness over her candidature as they believe that she is married to a non-Sindhi and hence is no longer a member of the community.

Former BJP minister Maya Kodnani was also one of the convicts in the Naroda Patiya riots case, but was acquitted by the high court in 2018. Kodnani had served as three-term MLA from the Naroda seat. She was arrested in 2009. She is also an

accused in the Naroda Gam riots case, one of the nine major communal riots that occurred in the wake of the train burning incident at Godhra. These cases were investigated by a Special Investigation Team (SIT).

The BJP has held the Naroda Assembly seat since 1990. Kodnani became the MLA in 1998 and retained the seat in 2002 and 2007.

Out of the total 61 accused in the case, the special SIT court had in August 2012 held 32 guilty, and acquitted 29 others. In its order on appeals in the case in April 2018, the high court had convicted 16 people.

A mob had killed 97 people, most of them from a minority community, in the Naroda Patiya area of Ahmedabad on February 28, 2002, a day after the torching of the Sabarmati Express at Godhra.

In the Godhra train burning incident of February 27, 2002, 59 'kar sevaks' were killed, triggering the worst communal riots in the history of Gujarat in which over 1,000 people, mostly belonging to the minority community, were killed.



## BJP Govt Delaying J&K Polls To Continue Its Proxy Rule: AAP

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Saturday alleged the BJP government was delaying the assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir on one pretext or another to deny people their democratic rights.

AAP leader Harsh Dev Singh said that while no initiative has been taken to install a popular government in Jammu and Kashmir, the administration seem to have been outsourced to bureaucrats, mostly from outside the Union Territory and having hardly any connect with the masses who are deprived of even basic amenities.

"The BJP-led government was inventing one excuse after another to deny people their democratic rights and to continue its proxy rule," he told reporters

in the Chenani area.

Singh said the silence of the Centre and the Election Commission on Jammu and Kashmir while announcing the elections for Himachal Pradesh and Gujarat amply revealed the government's intention.

Democracy has been reduced to a farce in Jammu and Kashmir with the political process having been rendered defunct and political parties discredited and discouraged and opposition parties suppressed, he alleged.

Singh, a former minister of the erstwhile state, said an elected government alone can deal with the obsequious challenges faced by Jammu and Kashmir.

Strongly condemning the escalation in militant activities, he called upon the Centre to hold the assembly polls at the earliest.

## Mega Cultural Festival Held at Kulgam

Live Performances  
By Renowned Artists  
Mesmerize Audience

Observer News Service

**KULGAM:** J&K Folk Artists Association, Shah Qalander Folk Theatre, in collaboration with J&K Academy of Art, Culture & Languages, District Administration Kulgam and Municipal Council Kulgam Saturday organized a mega cultural festival at Mini Stadium, Kulgam.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr.Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat was chief guest and President Municipal Council Kulgam Muneeb Ahmad, DDC members, PRIs besides officers from District civil and police administration also attended the programme.

Locals from Kulgam and other areas also participated in the programme in large numbers.

During this programme, several live performances were presented by the renowned artists.

The main attractions of the programme were Kashmiri Chakri, Rouff and Band Pather besides folk dances and music performances.

Students of various schools of the district also presented various performances which were highly appreciated by the audience.

Addressing the audience, the DC highlighted the importance of art and culture of Kashmir. He said that the aim of organizing this programme is to promote local art, culture and folk traditions and provide a platform to the artists to showcase their talent.

All J&K Folk Artists Association Chairman, Gulzar Ahmad Bhat in his welcome address expressed gratitude to the District Administration for supporting them to organize the show in the district adding that current government is keen to support the artists of J&K and various initiatives are taken by the LG administration in this regard.

## Dolphin Int'l School Awarded For Best Hybrid Teaching Model

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Dolphin International School Pulwama has been awarded at 10th Brainfied National Conference at ET TECH X held on November 9-11 for enriching the standards in imparting excellence in education to the GenNext Learners.

The award ceremony was held at India Expo Centre Great-

er Noida.

The school is listed in the top 500 schools in India in the category of Best Hybrid Teaching Model School and Best Creative School. The award was received by the Chairman of Dolphin International School Mr. Farooq Fazili.

During the function eminent scholars and educationists focused on the need of ET TECH X in the school curriculum.

## Rapid Development Being Witnessed Across J&K: Union Minister

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken various steps for the welfare of the common man and rapid development is being witnessed across Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister B L Verma said Saturday.

The Union minister of state for development of the north eastern region (DoNER) started his two-day tour of the Anantnag district as part of the ongoing public outreach programme of the Central government and reviewed development works.

On the first day of his visit, he visited the Martand Sun temple at Ranbirpora here. He also interacted with the people of the area.

Verma visited Pahalgam and interacted with the local delegations as well as the District



Development Council chairman and members, BDC chairpersons and others.

He said the suggestions put forth by the delegates will be taken into account and appropriate action taken will be taken.

Verma said the prime minister has taken various steps for the welfare of the common man and rapid development is being witnessed across Jammu and Kashmir. The Union Government is committed to the devel-

opment of the Union Territory and any assistance required will be extended, he said.

The minister also said the Union Territory administration under Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has designed suitable interventions to address the problems of people and has made unprecedented efforts in ensuring transparency and accountability in the implementation of welfare measures.

He distributed Golden cards among PM-SEHAT beneficiaries, artisan cards among craftsmen, and sanction letters among industrial unit holders. Interacting with the beneficiaries, he inquired about the process they had to follow for receiving the benefits and the time taken.

Later, the minister also visited the under-construction Sub-District Hospital at Pahalgam.

## Protest In Jammu For Relocation Of KP Employees From Valley

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** An organisation here on Saturday held protest for relocation of displaced Kashmiri Pandit employees from valley in wake of "selective killings."

The protestors also demanded constitution of an apex committee headed by union home minister to formulate and implement the rehabilitation of KPs in the valley with "security, honour and dignity."

Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj (YAIKS) said it is high time for government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to bring back the entire Kashmiri Hindu community living as "refugees in various parts of the country to valley and rehabilitate them with security, honour and dignity".

Led by YAIKS president, R K Bhat, young men and women from the community raised slogans in support of their demands and held protest near press club in the city.

The protestors were carrying placards that read-- "We are refugees in our own country", "Struggle for existence continues", "I am a Kashmiri Pandit, I love my Identity" and "KP soul in exile."

"The situation, that is unfolding in Kashmir, it is right time for the central government to announce a comprehensive package for return and rehabilitation of Kashmiri Pandits to valley," Bhat told reporters here.

He said the entire Pandit community should return back to valley along with the employees under the rehabilitation plan.



"We demand setting up of an apex committee headed by the Union home minister Amit Shah for formulation of comprehensive road map on how Kashmiri Pandits will return and be rehabilitated back in valley," Bhat said.

He said it will be true tribute to "KP martyrs" that the entire displaced community returns back to Kashmir and settles there.

Bhat alleged that the rehabilitation package for Kashmiri Pandits announced by the Centre a few years ago is an eye-wash.

"We urge government to restructure, redesign and revise this package by holding a proper dialogue with KP representatives immediately as a confidence building measure," he said.

YAIKS is a Jammu-based organisation advocating for interest of the youth, unemployed, educated persons from the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community.

The displaced Kashmiri Pandit employees working under PM special employment package in the valley are on the protest for the past over 6 months demanding relocation from valley to Jammu in wake of "their selective and targeted killings."

They also demanded relocation of employees till the entire community is rehabilitated back in the Kashmir.

## Justice Magrey Inaugurates 2-Day Consultation On POCSO Act



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Justice Committee, High Court of J&K and Ladakh in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, UTs of J&K and Ladakh and supported by UNICEF organized two day consultation on implementation of POCSO Act 2012 at Police auditorium, Gulshan Ground, Jammu.

Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh, was chief guest on the occasion while Justice Tashi Rabstan, Chairman, Juvenile Justice Committee, Justice Rajnesh Oswal and Justice Mohammad Akram Chowdhary, members of JJ Committee were the guests of honour.

Speaking on the occasion, Justice Magrey delved into the journey of the juvenile justice system and also POCSO Act, 2012, in the country especially the UTs of J&K and Ladakh. He said the system in J&K and Ladakh is gaining pace and have arrived at satisfying results in implementing POCSO Act in letter and spirit.

He said that due to efforts of JJC of Supreme Court of India and JJC of J&K and Ladakh, the UTs of J&K and Ladakh are not lagging with the rest of the country, but a lot is required to be done by creating a robust mechanism.

Justice Tashi Rabstan urged upon the government to organize more such consultations not only at UT level but at the district

and block levels also to make the people aware about the provisions of the legislation. He said that the aim of this conference is to review working of various institutions involved in carrying out the provisions of the Act.

Commissioner Secretary Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda, also emphasized the need for holding awareness camps to make not only the children but the parents also aware about the behavior and attitude of the people who are likely to commit offences against the children. She further said that the conference is a welcome opportunity where all the stakeholders can deliberate upon the provisions of the POCSO Act.

Chief of Child Protection UNICEF India, Soledad Herrero, commended the High Court of J&K and Ladakh for playing a proactive role in implementing not only the Juvenile Justice Act but also POCSO Act. She said that there is a need for greater deliberations over the issues of victims of child abuse.

Member Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee, Amit Gupta, in his welcome address gave an overview of the programme. He said that this is for the first time that consultations on POCSO Act are being organized by the JJ Committee because earlier all the four Round Table Conferences were on the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) Act.

## Seminar On Women Centric Schemes Held At GDC Ajas

Observer News Service

**BANDIPORA:** Jammu and Kashmir Women's Helpline (WHL-181) in association with Government Degree College (GDC) Ajas Bandipora organized seminar on several women centric schemes like WHL-181, OSC, Mission Shakti here.

Large number of students, staff attended the Seminar.

Speaking on the occasion, Campaigner cum project coordinator WHL-181 Bilal Bhat highlighted the overall services provided by the helpline. Giving details, he said the helpline provides 24-hour immediate response to women in distress and represents them before the appropriate service providers such as police and legal authorities.

He said the one-stop centre also provides services like hospital as-

sistance, emergency response and psychological support/counseling, temporary shelter, family counselling etc.

"Take advantage of all centrally sponsored schemes of Department of Social Welfare Jammu and Kashmir," Bhat said.

The WHL-181 is a project of the Union Ministry of Women & Child Development and it is being run by Mission Directorate Women Empowerment of Department of Social Welfare in UT of J&K. Bhat also highlighted various women specific schemes in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Bhat further informed the participants that they can get help from the helpline in case of domestic violence, dowry abuse, mental torture, sexual assault, eve-teasing, cyber-crime, child sexual abuse, rape, economical violence or any other violence.

## BJP Subverting Independence Of Election Commission: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday accused the BJP of subverting the Election Commission to an extent that it was no more an independent body.

She alleged that the Election Commission has become "an extension" of the BJP. "It will do whatever the BJP tells it to do," "Election commission has been subverted to an extent that it is no more the independent body of which the country was proud. Our election commissioners were invited by other countries to seek expert advice on conducting elections," Mufti told reporters in Khiram area of Anantnag district.

She said the Election Commission has failed to act against the BJP even though the ruling party has violated the laws.

"In Himachal Pradesh, the BJP leadership campaigned for polls on religious basis. Muslims are being threatened openly but election commission remains a silent spectator," the PDP leader said.

The former chief minister said election in Jammu and Kashmir will be held only when the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) gives a go ahead for it. "How can I say when elections will be held in Jammu



and Kashmir? That will be decided by the Election Commission and the commission will announce elections when the BJP says so," she said.

On the issue of governance, Mufti said the present government was bent upon reversing everything.

"Look at our Kashmiri Pandits who are camping in Jammu for several months now. They are demanding that they be relocated to Jammu till the situation improves in Kashmir. But the government is sometimes stopping their salaries and sometimes stopping their ration," she said.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president claimed that the BJP was only exploiting the pain of Kashmiri Pandits to garner votes in elections.

"They are not bothered about anyone, be it Kashmiri Pandits or anyone else. They only want to win elections," she added.

## Mehbooba's Attack On EC Reflects Her Frustration: BJP

**JAMMU:** Lashing at PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti for her remarks of Election Commission of India, BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh on Saturday said her allegation that ECI has become puppet of BJP reflects her "frustration."

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday said that the BJP had subverted the Election Commission to an extent that it was no more an independent body.

She alleged that the Election Commission has become "an extension" of the BJP. "It will do whatever the BJP tells it to do." "In Himachal Pradesh, the BJP leadership campaigned for polls on religious basis. Muslims are being threatened openly but election commission remains a silent spectator," the PDP leader had said earlier in the day in Khiram area of Anantnag district.

BJP leader in the Union Territory Tarun Chugh said her comments were a result of things not going her way anymore.

"Her (Mehbooba Mufti) allegation that election commission of India has become puppet of BJP, purely reflects her frustration, as she is aware of her party's downfall in the democratic set up in Jammu and Kashmir," Chugh said on Saturday.

Sensing the loss of her political ground and resultant frustration, Mufti has tried to defame ECI, said Chugh.

"These politicians have always won riding on the boycott calls and proxy voters. They have misused the people's emotions and it was all good till the things suited them according to their plans, the BJP leader said targeting the regional parties in J&K.

He said that when these politicians know that they cannot win using petty gimmicks anymore, they have started questioning the integrity of ECI.

"You have enjoyed all the official luxuries and enjoying them till date legally or illegally but never hesitate to question the integrity of these highest institutions for your own benefit, Chugh said.

Election commission of India is an unbiased agency working on its own and its working pattern is lauded all over the world. Stop speaking and acting on the lines dictated by Pakistan, he said.

## Bandipora Achieves Major Milestone In Power Sector

Reduces More Than  
50% AT&C Losses;  
Billing Efficiency  
Increased To 72%

Observer News Service

**BANDIPORA:** The Bandipora district has achieved a major milestone in energy conservation as it has been able to reduce the aggregate technical and commercial loss (AT&C) losses by about 50 percent by upgrading the transmission system in the district.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad said that a large quantity of electricity gets wasted during transmission due to faulty and poor transmission systems which was a major worry amid energy crisis across the globe.

He said Bandipora has become the top performing district in the Kashmir division for reducing the AT&C losses as Average AT&C Losses for Bandipora decreased to 28.30% which was 53.71% during 2021.

He said this milestone was achieved due to constant efforts of all concerned to upgrade the transmission lines and plug the loopholes that increase AT&C losses.

Dr Owais appreciated the people for lending their sup-

port in this regard and bearing with them during this massive upgradation process. He said with the improvement in transmission, the billing efficiency has also increased to about 72 percent, which led to the top rank in Kashmir division.

The DC said that operation of augmented facilities helped to reduce AT&C losses in the district. He appreciated the efforts of field functionaries of KPDCL for adopting the reforms on ground besides working in adverse weather conditions to augment the power infrastructure.

He said that the UT Government has initiated a large-scale capacity augmentation programme to address the power deficit and stated that the administration is committed to further reduce the AT&C losses in the district and appealed to people to continue supporting the efforts of the administration.

Dr. Owais further said that the power amnesty scheme is strictly implemented in the district for the benefit of consumers.

He informed that 22 DG sets with capacity of 3670KVA are currently providing electricity in Gurez Sub Division while enough HSD has already been dumped for DG sets in Gurez to meet the needs in winter season.

## Rain, Snow Predicted In Kashmir On Nov 13, 14

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Weatherman on Saturday forecast mainly dry weather in next 24 hours and scattered to fairly widespread light rain and snow (over wider reaches) on November 13 and 14 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Also, the minimum temperature recorded a drop and most places with world famous skiing resort of Gulmarg recording a low of minus 4.0°C.

"Mainly dry weather is expected over Jammu and Kashmir divisions during the next 24 hours while there is possibility of scattered to fairly widespread light rain/TS/SN on subsequent two days (read November 13 and 14)," a meteorological department official said here.

Regarding the temperature, the official said that Srinagar recorded a low of 1.2°C against 3.6°C on the previous night. The temperature is normal for the summer capital during this time of the year, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 2.5°C against 2.2°C on the previous night. The temperature was 1.2°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at minus 3.7°C against minus 4.2°C on the previous night and it was 2.5°C below normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 2.4°C, the same as on the previous night and it was 0.1°C below normal for the place, he said.



ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

Exorcise  
the Awe

Notwithstanding the claims of unity made by the coalition leaders the state cabinet is a divided house. The past two years in office have proved beyond doubt that the Mufti Mohammad Sayed is the weakest Chief Minister State has seen in its recent history.

It is infact some key Congress ministers in the coalition government who have been calling the shots. They have been working overnight to strengthen their respective political constituencies. They have a brazen tilt towards Jammu and Kathua districts of Jammu province. One of them very intelligently prevailed upon the former chairman of Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission and got combined service selection list tailored as per his wishes. Despite public outcry against this list, Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Syeed made the state cabinet to approve it. In spite of governments tilt towards Jammu under pressure of its coalition partner some of the cabinet ministers from the province still blame the government of discriminating against Jammu in the allocation of funds, appointments and promotions. This in fact is not a new phenomenon. Political leadership of Jammu, irrespective of their party affiliations have been complaining of discrimination against their province ever since maharaja rule ended in the state and ever since is being trumpeted by leaders of all hues, stature and ranks. The installation of what in common parlance is known as ‘popular’ rule in the State in 1947 was painted as ‘Kashmir hegemony’ by majority of Hindu politicians of Jammu province. Surprisingly even leaders of the ruling parties the National Conference and Congress belonging to the community joined the Hindu extremists and sang in unison with them the ‘song of discrimination’. Agitations were launched against so called discrimination against Jammu. And most of the times these agitations derived inspiration and support from New Delhi. Some of prominent Delhi politicians actively participated in them.

Some agitations forced governments at Srinagar to appoint Commissions to look into the so-called regional imbalance and discrimination against the Jammu province. But findings of these Commissions particularly that of the Skiri Commission appointed in 1978 not only belied these allegations but proved that if there has been any discrimination it has been against Kashmir valley and Muslim dominated areas of Jammu province. It goes without saying that if there has been any discrimination it has been against the Kashmir province, Doda, Rajouri and Poonch districts. The Jammu politicians have every right to strive for the development of the province but not at the cost of Kashmir province. The Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayed need to come out of the awe of his coalition partners and do justice to Kashmir and Muslim dominated districts of Jammu province in the allocation of funds, providing of jobs and trainings. He needs to realize that whatever public support he got by proxy during 2002 elections was from Kashmir and Muslim dominated areas of Jammu. The 2002 support was a fallout of the failures of the National Conference government and Farooq Abdullah’s heavy reliance on New Delhi than on the people of the state. The PDP leaders need to know that their real judges are the people and not the coalition partners.

The article is an editorial from  
KO’s archives and was originally  
published on April 21, 2005



Fight For Dignity  
Transgenders, Kashmir and Islam

Amir Suhail Wani

“

Those males whose  
effeminate qualities  
were innate and  
natural, and who  
did not experience  
sexual attraction  
toward women,  
received no blame,  
guilt or shame  
as they were not  
considered sinners  
and were not to be  
punished

The class of  
Ulema needs to  
dispense fuller  
information along  
with contextual  
underpinnings to the  
populace to protect  
the transgender  
community from  
misdirected  
maltreatment and  
exclusion

With the death of Abdul Rashid alias Reshma, the debate around transgender and their reception and evaluation by our religion – the religion of Islam and our society has prominently figured among social media denizens and people otherwise. Barmania and Aljunid, Caroline, Lee and others maintain in their studies that transphobia, discrimination and injustice, violence and persecution continue to be the fate of transgenders in Islamic countries. The scenario in Kashmir, though moderated by cultural inklings of inclusion and diversity, isn’t all well and transgenders continue to face marginalisation and ostracism. While an attitude of criminal maltreatment is meted out to the transgender community, the plight is aggravated by the misnomer that this behaviour is sanctioned rather desired by the religion. It is often postulated that Islam demands from us the behaviour of exclusion and stigmatisation for transgenders. But this understanding asks for a proper and deeper understanding of the Islamic stand on the issue of transgenders lest our attitudes and behavioural latitude towards the community be distorted by our bias and insubstantial claims.

What are the actual Islamic rulings on the issue of transgenders and do they truly grant any legitimacy to our ill formed opinions on the subject?

To begin with, there is no monolithic practice prevalent among Muslims across the globe in their behaviour towards transgenders and the behavioural diversity is shaped by geography, culture and at times by the era or epoch referred to. Thus, we see a spectrum of behaviours from welcoming and inclusive to a level of rejection that can be marked by a range of actions ranging from social marginalisation to physical violence. The prevalent balance, despite the global diversity, is one of exclusion and otherisation. But these practices and behavioural attitudes are not sanctioned or legitimized by the theorisation and praxis of Islam.

It must however be borne in mind that there are precedents from Seerah, Sunnah and the repository of Ahadith which point in opposite direction and those incidents are so explicit and frequent as to easily lead one to conclude as if Islam is transphobic. But a deeper and contextual understanding of these incidents wakes us up to the true import of these precedents and helps us avoid wrong inferences.

Various academics such as Alipour and Rowson point to references in the Hadith to the existence of mukhannath: a man who carries femininity in his movements, in his appearance, and in the softness of his

voice. The Arabic term for a trans woman is mukhannith as they want to change their biological sex characters, while mukhannath presumably do not/have not. The mukhannath or effeminate man is obviously male, but naturally behaves like a female, unlike the khuntha, an intersex person, who could be either male or female.

Ironically, while there is no obvious mention of mukhannath, mukhannith or khuntha in the Qur’ n, this holy book clearly recognizes that there are some people, who are neither male nor female, or are in between, and/or could also be “non-procreative”. The presence of effeminate men (mukhannath) during the time of the Prophet is well documented. However, almost all references justifying animosity towards transgender people in the Hadith have been quoted out of context, and they wrongly condemn transgender people, despite so many major Islamic scholars having argued that the Hadith actually refer to cross-dressers who want to deceitfully gain access to women’s spaces . The particular

Hit was later prohibited from the house because he had breached the trust of the Prophet but not because of his effeminate identity. The Prophet’s prohibition was rather a response to his actions in this particular situation. Clearly, just like any other person, the principles of moral and ethical behavior were also applied to them and did not entitle them to speak or behave inappropriately. This hadith narration is commonly used by conservative Muslim scholars to justify hatred for effeminate men and transgender people as it is used as proof that Muslims should not allow them in their houses . In reality, the Prophet did not punish mukhannath unless they carried out immoral acts, nor did he try to ‘cure’ them. In one Hadith, the Prophet was recorded to have saved the life of a mukhannath when others wanted to kill him (Sunan Abu-Dawud, Book 41, Number 4910). In the narration, although he was exiled from Medina for immoral behavior, the Prophet still respected this person as a human being, sparing his life and allowing him to carry

“The presence of effeminate men (mukhannath) during the time of the Prophet is well documented. However, almost all references justifying animosity towards transgender people in the Hadith have been quoted out of context, and they wrongly condemn transgender people, despite so many major Islamic scholars having argued that the Hadith actually refer to cross-dressers who want to deceitfully gain access to women’s space

Had th in reference to transgender have been narrated by many Islamic scholars like Ibn Majah, Al-Bukhari, Al-Tirmidhi, Ibn Hanbal and Abu Dawud.

There is considerable evidence that in pre-colonial Islamic communities, mukhannath served as servants as long as they had no sexual interest in women. They would then be allowed to enter women’s private places such as harems and other exclusively female spaces .Those males whose effeminate qualities were innate and natural, and who did not experience sexual attraction toward women, received no blame, guilt or shame as they were not considered sinners and were not to be punished . Because of the regularity of mukhannath hired in women’s spaces, there were men who sought to take advantage because they lusted after women and pretended to be mukhannath in order to gain access into women’s spaces.

Al- Tabari took it as an example that the Prophet did not forbid a particular mukhannath, Hit, from entering the women’s quarters until he heard the servant giving a description of the women’s bodies in great detail.

out his religious deeds.

These surveys, bordering on history and the corpus of Hadith literature, reveal that prohibitions, if any, in respect of transgenders, were purely circumstantial and conditional. The class of Ulema needs to dispense fuller information along with contextual underpinnings to the populace to protect the transgender community from misdirected maltreatment and exclusion. Moreover, it is high time to rise up to the conscience and consciousness that transgenders have equal rights to the life of dignity and honour, of economic inclusion and participation in opportunities. To exclude and marginalise people on the basis of sexual orientations and trying to seek legitimacy for this behaviour from scripture is a task of folly which stakes both the dignity of transgenders and the sanctity of religion.

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

The author is a Srinagar based columnist



# BATTLE OF BAT AND BALL Final Showdown at MCG

Mushtaq Hurra

**C**ricket World Cup 2022 is all set to culminate today, at Melbourne, Australia. The tournament sprang many surprises on cricket frenzied fans. Cricket lovers witnessed some cliffhangers, one-sided encounters and upsets. Mercurial and unexpected rise of Pakistan, early exit of Caribbean T20 power house, Pakistan defeat to Zimbabwe by one run and the Netherlands clinical onslaught against proteas, were some major highlights of the cricketing bonanza. Many hearts broke and many went berserk with euphoria of victory. Many big guns failed to fire at the front, many underdogs produced magical exhibitions with both bat and ball.

The tournament gave us some remarkable and sensational innings, spells, cameos and catches. Rain Gods razed down some hopes to the rubble. Chokers repeated their traditional frailty of succumbing to big match pressure. Minnows like Zimbabwe and Netherlands made two heavyweights bite the dust.



English openers took the world by surprise when they stormed into the grand finale by thrashing Indian bowling attack very brutally. Some weird decisions from umpires added spice to the curry. Three runs off Nawaz free-hit-ball when he had clean bowled Virat in the Indo-Pak match, saw netizens aghast and shocked.

Now, all eyes are on the historical Melbourne cricket ground where Pakistan will lock horns with England. Both teams have had clinical performances in their semifinal encounters. Before



making threadbare analysis of the two sides, it is pertinent to mention here that the 2022 cricket World Cup final has many similarities with the 1992 World Cup final — though it may be a mere coincidence. Venues, teams, fourth digit of the year, dramatic rise of one of the finalists, rains spoiling some matches at league stage have been some notable similarities between the two events. Whether history will be repeated or a new chapter is added to record books; we'll have to wait and watch.

MCG is believed to provide one of the balanced wickets. The pitch is thought to be full of runs but will surely help pacers in the beginning. Overall, a decent wicket to bat on. Straight boundaries at MCG are longer while the square boundaries are comparatively shorter. Short pitch stuff will definitely cost bowlers heavily. Bowlers should try to bowl fuller and make batsmen play on long on and long off. Though 'runs on the board' is the big match maxim and mantra but with rains around on both days, viz match day and reserve day, team winning toss will prefer to bowl first. And both the finalists have won their respective semifinals while chasing. So, batting second is not a bad choice here.

Pakistan openers notched up a 100



plus opening partnership against New Zealand, in the first semifinal. The duo of Babar and Rizwan were lambasted and criticized for their below-par show in the tournament. But the swashbuckling pair showed grit and application at the crucial time and managed to secure their berth in the grand finale with a bang. Middle order has been good in patches. Iftikhar, Shan Masood and Shadab have scored runs but haven't been consistent. Induction of

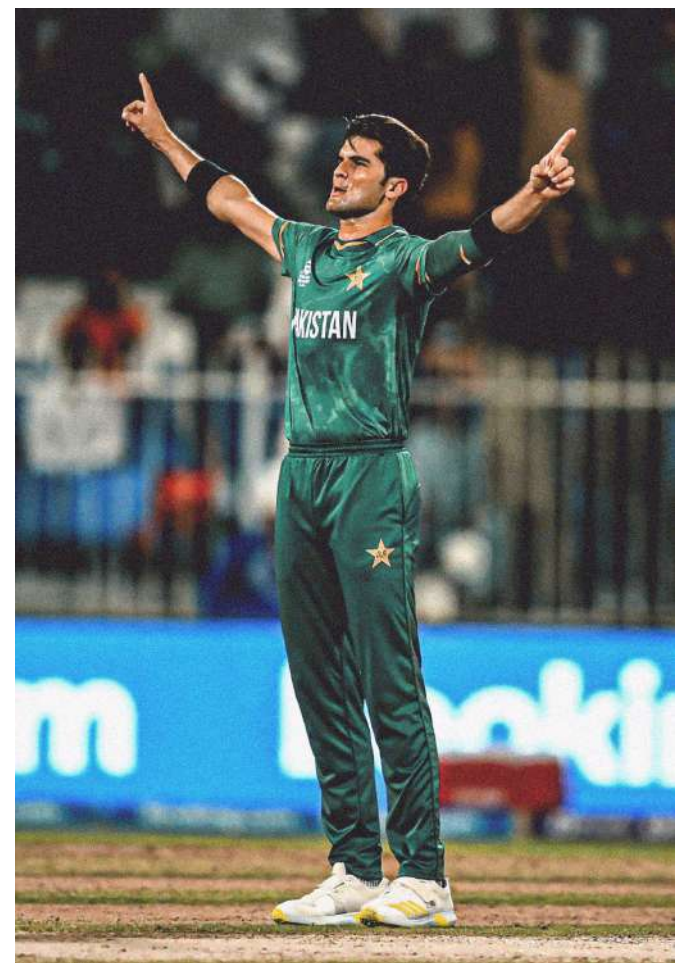
young Mohammad Haaris has given impetus to the Pak batting but he should accelerate to improve his strike rate. You can't win a world cup with a strike rate of 105 or 110. Spin all rounders viz Shadab, Nawaz and Iftikhar reinforce Pakistan batting. Shadab and Iftikhar were brilliant against South Africa, and this pair set the tempo in Pakistan's favor. Nawaz has played a couple of flamboyant innings in the recently concluded Asia cup and tri series in New Zealand. But he needs a day to maneuver an opposition. It might be the finale.

Well, Pakistan's real strength is its bowling. Their pace spearhead, Shaheenshah Afridi, is back in his rhythm and form, though he struggled a bit in the initial encounters of the tournament. The trio of Haaris Rauf, Naseem Shah and Mohammad Wasim Junior have the ability to rip through any batting side. Naseem moves the new well, and can pose threats for English openers. Haaris bowls miserly in the death. Shadab produces magic with his flippers and googlies though he went wicket less in their semifinal against Kiwis, and conceded more than thirty runs. But, he has the potential to strike in the big match. Nawaz though spins the ball less, but can surprise batters. I won't be surprised if Babar starts with the left arm spin of Nawaz.

English men must be flying high in confidence. But, it won't be a cakewalk for them to lift the title. Butler and Hales are in tremendous form. They hammered Indian bowlers as if they were playing tape-ball cricket. It was just immaculate and clean hitting. But, Pakistan bowlers won't be easy to handle. If the pair of Joss and Hales plays

batting power play without losing a wicket, things may turn ugly for Pakistan. But, Pak bowlers will try hard to eliminate the opening pair in the batting power play. If it happens for Pakistan, they will then take control of the game because the English middle order has been rusty. Brook is not amongst scores, Salt couldn't bat in his first game of the tournament, Curran, Stokes and Mo-reen haven't played big cameos. So, if their middle order is exposed in the final, they may collapse to Pak pace battery.

With Mark wood out due injury,



Chris Jordan bowled well in the semifinal against India. He is a T20 specialist bowler. Curran can trouble the right-handed pair of Pakistan openers with his away going deliveries. Butler might open his bowling with Sam Curran because both Pak openers are right handers. Chris Woakes can hit the deck hard and swing the ball, in the batting power play. The English captain has more bowling options available. Pakistan batsmen play spin well. So, Adil Rashid, Livingstone and Mo-reen Ali make the English spin flexible. The Australian meteorological department has predicted rains today at MCG. Let's hope the skies won't open up, and cricket lovers across the globe get to watch a spine-chiller.

The author is a Teacher and a Columnist. He can be reached at mushtaqhurrar143@gmail.com



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# 'Popular Dietary Supplements May Increase Cancer Risk'

Press Trust Of India

Intake of popular commercial dietary supplements like nicotinamide riboside (NR), a form of vitamin B3, could actually increase the risk of serious diseases, including cancer, a new study has found.

The team of researchers discovered that high levels of NR could not only increase the risk of someone developing triple-negative breast cancer but also cause the cancer to spread to the brain, the study said.

Triple-negative breast cancer is considered to be more aggressive when compared to other types of cancer as it grows quickly, is more likely to have spread by the time it is found and is more likely to come back after treatment.

"Once the cancer reaches the brain, the results could be deadly because no viable treatment options exist at this time," said Elena Goun, the lead author on the study which is published in the Journal Biosensors and Bioelectronics.

"Some people take them (vitamins and supplements) because they automatically assume that vitamins and supplements only have positive health benefits, but very little is known about how they actually work," Goun said.

"Because of this lack of knowledge, we were inspired to study the basic questions surrounding how vitamins and supplements work in the body," Goun said.



ments work in the body," Goun said.

Following the death of her 59-year-old father only three months after being diagnosed with colon cancer, Goun was moved

by his passing to pursue a better scientific understanding of cancer metabolism, or the energy through which cancer spreads in the body.

Some people take them (vitamins and supplements) because they automatically assume that vitamins and supplements only have positive health benefits, but very little is known about how they actually work

Since NR is a known supplement for helping increase levels of cellular energy, and cancer cells feed off of that energy with their increased metabolism, Goun wanted to investigate the role of NR in the development and spread of cancer.

"Our work is especially important given the wide commercial availability and a large number of ongoing human clinical trials where NR is used to mitigate the side effects of cancer therapy in patients," Goun said.

The researchers used this technology to compare and examine how much NR levels

were present in cancer cells, T cells, and healthy tissues.

"While NR is already being widely used in people and is being investigated in so many ongoing clinical trials for additional applications, much of how NR works is a black box — it is not understood," Goun said.

"So that inspired us to come up with this novel imaging technique based on ultrasensitive bioluminescent imaging that allows quantification of NR levels in real-time in a non-invasive manner. The presence of NR is shown with light, and the brighter the light is, the more NR is present," Goun said the findings of the study emphasise the importance of having careful investigations of potential side effects for supplements like NR prior to their use in people who may have different types of health conditions.

In the future, Goun would like to provide information that could potentially lead to the development of certain inhibitors to help make cancer therapies like chemotherapy more effective in treating cancer.

The key to this approach, Goun said, is to look at it from a personalised medicine standpoint. "Not all cancers are the same in every person, especially from the standpoint of metabolic signatures," Goun said. "Often times cancers can even change their metabolism before or after chemotherapy."

## ‘Stressful Events May Worsen Long-Covid Symptoms’

Press Trust Of India

Adult patients with "major life stressors" were at least twice as likely to struggle with depression, brain fog, fatigue, sleep problems, and other long-term COVID-19 symptoms, a new study finds.

The death of a loved one, financial or food insecurity, or a newly developed disability were some of the strongest predictors - present in more than 50 per cent of those followed - of whether a patient hospitalized for COVID-19 would experience symptoms of long COVID a year later, the study said.

The analysis, published in the Journal of the Neurological Sciences (JNS), also confirmed the contribution of traditional factors to greater long COVID risk as shown by past studies older age, disability level to start with, and a more severe initial case of COVID-19, the study said.

"Our study is unique in that it explores the impact of life stressors along with demographic trends and neuro-

logical events as predictors of long-term cognitive and functional disabilities that affected quality of life in a large population," said lead study author Jennifer A. Frontera, NYU School of Medicine.

"Therapies that lessen the trauma of the most stress-inducing life events need to be a central part of treatment for long COVID, with more research needed to validate the best approaches," said Frontera.

In analyses that compared factors against each other for their contribution to worse outcomes, life stressors including financial insecurity, food insecurity, death of a close contact, and new disability were the strongest independent predictors of prolonged COVID-19 symptoms.

These same stressors also best predicted worse functional status, depression, fatigue, sleep scores, and reduced ability to participate in activities of daily living such as feeding, dressing, and bathing.

The research used standard telephone survey tools in the field to measure level of daily function, clear think-

ing (cognition), anxiety, depression, fatigue and sleep quality.

The team attempted follow-up with each of 790 patients six months and a year after COVID-19 hospitalization within NYU Langone Health between March 10, 2020 and May 20, 2020.

Of these surviving patients, 451 (57 per cent) completed 6-month and/or 12-month follow-up, and of them, 17 per cent died between discharge and 12-month follow-up and 51 per cent reported significant life stressors at 12-months.

Gender was also a contributor, as past studies have found that women are more susceptible in general to, for instance, autoimmune diseases that could have an impact on outcomes. Additionally, undiagnosed mood disorders may have been unmasked by pandemic-related stressors.

A second study led by Frontera and colleagues, and published online September 29, 2022, in PLOS ONE, found that patients diagnosed as having long COVID neurological problems can be divided into three symptom groups.

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(Above Rs. 2.59 crores)

NIT No. 17PEK SICOP of 2022-22 Dated: 11-11-2022

(E-tendering)

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, J&K Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (SICOP), e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, other State/Central Governments for the following work:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Cr)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (Rs. In cr)	Period of completion	Class of Contractor
1	Development of industrial estate by way of cement concrete drain, estate manager quarter, Chowkidar Quarter, OHT, construction of road, street lights and gate etc at Dargpora Lolah Kupwara.	2.59 crore	5000.00	0.0518 crore	06 months	AAY/Firm

Position of AAAR: Accorded

Position of Tech. Sanction: Accorded

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per below schedule.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11-11-2022
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 11-11-2022
3.	Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting	15-11-2022 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Project Engineer, J&K SICOP
4.	Bid submission Start Date	16-11-2022 From 10.00 A.M
5.	Bid Submission End Date	02-12-2022 upto 4.00 P.M
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	03-12-2022 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Project Engineer, J&K SICOP
7.	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed.
8.	Bank details of depositing tender document fee	Project Engineer, J&K SICOP Kashmir A/C no: CC-0148020100001980 IFSC code: JAKA0KARAN Branch: Gole Market Karan Nagar Srinagar

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in Bank Receipt in favour of Project Engineer, J&K SICOP (The Date of Bank receipt, must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).

2. At the time of tendering all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority i.e. Managing Director, J&K SICOP. The Date of Earnest money must be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date). The successful bidder will have to provide Performance security @ 3% of Allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/BG before the contract award. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of performance security @ 3% of the Allotted cost which will be released after successful completion of the DLP.

3. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Managing Director, J&K SICOP. The date for same shall be intimated separately.

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:-

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period issue of letter on intent.

c. In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

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

b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act- 2000.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT and SBD with technical bid.

f. All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer /Superintending Engineer to whom the Enlistment Registration Card was issued.

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

7. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons

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

9. The advertised cost shown above is inclusive of 10% SICOP service charges and other taxes as admissible.

10. The rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include SICOP service charges, price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work unless otherwise, specified.

11. Defect Liability Period:  
The DLP shall be 24 Months and shall be calculated from date of certified completion of work.

12. All key construction material (i.e. cement, steel, bitumen, pipes etc) shall have to be arranged by the contractor strictly as per specifications with the approval of Engineer-in-charge.

13. Qualification criteria for the work and other terms and conditions are contained in the bidding document available on website

No.

Dated: 12-11-2022

DIPK-NB-4918/22

Sd/-  
Project Engineer  
J&K SICOP

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

Ph. No. 0194-2458118 Email: lrwdsmc@gmail.com

FRESH SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

INVITING E- TENDERS

NIT NO: 49e-Tendering/2022-23 Dated:10-OCT-2022

For and on behalf of the Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis from approved and eligible Contractors for the following work:-

Sl. No.	Name of work	Est. Cost (In Lacs) Rs.	Cost of Tender Document (Non-refundable) Rs.	Earnest Money (CDR) Rs.	Time of Completion in days/ Weeks	Class of Contractor (Civil)	Head of Account
1.	Development of Graveyard near Masjid Syed Toiba at Charamgar Mohalla Nawabazar Ward 47	13.49/-	Rs. 675/-	Rs. 26980/-	24 days strictly	BEE/ CEE/ DEE	@20 lacs State Capex 2021-22

- Accord of Administrative Approval: SMC/Plg/2020-21/545-60, Dated: 13-07-2021.
- Technical Sanction No. 145 (ix), Dated: 20-07-2021.

Other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates given below:-

CRITICAL DATE SHEET

1.	Publish date	10-11-2022
2.	Document download date	10-11-2022 04:00 PM To 17-11-2022 04:00 PM
3.	Bid submission/uploading date	10-11-2022 04:00 PM To 17-11-2022 04:00 PM
4.	Bid Opening date	18-11-2022 11:00 AM
5.	Submission of hard copy for successful bidder	19-11-2022 10:00 AM To 04:00 PM

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. The Earnest Money (EMD) in respect of the advertised Cost of the work should be 2% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC. EMD 2% of the successful bidder will be discharged when the bidder has signed the Agreement & furnished the required Performance Security

2. The contractor shall have to furnish the performance security @ 3% in shape CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer LRWD SMC of the value of contract valid till DLP before issuance of LOA / LOI. In case of L-1 failing to provide performance security @ 3% for the work within 7 days after being notified, his bid shall be cancelled and work shall be executed through other sources U/R at the risk, cost and responsibility of L1.

3. In case of Holidays/office happens to be closed on the date of opening of bids. Bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

4. The intending tenderer/bidder should attach sales tax clearance certificate with upto date Validation without which no tenders/bids will be entertained.

5. The bid shall be opened online in the Office of Executive Engineer LRWD, SMC at Old Funds office Building Karan Nagar near National School Municipal Park on 18-11-2022 11:00 AM.

6. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt pledged in favour of Chief Accounts Officer SMC in the Municipal Account No: 0216010200000007 payable at J&K Bank Brach. Scanned copy of the same with mention of NIT No. & Serial no. to be uploaded along with all other documents. The bidder shall be barred / black list as per law for tender fee in form of Bank Receipt. Tender fee receipt and other relevant documents including Bid Security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found with any ambiguity or unattested, correction / overwriting for any work, such tender / bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action U/R shall be initiated. The Bid shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the Bid due date.

Sd/-  
Er. Sajad Ahmad Kawoosa,  
Executive Engineer,  
Left River Works Division,  
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

DIPK-NB-4933/22

No. SMC/EELRWD/2378-87 Dated: 12-11-2022.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir,

Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir

Tel:0194-2315378, Fax 0194-2479548, e-mail: ddtreg123@gmail.com

Prop. Hotel Orion,  
Lal Chowk, Srinagar  
Reg. No. Reg/CS/1568/CT/115/105/II/L4/71

No. Reg/H-335/709/DTK  
Dated: 12.11.2022

Sub: - Notice under Rule 8 of the J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Rules.

FINAL NOTICE

Whereas, you have ceased to operate the hotel "Orion" within Lal Chowk, Srinagar for:-

(i) Having not submitted the requisite documents especially current proprietorship details.

(ii) Having not resolved the disputes among the shareholders and also not submitted other requisite documents for transfer of registration certificate to the legal heirs of the Registration Certificate holder.

(iii) Having not intimated the department about the death of Registration Certificate holder namely Late Haji Ghulam Hassan who has expired on 31.03.2010 as you were supposed to intimate this department under Section 39 of the Jammu and Kashmir Registration of Tourist Trade Act where it is mentioned "Whenever a business for which certificates of registration is held by a person devolves by inheritance or otherwise upon any other person or undergoes a change in respect of any particular entered in the register under this Act, such person shall within sixty days of the date of the such devolution or change, notify in writing the fact to the prescribed authority".

(iv) Having not applied for transfer of Registration Certificate in favour of the legal heirs of the deceased within sixty days as per section 39 of The Jammu and Kashmir Registration of Tourist Trade Rules, 1979.

(v) Having not replied a notice served to you under No. Reg/335/262/DTK dated: 21.07.2022.

(vi) Having failed to submit the requisite documents till date for the changes to be made in the registration records of this Department.

(vii) By not responding satisfactorily to the notice issued vide No. Reg/H-335/556/DTK dated 17.09.2022.

Furthermore, the Hon'ble High Court directions in the case has been disposed off directing, "this petition is disposed of by giving two weeks' time to the petitioners to produce the documents requisitioned by the prescribed authority or else submit the detailed reply justifying the non-submission of the requisitioned documents. Needless to say that in case documents are submitted or reply is filed by the petitioners, the prescribed authority shall consider the same in terms of the Rules and pass appropriate orders within the period of four weeks".

And whereas your name and the hotel is liable to be Blacklisted/deregistered under the section 12 and 13 of the Registration of Tourist Trade Act, 1978.

Now, therefore, notice is hereby given to you to show cause within 07 days of the receipt of this final notice as to why your hotel should not be deregistered on the grounds specified above. This office shall proceed for de-registration/Blacklisting accordingly.

Sd/-  
Prescribed Authority  
Deputy Director Tourism  
Registration

DIPK-13391/22  
dated 12-11-2022



## Doda Can Be Branded As Role Model Across India In Lavender Cultivation: MoS PMO



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology and Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh Saturday chaired District Development Coordination & Monitoring Committee (DISHA) meeting to review progress of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) being implemented in Doda district.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Tribal Affairs J&K, Chairperson District Development Council Doda, Deputy Commissioner Doda, Chairperson Block Development Council, Chief Planning Officer, SSP Doda, Principal GMC Doda, Additional District Development Commissioner Doda, senior officers from line departments and other concerned.

At the outset, District Development Commissioner Doda, Vishesh Paul Mahajan delivered a presentation on the achievements and progress recorded under different Centrally Sponsored Schemes and presented an overview of various major projects being executed by different departments and agencies in the district.

Deputy Commissioner gave the status of physical and financial progress of scheme-wise being ex-

ecuted under various CSSs.

While stressing for the synergy between public representatives and the administration while taking up the projects for execution, Dr Singh said better coordination between these representatives and the district administration is key to schemes being implemented on ground.

While reviewing cultivation of lavender in the district, Dr Jitendra Singh said that as the farmers are taking up lavender cultivation on commercial scale for being a profitable farming, Doda district would be branded as a role model in the country in lavender farming.

Detailed presentation was given on various CSS schemes being implemented in different sectors in the district wherein financial as well as physical progress of mega projects which include widening of NH-244, GMC Doda, and other major projects, High Altitude Medicinal Plant Bhaderwah under AYUSH, besides achievements in Back to Village programme, R&B, JIM, PMGSY, Power, MGNREGA, PMAY-Urban, SBM-Grameen, Mission Youth's Mumkin Scheme & Tejeswani, Amrit Sarovar, beneficiary oriented schemes, Ayushman Bharat Abhiyan-SEHAT, RBSK, PM-BJA, other social security scheme (Pension/scholarship), employment generation schemes etc.

## Dulloo Reviews Functioning Of Horticulture Deptt, MoU with NAFED



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, Saturday chaired a review meeting of Horticulture Department regarding works being executed under UT Capex, Centrally Sponsored Schemes, NABARD and various other deliverables.

ACS reviewed works being executed by the Directorates of Horticulture Jammu and Kashmir in development and strengthening of new and existing nurseries respectively, support to high density plantation nurseries and assistance for establishment of walnut nurseries, establishment of soil testing labs, post harvest management centres, procurement of machinery and equipment and subsidies under schemes like PARVAZ, was also reviewed by the ACS.

While reviewing High Density Mega Fruit Nursery at

Chakroi and expansion of area under cultivation of strawberry and aloe vera in Jammu region, ACS advised that promotional activities under the projects be scheduled well ahead of harvest season to ensure wide publicity.

Atal Dulloo reviewed progress on sanctioned Common Incubation Centres at Doabgarh, Achabal and Narwal. He stressed on their timely development and operationalisation.

Later, in another meeting held to review implementation of MoU with NAFED, ACS reviewed the status of actions taken on previous decisions.

ACS took strong note of delay in joint inspections to be conducted along with NAFED and called for immediate compliance in this regard. He directed the respective officers to prepare district wise schedules for the inspections.

He directed for acting hard against Private Enterprises (PEs) and taking action against the ones failing to deliver plants as intended.

## Per Capita Income Rose In Real Terms By 33.4% Since Enactment Of NFSA: Centre To SC

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Per capita income of population in India has increased in real terms by 33.4 per cent since the enactment of National Food Security Act (NFSA) in 2013, the Centre has told the Supreme Court.

In an affidavit filed before the top court, the Union government said this rise in per capita income of people has taken a large number of households to higher income class.

"During last eight years, since the enactment of NFSA, per capita income of the population in India has increased in real terms by 33.4 per cent. The rise in per capita income of people is bound to have taken a large number of households to higher income class and they may not be as vulnerable as they were in 2013-14," the Centre said.

The affidavit was filed in response to a plea seeking welfare measures for migrant workers.

The government has notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on September 10, 2013 with the objective to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.

The Act provides for coverage of up to 75 per cent of the rural population and up to 50 per cent of the urban popula-



tion for receiving subsidised foodgrains under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

Referring to the increase in per capita income, the Centre said the upper limit of 75 per cent for rural and 50 per cent for urban population who were considered vulnerable in 2013-14, would have gone down considerably.

"Non-exclusion of non-eligible households in NFSA increases the subsidy burden on the Union government," it said.

The Union government also informed the top court that about 4.7 crore ration cards have been added in the last eight years under NFSA.

"The overall national ceiling under NFSA is 81.4 crore beneficiaries and a few states are yet to reach their state ceiling. Actual national coverage is nearly 79.8 crore as on August

31. Under NFSA ceiling, there is still scope for adding approximately 1.6 crore beneficiaries for Antyodaya Anna Yojana and priority households categories," it said.

Migrant workers play a very vital role in building the nation and their rights cannot be ignored at all, the top court had earlier said while asking the Centre to devise a mechanism so that they receive food grains without ration cards.

It also observed that citizens are dying due to hunger despite our development and modalities should be set out to ensure that maximum migrant workers are given rations.

The apex court had said the welfare schemes devised by the Centre should reach a maximum number of workers and the state governments will have to cooperate and assist the Union of India.

## Dir JKEDI Distributes Certificates Among Aspiring Women Entrepreneurs

Observer News Service

**RAMBAN:** Director Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Saturday interacted with aspiring female entrepreneurs at the valedictory function of Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) organised for Tejaswini scheme beneficiaries by the JKEDI district centre Ramban.

The scheme is a special endeavour of Mission Youth, Government of Jammu and Kashmir provisioning financial assistance to young women for setting up gainful self-employment ventures suited to their skills, training, aptitude and local conditions.

The Director JKEDI stressed upon the need for inclusive growth through women empowerment and inclusion of tribal, backward and border population in nation building as is envisaged by the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Manoj Sinha.

A one-day Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) was also organized by



the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) in collaboration with the ITI at Ramban. Ajaz Ahmad Bhat presided over the event.

In his address, he discussed the current economic situation of the Union territory and how entrepreneurship can revolutionize J&K's development. "Such awareness programmes are being organized by JKEDI as part of its efforts to create mass awareness among the educated youth in the far flung areas of J&K about the realities of the labour market in the Union Territory and the scope for entrepreneurship and self-employment across

various sectors", he said.

He further said that various sectors, including food processing, horticulture, animal husbandry, Sheep Husbandry, bee keeping, dry pomegranate seeds, pickle making, restaurants and others have a huge scope.

"In order to be successful, one must be his or her own boss and simultaneously create employment opportunities for others. The government may not be able to provide job opportunities to all, but one should view this as a positive and search for other options and there is nothing better than entrepreneurship," said Ajaz Ahmad Bhat.

## No Need To Change Inflation Target Of 2-6%; Oct Print To Be Lower Than 7%: RBI Guv

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Saturday said there was no need to change the inflation target despite the central bank's failure to keep it below the 6 per cent upper tolerance level for 9 consecutive months while exuding confidence that the October print will be less than 7 per cent.

Inflation has been trending above the RBI's upper tolerance level of 6 per cent since January this year.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act mandates that in the case of the inflation target not being met for three consecutive quarters, the central bank has to submit a report to the government explaining the reasons and detail the remedial actions it will be taking to check the price rise.

Earlier this month, a special meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) was held to finalise the report explaining the reasons for missing the inflation target for three quarters.

This was the first time since the onset of the Monetary Policy Framework which came into effect in 2016 that the RBI explained its actions in a report to



the government.

Speaking at the HT Leadership Summit on Saturday, Das said there is no need to change the goal post for inflation targeting as higher than 6 per cent inflation would hurt growth.

As per the mandate given to the Reserve Bank by the Union Government, the central bank is required to ensure that retail inflation remains at 4 per cent with a margin of 2 per cent on either side.

Quoting an RBI internal research, Das said inflation above 6 per cent for India would be detrimental to growth. It will be counterproductive because the financial savings and investment climate will be hit and India will lose the confidence of international investors if inflation remains above 6 per cent for a prolonged period, he noted.



## NTTA Holds Annual General Meeting In Srinagar

Eco Tourism, Curbs of Bad Trade Practice And Conservation of Environment Discussed

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** A large number of travel consultants, tourist traders, environmentalists and members of the association (Nigeen Tourist Traders Association) participated in the event. Director Tourism Kashmir Fazlul Haseeb, IAS Director was the chief guest.

During AGM proceedings, the annual administration report and income expenditure details besides agenda's were discussed among the members. The members unanimously praised Manzoor Wangnoo's efforts as NTTA chairman and expressed their support and satisfaction on the activities of the association in promoting the tourism in Kashmir.

NTTA awarded the lifetime achievement award to Ali Muhammad Sheikh for his outstanding service to the tourism sector besides certificates of appreciation to different personalities for their services in tourism, environment and education etc were presented.

Speaking on the occasion, Fazlul Haseeb praised NTTA for hosting its AGM and assured his full support in its endeavour of

promoting the tourism. He said that NTTA has been at the forefront in promoting Kashmir in general and has been always encouraging to promote eco destinations and raising its voice for conservation of environment in general and saving water bodes in particular.

Director Tourism further said that a mechanism of guiding the tourists, put a stop on overcharging and massive promotion on national level is in process and will soon be implemented.

NTTA Chairman Manzoor A Wangnoo welcomed the members and guests. He thanked members of the coordination and expressed his thankfulness to Dept. of Tourism for their support.

On the occasion, Chairman NTTA also highlighted the achievements and activities carried out for the promotion of Kashmir tourism and welfare of its members by NTTA.

He said NTTA has been promoting green and responsible tourism to safeguard Kashmir's fragile ecology.

All members present at the meeting appreciated NTTA's efforts to help maintain our ecology and environment.

## SHORT TAKES

### Forex Kitty Drops By USD 1.09 Bn To USD 529.99 Bn

**MUMBAI:** India's foreign exchange reserves dropped by USD 1.087 billion to stand at USD 529.994 billion for the week ended November 4 on a sharp decline in the gold reserves, the Reserve Bank said on Friday.

In the previous reporting week, the reserves had swelled by USD 6.561 billion to reach USD 531.081 billion, making it the biggest weekly jump in a year.

In October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused by global developments.

Foreign currency assets (FCA), a major component of the overall reserves, decreased by USD 120 million to USD 470.727 billion during the week to November 4, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

The gold reserves dropped by USD 705 million to USD 37.057 billion, it said.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were down by USD 235 million to USD 17.39 billion. **PTI**

### 'Milk & Craft Villages To Be Established In Every District'

**PULWAMA:** The Nodal Officer/Coordinator Tribal Affairs Department, Javid Ahmad Parray Saturday said that the Milk and Craft Villages will be established in every district of UT of Jammu & Kashmir. The Nodal Officer/Coordinator Tribal Affairs Department said this during one-day awareness cum training programme held at Government Degree College Pulwama.

The camp was attended by DDC Chairman Pulwama, Syed Bari Indrabi; DDC Member and, Standing Chairman for Education Dr Harbaksh Singh; DDC members of Pampore and Achgoza; ADDC Pulwama, Dr Abdul Aziz Sheikh; BDC Sangerwani, CEO Pulwama and Principals of various Government Degree Colleges, ITIs and Polytechnic Colleges, Warden G&B/ST Hostel Pulwama, ZEOs, HoDs and INOs of Pulwama.

Speaking on the occasion, the Nodal Officer/Coordinator said that the aim for conducting these kind of awareness camps throughout the UT is to aware the general public particularly the Scheduled Tribe community about the different development programmes, welfare schemes and policies implemented by the Department of Tribal Affairs.

He said that under close supervision of Secretary Tribal Affairs, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary the Department has introduced and expended the network of various Developmental Schemes for the Welfare of the ST community throughout the UT of J&K. **ONS**

### Workshop For Progressive Farmers, Entrepreneurs Held

**SRINAGAR:** In a first, Agriculture and its allied departments including Horticulture, Fisheries, Sericulture, Sheep Husbandry, Animal Husbandry, Floriculture, APEDA and other departments Saturday conducted one day workshop for officers, entrepreneurs and progressive beneficiaries to raise awareness about different Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) & UT at a common platform at IMPARD, here.

The workshop was conducted to widen the spectrum of options for the people for availing benefits by undertaking multiple activities.

During the three sessions, ten presentations were given by the participating departments wherein officers presented overview of schemes offered under multiple eligible standards to the beneficiaries for establishing income generating units & progressive farming.

The officers also shared information about the present statistics and figures of beneficiaries and contribution to the state economy by successful entrepreneurs. Besides, detailed stepwise procedures in establishing units and farming activities and financial interventions of the government were explained to the participants.

Also, information regarding support for entrepreneur units and field machinery, commercial avenues and market support intervention was also provided to them. **ONS**

### IT, BPM Firms To See Increase In Hiring Intent

**MUMBAI:** With IT and business process management (BPM) sectors witnessing a slump in hiring in September due to margin pressures, a study has revealed that 51 per cent respondents believe that there would be an increase in hiring intent in the next six months.

However, around one-third (34 per cent) respondents said there is going to be a decline in the hiring intent, while 15 per cent believe that it would be business as usual, according to the CIEL HR study.

The study is based on an online survey of 10,00,000 employees working in top 50 IT/BPM companies operating in India.

During the pandemic years, IT companies had hired massively to address the surge in demand driven by the wave of digital transformation across the globe, it noted.

Now that the demand has subsided, the companies are 'rightsizing' again, it said.

The study further revealed that the level of optimism in hiring intent was found higher among the respondents of smaller companies. On the other hand, the majority of respondents from mid and large sized companies seemed to be more pessimistic about the hiring outlook.

Out of the total job postings, foreign MNCs accounted for around 66 per cent of the jobs while Indian MNCs accounted for 18 per cent. **PTI**

### 'India-US Trade May Reach USD 500-600 Bn By 2030'

**NEW DELHI:** Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday exuded confidence that the India-US bilateral trade in goods and services will reach USD 500-600 billion by 2030 as their relation continues to strengthen.

The trade between the two countries stands at about USD 175 billion at present.

On whether India will join the trade pillar of 14-member Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF), Goyal said it would depend on what India will get in return.

While 13 member countries have joined all four subjects -- trade, supply chains, clean economy and fair economy-- under IPEF, India has opted out of the trade pillar as of now. It has joined the other three subjects.

"With regard to joining the trade pillar of IPEF, India decides its strategy on its own terms...If you want binding commitments (from India) on different subjects, tell me what I am getting in return. It has to be good for my people and my country. What you give me in return will determine whether I will join the trade pillar. You negotiate and if we see some advantage, then we will join.

He was speaking at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit 2022. On a free trade agreement with the US, the minister said America is not looking for a new trade pact with any country. The US is looking at India as its friend and a trusted partner, he added. **PTI**



# T20 World Cup: Will England Deny Pakistan A Fairytale Finish?

## Agencies

**MELBOURNE:** A confident England will look to deny Pakistan a fairytale finish in Sunday's Twenty20 World Cup final and become the first nation to hold both global white-ball trophies - if Melbourne's fickle weather permits.

Heavy rain could disrupt the Melbourne Cricket Ground showdown and even see the teams crowned joint champions if unable to complete a match of at least 10 overs per side by the end of the reserve day on Monday.

However, conditions should hold up long enough to deliver a contest between the two nations who played for the 50-overs World Cup 30 years ago at the MCG.

After shaky starts both hit top gear in the semi-finals, with Pakistan easing to a seven-wicket win over New Zealand in Sydney and Eng-

land humiliating India by 10 wickets in Adelaide.

Pakistan, the 2009 champions, have had a charmed tournament since pushed to the brink of elimination by Zimbabwe, with the Netherlands helping them into the semi-finals by eliminating South Africa.

Thirty years after Imran Khan's Pakistan claimed the 1992 World Cup, Babar Azam's team may feel it is their destiny to deliver trophy.

"Of course the similarities are (there)," Babar told reporters of the 1992 final.

"But we will try to win the trophy as it is an honour for me to lead this team, especially in this big ground." England, the reigning 50-overs world champions, are looking to win a second global T20 title after their 2010 triumph and to build on the legacy of former captain Eoin Morgan, who transformed the team into a white-ball juggernaut.

New skipper Jos Buttler had big shoes to fill following Morgan's retirement but has led from the front with rehabilitated opener Alex Hales.

Opening partnerships were decisive in the semi-finals, with Buttler and Hales routing India with a 170-run stand the night after Babar and Mohammad Rizwan set up victory over New Zealand with a 105-run stand.

Both teams' bowlers will be under pressure to strike early, lest the game quickly get away from them.

"Utilising the powerplay to grab as many wickets will be essential for the match," said Babar.

There are few secrets between the teams, with Pakistan edged 4-3 by England in a T20 series at home.

They also played a rain-affected World Cup warm-up in Brisbane, which England won by six wickets.



## J&K Stun Ranji Champions MP In Vijay Hazare Trophy



### Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** Jammu and Kashmir secured one of the most memorable wins in their history when they shocked reigning Ranji champions Madhya Pradesh by two wickets in a high-scoring Vijay Hazare Trophy Group D match at the DY Patil Stadium here on Saturday.

Opener Yash Dubey slammed a run-a-ball 121 (13x4s), while his opening partner Abhishek Bhandari made 74 (81b; 9x4s, 2x6s) as Madhya Pradesh posted a mammoth 342 for 9 after being asked to bat.

But Jammu and Kashmir pulled off a heist as half-centuries from opener Vivrant Sharma (69), Henan Nazir (68) and Abdul Samad (66) laid the foundation before Abid Mushtaq played a terrific counter-attacking knock of 42 from 19 balls to set up the victory.

Mushtaq smashed three sixes and as many boundaries, taking on the likes of Avesh Khan and Kuldeep Sen. But there was drama in store when Avesh (3/86)

dismissed him in the 47th with Jammu and Kashmir still needing 31 off 21 balls.

Sahil Lotra (23 not out from 11b; 4x4s) held his nerves to seal the chase with four balls to spare. Auqib Nabi (11 not out; 9 balls, 1x4) lent a fine support as the duo held on after Mushtaq's dismissal in a match-winning 34-run unbroken partnership for the ninth wicket.

Mushtaq played a perfect counter-attacking knock to keep Jammu and Kashmir in the hunt. In Group D, Baroda climbed to the top of the table, followed by Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir on net-run rate.

Brief Scores:

Madhya Pradesh 342/9 in 50 overs (Yash Dubey 121, Abhishek Bhandari 74, Rajat Patidar 62; Auqib Nabi 3/76, Shaikh Dar 3/66, Abid Mushtaq 2/43) lost to Jammu and Kashmir 346/8; 49.2 overs (Vivrant Sharma 69, Henan Nazir 68, Abdul Samad 66, Abid Mushtaq 42, Sahil Lotra 23 not out; Avesh Khan 3/86, Saransh Jain 2/47) by two wickets.

## Jay Shah To Head ICC's Powerful F&CA Committee



### Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** New Zealand's Greg Barclay was on Saturday unanimously re-elected as chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for a second two-year term.

Besides Barclay's re-election, BCCI secretary Jay Shah was elected as the head of ICC's all powerful Finance and Commercial Affairs (F&CA) committee at the board meeting.

Barclay was unopposed following the withdrawal of Zimbabwe's Tavengwa Mukhlanani from the process, and the ICC Board reaffirmed its full support to the New Zealander to continue at the helm.

Shah will have the responsibility of heading ICC's most important committee. At the major financial policy decisions are taken by the F&CA committee before it is ratified by the ICC

board

"Each and every member accepted Jay as the head of F&CA committee. This is an equally powerful sub committee apart from the ICC chair (Greg Barclay)," an ICC source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

It includes the revenue sharing among the member nations and also the various major sponsorship deals that the global body inks through the year.

The F&CA committee is always headed by an ICC Board member and Shah's election makes it clear that he will represent the BCCI on the ICC Board.

The F&CA head's position used to be India's during the N Srinivasan era but during Shankar Manohar's tenure as ICC chairman, the BCCI's power and might had significantly reduced.

In fact during the Committee of Administrators' tenure, there was a point when BCCI didn't even have any representation in the F&CA committee.

Former BCCI president Sourav Ganguly was a member of the F&CA committee till last year.

"India is a commercial hub of global cricket with more than 70 percent sponsorship coming from the region. It is imperative that an ICC F&CA should always be headed by BCCI," the ICC source said.

## Babar Asks Pakistan Fans To 'Keep Praying' For Victory

### Agencies

**MELBOURNE:** Pakistan captain Babar Azam has urged his players to believe in themselves and told fans to keep praying for the delivery of their second T20 World Cup title on Sunday.

After losing their first two Super 12 matches, the 2009

well in our last three matches," Babar told reporters at the MCG on Saturday.

"It is no doubt that pressure exists but it can only be suppressed with confidence and belief in ourselves. And for good results it is impertinent that one must do so. "The Pakistan nation has always

and shared his experience of the World Cup, it put a massive boost in our confidence," said Babar. A settled Pakistan are unlikely to make any changes to their team for the final, and Babar said they would not stray from the trusted game-plan.

"Our strategy is to stick to



champions have rebounded superbly and bring momentum into Sunday's final against England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. "I'm more excited than nervous since we've performed

been our backbone. They uphold us through their enthusiasm. I would again request them to support us and keep praying."

"When the chairman came

our plan and using our pace attack as our strength to win the final," he added. "Utilising the powerplay to grab as many wickets will be essential for the match."

## Buttler Wants To Win To Inspire England's Football Team



### Press Trust of India

**MELBOURNE:** England's Jos Buttler would be a proud skipper if his men can win the T20 World Cup final against Pakistan on Sunday and inspire their footballing counterparts to pull off an encore in Doha next month.

Buttler, a champion batter, has led his team to the summit clash in his maiden global meet as England skipper.

Asked if the football team can take a leaf out of the cricket

team, the soft-spoken skipper said: "Yeah, I certainly hope so."

"Sport is such a huge part of English culture, and getting behind teams in World Cups is certainly something I know happens a lot in England. Even though we're on the other side of the world, you can certainly feel that support," Buttler said on the eve of the final against Pakistan.

"The images you see of the Euros, obviously, nothing will compete with football in our country. Of course, the game is

going to be on free-to-air television, which is fantastic, will bring new eyes to the game," said the skipper-keeper.

Just like a shrewd captain, Buttler was effusive in his praise for the Pakistani pacers, calling them potential future greats.

"Obviously, Pakistan is a fantastic team. I think they have a very long history of producing excellent fast bowlers. I'm sure by the end of their careers, some of the guys who we'll play against will go down as some of the best bowlers Paki-

## EPL: Brighton Stun Man City



### Agencies

**MANCHESTER:** Ivan Toney issued the perfect response to being omitted from England's World Cup squad by scoring both goals in Brentford's shock 2-1 Premier League win at Manchester City on Saturday.

The striker was left out of Gareth Southgate's 26-man squad for Qatar, with Newcastle's Callum Wilson selected ahead of him.

But he showcased the quality his country will miss out on when putting the visitors ahead in the first half and then firing a 98th-minute winner.

The result means Arsenal is guaranteed to top the Premier League until the season resumes at Christmas - while Toney's performance is sure to spark a debate over whether Southgate was right to leave him behind.

Toney put Brentford ahead af-

ter 16 minutes with a powerful close-range header after beating Aymeric Laporte in the air.

He might have had a hat trick moments later but Kevin de Bruyne cleared off the line.

Phil Foden had fired City level in first-half stoppage time with a half-volley into the top corner - but Brentford and Toney saw a host of chances repelled, with Ederson repeatedly called into action as the forward stretched the home team's defense.

On a day when Haaland cut a subdued figure, it was Toney who won the battle of the frontmen with the type of performance that may have Southgate thinking twice about his decision. "Fantastic," said Brentford manager Thomas Frank. "But what a player. What a striker. He scored two and should probably have scored one more. Imagine a hat trick here. I thought that was just for Haaland." (AP)

## Serie A: Napoli 11 Points Clear

### Agencies

**MILAN:** Napoli could end the year with a double-digit points lead at the top of Serie A.

Goals from Victor Osimhen, Piotr Zieliński and Eljif Elmas saw Napoli beat Udinese 3-2 on Saturday for its 11th straight league victory and open up a significant gap over its rivals.

It was a nervy finale for the home side, however, following two late goals from substitutes Ilija Nestorovski and Lazar Samardžić.

The five teams immediately below Napoli don't play until Sunday, with four of them facing each other.

Whatever happens, Napoli is guaranteed to spend the rest of the year at least eight points clear as Serie A pauses for the World Cup and the traditional winter break.

It took Napoli just 15 minutes to break the deadlock as Osimhen headed home Elmas' cross for his seventh goal in his past six league matches.

Osimhen also had a hand in Napoli's second goal in the 31st as he went on the counterattack and sent a cheeky backheel pass to Hirving Lozano in midfield. Lozano picked out Zieliński, who took one touch to control in the penalty area before curling into the far side of the net.

Napoli's third goal also came from a counterattack. André-Frank Anguissa picked out Elmas, who was in plenty of space on the left and he cut inside to fire in at the near post.

Napoli appeared to be heading for a comfortable victory but Nestorovski pulled one back in the 79th and Samardžić reduced the gap still further three minutes. (AP)





## Twitter Suspends \$8 Subscription Program After Fake Accounts Boom

Agenceis

Twitter Inc. suspended the \$8 subscription program it launched earlier this week to combat a growing problem of users impersonating major brands, a person familiar with the move said.

Existing subscribers will still have access to their account, said the person who asked not to be identified because the information is private. The move was reported earlier by the website Platformer.

The company has also reinstated "official" badges for high-profile accounts, with the gray badge reappearing below the profiles of businesses and major media outlets Friday based on an internal approved list, according to the person. The identification marker was rolled out earlier this week before being scrapped.

Twitter is struggling with impostor accounts since the company allowed paying subscribers to get verified blue check marks. One account claiming to be Nintendo Inc. posted an image of Super Mario holding up

a middle finger, while another posing as pharma giant Eli Lilly & Co. tweeted that insulin was now free - forcing the company to issue an apology. A purported Tesla Inc. account joked about the carmaker's safety record.

"To combat impersonation, we've added an 'Official' label to some accounts," Twitter Support tweeted on Friday.

Elon Musk tweeted the same day that all accounts engaged in parody must include "parody" in their name.

"Going forward, accounts engaged in parody must include 'parody' in their name, not just in bio," he had tweeted.

The world's wealthiest man, who acquired Twitter last month for \$44 billion, is facing a slew of challenges as top advertisers pull back from the platform amid concern over the company's ability to tackle impostors and hate speech. Musk, who has also seen resignations among his leadership team, said this week in his first address to employees that the company could face bankruptcy, Bloomberg News previously reported.



## Ambani, Adani Among 13 Bidders For Future Retail



Agenceis

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 Flemingo group, also submitted an EoI.

The deadline for submission of EoI ended on October 20, Future Retail, which was once the coun-

try'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 & Power, United Biotech, WHSmith Travel, and United Biotech Pvt Ltd.

Consortium of B-Right Real Estate Ltd and Ayekart 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.

State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of India (BoI) and 31 other lenders had submitted loan claims of about Rs 21,060 crore in August under the insolvency process.

"Certain issues pertaining to the expressions of interest received from the prospective resolution applicants have been noticed and the same has been duly communicated to the prospective resolution applicants by the resolution professional and/or his authorised representatives," the filing said without giving details.

It further stated that anyone having any objection to the inclusion or exclusion of a prospective bidder in the list may submit it by November 15.

## SRK Charged Rs 6.88 Lakh Customs Duty for Luxury Watches

Agenceis

Bollywood actor Shah Rukh Khan and five members of his team were stopped for an hour at the Mumbai airport by Customs officials for not paying Customs duty for six luxury watches as the payment facility was not operational in the early hours of Saturday, an official said.

The incident occurred at 12.30 am after Khan landed at the airport from Dubai in a chartered flight, the official said and added that the payment counter at the General Aviation Terminal (GAT) was not operational in the early hours.

During the screening of the baggage of Khan and his team members, officials found six expensive watches in one of the bags, he said.

The expensive watches are worth Rs 17.86 lakh as per Customs' evaluation, he said.

The bag containing watches was carried by Khan's bodyguard Ravi Shankar Singh, the official said.

As the screening process was on, Khan and his team were stopped at the GAT- a VIP terminal- for at least an hour, he added.

After some time, Khan, his secretary Pooja Dadlani, and three other members of the team were allowed to go, he said.

As the Customs duty payment counter at the GAT was not operational in the early hours, Customs officers took Ravi Shankar Singh with them to Terminal -II of the airport, where Rs 6.88 lakh was paid towards Customs duty for the watches, he said.

Though the challan was in the name of Ravi Shankar Singh, the duty was paid on behalf of Khan, the official said.

After the procedure to pay Customs duty was over, Singh was allowed to go in the morning, he said.



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