

When Sports Become Stress – How Cricket Is Playing With Kashmir

Augib Javed

Srinagar: A Kashmiri cricket fan's Lal Chowk stunt recently ended on a summon before a sorry statement highlighted the underlying stress.

But the dramatic twists in the recently-concluded T20 World Cup only recreated the classic commentary and a living-room commotion in Kashmir.

This sports spirit, however, came at the cost of distress, once again.

Mumtaza becomes anxious every time there's a cricket match between India and Pakistan. Her husband's die-hard support for a particular

team keeps her on edge.

Being a heart patient, her husband gets hypertensive. "I try to calm him down," Mumtaza said. "I keep telling him that this is just a cricket match but if his team loses, he thinks as if he has lost everything. He doesn't eat throughout the match and becomes very aggressive."

A father of two, Mumtaza's husband survived a heart attack back in 2010. Doctors then clearly advised her not to break any bad news to him. "But then," she says, "these cricket matches only come to torment me."

The tense cricket fans often abuse players and get into



heated arguments online. Even the commentators advise people during the close contest that "this match is not for weak-hearted people".

"And yet," wonders Mumtaza, "people still watch it."

A number of cricket matches lately proved to be nail-biting contests. These high-tension

games only surged stress in the region where the cricket craze and mental distress is huge.

Several studies conducted from time to time have revealed the prevalence of anxiety, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder among the people of Kashmir.

According to a survey conducted by international humanitarian organisation—Médécins Sans Frontières or Doctors Without Borders (MSF), over 45 per cent of the population of Kashmir is suffering from mental distress.

"The clinical footfall of this distressed group surges during the high-voltage cricket

matches," Dr. Yasir Rather, a noted psychiatrist and professor at the Institute of Mental Health & Neurosciences (IMHANS) in Srinagar, told Kashmir Observer. "The real problem is a mindset. If people don't take these matches seriously, then they can definitely save themselves from getting hyper."

But as of now, there may not be many cricket-related clinical cases around, said Dr. Masood Maqbool, a clinical psychologist at IMHANS, it still can't rule out the problem.

"Such patients should avoid watching the game by just checking the scores after 20 or 30 minutes," **More on P6**

Scribes Flay Threats To Media

Srinagar: Journalists in Srinagar have expressed concern over the renewed threats to media houses and reporters for the last few days.

They have denounced the threats to media from any quarter and urged all stakeholders to allow media to function without any threat or intimidation.

Reports said on Tuesday that several reporters have quit their jobs following the threats which appeared on social media last week.

According to the Police, the Resistance Front (TRF) is behind the threats.

"A First Information Report, or FIR, under anti-terrorist law UAPA has been registered and investigations have been launched", a police spokesman said about the threats.

Three reporters have published resignations on their social media pages to avoid any trouble, a media report said.

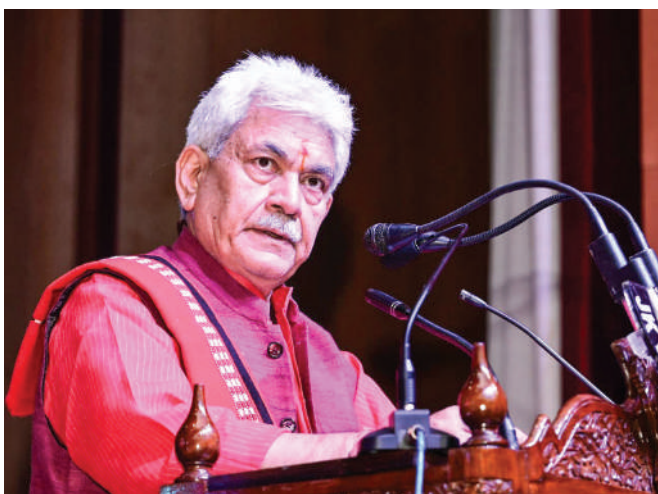
LG Assures Gujjars, Other Communities On Reservation 'Do Not Fall For Those Instigating People'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday urged people not to fall for those instigating people on reservation, and reiterated Home Minister Amit Shah's assurance that the interests of Gujjars and other communities will be protected & there will be no decrease in their quota even by one per cent.

"I urge those undertaking Padayatra to return home. Some people with vested interest are spreading rumours on reservation. They are the same people who do not want peace and progress in the region," the LG said.

Sinha made these remarks while addressing a Janjatiya Samagam on the launch of week-long festivities on Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, at the Convention Centre in Jammu, an official spokesperson said.



The LG said that after decades of wait, PM has transformed the dream of social equity and justice into reality and has brought fast and radical change in the lives of tribal community and paved the path

for socio-economic growth. "We recognize the critical role and contribution of tribal community in the development of J&K UT. They are prime mover of the progress. Tribal community is our moral compass and

taught us the values of co-existence, oneness, harmony and sustainable living," the LG said.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi is working tirelessly to fulfil dreams of tribals. I urge people not to fall for those instigating people on reservation. HM has assured Gujjars & other community's interests will be protected & there will be no decrease in their quota even by one per cent," he added.

On the occasion, the LG shared various initiatives and resolutions taken by the UT government for the welfare of the tribal community and tribal youth.

"We are making dedicated efforts to harness the potential and channelize the productive energy of tribal youth and women so that new generation can transform the economic fortunes of their families and contribute to cultural and social vitality," Sinha said. **More on P6**

Gazetted, Non-Gazetted Posts Govt Sets Up Panel For Finalization Of Recruitment Rules

Agencies

Srinagar: In a significant move, the Jammu & Kashmir Government has constituted a high-level panel for finalizing/clearing recruitment rules for different gazetted and non-gazetted posts.

The government today constituted a committee comprising senior bureaucrats for finalization of recruitment rules for different posts.

According to an order, the panel headed by additional chief secretary (financial commissioner) Home Department comprises of administrative secretary, ARI & Trainings Department, administrative secretary General Administration Department, administrative secretary of the concerned Department and administrative secretary Department of Law, Justice

and Parliamentary Affairs.

The committee has also been empowered to recommend changes if any required in the present process of finalizing recruitment rules.

Recruitment rules are rules notified under proviso to Article 309 or any specific statutes for post(s) prescribing inter alia the method of recruitment and eligibility for such recruitment.

From time to time, the government departments have often come under criticism for obsolete and outdated recruitment rules.

In its annual report for 2014-15, the Public Service Commission said that recruitment rules of the most of the departments are obsolete and do not meet the changing requirements.

"Many new subjects have been introduced in different universities and large number **More on P6**

PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI IS WORKING TIRELESSLY to fulfil dreams of tribals. I urge people not to fall for those instigating people on reservation. HM has assured Gujjars & other community's interests will be protected & there will be no decrease in their quota even by one per cent,"

PDD Warns Defaulters in Baramulla

Pay Electricity Bills Or Face Police Case

Observer News Service

Baramulla: Power Development Department (PDD) in Baramulla has warned defaulters of strict action if they fail to clear their pending electricity bills, saying the department will approach police for the matter.

"It is to inform all Mohalla presidents that to advise the defaulter consumers of your Mohalla to pay your pending electricity bills immediately, otherwise FIR in the police

station Baramulla will be lodged against the defaulters", reads a PDD circular.

An official from the power department, according to Kashmir News Observer, said they were prompted to take such harsh action against defaulters after being pulled up by their higher ups.

He said that hundreds of consumers have not been paying power tariff for the last many years despite repeated notices.

He said 697 consumers have not paid their dues for several years and only **More on P6**

PARVAAZ' Initiative

Govt Reserves 10% Seats For Children Of Slain Uniformed Men

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday announced reservation of 10% seats under 'PARVAAZ' initiative for the children of armed forces personnel, who attained martyrdom in the line of duty in J&K besides those from poor families

Sinha made this announcement while chairing the 2nd Governing Body Meeting of Mission Youth, at the Civil Secretariat here, an official spokesperson said.

The 'PARVAAZ' initiative



aims to fully assist young boys and girls to get free coaching for IAS, JKAS, NEET & JEE examinations. Mission Youth is focusing on educational development of youth through Super

75, SuperB 75, Navparivartan and University Collaboration like Initiatives.

On the occasion, the spokesperson said, LG approved various schemes & plans focusing on the thrust areas including: targeted implementation of existent livelihood generation programmes; establishment of residential coaching institutions for competitive examinations & professional courses; establishment & operationalization of district youth centers in all 20 districts of J&K; education, career counseling & market-driven **More on P6**

Public Bathroom 'Sold' In Anantnag, Govt Orders Probe

Agencies

Srinagar: The authorities in South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday ordered a probe into the alleged sale of a public bathroom constructed by the Rural Development Department last year in the Srigufwara area of the district.

The authorities ordered a probe after the villagers of Gallan Khiram alleged that a local has sold the bathroom to a person who is living in the village since last one month, a local news agency KNO reported Tuesday. The bathroom was constructed by RDD last year near local Masjid.

According to the report, the person has claimed to have

purchased 10 Marla land along with the bathroom for Rs 3, 35,000. He said that nobody told me about it as of now and if locals want to take this land, they must provide him any alternative site

Locals demanded that government must investigate the matter at an earliest and take action against the person involved in it.

The report quoted Block Development Officer (BDO) Dachnipora Gazi Abdullah as saying that he has taken cognizance of the incident and an enquiry committee has been constituted and investigation has been started.

"Anyone who will found guilty after proper investigation, action as **More on P6**

S H O R T T A K E S

Woman Dies Saving Children

A 38-year-old woman saved her two sons before losing her life when a rain-triggered landslide hit their mud house in Doda district on Tuesday. The mud house at Butla village of Sartalga panchayat, few kilometres from Bhaderwah town, came under the landslide around 7.30 am, trapping Kirna Devi (38) and her two sons, Michle Singh (15) and Nixon Jaryal (10). "My mother pushed me and my younger brother to the outer room as the roof above us suddenly started coming down. Although she managed to push us, the roof collapsed on her," Singh said. The three **More on P6**

BSF Reviews Situation Along IB

BSF Additional Director General, Western Command, P V Rama Sastry has reviewed the security situation, including challenges related to drone activities and smuggling, along the International Border here with Pakistan, officials said. Sastry, on his arrival in Jammu from Chandigarh on Monday, was welcomed by top officers led by Border Security Force (BSF) Inspector General Jammu Frontier Division K Boora. He is on three-day visit. Boora gave a detailed presentation to the additional director general (ADG) on the critical **More on P6**

Train Crushes Man To Death



A man died on Tuesday after being hit by a train in Watalpora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district, officials said. Mohammad Yaqub Dar, a resident of Shahgund Bandipora district, was hit along Mazhama-Budgam railway station on Tuesday morning, resulting in his on spot death, a local news agency KDC reported. **More on P6**

Govt Promotes Two JKAS Officers

The Union Territory administration on Monday promoted two officers of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) to the Selection Grade. An order issued in this regard by General Administration Department reads that sanction is hereby accorded to the promotion of Subash Chander Dogra and Rajeev Magotra to the Selection Grade of Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service in pay level 12 (78800-209200).

Sarpanch Caught With Rs 5K Bribe

The sleuths of Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday arrested a Panchayat member from South Kashmir's Awantipora for demanding and accepting a bribe from a contractor for passing and signing of labour muster roll of labourers. Gulam Mohammad Dar, Sarpanch Halqa Panzgam was arrested by the ACB on the basis of a complaint received from a contractor alleging that the Panchayat member was demanding bribe of Rs 5, 000 for passing and signing of labour muster roll of labourers engaged under "MGNREGA" **More on P6**

Non-Local Found Dead In Srinagar

The body of a non-local person was recovered from the outskirts of the city on Tuesday, police said. Prima facie evidence suggests that the death to be unnatural, they said. "One unidentified dead body seemingly of a non-local was found lying on road in Soura area of Srinagar. Prima facie seems unnatural death," Srinagar Police said on Twitter. The police said inquest proceedings have been started under Section 174 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPc). The body has been sent for post mortem and **More on P6**

There's Only So Much A Robot Can Do

How can we make the best use of robots in shared urban spaces?

360info.org

New cities should not be built to cater for robots and technology; instead robots must adapt to live with humans in existing cities.

Imagine a city of the near future where robots roam freely. They scoot along smooth footpaths, nimbly avoiding obstacles as they deliver groceries and medicines.

They glide through supermarket aisles, detecting spills and mopping them up before anyone can slip.

They provide valuable backup support in busy, understaffed restaurants, efficiently taking food to tables of waiting diners.

Robots are already doing these tasks. However, the utopian vision of efficient and problem-free robot helpers is a long way from reality. Recent reports highlight some difficulties: they have had trouble recognising people using wheelchairs on shared footpaths.

They have been labelled 'creepy and useless', and suspected of following shoppers for unknown reasons. In busy restaurants, they cannot navigate narrow aisles or customers' bags and coats.

So how can we make the best use of robots in shared urban spaces?

Cities are complex, dynamic and diverse this is part of the reason so many of us enjoy living in them.

But their unpredictability is what robots struggle to cope with. While some robots can operate successfully in shared city spaces, many can't and there is a long way to go before they'll be able.

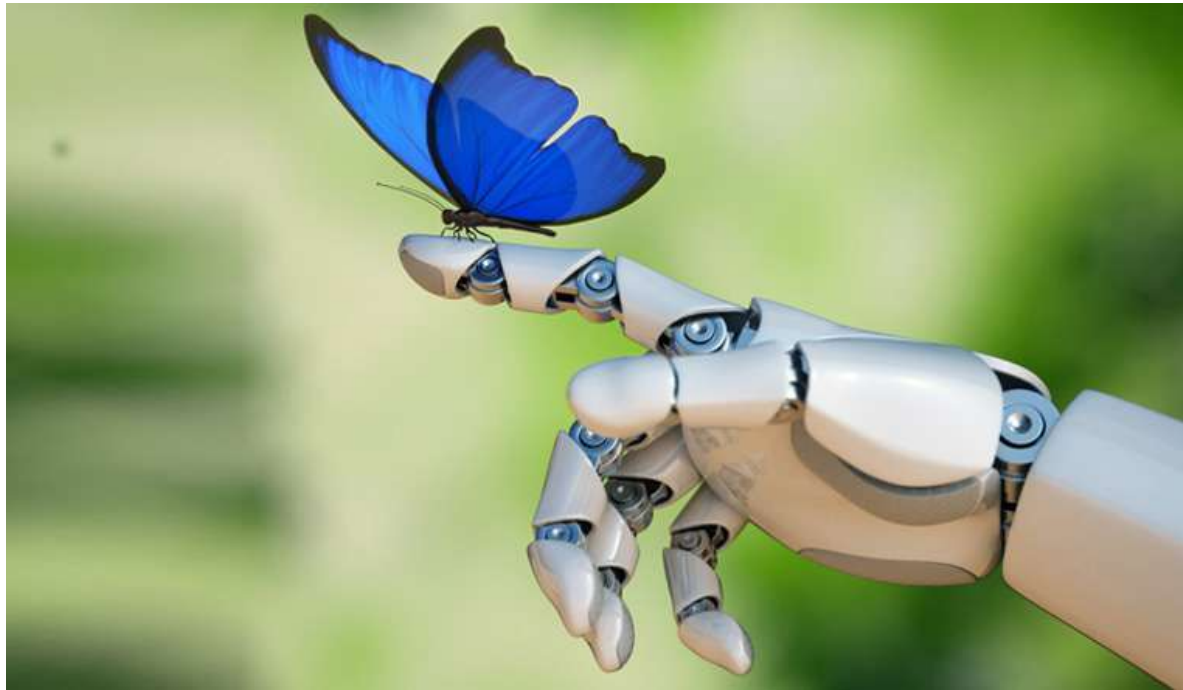
There are several reasons for this. Most importantly, the complexity of apparently simple tasks is an ongoing technical challenge.

Although advances are constantly being made, research by Monash University found that there are fundamental reasons related to the logic of their programming that shape how robots perceive the urban environment.

The study found the growing army of robots has distinct ways of understanding the city through what is called 'robotic logics'. Two things are essential to their success: Predictability and connectivity.

Robots work best in situations where there are no surprises and where connectivity to bigger data networks which robots rely on to sense, categorise and make decisions about the world around them is available and reliable.

One solution is to design environments that are easier



for robots to navigate. Early examples are warehouses where people and robots are kept separate to avoid accidents. Or dedicated road lanes specifically for driverless vehicles, as has been proposed in New South Wales.

While such responses might be great for robots, by prioritising their needs, they risk diminishing what people value about urban environments by simplifying them to a level that robots can manage.

Instead, the question is to ask how robots can best negotiate the hurly-burly of our cities. Studies have shown people can tolerate glitches or failures in the technologies they use, as they come to understand their limits.

This means that even when people's expectations of robots are not met because people often imagine that robots are more capable than they really are they can still find ways to work with them.

So, restaurant workers with concerns about whether they

will be replaced by delivery robots find that a crowded dining room will possibly literally trip up a hapless robot, so they only use the machine when the restaurant is less crowded.

There is growing acceptance that robots perform quite simple tasks and people can step in to help when necessary. This means thinking of robots less as replacements for human labour and instead as partners or helpers, akin to working animals, such as guide or cattle dogs.

A team from Monash University used an experimental scenario of a lost child in a shopping centre to explore how people understood a robot's limits.

They found people wanted to step into the role of decision-maker and leave less sensitive tasks such as information about shop locations to a robotic helper.

Another important shift in thinking is required in policy and regulation. Policies can sometimes struggle to keep up with quickly evolving technologies.

Instead, the question is to ask how robots can best negotiate the hurly-burly of our cities. Studies have shown people can tolerate glitches or failures in the technologies they use, as they come to understand their limits.

Experts have found that principles-driven approaches that prioritise people's needs without quashing innovative experimental technologies are possible.

Researchers have developed a checklist to help policymakers grapple with the complexity of new technologies and to guide policies on robots in public spaces.

This list links to the classic goals of public policy analysis which include defending people and property, promoting human flourishing, promoting efficiency and promoting social equity.

For now, robots work best when their environments are predictable - and it is hard to assume how future cities would adapt to their needs.

This means that rather than thinking about how we can simplify cities to accommodate robots, we need robots that work in existing urban environments in all their diversity and complexity.

To do this we must recognise the limits of robots' capacities and focus on how best to collaborate with them. If we can address this, then we can support the sustainable and fair introduction of robots into our shared urban spaces.

This is a challenge that needs to be addressed collectively by roboticists, policymakers, end-users of robots and urban residents alike.

University of Kashmir, Srinagar

Notice

The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported to the University that he / she has lost his/her University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of duplicate certificate/s:

Name: Showkat Hussain Matta
Parentage: Abdul Khaliq Matta
R/O Buchpora Srinagar
Regis. No: 12699-G-2000
Certificate/S Lost : 2Nd Semester M.sc Physics
Roll No: 9238 Session/Year Sept-Oct 2006



Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled

No: F(Duplicate/ MC-2nd Sem/PA /KU/22

inf Assistant Controller of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No.23 of 2022-23

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

S. NO.	NAME OF WORK	Estt Cost (Rs in Lacs.)	Earnest Money (EMD) Rs	Time for completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender document (Rs)	Major Head of Account	Tender opening authority
1.	Remodeling of Grazun Irrigation Canal	147.00	4,41,000/-	09 Months	AAY	500	MH-4702 (UT Ex-Engineer, ID	Ex-Engineer, ID

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

1.	Publishing date	15.11.2022	10.00 AM
2.	Download Date Starts	15.11.2022	10.00 AM
3.	BID Submission Date Starts	15.11.2022	10.00 AM
4.	BID Submission Date Ends	29.11.2022	06.00 PM
5.	Date of opening of tenders	30.11.2022	10.00 AM

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

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

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

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

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

3. Contractor who shall be allotted the work has to start the work within the stipulated time period after the date of allotment as the work is of very important nature.

4. The department shall not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids due to any reason what so ever.

5. The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days. (Ninety Days)

6. As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department.

7. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-

a. Any bidder withdraws his bid during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms & condition of the bid.

b. The successful bidder fails to execute an agreement with the department within 10 days after fixation of contract.

8. The tender opening authority reserves the right to accept/reject the bid without assigning any reason thereof.

9. The work is to be completed within the time limit specified in the NIT. In case of delay in completion of work due to contractors fault beyond stipulated time of completion the contractor shall be liable to pay liquidated damages at the rate of 0.5 % of the contract value (half percent) per week of delay. However, such liquidated damages shall not exceed 10% of the total contract value of the item, or a part thereof, delayed.

10. No price escalation will be paid for completion of the work within stipulated time or extended date of completion due to any reason whatsoever.

11. Retention money/Security deposit shall be 10% of the contract value. The Security Deposit is to be recovered at the rate of 10% of bill amount from Running Account Bills and shall be released after completion of the defect liability period i.e; 06 months after the issuance of completion certificate by the Engineer-in-Charge.

12. All items of works shall conform to Specifications as per Relevant IS codes and as directed by the Engineer-in-Charge.

13. The contractor shall be solely responsible for carrying out the mandatory tests required or as decided by Engineer-in-charge for the quality control at his own costs. The cost of conducting all tests shall be borne by the contractor and shall be deemed to have been included in the quoted percentage tendered. Nothing extra shall be payable on this account.

14. In case of tie for the position of 1st lowest bidder the bids should be out rightly rejected and the work shall be put to fresh tenders

15. The date of start of work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issuance of LOI/Contract allotment as the case may be.

16. The Contract shall be terminated, in case contractor fails to start /complete the work, within the stipulated time period, his CDR/Earnest Money/additional performance deposit shall be forfeited after termination of the contract. Besides, defaulting contractor shall be barred/ Prohibited from taking part in future tendering process in Irrigation Department at least for Six Months

17. The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a fundamental breach of the contract. The fundamental breach of contract will include:-

a) Continuous stoppage of Work for a period of 07 days without authorization of Engineer in-charge.

b) The contractor fails to start /complete the work, within the stipulated time period.

Pursuant to the process of termination of defaulted contract, the employer reserves the right to invite fresh tender for the balance work at the risk and cost of defaulting contractor. Besides, his Performance Security/Retention Money shall be forfeited after termination of the contract and defaulting contractor shall be debarred from taking works in Irrigation Department at least for one year.

18. Any kind of damage which may occur to any work during the course of execution due to torrential rains/heavy snow fall/cyclone/floods etc. shall be the responsibility of the bidder till the work is finally handed-over to the Department.

19. The taxes viz. Income tax, GST & Cess shall be deducted from the bidders' claims as admissible under rules.

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

No.IDA/4845-67
Dated:-15-11-2022

DIPK-13491/22

Sd/
Executive Engineer,
Irrigation Division Anantnag

اہلیہ مرحوم عبدالخالق لون رحمت حق

اجتہامی فاتحہ خوانی جمعۃ المبارک کو • مہدی جاہنگی
یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کے ساتھ شائع کی جاتی ہے کہ اہلیہ مرحوم عبدالخالق لون ساکنہ پنجاب
ذیب خانہ ریسرینگر مورہ 15 نومبر، وزیرمظاہر کو اس کی وفاتی سے رحلت کر گئیں۔
مرحوم انتہائی شریف انش اور پیکرہ اوصاف کی مالک تھیں۔ اللہ تعالیٰ مرحومہ کو جوار
رحمت میں جگہ نصیب فرمائے۔ مرحومہ کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی مورہ 18 نومبر، وزیر
جمعۃ المبارک بوقت 2 بجکر 30 منٹ ہے ان کے آج ہی مقبرہ واقعہ ہو۔ شیراز تنہا
خانہ ریسرینگر میں • مہدی جاہنگی۔

سوگواران

محمدلطیف لون، محمود صیف لون، عادل احمد لون (پا پلاس)
ایڈ ایڈ آؤٹ رستورنٹ، ڈال چک سرینگر
فریڈ ان مرحومہ

فون: 7006039077, 9419063940 INF

وانی خاندان بابا محلہ شوبیان کی طرف سے

اظہار تشکر

ہم ان تمام دوستوں، رفیقوں، ہمنامیوں، رشتہ داروں جنہوں نے
ہمارے والد صاحب محمد یوسف وانی ولد وجیدہ جوادانی ساکنہ بابا محلہ شوبیان 11
نومبر 2022 بروز جمعۃ المبارک سے لیکر ہماری چاروں تک تسخیریت
پڑی کی اور ان کا بھی جنہوں نے نماز جنازہ سے فاتحہ خوانی تک ہمارے
ساتھ شانہ بشانہ اور ہمارے ساتھ گھر پر ڈھارس بندھائی اور تعزیت پڑی کی ہم
ہر ایک کے گھر جانے سے قاصر ہے۔ اس لئے بذریعہ اخبار سنجی کا تہہ دل
سے شکر یہ ادا کرتے ہیں اور اللہ تعالیٰ سے دعا مانتے ہیں کہ ان کی کو ابر عظیم
اور ہمارے والد محمد یوسف وانی کو کوٹ کر وٹ جنت الفردوس
عطا کریں (آمین)۔
سوگواران : وہیم احمد وانی، علی محمد گھٹو، محمد معید وانی، محمد فیصل ناک، وجاہد ناک

اؤفتر نائب تحصیلدار سرکل رام باغ سرینگر
مضمون: الطاف حسین ماٹو ولد غلام ساجی الدین ماٹو ساکنہ پٹنہ شہر سرینگر بغرض خانی
ڈیپنڈنٹ سرٹیفیکٹ بیچو فنگی ولد مورخہ 05-07-2022

اشتہار برآء گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
محامہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد سائل نے ایک درخواست دفتر بذرائع بعض حصول ڈیپنڈنٹ
سرٹیفیکٹ پیش کی ہے کوکڑیا روٹی ہے اس سلسلے میں پواری حلقے سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی
ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا والد مورہ 05-07-2022 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے سائل کا
کنہ 14 افراد پر مشتمل ہے جو کہ ذیل ہے

مسماہ مریم زوجہ موتی 42 سال گھریلو کام
الطاف حسین ماٹو پرموتی 23 سال مزدوری (آمدنی 6000)
گلزارہ فاطمہ دختر موتی 21 سال تعلیم
اشرت جان دختر موتی 19 سال تعلیم

اس کے علاوہ اوکوئی افراد کنہ نہیں ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی
شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتمل اخبار سرائے د کے اندر اندر آئے عذر یا اعتراض
دوا لحد اؤفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد کے عذر یا اعتراض قابل
قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
fko



Workshop On Innovations And Startups Begins At S P College

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A two-day national workshop on 'Entrepreneurship, Innovations and Startups' started at the S.P. College here on Tuesday.

Commissioner/Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, J&K Government, Saurabh Bhagat, inaugurated the workshop, organised by the Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (CIED) of the college in collaboration with JK Science Technology and Innovation Council (JKST&IC).

In his presidential address, Bhagat said the current tie-up between CIED and JKST&IC can go a long way in inculcating passion for entrepreneurship and innovations amongst aspiring innovators and help them to create their own startups in future.

He also highlighted various schemes and initiatives of JKST&IC that aim at boosting innovations in the Union Territory. Bhagat also complimented the CIED for collaborating with JKSTIC in holding this event.

College Principal Prof (Dr) Khurshed A Khan, chief patron of the workshop, delivered the welcome address and encouraged the student community to understand that innovation is the need of the hour.

He thanked Saurabh Bhagat for his cooperation for the two-day workshop. Prof Khan also thanked other officials including Dr Nasir Ahmad Shah, Additional Director JKST&IC and his team for promoting co-operation between JKST&IC and S. P. College.

On the occasion, the S.P College signed a MoU with JKST&IC to promote innovations and startups with appropriate interventions and by way of raising awareness among the aspiring innovators.

Dr Nasir A Shah also shared the dais and highlighted the objectives of the two-day event, which includes an 'Idea Contest' that encourages aspiring innovators to present their ideas for grant of seed money by JKST&IC, after evaluation by a committee, for their further development as prototypes.

Dr Shabana Aslam, Convener CIED and Convener of the Workshop said the two-day event was conceived under the mentorship of the College Principal with the active support from JKST&IC.

The event has received a very good response from aspiring innovators and is being attended by more than 200 participants from different walks of life and over 60 innovators who have submitted their innovative ideas for assessment and seed money, Dr Shabana said.

Nowhatta Youth Felicitated For Registering Excellence In IBR

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad today felicitated a 25 years old, Uzair Fayaz Khan of Nowhatta Srinagar for setting a new record by completing 940 kilometres long distance between Srinagar to Delhi on foot in a recorded 7 day's time.

The Deputy Commissioner handed over an Appreciation Certificate from World Book of Records, London to the young Uzair Fayaz Khan here in his Office Chamber on Tuesday.

At the outset, the DC con-

gratulated him for his determination and registering his name in the International Book of Records.

The DC said that Uzair's success story shows that with willpower and hard work anything is possible and Uzair serves as an inspiration for the youth. He said that Uzair deserves applause and Administration is always on forefront to provide such talented youth the support they need.

The DC also applauded the young achiever for his motive of the run to create anti-drug addiction awareness among youth.



Div Com Inaugurates Glazed Pottery Exhibition At Arts Emporium

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole on Tuesday inaugurated glazed pottery exhibition at Government Arts Emporium, Srinagar.

The exhibition was organized by the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir in association with J&K Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation.

On the occasion, Div Com said that these kinds of exhibitions pave the way to showcase the unique and distinct art and craft of the valley.

"Such exhibitions are im-

portant for the artisan community as it not only showcases the rich art of Kashmir but also gives the artisans the opportunity to earn their bread and butter. The government is always ready to go the extra mile to offer a helping hand to the artisan community of the valley for their prosperity," Pandurang K Pole said.

Glazed pottery is the coating of a vitreous substance that has been fused to a pottery body through firing at high temperatures.

The craft has been practiced generationally the world over, but the only practicing tile makers in Kashmir are now ageing and thus, time is very

crucial to document, research and catalogue the historic practices and further to provide support to upgrade, innovate and develop financial models to restore dignity of labour and reintroduce the end-product into the local and regional markets.

Glazed pottery is a skill that is exclusive to the region and is an integral part of the cultural heritage and vernacular building traditions of Kashmir.

The exhibition showcased the works of the surviving craftsmen practicing this craft.

On the occasion a photo exhibition "The Last Craftsman" was also held that highlighted the works of the craftsman.

NIT Srinagar To Host 8th Edition Of NBL

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The 8th edition of the biennial International Conference on Nanotechnology for Better Living (NBL-23) will be held at National Institute of Technology, Srinagar in May next year.

The event will be organized in association with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Varanasi from 25-29 May 2023, which marks the birth anniversary of a Physicist and an inventor Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit.

On Saturday, Honorable Lt. Governor J&K, Manoj Sinha released a brochure of 8th Edition

of International Conference on 'Nano Technology for Better Living' which will be jointly organised by NIT Srinagar in collaboration with IIT BHU Varanasi and many other prestigious institutions.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal said the scientific event is expected to provide a vibrant platform to present and discuss path-breaking research ideas in nanotechnologies.

"It shall be an interface between academia and industries. Eminent experts from across the country will deliver keynotes, address, and lectures on various topics during the mega

scientific event," he said.

Registrar NIT Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said the international conference will be a platform for young researchers of the Institute and other participants from across the globe. "Nano-science has emerged as one of the most critical areas of research and has given the remarkable current and futuristic impact of the subject on vital sectors of human existence," he said.

Prof. Bukhari said during the last couple of decades, this field has already taken the developed world by storm, of lately—including emerging economies. These conferences are the need of the hour, he said.

Polluted Gilsar Lake On Verge Of Extinction


Agencies

Srinagar: Famed Gilsar Lake in Kashmir capital Srinagar receiving waters from Dal Lake is dying its own death-courtesy lackadaisical approach of Lake Conservation and Management Authority previously known as the Lakes and Waterway Development Authority.

This polluted lake has been alleg-

edly encroached upon by land grabbers while authorities are doing nothing to restore its pristine glory.

A group of residents living around the lake said that a few decades back, Gilsar along with Khushalsar Lake were the major tourist attractions and bird-watching sites, but today, one stops his breath while passing through the banks of this lake due to foul smell.



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

Possession Notice

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas Mr. Asaf Rasool Kanue, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 22.08.2022, thereby calling upon the Borrower namely 1) Mr. Waseem Ahmad Bhat S/o Mr. Abdul Ahad Bhat R/o Pahlloo Brein Nishat, Present address Phaloo Brein Srinagar (Borrower) 2) Mr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat S/o Mrs. Noori & Mohammad Abdullah Bhat R/o 127 Brein Nishat Srinagar (Mortgagor cum Guarantor) 3) Mr. Naved Ahmad Bhat S/o Kh. Gula Qadir Bhat R/o Pati Brein Nishat Srinagar (Guarantor) 4) Mr. Ayjaz-ul-Assad S/o Kh. Assadulah Bhat S/o Kh. Assadulah Bhat R/o Main Market Brein Nishat Srinagar (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs 1,10,24,028.76 (Rupees One Crore Ten Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Twenty Eight And Paise Seventy Six Only) being the balance outstanding as on 01.08.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken **symbolic possession** of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this **10th day of month November of the year, 2022.**

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 1,11,94,981.08 (Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakhs Ninety Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty One And Paise Eight Only) together with future interest thereon from 01.11.2022 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immoveable Property
(As per the schedule provided in mortgage deed/latest particulars including any accreditations)
Mortgage of residential house along with land underneath and appurtenant hereto measuring one kanal bearing Khasra No. 2652 min, khata no. 29 khewat no. 6 and mutation No. 8599 in mouza Brein Teshil Khas Srinagar in the name of Mr. Bashir Ahmad Bhat S/o Mst Noori.

Ref. No. JK/20KC/IAPM/SRFS/2022-
Dated:01.11.2022
Place : Srinagar

DIPK-13518/22

Sajad Ahmad Wani
Authorized Officer

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- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS

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



HIJRI CALENDAR
20 Rabi ul Sani
1444

PRAYERS

FAJR	5:38
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3:52
Magrib	5:32
ISHA	7:55

This Day In History

- 1922 - Turkish kalief/sultan Mehmed VI asks British army for help.
- 1943 - World War II: American bombers strike a hydro-electric power facility and heavy water factory in German-controlled Vemork, Norway.
- 1945 - Founding of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization).
- 1950 - Egyptian King Faruk demands departure of all British troops.
- 1962 - Kuwait adopts constitution (1st, Islamic).
- 1965 - Venera 3 launched, 1st to land on another planet (crashes into Venus).
- 1973 - Skylab 4 launched into Earth orbit.
- 1982 - 5th space shuttle mission: Columbia lands at Edwards Air Force Base after 5 days in space.
- 1982 - Space Shuttle Columbia completes its 1st operational flight.
- 1984 - 14th Shuttle Mission (51A) -Discovery 2-lands at Kennedy Center.
- 1988 - Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto's PPP wins 1st free Pakistani elections in 11 years.
- 1989 - UNESCO adopts the Seville Statement on Violence at the twenty-fifth session of its General Conference.
- 1993 - Russian President Yeltsin shuts Lenin museum.
- 2000 - Bill Clinton becomes the first U.S. President to visit Vietnam since the end of the Vietnam War.
- 2002 - Iraqi President Saddam Hussein says that he had to accept UN Resolution 1441 because the United States and Israel had shown their "claws and teeth" and declared unilateral war on the Iraqi people.

From KO Archives

2 Brothers Beheaded

Observer News Service

S RINAGAR: Two brothers of a slain police officer and a militant were among four people killed and two injured in violence in Jammu and Kashmir since last evening.

Reports said large number of unidentified gunmen raided the house of slain CIK inspector, Ghulam Hassan Wani in Sadrpora locality of Keygam Kandi, Kupwara last night and abducted his brothers Nazir Ahmad and Mushtaq Ahmad. Their beheaded bodies were recovered from the Kaudi this morning.

Ghulam Hassan alias Watali had been killed few months back. Reports said a militant was killed in during an encounter with security forces in their house in May. NAFA agency said the gun-men equipped with machine guns and AK rifles conducted house to house searches before abducting the duo. Mushtaq worked as a clerk in Education department while Nazir Ahmad was an em- ployee of the Forest Department. The agency added that residents had sought army help after the abduction but forces refused to in-tervene saying they will tackle the matter in the morning.

Gunmen killed a shopkeeper, Abdul Salam Bhat, a butcher by profession, at Qazigund in Anantnag district and injured two persons Idrees Ahmad son of M Shaban Kumor and Syed Qurban son of Syed Akbar near Rainawari in downtown Sri-nagar last night. In a fierce encounter with security forces a foreign militant of Lashker-e-Taiba, Sadiq Hussain Abad was killed at Larnoo in Anantnag district last night.

A grenade attack on a bunker in Alamgari Bazar left at least six civilians injured. The grenade which reportedly was hurled at the bunker at around 5.30 in the evening missed the target. BSF person-nel stationed there later cordoned off the area for searches. Several residents said they were severely thrashed by the angry personnel.

(Kashmir Observer, November 16, 2000)

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Wednesday | 16-11-2022

Winters Tale

In a new electricity curtailment schedule announced by the Power Distribution Corporation on Monday, the non-metered areas in Srinagar will face a power cut of four and a half hours from November 15 every day. The curtailment in non-metered areas will grow to eight hours a day. The power cuts are going to make it further difficult for people to endure the harsh winter. More so, the forty day period of Chilla Kalan which will begin on December 20. That is, if the power department resorts to no unscheduled power cuts. The new schedule has been announced mechanically with little need being felt to give grounds for the decision to resort to it during what is veritably the most difficult part of the year in the Valley. The temperature in the Valley has declined steeply over the last week. This makes the use of electricity not only a source of light or warmth but perhaps, the only sign of life through the dark, cold nights and frosty, overcast days.

But government pretends as if the curtailment in winter is an accepted fact of life in the region. It could be so if it was not for the higher benchmark set by the current government in this regard. Last winter the Valley received a relatively better supply of electricity. People expect the government to work to provide a reasonable supply of electricity so as to make it easier to deal with the harsh cold. One hardly expects the administration to pass orders banning the sale of heating gadgets.

Metered areas have a right to an uninterrupted supply as the residents pay for the electricity they consume. In past, the metered areas did receive round-the-clock supply. But this is no longer the case. While the aim, by no means, is to show the previous administrations in an uncritical positive light, people are bound to ask as to why the present administration has failed to improve upon its own performance from the previous three winters. It is time that the administration thinks through the question and formulates an answer for the people of the state.

The debate about power in Valley, however, doesn't stop with the availability of the electricity through winter. It is a much larger debate about the inability of the successive governments to meet the domestic demand for power out of the region's own water resources. The issue is simple and it is this: we are a region that exports electricity but purchases power at a hefty cost for its own consumption. This calls for the government to strategize and act to ensure that if not in the near to medium future but atleast in the long term, we have adequate electricity for winter.

OTHER OPINION

You're fired! Layoff crisis getting out of control at unicorns in India

According to 86 per cent of CEOs in India, compared to 71 per cent globally, a recession will have a 10 per cent impact on firm earnings during the following 12 months," said Ajoy Thomas, Vice President, TeamLease Services. "The layoffs are believed to be the result of a global funding slowdown that has also hit Indian start-ups this year, forcing them to conserve cash and discipline themselves."

HR experts however caution companies on such rash decisions. "Companies need to handle these situations in a humane manner. If companies take this decision as a temporary measure, I think the attractiveness of the brand as a positive one is lost. A lot of good candidates may not even come back when things improve," said Aditya Narayan Mishra, MD and CEO, CIEL HR Services. Mishra shares that he came across a case where an individual had taken leave to attend his wedding and when he came back he did not have a job. "The leadership team needs to be very transparent when they take such action. They should meet every person and talk to them," he added.

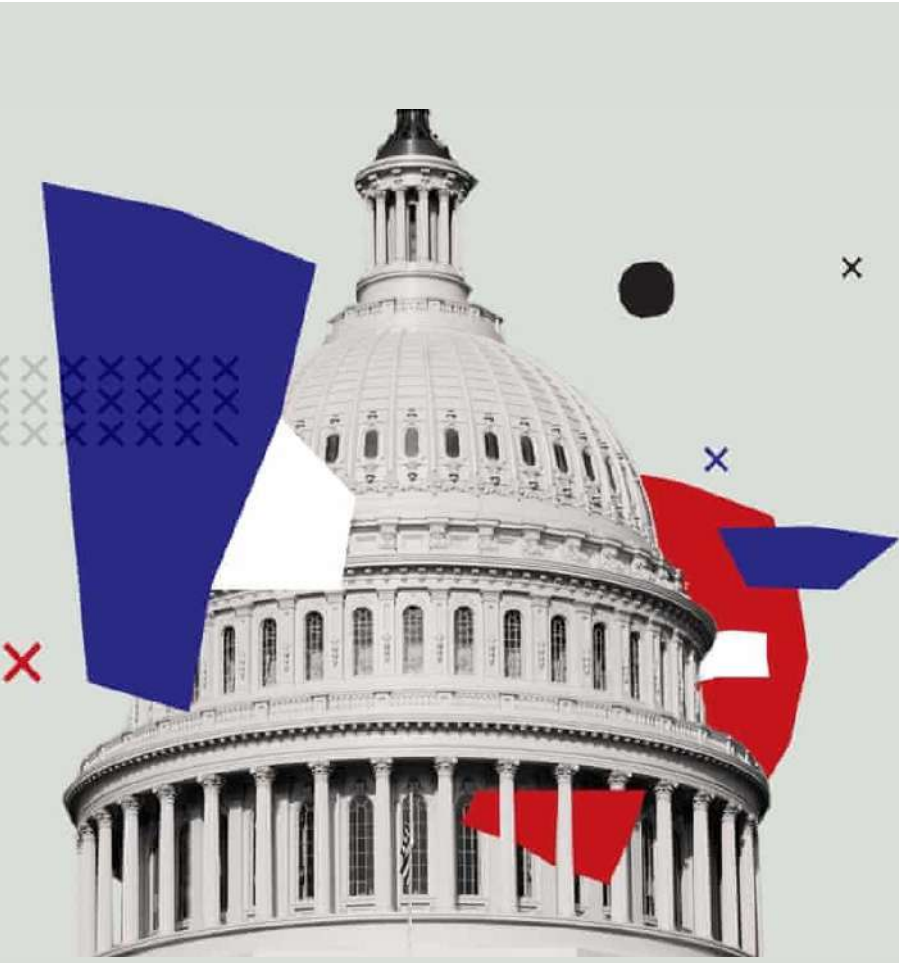
Experts said these layoffs are now spreading to other segments as well in the tech sector. For instance, Udaan is laying off 350 employees, or 10 per cent of its workforce of 3,000, as India's largest business-to-business e-commerce firm targets profitability, according to people familiar with the development. It is laying off people across department functions in a move to drive cost efficiency. The Bengaluru-based firm which is valued at \$3.1 billion, had already sacked 180 employees in June this year.

Top venture capitalists such as TC Meenakshi Sundaram, Founder and Vice-Chairman of Chiratae Ventures, said that if layoffs are inevitable, the companies should handle them with honesty and empathy. "This is not the first time for a funding slowdown or layoffs, nor will this be the last time," said Sundaram. "But it is important for people to manage the process much more sensitively and avoid biases."

Indeed, Thomas of TeamLease Services, said if layoffs have to take place, they need to be based on employee performance and keeping the workers informed about future actions. He said laid-off employees should receive severance pay for 45-90 days (depending on company policy) which also includes medical benefits and performance bonuses.

He said the maximum number of days an employer may lay off an employee is 45 days, per Section 25C of the Industry and Dispute Act of 1947. During those 45 days, the laid-off employee is entitled to compensation equal to 50 per cent of the total of his basic salary and dearness allowance, which would have been due to him had he not been so terminated.

Business Standard



Asad Mirza

It seems as if the biggest bastion of democracy in the world will continue to be marred by unpredictable changes. The latest in the series could stem from the setback suffered by the Biden Administration in the country's midterm elections, last week

Usually in a democratic system, every ruling party suffers from the incumbency factor in mid-term elections it faces. However, in President Joe Biden's case the last week's results suggested that added to the incumbency, voters also punished him for the steepest inflation in 40 years.

The silver lining for the Democrats was the defeat at a much lower level as anticipated earlier. The results also suggested that voters voted against Republican efforts to ban abortion and to cast doubt on the nation's vote-counting process.

Moving Ahead

President Biden had framed the election as a test of U.S. democracy at a time when hundreds of Republican candidates embraced former President Donald Trump's false claims that the 2020 presidential election was stolen.

The slim majority in the House would allow Republicans to impair the rest of Biden's term, blocking priorities such as abortion rights and launching investigations into his administration and family.

President Biden, acknowledging the reality has said he is prepared to work with Republicans. He spoke with Republican House leader Kevin McCarthy, who has announced his intention to run for Speaker of the House if Republicans control the chamber. Biden said that the American people have made clear, that they expect Republicans to be prepared to work with me as well.

As the next House speaker, McCarthy may find it perplexing to hold the testy Republican caucus, with a hard-right wing that has little interest in compromise. Republicans may demand spending cuts in exchange for raising the nation's borrowing limit next year, a showdown that could spook financial markets.

Democrats have been able to retain control of the Senate, thus giving a breather to the Biden Administration. A number of "election deniers" - those who supported Trump's false claim that the 2020 presidential election was stolen from him - won on Tuesday but many who sought positions to oversee elections at the state level were defeated.

Model of American Diversity

A significant number of Muslims, including many Arab Americans, had a much stronger presence in the midterms. 145 Muslim Americans competed in election contests throughout the U.S. and a record 89 have won. Currently 29 American Muslims serve as state legislators in 18 states. Five Arab Americans have been elected to the nation's highest legislative office, as US senators. Six Arab and Middle East Americans continue to serve in the US House of Representatives:

As from an Indian angle, a record five Indian-American lawmakers from the ruling Democrat Party, including Raja Krishnamoorthi, Ro Khanna, Pramila Jayapal, Shri Thanedar and Ami Bera were elected to the House of Representatives, while several others were elected in state legislatures, in one of the most polarised midterm elections in the country.

Indian-Americans who have made it to various state legislatures include Arvind Venkat, Tariq Khan in Pennsylvania; Salman Bhojani and Suleman Lalani in Texas; Sam Singh and Ranjeev Puri in Michigan, Nabeela Syed, Megan Srinivas and Kavim Olickal in Illinois, Nabliah Islam and Farooq Mughal in Georgia; Kumar Bharve in Maryland, and Anita Samani in Ohio. Nabeela syed became the youngest ever member of any state legislature, by winning a seat for Illinois's General Assembly.

Surprisingly, prior to the elections, both the Democrats and the Republicans reached out to the Indian Americans in a big way. This was due to the fact that they were seen as a deciding factor in many key constituencies.

Impact on Ties with India, China, Ukraine and Iran

India stands at no risk with the changed Congress. U.S.-India bi-lateral ties have wide bipartisan support among both Democrats and Republicans alike. For the moment, New Delhi can rest easy no matter who is in at the helm.

An aggressive American policy on China was shaped during the Trump-era, focusing more on the economic side of the relations. President Biden has kept in place most of the measures initiated by Trump, and taken a more sweeping approach to confront China. This includes human rights, industrial policy, democracy-versus-autocracy debate, and supportive declarations for Taiwan. But overall the optics may include Republicans trying to be seen as pushing back on China across the board.

As far as Ukraine is concerned, the White House has showed an unwavering

American Democracy At Peril?

India stands at no risk with the changed Congress. U.S.-India bi-lateral ties have wide bipartisan support among both Democrats and Republicans alike. For the moment, New Delhi can rest easy no matter who is in at the helm

support for Ukraine, but Republicans' control of Congress could complicate matters for Ukraine. Different camps within the Republicans could influence this. Future Speaker McCarthy had said last month that Republicans will not write a "blank check" for Ukraine if they win back the majority. McCarthy's comments are reflective of his party's growing scepticism about financial support for Kyiv as a growing number of Republicans, particularly those aligned with Trump's "America First" approach, question the need for federal spending abroad at a time of record-high inflation at home.

Meanwhile, Republican control of Congress could prove the death knell for the revival of nuclear talks with Iran, which the Biden administration has been desperately trying to restore. President Biden has been criticised by many Republicans for not doing more to support protesters who have been demonstrating for weeks against the country's clerical regime.

Using a legislation passed in 2015, the Republicans in the House and Senate can vote to express disapproval of a nuclear agreement with Tehran and block the president's power to lift sanctions on Iran's economy previously imposed by Congress.

The results have also shown the maturity of the American public, which has shown Trump that they will not tolerate his vitriolic brand of politics, unlike some other countries which are still under the spell of such type of politicians.

Overall, the coming two years doesn't bode an easy time for President Biden. His policies - both foreign and internal will be challenged at every stage. This may result in the administration getting bogged down over trivial matters and losing perspective to craft a more ambitious and proactive approach on other demanding issues at hand. The next two years may also prove to be a litmus test for the American democracy in a changed scenario of power sharing by the two political foes.

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

Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He was also associated with BBC Urdu Service and Khaleej Times of Dubai. He writes on Indian Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. He can be contacted on www.asadmirza.in



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Power Theft – Who's Responsible?

WITH the potential to generate 20,000 megawatts of hydropower, Kashmir is still in darkness. Being the chief producer of electricity in India, Kashmir should have the least electricity crisis but that is far from the ground reality. The valley faces power cuts throughout the year but during winter it becomes very hard to live with electricity for several days.

Electricity, in the 21st century, is not a luxury rather a necessity, like air and water. But in Kashmir, even the capital city of Srinagar faces a lot of power cuts. And even when electricity is available the voltage is so low that a bulb doesn't work properly, let alone other heavy electrical appliances.

erly, let alone other heavy electrical appliances.

With such circumstances, people are left with no option but to go through unethical and illegal means like electricity theft. The PDD department needs to understand the necessity and provide electricity accordingly. That's the only solution to curb power thefts. Also, transformers burn at least every five days during winter, leaving people suffering for days.

The price people pay for electricity is unfair because first of all rates are higher than the supply and secondly, electricity should be cheap because it is generated domestically. Why would anyone pay such a huge

amount for a bare minimum? If the government had to purchase electricity from outside then it was somewhat justified.

One of the reasons for electricity theft is that many people don't consider it as theft because they feel it's their own as it is produced in the valley. It could be stopped only when the population is made aware that this is theft as most of the population doesn't consider it as theft. The clergy delivering Friday sermons should educate people regarding the theft.

The PDD should carry regular checks to make sure employees are not indulging in corruption and doing their work with proper ethics.

Whenever any field staff member is caught taking bribes and helping the public in thefts, strict action should be taken against them.

While government agencies should set an example by taking strong action against the field staff and public involved in the wrongdoing, at the same time PDD should update their infrastructure and make sure that the public is getting sufficient amounts of electricity during winters, so that they won't resort to theft.

Tabia Masoodi
Srinagar

MOOT POINT SHOULD SCHOOLING LAST TILL WEATHER PERMITS?

The wintertime school debate is back in town following the recent official statement on the traditional winter vacation in Kashmir and the prompt public debate on the existing infrastructure and heating arrangements in schools.



Auqib Javed

Not that it's a new noise overtaking public platforms following the fading of the recent cricket commotion, but the concern created by the classic cold is real.

As the mercury is dipping in the valley, the worry about the normal classwork has prompted many to join the chorus and question the existing school infrastructure and heating arrangements.

The government curtly dismissed the din as a "futile fuss" as the "efforts are afoot to upgrade the school infrastructure".

The debate started when PK Pole, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, said that the schools shall remain open as long as weather permits.

Pole was speaking to reporters during the inaugural ceremony of Indus Bank in Hari Singh High Street, Srinagar.

"There is no clarity needed," he said. "Every year, when there's heavy snowfall in plains including in the city, schools are closed for

vacations."

It depends on nature and may be, the schooling shall continue beyond December 15, he said. "There's already clarity given by Director School Education Kashmir and every year, not just this season, schools shall remain open until there is major snowfall. It is all weather dependent."

Earlier, Tasaduq Hussain Mir, Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK), said that there's no plan of winter vacations in Kashmir region as of now.

However, the order has come under fire from the parents and civil society members, saying that with the temperature dipping and lack of infrastructure in schools, the students will shiver in the classrooms.

Earlier, the government changed the academic calendar for Kashmir schools, shifting the annual examinations and fresh admissions from October-November to March every year.

"A winter tuition system was established across the valley in 2015," said Naeem Akhtar, former education minister, while joining the on-line debate.

"It worked very efficiently along with Super 50 coaching and winter academic camps for lower classes. The classrooms were equipped with heating arrangements. What happened to that? Why should wheel be reinvented?"

In the backdrop of the ongoing debate, Kashmir Observer talked to students, teachers and officials to understand the severity of the situation.



Kashmir Observer



MOHAMMAD RASIB,
A STUDENT

We've completed our syllabus and our exams are now in the March session.

So we don't understand the logic behind keeping the schools open in bone-chilling cold.



G.N VAR,
PRESIDENT PRIVATE SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION JAMMU AND KASHMIR

The government orders should be logic driven and evidence based. But apparently, there seems to be no evidence that schools should function beyond 15 December.

Normally, the schools close down for winter vacation from nursery to 8th standard on 01 December and by 15 December all higher classes are off. This has been happening from so many years and never has been the educational insertions remain open after 15 December.

The government can't wait for weather disturbances and then close down the schools abruptly.

The government has maintained that they will provide heating infrastructure in all schools but I wonder how much infrastructure they can provide in just one month. There are over 15000 private and government schools in J&K.



MOHAMMAD JUNAID,
A STUDENT

The government earlier took decisions of uniform academic calendar by shifting exams to March session. And now, this unnecessary delay in winter vacations without taking anyone on board is worrying.

It won't work like this. Most of the schools are even without windows. Who can provide heating arrangement within a short span of time? The decision is illogical and needs immediate clarification.



KHURSHID KHWAJA,
PRESIDENT OF THE
PARENTS' ASSOCIATION
OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS

I think the government's statement has been misunderstood by the people, or I should say that they weren't able to make people understand what they meant.

As you know that there're no heating facilities in the government as well as the majority of the private schools and therefore many students sit on the floor. How will the government allow that?



MEHAK TOUYBA,
RESEARCH SCHOLAR,
KASHMIR UNIVERSITY

I don't see this government decision having long-term implications due to weather conditions in the valley.

From December till March, chilly-cold weather prevails across Kashmir and it becomes quite difficult to live by it, unless there're sufficient heating arrangements available.

The infrastructure of most of the government schools, especially in the far-off places, isn't fair enough to withstand such harsh weather conditions.



ALOK KUMAR,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY SCHOOL
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

We never said that we will keep the schools open during snow. We've been told that till the weather is fair, we'll try to keep the class open for students so that we can fill the gaps that took place during COVID-19.

Our students suffered a huge loss during that time, so we want to compensate for it. This has been happening every year that the administration keeps the schools open till the weather permits. The temperature goes down in winters in Kashmir, so what's new in it? Why so much fuss? We'll also provide the heating infrastructure but it will not happen overnight.

The First of the First A TALE OF INDIA'S OLDEST MOSQUE

Ali Raza

This oldest Masjid which is famous in the world as "Cheraman Perumal Masjid" is located in Kodungallur, Kerala which is situated 35 kilometers north of Kochi/Cochin, the largest city in Kerala.

This Masjid was constructed by Sahaba (The Companions of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and who were merchants and were having trade relations with Kerala even before the inception of Islam.

This historical Masjid was built in Kodungallur, Kerala, India during the Madani period of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and is considered as the oldest Masjid in

India and South Asia and one of the oldest Masjid in the world.

It was built by the famous pious, philanthropic and wise ruler of Kerala, the Maharaja Cheraman Perumal.

Maharaja Cheraman Perumal, who was very pious person saw in his dream that the moon is splitting into two halves.

He called all the leading astrologers from Kerala and India to interpret his dream and they gave their own interpretations but the great Maharaja of Kerala was not convinced.

Then one of the leading Arab merchant from Madina, Hejaz Muqaddas by name Habib ibn Malik along with his wife by name Khu-

mairiat Beevi who had embraced Islam at the hands of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and became his companions in Madinah Munawwarah.

Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) asked his companions Habib ibn Malik and his wife Khumairiat Beevi to travel to Kodungallur, Kerala to meet Maharaja Cheraman Perumal, the pious and righteous ruler of Kerala and invite him to meet him in Madinah Munawwarah.

Habib ibn Malik and his wife Khumairiat Beevi, who have viewed themselves in Madinah Munawwarah the splitting the moon (Shaqul Qamar) into two halves.

When they met Maharaja Chere-

man Perumal in Kodungallur, the capital city of Kerala during that period, Maharaja Cheraman Perumal asked them about the interpretation of his dream in which the moon was split into two halves.

They replied to the Maharaja of Kerala that moment he saw the moon splitting into two halves was the moment Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) splitting the moon into two halves.

Maharaja Cheraman Perumal accepted their interpretation of his dream and also accepted the invitation from the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) to meet him in Madinah Munawwarah, Hijaz Muqaddas.

Maharaja Cheraman Perumal

abdicated his throne and traveled to Madinah Munawwarah by sea.

After meeting the Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) in Madinah Munawwarah, he embraced Islam at the hands of Holy Prophet Muhammad (SAW) and became Muslim.

After this historical event he left Madinah Munawwarah to Kodungallur, Kerala by sea and reached Dhaffar region of Oman.

In Dhaffar he became ill and during his short stay in Dhaffar, he sent many letters to very important rulers and administrators of India inviting them to embrace Islam.

But he departed to heaven during the Madani period of Holy Prophet and have buried in Dhaffar (Oman).

Habib ibn Malik, the Companion of the Holy Prophet (SAW) the close friend of Maharaja Cheraman Perumal constructed the Cheraman Perumal Masjid in Kodungallur, Kerala, India on the orders of Maharaja Cheraman Perumal and he named it Cheraman Perumal Masjid.

Habib ibn Malik and his wife stayed in Kodungallur, Kerala and preached Islam in Kerala.

Habib ibn Malik and his wife Khumairiat Beevi lived and died in Kodungallur, Kerala and were buried adjoined to Cheraman Perumal Masjid in Kodungallur, Kerala India.

The Author is an Iranologist based in Hyderabad

Eastern Ladakh: Army Focus On Setting Up Permanent Defences Using 3D Printing Technology

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: In a major technology push, Indian Army has envisioned construction of “permanent defences” along the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh using cutting-edge 3D printing technology, a move that will save time and improve its defence preparedness, sources said on Tuesday.

3D printing technology uses complex software and robotic unit that helps in creating a structure through multiple stages from a digital model.

These 3D-printed permanent defences can withstand a direct fire by a T-90 tank from about 100 metres, they said.

Sources in the defence establishment said since the eastern Ladakh border standoff in 2020, shelters for about 22,000 troops have come up in the last two years, and these are relocatable, modern, compact, and can be lifted and erected in a few days.

The army has taken a number of steps to boost its capability development and achieve modernisation, and sources said trials on the use of 3D printed defences have been successful.

Besides building habitat for 22,000 troops and shelters for storing equipment have been constructed in the last two years. Nearly 450 A vehicles and guns can be stored in these shelters, the sources said.

The focus has now been shifted to “undertake construction of permanent defences and infrastructure to improve defence



preparedness” in extant working season apart from completion of ongoing projects in eastern Ladakh, they said.

The infusion of new technology is the key to achieve modernisation, they said, adding, 3D printing technology can help save time and cut cost compared to what is needed in construction of conventional units, like a bunker or a habitat for troops.

The eastern Ladakh border standoff had erupted on May 5, 2020, following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area. Both sides gradually enhanced their deployment by rushing in thousands of soldiers as well as heavy weaponry.

As part of a five-day disengagement process, Indian and Chinese militaries on September 12 this year moved back their frontline troops to the rear locations from the face-off site of Patrolling Point 15 in the Gogra-Hot springs area in eastern Ladakh and dismantled temporary infrastructure there.

On the sustenance of Indian troops in harsh winters during this period, the sources said some of the shelters were made at 15,000 ft and 17,000 ft for round-the-clock deployment, and hence drinking water, especially at high altitude, was a challenge in sub-zero temperature.

Water was accessed from

below ponds whose surfaces had icing, and water was still made available to troops in Daulat Beg Oldi throughout winter, they said.

“Also, these habitat were made over two years for troops’ convenience, and these are modular, relocatable structures. Solar fuel cells were procured for providing power,” a source said.

They also said ‘assault bridges’ are coming in big way as part of the infrastructure push.

The recently inducted new generation plant equipment such as heavy excavators, spider excavators and light weight crawler rock drills were gainfully employed to expedite the

progress in forward connectivity, sources said.

Nearly 150 km of operational tracks have been constructed in Northern Command, including permanent works like drains, surface and causeways constructed concurrently to enhance their longevity.

A 298 km road, projected to be completed in 2026, will provide alternate connectivity to Western Ladakh and the Zaskar Valley directly from the Manali axis. It also includes a 4.1 km twin tube Shinkun La tunnel for providing all weather connectivity, which is likely to be approved by the defence ministry soon, the sources said.

They added that under the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), there are 18 projects spread across the length and breadth of the country.

BRO has constructed more than 60,000 km of roads, 693 major permanent bridges totalling a length of 53,000 metres, 19 airfields and four tunnels running a total distance of nearly 19 km, including the Atal Tunnel which holds the world record for being the longest tunnel (9.02 km) in the world above 10,000 feet for the world’s highest motorable road over Umlingla.

Currently, the BRO is constructing nine tunnels which include 2,535 km long Sela tunnel, which will be the highest bi-lane tunnel in the world once completed. Eleven more tunnels are under planning, the sources said.

District Administration Shopian Celebrates ‘Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas’



OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

Shopian: To commemorate the brave tribal freedom fighters and unique cultural heritage of the tribals of Jammu and Kashmir, the District Administration Shopian on Tuesday celebrated Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas which marks the birth anniversary of Birs Munda, the iconic tribal freedom fighter.

On this occasion, the main programme was organised at Government High School Zampathri, here.

Joint Director Planning Khursheed Ahmad Khatana presided over the function whereas Chief Education Officer, Shopian, Mushtaq Ahmed was the guest of the honour.

Speaking during the event, JDP said that this is for the first time that the programme is being organised on a large scale to pay tributes to tribal freedom fighters who are considered as heroes of India’s freedom struggle.

Highlighting the measures being taken for the welfare of the tribal community, JDP said that the District Administration is very much concerned for the socio-economic uplift of the SC/ST and OBC sections and highlighted major interventions of the Government for their upliftment. He emphasised upon the students for achieving more and more knowledge to brighten their future.

The CEO said that Janjatiya Gaurav Divas is celebrated every year to recognize the efforts of the tribal community in the preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of Indian values of national pride, valour, and hospitality.

On this occasion, varieties of cultural performances in gojri were also presented by the students of Government High School Zampathri.

Among others officers, PRIs, others concerned officials and students in large numbers participated in the said programme.

Dismissed cop Sachin Waze seeks bail in money laundering case

Press Trust of India

Mumbai: Dismissed Mumbai Police officer Sachin Waze on Tuesday filed a bail application before a special court here in a money laundering case linked to former Maharashtra home minister Anil Deshmukh.

This was Waze’s second application for bail under section 88 of the CrPc where the applicant is remanded to judicial custody at a post-cognizance stage and not arrested under the provisions of the Prevention of

Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Waze has not been arrested under the provisions of PMLA thus the rigour of the Act will not be attracted to the Applicant, his bail plea said. It stated the court has granted bail to the accused in matters where they have not been arrested during the stage of investigation and requested the court to grant bail to Waze.

Special court judge R N Rokade after hearing brief arguments from both sides adjourned the matter for order on November 18. The Bombay High Court on

October 4 granted bail to Anil Deshmukh in a money laundering case registered by the Enforcement Directorate. He was arrested by ED last November.

The ED’s case is that Deshmukh had collected Rs 4.70 crore from various bars and restaurants in Mumbai through then Assistant Police Inspector Waze when he was the home minister.

The money was allegedly laundered and routed to the Nagpur-based educational trust controlled by the Deshmukh family, the ED has claimed.

Pakistani PM orders review of ban on Oscar-entry film 'Joyland'

Press Trust of India

Karachi: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has ordered a review of the ban on Pakistan’s Oscar entry “Joyland”, his aide has said, days after the movie was banned for allegedly containing “highly objectionable material”.

Written and directed by debutant Saim Sadiq, “Joyland” was banned by Pakistan’s Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, a week ahead of its planned release on November 18 across

the country.

Salman Sufi, an adviser to Prime Minister Shehbaz, late on Monday said that a high-level committee is being formed to assess the movie and review the ban.

“The committee will assess the complaints as well as merits to decide on its release in Pakistan,” Sufi said in a tweet.

In a notification issued on Monday, the PM’s secretariat informed about the formation of the committee to deliberate on complaints against the movie.

The committee includes minister for political affairs and economic affairs, law and justice chairperson, minister for information and broadcasting, minister for communications, minister for board of investment and others.

The story of “Joyland” follows a patriarchal family, craving for the birth of a baby boy to continue the family line, while their youngest son secretly joins an erotic dance theatre and falls for a trans woman.

Sania Saeed along with Ali

Junejo, Aleena Khan, Rasti Faruq, Salman Pirzada, and Sohail Samir are part of the main cast. It is produced by Apoorva Guru Charan, Sarmad Sultan Khoosat, and Lauren Mann.

Sadiq, who made his directing debut with the movie, said the cast and crew were gutted by the “unconstitutional and illegal” ban.

“We - as a team - are gutted by this development but finally intend to raise our voice against this injustice.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

When Sports Become

the medico advised. “They can even watch match highlights later in order to avoid stress.”

Clearly, if the predominance of emotions during a game is uncontrolled, then the stress level will be high, said Dr. Abdul Majid, HOD at Department of Psychiatry, SKIMS Medical College, Bemina.

“Once you are under stress, you release catecholamine,” Dr. Majid said.

“We call it sympathetic hormone as it can increase your heart rate, breathing and put a lot of exertion/stress on your heart. At that time, neurotransmitters in the brain can be disturbed because of the stress.”

Since the stress level in the Kashmiri population is already high, mental health experts warn, the cricket contests will only exacerbate their underlying psychological distress, like panic attacks.

“Post-match,” Dr. Yasir continued, “we see most of the patients, especially youngsters with chest heaviness, stress and other ailments.”

Another psychiatrist told Kashmir Observer that he saw at least 10 such patients during the recent T20 world cup.

“People relate a simple cricket match with a larger issue and thus become stressful and anxious,” he said. “This is not a good sign. People should take a cricket match as a game and enjoy it, rather than making it a matter of life and death.”

But the social media posts reveal how much people take a cricket match “on the heart”.

On 11 November 2021, a man from Central Kashmir’s Budgam reportedly died due to heart-attack after Pakistan lost to Australia in a tense semi-final of the T20 World Cup in Dubai.

But as the law-enforcement agencies have put embargo on the “green support” now, scholar Shameem Nazir cautions against sending any wrong message through social media or on the ground.

“People will imitate such message,” the Sociology scholar said. “Looking a cricket match through some other perspective needs to be discarded. Cricket should be treated as cricket.”

Even after beating the opposite side,

the players console and encourage other players.

“That should be our approach,” said Dr. Majid. “The mature people should infuse the same sentiments into the kids. If you relate or connect it with any other thing, then the game becomes a problem and it will eat-up your mental health.”

LG Assures Gujjars

“Special emphasis is being laid on beneficiary-oriented schemes and welfare infrastructure with priority to road connectivity, power supply, drinking water, modern tribal villages, self-employment, healthcare, skill development, scholarships and education,” he added.

The LG underscored that the Livelihood generation for tribals by harnessing the wealth of ‘Van Dhan’ aims to tap into traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribals by adding technology & IT to upgrade the Pradhan Mantri Van Dhan Vikas Yojna at each stage and convert tribal wisdom into a viable economic activity.

“We are promoting a culture of excellence in our schools in tribal-populated areas through smart classrooms. These schools will act as a vital source of new knowledge and innovative thinking, and as providers of highly skilled students,” Sinha said.

Enumerating the steps taken to give impetus to the socio-economic development of the tribal community, he said that apart from Forest Rights Act, several infrastructures like transit accommodation, boys & girls hostels, Eklavya model residential schools, mini Sheep farms, new dairy units, smart card and trucks for migratory population, Pradhanmantri Aadi Aadarsh Gram Yojna, Coaching programmes for NEET/JEE, UPSC, Technology Enabled Education Scheme, Tribal Research Centre have been created.

“I am confident the Janjatiya Gaurav Saptah will not only celebrate the rich contribution of tribal community in Indian freedom but instill a sense of pride in the tribal tradition and cultural values,” the LG said.

“Janjatiya Gaurav Saptah will act as a fillip to the efforts for preservation of tribal arts and culture in this hyper connected and internet driven world,

to encourage upcoming artists and students of tribal literature,” he added.

The LG also launched web portal for Tribal Awards which will Streamline and bring transparency in nomination process.

Earlier, the LG paid tributes to iconic freedom fighter Bhagwan Birs Munda on his Janm-Jayanti and remembered the immense contribution of the tribal freedom fighters & brave heroes in freedom struggle and nation building.

“The nation will forever be indebted to the bravery, courage & supreme sacrifice of Bhagwan Birs Munda and other tribal icons,” Sinha said.

Govt Sets Up

of candidates have qualified in these subjects. However, such candidates are ineligible to apply for the posts as they do not fulfill the requisite qualification as provided in the existing recruitment rules,” read the report. “In many departments, recruitment rules have been framed way back in 1960’s. In departments like agriculture, the rules are so complex that it becomes difficult to consider officers for promotion”—(KNO)

PDD Warns

130 consumers have availed an amnesty scheme till date.

“We have been instructed to disconnect power supply to consumers who have never paid electricity bills,” the official said.

The official said that if they fail to pay the outstanding bill amount, cases will be filed against defaulters.

Govt Reserves

skill development programmes; recreation, social engagement & sports; youth innovation promotion programmes; besides 3600 youth in-dexing of three million youth.

Sinha, he said, observed that the UT administration is laying special thrust on youth skilling & self-employment in Rural areas with targeted schemes to drive a socio-economic transformation.

During review of existing schemes, the spokesperson said that the LG issued instructions for impact assessment of initiatives and called upon stakeholders for exploring all avenues for enhanced corporate engagement

in Youth empowerment and skilling programmes/schemes.

Sinha, he said, also instructed the officials to expand MUMKIN scheme in order to cover youth from every panchayat of UT.

Meanwhile, Dr Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, CEO, Mission Youth, J&K, briefed the chair about the deliverables achieved under customized livelihood generation schemes including Mumkin, Tejeswini, Spurring Entrepreneurship, Rise Together, Avsar, Tourist Village Network Development and Home Stay Development Program.

“It was informed that more than 30,000 youth, including more than 12,000 girls, have been provided with direct livelihood means during 2021-22,” the spokesperson said.

Highlighting the achievements of Mission youth, the CEO informed that under Mumkin scheme, during FY 2021-22, 3651 vehicles were provided to youth for self-employment against the target of 2022 vehicles. Under Tejeswini, about 2443 Young girls were provided assistance under the program during FY 2021-22 against the target of 2022.

“More than 11725 youth, including 5237 girls were provided with customized market driven trainings. 910 Candidates, including 251 Girls, are being provided with necessary training to qualify the recruitment process for joining Armed Forces as Agni Veers,” Choudhary added.

Public Bathroom

per law will be initiated against him,” Abdullah said.

“In view of some media reports emerging on social media, a bathroom constructed by Rural Development Department Block Dachnipora has been allegedly sold by some person,” reads an order issued by BDO in this regard.

“In this connection a committee head by Assistant Engineer REW Sub Division Dachnipora is here by constituted to enquire into the matter. A detailed enquiry report in this regard be submitted to the office of undersigned within two days positively.”

As per order committee members include Shabir Ahmad Reshi Panchayat Inspector, Firdous Ahmad

Mir Junior Engineer and Aadil Ahmad Ganie Panchayat Inspector.

Woman Dies

were evacuated after two hours of a rescue operation by locals, police and the Rashtriya Rifles, Bhaderwah additional deputy commissioner Dilmir Chowdhary said.

They were rushed to a hospital, where Devi was dead, Chowdhary said, adding the kids escaped unhurt with minor bruises.

The official said Rs 25,000 has been immediately released by Doda Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan for the family under disaster management.

The army is installing tent accommodation for the family while a local non-governmental organisation has provided blankets, eatables and utensils to them, he said.

BSF Reviews

aspects, including those related to security, of the IB, officials said.

He described the general security scenario of the area covering the deployment pattern of BSF battalions and their robust domination aspects on the border, they said.

Boora also informed Sastry about the challenges being faced by the BSF, including tunnelling, drone activities and cross-border smuggling by the anti-national elements, the officials said.

Sastry also called on the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at the Raj

Bhavan here and briefed him about the current security scenario on the IB in the Jammu frontier, they said.

The ADG felicitated and awarded students of the BSF Senior Secondary and Primary School in Paloura who performed well in academics and sports.

Sastry also visited frontier campuses and offices. He will visit Jammu border areas.

Train Crushes

A police team has reached the spot and the body has been taken for the medico-legal formalities, an officer said.

Sarpanch Caught

scheme by him, a Bureau spokesperson said Tuesday.

He said that an FIR 17/2022 was registered by Police Station ACB South Kashmir since the contents of the complaint disclosed demand of bribe by accused public servant

After registration of case, the ACB spokesperson said that a trap team was constituted that caught the Sarpanch for demanding and accepting bribe of Rs 5,000

“He was arrested on spot after completing necessary legal formalities. Further investigation is going on,” he added.

Non-Local Found

the public requested to inform Soura police station for help in identifying the deceased, the police said.

CANCELLATION OF ELECTRIC CONNECTION

This is for the information to public at large that I, Siraj-u-Din Sheikh son of Ghulam Mohammad Sheikh, want to cancel electric connection of my residential house at Amda Kadal Srinagar bearing consumer ID: 0204040025799. If anybody has any objection same may be filed with Assistant Executive Engineer Electric Sub Division Hawal Srinagar at his office at Bagh Ali Mardan Khan Srinagar within seven days. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Name: Siraj-u-Din Sheikh
Consumer ID: 0204040025799

HC Junks Lal Singh's Plea Against Eviction Notice

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh High Court on Tuesday dismissed former minister Choudhary Lal Singh's petition against an eviction notice issued to him and directed him to vacate the government residence allotted to him previously within six weeks.

Singh, the Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party president, was among several politicians who were served notices by the Estates department last month to vacate government accommodations at Jammu's posh Gandhi Nagar locality.

The former minister had, however, moved the high court against the notice on the pretext that he was covered under 'Z-category security'.

The case came up for hearing before Justice Sanjeev Kumar Shukla, who dismissed the petition after hearing the arguments from both sides, senior Additional Advocate General Monika Kohli told PTI.

She said the court gave six weeks' time to the former minister to vacate the bungalow.

In its notice, the Estates department had asked Singh, who has been occupying the bungalow for the past two decades, to vacate the building by November 15.

A two-time MP and three time MLA, Singh switched from the Congress to the BJP in 2014 and was also a minister in the previous PDP-BJP government, which collapsed in June 2018.

Several months before the fall of the government, Singh had resigned from the BJP and floated his DSSP, following an uproar over his participation in a rally in support of the accused in the rape and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua in January 2018.

Choudhary Lal Singh, however, defended his participation

in the rally but claimed he was there to "defuse the situation".

Later, he launched an agitation to press for a CBI inquiry into the incident.

Besides Singh, the government has also served a notice to PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, asking her to vacate her plush Fairview government bungalow in Srinagar.

Another former chief minister and National Conference leader Omar Abdullah vacated his official bungalow on Gupkar Road in 2020, even before the administration issued an eviction notice to him.

The change in entitlements for former chief ministers in the wake of the abrogation of Article 370 and the reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union territories meant that they could not continue to live in the official residences provided to them in the erstwhile state.

Last year, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court had directed the government to evict former ministers and legislators who were in "illegal occupation" of government bungalows.

"It is very unfortunate that some former ministers, legislators, retired officers and politicians have illegally and unauthorisedly managed to continue to stay in the residential accommodations provided to them by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir, though they are no longer entitled to such accommodation," the court had said in an order in February last year.

The Estates department, in its status report filed in the court, named 89 former ministers and ex-legislators who continue to occupy government bungalows. Some of the prominent names in the list include J&K BJP chief and former MLA Ravinder Raina and former J&K deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta.

Apni Party Constitutes 2 Panels To Fight For Prisoners

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Tuesday said it has formed two provincial-level committees to take up cases of lesser privileged people languishing in prisons in the Union territory and outside.

One of the committees will cater to Kashmir province while the other will take up cases in Jammu, it said.

"Many people are languishing in jails not only in Jammu and Kashmir, but also in other states. Some of them are political prisoners who do not subscribe to our ideologym while some are youth. According to some, there are innocent people as well," the party's general secretary Rafi Ahmad Mir told reporters here.

"The families of many of such prisoners do not have resources or the manpower to knock at

the doors of the administration or the courts. So, our party has formed two committees – one each for the two regions of the Union territory," he said.

Mohammad Ashraf Mir, the party's Kashmir province chief, and Jammu chief Manjit Singh will head the two committees, respectively. The party's legal team will assist them, he said.

Mir asked family members of the prisoners to get in touch with the committees and share details.

"If need be, we will try to meet the prisoners in jails even outside Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Mir said there were many forums where the grievances could be addressed, such as the lieutenant governor administration; the committee headed by the Union home secretary, a forum for detainees under the Public Safety Act, 1978, besides courts, he said.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Two Day Photo Exhibition By CBC J&K Concludes

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Govt. of India, J&K Tuesday concluded its fifth Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme (2 day Photo-Exhibition) under Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav at MA Stadium, Jammu.

The Exhibition was organized alongside 48th National Volleyball Championship for Boys and Girls at Jammu.

The closing ceremony was attended by Sunil Kumar Tiwari, Treasurer Volleyball Association of India, H.S Gill, Vice President, Volleyball Association of J&K and V.K Magotra, General Secretary, Volleyball Association of J&K.

The programme was aimed to aware the volleyball players who have come from across India to play in the volleyball championship about the sacrifices made by the freedom fighters during the freedom movement of India. Apart from this, the students were also informed about the freedom fighters of North India especially from Jammu and Kashmir who fought for the freedom of India.

Special section in the exhibition was dedicated to FIT India, Khelo India and Seva Sushasan

Garib Kalyan for awareness of the masses especially the young ones.

In his address, Ghulam Abass, Joint Director, CBC J&K said the exhibition showcased the freedom struggle of India through a series of photo exhibits and to celebrate Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat here with the students across India.

Sunil Kumar Tiwari appreciated the efforts of CBC J&K in organizing the exhibition here at MA Stadium.

He said that it will generate awareness related to the freedom fighters of India among the volleyball players who are on visit to participate in 48th National Junior Volley Ball Championship.

Khurshed Yousuf, Field Publicity Officer, CBC Field Office, Udhampur apprised the audience about the mandate of CBC and also informed them about the structure and functioning of CBC.

The photo exhibition was inaugurated on Monday by Rajiv Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt. Governor J&K.

Theme based cultural programmes were presented by the private registered troupes of CBC, J&K and Ladakh. Open quiz competition was also conducted by the Bureau and winners were felicitated with prizes.

Govt Bringing Requisite Changes In Higher Edu System: LG

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Reiterating that his administration is commitment for taking forward the rich legacy of Naari Shakti of Jammu Kashmir, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that the government is bringing requisite changes in the higher education system in line with the National Education Policy.

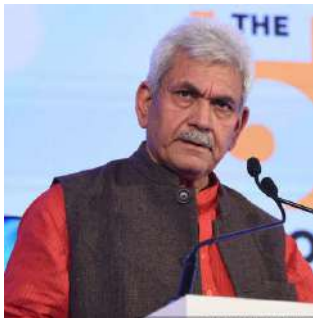
The LG made these remarks while inaugurating Academic Block and a Multidisciplinary Research Hub at Government College for Women, Parade here on Tuesday, an official spokesperson said.

The Lt Governor appreciated the Government College for Women, Parade for undertaking various innovation and research activities to empower the students through quality education, and raising their capacity to contribute to the society.

In the era of startups and unicorns, Educational institutions should encourage independent research & ideas and convert the campus into a vibrant place where dreams & aspirations are born and modern tools, mentoring is provided to nurture them, added the Lt Governor.

Reiterating the UT Administration's commitment for taking forward the rich legacy of Naari Shakti of Jammu Kashmir, the Lt Governor said the government is bringing requisite changes in the higher education system in line with the National Education Policy.

Special emphasis is being



given on women education to empower and encourage them for independent research and leadership roles, he added.

Observing that a woman with her immense wisdom has the power to make any team smarter and intelligent, the Lt Governor stressed the need to focus on future oriented, value based and aspirational education of the girls.

With their knowledge, principles and self-confidence, girls have proved they are smarter than boys whether in the classroom or in the research field. Nearly 43% of STEM graduates are women. The country is proud of women achievers and their contribution in the development of different sectors, he added.

The Lt Governor also gave valuable suggestions for adopting a futuristic approach in the education sector to meet the requirements of modern era.

Students today are not bound by geographical boundaries; they are digital natives. Education system based on Hybrid models will reduce the gap between the virtual world and physical areas with integration of modern technol-

ogy and traditional values, observed the Lt Governor.

Each course must be based on the RDR model- Recognize the challenges, Dismantle the causes and Rebuild the possibilities according to the needs of the society. We have to focus on Flexible and Personalized Learning which should be Creative, Engaging & Collaborative, he added.

He also spoke on the interventions suggested by the Higher Education Council of J&K for improving quality of learning & teaching in the Higher Education sector of the UT.

Education will give wings to your dreams and aspirations. Start asking questions, develop curiosity, find practical solutions for the problems and contribute towards making the country and the UT Aatmanirbhar, the Lt Governor asked the students.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to Lt Governor asked the faculty and students of the college to strive for excellence and play their significant role in the developmental journey of Jammu Kashmir.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary congratulated the faculty and students on the occasion and asked the faculty members to develop the college as a centre of excellence.

Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department enlisted various reforms introduced in the higher education sector and the measures taken for implementation of National Education Policy.

Mainly Dry Weather Forecast In J&K

Gulmarg Records Minus 4.6°C, Drass Minus 15.0°C

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Mainly dry weather has been forecast in Jammu and Kashmir for the next 24 hours even as mercury recorded a drop on Tuesday at most places with Gulmarg and Pahalgam resorts recording sub-zero temperature following snowfall over upper reaches.

"Mainly dry weather over the plains of Jammu and Kashmir with very light rain at one or two places on higher elevations," said a meteorological department official here regarding forecast for next 24 hours.

He said that there was no large change expected in the weather till evening of November 18 and it was likely to remain mainly dry. There is possibility of light rain and snowfall on November 18 (night)-19, he said. However, he said, there was no forecast for any major snowfall till November 20.

In the last 24 hours till 0830 hours, he said, Gulmarg received 5 cms and Leh 1.2 cms fresh snowfall.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 4.5°C against 3.4°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.3°C above normal for the summer capital during this time



of the year, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of 4.8°C against 4.5°C on the previous night. The temperature was 3.5°C above normal for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at minus 3.4°C against 0.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.2°C below normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of 3.5°C against 4.0°C on the previous night and it was 1.2°C above normal for the place, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 4.6°C against minus 2.4°C on the previous night, the official told GNS. It was 4.3°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, the official said.

In Kupwara town, the mercury settled at 1.9°C against minus 1.1°C on the previous night, the official said. It was 1.4°C above normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 12.3°C against 12.4°C on the previous night. It was 1.1°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 2.2°C (1.9°C below normal), Batote 2.3°C (3.9°C below normal), Katra 10.4°C (below normal by 1.0°C) and Bhardwah 1.0°C (2.2°C below normal).

In Kargil area of Ladakh, he said, the mercury settled at minus 4.2°C, Leh witnessed a low of minus 6.1°C and Drass, the world's second coldest place after Siberia, recorded minimum of minus 15.0°C. (GNS)

Panchayat Members' Body Demands Allowance For Gram Sabhas To Award Works Up To Rs 3L

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A representative body of elected panchayat members on Tuesday alleged that the Jammu and Kashmir administration's decision to resort to e-tendering even for small works was depriving educated youths from local villages of employment avenues.

The All Jammu and Kashmir Panchayat Conference (AJKPC) also demanded that works up to Rs 3 lakh should be sanctioned by gram sabhas.

The AJKPC alleged that the works done by contractors under the capex budget in rural areas were of very low quality. The contractors also don't pay heed to the requests of gram sabha members while district officials ignore the panches and sarpanches, it said.

"Despite repeated prayers to the government and assurances by senior officers, even tenders for petty works are being allotted by e-tendering, which is not only undermining the autonomy of gram sabhas

but also depriving the local educated youth of employment avenues," AJKPC chief Anil Sharma told reporters.

He alleged that panchayat members always complained that the works done by contractors in rural areas were of very low quality.

The contractors do not have any accountability either, he said.

"Neither do the contractors pay heed to the requests of Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members nor do the officials listen to the prayers of the panches and sarpanches," he said.

The AJKPC president said the role of PRI members in checking the quality of works had been curtailed as Utilisation Certificates for works done under the district budget were issued by the respective administration.

It is insignificant that from which account the money is being spent for development works, there must be accountability of the contractors and government employees, he said.

He cautioned officials of the

district administration and the rural development department not to test the patience of elected representatives and muzzle the autonomy of PRIs.

AJKPC leaders also urged Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the commissioner secretary of the Rural Development department, divisional commissioners of Jammu and Kashmir to take appropriate action to avoid confrontations and let PRIs and elected members work without interference.

They also demanded that Utilisation Certificates for works done in rural areas under the district budget should be issued by gram sabhas instead of the district administration to ensure transparency and accountability.

They also demanded that for works up to Rs 3 lakh, gram sabhas be allowed to identify deserving educated youth and self-help groups to execute the works in villages and panchayats to generate employment avenues and ensure quality work.

'DERELICTION OF DUTIES'

Incharge Medical Superintendent GMC Baramulla Attached

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Government of Jammu and Kashmir Tuesday ordered for attachment of Incharge Medical Superintendent Government Medical College, Baramulla to the office of Principal, Government Medical College, Rajouri, over dereliction of duties of Kayakalp Yojana.

"Pending enquiry into the matter of dereliction of duties on account of violation of Kayakalp Yojana, Dr. Javid Iqbal Lone, Medical Officer (looking after the charge of Medical Superintendent, Government Medical College, Baramulla) is hereby attached in the office of Principal, Government Medical College, Rajouri", reads an order.

"Dr. Parvez Ahmad Masoodi, Medical Officer (presently looking after the charge of BMO Boniyar) is deputed to Government Medical College, Baramulla under standard terms and conditions of deputation for a period

of two years in the first instance. The Medical Officer shall also look after the charge of Medical Superintendent, Government Medical College, Baramulla temporarily, in addition to his own work, till a suitable arrangement is made", the order reads.

"Dr. Mohammad Ramzan, I/C Block Medical Officer, Uri shall look after the charge of Block Boniyar in addition to his own duties till further orders", the order reads.

"The arrangement in respect of Dr. Parvez Ahmad Masoodi, Medical Officer shall be purely on temporary basis and subject to the outcome of writ petition(s), if any, pending before the court(s) of law and shall not confer any right upon the Medical Officer to claim preferential treatment at the time of formal placement/regularization/promotion which shall be made strictly in accordance with the rules", the order further read. (GNS)

Kumar Reviews Implementation Of RBSK In J&K

Emphasizes 100 Percent Health Checkup Of Children Enrolled In Govt Schools, AWCs

Observer News Service

2023.

JAMMU: Secretary, Health and Medical Education, Bhupinder Kumar on Tuesday reviewed implementation of Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakarm (RBSK) besides assessing functioning of District Early Intervention Centers in Jammu and Kashmir.

Ayushi Sudan, Mission Director, NHM, J&K, Dr Saleem Ur Rehman, Director Health Services Jammu and Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather, Director Health Services Kashmir, participated in the meeting.

Mission Director informed that there are 216 RBSK Mobile Health teams and each medical block has been provided with two dedicated RBSK Mobile Health teams along with mobility support for conducting health check-up of enrolled children in the age group upto 18 years in the UT.

Each team comprises of 2 AYUSH Medical Officers, one Pharmacist and one ANM. She informed that financial assistance has been provided to 272 children besides 68.70 percent of government schools and 45.2 percent anganwadi centers have been covered, so far, by RBSK Mobile Health Teams during the financial year 2022-

He asked the officers to chalk out a comprehensive action plan for visits to the schools and anganwadi centers by the designated teams ensuring full coverage under the scheme.

He asked the Chief Medical Officer to strategize screening of children taking into consideration the winter vacation. Besides, all children in the pre-school age enrolled in Anganwadi centres should be screened at least twice a year, he added. He asked to ensure screening of all the newborns for birth defects in the health facilities itself besides keeping regular monitoring during the home visits by ASHAs.

Bhupinder directed for chalking out an action plan of visits in schools and anganwadi centers keeping in view targets so that 100 percent coverage is ensured under the scheme.

3-Day Conference On Urdu Journalism Concludes At MANUU



Observer News Service

HYDERABAD- The 3-day International Conference regarding bicentenary celebrations of Urdu journalism concluded at the Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) here on Tuesday.

Several senior journalists and intellectuals including university professors addressed the closing ceremony. Very useful information and suggestions were obtained during the conference which culminated with conferring awards to media organizations and journalists for outstanding and valuable journalistic services.

MANUU Vice Chancellor Prof Syed Ainul Hasan thanked all the delegates. He said that Urdu journalism is one of the best in the subcontinent. "The future of Urdu journalism is very bright," he said, adding, "The only requirement is that this language should be adapted to the requirements of the present time." He also advocated the full use of

digital platforms for promoting the "beautiful language."

He also thanked all the journalists and proprietors of media organizations who participated in the conference from across the country. He also expressed optimism of holding such conferences in the future.

Prof. Ehtesham Ahmad Khan, Dean School of Journalism & Mass Communication MANUU, thanked all the delegates and experts.

He said that it was a "historic conference" and a lot has been achieved. He announced that a plan will be drawn up for the promotion of Urdu journalism in the light of the views expressed by the experts and senior journalists here.

"The university also plans to organize such international conferences in those regions which are known for Hindi language."

He said that languages do not belong to any particular religion or region. "Everyone has to work together to promote it". He said that Urdu is the historical language of India and it is used by every class of India.

J&K Beat Nagaland By 99 Runs In VHT

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir cricket team on Tuesday morning defeated Nagaland by 66 runs to register their third win on the trot in the ongoing Vijay Hazare Trophy 2022.

Nagaland won the toss and opted to bowl first in the match played at Dr DY Patil Sports Academy, Mumbai.

Fazil Rashid 85 (86) and Abid Mushtaq 62 (44) both displayed blistering performances to take J&K to 295/9 in 50 overs. In reply, the Nagaland side was bowled out for 196 in 44.3 overs. J&K's Yudhvir Singh 4/54 (10), Sahil Lotra 2/19 (8) and Abid Mushtaq 2/37 (7.3) kept the Nagaland batters out of contention.

The J&K team has been in top form in the one-day tournament, stunning Ranji winners Madhya Pradesh on



November 12, winning by 2 wickets in a high scoring fixture. J&K then defeated Baroda on November 13, scoring 282/6 and restricting their opponents to 188 all out.

J&K will next face Punjab on Thursday, November 17

J&K Playing XI: Shubham Singh Pundir (c), Abdul Samad, Yudhvir Singh, Auqib Nabi, Vivrant Sharma, Henan Nazir, Shubham Khajuria, Abid Mushtaq, Fazil Rashid (wk), Sahil Lotra, Sharukh Ahmad Dar

Messi Picks Brazil, France & England As World Cup Favourites

Agencies

Argentina's Lionel Messi picks out Brazil, France and England as the biggest threats to his dream of finally adding a World Cup winners' medal to his bulging trophy cabinet. The 35-year-old Paris St Germain forward will again shoulder Argentina's hopes in Qatar as they bid to deliver the South American country's third world title and first since 1986.

"Whenever we talk about candidates, we always talk about the same teams," Messi told South American Federation Conmebol. "If I have to put some above others I think Brazil, France and England are a little bit above the rest. But the World Cup is so difficult and so complicated that anything can happen."

Messi reached the final with Argentina in 2014 but suffered an extra-time defeat by Germany. Copa American champions Argentina are unbeaten in 35 games and if this is to be Messi's fi-



nal World Cup, they are in the form to deliver the title.

"We are very excited. We have a very nice group that is very eager, but we think about going little by little," he said. "We hope to start the World Cup in the best way to face everything that comes after. The more you play and the more time you spend on the pitch, the more you get to know each other."

Argentina's opening Group C match is against Saudi Arabia before they face Mexico and Poland.

Wheelchair Basketball Girl Welcomed At Srinagar Airport

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Another wheelchair basketball player from Kashmir, Ishrat was on Tuesday received at Srinagar International Airport by the officials of J&K Sports Council.

Ishrat, like Insha who arrived on Monday, was also part of the Indian women's wheelchair basketball team that won the silver medal in an international tournament.

For Ishrat, this was the second international outing as she represented the country earlier in an international event in Thailand. "I always dreamt of making it big despite my physical limitations and by representing the country in international events, I feel the journey has just begun and I am ready to



give my best shot whether it comes to training or performing in the bigger events," said elated Ishrat.

**JAMMU & KASHMIR BANK
OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (KASHMIR)**
(Affiliated to AIBOA)
M. A. Link Road Srinagar, J&K
Email: riyazbhat66@gmail.com

Ref: No: JKBOAK/37 Dated: 15.11.2022

CONDOLENCE

The officer staff of J&K Bank are deeply saddened to hear demise of Shri Tej Ram Ji Father of Hon'ble MD & CEO of JK Bank Shri Baldev Prakash who has left for heavenly aboard. The undersigned on behalf of membership expresses deep sorrow on this irreparable loss. While praying for eternal peace of departed soul undersigned leads in offering condolences to bereaved family praying for their patience and courage.

Sd/- Mufti Shujaat
General Secretary

ABBAS ADS: 7006444730 JK bank officers Association Kashmir Unit

3rd Kashmir Gold Cup Taekwondo Held At Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 3rd Kashmir Gold Cup Taekwondo was on Tuesday organised by National Sports Club in collaboration with J&K Sports Council at SK Indoor Stadium Srinagar.

The players from Jammu and Kashmir and outside participated

in the event that was also live telecasted on Doordarshan Kendra New Delhi.

Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Abid Hussain was the chief guest. Among other dignitaries, Chairman Youth Hostel Association of India was present.

Additional Commissioner Kashmir on the occasion interacted

with the players and thanked them for their participation in different events. Some of the National and International players won Gold Medals and some players received Silver medals.

The Kashmir Gold Cup Technical Director, Rakesh Kumar who has remained Technical Director for many events across the world while ex-

pressing his views said that he has for the first time seen a Taekwondo trophy with gold for which he congratulated all the members of National Sports Club.

The National Sports Club's Secretary, Raja Ghulam Nabi Wani thanked the participating players along with all the officials, organizers of the events.

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