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Online Threat Case

Police Raids Multiple Locations in 3 Districts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir police on Thursday carried out searches at seven locations in three districts of the Valley in connection with an online threat to journalists.

Reports quoting police said that the raids were conducted in Srinagar, Budgam and Pulwama districts subsequent to the leads received from searches done a few days ago in the same case.

Reports said the searches were conducted at the residences of Asif Maqbool Dar, resident of HIG Colony Bemina, Ishfaq Ahmad Reshi (journalist), a resident of Poshkar Khag in Budgam, Saqib Hussain Mughloo (journalist) a resident at Lal-Bazar Srinagar, Haji Hayat Ahmad Bhat owner of daily Kashmir Reader at Pampore and his office in Srinagar, Showkat Ahmad Mota at Botshah Mohalla, Lal-Bazar Srinagar and Advocate Adnan Bashir in Nowgam Srinagar.

A police spokesman later said that incriminating articles that were recovered during searches have been seized and further investigation in the case was going on.

"Apropos to our earlier press note dated **More on P6**

SIA Conducts Searches Across Many Places In Kashmir



The State Investigation Agency (SIA), Kashmir on Thursday conducted searches at the house and premises of many suspects in Bandipora, Shopian, Srinagar, Kisthwar, Baramulla, Anantnag and Kupwara districts with regard to cases related to militancy. The searches were conducted in a case under FIR number 16/2022 under sections 13, 17, 18, 19, 39, & 40 UA (P) Act read

with 120-B, 121-IPC registered in Police Station CIK (SIA) Kashmir, a police handout said. "The case pertains to handlers of terrorist / secessionist organisation(s) sitting operating from across the border hatching a criminal conspiracy with members of proscribed terrorist organization(s) operating in UT of J&K, having created new modules of OGW(s) for aiding / abetting / **More on P6**

Cold Wave Tightens Grip Over J&K, Ladakh

All Places In Kashmir Record Sub-Zero Temp, Pahalgam Remains Coldest

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Cold conditions continued in Jammu and Kashmir with all meteorological stations in the Valley recording sub-zero temperature with Pahalgam tourist resort being the coldest on Thursday.

A MeT department official here said that Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.8°C, the same as on the previous night. The temperature was 0.9°C below normal during this time of the year for the summer capital so far, he said.

Qazigund recorded a low of minus 2.0°C against minus 1.6°C on the previous night. The temperature was 2.1°C below normal **More on P6**

Now Winter Vacation Proposed in Phased Manner

Agencies

Srinagar: The School Education Department Thursday proposed winter vacations in a phased manner from the first week of December for the winter zones of Kashmir division.

Official sources said that the Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has forwarded the proposal to the government for its approval.

The official said, "DSEK has proposed to the government that it will announce winter vacation for primary



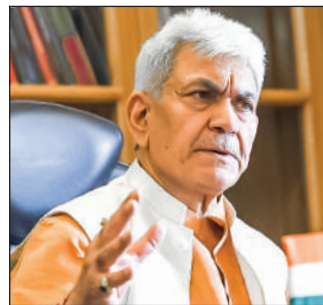
from 1st week of December."

It also said that the department has proposed winter vacations for middle classes from December-05 and for high **More on P6**

National e-Governance Confab Momentous Occasion For J&K: LG

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The government of Jammu and Kashmir in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances is organizing 25th National e-Governance Conference on 26-27th November 2022 at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, Katra. The two-day conference will



be attended by 1000 delegates from 28 states and 8 Union

Territories and officials from Central Ministries and departments. Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal will also attend the conference on 27th November. The IT Department J&K UT and Haryana's Department of Information Technology will also sign a MoU for knowledge sharing, idea exchange, capacity building in the IT sector.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said, the National e-Governance Conference **More on P6**

Chargesheet Against Hizb Supremo In 10-Year-Old Threat Case

The Jammu and Kashmir Police have filed a chargesheet against Hizb-ul-Mujahideen supremo Mohammad Yousuf Shah alias Syed Salahuddin before NIA court Baramulla in connection with a case regarding threatening Panchs and Sarpanches for participating in Panchayat elections ten years ago. News agency GNS quoting a police officer reported that Police filed the charge sheet before the Special **More on P6**

Drone Drops IEDs, Rs 5 Lakh Cash In Samba

Police on Thursday recovered a consignment of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), pistols and cash dropped by a drone from across the border in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said. Senior Superintendent of Police Abhishek Mahajan told reporters that local people saw the consignment, somewhere between Ramgarh **More on P6**

No Case of Bird Flu in J&K: Admin

The authorities in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday said that no case of bird flu has been reported in poultry birds in the UT. They said that people shouldn't pay heed towards rumours. Dr Bharat Bhushan, Joint Director Poultry, Jammu while talking to news agency—Kashmir News Observer said that no case of bird flu has been reported and such reports(if anywhere) are **More on P6**

6 THE INVESTIGATION IN THE INSTANT CASE is going on vigorously and is in an advanced stage. General public is requested to cooperate with Police and bring any information relevant to this case in the notice of Srinagar Police."



Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Bringing Citizens, Industry and Government Closer

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SILVER JUBILEE EDITION

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Srinagar | Friday | 25-11-2022

2

'Pain Relievers May Worsen Arthritis Inflammation'

Press Trust Of India

Taking certain anti-inflammatory pain relievers for osteoarthritis may worsen inflammation in the knee joint over time, according to a study. Osteoarthritis is the most common form of arthritis, affecting more than 500 million people worldwide. It occurs most frequently in the hands, hips and knees.

In people with osteoarthritis, the cartilage that cushions the joint gradually wears away. Arthritis is often accompanied by inflammation, or swelling, of the joint, which can be painful.

Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are commonly prescribed for osteoarthritis pain and inflammation. However, little is known of the long-term effects of these drugs on disease progression.

"To date, no curative therapy has been approved to cure or reduce the progression of knee osteoarthritis, said the study's lead author, Johanna Luitjens, postdoctoral scholar at the University of California, San Francisco, US.

"NSAIDs are frequently used to treat pain, but it is still an open discussion of how NSAID use influences outcomes for osteoarthritis patients. In particular, the impact of NSAIDs on synovitis, or the inflammation of the membrane lining the joint,



has never been analysed using MRI-based structural biomarkers," Luitjens said.

In the study, being presented next week at the annual meeting of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA), the researchers analysed the association between NSAID use and synovitis in patients with osteoarthritis of the knee and to assess how treatment with NSAIDs affects joint structure over time.

"Synovitis mediates development and

progression of osteoarthritis and may be a therapeutic target," Luitjens said.

"Therefore, the goal of our study was to analyse whether NSAID treatment influences the development or progression of synovitis and to investigate whether cartilage imaging biomarkers, which reflect changes in osteoarthritis, are impacted by NSAID treatment," the scientist said.

For the study, 277 participants from the Osteoarthritis Initiative cohort with mod-

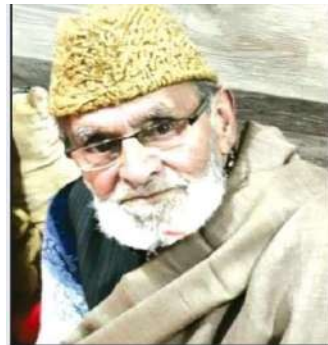
NSAIDs are frequently used to treat pain, but it is still an open discussion of how NSAID use influences outcomes for osteoarthritis patients. In particular, the impact of NSAIDs on synovitis, or the inflammation of the membrane lining the joint, has never been analysed using MRI-based structural biomarkers

erate to severe osteoarthritis and sustained NSAID treatment for at least one year between baseline and four-year follow-up were included in the study and compared with a group of 793 control participants who were not treated with NSAIDs.

All participants underwent MRI of the knee initially and after four years. Images were scored for biomarkers of inflammation.

Cartilage thickness, composition and other MRI measurements served as noninvasive biomarkers for evaluating arthritis progression. The results showed no long-term benefit of NSAID use.

SAD DEMISE



With profound grief and sorrow we inform the sudden demise of our beloved father, Haji Ghulam Mohammad Bhat S/o Ab. Ahad Bhat R/o Badiyar Bala at present Fair Banks Colony Rawalpura Lane D. House No 66 who left for heavenly abode on 23rd of November 2022.

May Allah SWT bestow him with highest place in Jannah..... Ameen

The congregational Fateh khawani will be held at our ancestral graveyard Basant Bagh on 26th of November, 2022 at 10:30 am and Majlis-e-Chaharum at Rawalpura. Ladies are requested not to bring any kind of eatables.

Bereaved:
Family members

Contact:
8491925901, 9469056492
9796534630, 9596256433
7006312910, 9906712214
7006897546, 9149422843
9419086760

INF

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on Electricity Bill bearing Consumer ID No: 0203010009526 from Bashir Ahmad Matta to Umar Bashir Matta if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned PDD office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Umar Bashir Matta
S/o Bashir Ahmad Matta iko

UT OF J&K, DEPARTMENT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT, J&K GOVT. POLYTECHNIC FOR WOMEN, SRINAGAR OFFICE OF THE INTERNAL COORDINATOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH POLYTECHNICS (CDTP)

Address: Bemina, Srinagar, Kashmir-190018, UT of J&K (INDIA)
Landline No.: 0194-2491176; Fax No.: 0194-2493808;
Email: cdtg.gwps@gmail.com; Website: http://womenpolytechnic.in

Notification 01-CDTP (GWPS) of 2022

ADMISSION NOTICE FOR JOB ORIENTED SHORT TERM COURSES UNDER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT THROUGH POLYTECHNICS (CDTP)

Applications are invited from both male & female domiciles of UT of J&K particularly candidates belonging to SC/ST/RBA/OBC categories and School dropouts for admission to various FREE OF COST job oriented short term courses run under CDTP scheme, sponsored by MSDE, Government of India in the below mentioned courses.

S.No	Name of Course	NSQF Level	Duration	Entry Qualification
01	Assistant Electrician	3	300 hrs	10 th Pass
02	Fruit & Vegetable Processing & Preservation	2	180 hrs	10 th Pass
03	Field Technician Computing & Peripherals	4	340 hrs	10 th Pass
04	Self Employed Tailor	4	360 hrs	8 th Pass
05	Pathology Helper	---	6 Months	10 th Pass
06	Fabric Painting	---	3 Months	8 th Pass

The applications must be submitted online at www.womenpolytechnic.in before 04-12-2022.

Following documents are required to be uploaded:

1. Passport Size Photograph.
2. Entry Level Eligibility Certificate.
3. Category Certificate (if opted)
4. Domicile Certificate

DIPK-14063/22
DATED : 24-11-2022

Sd/-
Principal/Chief Coordinator
CDTP Scheme,
Govt. Polytechnic for Women, Srinagar

خضر محمد ریشی وند ہامہ گاندربل داعی اجل کو لبیک کہہ گئے

مرحوم کا چہارم مورخہ 27 نومبر کو انجام دیا جائے گا



یہ خبر انتہائی دکھ کیساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ خضر محمد ریشی ولد غلام احمد ریشی ساکنہ وند ہامہ گاندربل مورخہ 24 نومبر 2022 بروز جمعرات اس دار فانی سے رحلت کر گئے۔ مرحوم نیک، بلند اسرار و صلوة کے پابند تھے۔ اللہ تعالیٰ مرحوم کو جنت الفردوس میں جگہ عطا کر دے۔ مرحوم کا چہارم مورخہ 27 نومبر 2022 بروز اتوار صبح کے دس بجے آبائی مقبرہ وند ہامہ میں انجام دیا جائے گا۔

فرزند ان

عبدالحمید ریشی، عابد احمد ریشی و اہل خانہ

6005486990

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my driving license bearing DI No: JK0420190004885 from Kanihama To Magam. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of ARTO Budgam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohd Umar Taili
S/o Ab Ganil Taili R/o Kanihama

bmg

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Divisional Forest Officer J.V. FOREST DIVISION BARAMULLA

e- NIT No. 18 of 2022-23 Dated 23-11-2022 (RETENDER)

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:

S.No	Name of Work	Location	Adv. cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Bid Security (EMD) INR	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of Completion
01	Providing and Fixing of Barbed Wire Fencing with Angle Iron Posts in Cement Concrete Blocks and water harvesting structure conforming to the departmental specifications: Planting of saplings in pits of size 45cmx45cmx45cm within the available blanks of identified site including carriage/lifting of plants from different nurseries of Forest Department by mechanical transport within a maximum lead of 100 Kms and headload carriage including loading and unloading upto site of work with all operations as per break up: (i) Polybag raised Plants = 4757 No. (ii) Broadleaved Plants = 5157 No. Note: Plant material shall be supplied departmentally.	Compartment 19-B Baramulla	26.86	53720	AAY & BEE	1100	45-days
02	Providing and Fixing of Barbed Wire Fencing with Angle Iron Posts in Cement Concrete Blocks and water harvesting structure conforming to the departmental specifications: Planting of saplings in pits of size 45cmx45cmx45cm within the available blanks of identified site including carriage/lifting of plants from different nurseries of Forest Department by mechanical transport within a maximum lead of 100 Kms and headload carriage including loading and unloading upto site of work with all operations as per break up: (i) Polybag raised Plants = 2000 No. (ii) Broadleaved Plants = 2480. No. Note: Plant material shall be supplied departmentally.	Compartment 4b-Hamal	20.58	41154	B & C	800	30-days
03	Providing and Fixing of Barbed Wire Fencing with Angle Iron Posts in Cement Concrete Blocks conforming to the departmental specifications: (No. of Fence Posts=225)	Compartment 10 Kathie Uri Range (UT CAPEX)	3.72	7440	D	200	20-days

The position of codal formalities in respect of above work(s) is as under:

Position of Funds	Budgeted
Position of AA	Accorded
Position of TS	Accorded

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, scope of work, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website:- www.jktenders.gov.in.

Publishing Date:	23-11-2022
Download Start Date:	23-11-2022 from 04:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date:	23-11-2022 from 04:00 PM
Bid submission End Date:	29-11-2022 up to 4:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:	30-11-2022 at 11:30 AM in the office of the Conservator of Forests Kashmir North Circle Sopore.
Date of Opening of Financial Bid through online:	To be opened (Online) after technical evaluation is completed. Date will be notified separately.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>.
2. Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and Bid Security in the shape of EMD for requisite amount and pledged to Divisional Forest Officer.
3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
4. The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e BSD Form, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/ Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2022-23, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt (Cost of Tender Document).
6. The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
7. As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.
8. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
9. The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
10. The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
11. All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the Detailed Tender document.

No. DFO/JV/Acctts/2022-23/e-Tendering/265-68
Dated: 24-11-2022

DIPK-14043/22

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
JV Forest Division Baramulla

Exhibition On ‘Monumental Glory Of Kashmir’ Held At Amar Singh College

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In the purview of celebrations of World Heritage Week from 19th to 25th November 2022, the Department of History Amar Singh College, Cluster University Srinagar in collaboration with the Department of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, J&K organised an exhibition on the “Monumental Glory of Kashmir” in Amar Singh College on 23-24 November 2022. The purpose of the exhibition was to familiarise the students with the history and heritage of Kashmir, and to make them conscious about the significance of the preservation and conservation of the monuments created in the past. The exhibition was inaugurated by the worthy Principal Amar Singh College, Prof. Bashir Ahmad Rather, accompanied by Deputy Director, Department of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, and students and other teaching faculties.

In the exhibition, Mr Mushtaq Ahmad Beigh, Deputy Director of Archives, Archaeology and Museums, introduced different historical monuments of

Kashmir and discussed the need for and importance of preserving them as the cultural heritage of the region. The exhibition was visited by the students as well as the faculty of all the departments of the college who put forward their remarks for the initiative. The visitors to the exhibition came to know about the monuments constructed during ancient, medieval, and modern Kashmir. The grandeur of the monuments of Kashmir invited curiosity of visitors to visit them in person in future. On the second day, the faculty and students visited the exhibition on large scale. The visitors displayed a keen interest in knowing about the material, content, technology, and human power used in the construction of the monuments. The students enjoyed the exhibition and felt enriched by the social and cultural history of Kashmir. The exhibition ended on the 24th of November 2022 successfully, for which the Department of History and the Department of Archives, Archaeology and Museums are thankful to the college administration which provided the essential requirements for the organisation of the event.

PATIENT CARE:

71 Posts Lying Vacant In CMO Office, 24 at Rainawari Hospital

Agencies

Srinagar: At least 24 posts of doctors and paramedical staffers are lying vacant at Rainawari Hospital in Kashmir capital Srinagar.

These include 2 gazetted and 22 non-gazetted posts.

The data available with the news agency Kashmir News Trust reveals that the posts of Senior Consultant Gynae and a Dental Surgeon are lying vacant for a long time in the hospital while the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has been doing nothing fill up these posts.

Vacancy position of non-gazetted cadre in the hospital includes 2 senior lab technicians, a Head Dental Technician, a Head X-ray Technician, a Sup. X-ray Technician, 2 Junio X-ray Technicians, a

Head Opth. Tech (COB), a Sup. Opth Tech (COB), a Junior Opth Tech, a Head Theatre Tech, a Sup. Theatre Tech, a Junior Theatre Tech, 3 Nursing supervisors, 2 Senior Nurses and 4 Anesthesia Assistants.

Similarly, the number of posts including doctors and paramedical staffers which are lying vacant in the office of the Chief Medical Officer's office in Srinagar stands at 71.

These vacant posts include 30 Medical Officers, 11 FMPHW, 2 Dental Technicians, 5 X-Ray Technicians, a Senior Health Inspector, 7 Health Inspectors, 2 CHOs, one Optho Tech and 11 Pharmacists.

The data also reveals that this year Directorate of Health Services Kashmir didn't upgrade any hospital or Primary Health Centres. Further, the work at NT-PHCs Chatterhama, Zakura, Lal Bazar and Palpora is still incomplete. [KNT]



Mayor Accuses National Conference Of Destabilizing SMC

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Mayor Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Junaid Azim Mattu on Thursday accused the National Conference (NC) of destabilizing the Corporation.

Junaid made these remarks while addressing a press conference at the Mayor's private Residence. He said that if NC and BJP want to get into an alliance to destabilize Srinagar municipal Corporation (SMC) they should do it openly, why do it behind closed doors.

Junaid further said that in the past six months, he and Former Deputy Mayor Sheikh Imran have enough evidence against National Conference leaders, who he accused of being corrupt to the core.

“We have horrendous and horrible proof against National Conference leaders and their sons. If those proofs are brought into the public domain, the leaders of the National Conference (NC) will not be able to contest elections. People will not even look at their homes,” Junaid said.

On one hand, we are being told that dynasty politics has no place in Kashmir, on the other hand some national political parties who are part of the political ecosystem get misled by these people, this is beyond my understanding” Junaid said.

He alleged that incumbent Deputy Mayor and NC leader, Parvaiz Qadri was involved in

120 crores out of which works worth 40 crores were carried out. The entire city could not be covered in one year, it will be done in two years” he said.

Why developmental works in the city should be confined to Khanyar and Habba Kadal areas of the city, he said in an apparent reference to the NC leaders. “We are being accused of

“We had presented a macadamization programme of around 120 crores out of which works worth 40 crores were carried out. The entire city could not be covered in one year, it will be done in two years

bribery as he has taken over Rs one crore and five lakh from the people so far.

“Enough proof has been given to the police in this regard, but, I don't know for what reasons action is being delayed,” Mattu said

He further said that the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) was accused of doing developmental works in selected localities which is baseless.

“We had presented a macadamization programme of around

macadamizing roads in green belts, Isn't Ishbar Nishat a green belt. If roads are macadamized in Ashai Bagh and Saida Kadal localities, why do some political parties make an issue out of it” he questioned.

He alleged that some representatives are forcing him to sign the illegal documents and also allow the illegal activities within the City.

Junaid was flanked by former Deputy Mayor SMC Sheikh Imran and others.

Garbage Station Outside GD Goenka School Risks Lives Of Students

Agencies

Srinagar:The health of students and teachers in GD Goenka School here in Lal Bazar area of Srinagar is at a great risk as heaps of garbage lying at the trash station outside the school is being lifted during school timing.

Parents of students enrolled in the school said that it has become a nuisance to reach the school as they have to pass through the spot where heaps of garbage could be seen accumulated after being collected from different localities.

“The foul smell emanating from the garbage is affecting the health of the little school go-

“The foul smell emanating from the garbage is affecting the health of the little school going children as the place is very close to the educational institute,”

ing children as the place is very close to the educational institute,” parents said.

They added that for the past few weeks, the students are not able to reach the school on time

as the process to remove the garbage from the spot is being started from 9AM to 10AM, which is school-going time. “The presence of vehicles removing the garbage in morning hours lead to frequent traffic mess, thus the students are not able to reach the school on time,” they said.

The parents as well as their wards demanded that the authorities should remove the garbage station outside the school to some other location.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Mayor, Junaid Azim Mattu told KNO that he will look into the matter. “The timing of garbage lifting from the spot will be changed.”—(KNO)

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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

HIJRI CALENDAR
29 Rabi ul Sani
1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5:44
ZUHR	12:17
ASR	3:47
Magrib	5:27
ISHA	7: 51

This Day In History

- 1973 - 3 Palestinians hijack KLM B747 above Iraq, to Dubai.
- 1979 - Israel returns Alma oilfields in Gulf of Suez to Egypt.
- 1983 - Soyuz T-9 returns to Earth, 149 days after take-off.
- 1983 - Syria & Saudi Arabia announce cease-fire in PLO civil war in Tripoli.
- 1983 - World's greatest robbery 26 million pounds worth of gold, diamonds & cash stolen from the Brink's-Mat warehouse at Heathrow Airport, England.
- 1986 - Iran-Contra affair erupts, President Reagan reveals secret arms deal.
- 1987 - Supertyphoon Nina pummels the Philippines with category 5 winds of 165 mph and a surge that swallows entire villages. At least 1,036 deaths attributed to the storm.
- 2005 - Polish Minister of National Defence Radek Sikorski opens Warsaw Pact archives to historians. Maps of possible nuclear strikes against Western Europe, including nuclear annihilation of 43 Polish cities by Soviet-controlled forces revealed.
- 2007 - The first European Parliament election and a referendum on changing the voting system (called by the President and declared invalid because of insufficient turnout) were held in Romania.
- 2009 - Flooding in Jeddah, Saudia Arabia; powerful storm brings 3 years' worth of rain in 4 hours, killing over 150 people and sweeping thousands of cars away during Hajj.
- 2011 - Sudden violent storms strike southern Sri Lanka, killing 27 people and drowning many fishermen caught by surprise. Thousands of homes lose their roofs and several more sustain damage. Landslides along with flooding was reported on the mainland.
- 2012 - 16 people are killed and 44 injured after a wedding party bus plunges 300 ft down a gorge in India.
- 2013 - 17 people are killed and 37 are wounded in a cafe bombing in Baghdad, Iraq.
- 2014 - US Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel resigns, ending nearly two years in the Pentagon's top job.

From KO Archives

SOG Vehicle Blown Up, 6 Cops Killed

Observer News Service

Srinagar- A land mine blew up two patrol jeeps of SOG of Police early today at Sirigufwara in Anantnag district killing all the six on board while five CRPF personnel were severely injured In another blast soon afterwards, reports reaching here said.

Elsewhere in the state, two military officials and two militants died in a fierce gunbattle.

The mine explosion occurred on a mountainous road in the Sirigufwara region, 40 miles southeast of Srinagar, when members of the Special Task Force were patrolling in the region. Two improvised Explosive Devices were detonated in quick succession by suspected militants with the help of remote control when the SOG vehicle followed by the CRPF party was passing through the area.

Five SOG personnel died on the spot, as the first IED went off wrecking their vehicle. Another was critically wounded who died on way to hospital. Moments after another land mine went off near Mahand village damaging the CRPF vehicle and injuring five. The impact of the first blast was felt in the three KM radius area, reports quoting villagers and police officials said.

The deceased SOG personnel were identified as Sub Inspector Naresh Kumar, Head Constable Hakim Din, Constable Roshan Lal, Roop Lal, Ali Mohammad, and Mohamad Jamal.

Reports said soon after the blasts security forces arrived on the scene and laid cordon of the whole area. Massive searches were on when the reports last came in late in the evening, a CNS news agency report said.

Today's blast was the third in the series within a week in Anantnag district. A personal security officer of Union minister of State for Home, Magbool Dar, was killed and ten others including some of his close relatives were injured on November 19, in a land mine explosion at Breggora-Shangus in the district.

This was followed by a bomb explosion outside the office of the district police chief on November 21 killing a civilian and injuring 42 others.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 25 NOVEMBER, 1998)

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department
Zonal Office Baramulla, Amargarh, Sopore
T : 01954-221082/221096
E : amid.zobara@jkbmail.com

AUCTION NOTICE

Owing to non-payment of long outstanding loan by the below named borrower, the Bank has seized the hypothecated vehicle in terms of agreement, which is parked in Bank's Zonal Office at Amargarh, Sopore. The description and details of the vehicle is given hereunder:

S. No.	Name of Borrower	Name of Branch	Registration No.	Vehicle Description	Parked at
1.	Mr. Raveed Ahmad Chak S/o Mr. Mohammad Sadeeq Chak R/o Khawarpura Kupwara	Tangdar (0114)	JK01AF-3819	Truck/Goods Career-Ashok Leyland Chassis No: MBICTCFD8HPFX5395 Engine No:HAP2127530 Model--2017	Zonal Office Baramulla, Amargarh Sopore

The Bank has decided to put the said vehicle at auction 'As is where is basis'. The vehicle is available for inspection on any working day between 25.11.2022 to 12.12.2022 at Bank's Zonal Office at Amargarh, Sopore. Sealed quotations affixed with two rupee revenue stamp are invited from the interested parties for the purchase of said vehicle to be accompanied by Call Deposit Receipt for Rs.3,34,250/- (being 25% of Reserve Price of Rs 13.37 lacs) pledged to Authorized officer, The J&K Bank Ltd. IAPM Department, Zonal Office Baramulla which is to be deposited with J&K Bank, Branch Tangdar by or before 13/12/2022 during working hours. The tenders will be opened on 15/12/2022 at 11.00 am at Bank's Zonal Office Baramulla in presence of the bidders who choose to remain present on the given date and time. The successful bidder shall have to deposit the entire qualified auction amount within seven (07) days. The Bank reserves the right to withdraw/cancel the bid/auction of the vehicle at any time/stage without assigning any reason thereof and shall neither entertain any claim/liability of any other person/s of whatsoever nature. All attendant charges/dues/taxes including transfer of ownership/permits etc. shall have to be borne and be the responsibility of the purchaser exclusively of his own.

Ref: JKB/ZOB/IAPM/2022-23/-
Place: Sopore
Date: 22nd November, 2022

Authorized Officer

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KASHMIR OBSERVER

Friday| 25-11-2022

The Tourism
Rebound

Tourism across the world has returned to 65 percent of the pre-pandemic level in 2022, in a sign that the world economy is slowly recovering from the depredations wrought by the Covid-19 contagion. An estimated 700 million tourists travelled internationally between January and September, more than double the number recorded for the same period in 2021, according to the new data revealed by UNWTO. Travel, the tourism body said, was boosted by strong pent-up demand, improved confidence levels and the lifting of restrictions in an increasing number of destinations. Europe has led the rebound of international tourism with the region welcoming 477 million international arrivals in January-September 2022 which is 68 percent of the world total. India along with the countries such as Germany, Belgium, Italy, the United States, Qatar, and Saudi Arabia reported strong tourism inflow in the first six to nine months of 2022.

According to the recent India Travel Market Report by Phocuswright, the Indian travel market will continue its impressive growth to reach USD 32 billion in gross bookings by 2023. The recouping of the travel industry, the report said, is fuelled by exclusive deals and packages by industry players. With innovative amenities and multiple authentic experiences, they are attracting a portion of the market. Travel market growth in 2023 will be driven by international destinations and reducing foreign travel uncertainties, despite domestic travel dominating in 2022.

Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed a tourism boom this year. And incidentally, 43 percent of the tourists are pilgrims to two Hindu shrines — Vaishno Devi in Jammu and Amarnath in Kashmir. Around 3.65 lakh pilgrims visited the Amarnath shrine this year and 65 lakh visited Vaishno Devi. The union territory has received the highest-ever tourist footfall of 1.6 crore this year, and the administration expects the number to cross two crore by the end of this year.

With winter approaching, the tourist inflow is only going to further increase. The Valley's upper reaches have already received snowfall. Affarwat in Gulmarg and Pir Panjal range of mountains have been draped in white blanket of snow for some time now. Snowfall in the Valley has been traditionally a great attraction for the people in mainland India, since snow is a novelty for them.

Tourism, one of the mainstays of the Kashmir economy, is one of the sectors that has been hit the hardest over the two years following the abrogation of Article 370 with successive Covid -19 lockdowns also crushing the sector. As a result, a large section of people was largely without employment. Their savings had been depleted. This included also the people associated with tourism. Here's hoping that things improve from hereon. The waning pandemic and the return of normalcy has created conditions for unhindered tourism in the Valley. The future looks bright if things stay the same way.

OTHER OPINION

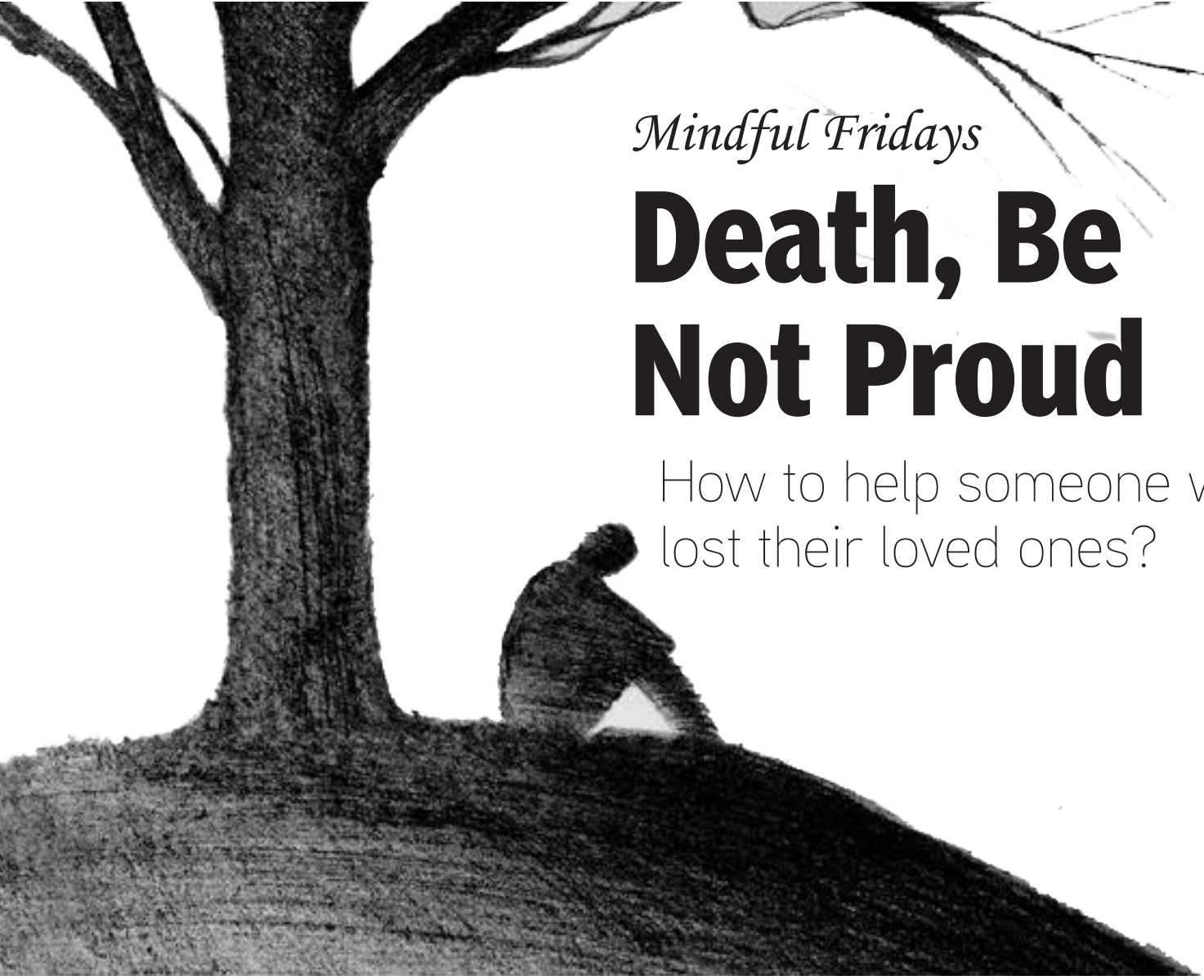
Have the markets
turned around?

In fact, this has been the paradox across most non-financial sectors where turnover recovered due to pent-up demand, but profits came down due to higher input costs. Clearly, the profit logic of today does not work in evaluating value tomorrow, as the stock market has brushed these results aside as being only transient. The long-term story remains intact.

The other consequence of the Fed tempering its commentary is that the bond yields have come off highs, even in the USA and European markets. The US 10-year treasury yield was closer to the 4% mark as long as there was uncertainty regarding the Fed's move. But now, things have changed, and the softer stance has brought the yields down. This has also worked through the Indian market where the 10-year yield, which had been displaying rather volatile tendencies, has moderated to less than the 7.3% mark. It may be recalled that the earlier Fed action and tone had driven the yield past the 7.6% mark. It was moderated when there was news of the Indian bonds being included in global indices. The deferment of this inclusion drove the rates up to the 7.4-7.5% range, and now the trajectory seems to be downwards toward the 7.2% mark.

Therefore, while there is a lot of talk and speculation on RBI action, which can provide forward guidance for the market, it has been observed that the Fed's action has an equivalent impact on domestic markets. And this can be felt even before RBI takes a call. In fact, the RBI rate hikes have not quite brought about a similar reaction in the bond market, though liquidity considerations have impacted the lower maturity yields. But the benchmark 10-year bond has been more or less resilient to RBI action. Similarly, RBI's actions in the forex market were not able to do what the Fed announcement did, as it does appear that our fundamentals may not be that strong to warrant an appreciation. However, the global spillover effect has been impactful. The power of globalisation has hence been more evident in the three markets like never before. The global slowdown or the action taken by Jerome Powell leaves an indelible mark for sure and cannot be brushed aside. It is not surprising that in the last monetary policy meeting, the RBI governor highlighted the importance of the announcements of the central banks of advanced economies.

Financial Express



Wasim Kakroo

One of the most difficult tasks that many of us encounter is coping with the death of a close friend or family member. Losing a partner, sibling, or parent can cause us to grieve very deeply. Even though we recognize that loss is a part of life, we can still be overcome by shock and confusion, which can result in protracted feelings of intense sadness or depression. When a loved one passes away, the pain usually lessens in intensity with time, but grieving is a necessary process to help you get past these emotions.

Why is it difficult for us to help someone to grieve loss of their loved ones?

Most of us are socialized to assist others by resolving their issues, yet grief cannot be fixed. As a result, some people will either try to steer clear of the subject or try to soothe others by sharing their own experiences. Sadly, those responses are frequently ineffective. It can be challenging to know what to say or do when someone you care about is grieving following a loss. The person who is bereaved experience a wide range of powerful and agonizing emotions, such as depression, anger, guilt, and extreme sadness. As a result of the severe sorrow and challenging emotions, many times they also feel alone and alienated in their grieving.

What are the various ways of helping someone grieve such losses?

You could be worried about interfering, saying the wrong thing, or aggravating your loved one's emotional issues during this trying time, or perhaps you feel helpless to improve the situation. It makes sense that way. But don't let your discomfort stop you from offering support to a grieving person. Your loved one needs your help right now more than ever. You don't have to know all the answers, be able to offer guidance, or say and act in all the proper ways. Being there is the most crucial thing you can do for someone who is grieving. Your love one will be able to deal with the pain and gradually start to recover with your encouragement and tender presence.

Here are some ideas for how you might assist someone who has experienced a loss:

Try to understand the process of grief:

You'll be better able to support a grieving friend or relative if you have a better understanding of grief and how it is resolved. Grief does not necessarily unfold through logical, sequential stages. It can be an unpredictable emotional roller coaster with highs, lows, and disappointments. Try not to dictate to your loved one how they "should" be feeling or acting during their grieving process. Understand that extreme emotions and behaviors can accompany grief. Guilt, anger, despair, and terror are frequently experienced emotions during such times. A person in grief may shout to the sky, think endlessly about the deceased, strike out at family members, or cry unceasingly. Your close relative or friend needs affirmation that their feelings are normal. Your close relative or friend needs reassurance that their feelings are normal. Don't criticize them or take their expressions of grief personally.

Grieving has no prescribed length of time. Many people need 18 to 24 months to heal following a loss; however different people's periods of grieving may be longer or shorter. Don't make your loved one feel like they've been in grieving for too long or put pressure on them to move on. The healing process may even be slowed by this.

Be aware of what to say and do to console a person in grief:

Even though many of us worry about what to say to someone who is grieving, listening to them is actually more crucial. When the name of the deceased person is spoken, many well-intentioned people choose to either avoid discussing the death or shift the subject. Or, realizing there is nothing they can do to help, they try to completely avoid the grieving individual. But those who have lost a loved one must feel that their sorrow is understood, that it isn't too painful to discuss, and that their loss won't be forgotten. They could want to cry on your shoulder one day, while they might prefer to vent, sit in silence, or reminisce on another. Being present and attentive to them can be a tremendous source of solace and healing.

While you shouldn't try to coerce someone into talking about their feelings, it's crucial to let your grieving friend or loved one know that you're willing to listen if they want to. When the name of the deceased is mentioned, discuss them openly and don't veer off topic. Additionally, when it appears appropriate, politely inquire as opposed to prying in order to open the griev-

“When the name of the deceased person is spoken, many well-intentioned people choose to either avoid discussing the death or shift the subject. Or, realizing there is nothing they can do to help, they try to completely avoid the grieving individual. But those who have lost a loved one must feel that their sorrow is understood, that it isn't too painful to discuss, and that their loss won't be forgotten

ing person's mind and heart. Your loved one will know that you are willing to listen if you just ask them, "Do you feel like talking?"

Don't presume you understand how the bereaved person is feeling at any given time because the emotions of grief might change quickly. If you believe it would be helpful, share your own experience if you've had a loss comparable to this one. But keep in mind that grieving is a very personal experience. Do not assert that you "know" how the person is feeling or contrast your loss with theirs because no two people experience grief in precisely the same way. Once more, emphasize listening and ask your loved one to share their feelings with you.

Let the grieving person know it's alright to cry, become angry, or lose it in front of you. Do not attempt to convince them that they should or should not feel a certain way. The bereaved must feel free to express their emotions, no matter how unreasonable, without fear of judgment, dispute, or criticism because grieving is a very emotional experience.

If the grieving individual doesn't feel like talking, don't push it. They frequently find comfort in merely being in your presence. If you're at a loss for words, just make eye contact, squeeze their hand, or give them a comforting hug.

Find out what the grieving person needs from you. Offer to assist with a particular duty, such as making funeral arrangements, or simply be there to hang out with or offer support.

Offer assistance that is practical:

Asking for assistance can be challenging for many grieving people. They can feel bad for getting so much attention, worry that they will be a burden to others, or just be too miserable to reach

out. Make things simpler for them by offering concrete suggestions rather than stating, "Let me know if there's anything I can do," as a grieving person might not have the strength or desire to call you when they need anything. You could say, "This afternoon, I'm going to the market. What is there that I can bring you?"

Try, if you can, to be constant in your offers of help. The grieving person won't have to make the extra effort of asking repeatedly since they'll know that you'll be there for however long it takes and can look forward to your consideration.

Deliver continuous support:

Long after the funeral is over and friends and relatives have ceased calling on the family, your loved one will still be grieving. Each person's grieving process is different in length, but it frequently takes far longer than most people anticipate. Your grieving friend or relative may want your assistance for months or perhaps years. Keep in touch with the mourning individual by dropping by, talking over phone or texting them sometimes.

For your grieving friend or relative, some occasions and days of the year will be especially difficult. Holidays, significant life events, birthdays, and anniversaries frequently bring up old pain. On these occasions, show compassion. Make sure the bereaved individual knows you're there for them no matter what.

Watch out for depressive symptoms:

An individual who is grieving frequently experiences feelings of depression, confusion, social isolation, or as if they are going crazy. However, if the bereaved person's symptoms don't gradually start to go away—or if they worsen over time—this may indicate that natural grief and sorrow has turned into a more serious issue, like clinical depression.

If you notice any of the following warning indicators during the initial grieving period—especially if it's been more than two months since the death—encourage the bereaved individual to seek professional help from a mental health professional such as a clinical psychologist and/or psychiatrist.

- Functioning poorly in daily life.
- Attention on the death is excessive.
- Hatred, indignation, or guilt that is excessive.
- Disregarding personal hygiene
- Drug or alcohol misuse.
- A lack of enjoyment of life
- Hallucinations.
- Withdrawing from other people.
- Persistent hopelessness
- Talking about death or suicide.
- How can psychologists help in such cases?

Psychologists are trained to assist individuals in managing the fear, guilt, or anxiety that can be connected to the loss of a loved one. Consult a psychologist or other qualified mental health professional if you need assistance managing your sorrow or adjusting to a loss. Psychologists can assist individuals in increasing their resilience and creating coping mechanisms for their grief and sadness. To help people better their lives, practicing psychologists employ a number of evidence based psychotherapies.

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar) and works as a consultant clinical psychologist at Centre for Mental Health Services (CMHS) at Rambagh Srinagar. He can be reached at 8825067196

Behind Reels, KASHMIR'S WINTER IS HARSH And We're Responsible



Kashmir Observer

Harsh Winters, Lazy Approach

Najam Sakib

On the first of this month, Kashmir Observer ran an editorial concerning the grim record of the authorities regarding providing sufficient electricity during the winter months. It hoped that this time authorities would "surprise" people with timely readiness to tackle the "challenges". However, these always have turned out to be false hopes.

It is an appalling situation that there are always fingers raised at the authorities regarding the preparedness in Kashmir. And every time, the pleas, requests, and anger fall to dumb ears. The authorities' attitude has always been to see things through, not to prepare and find a lasting solution. Unfortunately, that is not only confined to providing sufficient electricity but clearing off snow from roads, ensuring sufficient LPG and food supplies, and so on. As soon as the winter is over, authorities take a sigh of relief and then seem to go into a deep slumber only to wake up when the winter is knocking at the door. This escapism certainly has not helped in any way.

The ideas discussed above invoke multiple questions simultaneously. Why, in the first place, are winters harsh? Also, is it because they inherently are harsh, or is it because we have been conditioned to think like that? More

importantly, is it because we have yet to systemise the preparedness and logistics that would make winter feel as easy as any other season?

Kashmir is prone to witness snowfall from early November to the first half of March. Winter's core spans from the 20th of December to the 30th of January. It is called Chillai Kalan and is extremely chilly during this time. Temperature dips down to as extreme as -8 degrees Celsius in the capital Srinagar during these days. Keeping in mind the topography of Kashmir, other places tend to be colder than Srinagar. Heavy snowfall sometimes cuts off the valley from the rest of the world. Therefore, it makes it challenging to see through the winter months. There are always apprehensions about the disruption in the normal functioning of institutions and the perturbation of everyday life. This causes concern among the people regarding essential supplies that cannot enter the valley. It shows how much things can get uglier if Kashmir valley remains isolated for around a week if an unexpected snowfall happens. For many years now, climate change has been a concern which has exponentially increased the chances of witnessing surprising trends. Is Kashmir ready to face that challenge?

Winters are not exclusive to Kashmir. More than half of the world's population witnesses snowfall. Our very own Ladakh is an example where winter is

harsher due to its distinct geography with prolonged freezing temperatures for geographical and demographic reasons. Similarly, winters are probably more brutal compared to Kashmir in North America, Europe, and North Asian territories. However, Kashmiris tend to believe that winter is written only in their fate. We only prepare individually to face winter. Our only job seems to start collecting charcoal, Kangris, and other things. It is absolutely fine to do that. But that is all we think of. We have been conditioned to think like that. Even in the third decade of the twenty-first century, we do not have substantial collective efforts on the ground to tackle the challenges we face during winter. As the editorial mentioned at the beginning suggests, we do not have enough electricity to keep our spaces warm and our homes out of the darkness. It is ironic because most of the electricity produced in Kashmir lights up most of the North Indian states instead.

The concerned power corridors should be serious about bringing a change. It would not only make things less challenging but would make our time more productive. For almost four months, we sit and do nothing productive, and we only wait to see winter pass away. As mentioned before, winters with snowfalls are almost everywhere in the world, but they are far ahead of us. It is because they do not waste time to see winters pass but instead make winters easy and suitable to work.

Any argument that there is no money to bring such change is just living in a fool's paradise. We have enough money to get a tangible change along the same lines. We have young human resources who want to work instead of staying inside homes. We will accept any change on the ground, however little that may be. Let us start by making resources available to help continue economic activities in winter. Electricity is one. Technically, it will push other sectors to help boost the local economy and will not bring unemployment down that skyrocketed during winter months.

Therefore, it is evident that there is not a tinge of doubt about winters putting up a challenge, but to perceive it as inherently harsh may not be fair. However, human callousness is the primary factor that worsens things. Kashmiris accept when nature feels slow and when life seems to slow down. How are we, in this day and age, using mediaeval answers to a challenging winter in a fast-paced world? Adapting to preparedness will also better our behaviours, and our psyches will accept the change if and when resources and logistics are available. Our overtly sedentary lifestyle needs to go. We are hard-working people; only the intent is missing at the top.

However, there is a section of people who apparently enjoy winters. Their day starts with capturing the winter landscapes and night passes by uploading reels of the same on Instagram.

How are we, in this day and age, using mediaeval answers to a challenging winter in a fast-paced world? Adapting to preparedness will also better our behaviours, and our psyches will accept the change if and when resources and logistics are available

FOR ALMOST FOUR MONTHS, WE SIT AND DO NOTHING PRODUCTIVE, and we only wait to see winter pass away. As mentioned before, winters with snowfalls are almost everywhere in the world, but they are far ahead of us. It is because they do not waste time to see winters pass but instead make winters easy and suitable to work

No Invitation Extended To Islamic Preacher Zakir Naik To Attend World Cup, Qatar Tells India



Agenceis

New Delhi: India on Thursday said it has raised the issue of Islamic preacher Zakir Naik being a fugitive of law with authorities in Qatar, amid reports of his presence in the emirate during the ongoing FIFA World Cup.

Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said India will make every effort to make Naik face the law and continue with its efforts for his extradition.

Bagchi said the issue was not raised by Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar during his visit to Qatar to attend the inaugural ceremony of the FIFA World Cup, indicating that it was brought up through diplomatic channels.

He also made it clear that

authorities in Qatar had conveyed to their Indian counterparts that no invitation was extended to Naik, who is wanted in India since 2016 for allegedly laundering money and inciting extremism through hate speeches.

Naik has taken refuge in Malaysia.

"Qatar did mention to us that no invitation was extended to Zakir Naik to attend the FIFA World Cup," Bagchi told reporters here.

He said Naik is an accused in India and has been declared as an absconder.

"We will continue with our efforts to get him back separately," he said. Bagchi said India has raised the issue of Naik's extradition with the Malaysian authorities and would continue to take every step to make him face the law here.

Immunity To Saudi Ruler: India Upset At 'Unnecessary' Reference To PM Modi By US Official

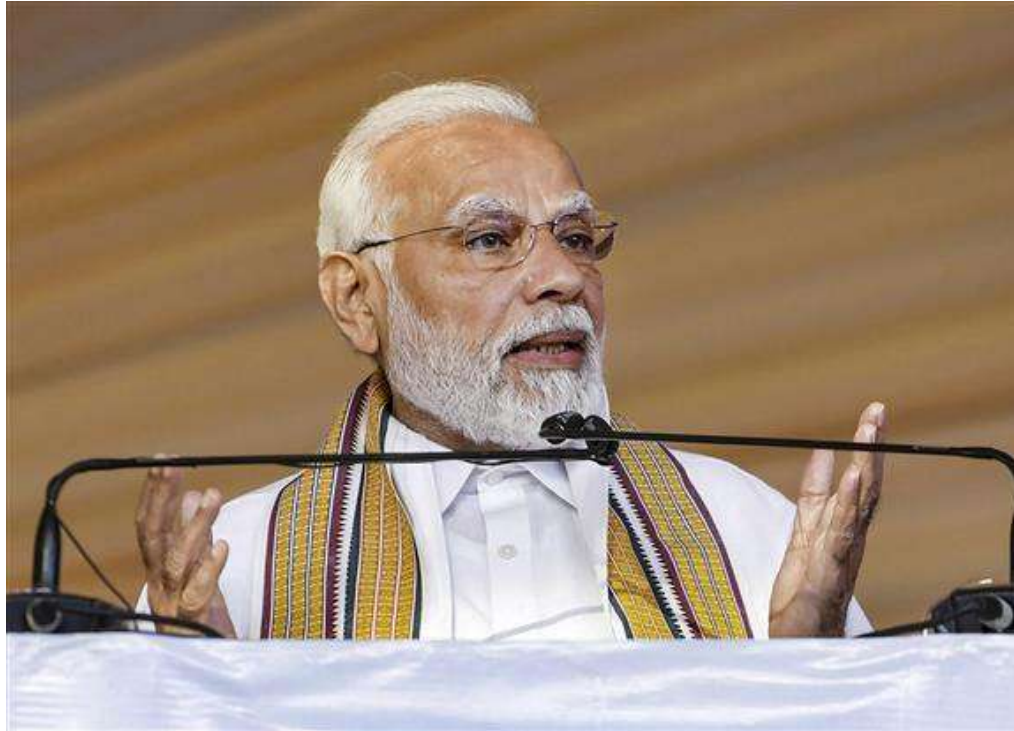
Agenceis

New Delhi: India is upset at a reference to Prime Minister Narendra Modi by a US State Department official while defending the immunity it had extended to Saudi Arabian ruler Mohammad bin Sultan, who is facing allegations of killing journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

"Frankly, I fail to understand how the comment on Prime Minister Modi was either relevant, necessary or contextual," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said responding to questions about a US official referring to Modi while explaining the reasons for granting immunity to the Saudi ruler.

"Our two countries enjoy a very special relationship which is growing from strength to strength and we look forward to working with the US to further deepen it," he said, referring to the bilateral ties between India and the US.

When asked about giving immunity to the Saudi Crown Prince over the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi, US State Department principal deputy spokesperson Vedant Patel said



in a briefing last Friday that this is not the first time that the US has done this and it has been applied to a number of heads of state previously, including PM Modi, according to reports.

Bagchi also said reports about the Prime Minister's visit to the US in December were incorrect.

"No proposal for a visit by the Prime Minister to the US in December has been made by our

side. Media reports in this regard are incorrect," Bagchi said.

He also dismissed social media posts about "false comments" attributed to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and White

House spokesperson with regard to the brief bilateral meeting between Modi and US President Joe Biden on the sidelines of the recent G-20 summit in Bali.

"We have seen some incorrect social media posts which attribute false statements to the External Affairs Minister, who has not made any comment on this to the press or on social media. It also attributes false statements to the White House press secretary. So, I would request you all not to lend credence to such incorrect information," Bagchi said.

He said the prime minister met Biden on a number of occasions in the course of the Bali Summit, including a brief bilateral meeting and a trilateral meeting that involved Indonesian President Joko Widodo.

"During these interactions, they exchanged views on a number of issues. Our press releases and tweets as well as the foreign secretary's briefing in Bali encapsulates all these conversations.

"The US side has also issued its readout of the trilateral meeting and also separately indicated that a brief bilateral meeting did take place between the two leaders," Bagchi said.

Former top spy Lieutenant General Asim Munir appointed Pakistan Army chief

Agenceis

Islamabad: Pakistan's former spy master and senior-most Lt General Asim Munir was named as the new Army Chief by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Thursday, ending speculation over the most powerful position in the coup-prone nation, where the military wields considerable power in matters of security and foreign policy.

Lt Gen Munir has served as chief of two most powerful intelligence agencies—the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) and the Military Intelligence (MI) -- but his stint as the spy chief at the ISI was the shortest ever as he was replaced by Lt Gen Faiz Hamid within eight months on the insistence of then-Prime Minister Imran Khan in 2019.

He would replace Gen Qamar Javed Bajwa, who retires on November 29 after two consecutive three-year terms. Gen Bajwa, 61, was appointed as the

army chief in 2016 for a three-year term. He was given a three-year extension by the Khan government in 2019.

Information Minister Marriyum Aurangzeb announced on Twitter that Prime Minister Sharif has named Lt Gen Munir as the new army chief. Lt Gen Sahir Shamsad Mirza had been picked as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (JCSC).

"The summary about (appointments) has been sent to the President," Marriyum Aurangzeb tweeted.

Both officers have also been promoted to four-star generals.

The JCSC is the highest authority in the hierarchy of the armed forces but the key powers including mobilisation of troops, appointments and transfers lie with the COAS which makes the person holding the post the most powerful in the military.

The powerful Army, which has ruled Pakistan for more than

half of its 75-plus years of existence, has hitherto wielded considerable power in matters of security and foreign policy.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party earlier quoted Imran Khan as saying that "when the summary comes, I and the President of Pakistan will act according to the constitution and laws."

The appointment coincides with a dispute between the military and Imran Khan, who blames the army for playing a role in his ouster in April this year through a no-confidence vote.

Khan's close aide and former information minister Fawad Chaudhry said on Wednesday that "until we see the conduct of the new army chief, we cannot say anything about it, but the role of the army in politics in the last 6 months is controversial, this role will need to be changed."

Lt Gen Munir is the senior-most general. Although he was promoted to the rank of two-star general in September 2018,

he took charge two months later. As a result, his four-year tenure as Lt Gen will end on November 27. But with his appointment as COAS, he would get a three-year extension in the service.

He was commissioned into the Frontier Force Regiment and has been a close aide of the incumbent COAS ever since he commanded troops in the Force Command Northern Areas as a brigadier under Gen Bajwa, who was then the Commander X Corps.

Munir was later appointed chief of Military Intelligence in early 2017, and in October next year was made the ISI chief. He was then posted as Gujranwala Corps commander, a position he held for two years, before being moved to the GHQ as Quartermaster General.

Lt-Gen Mirza, who hails from the Sindh Regiment, has had an impressive career in the army, particularly in senior leadership positions during the past seven years.

He came to prominence as

director-general military operations (DGMO) during the last two years of Gen Raheel Sharif, the COAS from 2013-16. In that role, he was part of Gen Sharif's core team at GHQ, which supervised the military operation against the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other militants in North Waziristan.

Further, he was closely involved in the Quadrilateral Coordination Group (QCG) that brokered intra-Afghan talks involving Pakistan, China, Afghanistan and the United States. Besides, he was also a member of the Sartaj Azzel committee on reforms for Gilgit-Baltistan.

After his promotion to the three-star rank, he was appointed chief of general staff, effectively making him the second-most powerful person in the army after the COAS. In that role, he was closely engaged in crucial decision-making related to national security and foreign

affairs. He also joined former foreign minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi in strategic talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in 2021.

In October 2021, he was posted as Corps Commander Rawalpindi to enable him to acquire operational experience and become eligible to be considered for the top posts.

Meanwhile, Defence Minister Khawaja Asif told the media after the appointments that the "advice" had been forwarded to President Arif Alvi, adding that all matters had been settled according to the law and the Constitution.

He called on citizens to refrain from viewing it through a "political lens," Dawn newspaper reported.

He hoped that the President would not make the appointments "controversial" and would endorse the advice of the premier.

The defence minister

reiterated that the President should endorse the premier's advice so that a "controversy may not arise".

"This will also help our country and the economy to get on track. Currently, everything is at a standstill." There has been extraordinary interest in the appointment of Bajwa's successor as many believe ousted prime minister Khan's long march is linked to the change of command in the Army.

He has asked his supporters to gather in Rawalpindi on November 26, two days before Gen Bajwa hands over the baton to the new Army chief.

The high drama around the key appointment has not gone unnoticed around the world as the army chief of a nuclear army, which is also one of the biggest, of the sixth biggest strategically placed country, when it is also facing political turmoil and economic meltdown, is by no means an ordinary affair.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Police Raids

19/11/2022 regarding searches conducted by Srinagar Police in valley in connection with a case pertaining to online threats to scribes, police today again carried out raids at 7 locations in Srinagar, Budgam and Pulwama," police spokesman further said.

"It is further informed that, during the course of investigation and on the basis of vital leads obtained from earlier searches dated 19/11/2022, today the special teams carried out simultaneous searches at seven locations in Srinagar, Budgam and Pulwama Districts," police said.

During search, all the legal formalities and SOPs were followed professionally and incriminating materials including mobiles, computers, laptops, pendrives, simcards, Jihadi literature, banking documents, dummy gun, US & Russian currency notes were recovered and seized by the respective teams, police said.

"The investigation in the instant case is going on vigorously and is in an advanced stage. General public is requested to cooperate with Police and bring any information relevant to this case in the notice of Srinagar Police," police said.

Earlier last week, Srinagar police raided 12 locations across the Kashmir in FIR No 82/2022 which was registered at Police Station Sherghari against "terror handlers, active terrorists, and terrorist associates of proscribed terror outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and its offshoot The Resistance Front (TRF) for online publication and dissemination of direct threat letters to journalists and reporters based in Kashmir."

SIA Conducts

assisting / harbouring and providing variety of logistic support to terrorist / secessionist organization(s), with intention to further terrorist and unlawful activities in UT of J&K," the statement said.

It said that these modules of OGW(s) under a well-knit criminal conspiracy have been created and formed not only for providing variety of support to militant organisation(s) but also to fight a proxy war in UT of J&K with a larger objective of secession of UT of

J&K from Union of India by waging war against Government of India and UT.

The modules are in continuous touch with handlers / members of militant organization(s) across the border, amongst other modes of communication, it is learnt that encrypted internet messaging platforms, besides other software applications are being used, the statement said.

During the searches, incriminating material, mobile phones , electronic gadgets and other articles having bearing on the investigation have been recovered and seized. Analysis of the data would follow and leads that would emerge would become the basis for further investigation, it added.

It is pertinent to mention here that the investigation is aimed at dismantling the militancy ecosystem in the UT by not only identifying over ground workers (OGW's) supporting and abetting militancy but by ensuring legal action as envisaged by the law of the land

Reports said the residence of Aroj Nisar Sheikh at Pandrethan in Srinagar, Myser Ahmad and Farooq Ahmad in Anantnag, Ubaid Ahmad at Kaloosa Bandipora and Rahat Farooq At Zaloora Sopore were searched by the probing agency.

Searches were also conducted in the residence of Mushtaq Ahmad Thokar at Hefkhuri Shopian. The residence of the husband of DDC member Zainpora Shopian Yasmeena Jan from (Apni Party) was also searched by the news agency KDC reported.

Cold Wave

for the gateway town of Kashmir, he said.

In Pahalgam, the mercury settled at minus 4.4°C against minus 4.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.0°C below normal for the south Kashmir resort, he said.

Kokernag recorded a low of minus 1.0°C against 0.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.6°C below normal for the place, he said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 2.4°C against minus 3.8°C on the previous night, the official told GNS. It was 0.3°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 minus 2.4°C against minus 2.9°C on the previous night, the official said. It was 1.9°C below normal for the north Kashmir place, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 9.1°C against 9.0°C on the previous night. It was 2.4°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal recorded a low of 10.0°C (7.6°C above normal), Batote 7.3°C (2.5°C above normal), Katra 9.6°C (0.1°C below normal) and Bhadarwah 3.0°C (0.9°C above normal).

In Ladakh, Kargil recorded a low of minus 10.2.4°C, Leh minus 9.0°C and mercury in Drass, the world's second coldest place after Siberia, settled at minus 12.0°C, the official said.

The Met department has forecast mainly dry weather for next 24 in J&K and said that no large change was expected till the end of this month.

Now Winter

and above classes, it has proposed to announce vacations from December-10.

Earlier this month, Directorate of School Education Kashmir said it will continue teaching the students till the snowfall in the plains of the region.

Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK), Tassaduq Hussain Mir had said, "If the weather conditions remain conducive, we will continue teaching the students in schools."

When asked about the announcement of winter vacations in Kashmir, Mir said, "The winter vacations in the winter zones of Jammu and Kashmir are subservient to the weather situation." "If the weather plummets or there is any snowfall, then we will make a decision accordingly."

Pertinently, Kashmir is reeling under an intense cold wave from the past more than a week.

National e-Governance

is a momentous occasion for Jammu and Kashmir and furthers the vision of Digital India of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

"In a short span of two years, we have taken a giant leap to create a user-centric service delivery system and paperless administrative functions through e-Office. Technology has

redesigned the rules and procedures bringing accountability and transparency in the system and enabling us to provide services more effectively and efficiently," the Lt Governor said.

The Lt Governor observed that the accelerated digital transformation and adoption of emerging technologies has helped the administration become more open, transparent and develop new delivery models to ensure people can access e-Services conveniently. He said, Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory has recorded more than 2 Crore E-Transactions in October 2022, which is significantly higher than 10.5 Lakh e-Transactions during the same period in 2021.

"e-Governance means inclusiveness, people first, strengthening trust with citizens, establishing real-time grievance redressal mechanism, bridging the digital divide, enhancing ease of doing business & ease of living and enabling the citizens to transparently provide feedback on their experience of public services. We are committed to bring benefits of digital transformation to the people and society. I am confident the two-day National e-Governance conference shall go a long way in deliberating new e-participation tools and better collaboration with people for efficient service delivery," the Lt Governor observed.

In the last two years, several e-governance initiatives have been launched to reach out to citizens and bring greater efficiency and transparency in the functioning of the J&K government. The Government has recently launched the 'Digital Jammu and Kashmir' programme to provide all government services in digital mode through an integrated services delivery portal. The vision is to make governance more effective, efficient and citizen-centric by harnessing the power of IT for inclusive development. The NeSDA (National e-Governance Delivery Assessment Report) of DARPG, Gol for the year 2021 has ranked Jammu and Kashmir first amongst UTs in e-governance. Jammu and Kashmir has been ranked first amongst UTs both in State portal and in the online services with highest compliance on NeSDA parameters.

The implementation of e-office in

all government offices has brought about greater efficiency in the overall working of the government in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. J&K ranks first amongst UTs in the uptake of e-office with around 330 offices on e-office and a file disposal rate of 96%. As on date, more than 300 offices have been made fully operational on e-office. The practice of 'Darbar Move' included movement of hundreds of trucks to transport the official documents and infrastructure over a distance of over 300 kms between Jammu and Srinagar and vice versa. The 149-year-old practice entailed an annual cost of around Rs 400 crores. Rapid Assessment System of UT of Jammu and Kashmir ranks first amongst UTs in the RAS integration of services with 227 services integrated with RAS. The first digital online library of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has been launched. J&K Employees Performance Monitoring Portal, first of its kind introduced anywhere in India by a State or UT Government, captures the monthly work performance of the employees and officers of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and the appraisal thereof by their respective Reporting / Controlling Officers. The UT of Jammu and Kashmir has been on-boarded on the Gati-Shakti platform of DoT, integration with which marks online processing of Right of Way applications. Recently Government of UT of Jammu and Kashmir has facilitated ease of accessibility of services at a single place and accordingly a portal "eUnnat" -Unified integrated Accessible, Transparent, which is dynamic in nature.

The Conference will be inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science and Technology, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office. The Valedictory Session, presided over by the Lt Governor on 27th November will witness launch of J&K Vision Document and launch of J&K Cyber Security policy.

Chargesheet Against

Judge for NIA (Additional Sessions Court) Baramulla.

The case (FIR 241/2012) was

registered in Police Station Baramulla under 506 RPC and 13 UAP Act against Salahuddin for "threatening" Panchs and Sarpanchs through posters in Kashmir Valley to "compel" them not to contest elections.

The chargesheet against Salahuddin has been filed under Section 512 of the penal code, the officer said. (He said the police was also in process of filing chargesheet against the Hizb chief in another similar case (FIR No. 251 of 2012) in Pattan.

Drone Drops

and Vijaypur, about five-six kilometres away from the International Border, at around 6.15 am and they informed the police.

He said the bomb disposal squad recovered two unassembled IEDs with detonators, two Chinese pistols, 4 magazines with 60 rounds and Rs 5 lakh in Rs 500 denomination. The consignment was covered in a wooden box with a steel base, the SSP said.

"It is a case of cross-border drone-dropping. We are investigating it," he said. "The consignment could have been used for any untoward incident, but the attempt has been foiled."

The SSP said the police team and the local people will be rewarded.

No Case of Bird

totally baseless and people shouldn't pay heed to rumours.

"It is our moral duty to help the poultry farmers who shall suffer because of some people who are spreading fake news about poultry birds," he said.

Dr Mohammad Younis, Joint Director Poultry Kashmir said said department teams are working at block, district and divisional levels but there are no such reports from anywhere.

"We have been already working on it round the clock to keep vigil on such things but as of now we have no such report," he said.

People shouldn't pay heed towards rumours as it is going to hit the people dependent on the poultry sector badly, Officials said.

Notably, in last few days messages about cases of bird flu reported in J&K were doing rounds on social media—(KNO)

JUNE SNOWFALL

Pulwama Admin
Delays Compensations To
Sheep Farmers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The administration of Pulwama district has failed to release the compensation to sheep farmers and breeders, who had lost their livestock in the highland pastures during the rare snowfall in June this year.

Despite six months having passed since the snowfall, which had continued for several days in June and resulted in death of nearly 7000 sheep in highland pastures across Kashmir valley, the many sheep farmers and breeders said they are yet to receive the compensation.

While some sheep farmers and breeders have been provided compensation nearly three months ago, many said they are yet to receive any compensation from Pulwama administration.

An official of District Sheep Husbandry Office passed the buck to Pulwama Deputy Commissioner's office and said the compensation file has been pending there for the last nearly two months. "We have verified the details and sent the file to the (Pulwama) DC office but there is no word back from there," an official of the Pulwama District Sheep Husbandry said.

The sheep farmers and breeders in Pulwama district, who had lost their livestock in high-

land pastures like Nagaberi and Marsar, said the undue and unwarranted delay in the release of compensation is badly hurting their preparation for the winter.

"It has been six months since we lost many sheep in snowfall and yet there is no compensation," a sheep breeder from Kakpora tehsil of Pulwama said. "We urgently need the compensation to prepare for the winter. We have already suffered huge losses this year and this delay will cause more losses," the breeder said.

"It is unfair that the compensation that is verified by the Sheep Husbandry department is being withheld by Pulwama administration without any valid reason," the sheep breeder said.

The rare snowfall had occurred in higher mountainous reaches and highland pastures across Kashmir valley between 19 and 22 June. A month later, on July 20, the Jammu and Kashmir administration headed by Lt Gov Manoj Sinha had declared the June snowfall as a "state specific natural disaster" under SDRF norms.

Subsequently, the Jammu and Kashmir administration had ordered all deputy commissioners to provide compensation to the affected individuals and families.

Wildlife Deptt Issues Advisory

Orchardists Asked to Dump
Leftover Apples in Pits

SOPORE: Amid the presence of black bear in north Kashmir areas, the Wildlife Protection department has issued an advisory, asking the orchardists to dump the leftover apple in a pit to avoid man - wild animal conflict.

Wildlife Warden North Division asked the orchardists to dump apple leftovers in pits to prevent black bear attraction for the safety of people.

"Black bear has an incredible sense of smell & use it to locate food. The scent of fruits attract black bear thus all the orchard-



ists are hereby requested to dump the leftover apples in pits to prevent the attraction of black bear in their respective areas for the safety of people," he tweeted.

Nhm Releases Ranking Of
Public Health Facilities On
Jk E-Sahaj For October

JAMMU: National Health Mission, Jammu and Kashmir today releases ranking of Public Health facilities on Hospital Management Information System (JK E-Sahaj) for the month of October 2022.

Under first phase of implementation of this initiative, 578 facilities have been covered and more will be further extended to other facilities in a phased manner.

It is pertinent to mention that JK e-sahaj (Electronic System for Automation of Hospital Administration J&K) was formally launched on 4th November 2022 as part of Jashn-e-Sehat, by the Lieutenant Governor for different types of facilities i.e. Tertiary care, District Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and some New Type PHCs. JK E-Sahaj has been integrated with Rapid Assessment System (RAS), 104 Centralised Health Helpline for outbond calling and RCH portal of Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

In the category of Associated Hospitals of Government Medical Colleges, the first rank has been clinched by Psychiatric

Disease Hospital, Jammu followed by Chest Disease Hospital, Jammu, Chest Disease Hospital, Srinagar, GMC Kathua and Govt. Dental College, Jammu.

In the category of District Hospitals, DH Bandipora secured first rank followed by Government Hospital Gandhi Nagar, Jammu, DH Kulgam, DH JLN, Srinagar and MCCH Anantnag.

In the category of Community Health Centres (CHCs), first rank has been clinched by CHC Seer, followed by CHC Kreeri, CHC(AH) Ghagwal, CHC Zachaldara and CHC Ramgarh.

In the category of Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and UP-HCS, first rank has been secured by PHC Upper Hathal, Rajouri followed by PHC Kanachak, Jammu PHC D K Pora, Anantnag, PHC Bijhama, Baramulla.

The ranking has been done on the basis of registration, conversion of EMR (Electronic Medical Record) and Patient feedback uploaded on the portal of JK e-Sahaj for the month of October 2022, on a real time basis. The detailed list of facilities has been shared on NHM website.

Fight Against Drugs
a Collective Task: CS

Says Govt Sympathetic Towards Victims, 'Very Harsh' Towards The Peddlers



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today held the 3rd UT Level NCORD meeting to take a comprehensive review of efforts being made to mitigate the menace of drugs here.

The meeting was attended by ACS, Agriculture Production; ACS, Home; Principal Secretary, School Education; Divisional Commissioners, Jammu/Kashmir; ADGP, Kashmir/Jammu; Secretary Health; MD, NHM; Excise Commissioner; State Drug Controller; Zonal Director, NCB Jammu; SSP, ANTF and all the Deputy Commissioners and District SPs, based officers participated in the meeting through video conferencing.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers that the drug menace is a grave issue spoiling the precious lives of our youth falling its victims. He asked them that the problem deserves a wholesome approach from each appendage of the government. He maintained that the government is sympathetic towards victims and very harsh towards the peddlers.

The Chief Secretary directed all the Deputy Commissioners to popularize the helpline number 14416 among public so that they are able to report about this menace. He asked the police to have close coordination with the Rural Development and Social Welfare Departments to have insights and leads about those running this illegal trade. He made out that the PRI's had done a commendable job during the recently concluded 'Nasha Mukht Abhiyan' carried out in the UT.

Dr Mehta asked the Police administration to monitor the surroundings around educational institutions for movement of drug peddlers in their vicinity. He also advised for having close eye on the pharmacists. He asked them to create ample awareness among masses to identify the victims and peddlers so that the former is given treatment and latter convicted under the law. He asked them to intensify their campaign and do not take rest until this menace is eradicated from the UT.

The Chief Secretary also took

note of the holding of district level NCORD meetings. He urged on all the DCs to convene such meetings regularly in their territorial jurisdictions without any fail and upload the minutes simultaneously on the national NCORD portal. He assured the Police administration that the augmentation of FSL is in process and the time taken for requisite analysis of contraband material would get shortened considerably. He asked them to destroy the seized material publicly so that people feel confident of reporting such activities coming to their knowledge or observation.

The meeting was informed that till October, 2022a total of 596 cases in Jammu Zone and 785 cases in Kashmir Zone have been registered under the NDPS Act arresting 815 and 1270 persons respectively. It was also revealed that in the same period about 291 kgs of Cannabis, 200 kgs of Heroin/Brown Sugar, 167115 Tablets/Capsules/Syrup and 52 FIRs had been registered against persons cultivating illicit crops over their agricultural lands under the said Act.

1564 Cattle Die Due To LSD In J&K: Govt

AC Approves Free Of Cost Medicines Against Disease

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Administrative Council (AC) which met here under the chairmanship of the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the proposal for provision of free of cost medicines to Lumpy Skin Disease affected Farmers of UT of J&K.

Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, Advisor to the Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K attended the meeting.

In J&K, all the 20 districts are affected with the disease, with 56,146 cattle having contracted infection till date out of



which 1564 animals have died.

The affected farmers are in distress due to medical expenses which ranges from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 10,000 and accordingly, to provide relief to

the farmers, provision of free of cost veterinary medicines to LSD affected farmers has been made to ease the financial burden of the farmers for treating the disease.

Tunnels Across Major Passes In
Ladakh In Offing; To Cost Rs 5,000 Cr

Press Trust Of India

LEH: The Ladakh administration is planning to build tunnels at cost of Rs 5,000 crores across major passes in the union territory to improve internal connectivity, and has hired consultants for the mega task, a senior official said on Thursday.

Situated at an average altitude of over 11,000 feet, Ladakh, which literally means 'land of high passes' is a place like no other. The passes offer breath-taking views and gateway to beautiful valleys nestled in the Himalayas.

The Ladakh's famous Khardung-La pass is also known as the highest motorable road in the world, and the tourists need to pass through it while going to Nubra Valley.

"The government of Ladakh is contemplating to build tunnels across major passes to improve internal connectivity in the union territory," Commissioner-Secretary, Ladakh Public Works Department (PWD) Ajeet Kumar Sahu told PTI.

He said that the consultants

have been hired to prepare detailed project reports (DPRs) of tunnels across Khardung La, Fotu La, Namika La, and Key-La passes.

An all-weather tunnel enhances connectivity between valleys for facilitating the movement of the military, civilians, and tourists in the region, he said.

The tunnel on Key-La pass will be alternative path to dangerous Changla pass, which will make travel to world famous Pangong lake easy and shorten it by one-and-half-hours, the Commissioner-Secretary said.

The survey and feasibility study is being conducted by Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES), which has been assigned to prepare DPRs of the tunnels, he said.

"The construction of these tunnels will lead to faster, safer, and smoother movement of internal traffic resulting in the all-around economic development of Ladakh", Sahu said.

The proposed 5.5 kilometre long Khardung-La tunnel, will

also help increase the safety of travellers due to bypassing of areas prone to landslide and avalanche, Sahu said.

Besides, it would also protect the Khardung glacier, which is a major source of water for Leh town, from receding due to the increase in heat emitted by automotive vehicular movement, the official said.

The consultant agency for the project shared that the proposed bypass tunnels at the Fotu La and Namika La passes will reduce the travel distance from Kargil to Leh by around an hour besides providing safety in traffic movement due to the accumulation of snow and icing on road during winters, he said.

"The expected increase of traffic in winter after the opening of the Zojila tunnel also necessitates the construction of these tunnels as it serves as a strategic route for logistic supply to Ladakh. These tunnels are expected to boost local business activities, employment opportunities, and tourism in the region", Sahu said.

World antimicrobial
awareness week

DAK Calls for Rational Use of Antibiotics

SRINAGAR: On world antimicrobial awareness week, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Thursday called for rational use of antibiotics.

"Irrational use of antibiotics is responsible for unprecedented levels of antibiotic resistance in Kashmir valley," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan in a statement.

Dr Hassan said more than two third of antibiotics are either given unnecessarily or used improperly. "Antibiotics are prescribed for viral infections against which they have no effect. You go to a doctor with cold or flu; you will walk away with a prescription for antibiotics."

"Every time you have fever, you are given an antibiotic. Every fever is not because of infection and does not require an antibiotic," he said adding "antibiotics find their way in prescriptions for viral diarrheas, sore throats, ear and sinus discharges."

The DAK President said misuse of antibiotics has assumed serious proportions due to widespread over the counter sale of antibiotics. "Chemist shops give antibiotics for everything from malaise, fatigue, body aches to headache," he said.

Dr Nisar said inappropriate use of antibiotics has turned hospitals into breeding grounds for deadly bacteria that are resistant to all antibiotics. "More than 80% of the bacteria are resistant even to last resort antibiotics."

"Patients are dying of simple infections as no antibiotic works. We are kind of back to the era of not having antibiotics," he said.

"With no antibiotics, cancer chemotherapy, organ transplantation and simple surgery will become impossible and we are facing a future where cough or cut can kill once again," he cautioned.

General Secretary DAK Dr Ashad Ali said there is an urgent need for an explicit, comprehensive and continuously updated antibiotic policy and we should closely audit the use of antibiotics in hospitals so that these medicines can be administered judiciously.

"Every year world antibiotic awareness week is observed from November 18-24 to raise awareness about antibiotic resistance and to encourage best practices among both public and clinicians to prevent the emergence and spread of drug-resistant infections," he said

IUST organizes 5-day
Painting Exhibition

AWANTIPORA: The Vastoorwan Gallery of Art, IUST hosts a five days' painting exhibition under the theme Memory & Metaphor, in which reputed artists are showcasing their work.

The event was inaugurated by renowned poet and social activist Mr. Zareef Ahmad Zareef in presence of Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor IUST. The artists who attended the exhibition include Mr Aftab Ahmad, Mr Nabeel Sultan, Mr Zahoor Zargar, Mr Zahoor Ahmad Sheikh, Mr Shafi Chaman and Mr. Aslam Naqashbadi. Other artists whose paintings were exhibited include Masood Hussain, M.A. Mehboob, Shujah Sultan, Iftkhar Jafar, Sheikh Zahoor, Arshad Sualeh, Rakesh Kumar, Arsalam Dhar, Shafi Chaman, Sameena Maqsood and Fiza Shah.

Welcoming the guests, Prof. Fozia Qazi, Director Vastoorwan Gallery of Arts said that in today's challenging times, art becomes a means for reflection and contemplation and such events usher in a fresh breath.

Chief Guest of the occasion,

Mr. Zareef Ahmad Zareef said that art brings us closer to our innate sense of creativity and answers our inquisitiveness. He said that Kashmir has a rich legacy of culture and it is our bounden responsibility to preserve this culture for posterity. He appreciated the efforts of the IUST and said that this is great service towards society.

Vice Chancellor IUST welcoming the guests present on the occasion complimented the organizers on hosting the exhibition and highlighted the role of academia in the preservation of art, culture and heritage. He said we have inherited rich and diverse art and culture, spread over five millennia and such exhibitions help us to educate the common masses and students to appreciate our legacy.

The event was also attended by Prof Sidiq Wahid, former Vice Chancellor IUST, Prof. Manzoor Ahmad Malik, Dean Academic Affairs, Registrar, Prof Naseer Iqbal, Mr. Sameer Wazir, Finance Officer, Director Vastoorwan Gallery of Arts, Prof. Fozia Qazi and HODs and other officers etc.

Mother-Son Charred to Death
After LPG Cylinder Explodes

POONCH: A mother and her 4-year-old son were charred to death after an LPG cylinder caught fire and exploded inside their house in Chandimarg area of Poonch district.

An official said three other family members had a narrow

escape when the incident took place. He said the mother was identified as Hamida Begum (40) and her son Aqib Ahmed (4) were charred to death due to the explosion. He said at least a dozen livestock were also killed in the incident.

SHORT TAKES

Class 8 student hangs self
to death

BARAMULLA: A class 8th student has allegedly committed suicide by hanging himself in Boniyar area of Uri in North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Thursday.

An official said that the boy hanged himself to death at his residence at Bimyar village of Boniyar today.

He said soon after the incident, the boy was rushed to SDH Boniyar where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and started further investigation—(KNO)

Killer of Puran Krishan identified: Police

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police Thursday said that the man involved in the killing of Kashmiri Pandit, Puran Krishan Bhat has been identified and the accused is missing since November 12.

ADGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar tweeted that during investigation of case FIR No 211/2022 of PS Shopian pertaining to killing of Kashmiri Pandit Puran Krishan Bhat of Chowdharygund by militants on October 15, one Muhammad Latief Lone S/O Nisar Ah of Check Kachidoora, was found to be involved in the "heinous terror crime."

"The killer has been missing from his home since 12/11/2022 and any person giving any information about accused Mohd Latief Lone will be suitably rewarded by Police," he said. Pooran was killed at his residence in Chaudry Gund Shopian in October this year.

Missing man's body
recovered in Kokernag

ANANTNAG: The body of a missing man has been recovered from the forest area of Larnoo in Kokernag area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district on Thursday, Officials said.

An official said that Ghulam Mohammad Lone, son of Lassa Lone of Lessu Larnoo had gone to see his sheep in Lehnav forest and didn't return home since yesterday evening.

"Locals and police recovered his body from the forest area today afternoon," he said.

He said police handed over the body to the family and initiated proceedings of suspicious death—(KNO)

Leopard captured alive in
Baramulla village

BARAMULLA: The Wildlife department with the assistance of Jammu and Kashmir police on Thursday captured a leopard alive from Narwara area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

An official from the wildlife department said that department with the assistance of J&K police captured a leopard from Kalayaban Narwara village of Sheeri in Baramulla after receiving a call from the area. He said that the leopard was roaming in the residential areas, posing a threat to the lives of people and their livestock. However, soon after the information was received, the leopard was captured alive without causing any damage or injury.

The official also said that the leopard will be taken to a safe location and will be set free.

India Play New Zealand Today

Press Trust of India

AUCKLAND: Indian cricket team is expected to turn a new leaf in a different format as it take on New Zealand in a three-match ODI series, which will mark the start of preparations for next year's World Cup.

India were eliminated in the semi-finals of the 20-overs World Cup in Australia earlier this month but prevailed in the T20 series against New Zealand. The importance of the ODI series against New Zealand was not lost on Dhawan, who is leading an India side bereft of senior batters, including regular captain Rohit Sharma. "It's a good exposure for the young boys to come and play in New Zealand and test their skills and characters in different conditions," Dhawan told reporters on the eve of the first ODI in Auckland on Friday.]

Inter Club Taekwondo C'ship Begins In Srinagar



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: An Inter Club Taekwondo Championship started at JKSC Gindun Sports Complex, Rajbagh, Srinagar on Thursday. The championship is organised by District Srinagar Taekwondo Association under the aegis of J&K Taekwondo Association (JKTA), and will be held under the supervision of Master Atul Pangotra (Sher-i-Kashmir/State Awardee).

"It was the first free Taekwondo Championships, where there was no entry fee as the whole event was sponsored by Atul International Taekwondo Academy and co-sponsored by Breath-zone. The young kids were having an enormous craze in their eyes for the said event. Many senior Coaches and athletes also took part to glorify the championship," the district association said in a statement.

"This championship is the only of its kind, where players secure a chance to have the International level of exposure during the play. The playoff ceremony was observed by the players, officials and parents as well.

"The competition is comprised of all age divisions with inclusion of the youngest age division (Pee Wee). The first day has witnessed a massive combative skill show between the Sub-Junior and Junior Athlete's.

"The Championships was started with the demonstration of Taekwondo skills by young Boys and Girls of different Clubs/Institutions," the statement added

The Chief Guest of the opening ceremony was Dr. Musavir Ahmad (Coordinator, Department of Physical Education and Sports, UOK) who was received by Nissar Hussain (President) District Srinagar Taekwondo Association at the venue.

FIFA World Cup: Swiss Striker Scores But Doesn't Celebrate



Agencies

AL WAKRAH: Born in Cameroon but playing for Switzerland, of course Brel Embolo would score when those two countries met at the World Cup.

Embolo promised he wouldn't celebrate if he scored for the Swiss team against his country of birth on Thursday, and he kept his word. It turned out to be the only goal of the match as Switzerland beat Cameroon 1-0.

The crowd waited and watched for Embolo's reaction after he scored his 12th goal for Switzerland in the 48th-minute off a low pass from Xherdan Shaqiri.

WHO'S PLAYING TODAY?

Teams	Kick Off
Iran vs Wales	3:30 PM
Qatar vs Senegal	6:30 PM
Netherlands vs Ecuador	9:30 PM
England vs USA	12:30 AM

He stood still in the goal-mouth and first held his arms out wide, then raised his hands in a gesture of apology. He put his hands over his month as if realizing how profound the moment was as his Swiss teammates rushed toward him near the penalty spot.

Embolo then pointed toward the Swiss fans behind the goal where he had scored, and then to the Cameroon fans at the opposite corner of Al Janoub Stadium.

South Korea 0-0 Uruguay

Another favored team has failed to impress in the early stages of the World Cup.

This time it was South Korea holding South American power Uruguay to a 0-0 draw on Thursday, a result that probably favours the Asian team.

The draw at Education City Stadium in Al Rayyan was yet another early World Cup match with a surprising result. Argentina and Germany both lost their opening matches in major upsets.

Uruguay had the best chances: Diego Godin hit the post with a header in the 43rd minute and Federico Valverde hit it in the 89th.

Iran Arrests Outspoken Footballer

Iran has arrested a prominent former member of its national soccer team over his criticism of the government as authorities grapple with nationwide protests that have cast a shadow over the team as it competes in the World Cup before a global audience.

The semiofficial Fars and Tasnim news agencies reported Thursday that Voria Ghafouri was arrested for "insulting the national soccer team and propagandizing against the government."

Ghafouri, who was not chosen to go to the World Cup, has been an outspoken critic of Iranian authorities throughout his career.

Will Dubai Buy Manchester United? A List Of Potential Buyers

Reuters

Manchester United's owners, the Glazer family, are considering selling the club as they explore "strategic alternatives". If the Glazers decided to follow through with the sale of the Old Trafford club, there could be some of the possible buyers:

JIM RATCLIFFE

British billionaire Ratcliffe, a long-standing fan of the 20-times English champions, declared his interest in August but said two months later he was told by the Glazers the Premier League side was not for sale when he contacted the family. He had also failed this year in an attempt to buy London club Chelsea, ultimately bought by an investment group led by American Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital.

Ratcliffe's name was widely mentioned among United fans as someone many would welcome, although there are fears he might be priced out with some estimates putting the club's worth at more than \$4.5 billion. Chemical firm INEOS, where Ratcliffe is chairman, declined to comment.

CONSORTIUM INCLUDING DAVID BECKHAM

The Financial Times said former England captain and United midfielder David Beckham was open to having talks with potential bidders interested to boost their chances of buying the club.

As a player, the former Real Madrid and Los Angeles Galaxy man won many trophies but as a co-owner of Major League Soccer side Inter Miami, he has endured a bumpy path. Beckham remains a popular figure at Old Trafford as one of the leading players of United's treble-winning campaign under manager Alex Ferguson in 1998-99 and his long history with the club will be a bonus for any consortium.

RED KNIGHTS

In 2010, the Red Knights, a

group involving former English Football League chair Keith Harris, then Goldman Sachs chief economist Jim O'Neill, and British investor Paul Marshall had put their plan to buy the club on hold due to "speculation in the media of inflated valuation aspirations."

O'Neill and Marshall wrote to United co-chairman Joel Glazer last year seeking immediate corporate governance reforms, after the club's plans last year to be part of a European Super League - which ultimately fell through - was met with widespread criticism. The Manchester Evening News reported on Nov. 23 O'Neill may consider pursuing a takeover but only if the Glazers lower their current "unrealistic" demands.

Asked by the BBC if he needed to raise four billion pounds to buy United, O'Neill said: "I'm not sure if it'll necessarily be that much, but let's see."

MIDDLE EASTERN INVESTORS

United's local rivals Manchester City are bankrolled by the Abu Dhabi United Group, while Saudi Arabia's Public Investment Fund completed a controversial 300 million pound buyout of Newcastle United in 2021. Paris St Germain are owned by Qatar Sports Investments and rumours have swirled that investors from another Gulf country may be keen on buying United, with a report in the Arabian Business saying Dubai investors could be interested.

ELON MUSK

Musk, the world's richest person, briefly lifted the gloom over United's shares and lifted fans' hopes in August by tweeting that he was buying the club -- only to clarify a little later it was all part of "a long-running joke".

Some of the club's fans had previously urged Musk on Twitter to consider buying the club, complaining at what they see as under-investment by the Glazers.

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