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High-Level Delhi Meet Reviews J&K Situation

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla on Tuesday reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said, days after a militant group released a "hit list" of 56 employees belonging to the Kashmiri Pandit community.

The meeting was also attended by other senior officials of the ministry, paramilitary forces, the Jammu and Kashmir administration and police.

The meeting took stock of the prevailing security situation in jammu and Kashmir, an official said. It is a routine monthly review

meeting and some of the representatives of the Jammu and Kashmir administration attended it through video conferencing, another official said.

There have been reports that people from the Kashmiri Pandit community working in

the valley are in a state of panic after a militant group released a "hit list" of 56 employees from among them.

A blog linked to The Resistance Front (TRF), an offshoot of the Lashkar-e-Taiba, published the list of 56 Kashmiri Pandit employees

who were recruited under the Prime Minister's Rehabilitation Package (PMRP), and warned of mounting attacks on them.

In the aftermath of targeted killings by militants, several Kashmiri Pandits employed in the valley under the PMRP have shifted to Jammu and are on a protest for over 200 days demanding relocation of the rest of them.

There have been sporadic incidents of violence in Jammu and Kashmir in recent months that include attacks on innocent civilians, security personnel and infiltration bids from across the border, officials said.

The government had informed Parliament that as many as 118 civilians, including five Kashmiri Pandits and 16 other Hindus and Sikhs, were killed in Jammu and Kashmir since the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019 till July 2022.

The killings of Kashmiri Pandits had triggered protests by the members of the community and they demanded enhanced security and transfer of government employees to safer locations.

In May, four pilgrims were killed and at least 20 injured when their bus caught fire near Katra in Jammu. | More on P11

'Sense Of Duty Among Citizens Can Help Society Prosper'

Public Services, Facilities Not Free For All: LG

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that the people need to under-stand that public services and facilities are not free for all and those who are able should come forward to pay for the government services.

Speaking at the ongo-ing 'My Town, My Pride' Programme at Gulshan Ground here on Tuesday, the LG said that through public outreach programme, his administration was putting people at the heart of urban transformation & unlocking cities' full potential to drive growth, empower local governance and to ensure seamless delivery of services at

the doorsteps. People participation is a decisive factor for developmental initiative because

Meets UNICEF India's

Chief Of Field Services

s. Jalpa Ratna, Chief of Field Services, UNICEF

India on Tuesday called on Lieutenant Governor

Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhawan. Ratna apprised

A NATION IS RUN BY THE CONSTITUTION,

by the law and people need to create a fine

balance between rights and duties. Welfare

the Lt Governor about UNICEF India programmes in J&K

departments, an official spokesperson said. He said that

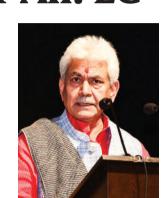
discussions were also held on supporting I More on P11

of the poor is among our top priority but the people

who are capable and rich must accord top priority to

discharge their duties towards society and the nation."

and the work being done in collaboration with Government



every city's challenges & opportunities are different. During the MTMP event, senior officials are visiting the towns & enabling direct communication and creating a system that is responsive to local needs," Sinha said.

The LG termed publicprivate partnership & public-participation as the two important aspects of urban transformation | More on P11

mum of minus 2.2 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag town registered a low of minus 0.8 degrees Celsius. | More on P11 **Kashmiri Driver**

Agencies

Srinagar: A driver in Pahalgam area of South Kashmir's Anantnag on Tuesday returned gold worth Rs 10 lakh to a Hyderabadi tourist.

Returns Gold Worth

Rs 10L To Tourist

Little Respite From Cold Conditions

Srinagar: There was some respite from the intense cold

wave conditions in Kashmir but the mercury settled below

the freezing point across the

Valley which braces for a brief

wet spell later this week, offi-

Monday recorded the coldest

night of the season at minus 3.4 degrees Celsius, witnessed

a low of minus 2.2 degrees

Celsius last night, an official of

the MET department here said.

The night temperature was lower at the ski resort of

Gulmarg in north Kashmir's

Baramulla district, which re-

corded a low of minus 3.5

degrees Celsius, a slight drop

from minus 3.2 degrees Celsius recorded on Monday.

Pahalgam in south Kashmir's

Anantnag district, which serves

as the base camp for the annual

Amarnath yatra, was the cold-

est recorded place in the valley

to the Valley, recorded a mini-

Qazigund, the gateway town

at minus 3.8 degrees Celsius.

cials said here on Tuesday. Srinagar, which had on

In Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

Abdul Rashid Wani, president Taxi Stand Movera Pahalgam said that Akaash Farooq Wani, a Tavera driver, returned gold worth Rs 10 lakh to a Hyderabad tourist, who was on a visit to Pahalgam and forgot the gold in Akash's vehicle yesterday, reported news agency KNO.

He said the tourist had already informed the | More on P11

FAKE EXAM CENTRE

CB Files Charges Against 3 Dead Persons In 17 Yr-Old Case

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Economic Offence Wing of Crime Branch on Tuesday filed charges against six people, including five board employees; three among them dead, for establishing a fake examination centre in North Kashmir's Kupwara district 17 years ago.

The charge-sheet was produced by the Crime Branch before the Court of Additional Special Mobile Magistrate Kralpora, Kupwara against Ali Mohammad Assistant Retired Badvari. Secretary J&K BOSE Kupwara, Abdul Khaliq Dar, the then Senior Assistant BOSE, | More on P11

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir

administration will strengthen

the cyber crime cell and set up

a helpline to record and address

citizens' grievances related to cy-

ber frauds and pornography.
Under the recently launched

Cyber Security Policy, the ad-

ministration is also taking vari-

ous steps such as modifying the

curriculum for high schools to

include aspects of cyber security

"The UT of Jammu and

Kashmir will augment the ex-

isting specialised cyber crime

cell (of home department) for

investigating complaints per-taining to offences under the

"The Government shall fur-

ther strengthen this unit to sim-

plify and galvanize reporting,

tackling and tracking progress on cyber-crimes. The UT will

strive to create a cyber space

free of pornography (especially

Information Technology Act.

relevant to children.

J&K To Bolster Cyber Crime

Cell, Set Up Helpline

J&K's Annual Budget For 2023-24 To Be Presented In Parliament

Union Finance Ministry Seeks UT's Proposals From MHA

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory's annual budget would be presented in the parliament for the fourth consecutive year.

Highly placed government sources told a local news agency KNO that the Union Finance Ministry has asked the Ministry of Home Affairs to submit Jammu & Kashmir's budget proposals for the next fiscal. "We have requested the MHA to submit I&K's budget for 2023-24 for seeking its approval from the Parliament," a senior official in the Union

child pornography), cyber bully-

ing and sexual harassment. The

the policy document.

tal evidence.



Finance Ministry said. He said the Parliament has

to approve J&K's budget before March 31, 2023

"J&K is under the President's rule from June 20, 2018 and

there is unlikely to be any change in the current status till March 31, 2023. So we have asked the MHA to submit the UT's budget proposals for the next fiscal," he said. | More on P11

HC Calls For Respectful Language For Specially-Abled Persons

Auqib Javeed

cyber grievance system will be Srinagar: The High Court of put in place to lay special em-Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh phasis on these crimes," reads on Monday directed the It said J&K would collaborate government to treat the to establish a digital forensics specially-abled persons in the Union Territory properly lab to analyze and investigate by the language recognized cyber crimes to assist in the reinternationally. covery and preservation of digi-The court in an order said

that it expects the govern-

ment to ensure full respect

and honour to all the citizens

in terms of their personality

without letting them suffer

any impression that the soci-

etv and state sees and address-

es the physically and mentally

challenged persons as lia-

bilities carrying personalities.

"A data recovery lab will be established to recover corrupted and deleted data that are not available for intended use as a result of cyber-crime. In line with capacity building efforts, there will be a provision for developing data experts who can handle forensic and related requirements," it said.

According to the policy, a digital evidence preservation facility would also be created to have a secure environment for retention of digital evidence.

It said J&K would establish a cyber security | More on P11

The court said while responding to a Public interest Litigation (PIL) filed by advocate Badrul Duja.

Advocate Duja also sought direction for suitably amending the laws, using the words mentally retarded in the

We also hope and trust that the society as a whole shall recognize their

rights as guaranteed under the Constitution. The specially-abled persons be

treated properly by the language recognized internationally.'

Multiplicity Disability Act, 1999, as also some other laws

on the subject. In the PIL, Duja prayed that the government along with general public be restrained from mentioning or referring persons with disabilities or specially able persons as mentally retarded, sick, unfortunate, handicapped person, abnormal, mental, poor, unfortunate person, crippled, deformed, mad person, dwarf, wheelchair bound, dwarf, albino, disabled, mongoloid, midget, deaf and dumb, troubled person in official internal and external communications, judicial orders, notifications, | More on P11

government, officials said. **WE DIRECT ALL THE RESPONDENTS TO ENSURE** expeditious recognition of the claim of the petitioner for the specially-abled persons.

JKP DySP Loses Promotion Over Second Marriage

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday imposed a penalty to withhold promotion for a period of two years of a deputy superintendent of police for contracting second marriage without first obtaining the permission of the

An order in this regard was issued by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Home Department, Raj Kumar Goyal.

"The competent authority, being satisfied with the inquiry and the procedure followed in this case, arrived at a decision of imposing a penalty of withholding two increments without cumulative effect and withholding promotion for a period of two years of DySP Basharat Hussain Dar as per rule 30 of the J&K civil services (classification, control and appeal) rules, 1956, for violating rule 22(1) of the J&K government employees (conduct)

Two annual increments of Dar shall be withheld for a period of two years without cumulative effect from the date of issue of this order and his promotion shall be withheld for a period of two years from the date of issue of this order, it said.

The order said departmental proceeding was initiated against the DySP based on the recommendations of the DGP for having contracted second marriage without first obtaining the permission of the

The probe was held against Dar and due process was followed by serving him with memo along with the statement of imputations in support of the charge and other connected documents in 2017, it said.

Dar had denied the charge as baseless and unfounded. He, in his response, further stated that he contracted the second marriage after | More on P11

Justice Rabstan Appointed Acting CJ

resident of India on Tuesday appointed Justice Tashi Rabstan, senior-most Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, to perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of the High Court from December 8. The order comes a day before incumbent Chief Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey lays down the robes. "In exercise of the power conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint, Justice Tashi Rabstan, senior-most Judge of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, to perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of the | More on P11

Police Arrests Journalist Khalid Gul

senior journalist from South Kashmir's Anantnag district has been arrested by the Police, officials said here on Tuesday. News agency KNO quoting a top police official reported that the senior journalist Khalid Gul of Anantnag has been arrested. He said he was arrested in an old case filed in 2017. Khalid Gul was associated with Greater Kashmir for the last many years. He ended his association with the newspaper earlier this year. Notably, his residence was searched by Police on November 19 in connection with the investigation of a case related to online threat to journalists in Kashmir.

PSA For Timber Smuggling In Shopian

SHORT

he District Magistrate (DM) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya Tuesday held a meeting of all Executive Magistrates and Forest department officers to discuss and take stringent measures against timber/ forest smuggling in the district. The departments intimated about the measures being taken by them to curb the smuggling in the district. It was apprised during the meeting that through joint efforts of departments, 13 PSAs, 49 FIRs, 79 court challans have been registered against the smugglers. Besides, 2292 Cfts of timber along with confiscation of 29 horses and 07 vehicles have been taken which has reduced | More on P11

Drone Like Object Seen Along LoC

TAKES



drone-like object was spotted along the Line of Control (LoC) in Baloni Sonagali area of Mendhar in Poonch on Tuesday, officials said. They said that the drone-like object was spotted at around 1740 hours and it later moved back towards Pakistan. Further investigations into the matter is underway, the official told a local news agency GNS.

Arms Cache Recovered In Uri

he government forces on Tuesday recovered a cache of arms and ammunition in Uri Sector of Baramulla district. Acting on specific input, police and army's 16 SIKHLI launched a joint cordon and search operation in the village Chauranda of Uri, a police spokesperson said. During the search operation, he said, the joint team recovered a cache of ammunition including 200 AK rounds, eight Chinese grenades and IED material. "Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Uri and further investigation set into

motion," the spokesperson added.

BSF Shoots Dead Pak Infiltrator Pakistani infiltrator was

Security Force (BSF) near Shri Karanpur in Rajasthan's Ganganagar district, sources said on Tuesday. The body was handed over to Pakistan on Tuesday evening after identification, the BSF sources said. The incident took place in the early hours of Monday at Harmukh post near Majhiwala village, they said. The man crossed the border and was carrying a torch. He was spotted by BSF troops who challenged him. The man did not stop and moved into the Indian territory following which firing was done, according to the BSF sources. | More on P11

shot dead by the Border



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Green Tea Extract May Be Harmful To Liver; Check Out Why

ong-term consumption of highdose green tea extract may provide some protection against cancer, cardiovascular disease, obesity, and type 2 diabetes, according to one study, but it may also cause liver damage in a small percentage of people.

Who is in danger? The first concrete hint comes from Rutgers research, published in The Journal of Dietary Supplements: two genetic variations that predict some of the dangers.

"Learning to predict who will suffer liver damage is potentially important because there's growing evidence that high-dose green tea extract may have significant health benefits for those who can safely take it," said Hamed Samavat, senior author of the study and an assistant professor of nutrition sciences at the Rutgers School of Health Professions.

Using data from the Minnesota Green Tea Trial, a large study of green tea's effect on breast cancer, the researchers looked to see if people with certain genetic variations were more likely than others to show signs of liver stress after consuming 843 milligrammes per day of the primary antioxidant in green tea, a catechin called epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG).



Researchers led by Laura Acosta, then a PhD student and currently a graduate student, chose the two genetic polymorphisms in issue because each regulates the manufacturing of an enzyme that breaks down EGCG. The Minnesota Green Tea Trial was selected because it was a large, well-designed trial of a distinct

demographic. The year-long, placebocontrolled experiment included over 1,000 postmenopausal women and gathered data at three, six, nine, and twelve

An analysis by researchers showed that early signs of liver damage were somewhat more common than normal in women with one variation in the catechol-O-methyltransferase (COMT) genotype and strongly predicted by a variation in the uridine 5'-diphosphoglucuronosyltransferase 1A4 (UGT1A4) genotype.

On average, participants with the high-risk UGT1A4 genotype saw the enzyme that indicates liver stress go up nearly 80 per cent after nine months of consuming the green tea supplement, while those with low-risk genotypes saw the same enzyme go up 30 per cent.

"We're still a long way from being able to predict who can safely take high-dose green tea extract," said Samavat, who noted the risk of liver toxicity is only associated with high levels of green tea supplements and not with drinking green tea or even taking lower doses of green tea extract. "Variations in this one genotype don't completely explain the variations in liver enzyme changes among study participants. The full explanation probably includes a number of different genetic variations and probably a number of non-genetic factors." "Still," Samavat continued, "we do think we have identified an important piece of the puzzle and taken a step toward predicting who can safely enjoy any health benefits that high-dose green tea extract provides.

Scientists Advance Insights Into Cause Of **Ripples On Icicles**

xperimental physicists growing icicles at the University of Toronto are closer to understanding why some form with ripples up and down their outsides, while others form with smooth, slick, even surfaces. As described in a study published in Physical Review E, by growing icicles from water samples with different contaminants like sodium chloride (salt), dextrose (sugar) and fluorescent dye, the researchers discovered that water impurities become entrapped within icicles as they form and subsequently create chevron patterns that contribute to a ripple effect around their circumferences.

"Previous theories held that the ripples are the result of surface tension effects in the thin film of water that flows over the ice as it forms," says Stephen Morris, a professor emeritus in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Arts & Science at the University of Toronto and a coauthor of the study describing the phenomenon. "We now see that the ripple formation does not depend on surface tension. It does not even depend only on features external to the ice, but rather is connected to patterns of impurities inside the ice." "The external shape and internal patterns are different aspects of the same -- so far unexplained -- problem."

The findings build on an earlier discovery by Morris and his research team that found the presence of salt in water was responsible for the irregular, rippled shapes of icicles grown in the lab. The new results show that it is not the type of impurity that leads to the ripples, but just the fact that there is something foreign in the water. "We tested various species of impurities, and the phenomena are unchanged as long as their concentrations are similar," says John Ladan, a PhD student working with Morris and lead author of the study. "This is consistent with the idea that only physical, as opposed to chemical, processes are involved."

While their motivation for unlocking the secret behind the ripples is pure curiosity about natural patterns, the study of ice growth has serious applications, including ice accumulation on airplanes, ships and power lines. However, for example, the results show that existing engineering models of ice accretion on power lines do not account for the entire problem. The researchers note that the findings do not resolve the mechanism of the ripples, but rather just add new aspects to the phenomena to be explained. "We get a more profound appreciation for the complexity of natural ice formations," says Morris.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL

NIT NO 183 OF R&B/Khanabal/2022-23 /E-TENDERING/19698-707 DATED 05-12-2022

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&Ke-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated	Cost of	Earnest Money	Time of	Class of
		Cost	T/Doc.	(In Rs)	Completion	Contractor
		(Rs in Lacs)	(in Rs)			
1.	Maintenance of main DC Office	7.78	300	15560	25 Days	CEE, DEE Class &
	Complex Anantnag. MSME's Only					

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms- and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

	Particulars	Dated				
S. No.						
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice		05-12-2022			
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	06-12-2022	(09:00AM)		
		To	12-12-2022	(04:30PM)		
3	Bid submission Start Date	From	06-12-2022	(09:00AM)		
4	Bid Submission End Date	To	12-12-2022	(04:30PM)		
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)		13-12-2022	(10:00AM)		
		In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal				

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt(Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BGpledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving

All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/Bid Security shall render the bidder as No-responsive.

The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as nonresponsive and case for debarring of the Contractor be forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.

The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @3% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

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

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

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with techni-

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

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

Scanned copy ofcost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Khanabalmust be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document), EMD and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ

manually. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the

rates prevailing at the time of recovery. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25. DIPK-14649/22 DATED 06-12-2022

> (ErQaziJaveed Amin) Executive Engineer, R&B Division Khanabal



potentially important

green tea extract may

have significant health

benefits for those who

can safely take it

because there's growing

evidence that high-dose

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DIPK-NB-5407/22 DATED 06-12-2022

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

It is information for the general public that by wrongly in my passport bearing No. L1924304 the Name and Date of birth was entered. The name was entered as SIFTI MOHAMMAD SHAH and D.O.B 01-03-1988, While my actual name is SIPTY MOHAMMAD SHAH and D.O.B is 01-03-1990. Now i want its correction if any body having any objection in this regard may contact Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of 7 days. No objection shall be entertained after that. SIPTY MOHAMMAD SHAH

R/O WOOLINA ICHIGAM BUDGAM. CELL. 7889779937

از نیابت پاپالن بااجلاس نائب تحصیلدار پاپالن عنوان: مضمون درخواست : بشير احمد تيلي ولد عبدل كبير تيلي ساكنه سلطان پوره كھوئى مخصيل پٹن بمراد شوش كاسٹ سرٹفيكيٹ تحت SRO294 اشتهار بمراد آگاهی هر خاص و عام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر سیں درخوست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پڑواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ گشمول مطلوبہ نقوالات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل اسائلہ موضع کھوئی سخصیل بیٹن کا سکونت دار ہے کمبنہ بذیل افراد پر مشتل ہے بشير احمد تيلي ولد عبدل كبير 50 سال زمينداري contractual employee رافیعہ بشیر وختر بشیر احمد 25 نصرت بشیر وختر بشیر احمد 24 70 اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کمبہ نہیں بتلایا گیا ہے کمبنہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی مبلغ 37250دویے تک ہے۔ سرٹفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر سى شخص يا اشخاص كو كوكي عذر يا اعتراض هُو تو وه اپنا عذر يا اعتراض سات يوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول fko



KU To Host 'ROSHNAAS TECHFEST' 2022

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Roshnaas, the Inaugural version of the annual tech fest of the Institute of Technology, University of Kashmir, Zakura Campus is scheduled to start from 8th to 12th December 2022.

The event will mark a unique amalgamation of culture and innovation which will take place at the University of Kashmir, the main campus. The 5-day mega tech fest comprises a special series of events focusing on the radical implications of technological advancements

and their potential to reshape society.

A diverse group of expert panelists including innovators, scientists, engineers, artists, and entrepreneurs will lead a wide array of conversations sharing their discoveries, endeavors, and insights amongst the youth of Jammu and Kashmir.

Roshnaas roughly translates to companion. It focuses on unifying and diversifying several departments of the university that will come together and work as a unit to make this technology fest one of the best events in the UT.

"It is a unique exhibition of the intelligence and capabilities of our students who evolve ideas into factual projects of interest. It aims to motivate our students and push them to achieve their goals determination, hard work, and inspiring creativity, technical prowess, and passion" an official said.

"Roshnaas will connect students from various institutions to pursue their passion within a distinguished community of mentors. This event would feature representatives from a wide range of sectors, allowing students to gain exposure to new developments, ideas, and possibilities for improved career planning" he added.

Pertinently, the upcoming event will have more than 30 exciting competitions, project presentations, workshops, and seminars integrated with a fair dose of fun filled activities.

More than 70 colleges and 100 schools of the Kashmir valley have been invited to the fest. The Techfest would also give young and graduating students an opportunity to showcase their skills and provide them with entrepreneurial exposure that is very rare in the valley.

Public Outreach Programme "My Town My Pride" Concludes

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A Mass Public Outreach Programme "My Town My Pride" 2.0 which began on Monday concluded on Tuesday in Srinagar amid participation of about 70000 citizens including School/ College Students across the District.

On Day 2nd, the ambitious programme of the Government witnessed a series of activities organised by the District Administration, Srinagar under the supervision of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad during which visiting Officers took detailed assessment of public aspirations to ensure doorstep delivery of services and successful conduct of MTMP 2.0 programme.

Speaking about the successful conduct of the MTMP-2.0,

the Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad termed It a festival of Public Service Delivery, a connection between Community and Administration aimed to bring Administration at the door steps of the people and take detailed assessment of public aspirations and address their issues. The DC appreciated the efforts made by all line Departments in making

MTMP-2.0 successful. During the programmes, Departments including Health, Education, SMC, SDA, Jal Shakti, Animal Husbandry, Social Welfare, CSC, DIC, Labour, Employment, Animal/ Sheep Husbandry, Agriculture and Horticulture and Banks etc had established their stalls at designated locations in the City for public awareness, grievance redressal, enrolment under beneficiary schemes and other programmes involving developmental works in City.

Various activities were conducted under MTMP-2.0 including resolution of public welfare and other developmental issues, besides special events under sports, painting, plantation etc were also held with regard to drug de-addiction under Nasha Mukt J&K Abhiyan.

As many as 45000 students from different Educational institutions also were the part of the MTMP programme who exhibited their talent through sports, cultural, competitions, NSS and other activities.

In addition, SMC, LCMA and SDA also conducted several programes under "Shehri Jan Abhiyan(MTMP 2.0)". while plantation drives were also conducted by Forest Department in all SMC Ward of

Police Recovers Kidnapped Girl

Observer News Service

rinagar: Srinagar Police on Tuesday said that they recovered a minor girl in less than 24 hours.

A police spokesman in a statement issued to the news agency Kashmir Observer said that on 05-12-2022, Police Station Pantha Chowk received a written complaint from one person (details withheld) to the effect that his minor daughter who left home for school has not returned home after school hours.

On this, a case under FIR number 132/2022 under section 363 IPC was registered in Police Station Pantha Chowk and investigation was taken up, police said.

"During the course of investigation, a Police team headed by SHO Pantha Chowk Insp Syed Owais Geelani was constituted under the supervision of Incharge SDPO Pantha Chowk Shivam Siddharth. During the investigation, using technical analysis of a suspect number, a Police team of Police Station Pantha Chowk was rushed to Bomai Sopore from where the kidnapped girl was recovered and the accused, who is a juvenile (name withheld), involved in the commission of crime was arrested within 24 hours,"

2- Day Houseboat Festival To begin Today

Observer News Service

rinagar: The Department of Tourism is organizing a two day Houseboat The festival would have components of local Music, food, art, culture besides showcasing and emphasising the heritage value of Houseboats.

The main highlights of the two day festival would be display of live music, putting up an Art gallery besides showcasing varied culinary and cuisine specialities.

Traditional folk music, a Floating stage and water screen on Dal waters, illuminated shikara carnival and live musical performances would also be part of the two day festival.

In this connection, Director Tourism Kashmir, Fazlul Haseeb on Tuesday reviewed the arrangements put in place for holding the festival and showcasing varied components of tourism to the visitors.

Addressing the meeting, the Director Tourism said Houseboats have played a unique role in attracting tourists from across the globe. He said the Kashmir Valley's famed and intricately carved houseboats, which over the decades have emerged as dream stay for honeymooners, will be this winter season's main attraction.

Fazlul Haseeb reviewed the logistics and creative components of the two day festival and impressed upon the concerned to synergise their ideas to make the festival a grand success.

Sanitation Drive Held In City

Observer News Service

rinagar: Mayor Srinagar Juniad Azim Mattu and Principal Secretary Housing and Urban Development (H&UDD), Dheeraj Gupta along with Commissioner SMC launched a massive sanitation drive at Zero Bridge, Srinagar

On the occasion, the Mayor asked Commissioner SMC to issue directions to Urban Forestry for developing the landscape around Jhelum bund. He also asked for a plantation of Pines on both sides of the river.

Later, the Mayor along with the Principal Secretary visited DYSSO Srinagar and took pledge on Nasha Mukt J&K besides flagging

off a Nasha Mukt rally at DYSSO Srinagar. Later, a meeting was convened by Mayor Srinagar to discuss development activities done under "My Town My Pride" programme and projects taken up under Smart city.







LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



MESSAGE

The Armed Forces Flag Day observed on 7th December every year is an important occasion when the Nation remembers the gallant officers and men of Armed Forces for their sacrifices, dedication to duty and maintaining an eternal watch to safeguard the frontiers of the country. On this day, the Nation pays homage to those who made the supreme sacrifice to preserve territorial integrity of the

Our Armed Forces have always remained at the forefront, ever ready to serve the Nation with commitment, dedication and render valuable service during natural calamities. In Jammu and Kashmir, the Army has been playing a crucial role in combating terrorism and providing a secure environment to the people, particularly those living along the borders and in remote and far-flung areas of the UT.

In addition to expressing gratitude to our valiant soldiers, this day provides an opportunity to our citizens to associate themselves with our valiant soldiers and families of the martyrs. To remember brave deeds of our soldiers and to pay gratitude to our valiant Armed Forces personnel and their families, I appeal to the people of the UT of J&K, particularly the privileged sections of the society, to donate liberally to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, as a token of remembrance and expression of gratitude.

I convey my best wishes to all serving and retired Armed Forces personnel and their families on the occasion of Armed Forces Flag







ARMED FORCES FLAG DAY

07 December, 2022





MESSAGE

I am pleased to learn that J&K Rajya Sainik Board

is observing the Armed Forces Flag Day on 7th

December 2022. I convey my warm greetings and

good wishes to all the serving and retired Armed

Forces personnel and their families on this occasion.

The day provides us an opportunity to express our

gratitude to the serving soldiers and Ex-servicemen.

The Nation cannot forget the supreme sacrifices

made by our soldiers during the course of duty while

serving the motherland. The Armed Forces have

earned the respect and affection of citizens for their

valour, professionalism and spirit of sacrifice by

ensuring continuous safety and security of the

On this occasion, I convey my best wishes to all

ranks of the Armed Forces and those associated

with the Flag Day Celebrations. I appeal to the peo-

ple of UT of J&K to contribute generously to the

Armed Forces Flag Day. Their contribution would

facilitate the implementation of various schemes

aimed at the welfare of ex-servicemen, Veer Naris

(Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta)

Nation.

and their families.

CHIEF SECRETARY JAMMU & KASHMIR





Financial Commissione (Additional Chief Secretary) Home Department Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar

MESSAGE

Every year 7th December is observed as the Armed Forces Flag Day throughout the country. It is a day to remember the services and sacrifices of valiant personnel of our Armed Forces viz the Army, Navy and the Air Force. They have distinguished themselves equally in war and in peace. So many officers and men have often made the supreme sacrifice so that their fellow countrymen can live freely with honour and peace.

The Armed Forces Flag Day provides the citizens, an opportunity to express their gratitude to the Armed Forces by donating liberally for the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, which is utilized for rehabilitation and welfare of war-widows, widows, disabled and needy ex-servicemen and their dependents.

I appeal to everyone donate generously to this noble cause.

JAI HIND

(R K Goyal)



Directorate of Sainik Welfare Ambphalla, Jammu directorsw-11@jk.gov.in

MESSAGE

- 1. Armed Forces Flag Day is an occasion for the citizens to honour the sacrifices made by the personnel of the Indian Defence Forces during the course of their duty and to contribute for the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund. This Fund is utilized for the welfare and rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, disabled veterans, widows and their dependents. Various govt schemes initiated for resettlement and welfare of ex-servicemen and families of Battle Casualties are augmented by contributions of the citizens towards the Armed Forces Flag Day
- 2. All contributions, being of charitable nature, are exempt from Income Tax, under Section 80-G (5) (vi) of Income Tax Act 1961. Contributions may be sent through crossed Cheque/Demand Draft in favour of Secretary, J&K Rajya Sainik Board or Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, at following address:- Directorate of Sainik Welfare Department Ambphalla, Jammu, PIN - 180005
- . Payments through NEFT can be made in following accounts :-(a) Secretary J&K Rajya Sainik Board J&K Bank, Ambphalla, Jammu A/C No 0493040100000784, IFSC - JAKA0AMPHLA (b) Armed Forces Flag Day Fund AU Small Finance Bank, Jammu A/C No 2181246936463378, IFSC - AUBL0002469 (c) Secretary J&K Raiva Sainik Board Axis Bank, GS Road, Jammu A/C No 920010021134652, IFCS - UTIB0001011
- 4. Payments can also be made through UPI at all offices of Sainik Welfare Deptt in J&K.
- 5. We are proud of our citizens who have participated in various programmes initiated by Sainik Welfare Department, to exhibit their solidarity with the Armed Forces of India and the families of those soldiers, who sacrificed their life for the Motherland.
- 6. I appeal to all fellow citizens to proudly wear the 'Armed Forces Token Flag' and donate liberally for the Armed Forces Flag Day

JAI HIND



DIPK-14688/22 DATED 06-12-2022

Enemy Unnerved By Iran's Success, Resorts To Smear Campaign: Envoy



KO Web Desl

SRINAGAR: Iran is facing a smear campaign by the propaganda machinery of global arrogance as part of their war of attrition against the Islamic Republic, representative of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Sayyed Ali Khamenei said during his brief visit to Srinagar.

Ayatollah Mehdi Mahdavipur

Ayatollah Mehdi Mahdavipur arrived here to attend the fortieth day ceremony of veteran Kashmiri leader Maulana Muhammad Abbas Ansari on Sunday.

"For twenty years after the triumph of Islamic revolution the enemy was urging countries not to supply arms to Iran and twenty years later the enemy is urging countries not to buy weapons from Iran", Agha Mehdi said underlining the success and progress Iran has made despite crippling sanctions which according to him has 'unnerved the powers who want to dominate the world'.

Talking on the sidelines of the function Agha Mehdi said, Iran has resolutely refused to surrender to the whims of 'global arrogance' and defeated all their designs to become a vassal state of the West. "Western powers are giving vent to their frustrations by resorting to an ongoing smear campaign to spread hopelessness among

people within Iran and discredit the image of Islamic republic outside Iran's borders". Agha Mehdi said the enemy is unnerved by the progress and the march of development of the Islamic Republic and was using proxies and mercenaries to create unrest in Iran. He said unrest has been contained as an overwhelming majority of people stand firm behind the establishment.

Agha Mehdi cited fields of military and science where Iran has achieved phenomenal success despite Western blockade.

Today Iran is self sufficient in its defence needs and countries are making a beeline to procure Iranian made weapons and the list includes superpowers like Russia. Likewise in the field of medical science before revolution Iran was dependent on foreign doctors and today Iran supplies doctors to the world. He said that just from India there are more than a thousand students studying medicine at various Iranian universities.

Talking about relations with India, Agha Mehdi said that there are cordial ties between Iran and India. "Relations between Iran and India are cordial and friendly in the political sphere and relations are growing culturally and economically as well," he said.

Al Jazeera Sues Israel Army In World Court Over Journalist's Death



Agencies

DUBAI: Al Jazeera on Tuesday said it filed a lawsuit at the International Criminal Court against Israeli forces over the killing of Palestinian journalist

Shireen Abu Akleh, who was shot during an Israeli raid in the West Bank in May.

The lawsuit comes after a investigation by the television news network's legal team on the case, Al Jazeera said on Twitter.

3 Years After Supreme Court Order, Construction Yet To Begin On Ayodhya's Mosque

Press Trust of India

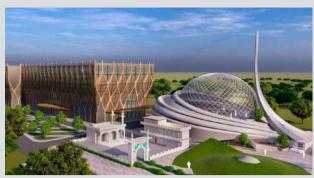
AYODHYA: Barbed-wire fencing and a board put up by the Indo-Islamic Cultural Foundation are the only indicators that a large mosque complex is set to come up at this spot in Dhannipur village near Ayodhya.

The board bears an illustration of the proposed mosque for which the Supreme Court had ordered allocation of a five-acre plot.

But three years after the top court settled the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute, there are no signs of any building activity on the proposed mosque site.

The Ayodhya Development Authority is yet to approve the trust's proposal. But the trust expects that this will now happen soon.

"We have submitted a detailed map of the proposed complex to Ayodhya Development Authority. Its clearance was earlier delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They have now informed us that all the hurdles in the clearance of the map are being ironed out," Indo-Islamic Cultural Foundation Secretary Athar Hussain told PTI. The Indo-Islamic Cultural



Foundation is a trust tasked by the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board with the mosque's construction.

The Supreme Court's 2019 verdict paved the way for the construction of a Ram temple at the site where the 16th century Babri Masjid --demolished by 'kar sevaks' on this day in 1992 - stood. It also ordered the allocation of a five-acre plot to the Muslim community for a new mosque. A pothole-riddled road breaking off from the Lucknow-Faizabad highway leads to Dhannipur village, 16 km from the district head-

Narrow roads lined with houses, a veterinary hospital and a new farmers' centre give way to the large vacant plot of land, demarcated for the mosque.

Until recently, the land was used for farming. It now has a 10-foot-high barbed wire fence running along the perimeter.

"Construction will progress as soon as the map is cleared. Till we get the clearance, it will be too early to tell anything about the timeline," Hussain said.

The trust was expecting clearance from the development authority by Novemberend to begin construction.

"We hope to get approval for the map of the proposed mosque, hospital, community kitchen, library and research centre by the end of this month. Soon after, we will start construction," Hussain had told PTI in mid-November.

Amid US-Saudi Tensions, Xi Jinping To Visit Riyadh This Week: Report

Agenci

BEIJING: Chinese President Xi Jinping is set to reach Saudi Arabia on Thursday amid the tension between the US and the two countries.

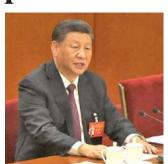
According to CNN citing sources, Xi's trip to Arabia's capital Riyadh will include a China-Arab summit in which 14 Arab heads of states are expected to attend.

During the two-day visit, a China-GCC conference is also expected to take place.

Rumours of a Chinese presidential visit to the US largest Middle East ally have been circulating for months. Still, they are yet to be confirmed by the governments of Saudi Arabia and China.

Last week, the Saudi government sent out registration forms for reporters to cover the summit, without confirming the exact dates. The Saudi government declined to respond to CNN's request for information about Xi's visit and the planned summits.

The US and Saudi Arabia are still embroiled in a heated spat over oil production, which in October culminated in strong rhetoric and traded accusations when the Saudi-led oil cartel OPEC+ slashed output by two million barrels per day in an effort to "stabilize" prices. The decision was taken despite heavy US campaigning against it, according to CNN.



In July, US President Joe Biden paid a visit to Saudi Arabia where he raised the 2018 murder of Jamal Khashoggi during his meeting with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

Biden said that he believed the Saudi leader was responsible for the US-based journalist's death.

"I raised it at the top of the meeting, making it clear what I thought of it at the time and what I think of it now," Biden said in a speech after hours of meetings with the Saudi Crown Prince in Jeddah.

US relations with China have also been strained not only with Saudi Arabia. China and Saudi Arabia have also taken different stances to the West regarding the Ukraine war. Both have refrained from endorsing sanctions on Russia, and Riyadh has repeatedly maintained that Moscow is a key energy-producing partner that must be consulted on OPEC+ decisions, reported CNN.

Ajit Doval's Message To China Resonates With Central Asian Counterparts

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The NSAs of India and Central Asian nations on Tuesday agreed that connectivity initiatives should be based on principles of transparency and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, a position seen as a tacit endorsement of New Delhi's views on China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

The issue figured at the first India-Central Asia meeting of national security advisors hosted by NSA Ajit Doval, who said New Delhi stands ready to "cooperate, invest and build connectivity" in the region.

In his inaugural address, Mr Doval also said connectivity projects should respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries.

At the meeting, the officials highlighted the important role that Chabahar port in Iran played during the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and supported India's proposal to include it within the framework of the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC).

A joint communique issued at the end of the meeting said the officials reiterated that greater connectivity could be a force multiplier for enhancing



trade and commerce as well as closer interactions between India and Central Asian countries and accordingly "deserved priority attention".

"They agreed that connectivity initiatives should be based on the principles of transparency, broad participation, local priorities, financial sustainability, and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries," it said.

India has been severely critical of China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as the so-called "China-Pakistan Economic Corridor" (CPEC), part of the multi-billion dollar connectivity project which runs through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) which is part of India's Jammu and Kashmir.

"While expanding connectivity, it is important to ensure that connectivity initiatives are consultative, transparent, and participatory, with respect for sovereignty and territorial

integrity of all countries," Mr Doval said.

The NSAs of India, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan participated in the meeting. Turkmenistan was represented by its ambassador in New Delhi.

China also faced criticism for creating debt traps for a number of countries while pushing projects under the BRI. Several African countries are finding it difficult to repay loans provided by China for BRI projects.

Boosting connectivity, includ-

ing making the Chabahar port in Iran a part of the International North-South Transport Corridor, also figured in the discussions at the meeting of the NSAs.

Located in the Sistan-Balochistan province on the energyrich Iran's southern coast, the Chabahar port is being developed by India, Iran and Afghanistan to boost connectivity and trade ties.

The meeting emphasised the important role that Chabahar Port played during the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan and its immense potential in enhancing trade and connectivity, as well as the logistics infrastructure of the Central Asian countries in the delivery of humanitarian goods to the Afghan people by international organisations, the joint statement said.

Pak Poll Body Moves To Remove Imran Khan As Chairman of His Party

Press Trust of India

Islamabad: Pakistan's Election Commission today initiated the process to remove Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief Imran Khan from his post following his disqualification in the Toshakhana case.

A notice has been issued to the former prime minister and the case has been fixed for hearing on December 13, the Dawn newspaper reported, quoting a top ECP official.

Mr Khan,70, is in the crosshairs for buying gifts, including an expensive Graff wristwatch he had received as the premier at a discounted price from the state depository called Toshakhana and selling them for profit.

He was later disqualified by the Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP) under Article 63 (i) (p) for making "false statements and incorrect declaration."

According to the ECP records, the gifts were purchased from the Toshakhana -- the state depository established in 1974 -- for Rs 21.5 million on the basis of their assessed value, while they were valued at around Rs 108 million.

There have been numerous allegations and counter-allegations between Pakistan's government and opposition since



the news of the Toshakhana sale surfaced in the media.

According to Pakistani law, overseas presents need to be deposited in the Toshakhana or treasury for valuation before allowing a recipient to keep it.

Officials in the government are required to report any gifts they receive, but they have a threshold below which they don't have to disclose the full value. Larger gifts are sent to Toshakhana, although the recipient may be able to buy them back at a discount of up to 50 per cent.

PTI officials said no law bars

a convict from becoming an office-bearer of a political party. In 2018, however, a three-mem-

In 2018, however, a three-member bench of the Supreme Court, while hearing petitions against the Elections Act, ruled that a person disqualified under Articles 62 and 63 of the Constitution could not head a political party.

NEWS MAKERS

Team Thackeray's Activists Paint Karnataka Buses With "Jai Maharashtra" In Pune

Press Trust of India

PUNE, MAHARASHTRA: Amid a simmering border dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka, activists of the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena faction on Tuesday sprayed black and orange paints on at least three Karnataka state transport buses in Swargate area of Pune city.

They also wrote "Jai Maharashtra" on these buses. A local leader of Shiv Sena (Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray) faction confirmed they painted the buses.

Workers of the Shiv Sena (UBT) faction sprayed at least two-three buses of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) with black paint. They also used an orange spray to write "Jai Maharashtra" on these buses.

"We have detained four to five people who painted the buses," a police officer said. The border issue dates back to 1957 after the reorganisation of states on lin-

guistic lines.

Maharashtra laid claim to Belagavi, which was part of the erstwhile Bombay Presidency as it has a sizable Marathi-speaking population. It also laid claim to 814 Marathi-speaking villages which are currently part of Karnataka.



Belagavi district administration in Karnataka on Monday issued orders barring entry of the two Maharashtra ministers and leaders to the city. Prohibitory orders were issued under section 144 of CrPC, barring their entry, besides that of an MP, who are members of the Maharashtra High Power Committee on the Border Dispute.

Karnataka Chief Minister Basavraj Bommai recently sought a merger of "Kannadaspeaking" areas in Maharashtra's Akkalkot and Solapur and had also said some villages in Jat taluka in Sangli district wanted to join the southern state.

Mumbai Man Sentenced To 5 Years In Jail For Forcefully Trying To Kiss Girl

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: A special court has sentenced a 25-year-old man to five years of rigorous imprisonment for kidnapping and forcibly trying to kiss a minor girl in Dharavi area of central Mumbai.

Special judge Jayshri Pulate on Monday found the accused guilty of the offences committed under section 363 (kidnapping) of the Indian Penal Code and relevant provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for aggravated sexual assault. The detailed order was made available on Tuesday. At the time of the incident in 2015, the victim was nine years old and was studying in a civic school. The victim, in the deposition, said that the accused took her to the top floor of a building, pulled her towards him and tried to kiss her. The girl somehow managed to free herself and run.

The accused had taken her to the spot on the pretext of giving her a dress, the victim had deposed.

The court noted that the defence had argued a lot claiming that there was variance between the victim's statement and her evidence before the court as to whether the accused kissed her or was trying to kiss her. The judge observed that there was no substance in the variance, as it has been proved on record that the accused kidnapped the victim, took her to the terrace and pulled her towards him, which revealed that he had done the said acts with sexual intention.

2 Undertrials Escape From Chhattisgarh Jail, Jump Off 23-Foot Wall



Press Trust of India

JASHPUR: Two undertrial prisoners, one accused of murder and the other facing rape charge, scaled a 23-feet wall and escaped from Jashpur district jail in Chhattisgarh, police said on Tuesday. They jumped off the jail boundary wall on Monday morning and fled, they said.

Kapil Bhagat, who was in jail for allegedly raping a minor girl last year, escaped along with Lalit Ram, a murder accused, Jashpur Additional Superintendent of Police Umesh Kashyap said, adding that efforts were on to trace them.

ish Sambhakar said the two undertrials escaped by jumping off the jail boundary wall when preparation was underway to cook food for jail inmates on Monday morning. A case has been registered against

Jashpur Jail Superintendent Man-

A case has been registered against them at Jashpur police station and steps are being taken to enhance the jail security, he said.

The rape case against Bhagat, a resident of Sogda village in Jashpur, was pending before a fast-track court in Jashpur, Mr Kashyap said.

The trial of Ram, a native of Tumla area, was underway in the court of Kunkuri Additional District Judge, he said.

Apni Party Advocates Relocating KP Employees To Jammu

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Tuesday expressed concerns over the fresh "hit-list" issued by The Resistance Front (TRF) -- an LeT off-shoot -- and demanded the LG to relocate Kashmiri Pandit employees to Jammu from the valley where they are under threat from terrorists.

The hit-list issued by the Lashkar-e-Taiba affiliate has created a panic among Kashmiri

government em-Several ployees posted in the Kashmir valley, including the Kashmiri Pandits, have come under terror attacks of late.

TRF had recently in a blog published a hit list of 56 Kashmiri Pandit employees working under PMRP.

Apni Party Youth Wing General Secretary Abhay Bakaya on Tuesday expressed concerns over the "information breach" and asked the the authorities to own up to its failure in prevent-

"The demand for relocating Kashmiri Pandit employees to Jammu stands explicitly justified after the shocking release of this list which has sent shivers to KP members working there," Bakaya told reporters here.

"The government agencies must own up this information breach and should desist from acting complacent any further. So many members of the Kashmiri Pandit community have already been killed this year and putting others to further risk is unwarranted, inhuman, and sadistic," he said.

Bakaya appealed to the J&K Lieutenant Governor to prioritise the security of Kashmir Pandits over their service location and relocate them to Jammu division until the situation becomes normal.

"I appeal to and request Manoj Sinha ji to kindly intervene at the earliest as it is a matter of serious concern and Kashmiri Pandits cannot be allowed to remain easy targets for these inimical forces.

"The killings have shown that security breach is a reality and thus accepting this reality, our community members need to be relocated to Jammu," he said.

SEC Discusses Schedule For Revision Of Panchayat **Electoral Roll**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: State Election Commissioner, KK Sharma on Tuesday chaired a meeting to prepare the schedule for updation/ revision of Panchayat Electoral Roll in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary State Election Commission, Sushil Sharma; Special Secretary Chief Electoral Office Jammu, Sandesh Gupta; Joint Director Information Jammu, Sapna Kotwal, senior officers of Rural Development Department, Relief & Rehabilitation Commissioner, State Informatics Officer, NIC Jammu, AERO Migrant Jammu, Deputy District Election Officer Jammu and other concerned.

The meeting discussed in detail the preparation of soft/hard copies of draft electoral Roll for placing in public domain. The latest and lastly updated Panchayat Electoral Roll will serve as the base for the revised Roll.

The SEC maintained that revision shall be done as per provisions of Jammu and Kashmir

Panchayati Raj Act, 1989. The meeting also discussed



availability of ERO/AERO (Block Development Officer)/Panchayat Level Booth Officials (VLWs) for revision of electoral roll.

Besides, position of funds, requirement of funds by each district for the Electoral Roll, modalities for Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP), mechanism of updation and printing in both online and offline mode were also discussed during the meeting.

The meeting further deliberated upon the tentative schedule of revision, publication of draft roll on website by EROs/ PLBOs(VLWs) and other relevant activities.

"For undertaking SVEEP ctivities campaign shall be launched by the Commission with the help of Information Department, RDD and District Panchayat Election Officers", the SEC maintained.

Pilgrims At Mata Vaishno Devi **Shrine Likely To Cross 1 Crore**

IAMMU: The Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, which is located on Trikota Mountain in the Reasi District of Jammu Province, is set to welcome more than one crore pilgrims this year after being closed for over two years due to the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic.

According to official statistics, 86 lakh pilgrims have visited Mata Vishnu Devi this year so far. By the end of December, this number may cross one crore as more people visit this Gupha in December. In the year 2013, 93.24 lakh pilgrims visited Gupha.

In the year 2018, 85 lakh 86 thousand 541 pilgrims came, while this year 85 lakh 63 thousand 138 pilgrims have done darshan so far.

In 2020, the Yatra was hit the hardest due to the restrictions imposed in view of the Covid pandemic. Even the number of visitors dropped to 1987 levels.

Thousands of people have been coming daily from Union Territories and other parts of the country. The increase in pilgrimage has been possible due to the effective and pilgrim-oriented management of the Shri Vaishnava Devi Shrine Board. During this year, an average of about 25 to 30,000 devotees visited the cave on a daily basis. At present, the footfall has decreased due to



winter and the wedding season, but the footfall is expected to increase in the second half of December.

It is noteworthy that in the year 2012, a maximum of one crore of four lakh five thousand devotees visited the shrine of Mata Vishnu Devi

Till November last year 49 lakh, 49 thousand 967 devotees had performed puja while this year till the end of November 36 lakh 13 thousand 171 more pilgrims have visited the cave. Around 15 lakh people are expected to visit the shrine by the end of the year

A total of 4,38,521 devotees had darshan last Janu-3,61,074 in February, 7,78,669 in March, 9,02,192 in April, 9,86,766 in May, and 1,12,92,311 in June.

Since the establishment of the Shri Mata Vaishnava Devi Shrine Board in 1986, the shrine has seen a steady increase in the number of devotees. The board has taken various initiatives over the years for the convenience of pilgrims including the mobile app, home delivery of pooja prasad, round-the-clock call centre for the convenience of pilgrims, installation of hi-tech video walls and construction of Durga Bhavan.

On its foundation in August, Lt. Governor Manoj Sinha launched the new RFID system for passenger convenience. This system will ensure seamless access control with minimum hassle to the devotees. For better crowd management and tracking of pilgrims, 29 counters and control rooms have been set up at Katra and verification counters have been set up at 7 locations on the track.

In Yatra, which was 13.96 lakh in 1986, it increased to 1.04 crore in 2012. It had 93.24 lakh pilgrimages in 2013, 78.03 lakhs in 2014, 77.76 lakhs in 2015, 78.213 lakhs in 2015 and

Letter Of Authority Not Required Now For Registration Of Commercial Vehicles

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Motor Vehicle Department Jammu and Kashmir, in a landmark amendment in J&K Motor Vehicles Rules on Tuesday decided to do away with grant of Letter of Authority for registration of commercial vehicle, which was earlier a pre requisite to purchase and register a commercial vehicle.

But as of now the Government of J&K UT has simplified the procedure and has made it an open policy without any restrictions of grant of Route

Earlier, the applicant had to apply for Letter of Authority after the approval of RTA/ STA, which was mandatory for registration of vehicle and subsequent issuance of Route Permit under any commercial segment. But as per latest amendment in J&K Motor Vehicles Rules, the applicant can directly approach any concerned dealer, along with requisite for-

malities for registration of any commercial vehicle in compliant with BS-VI Emission norms (Approved Models Only) under Contract Carriage Segment (for Built up Vehicles). In case of registration of Vehicles with drive away Chasis, the registration will be done by concerned RTO/ARTO Office.

After the registration of vehicle under Contract Carriage segment the applicant shall apply online along with following documents for issuance of permit under Contract Carriage before plying vehicle on road i.e. Domicile Certificate, Registration Certificate of the vehicle for which Route Permit is sought, Present Address Proof, Character Certificate from concerned Police Station, Copy of Driving License of Owner or any person proposed to be engaged as driver, Declaration in an affidavit with regard to the number of transport vehicles already owned by the applicant registered in the applicants name/firm/Company/Co-operative Society along with their Permit Numbers (for Contract Carriages) besides a Declaration in an Affidavit confirming the availability of parking space either private or public for existing fleet as well as for the new vehicle for which the applicant desires to obtain a Route permit.

It is further clarified that these rules shall be implemented for registration of new vehicle under Contract Carriage segment after the amendments in J&K Motor Vehicle Rules and shall not be applicable in case of those vehicles where Letter of Authority has already been issued as well as any vehicle for which All India Tourist Permit has been issued and permit holder applies for its conversion to local permit after a pe-

With the introduction of these amendments, the applicant has to apply online for issuance of Route Permit under Contract Carriage Segment.

'My Town My Pride'

Formulation Of 'City Development Index' To Ensure Better Assessment, Planning, Development & Service **Delivery: Chief Secretary**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: On the second day of 'My Town My Pride'(MTMP) programme, Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday held a day long live interaction with the visiting officers (Prabharis), President's and representatives of different Municipal Councils, Municipal Committees of Kashmir division at Civil Secretariat here.

During the interaction, the

Free Town Plan, City Tourism & Culture Plan, City Resource Mobilization Finance Plan, City Beautification Plan and Green City Plan details of which have already been provided to the visiting officers.

The Chief Secretary further mentioned about the importance of saturation of self-employment schemes and advised the Prabhari Officers to monitor the progress of disbursement of loans to the aspiring youth.



Chief Secretary held detailed deliberations on different deliverables with the officers and took on-spot assessment from them about the participation of general public in this public outreach programme.

While interacting with the officers, Dr. Mehta underlined that the MTMP has evolved into an Aspirational Town programme which will be a continuous affair. He added that the administration will establish City Development Index and the cities and towns will be ranked monthly as per that index reflecting the pace of development and quality of service delivery in each of them. 'The index will be more of a mirror for the cities and towns to compete with each other and thereby achieve best in both infrastructure and services provided to the public", Dr. Mehta observed.

While interacting with the officers and representatives of Municipal Wards, the Chief Secretary impressed upon them to encourage maximum participation of general public in the programme so that the prime objective of development is achieved. He asked them to involve educational institutions in the celebrations of MTMP and organise events to create awareness among public about different government beneficiary schemes and welfare pro-

Dr Mehta further remarked that the Prabhari Officers will continue to mentor the towns which were assigned to them as Visiting Officers for next few years so that there is a greater bond between them and the inhabitants for overall progress of these urban centers.

He underscored the need for finalization of seven plans viz. City Livelihood Plan, City Smart Vending Plan, Encroachment sure that all genuine cases are sanctioned and banks provide full cooperation in this endeavour of the government. He observed that the progress on this account will be reviewed after a month's period to assess the achievement made in meeting the objectives.

The Chief Secretary also emphasized upon the visiting officers to ensure that all cases in respect of 75 schemes where I&K has achieved near saturation should be put on fast-track so that no case is left out.

While interacting with the Mayor SMC, JunaidMattu; Prabhari officer Srinagar, Dheeraj Gupta and other corporators of SMC, Dr. Mehta enjoined upon them to organise events and activities with involvement of all the line departments so that the Srinagar City will emerge as one of the most vibrant cities of India in terms of development. He asked them that not to restrict the events to MTMP programme only but keep it as a continuing affair and work towards making Srinagar one of the cleanest cities of the country.

Dr Mehta asked them to explore the possibility of vibrant evening tourism in Srinagar city as it possesses tremendous potential for the same and organise cultural activities in winter months like in other countries where winters are alike Kashmir. He further asked them to make the place attractive with illumination of Dal Lake as well as other heritage sites so that tourists as well as locals have something to explore in late evenings also.

lighted that people should be made aware that to achieve the goal of corruption free J&K. He also said that physical mode of application for availing government services should be completely avoided.

The Chief Secretary high-

Pole Inaugurates CBC's 5-Day Exhibition On Amrit Mahotsav At Anantnag

'We Need To Value Our Freedom Achieved As A Result Of Countless Sacrifices By Our Freedom Fighters'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang Kondbarao Pole on Tuesday inaugurated a 5-day multimedia exhibition on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav (AKAM) at Sports Stadium Anantnag.

The exhibition is being organized by the Central Bureau of Communication (CBC), Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India from December 6- December 10, 2022.

Pole was accompanied by Dr Basharat Qayoom, Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag, Hilal Ahmad Shah, Chairman, Municipal Council Anantnag and Ashish Kumar Mishra, SSP Anantnag.

The exhibition showcases the history of India's freedom struggle through photo exhibits, audiovisual aids, printed Information Education and Communication (IEC) material and documentary screenings. Apart from the information on the unsung heroes of the Indian National Movement, the exhibition also provides information about different public welfare schemes of the government focusing on flagship schemes like Ayushman Bharat- PMJAY, PM-KISAN, NEP-2020, POSHAN Abhiyan and SVEEP. Special stalls have been installed by the nodal departments of the UT Administra-



tion for public awareness

In his welcome address Joint Director, CBC, Regional Office Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh briefed the guests about the mandate and activities of the CBC in Jammu and Kashmir. He informed that CBC's field offices are engaged in the mass awareness about the public welfare schemes of the government in remote rural and border areas of the union territory. He said that people have to be informed for empowerment of the society and the success of these schemes is de-

pendent on public awareness. Addressing the gathering, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir lauded the CBC, J&K and Ladakh for organizing the exhibition for awareness of the masses. He impressed upon the masses to cherish and value the freedom our nation has got after sacrifices by our

freedom fighters. He said we have read the stories of the sacrifices by these heroes but Amrit Mahotsav is an opportunity to feel the emotion. Pole said that we as citizens need to do our duties honestly.

Chairman Municipal Council, Anantnag said that the Amrit Mahotsav is a festival to celebrate freedom and an opportunity for people to be part of the governance. He said that My Town My Pride initiative of the J&K administration is a step towards bringing government to the doorstep of the people.

Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Dr. Basharat Qayoom in his address said that the multimedia exhibition is a step towards providing information about the schemes of the government to the masses so that the development reaches the last person in the queue. He urged the people to visit the exhibition to get insight into the freedom struggle. Dr. Basharat said that the multi-media exhibition complements the My Town My Pride and Back to Village campaigns of the UT administration which also aim for awareness among masses.

On the occasion Shahid Mohammad Lone, Field Publicity Officer, CBC informed that over the next four days people will be informed about different welfare schemes through expert lectures, cultural programmes, activities for students, film screenings and distribution of awareness material by the Bureau.

Dept Of Obstetrics & Gynecology GMC **Anantnag Organises CME Cum Workshop**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology GMC Anantnag organised a CME on Infertility which was followed by Workshop on Intrauterine Insemination (IUI).

The program was attended by huge number of experts from the field (within and outside the Union Territory of J & K) and various members from the Faculty, Consultants, Residents and other doctors from within and outside the

During CME the speakers talked about different aspects of Infertility including Semen Analysis, Endometriosis, Initial Evaluation of Infertility etc. HoD Obstetrics and Gynecology Dr Syed Nawaz gave a detailed presentation about the laurels the department has achieved since its takeover by GMC Anantnag. He said that the Surgeries both in number and types, OPD, IPD has tremendously seen an upward trend and the department has started performing laproscopic surgeries as well, approx 250 performed till date.

The labor room is augmented by installation of CTG machines, multi parameter monitors which took the patient care to higher level. He also revealed that the number of referrals from the GMC Anantnag has hugely gone down and will continue to do so in future as well.

Principal GMC Anantnag Prof (Dr) Tariq Syed Oureshi in his brief talk laid stress on the importance of treatment of Infertility which has become a huge challenge considering the late age for marriages and other similar common causes.

He congratulated the Organising team led by Dr Nawaz and assisted by Dr Ageesa, Dr Tanzeela, Dr Masarat, Dr Razia, Dr Sumaira Ismail, Dr Qurat, Dr Shagufta, Dr Rehana, Mr Suhail, Mr Aaquib for conducting the event and directed all other departments for taking up initiatives for institutional upliftment in specific and largely for the patient welfare.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT **DIRECTOR TOURISM, GULMARG**

Telefax: - 01954254439/87 Email:- gulmargtourism@gmail.com

Boarding & lodging of official guests for the Winter Subject:-Sports Season 2022-23 at Gulmarg Ski Resort.

QUOTATION

Quotations are invited from the registered hotels (Category A, B & C) situated at Gulmarg for the boarding & lodging of official guests for the winter sports season 2022-23 at Gulmarg Ski Resort. The prescribed format can be obtained from the office of the undersigned w.e.f 08-12-2022 upto 14-12-2022 (04:00 PM).

TERMS & CONDITIONS: -

- The quotations should reach to the office of the undersigned upto 14-12-2022 (04:00 PM) & will be opened on 15-12-2022 (11:00 AM) in presence of the bidders and tender opening committee of this office.
- No compromise will be made on the quality and hygiene of the services. Besides, facilities like proper heating and running hot & cold water must be made available to the guests by all means.
- The rates quoted shall be inclusive of all taxes etc.
- The rates quoted and agreed upon shall remain valid upto 31st of March, 2023. The job order in favour of the successful bidder shall be issued
- as and when the services are required by the department. The payment of services provided by the hotelier shall be made
- only when the funds are available with this office. In case of any dispute, the Director Tourism Kashmir shall be the arbitrator.
- This office reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

No:-Gen/355/Adtg/1565-68 DIPK-14687-22 Dated:06-12-2022

Assistant Director Tourism Gulmarg

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Wednesday|07-12-2022

Fresh Threats

fter targeted killings of the minorities and the migrant labourers over the last three years, Kashmiri Pandits have received fresh threats from the militants. The threat to Pandits follows the one against Kashmiri journalists which led to resignation of about five journalists from their jobs. The Resistance Front (TRF) has asked the Valley's Hindus to leave the region, saying that non-locals and Kashmiri Hindus were taking away jobs and land in Kashmir. In fact, the list of Kashmiri Pandits, the TRF plans to target is the same one that the government had decided to employ under the prime minister's scheme. This has been a source of deep concern for security agencies and also among the people. The disclosure of names is being seen as a big breach of security as questions are being raised as to how the TRF got access to this confidential document. The Jammu and Kashmir police have taken cognizance of the threat and begun an investigation, which hopefully should reveal the truth.

owever, the government needs to take the threat very seriously. So far, twenty four people have been killed in Kashmir over the last year, the victims including Kashmiri Pandits, migrant labourers and security personnel returning for holidays to their homes. This is a distressing situation. The civilian killings in Kashmir have become a big issue in the Valley and across the country. In the Valley, the killings have become a deep source of worry for security forces who are already stretched.

The threat to Pandits poses a fresh challenge. According to an estimate, there are around 8000 minority employees including Kashmiri Pandits who are posted in Kashmir. Hence the serious concern expressed by the various political parties including also by Kashmiri Pandit groups is understandable.

Pandit employees are demanding that the government waive off the bond requiring them to remain permanently posted in Kashmir. And if the government gave in to their demand, it would defeat the very purpose of the Pandits' employment in Kashmir: the purpose behind this is to somehow incentivize the return of Pandits to their homeland. This is, thus, a very tricky situation and the government needs to do a tightrope walk to ensure both of its ends are served: killings and threats stop altogether and Pandits also don't leave. So, the administration needs to do more to provide a sense of security to the community and take firm steps to stop threats and killings.

OTHER OPINON

A Small Uptick

ndia's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenues grew almost 11% this November to nearly 1.46 lakh crore. While this is only the tenth such occasion since the onset of the GST in July 2017 that revenues have been over 1.4 lakh crore. that mark has been consistently topped for nine months now. The two highest GST monthly receipts so far — over 1.67 lakh crore in April and 1.51 lakh crore in October — were partly bolstered by taxpayers filing quarterly returns. Discounting periodic spikes in compliance, one can possibly peg the 1.4 lakh crore as the new normal baseline for monthly GST revenues hereon. With almost 12 lakh crore already in the GST kitty this year, the Government is likely to end up with a not-insignificant surplus over its Budget. This is welcome fiscal headroom, especially since the Centre's subsidy bill on items such as fertilizers and foodgrains has also surpassed the Budget math, and may help the Government stick to its fiscal deficit target. On the flip side, however, November's GST revenues are not an enthusing indicator about the state of the broader economy

The 10.9% overall GST revenue growth in November, reflecting transactions undertaken in October when the major festivals, including Deepavali, occurred — is the slowest uptick recorded since June 2021. November revenues were the lowest in three months and marked a nearly 4% dip from October's kitty. E-way bills generation, broadly indicating outflow of goods from producers to the wholesale and retail supply chains, dropped a steeper 8.6% sequentially, perhaps as factories recorded higher downtimes amid extended holidays. One would have expected festive consumption to spike the GST intake despite the e-way bills decline, as inventories were already built up in anticipation. That effect appears muted and it is quite puzzling that revenues contracted year-on-year in as many as seven States, including Gujarat and Kerala. Growth in inflows from domestic transactions slowed from 18% in October to 8% last month, while revenues from imports of goods rose to 20% in November a possible sign that the consumption recovery remains uneven, with goods consumed by higher income groups seeing a better rebound. December's post-festival GST collections could yield a clearer picture, both on the sustainability of the headline revenue numbers and the growth trajectory of the economy. The GST Council, meeting this month after another prolonged gap, must expedite long-awaited action on pending issues to bolster compliance, and not lose sight of the larger, currently-deferred plan to rationalise the tax rates with a view to spur broad-based and sustainable consumption growth.

The Hindu



India To Stamp Its Legacy At G-20

Asad Mirza

sense of one-ness.

ccupying the Presi-

dency of the G-20

and UNSC offers In-

dia a unique chance

to leave its legacy and make

the voice of the Global South

and developing world heard

dency of the G-20 and UNSC,

for one year and one month

respectively, for next one-

year India gets a unique opportunity for the country

to contribute to the global

agenda on pressing issues of

for international economic

around 85 percent of the

global GDP, over 75% of the

worldwide trade, and about

two-thirds of the world popu-

lation. During the G-20 Presi-

dency, to show its resolve to

focus on those issues which

are dear to it, India will hold

about 200 meetings in 32 dif-

ferent sectors in multiple lo-

cations across India. The G-20

Summit to be held next year

would be one of the highest-

profile international gather-

ter S. Jaishankar, defining

its agenda for G-20 and UNSC

has said that New Delhi

would like to use the presi-

dency of the group to reflect

interests and concerns today

sumed the G-20 presidency

PM Modi said he will work to

further global good through

an inclusive, action-oriented

and decisive agenda. In a

write-up PM Modi said India

could catalyse a fundamental

mindset shift to benefit hu-

dia's G-20 presidency theme

One Future' - is not just a slo-

gan as it takes into account

"recent changes in human

circumstances", adding that

India's G-20 presidency will

work to promote a universal

'One Earth, One Family,

The PM stressed that In-

As India formally as-

of the global south.

we can," he wrote.

External Affairs Minis-

ings to be hosted by India.

G-20 is the premier forum

representing

international importance.

cooperation

By assuming the Presi-

at these two august fora

India looks forward to working on encouraging sustainable lifestyles, depoliticising the global supply of food, fertilisers and medical products among other subjects, the prime minister said.

For imbuing hope in our future generations, India will encourage an honest conversation among the most powerful countries on mitigating risks posed by weapons of mass destruction and enhancing global security, in addition to climate change, terrorism, and pandemics which could be solved not by fighting each other, but only by acting together he wrote.

India's forward plan Indeed, the issues out-

lined by the prime minister and the EAM sound impressive, yet the real challenge will be on how to transform these into real achievements over the next one-year. How India could contribute to changing the global stand on various pressing issues, including; controlling inflation, affirmative action on climate change and pandemic threats, besides producing an inclusive governance model.

There is hope that India can make meaningful contributions to the global economy and can help improve the current unstable geopolitical state of affairs during its reign as G-20 president.

The world is staring at a recession following the Covid induced economic down-

This is also a historic time for the G-20, which will now be led by a nation that has always placed "dialogue and diplomacy" at the centre of its approach to international relations. India's diplomatic and economic policies have helped the country achieve significant growth at a time when other economies have failed

turn and supply chain issues which have been further exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine conflict, fuelling runaway inflation. Global growth has hit a major road-block. While the world grew at 6 per cent in 2021, the growth rate is projected to drop to 3.2 per cent in 2022 and will further slip to 2.7 per cent in 2023.

or are struggling

The global inflation rate, which stood at 4.7 per cent in 2021, is expected to rise to 8.8 per cent by the end of 2022. India, however, is expected to grow by 6.8 per cent in the current fiscal year and by 6.4 per cent in the following year. India is a model for oth-

ers in achieving similar economic growth and stability.

The G-20 declaration, which predominantly echoed Indian ideas, vowed to push for global macro-economic stability by giving nations, particularly disadvantaged ones, a platform to improve their financial resilience.

Indian economists have a better understanding of middle-income and low-income countries. India, with its unique perspective, can help the G-20 achieve its goal of enhancing the financial resilience of these nations.

India's economic model, which has advocated for open, liberal markets that provide opportunities to even the most vulnerable, has garnered praise from countries and organisations throughout the world.

Diplomatic tightrope

Over the last one year particularly India, has been able to maintain cordial relations with two U.S. administrations, in addition to Russia and Iran, and despite mounting global pressure, has been able to maintain positive diplomatic ties with all countries and factions.

This is also a historic time for the G-20, which will now be led by a nation that has always placed "dialogue and diplomacy" at the centre of its approach to international relations. India's diplomatic and economic policies have helped the country achieve significant growth at

a time when other economies have failed or are struggling.

The Indian presidency has received support from various quarters, the latest being from the U.S. and France. The American and French presidents in their tweets have declared their support to India's chair at these two fora.

Thus, India seems to have the full support of the global powers also, for initiating new thinking on tackling the global issues besides also an opportunity to become the voice of the Global South and help the UN to achieve more on its SDGs. Thus, at the moment the plate seems full for India and we really hope that India will be able to leave its mark both diplomatically and politically on the G-20 by acting in a pragmatic manner to solve the issue facing the global world.

It would be prudent for the Indian leadership to pursue those issues which will have a bearing on the future of the world, like climate change related activities, pursuing net zero, to find ways to establish a modified economic system which considers poor countries much more benignly and also empower the world organisations like the United nations and make sure that it leaves a new apparatus through which voices of the poor could be heard and action taken on them, much more effectively.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He was also associated with BBC Urdu Service and Khaleej Times of Dubai. He writes on Indian Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. He can be contacted on www.asadmirza.in



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Addressing Obesity

T is well known that a large population of the country is battling obesity, the root of all diseases, due to which diseases like diabetes, thyroid, and high blood pressure have increased not only among adults, but also in adolescents and children. The good thing is that like the epidemic, now the government has also become alert about the increasing obesity. NITI Aayog, the country's policymaking body, has recommended to identify the major factors of its growth such as sugar, salt and fat-rich foods and increase the excise duty on these foods to make citizens free from obesity. In this episode, it has been said to take steps like 'front of the pack labeling' on products, so that people can be warned about the danger of obesity. The purpose is that people should be careful while choosing food items and they should know what is dangerous for their health. The report of the Research Institute of NITI Aavog for the year 2021-2022 warns that the problem of overweight and obesity among children, adolescents and women is increasing continuously in the country. NITI Aayog is taking steps in this direction in collaboration with the country's Institute of Economic Development and the Public Health Organization of India. In fact, Indian food has traditionally been a trend of namkeen, chips, bhujia, etc., but in recent years, in the name of snacks, there has been an increase in the popularity of such foods which are injurious to health. It should be a matter of our concern that according to the National Family Health Survey, the number of women suffering from obesity in the country has gone up to 24 percent, while the figure for men is 22.9%. In such a situation, the need of the hour should be said that the government should take steps in this direction. Undoubtedly, obesity is the root of all diseases and the Indian medical system feels the pressure due to the diseases caused

Actually, due to change in urban lifestyle and eating habits, the problem of obesity has become worrying. Talks continued about this problem, but no serious initiative was seen in this direction. Due to the market gimmicks, the use of junk food and packaged food items increased in the country. In this, the producers searched the market but did not care about the health of the common man. The irony was also that there was mention of factors that increase obesity, but serious efforts were not seen to stop them. The steps taken to stop them were only symbolic. The market is full of such foods which are tempting in taste, but are heavy on health. They have a longterm harmful effect on health, due to which obesity increases and under its guise serious diseases ranging from diabetes to heart disease start growing. Which over time takes a frightening form due to neglect. Undoubtedly, the need of the hour is to strictly regulate the factors causing obesity. People

should know that what they are consuming affects their health. In fact, due to the change in eating habits, the problem of obesity in developed countries has started spreading rapidly in India too. In India, such a problem assumes a formidable form because people are not conscious in time. We have failed to create awareness among the general public about obesity. We do not care when the factors that increase obesity have become a part of our daily life. Also which foods are really fattening. When the body becomes a home of deadly diseases due to such carelessness, the person does not even realize it. But while taxing such food items, keep in mind that the lives of common and poor people are not affected. Along with this, there is also a need to run an awareness campaign against obesity in the country.

> vijay Garg vkmalout@gmail.com

Sat Rang' The Rainbow of Kashmir's **Creative Campus**

How Green Valley Educational Institute's Art Exhibition Showcased Hidden Talent Among Children



ing force"—says that "it has

literature and paint a lot.

the violent territory though.'

avoided, noted Kathjoo.

given me a new lease of life, or perhaps I should

"My upbringing was somewhat upset-

ting, and because my point of view was not

always appreciated, I may have developed

a rebellious streak," Kathjoo said. "I would

attribute my resurgence to the calling of art

after wasting some of the precious years of

In order to get through that 'terrible' time,

Kathjoo used to occasionally hide behind

closed doors for fear of retribution from

various quarters, and was compelled to read

"Art has always contested hegemony of

some type, as opposed to the state's power,

which is, in my opinion, a positive indicator

in a vibrant society," he said. "We need to in-

still in our young generation a sense of ques-

tioning rather than being complacent about

things remaining still, without entering into

If younger children are given the chance

to express themselves freely through art

and other recreational activities without

the authoritative control, some undesirable

areas-drugs, corruption, moral turpitude.

intolerance, aggression, etc.-can easily be

Muslims have made to music and art, it is

ludicrous for some to believe that some activities are prohibited by Islam," he said.

"Any society that lacks a creative output via

CEO of Green Valley, Mohammad Yousuf

Wani, while commenting on the need to of-

fer the children a fair platform, stated that

"Given the significant contributions that

my life in the most reckless way possible."

Farooq Shah

adrun Nisa. research Da scholar at the University of Kash-Department of English, recalls listening to her grandfather recite the poem

written by Saadi and Hafiz as a young girl. Her artwork, which focused on spirituality and Sufism, were immensely appreciated by the visitors to the two-day art exhibition organized by one of the valley's top schools on 29-30 November at the Tourism Department's Nigeen Club in Srinagar.

The exhibition themed "Sat Rang," meaning "seven colours," featured some 400 art-pieces created by the students of Green Valley Educational Institute, some of whom were as young as eight years old.

The exhibition provided the visitors with a rare opportunity to recognize the hidden potential of the children as they browsed through the many sections, which included bone-carving, watercolour painting, calligraphy, and pencil sketching.

Numerous dignitaries, including the popular cartoonist Bashir Ahmad Bashir and well-known national artist Deepa Soni visited the exhibition.

Quoting the Italian polymath Leonardo da Vinci, "Painting is poetry that is felt rather than seen, and poetry is painting that is felt rather than seen," Nisa described how

poets and

person-

alities.

nota-

drove her into

painting.

the world of

In one of the paintings in which she portrays a turbaned mystic with folded hands, she strives to establish a link between the guide and the seeker while keeping in mind the enduring relationship between Amir Khusrau and Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya.

Khusrau, an Indo-Persian Sufi singer, musician, poet, and scholar who lived under the Delhi Sultanate in the thirteenth century, is a legendary character in the history of the Indian subcontinent.

Nisa said that while speech and writing can be susceptible to many different types of censorship, art transcends both restrictions and constraints and offers a platform unlike any other for expressing the pent-up feelings.

"People of straw will never really get the beauty or complexity of the art, and those who do will fully comprehend the struggles that people in that specific age or epoch face." Nisa said. "The event planners deserve praise for putting together such a diverse display serving well in providing a right platform amid living in a choked en-

Showkat Kathjoo, a teacher at the Universitv of Kashmir's Institute of Music and Fine Arts, concurs

Nisa in saying that art is perceived as a challenging authority the face of the hegemony of whatever nature which, in essence, it is not. After going through a "disturbing" period in his personal life, Kathjoo-who compares art

every child around us is an artist. "As a result of Green Valley Educational Institute's leadership in encouraging initiatives that bring out the best in kids, you may witness artists as young as eight taking part in the show," Wani said. "Without supporting our artists, we'll end up sacrificing our imagination on the altar of primitive reality."

its youth is doomed to perish."

Wani commended the activity department of his school in pulling up such a fantastic event on a brief notice.

Shaheena Parveen, who heads the art department, said that ever since she graduated from the Fine Art College, she has yearned to

moon and thanked her school for organizing such an event while likening it to a dream-come-true experience.

"This type of event should occur more frequently since, for whatever reason, Kashmir lags behind other places in this area,"

In response to Zainab's concern, Director of School Education, Dr. Tasaduq Hussain, who visited the exhibition on the second day, said he would assist in planning a larger event in the future.

"Sadly we have

not been

the tools they need to develop their artistic ability." Hina Arif, who is a recent hire in the art department, h a s

generation.

been a part of several exhibitions held in India and has put at least 10 of her paintings for display. Her artwork, especially the one showing an aged Kashmiri Pandit woman

their perspectives.

depicting the plight of her community, was the event's main draw. Hina feels encouraged by the likelihood that students would pursue art in shaping

the torch to the next

"Be it engineering, medicine, de-

sign, literature, or any other field, the application of art is evident in

many facets of life," she said. "We

when we were young to develop

any creative traits, but children

nowadays have easy access to

didn't have the right opportunities

"I find it really encouraging that young children have a talent for choosing the proper colour, and I've had some luck explaining to them the feelings that a specific colour conjures up," Hina said. "We made sure the children had the right knowledge of how colours are used and the feelings they convey before we went to the show.

According to Nusrat, a colleague of Hina's, child art is more successful at highlighting a child's true nature since kids don't go deeply into the details. Another colleague, Mufra advocated for more such exhibitions to free the genie of creativity bottled up for whatever reasons.

A shy-looking Muntasir whose pencil sketches enthralled the visitors said he discovered the art of sketching all of a sudden when his elder brother asked for a birthday

able to showcase the

talent of kids at a higher level and the need of the hour is to propagate this on a larger scale," he said. "Moreover, the new educa-

tion policy, NEP-2020, lays emphasis on vocational education and exhibitions such as these can act as a guiding force.'

Nisa shares the director's skepticism that more needs to be done in this area with a shift in perspective among the parents and the civic society.

"Unfortunately, these days, we are more into materialism than spirituality," she said. "In reality, we are spiritual beings first, human beings later."

-The author is a senior journalist based in



Researchers **Suggest New Way Of Treating Spinal Cord Injury**

Spinal Cord Injury remains one of the most debilitating traumatic injuries a person can sustain during their lifetime, affecting every aspect of the person's life

n innovative new substance created at the University of Limerick in Ireland has shown a great deal of potential in the treatment of spinal cord injury. The research conducted at UL's Bernal Institute—published in the journal Biomaterials Research—has made exciting progress in the field of spinal cord tissue repair.

New hybrid biomaterials developed at UL in the form of nanoparticles and building on existing practice in the tissue engineering field, were successfully synthesised to promote repair and regeneration following spinal cord injury, according to the researchers.

The UL team led by Professor Maurice N Collins, Associate Professor, School of Engineering at UL and lead author Aleksandra Serafin, a PhD candidate at UL, used a new kind of scaffolding material and a unique new electrically conducting polymer composite to promote new tissue growth and generation that could advance the treatment of spinal cord injury.

"Spinal Cord Injury remains one of the most debilitating traumatic injuries a person can sustain during their lifetime, affecting every aspect of the person's life," explained Professor Collins.

"The debilitating disorder results in paralysis below the level of injury and, in the US alone, the annual healthcare costs for SCI patient care are \$9.7 billion. As there is currently no widely available treatment, continuous research into this field is crucial to find a treatment to improve the patient's quality of life, with the research field turning towards tissue engineering for novel treatment strategies.

The field of tissue engineering aims to solve the global problem of shortages of donated organs and tissues, in which a new trend has emerged in the form of conductive biomaterials. Cells in the body are affected by electrical stimulation, especially cells of a conductive nature such as cardiac or nerve cells," Professor Collins explained

The research team describes a growing interest in the use of electroconductive tissue engineered scaffolds that has emerged due to the improved cell growth and proliferation when cells are exposed to a conductive scaffold.

"Raising the conductivity of biomaterials to develop such treatment strategies typically centres on the addition of conductive components such as carbon nanotubes or conductive polymers such as PEDOT:PSS, which is a commercially available conductive polymer that has been used to date in the tissue engineering field, explained lead author Aleksandra Serafin, a PhD candidate in the Bernal and at UL's Faculty of Science and Engineering.

"Unfortunately, severe limitations persist when using the PEDOT:PSS polymer in biomedical applications. The polymer relies on the PSS component to allow it to be water soluble, but when this material is implanted in the body, it displays poor biocompatibility.

This means that upon exposure to this polymer, the body has potential toxic or immunological responses, which are not ideal in an already damaged tissue which we are trying to regenerate. This severely limits which hydrogel components can be successfully incorporated to create conductive scaffolds," she added.

Novel PEDOT nanoparticles (NPs) were developed in the study to overcome this limitation. Synthesis of conductive PEDOT NPs allows for the tailored modification of the surface of the NPs to achieve desired cell response and increasing the variability of which hydrogel components can be incorporated, without the required presence of PSS for water solubility.

In this work, hybrid biomaterials composed of gelatin and immunomodulatory hyaluronic acid, a material which Professor Collins has developed over many years at UL, was combined with the developed novel PEDOT NPs to create biocompatible electroconductive scaffolds for targeted spinal cord injury repair.

A complete study of the structure, property, and function relationships of these precisely designed scaffolds for optimised performance at the site of injury was carried out, including invivo research with rat spinal cord injury models, which was undertaken by Ms Serafin during a Fulbright research exchange to the University of California San Diego Neuroscience Department,

who were a partner on the project.
"The introduction of the PEDOT NPs into the biomaterial increased the conductivity of samples. In addition, the mechanical properties of implanted materials should mimic the tissue of interest in tissue engineered strategies, with the developed PEDOT NP scaffolds matching the mechanical values of the native spinal cord," explained the researchers

Biological response to the developed PEDOT NP scaffolds was studied with stem cells in-vitro and in animal models of spinal cord injury invivo. Excellent stem cell attachment and growth on the scaffolds was observed, they reported.

Testing showed greater axonal cell migration towards the site of spinal cord injury, into which the PEDOT NP scaffold was implanted, as well as lower levels of scarring and inflammation than in the injury model which had no scaffold, according to the study

Overall, these results show the potential of these materials for spinal cord repair, say the

"The impact that spinal cord injury has a on a patient's life is not only physical, but also psychological, since it can severely affect the patient's mental health, resulting in increased incidence of depression, stress, or anxiety,' explained Ms Serafin.

"Treating spinal injuries will therefore not only allow for the patient to walk or move again but will allow them to live their lives to their full potential, which makes projects such as this one so vital to the research and medical communities. In addition, the overall societal impact in providing an effective treatment to spinal cord injuries will lead to a reduction in health care costs associated with treating patients.

"These results offer encouraging prospects for patients and further research into this area is planned.

'Studies have shown that the excitability threshold of motor neurons on the distal end of a spinal cord injury tends to be higher. A future project will further improve the scaffold design and create conductivity gradients in the scaffold, with the conductivity increasing towards the distal end of the lesion to further stimulate neurons to regenerate," she added.

Get Your Posture Right While Using Mobiles Or Be Ready To Suffer Back, Neck Pain

IANS

ith the growing addiction of mobile phones, people are also becoming victims of degenerative spinal changes, especially in the cervical, thoracic and lumbar regions.

Our posture at the time of receiving and making mobile calls can potentially give rise to musculoskeletal issues. A host of studies have linked the wrong posture while using phones with pain and dysfunction.

The joints of the body suffer from wear and tear process while it is active and it gets repaired during the period of rest. If we use the joints in abnormal posture for long time or pressure the joints in a single posture for long times, it will suffer for more wear and tear and one point will come where the wear and tear will be more in comparison with the repairs and the degeneration will start in the joints, Dr Uma Kumar, Head of Department, Rheumatology, AIIMS, told IANS.

"When we hold the mobile in

hands, not only the fingers are used but our hands, elbow, muscle and neck are involved as we usually watch the mobile while bending the neck from netural position which is over the head and complete straight," Dr Kumar said.

AIIMS doctor said that there is a constant weight of brain, skull and muscles over the neck which falls on cervical spine. So if we work or watch the mobile in wrong way, the weight proportionally increase the pressure on the spine and muscles creating pains.

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Jammu & Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing & Processing Corporation (JKHPMC) Ltd Horticulture Department, Jammu & Kashmir Government

Opposite Presentation Convent School, Rajbagh, Srinagar-190008, J&K

No : JKHPMC/eNIT 109 of 2022 Dated: 05-12-2022

Subject: Corrigendum-2 with respect to eNIT No. 109 of 2022, dated: 03-09-2022, re-tendered on 21-11-2022.

Dt: 06/12/2022

In respect of the e-Tender for "Request for Proposal for Re-tender for Selection of Agency for Operation and Management (0&M) of Incubation Centres established under PM FME Scheme at CIC - Doabgah, Sopore, Baramulla (Package -1), CIC - Achabal, Anantnag (Package -2) and CIC - Narwal, Jammu, (Package -3) in J&K, the following Changes shall take immediate effect: "Section 2.8 RFP Highlights" shall now be read as:

"Rs 2,50,000/- for each CIC, Renewable after each year" instead of "Rs 5,00,000/- for each CIC, Renewable after each

v. Minimum Reserve Price

"minimum Rs 5,00,000/- per year for each CIC..." instead of : "minimum Rs 8,00,000/- per year for each

Other Terms and Conditions shall remain the same unless notified otherwise.

Managing Director

No: JKHPMC/MD/22/4000 DIPK-NB-5406/22



Sterlite Power Acquires Kishtwar Transmission Project In J&K



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Sterlite Power, an integrated power transmission developer and solutions provider, on Tuesday said it has acquired a Kishtwar transmission project for a period of 35 years.

Kishtwar Transmission Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) from PFC Consulting Limited (PFCCL), was awarded to Sterlite Power through tariff based competitive bidding process, an official release said.

PFCCL is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC), a Maharatna public sector enterprise.

It said the project would comprise a 400/132 KV sub-station at Kishtwar and 400 KV Kishenpur-Dulhasti LILO (Line in Line out) transmission line.

"The transmission system will be used for evacuation of 1,000

Hydro Electric Project to the Kishtwar sub-station," the official said, adding, "through the Kishtwar Transmission Limited SPV, the company will build, own, operate and maintain a critical transmission project in Jammu and Kashmir for a period of 35 years.

Director and Chief Executive Officer - India Transmission Business, Sterlite Power, Manish Agarwal said they are committed to empowering humanity by ensuring power connectivity through its power transmission projects.

"With Kishtwar transmission project, we aim to further strengthen the power infrastructure and usher economic development in the J&K region," Agarwal said.

This will be Sterlite Power's 17th power transmission project in India under the tariff-MW of power from Pakal Dul based competitive bidding.

World Bank Revises Upwards India's GDP Growth Forecast To 6,9% For FY23

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The World Bank on Tuesday revised upwards its GDP growth forecast for India to 6.9 per cent for 2022-23, saying the economy was showing higher resilience to global shocks.

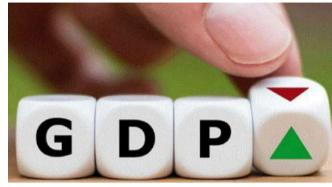
In its India Development Update, the World Bank said the revision was due to higher resilience of the Indian economy to global shocks and betterthan-expected second quarter numbers.

India's economy grew at 6.3 per cent in September quarter 2022-23 as compared to 13.5 per cent in the preceding June quarter, mainly on account of contraction in output of manufacturing and mining sectors.

This is the first upgrade of India's growth forecast by any international agency amid the global turmoil.

In October, the World Bank had cut India's GDP growth forecast to 6.5 per cent from 7.5 per cent earlier. Now, it has upgraded the projection to 6.9 per cent for 2022-23 (April 2022 -March 2023).

The report titled 'Navigating the Storm', said while the deteriorating external environment will weigh on India's growth prospects, the economy is relatively well positioned to weather global spillovers compared to most other emerging markets.



Impact of a tightening global monetary policy cycle, slowing global growth and elevated commodity prices will mean that the Indian economy will experience lower growth in 2022-23 compared to 2021-22 (8.7 per cent), it said.

Despite these challenges, it said, the update expects India to register a strong GDP growth and remain one of the fastest growing major economies in the world, due to a robust domestic demand.

"The World Bank has revised its 2022-23 GDP forecast upward to 6.9 per cent from 6.5 per cent (in October 2022), considering a strong outturn in India in second quarter (July-September) of 2022-23 financial year," the India Development Update said.

"India's economy has been remarkably resilient to the deteriorating external environment, and strong macroeconomic fundamentals have placed it in good stead compared to other emerging market economies," World Bank's Country Director in India Auguste Tano Kouame told re-

However, he said, continued vigilance is required as adverse global developments persist.

The report projected that the Indian economy will grow at slightly lower rate of 6.6 per cent in 2023-24.

"A challenging external envi-ronment will affect India's economic outlook through different channels...rapid monetary policy tightening in advanced economies has already resulted in large portfolio outflows and depreciation of the Indian rupee while high global commodity prices have led to a widening of the current account deficit,"

Why Plan To Revive Jet Airways Is In A Mess

Bloomberg

NEW DELHI: Lenders to bankrupt Jet Airways India Ltd. are resisting a court-approved resolution plan, further delaying the former No. 1 private airline's return to the skies, according to people familiar with the matter and email communications seen by Bloomberg News.

The primary dispute is about whether the new owners of Jet Airways need to pay more money into the pension funds of exemployees, the people said, asking not to be identified because they're not authorized to speak publicly about the matter.

Banks, led by State Bank of India, say Jet Airways' new buyers -Dubai-based businessman Murari Lal Jalan and Florian Fritsch, chairman of London-based Kalrock Capital Management Ltd. - should pay an additional 2.5 billion rupees (\$30.1 million) into the retirement kitty, the people said, an ask supported by the email exchanges reviewed by Bloomberg.

The new owners meanwhile have indicated that extra money wasn't part of the already agreed upon resolution plan and instead must be taken out of the banks' dues, the people said. All parties are now awaiting fresh guidance from the bankruptcy court due Tuesday, the people said.

A representative for Jet Airways, which also represents the consortium led by Jalan and Fritsch, declined to comment. State Bank of India and Ashish Chhaw-

chharia, the court-appointed professional running the carrier's insolvency, didn't immediately respond to messages and phone calls seeking comment.

A revival of Jet Airways, previously majority owned by former billionaire Naresh Goyal, is key to burnish the image of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is projecting himself as a marketfriendly leader keen to reduce state interference in private enterprise ahead of elections in 2024.

For Jet Airways, a second coming could exemplify how new bankruptcy rules can allow beleaguered carriers to spring back in the South Asian nation, known for its cut-throat aviation market and fare wars that have killed off several high profile players over the years.

Jet Airways collapsed in 2019 under a lot of debt after years as India's top private airline. It had promised to start flying again in March this year but has struggled to order new aircraft because lenders have been reluctant to take on fresh liabilities. Its new owners also still haven't reached an agreement about formally taking over the airline, the people familiar with the matter said, limiting the ability of Jalan and Fritsch to infuse more funds and order planes.

The issue of paying more money into the pension funds of former employees came about after a fresh case was filed at the tribunal after the courtapproved resolution had been finalized.

Toyota Kirloskar Recalls Around 1,000 Units Of Urban Cruiser Hyryder



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Toyota Kirloskar Motor on Tuesday said it is re-calling around 994 units of its recently launched mid-sized sports utility vehicle Urban Cruiser Hyryder to fix a faulty seat belt part.

said it has initiated a voluntary recall campaign for certain Urban Cruiser Hyryder units to investigate for a possible issue with front seat belt shoulder height adjuster plate assembly.

Around 994 vehicles of the specified models may have been impacted by this concern, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) said in a statement.

The front seat belt shoulder height adjuster plate assembly will be replaced from the sus-

pected vehicles, it added. The recall is being initiated in-line with the company's commitment to customer safety and satisfaction, the automaker said.

Till date there have been no reported failures of the affected part, it added.

TKM had launched Urban Cruiser Hyryder in July this year. The model is priced between Rs 10.48 lakh and Rs 18.99 lakh Earlier, in the day Maruti Su-

zuki India said it is recalling 9,125 units of its models Ciaz, Brezza, Ertiga, XL6 and Grand Vitara to fix possible defects in a part of the front row seat belts. The affected vehicles were

manufactured between November 2-28, 2022, the automaker said in a regulatory filing.

TKM has recently phased out the Urban Cruiser compact sports utility vehicle (SUV) from its product portfolio in the country.

The automaker introduced the model, a rebadged Maruti Vitara Brezza, in September 2020 and it registered cumulative wholesales of over 65,000 units till date.

Fitch Expects Windfall Tax To Be Phased Out In 2023

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Fitch Ratings on Tuesday said it expects the five-month-old tax on windfall profits made by oil companies to be phased out in 2023 on the back of moderating oil rates.

The government had on July 1 levied a new tax on domestically-produced crude oil as well as on the export of petrol, diesel and jet fuel (ATF) to take away windfall gains accruing to oil compa-nies from a global surge in energy prices following Russian invasion of Ukraine.

vailing international rates

The levy on petrol export has since been abolished.

"We expect the windfall taxes on domestic crude oil production levied by the government in 2022 to be phased out in 2023 with moderating prices," Fitch said in its APAC Oil & Gas Outlook 2023.

Domestically-produced crude oil, which makes up for 15 per cent of all oil consumed in the country, is priced at international rates.

With global oil prices rallying to a decade high in the aftermath of the Russia- terly losses this fiscal year as fields," Fitch said.



Ukraine war, state-owned they froze petrol and diesel Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd (OIL) raked in windfall

Fitch projected USD 85 per The tax rates are revised barrel price for Brent crude oil, though still remaining every fortnight based on pre- down from USD 100 in 2022. healthy, which should sup-It expected India's petroleum product demand recovery to be supported by a GDP growth estimate of 6.7 per cent.

"We also expect oil marketing companies (OMCs) marketing margins to recover and partly recoup 2022's losses, given our modestly lower crude-price assumptions," it said.

The three OMCs - Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation basin; OIL's upstream vol-Ltd (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) - posted back-to-back quar-

prices to help the government contain inflation.

"However, refining mar-

gins may ease to mid-cycle levels from all-time highs port im credit metrics," Fitch said adding upstream companies will see robust cash flow despite some moderation from very high levels in 2022 and higher domestic gas prices.

"We expect ONGC's upstream production volumes to rise by 3 per cent during financial year ending March 2024 (FY24), driven by production ramp-up at its KG umes are likely to grow by 4 per cent on volume-enhancement projects at existing

Global Airline Industry Set To Post \$6.9 Billion Loss In 2022: IATA

Press Trust Of India

GENEVA: The global airline industry is projected to report a lower loss at USD 6.9 billion in 2022, mainly due to stronger passenger yields and cost control by carriers amid rising fuel prices, according to industry

In June, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) projected the industry loss at USD 9.7 billion. In October 2021, it forecast a loss of USD 11.6 billion for this year.

On Tuesday, IATA said the global airline industry is expected to return to profitability in 2023 and post a small net profit of USD 4.7 billion. After being significantly im-

pacted by the coronavirus pandemic, the airline industry is on the recovery path. In 2022, airline net loss is

expected to be USD 6.9 billion. This is significantly better than loss of USD 42 billion and USD 137.7 billion in 2021 and 2020, respectively, it said.

We are on the right path... but still a long way to go," IATA Director General Willie Walsh

said at a briefing here on Tues-

For 2022, IATA said the improved prospects stem largely from strengthened yields and strong cost control in the face of rising fuel prices.

"Passenger yields are expected to grow by 8.4 per cent (up from 5.6 per cent anticipated in June). Propelled by that strength, passenger revenues are expected to grow USD 438 billion (up from USD 239 billion

In the Asia Pacific region, airlines are projected to post a loss of USD 10 billion this year and the loss is expected to narrow to USD 6.6 billion in 2023.

The Asia Pacific region, IATA said, is critically held back by the impact of China's zero CO-VID policies on travel.

"In 2023, passenger demand of 59.8 per cent is expected to outpace capacity growth of 47.8 per cent. Over the year, the region is expected to serve 70.8 per cent of pre-crisis demand levels with 75.5 per cent of precrisis capacity," the industry grouping said. IATA is a global grouping of around 290 airlines.

Airtel Phases Out **International Roaming Packs**

NEW DELHI: Eyeing overseas travellers, Bharti Airtel has phased out its international mobile roaming schemes and introduced a new plan, World Pass, covering 184 countries, and slashed basic data rates by 99 per cent in the listed roaming nations, accord-

ing to a company's statement and sources. The company is allowing post-paid customers to shift to new plan without paying extra on their existing international roaming plans. "The feedback that we have heard on international travel related concerns has compelled us to launch a defining proposition for our customers -- the Airtel World Pass. The new postpaid plans under World Pass range between Rs 649 and Rs 14,999 with validity ranging from 1 to 365 days. The new pre-paid plans will cost between Rs 649 to Rs 2,997 with validity in the range of 1 to 365 days.

The company's website shows that it has slashed basic data rates in the countries covered under "World Pass" to Rs 1.5 per megabyte (MB), or Rs 1,536 per GB, in 119 countries like US, UK, Nepal, China, Russia, UAE, Saudi Arabia etc, and to Rs 3 per MB, or Rs 3,072 per GB, in 65 countries like South Africa, Mauritius, Maldives, Mali, Egypt etc. The new rates reflect over 99 per cent reduction in standard basic data rates of international roaming (IR) packs. PTI

Sebi Relaxes Rules For Govt For PSU Disinvestment

MUMBAI: Capital markets regulator Sebi can calm down regulatory norms for the central government in relation to strategic disinvestment of public sector undertakings (PSUs), in response to a notification. "The Board (Sebi) may after due consideration of the interest of the investors and the securities market and for the development of the securities market, relax the strict enforcement of any of the requirements of these regulations if an application is made by the Central Government in relation to its strategic disinvestment in a listed entity," Sebi mentioned in a notification made public on Tuesdav.

To give this impact, the regulator has amended LODR (Listing Obligations and disclosure Requirements) norms. Earlier in September, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had determined to dispense with a requirement for calculating open provide value with respect to the disinvestment of PSUs.

As per Sebi norms, one of many parameters prescribed to find out the open provide value of a often traded scrip is Volume-Weighted Average Market Price (VWAMP) for 60 buying and selling days instantly previous the date of the general public announcement.

The board of Sebi permitted amending the takeover rules within the context of strategic disinvestment of PSUs and consideration payable below open provide. PTI

FPO Office For Trout Fisheries Inaugurated At Anantnag

SHORT TAKES

ANANTNAG: Glacial Trout Fisheries FPO promoted under NABARDs FPO scheme was Tuesday jointly inaugurated by DDM NABARD Rouf Zargar and Deputy Director Fisheries Mohammad Sideeq in presence of Board of Directors (BoDs) of FPO, fish farmers and field staff of fisheries department at Seer Anantnag.

On the occasion, a five day training programme was also kick-started for the Board of Directors and the CEO of the FPO.

It is worth mentioning here that the said FPO was recently incorporated as J&Ks first fisheries FPO under the name "Glacial Trout FPO" under a grant based project by NAB-ARD. The FPO has been promoted by the Human Welfare Foundation NGO and is being guided by the Department of Fisheries.

Highlighting the importance of FPOs, DDM NABARD said that the Government is keen to promote FPO in every commodity to upscale the production and control the prices by farmers. He said that FPOs can instill business sense in farmers and make them realize the best price for their commodities without having to rely on the middlemen.

On the occasion, Deputy Director Fisheries, Mohammad Sideeq highlighted various centrally sponsored schemes and flagship programs run by the Fisheries Department for the welfare and development of the fishermen community of the region. ons

Dir Agri Chairs Meeting Of Organic/Bio Fertilizer Companies

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal Tuesday chaired a meeting of organic/bio-fertilizer companies at Agriculture Complex Lalman-

The meeting was attended by Deputy Controller Fertilizer J&K Mohammad Sayeed Peer, Deputy Director Law Enforcement Srinagar, Assistant Director Law Enforcement Srinagar, District Law Enforcement Officer south/north, representatives of organic/bio fertilizers companies, representatives of Ms IFCL, IFFCO, NFL, IPL, KRIBHCO and other concerned stakeholders.

During the meeting, various issues related to smooth supply of fertilizers during the rabi 2022-23 were discussed threadbare.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director highlighted the importance of smooth and timely supply of fertilizers to the farmers of the region. He further exhorted upon the fertilizer supplying companies and officers of the department for liquidation of all pending stocks held in POS machines.

Director marked the importance of quality inputs especially fertilizers for the successful agriculture season in the UT. He asked the stakeholders to work in close coordination and ensure to put in all the efforts to secure the farmers' economic interests. **ONS**

Markets Settle Lower; Sensex Falls For Third Day

MUMBAI: Benchmark indices ended the day in the negative territory on Tuesday amid weak global market trends and rising crude

Falling for the third day running, the 30-share BSE benchmark ended 208.24 points or 0.33 per cent lower at 62,626.36. During the day, it tumbled 444.53 points or 0.70 per cent to 62,390.07.

The broader NSE Nifty declined 58.30 points or 0.31 per cent to end at 18,642.75.

"Bears kept pushing domestic indices lower amid unfavourable global cues, with significant selling in metal and IT stocks. The mood was dampened by renewed concerns over policy tightening by the Fed in response to strong economic data out of the US. However, while easing COVID curbs in China benefited the demand outlook, fresh sanctions on Russian oil further added volatility to global oil markets. Investors at home await the RBI policy meet tomorrow," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit

Financial Services. Among the Sensex pack, Tata Steel, Dr Reddy's, Infosys, State Bank of India, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Tata Consultancy Services, Tech Mahindra, HCL Technologies and Maruti were the major laggards. Hindustan Unilever, UltraTech Cement, Power Grid and Nestle were among the winners. PTI

Real Kashmir Beat Deccan 2-1 To Top I-League Table







I-LEAGUE: Real Kashmir's Ghanian import Issahak Nuhu Seidu jumps highest as Sreenidi Deccan players jostle for the ball. Seidu was replaced by the eventual match winner Ibrahim Nurudeen, who scored a half-volley in the 94th minute, much to the joy of the jam-packed TRC.

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Ibrahim Nurudeen struck a brace to guide Real Kashmir to a 2-1 victory over Sreenidi Deccan in a sixthround match of the I-League, here on

The 'Snow Leopards' trailed until the hour mark after Sreenidi Deccan struck through Asheer Akhtar in the 12th minute but the home side made a remarkable comeback to notch up its fifth win of the season at the TRC Stadium.

Nurudeen restored parity in the 61st minute by converting from the spot and scored the winner in the stoppage time to hand his side all the three points.

The win saw Real Kashmir maintain their top spot in the I-League table with 16 points. They have been unbeaten this season with five wins and one draw.

Sreenidi Deccan took the lead against the run of play after a corner kick taken by Faysal Shayesteh was flicked onto the far post by captain David Castañeda. It found Asheer Akhtar, who volleyed it into the open net.

Real Kashmir went close to scoring the equaliser in the 26th minute. Set-piece specialist Nozim Babadzhanov laid his corner for Lalnuntluanga Bawitlung on the edge of the penalty area but the midfielder skied his shot above the bar.

Real Kashmir brought in Ibrahim Nurudeen, who had made a positive impact from the bench in his previous outing, in the second half in place of Nuhu, which proved to be the master-

The Ghanaian substitute went close with his first touch in the 51st minute, his header from Babadzhanov's corner going just wide of the post.

Five minutes later, Nurudeen was again in the thick of things as he found himself with ample space in the Sreenidi half. The striker then pulled the trigger from over 25 yards out but his powerful shot was tipped over the bar by the visiting goalkeeper Lamba.

At the hour mark, Real Kashmir were awarded a penalty kick. Pulamte's shot from inside the box was handled by Sreenidi defender Awal in his attempt to block the effort. Nurudeen stepped up to take the penalty, sending Lamba the wrong way to bag the equaliser for the home side.

Nurudeen then won the match for

Real Kashmir right at the death. Wadudu sent a chipped ball for the striker in the box, who unleashed a powerful half-volley into the top corner, leaving Lamba with no chance in the Sreenidi Deccan goal.

"The boys simply lived up to the occasion and gave their best to keep the flag of Snow Leopards flying," said RKFC coach Mehrajuddin Wadoo.

"It was a formidable challenge to beat a team like Sreenidi Deccan. The team played exceptionally well to stage a comeback after being down 0-1 in the first half," said RKFC chairman Sandeep Chattoo, who thanked the local people and administration for their

After all my boys are poster boys for the local populace," the top boss said.







Ladakh Football Team All Set To Make History

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: UT Ladakh's senior men's football team is set to make history by making its debut in the upcoming 73rd Santosh Trophy. The selection trials of the team came to an end with around 25 probables being shortlisted for a training camp before the national championship.

The selections trials were held under the supervision of International Football Coach from Jammu and Kashmir and AFC Coach Educator, Sajid Yousuf Dar. His services were utilised to help LFA shortlist and finalise the squad for the

"Sajid with his vast experience in the field of football will surely help and guide LFA to develop the game of football in Ladakh region and we hope he will provide us all his technical support whenever needed. We are also thankful to Hon'ble Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof Nilofar Khan and Registrar Dr Nisar Ahmed Mir for deputing Mr Sajid on short no-



tice in these climatic conditions of Leh and providing us the much needed support required to select the team for the upcoming Santosh Trophy to be held at Delhi from 23rd December," the LFA said in a statement.

'We hope that the competent authorities of University of Kashmir will keep on supporting us to uplift and develop the sports culture in UT of Ladakh said Ravinder Kumar, Secretary LG Ladakh and Secretary Youth Services and

This is the first time in the history of Ladakh Football they will be framing their own team in a prestigious tournament of the country.

"I have seen some talent over here but it's too early to say how they will perform and respond to the conditions. Our job was to select/shortlist the best possible side out of the squad what we have got. We have shortlisted 25 players who will go under two weeks camp before the team leaves for Delhi and I hope that LFA with the land up in Delhi a week before in order to get themselves acclimatised," Coach Sajid said.

"The team has got the young and talented coach Harpreet Bedi with

them and I believe during these two weeks he will prepare them well for the competition. Hats off to LFA and Ladakh Administration for showing the faith and confidence in providing such a big platform to the players of Ladakh.

"By participating in these kind of tournaments will surely boost up the moral and motivate the players of Ladakh region. I would also like to add here that our department will always try to provide all its technical support and guidance to develop the sports in Ladakh reion whenever needed.

My best wishes to LFA and all the members of Ladakh Football Team for the upcoming Santosh Trophy."

EC, LAHDC Leh, Stanzin Chospel along with LFA Chairman Tashi Khachu discussed the future roadmap of football development in adakh. Development of infrasupport of the administration will structure being the top most priority. Special focus projects on the grassroots were identified as the key points for the talent identification and development of football at block and district level.

India Faces Heat In Must-Win 2nd ODI

Press Trust of India

DHAKA: Trying to pick up pieces after a demoralis-ing defeat, India's decorated top-order will be desperate to change the narrative and give a better account of itself in the do-or-die second ODI against Bangladesh in Mirpur, Dhaka on Wednesday.

Having failed to take the last wicket when Bangladesh needed more than 50 runs, India's bowlers could not deliver but there is no denying the fact that a star-studded batting lineup needs to show more responsibility.

The last time India played a bilateral series in Bangladesh was back in 2015 hen under Mahendra Singh Dhoni, the team lost the three-match series 1-2 and the only win came in the dead third rubber.

History could repeat itself at the Sher-e-Bangla Stadium if spinners Shakib Al Hasan and Mehidy Hasan Miraj can once again keep the Indian batters under wraps between overs 11-40.

That was the real period of struggle for all Indian batters, save KL Rahul (73 off 70 balls) who was the best player on show in the opening game.

While there are still 10 months left for the ODI World Cup, it is not yet clear what exactly will be Indian team's approach.

The talks around adopting a 'fearless approach' has been going on for some time but its implementation has only been sporadic. At times, adapting to conditions and reacting to situations has got more prominence.

The track at Mirpur wasn't exactly a batting beauty but it also didn't warrant a score

The erstwhile selection committee's decision to rest both Shubman Gill and Sanju Samson for this series has been equally baffling.

The logic given by the former chairman of selectors Chetan Sharma was that due to a short turnaround from New Zealand, they have picked a fresh bunch of players for the series

Gill wasn't a part of T20 World Cup and also didn't play the T20 series in New Zealand (he was part of the squad though) and hence leaving him out was baffling.

LG's Rolling Trophy: Ganderbal, **Anantnag Enter Semi-Finals**



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing LG's Rolling Trophy Cricket, Department of Youth Services & Sports District Anantnag held the Day 5 Pool A and B matches at two venues on Tuesday.

At Sports Stadium Mattan, District Kupwara played District Anantnag for the league match of Pool B to secure a spot in the Semi-Final of the competition. Batting first, Kupwara was restricted to 152 runs in the allotted 20 overs game. Junaid and Anwar were top scores for Kupwara with 53 and 44, respectively. For Anantnag, Aamir and Tabraiz claimed 3 and 2 wickets, respectively.

In response, the Anantnag batters played well with Tabraiz (40 in 18 balls) and Jasif (36 runs) keeping the team afloat. The power hitting of Tabraiz (Asif Mughal) secured easy win for District Anantnag, as the team won the match by six wickets. Tabraiz was declared man of the match for his runs of 45 balls and 1 wicket.

brilliant all round performance. The Anantnag side has remained unbeaten in this tournament.

In the second match, District Ganderbal sealed its place in Semi-Finals from Pool A at Lelhar Open Field Pulwama by defeating Budgam.

Budgam after winning the toss decided to bat first and scored 172 runs for 9 wickets in their allotted 20 overs as Tajamul scored 46 runs. Ganderbal achieved the target in the last over. Danish Muzaffer was the top scorer from the side with 52 runs and was declared man of the match.

In another match at Sports Stadium Pulwama, Shopian played Baramulla. Winning the toss, Shopian decided to bat first and scored 153 runs for the loss of 6 wickets. Saleem made 77 of 45 runs. In reply, Baramulla won the match by 5 wickets as Muntazir was the top scorer with 77 runs of 55 balls. Muntazir Mir was declared man of the match for his magnificent 77

NIT Srinagar Enters Inter-NIT Faculty Cricket Final

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing, All India Inter-NIT Faculty and Staff Cricket Tournament played at DNC Cricket Academy Ground Nagpur, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar on Tuesday defeated NIT Jaipur by three runs and entered the finals of the mega tournament.

The tournament is being hosted by Visvesvarya National Institute of Technology (NIT) Nagpur and 20 NITs from across India are participating in the mega event.

on the last ball and won the match by 3 runs.

In the bowling department, Dr. Shakeek Waseem took 5 wickets in his allotted quota of 4 overs. Other bowlers also helped to restrict the opposition below the target.

In the first match on Tuesday morning, NIT Srinagar defeated NIT Kurukshetra and entered into the Semifinals. After winning the toss, NIT Srinagar opted to bat first and scored 160 runs in the allotted quota of 16 Overs.

Captain Faisal Irshad (Dy Registrar Administration) played an un-



Batting first, NIT Srinagar scored 157 runs in which Captain Faisal Irshad (Dy Registrar Administration) played a vital knock of 49 runs and Dr. Tanveer Rasool scored

target 157 runs set by NIT Srinagar

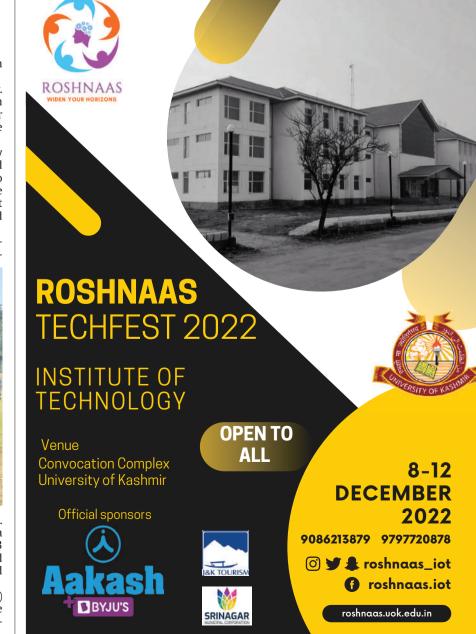
and the contest proved to be nail

bitting as NIT Srinagar triumphed

quick fire 38 runs. NIT Jaipur failed to chase the

beaten knock of 88 of 52 deliveries. While chasing NIT Kurukshetra were bundled out for a meager 93 runs. Dr. Shakeel Waseem bowled with a nagging line and length and took 6 wickets in 3.2 overs.

Director NIT Srinagar Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal congratulated the team and said it is a proud moment for the entire institute.



Nobody Should Go To Sleep Empty Stomach, Govt's Duty To Ensure Foodgrains Reach The Last Man: SC

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: It is our culture to ensure nobody goes to sleep empty stomach, the Supreme Court said on Tuesday and asked the central government to see to it that foodgrains under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) reaches the last man.

A bench of Justices M R Shah and Hima Kohli directed the Centre to submit a fresh chart with the number of migrant and unorganised sector workers registered on eShram portal.

"It is the duty of the central government to ensure foodgrains under NFSA are reaching the last man. We are not saying that Centre is not doing anything, the Union of India has ensured foodgrains to people during Covid. At the same time, we have to see it continues. It is our culture (to ensure) that nobody goes to sleep empty stomach," the bench said.

It was hearing on its own a public interest matter related to the plight of migrant workers during the Covid pandemic and the resultant lockdowns.

Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for three social activists Anjali Bharadwaj, Harsh Mander and Jagdeep Chhokar, said the country's population has increased after the 2011 census and so has the number of beneficiaries covered under the NFSA.

He submitted many eligible and needy beneficiaries will be deprived of the benefit under the law if it is not enforced effectively.

Bhushan said the govern-ment is claiming the per capita income of people has increased in recent years, but added India has slipped rapidly in global hunger index.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati, appearing for the Centre, submitted there are 81.35 crore beneficiaries under NFSA, a very large number even in the Indian context.

The ASG said the 2011 census has not stopped the government from adding more people to the list of beneficiaries which is growing.

Bhushan interjected to say 14 states have filed affidavit stating their quota of foodgrains has been exhausted. The matter is posted for re-

sumed hearing on December 8. The top court had earlier asked the Centre to ensure the benefits of the NFSA are not limited by the 2011 census figures and more needy people should be covered under the Act, terming the "Right to Food" a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The per capita income in India has increased in real terms by 33.4 per cent since the enactment of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) in 2013, the Centre had earlier told the apex court, insisting a large number of households have transitioned to the higher income group.

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

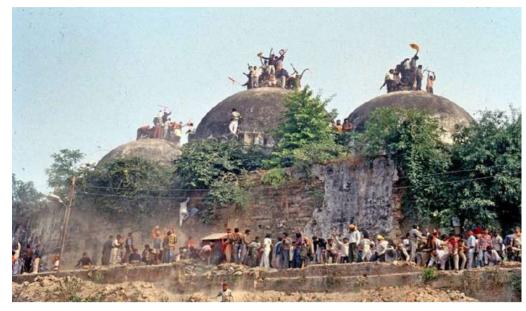
The government notified the National Food Security Act, 2013 on September 10, 2013 with the objective of providing for food and nutritional security by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity.

The Act provides for coverage of up to 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population for receiving subsidised foodgrains Targeted Distribution System (TPDS).

In July, the top court had said migrant workers play a very vital role in building the nation and their rights cannot be ignored at all, and asked the Centre to devise a mechanism so they receive foodgrains even without possessing ration cards.

It had observed that citizens are dying due to hunger **BABRI DEMOLITION ANNIVERSARY**

Little Extra Security, But Just Another Day In Ayodhya



Press Trust of India

Ayodhya: It was business as usual in the pilgrim city on Tuesday, the day that marked the 30th anniversary of the Babri mosque demolition.

In a break from the curfewlike situation on some past occasions, life remained normal in the city with schools, colleges, offices and public institutions remaining open. Police, however, remain on alert.

Like any other day, local people were seen queuing at the Ram temple complex for a 'darshan' while traffic remained heavy during morning rush hour.

Unlike in the past, the Vishwa Hindu Parishad is not celebrating any "Shaurya Diwas" (bravery day) and there are no plans by the Muslim community to observe a Black Day.

With the Supreme Court judgement in 2019 ending the Ram Janmabhoomi land dispute, people from both the communities appear to be yearning for peace.

In past years, Ayodhya used to be turned into a fortress ahead of the Babri mosque demolition anniversary. Not this time, though. Senior Superintendent of

Police, Ayodhya, Muniraj G said "routine arrangements" have been made in the city as precautionary measures.

"We are also continuously monitoring social media platforms, while hotels are also being checked," Muniraj G, who was recently appointed as the SSP of Ayohdya, tol reporters.

"All vehicles coming into Ayodhya are being thoroughly checked. Nothing unusual has been reported so far, however, we are keeping a strict vigil,' the SSP, who inspecte the city markets on Monday night, said. VHP spokesperson Sharad

Sharma told PTI on Tuesday that no event is lined up for the day on the occasion. Sharma had earlier said events

organised to mark December 6 were toned down after the Supreme Court decision "in favour of the Hindu side".

"The 'Shaurya Diwas' which used to be celebrated on December 6, it has been called off completely as our main 'sankalp' (vow) was fulfilled. And after that, all we wanted was a peaceful environment.

"So it was unanimously decided that no event that triggers any tension or hurts anyone should be organised", he has said.

He said the organisation didn't want to do anything that damages trust and communal harmony". However, many Muslims still

feel that families of those killed in the aftermath of the Babri demolition are yet to get justice. In two mosques of the city, reci-

tation of the Quran was held after early morning prayers peacefully in small gatherings on Tuesday. Babri petitioner Haji Mehboob

said, "We organised Quran Khani (recitation of Quran) in remembrance of those who lost their lives in Ayodhya after demolition of Babri Mosque. No other programmes have been planned."

Another petitioner, Iqbal Ansari said,"After the Supreme Court judgment, Muslims have forgotten everything. Ayodhya is dharam ki nagri (City of Dharma)... we have left behind what happened 30 years ago and are now talking of development."

Three decades after the demolition of the Babri mosque, people in the city seem to have moved on and appear to be treating its anniversary on Tuesday almost like any other day.

Booking For Attari-Wagah Retreat Ceremony To Go Online From Jan 1: BSF

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Visitors planning to witness the daily national flag lowering and retreat cer-emony at the Attari-Wagah front along the India-Pakistan international border in Punjab can book their seats online from the next year.

The Border Security Force (BSF), that guards the frontier and conducts the event, has launched a web portal for this purpose -- http://attari.bsf.gov.in.

'Welcome to JCP Attari website Bookings to view the Joint Retreat Ceremony can now be made online. Bookings Open from 1st January 2023," the BSF said in a public message on its Twitter handle.

At per the present system, people reach the retreat area without a prior booking and the BSF allows them to take seats in the gallery on production of an ID card.

The new facility is not chargeable and visitors will be initially allowed to book 12 persons in one group, 48 hours prior to the desired day, after furnishing photo ID card details online, a senior BSF officer said.

The booking details will be sent through an SMS on the mobile number of the group leader or the first visitor listed, he said.

The Attari border front, also called the joint check post or JCP, is located about 26 kms from Amritsar city and hundreds of domestic visitors, foreign tourists and locals go everyday to watch the daily flag lowering and retreat ceremony conducted in a synchronised fashion by smartly-dressed BSF personnel along with their counterparts Pakistan Rangers, on their side known as Wagah.

A senior officer said the website will start accepting the bookings from January 1 and an individual would be initially able to book for a group of total 12 people, 48 hours prior to the event, that starts between 3:30 pm-4 pm every evening.

The BSF has now numbered

the seats in the viewing gallery so that it can hold about 20,000-25,000 visitors daily.

"While the Attari stadia can hold about 25,000 people daily, the rush of visitors on weekends and days of national festivals like Independence Day and Republic Day swells upto as much as 40,000 persons.

"A number of people had to be turned away from the security barrier and hence it was decided by the BSF Punjab frontier that if the seats are numbered and bookings are made online, everyone will get a sure seat and a desired view,' the officer said.

"We will bring changes in the booking procedure after getting the feedback and response of the first few days," he said.

India and Pakistan have been traditionally hosting the evening flag-lowering ceremonies at the Attari-Wagah border since 1959 and the event is attended by a huge number of people from both the countries on their respective sides. The ceremony lasts between 60-120 minutes.

The BSF conducts the synchronised ceremony in coordination with their counterparts Pakistan Rangers and it involves lowering of the flags of the two countries along with foot stomping manoeuvres of the troops with patriotic songs playing in the background on the either side.

The online booking will also allow the tourists to visit the BSF museum and border pillar no 102 that is erected next to the Attari border gate.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

High-Level Delhi

Police suspect a sticky bomb might have been used to trigger the fire.

Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, was abrogated on August 2019 and the state was divided into two Union Territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and

Public Services, Facilities

that are also the best tools to improve quality of life, strengthen people's welfare mechanism, to grow the local economy and build infrastructure for a brighter future.

Underscoring that the master plan is linked to the city's growth, development and overall socio-economic development, the LG stressed that the city Master plan must reflect aspirations & needs of common man and the poor families living in the slums.

"Iammu Master Plan must focus on housing for the poor, new business centers to decongest old cities, besides planned townships for state & all India service officials," the LG said.

"Mentoring officers should work with elected public representatives, local ward members for successful execution of urban development plans," he added.

Observing that the Prime Minister has transformed Jammu into the city of educational institutions, the LG said that the city of temples known world over has also become a hub of educational Institutions as it is the only place in the country which has AIIMS, IIM, IIT and Central University.

Sinha maintained that resource mobilization is the need of the hour and it must become part of our action plan.

"Seamless online public service delivery and efforts for improved infrastructure, decongestion plan, transportation, creation of new public space, streamlining & simplification of processes to avail public services; brand positioning of the cities; One District One Product; City Livelihood Mission; beautification of cities, preservation and rejuvenation of rivers, lakes & parks are some of the important aspects of public outreach that needs focused attention,"

The 'My Town My Pride' public outreach programme lays special focus on Self-employment generation and skill development to empower youth. During MTMP Abhiyan, 25 youth from each ward are being identified for self-employment assistance and skill training.

"It is also being ensured that the schemes meant for the welfare of street vendors must reach the eligible beneficiaries," the LG said.

for organizing Swachhta Competitions in Municipal Corporations and wards, Sinha asked the Mayor, JMC and other elected representatives to explore viable plans for revenue generation in coordination with all stakeholders.

On fund flow to municipal corporations, the LG maintained that everything is being done with complete transparency and as per GFR and other rules, and nobody can be allowed to

violate those in any case; though, UT-specific flexibilities can be worked out.

"A nation is run by the constitution, by the law and people need to create a fine balance between rights and duties. Welfare of the poor is among our top priority but the people who are capable and rich must accord top priority to discharge their duties towards society and the

"The sense of duty among the citizens can help the society prosper. People need to understand that the public services and facilities are not free for all. Those who are able should come forward for paying for the government services," he added.

Earlier, the LG inspected several stalls installed by different departments and agencies of the UT administration for extending services and generating awareness among the people.

He also distributed sanction letters under the 'Laadli Beti' Scheme, cheques under State Marriage Assistance Scheme, and Wheelchairs and hearing aids to the beneficiaries.

Little Respite From

Kupwara in north Kashmir recorded minus 2.7 degrees Celsius.

The meteorological department has forecast dry weather but haze till December 8.

A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Jammu and Kashmir and adjoining areas from December 9, under the influence of which there is a possibility of light snow over the plains and lower reaches, and light-to-moderate snow over the middle and higher reaches over the next two days, the Met department said.

Kashmiri Driver

stand that he had forgotten the gold in the vehicle. "When we informed the driver, he searched his vehicle and found the gold and the same was returned to the tourist," he said. He added the tourist from Hyderabad came

back from Srinagar airport to collect the gold. Meanwhile, the tourists expressed his gratitude to the driver for returning his lost gold.

CB Files Charges

Mohammad Ramzan Sheikh Junior Assistant (now dead), Mohammad Ashraf Khan, the then Head Assistant (now dead), Mohammad Abdullah Sofi, the then Principal Govt. Higher Secondary School, Sogam (now dead) and Ghulam Nabi Mir, a beneficiary, in a case (FIR No. 65/2005 U/S 420, 467, 468, 471,201,120-B RPC) registered at the Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir seventeen years ago, a CBK spokesperson said.

The case, he said, was registered on the basis of information received through reliable sources that the officers of Education Department, District Kupwara, in league with officials of J&K BOSE Sub-office Kupwara were indulging in establishing examination centers for Class 12th examination, after preparing fake and forged documents. The motive, he said, was to enable undeserving candidates to appear in the examination.

Due to the nexus, he said, arts candidates were allowed to appear in Science subjects, with the candidates managing their success with high percentage of marks.

"On the basis of said certificates they have not only obtained admissions in professional colleges, but have also secured appointments in various Govt. Departments etc," the spokes-

Subsequently, he said, an enquiry was ordered to be conducted into the matter which culminated into registration of case FIR No 65/2005 of Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir (Now Economic Offences Wing).

"During the course of Investigation, as per evidence, both oral as well as documentary. i.e records seized during the course of investigation, statement of witnesses recorded and other corroborative evidence established, the commission of offences under section 420, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B RPC against the accused persons," he added.

J&K's Annual Budget

He said J&K's budget is expected to be presented in the parliament in the month of March 2023.

This will be the fourth t budget of Jammu and Kashmir which will be presented in the Parliament in the absence of the Legislative Assembly in the Union Territory. Jammu & Kashmir is without an elected government since June 19, 2018 after BJP withdrew support to Mehbooba Mufti-led government, citing a "deteriorating" security situation in the erst-

The budget for 2019-20 was approved by the Governor as head of the State Administrative

After J&K was downgraded into a UT in October 2019, its all budgets were presented in the Parliament due to the absence of an elected Government in UT.

Meets UNICEF India's

alternative learning, career guidance, life skills education, capacity-building, community-based learning, community-based child protection mechanisms and child protection services and other key interventions in the education sector.

"The Lt Governor assured cooperation and support of the UT administration in all its endeavours," the spokesperson added.

J&K To Bolster

helpline/grievances system to record and address citizens' grievances related to cyber theft, cyber frauds, pornography, especially (child pornography) cyber bullying.

The helpline would also advise various entities to counter cyber threats in their respective organizations with respect to computer infra,

networks and application. Having identified that cyber security is an important aspect of digital education, the document said Jammu and Kashmir will modify curriculum for high schools to include aspects of cyber security relevant to children.

The government would also perform a comprehensive revamping of the curriculum in place for master degree in the cyber security

catering to various aspects such as auditing, forensics, data management will be launched. In addition, the UT shall enter into partnerships with leading institutions around the country by identifying win-win situations for furthering its interests in cyber security," it said.

"Specialised degree and diploma programs

The document said special scholarships would be set up for students pursuing advanced academic degrees in cyber security "The Government will also launch a pro-

gram that will be accessible to all children to deal with issues such as cyberbullying, cyber etiquette, identity theft, privacy and building cyber security hygiene," the document said. As more and more human interaction is be-

good and acceptable online behavior shall be outlined and communicated. "Government will collaborate with other government and private organizations with the overall objective to build Cyber Security

ing shifted online, it said the importance of

It said emphasis would be on developing online content for all age groups of students and also focus will be on women, children and se-

nior citizens **HC Calls For**

circulars, newspapers, textbooks, Court orders.

The PIL also appealed Court to issue appropriate writ for declaring words such as mentally retarded used in Section 2(g) of The National trust for welfare of persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities act 1999 as violative of Article 14. 15 and Article 21 of Indian Constitution.

The court noted that the concern of the petitioner is that the respondents who use the language guidelines already introduced universally as prescribed and the list of words and their alternate words enumerated, mentioned, illustrated so that internal and external communications must be respectful physically as well as mentally.

"...We direct all the respondents to ensure expeditious recognition of the claim of the petitioner for the specially-abled persons. We also hope and trust that the society as a whole shall recognize their rights as guaranteed under the Constitution. The specially-abled persons be treated properly by the language recognized internationally." the court order reads.

The court also directed the government to ensure that the facilities for such persons.

The court also directed the government to ensure that in the event any specially-abled person becomes a victim of some commission of offences), the Police records their statements by approaching at their residence so as to avoid bringing them to the Police Station.

"We hope and trust that the respondents will take effective and meaningful steps for ensuring the recording of the statements of any specially-abled persons, in the eventuality we have detailed out above, at their place of convenience/residence," the order reads.

JKP DySP Loses

divorcing his first wife. The reply of his defence was examined and it was decided to have an in-depth inquiry into the charge, the order

Accordingly, an officer was appointed to inquire into the charge served upon the officer and the inquiry officer submitted the report of inquiry by concluding that Dar contracted second marriage with second wife during the subsistence of his first marriage without obtaining prior permission from the government, it said.

The competent authority, which examined the report of the inquiry officer, did not find any cogent reasons to change his decision on imposing penalty against the deputy superintendent of police, the order read.

Justice Rabstan

High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, with effect from 08.12.2022 consequent upon the retirement of Justice Ali Mohd Magrey, Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh," reads the notification issued Ministry of Law and Justice Department of Justice, Government of India.

PSA For Timber

the smuggling significantly.

DM opined that still more measures are needed for eliminating the smuggling completely in the district.

He while emphasizing on taking more result oriented measures also directed the Executive Magistrates to inspect Saw mills, joinery units and monitor their working, besides checking their source of raw material, their illicit connection with smugglers and checking their licences, whether

issued from competent authorities or not. He sought a list of top habitual offenders of forest/ timber smuggling of the district from the forest department so that action can be ini-

tiated against them under PSA. The meeting also discussed issues of people who resort to forest damage who depend to a certain extent on forests. DC intimated that those indulging in damages to forest shall be covered under different govt schemes for providing them income support.

JDP, DFOs, Tehsildar attended the meeting. **BSF Shoots Dead**

It was dense fog when the incident happened. The BSF men recovered the body in the morning when the visibility improved, they said.

A flag meeting with Pakistan Rangers was held on Monday but they refused to accept the body. However, on Tuesday, the man's son arrived there for the identification of the body, following which it was handed over to Pakistan Rangers in the evening, the BSF sources said.







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