KASHMIR OBSERVER

Thursday 09 February 2023 | 17 Rajab | 1444 Hijri | Srinagar | Vol: 25 | Issue: 35 | Pages: 08 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net ● twitter.com / kashmirobserver ● facebook.com/kashmirobserver ● Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016

3.90 Lakh Kanal State Land **Reclaimed In Kashmir So Far**

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has retrieved around 3.90 lakh kanal of state and Kahcharai land from the "illegal occupants" across Kashmir in its ongoing anti-encroachment drive so far.

An official from the Revenue Department disclosed that men and machinery were on job to retrieve the remaining 2.70 lakh kanal of land from the encroachers

The official told Kashmir Observer that most of the land has been retrieved from South Kashmir so far.

He said that nobody has been spared in the land eviction drive be it— bureaucrats, politicians and other influential persons.

The government maintained that the retrieved land is meant for various public purposes like developmental projects, playgrounds, village centric amenities, industries, etc. by the revenue officials in consultation with concerned villagers/ PRIs and sign boards are also erected immediately after the eviction drives.

Notably, the Jammu and



Kashmir government had directed removal of all encroachment on land owned by UT, including Roshni land and Kahcharai land by January 31. However the drive continued as the authorities failed to meet the deadline.

The government action has met massive protest from the people and the regional political parties. While the authorities say that the drive targets influential people only, the people say that not only the rich but many commoners, small-time shopkeepers and business fraternity are also

being targeted.

The political parties maintain that the people are not being served prior notice and a chance of hearing is being deliberately avoided.

However, the official said that not a single active residential house has been demolished so far.

"We haven't demolished an active residential house so far. Even the active residents of influential persons have been spared as of now," said the official wishing not to be named.

On Monday, former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that due process More on P6

Police Stops Mehbooba's March To Parliament

olice prevented PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti from taking out a march to Parliament here on Wednesday to protest against an ongoing anti-encroachment drive in Jammu and Kashmir. Accompanied by scores of party workers, More on P6

Protest Held Against Eviction Drive In Srinagar

he JK All Alliance **Democratic Party** held a demonstration here on Wednesday against an eviction drive launched by the Jammu and Kashmir administration to retrieve state land from encroachers. More on P6

Azad Fears Return Of Hartal, 'Stone **Pelting Culture'**

emocratic Azad Party chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Wednesday cautioned the Jammu and **Kashmir administration** against its ongoing antiencroachment drive, saying the 'hartal and stone-pelting' culture is likely to More on P6

Wet Spell Likely In Kashmir From Today

Agencies

Srinagar: The minimum temperature saw a fall at most places in Kashmir Valley with Srinagar and Qazigund too recording below sub-zero level on Wednesday.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.1°C against 2.7°C on the previous night. Today's minimum temperature, he said, was above normal by 0.3°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of minus 1.8°C against minus 0.4°C °C on the previous night and it was 0.3°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of minus 7.6°C against minus 5.9°C on the previous night and it was 1.4°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of minus 0.1°C against minus 0.7°C on the previous night and it was 1.9°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 6.5°C against minus 7.0°C on the previous night and it was 0.2°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at minus 1.9°C against minus 1.0°C on the previous night and it was 0.1°C above normal for the north Kashmir area. Jammu recorded More on P6

CRPF Trained 948 VDG Personnel In Rajouri So Far: Govt



Press Trust Of India

The CRPF is giving arms training to Village Defence Groups (VDGs) personnel in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir for their self defence against militant attacks and has given training to 948 of them last month, Union Minister of State for Home Nityanand

Rai said on Wednesday. The move came after two back-to-back terrorist attacks in the district last month. Seven people were killed and 14 injured as terrorists attacked Dhangri village in Rajouri on January 1. While five people, including two brothers, were killed after the terrorists opened fire at some houses. More on P6

Police Announces Rs 10L Reward For Info On Assailants

he Jammu and Kashmir Police has said that militants involved in the Dhangri village attack are hiding in the upper reaches of Rajouri district and announced a reward of Rs 10 lakh for anyone providing information about them. In an advisory issued on Tuesday More on P6

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister

Peace Has Returned To J&K: Thakur

nsurgent activities in the Northeast have come down by 89 per cent and cases of civilian deaths declined by 85 per cent during the last eight years, Union Minister Anurag Thakur said More on P6

Panun Kashmir Welcomes Anti-Encroachment Drive

n organisation of migrant Kashmiri Pandits has welcomed an ongoing anti-encroachment drive being carried out by the Jammu and Kashmir administration to retrieve state land and demanded the formation of an SIT to probe the role of the NC and the PDP in the alleged promotion of

separatism in the Union Territory. A statement to this effect was issued by Panun Kashmir chairman Ajay Chrungoo on Wednesday. It came at a time when several political leaders from Jammu and Kashmir, including former chief ministers Omar Abdullah of the National Conference More on P6



Manoj Sinha **Lieutenant Governor of** Jammu and Kashmir







INDIA'S BIGGEST WINTER SPORTS EXTRAVAGANZA





5 days Event

11 Games

1500+ players

29 States /UTs/ Boards



10TH - 14TH FEBRUARY 2023







DATED: 8/02/2023 DIPK-NB-6380/22

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Thursday | 09-02-2023

Is Eating Garlic On Empty Stomach Good For Health? Know Advantages And Disadvantages

arlic acts as an amazing herb that is used to enhance the flavour of many dishes. It has many health benefits as it is known for its antibacterial and anti-inflammatory qualities. Many people prefer to have raw garlic on an empty stomach as it is known to have health incentives attached to it. But, there are a few measures that need to be taken care of when consuming raw garlic on empty stomach. Check out the benefits and pitfalls of having garlic on empty stomach.

Helps in reducing cholesterol 2-3 pods of garlic, if eaten on empty stomach help in controlling high cholesterol levels. In the long run, it is said to help reduce the chance of heart problems too.

Immune booster

Garlic on empty stomach can also help to maintain a good immune system. It helps in decreasing inflammation in the body. Allicin, which is present in garlic is considered to be the best agent to prevent heart diseases and cancer.



Manages weight

Eating a few garlic cloves on empty stomach helps in reducing weight as it dissolves accumulated body fat. The boosting level which is present in garlic helps to burn the calories faster.

Controls blood pressure

Garlic is said to enlarge blood vessels which results in maintaining blood pressure. It also helps reduce blood pressure by preventing the production of angiotensin II. enhancing the availability of nitric oxide. Its anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties may further help.

Solves diarrhoea issues

Garlic flushes out toxins and helps the body to function properly. It stimulates digestion and appetite

ing of the liver and bladder. It is very effective for stomach problems like diarrhoea.

Things to keep in mind when having Garlic on an empty stomach

- Avoid eating too much garlic as it can create irritation in the stomach.
- Few people avoid garlic because of its bad smell.
- People having gastroesophageal reflux disease are advised to avoid garlic as it may create heartburn.
- A few compound present in garlic creates chest and stom-
- Garlic can cause allergies in few people and its symptoms

Hives.

- ·Tingling in the lips, or tongue.
- Decongestant, nose.
- Itchy nose.
- Sneezing.

Itchy eyes

Office Of The Medical Officer Ayush Health & Wellness **Centre Wachie District Shopian**

PUBLIC NOTICE

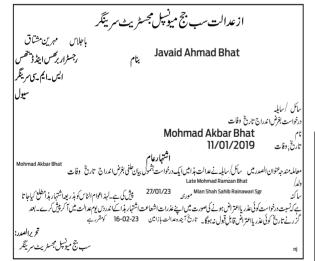
We the following persons propose to establish a non-profitable society under the name of Rogi Kalyan Samithi, Govt. Ayush Health & Wellness Centre Wachie Shopian with the Registrar of Societies J&K Srinagar, under the Societies Registration Act 1860

S.No.	Name	Designation	Position in RKS	
1.	Mohd Razzaq	Block Development Officer	Chairperson	
2.	Dr. Ashrat Ahmad Hakim	District Nodal Officer Ayush Shopian	Co- Chairperson	
3.	Dr. Shafiq Ahmad Shah	In-charge Medical Officer Ayush H &WC Wachie Shopian	Member Secretary	
4.	Mohammad Shaban Kumar	Auqaf Chairman Wachie	Member	
5.	Rehena Akhter	ICDS Supervisor	Member	
6.	Ab Rashid Lone	Eminent Citizen	Member	
7.	Bashir Ahmad Reshi	Sarpanch	Member	

Anybody having any objection on this behalf should contact the Registrar Society, Kashmir within the period of 15 Days from the date of publication of this notice. After the lapse of considerable time no objection will be entertained.

No. AHY WC/W-38 DIPK-17199/22 DATED: 08-02-2023

Medical Officer/Member Secretary RKS Govt. Ayush H &WC Wachie Shopian





I, Anan Ul Rashid Prop. of (R.G. Industries) Sale Of orchol-tso, orchol-13 at Aripanthan, Magam Applying for Agriculture License Anybody having any objection in this regard can contact office of the Plant Protection Officer Lalmandi Agriculture Office Srinagar within a period of seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

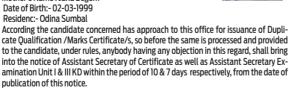
The Jammu and Kashmir **State Board Of School Education**

New Campus Bemina Srinagar

Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her Diploma qualification certificate/s issued as per below mentioned

Roll No: 2635543 Year & Session : 2017 Bi-Annual (PVT) Registration: N13460340073 Name: Mohammad Hussain Bha Father's Name: Mohammad Afzal Bhat Mother's Name: Jana Begum



(Resides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 17BI-KAM-3005920 DATED: 24 Jan, 2018 be treated as "CANCELLED")

Assistant Secretary Certificates, KD.

اجتماعي فاتحهخواتي

یی خبرانتهانی دکھ کے ساتھ دی جائی ہے کہ اہلیہ مرحوم علام محمد پال سائحنہ ہفت چنار برینگر مورخہ 7 فروری 2023 کو رحلت کرکئیں۔ مرحومہ کی اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی بروز جمعہ 10 فروری 2023 کو اُن کے آبائی ىقېره واقع رياضت ٹينگ خانيار برلب آ ىتابە عالىيە حضرت سعيدعلى" سعيد ولى^{*} مين 2 بج*گر* 30منٹ پرادا کیاجائےگا۔



The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of -- session Bi-Annual Private 2019 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

Name: Rakeena Sirai Parentage: Siraj U Din Gojjar

Roll No: 2616507 Year & Session: 2019 Bi-Annual Private

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary **Board Of School Education** Sub Office Bandipora

The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th session Annual 2021 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

Name: Rafia Jan Parentage: Shams U Din Kwaja Roll No: 32618266 Year & Session: 2021 Annual



Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

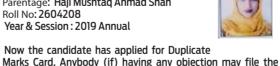
Sd/ Assistant Secretary **Board Of School Education** Sub Office Bandipora

The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 12th session Annual 2019 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

Name: Barakh Sarah Parentage: Haji Mushtag Ahmad Shah Roll No: 2604208



some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled. Sd/ Assistant Secretary

Board Of School Education Sub Office Bandipora

The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**

SUB-OFFICE BANDIPORA

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th session Annual 2021 issued by the board of School Education under Below mentioned particulars

Name: Rafia Jan Parentage: Shams U Din Kwaja Roll No: 2614240 Year & Session: 2019 Annual



Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary Board Of School Education Sub Office Bandipora

IN THE COURT OF JMIC, JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR

Present:- Ms Tabasum Mohammad Yaqoob Zeengar

Applicant

Sd/-

Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar.

(Non-Applicant) **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Whereas an application has been received from the applicant for registration of Birth of Mohammad Yaqoob Zeengar in the records of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted in writing before the undersigned within seven days from the date of this Publication. The details of the Person are as

Name:- Mohammad Yaqoob Zeengar Sex:-Male

Father's Name:-Abdul Rehman Zeengar Mother's name: Fatima

DOB: 01-01-1968 R/o: Abubakar Colony Bemina Srinagar

Place Of Birth:-At Home

Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

From the office of the Advocate Moomina

In the case of: Nazir Ahmad Darial s/o late Mohd Siddiq Darial R/o Jabgaripora Nowhatta Srinagar

> cavetor Versus

Public at large

(NON-CAVEATOS)

In the Petition in terms of Section 48-A The Caveator has reason to believe that Non-Caveators may file any Application, Petition, Appeal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hob'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrpresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back /in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveator be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Advocate

Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff

JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS AT SRINAGAR (PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC

CNR: JKSG030022872023 Date of tiling 30.01.2023

Khursheed Ahmad Sheesha S/o Late Ghulam Qadir Naqash Sheesha R/o Mir Masjid Khanyar Srinagar

Applicant

Versus Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar

Non-Applicant WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Ghulam Qadir Nagash Sheesha S/o Mohi ud din Nagash Sheesha R/o Mir Masjid Khanyar Srinagar has died 29-10-1975 the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the death particulars, Ghulam Oadir Nagash Sheesha, in the concerned register of births and deaths.

Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this publication.

> (AHTZAZ AHMED) 2nd Additional (JMIC), Srinagar

From the principal District Judge, Srinagar Present: Mr. Jawad Ahmad

In the matter of: Manzoor Ah Wani

Shaheena D/o Late Abdul Rashid Wani Shafeega D/o Late Abdul Rashid Wani 3. Misra Bano Wd/o Abdul Rashid Wani

All Residents Of Zawoora Pantha Chowk, Srinagar

V/S

Manzoor Waji

Application for issuance of Succession certificate in favour of the petitioner(s)

Notice To Public At Large Where the petitioners(s) Filed Above Titled Petiton Before This Court Of Issuance Of Succession certificate in favour of Petitioner(s) in respect of Rs 1403094 as debits and securities in name of Deceased Namely: Abdul Rahid Wani S/o Abdul Aziz Wani R/o Zawoora Pantha Chowk who died on 09-08-2021. The petition is pending disposal before this court and the next date of hearing is fixed on 27-02-2023 Public Notice is hereby issued, informing all and sundry through the drom of this proclamation that at any anyone has any objection for issuance of succession certificate, he/she / they shall appear before this court either personally or through counsel or any authorized agent and file objections on or

before 27-02-2023. Failing which the petition will be taken up and appropriate orders will be passed in the same In case, the date fixed is declared as holiday the matter shall be

taken on the next working day. Given under my hand and seal of this court on 08-02-2023 Jawad Ahmad

Principal District Judge, Srinagar

ازعدالت سب جج سپیش موبائیل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر بااجلاس:محرّمه فارقه نظیر

رحتی بیگم بنام رجمڑار بڑھس اینڈ ڈیٹھس سرینگر نونش بنام: رجيرًار برتھس اينڈ ڈيتھس سرينگر

Death case of Ghulam Mohidin Mir

معاملہ مندر دبینوان الصدر میں آپ کو تکم ہوا ہے کہ آپ عدالت بذا مین بغرض پیش کرنے عذرات بتقر 21/02/2023 کوپیش ہوئے



Court Grants Bail To 2 SMC Employees

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: A local court on Wednesday granted bail to two SMC employees who were arrested for demolishing a traffic booth and allegedly assaulting traffic personnel on duty in city on Tuesday.

Court of city judge/JMIC Srinagar, Ajay Kumar in an order said "The accused persons namely Niyaz Ahmad and Ovais Farooq have been arrested in the case under FIR no; 06 0f 2023 under sections 353, 120B, 506 and 364 IPC on 07-02-2023. Offences under section 364 IPC is not made out against the accused persons. At most, the offence under section 363 IPC can be said to be made out in the case which is bailable, the rest of the offences in question are not very severely punished.'

While disposing the prayer of remand application by police, Court in an order, said "The accused persons are the government officials and there is no threat of them fleeing the course of justice. The facts and circumstances of the case are such that there is no need for their further interrogation by the police."

The court further said that the prayer for remand

by the police of the accused persons is refused and the accused persons are directed to be released on bail on furnishing personal bond and surety bond before the court in the sum of Rs 50,000 provided they are not required in any other case, court said. The accused shall cooperate with the investigation officer in the investigation of the case and shall not threaten any prosecution witness.

Meanwhile, the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) has started enquiry into the matter of Niyaz Ahmad Gabroo I/C Ward Officer Ward No. 30 and Ovais Farooq Khan Tax Assistant Ward 30 and have also put them under suspension. Ghulam Hassan Mir, Joint Commissioner Planning SMC, shall do the detailed enquiry and submit a detailed report within 7 days, SMC said.

The Police had earlier stated that "An incident has come to notice wherein one SMC employee aggrieved by challan on not having HSRP. came back and broke a traffic booth with others, later assaulted traffic personnel on duty. In this regard FIR has been registered in Shergari PS against delinquent SMC employees.

DIPR Organizes Webinar On "Internet Safety"

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A webinar "How to keep yourself safe on the Internet" was today hosted by Cultural Unit Kashmir. Department of Information and Public Relations on the eve of Safer Internet Day.

Around 60 students from different educational institutions participated in the webinar who were made aware of safer Internet use in day to day life.

Cultural officer, DIPR Burhan Hussain while hosting the webinar as expert said that the exponential increase in the number of internet users and rapidly evolving technologies have brought in its own unique challenges, besides aggravating the existing problems of cybercrimes, which is one of the fastest growing forms of transnational and insidious crimes.

This makes cyber awareness an important tool the students need to be equipped

with, he remarked. He also screened a ppt

in which he highlighted Device safety/protection, Password Guidance and account security, Protecting Personal Information, Using social media safely, Social Engineering and phishing emails/text, Online shopping & Online Banking safely.

Besides, he also detailed on other important points including Keeping youngsters safe online. Safer Internet Day – Using tech responsibly, respectfully, critically & creatively, Signposting to further sources of support and resources and reporting.

AD, Sachin Bali, social media Incharge DIPR said that the Safer Internet Day is celebrated to make the internet a safer and better place for all, mainly for children and young people.

Participants raised questions which were answered by the experts during the session.

Officials of Cultural Unit also participated in the webinar

Possession Notice

Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with

Whereas Mr. Asaf Rasool Kanue, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under

the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of

the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 13.06.2022 thereby

calling upon the Borrower namely Mrs. Sumiya Yousuf W/o Mr. Mohd Yunis Parray R/o Shehjar

Colony, Mandibal, Nowshera, Srinagar to repay an amount of Rs 11,82,237.47 (Rupees Eleven Lac

Eighty Two Thousand Two Hundred And Thirty Seven And Forty Seven Paisa Only) being the balance

outstanding as on 31.05.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in

particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd.

has taken symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the

powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the

said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the

charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 12,48,525.19 (Rupees Twelve

Lakh Forty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Five And Nineteen Paisa Only) together with future

The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in

Description of the Immovable Property

(As per the schedule provided in mortgage deed/latest particulars including any accreditations)

Extension of Charge on Equitable mortgage of 01 kanal of land under Khasra No: 887 min, Khata No: 600 And Khewat No: 166, situated at Chatterhuma, Srinagar standing in the name of Mrs. Sumaiya

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India

CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T: +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F: +91 (0)194 248 1928; E: info@jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com

Yousuf, W/o: Mr. Mohd Yunis Parray, R/o: Shehjar Colony, Mandibal, Nowshera, Srinagar.

notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

interest thereon from 01.2.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.



Artisans Buoyed Over Growing Demand For Khatamband Craft

Agencies

Srinagar: The centuries old 'Khatamband' art is again in demand in Kashmir.

Ali Muhammad Najar 70, well-known Khatamband artist from Safa Kadal area in Srinagar said that he learnt the skill from his parents and grandparents as his forefathers have been associated with the oldest craft.

"My father and grandfather were decorating rest houses, houseboats, cafeterias and other buildings with Khatamband," he said.

Khatamband work is mainly being carried out manually but with introduction of technology, a few machines are being used as well but still most of the work is being done by hands only, he said.

Khatamband used to be the domain of shrines, palaces, houseboats and royal houses but now every other person wants it for their house. The demand has also resulted in an increase in the number of Khatamband artisans.

"I have trained at least 70 persons who are currently working on their own," he said.

According to him, there is demand for the art in foreign countries too and he has worked in Qatar, Muscat and his son has returned from Nepal recently after completing an assignment.

The raw materials used include deodar and walnut.

"There were more than 160 designs for the Khatamband in Kashmir. But currently there are only a few designs available that artisans can reproduce. They are compensating the old designs with new ones. It is an expensive art form and therefore not many people invested in it for a long time," he added.

In the 1990s, the craft gradually faded due to its cost. He said that the government can help in promotion of

the crafts in foreign countries

so that people associated with any art can earn their livelihood well.

The greatest quality of the Khatamband is that even if it is dismantled after centuries, it can be reused and reinstalled again, he said.

Other artists said that Khatamband demand is on rise as it has become a sort of status symbol in Kashmiri society once again.

It is believed that Khatamband was brought to Kashmir during the 14th Century by noted saint Shah-i-Hamdaan who visited Kashmir along with many followers that also included Khatamband artists from Iran.

Khatamband is an art of ceiling making, by fitting small pieces of wood (preferably walnut or deodar wood) into each other in geometrical patterns. The process is not done through machines but is painstakingly hand crafted and that too without using any nails—(KNO)

Public Grievance Redressal Camp Held At Lasjan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Ajjaz Asad Wednesday held a Public Grievance Redressal Camp at Lasjan area in Panthachowk Tehsil of the District in an endeavour to bring Administration at the door steps of the people for on spot resolution of developmental issues of the public under Weekly Block Diwas.

Vice Chairman, District Development Council, Sri-

nagar, Bilal Ahmad, DDC member Lasian and other PRI representatives, besides large number of people of Lasjan, Nowgam, Soiteng, Gundbal, Baginder, Padshaibagh and other adjoining areas were part of the Public Grievance Redressal Camp.

During the Grievance Redressal Camp, local PRI representatives, public delegations and individuals projected various issues and demands before the Deputy Commissioner.

Aijaz assured the people of

Lasjan, Soiteng and other adjoining areas that all genuine demands and issues projected by them will be taken up with concerned authorities on priority. The DC also gave on the spot direction to the concerned officers for time bound redressal of the public issues.

"The purpose of holding such grievance redressal camps is to take appraisal of local issues from the general public for precise and on ground assessment for their time bound redressal" he said.



the O2nd day of February of the year 2023.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited

Air Cargo, Metro International Complex Email: aircar@jkbmail.com

Rajbagh Srinagar **J&K** Bank Tel: 0194-2313407, 2313490

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited

Air Cargo, Metro International Complex Raibagh Srinagar Tel: 0194-2313407, 2313490 Email: aircar@jkbmail.com

Possession Notice

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

Whereas Mr. Mohammad Ashraf Magray, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated **09.11.2022** thereby calling upon the Borrower, namel Land's End Automotives Pvt. Ltd. and its directors (Mr. Irfan Reza Ansarí S/o Molvi Iftikhar Hussain Ansar R/o Darul Jawad, Qamarwari Srinagar and Mrs. Sakina Hussain W/o Syed Arshad Hussain R/o Syed Manzil Sheri Bhat Alamgari Bazar Srinagar) Mortgagor namely Mr. Irfan Reza Ansari S/o Molvi Iftikhar Hussain Ansari R/o Darul Jawad, Qamarwari Srinagar to repay an amount of Rs.10,17,43,569.46 (Rupees Ten Crore Seventeen Lakh Forty Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Nine And Forty Six Paisa Only) being the balance outstanding as on **31.10.2022** in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower and mortgagor in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken symbolic possession of the mortgaged property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the **02**nd day of February of the year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 10,46,41,357.66 (Rupees Ten Crore Forty Six Lakh Forty One Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Seven And Sixty Six Paisa Only) together with future interest thereon from 01.02.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

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

Description of the Immovable Property (As per the schedule provided in mortgage deed/ latest particulars i

Land measuring 08 Kanal with (i) land measuring 04 Kanal falling under survey Khasra No.426/309/31 of Khata No.324 & Khewat No.602-mir (ii) land measuring 2 Kanal 12 Marla under survey Khasra No.341/311/34 of Khata No. 532 & Khewat No. 136 & (iii) land measuring 1 Kanal 8 Marla under survey Khasra No.346/33 of Khata No.533 & Khewat No.136 situated in Estate Parimpora, Tehsil Khas & District Srinagar along with free hold rights over the structures/ buildings constructed thereor leased out to Land's End Automotives Pvt. Ltd. by Mr. Irfan Raza Ansari, one of the directors of the borrower company JKB/AIRCAR/ADV/2023-

Place: Srinagar

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India **CIN:** L65110JK1938SGC000048; **T**: +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; **F**: +91 (0)194 248 1928; **E**: info@jkbmail.com; **W**: www.jkbank.cor

DIPK-NB-6363/22 DATED: 08-02-2023



TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883

PDD: 0194-2450213 FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155

CAPD: 18001807011 SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081 Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243



BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS

FAJR 5:58 12:45 **ZUHR ASR** 4:28 Magrib 6:11 ISHA 7: 32

This Day In History

1499 - France & Venice sign treaty against Milan 1525 - Albert of Prussia pledges a personal oath to Sigismund I and is

invested with the duchy for himself and his heirs 1537 - Pope Paul III routes Cardinal Pole to England

1554 - Battle at London: Sir Thomas Wyatt defeated and his rebellion

against Queen Mary crushed

1555 - Bishop of Gloucester John Hooper is burned at the stake for 1574 - Louis of Nassau ends siege of Maastricht

1621 - Alexander Ludovisi is elected Pope Gregory XV (-1623) 1667 - Treaty of Andrussovo: Russia and Poland signs peace treaty

1674 - English reconquer NY from Netherlands 1682 - Thomas Otway's "Venice Preserved" premieres in London 1713 - Netherlands & Britain sign accord concerning anti- French

Barrier [OS=Jan 31]. 1720 - Edmund Halley appointed 2nd Astronomer Royal of England 1763 - Treaty of Paris ends French-Indian War, surrendering Canada

1801 - France & Austria sign Peace of Luneville 1814 - Napoleonic Wars: Battle of Champaubert, the French beat the

1846 - British defeat Sikhs in battle of Sobraon, India

1859 - Gen Horsford defeats Begum of Oude & Nana Sahib in Indian

mutiny 1861 Jefferson Davis & Alexander Stephens elected President & VP of the Confederate States of America (US Civil War)1899 - Treaty of Paris which ended the Spanish-American War is signed by President McKinley: US acquires Philippines, Puerto Rico & Guam 1904 - Japan and Russia declare war

1914 - In accordance with the understanding reached by General J.C. Smuts and Mahatma Gandhi, 60 passive resistance prisoners released from Pietermaritzburg Prison; 40 passive resisters released

in Durban, 8 in Newcastle, 11 in Port Elizabeth 1918 - Trotsky declares that Russia is leaving the war

1931 - New Delhi becomes capital of India

1933 - Hitler proclaims end of Marxism

Stalin ends 17th CPSU-co 1947 - Italy cedes most of Venezia Giulia to Yugoslavia

1947 - Province of Petsamo returned to Soviet Union by Finland 1947 - WW II peace treaties signed.

1961 - Niagara Falls hydroelectric project begins producing power 1970 - Dry powder avalanche moving at 120 mph smashes into youth hostel at Val d'Isere, France, killing 40 Belgian, French, & German

1974 - Iran/Iraqi border fight breaks out 1975 - The Provisional Irish Republican Army agrees to a truce and

ceasefire with the British government and the Northern Ireland Office; Seven "incident centres" are established in nationalist areas to monitor the ceasefire 1985 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalitinsk

1990 - 6th Largest wrestling crowd (63,900-Tokyo Dome)

1990 - South African President F. W. de Klerk announces Nelson Mandela will be freed on Feburary 11th

1996 - IBM computer Deep Blue becomes the first computer to win a game of chess against a reigning (human) chess champion, Gary

1997 - Comet Shoemaker-Holt 2 Closest Approach to Earth (1.9245

1997 - Soyuz TM-25 launches to the MIR.

From KO Archives

Vehicles Attacked At Lakhanpur Curfew Bandh Continues In Jammu Areas

Observer News Service

RINAGAR - A number of Punjab-bound vehicles from Kashmir were damaged on Tuesday evening by a violent mob at Hatli Maud, a short distance from Lakhanpur in Jammu, even as a rampaging crowd stormed through a sports goods factory run by a Kashmiri in the vicinity.

Reports from Jammu said irate Shiv Sena and Bajrang Dal activists attacked a convoy of goods carriers from Anantnag Kashmir, near Haiti Maud. The mob pelted stones at nearly 34 trucks and tried to hijack one (JK01D-9938). The driver, Muhammad Altaf was injured in the hijack attempt.

The Shiv Sena and Bajrang Dal had called for a bandh in Jammu on Tuesday to protest against the killing of 6 members of the Sikh community in Srinagar. Scores of Gypsy borne activists of the two organisations, armed with sharp-edged weapons besides hockey sticks and canes, had earlier descended in the locality and raided a factory. Goodway Sports owned a resident of Anantnag. The mob ransacked the equipment and caused damage to the

One factory worker, Bashir Ahmad Dar from Dogri Sangam, Anantnag was injured during the attack There was considerable tension in Kathua district after the violent incidents

(Kashmir Observer, 9 February, 2001)

DIPK-NB-6365/22 DATED: 08-02-2023

JKB/AIRCAR/ADV/2023-Dated: 02.02.2023 Place : Srinagar

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Thursday | 09-02-2023

New Geopolitical Competition

In his second State of the Union address, the US president Joe Biden struck a more aggressive tone on China saying if China threatened US sovereignty, they will act to protect their country. The statement came in the wake of the growing tensions with Beijing over a suspected surveillance balloon. However, Biden added he was committed to working with China where it can advance American interests and benefit the world. The US president also slammed his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin for his military aggression. He termed the invasion of Ukraine by Russia as a test for the ages, and a test for the world.

China and Russia have emerged as the biggest security challenges for the US as also reflected in Biden's address. It has also been one year since Russia invaded Ukraine and war has since been dragging on with no side closer to declaring victory.

Meanwhile, the human tragedy is unfolding in Ukraine on a vast scale in terms of the deaths of civilians. The war has rallied western nations and many other countries from around the world behind the US. And all we are hearing is a predominantly western narrative on the war. Social media companies have censored Russian state-sponsored media so there is little in the public domain that can be called an alternative discourse. And this is creating a situation we are all so familiar with. The West has again put on a moralistic lens on the war: a conflict between flawless virtue and pure evil.

It is a familiar script that has earlier played out in US-led wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya, Syria, and in the case of the US-backed Saudi war in Yemen. In the case of war in Iraq, it was the cooked up intelligence about the then Iraqi president Saddam Hussain possessing the Weapons of Mass Destruction that became the basis for war. And western media acted as cheerleaders for the destruction of Iraq.

The point is that it is not the reality on the ground but the west's core interests that determine what is good and what is evil. Otherwise, the reality of Russian invasion of Ukraine is very complex. It is rooted in Russia's legitimate fears of being encircled by the west and the NATO military bases reaching its doorstep. Many of the Eastern European countries that were once a part of the USSR-led Warsaw Pact have become members of the NATO, heightening Russia's insecurity. Now the growing likelihood of Ukraine also joining NATO became the last straw for Putin. While it is nobody's case to countenance the invasion of a sovereign smaller country by its powerful neighbour, the solution to the evolving fraught situation can be resolved if the US-led West and Russia sit down and work towards addressing each other's grievances and fears.

OTHER OPINON

RBI and Inflation

n its first meeting of this calendar year, the monetary policy committee of the Reserve Bank of India has voted to raise the benchmark reporate by 25 basis points, continuing its efforts to bring down inflation. Since the beginning of this tightening cycle, the MPC has cumulatively hiked rates by 250 basis points. The repo rate now stands at 6.5 per cent. Alongside, the committee has also retained its stance, deciding to remain focused on withdrawal of accommodation. The tone of the policy was decidedly hawkish. The MPC noted that policy action was required to keep inflation expectations anchored, and "break" the persistence in core inflation. However, the decision of the committee was not unanimous. While the growing dissensions within the committee suggest that the terminal rate — the rate at which the central bank will stop hiking rates and take a pause — is approaching, there is a possibility of further tightening if the situation warrants. As RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has pointed out, adjusting for inflation, the policy rate still trails its pre pandemic level.

Recent data does signal that retail inflation has begun to ease. Inflation, as measured by the consumer price index, was below the upper threshold of the central bank's inflation targeting framework for the last two consecutive months. However, much of the decline was driven by a fall in food inflation, especially vegetables. However, core inflation continues to remain a source of concern: It remains elevated, signalling that price pressures are fairly broad-based. The RBI's forecast projects inflation next year at 5.3 per cent, with the fourth quarter at 5.6 per cent. This implies that inflation will continue to remain above the central bank's target.

On growth, the central bank is optimistic in its assessment. It expects the Indian economy to grow at 6.4 per cent in 2023-24. While this is broadly in line with expectations of the Economic Survey, projections by independent analysts suggest that the economy is likely to grow at a slower pace. Considering that the effects of monetary policy are felt with a lag, the committee should now assess the impact of the cumulative hikes so far on inflation and the economy. As the Governor's statement notes, the rate hikes since May 2022 continue to work their way through the system.

Indian Express

Calamities Strike The Poor First

Belén Fernández

And yet things are getting more precarious by the minute, as capitalism breaks new ground in the field of obliterating any and all aspirations toward a common humanity or planetary wellbeing - and the "disaster relief" industry concerns itself with maintaining its own viability while poor communities lurch from one disaster to the next

n February 6, massive earthquakes struck southern Turkey and northern Syria, inflicting ghastly damage across a geographic region that has already borne a great deal of earthly devastation in recent decades. The ongoing war in Syria has produced millions of refugees, many of whom have now found themselves victims of seismic activity in the Turkish south.

The death toll from Monday's quakes quickly jumped into the thousands and will no doubt soar to far more macabre heights. An untold number of people remain buried beneath the rubble. Traumatised survivors contend with frigid temperatures and aftershocks; refugees contend with the loss of any semblance of refuge.

The natural disaster has served to underscore what should hardly be earth-shattering news: that life for the global poor is extremely precarious and plagued by multiple, simultaneous crises from which recovery is often futile.

To be sure, the dwellings inhabited by the have-nots of the earth can be structurally less reliable and potentially more vulnerable to tectonic tumult – as was seen, for example, in the Peruvian earthquake of 2007, when homes collapsed across poor neighbourhoods in the province of Ica. But in a world structured upon capitalist foundations, precarity goes much deeper than shoddy construction materials or disregard for building codes.

For starters, capitalism's insistence on acute inequality and the tyranny of an elite minority means there are major global fault lines between rich and poorones that are becoming ever more pronounced in the era of climate change and attendant ecological calamity. And while aid pledges inevitably come pouring in after high-profile disasters, they often only exacerbate the divide by lining the pockets of the aid industry rather than benefitting the disaster-stricken themselves.

There is also the reality that, for much of the world's precarious population, life constitutes a more or less continuous disaster, but one that generates no attention. In June, The New Humanitarian news agency noted gross disparities in disaster relief, with almost half of all emergency funding for 2022 "going to only five protracted - and largely conflictdriven – crises". Citing a recent United Nations estimate that the number of annual disasters will increase to some 560 by the year 2030, the agency described how victims of under-the-radar disasters are often forced to remain in unsafe locations – thereby setting

the stage for new crises.

Take the case of Afghanistan, where an ongoing dependence on aid has done nothing to make the country safe. In August, floods killed more than 180 people, just two months after an earthquake had killed more than 1,000. In May, the NGO Save the Children reported that the country was suffering its "worst hunger crisis on record", with nearly 50 percent of the population going hungry on account of a raging drought and continuing economic breakdown.

Such are the toxic legacies of two decades of a United States-led "war on terror" that devastated the lives, livelihoods and futures of millions of Afghans and sucked in billions of dollars of "recovery funds".

For another illustration of how politics, greed and mismanagement overlap with and compound environmental catastrophe, we need look no further than the Caribbean nation of Haiti, where in 2021 a devastating 7.2 magnitude earthquake was followed by a deadly storm and landslides. More than 2,200 people

ies from the rubble of the Mexico City earthquake that officially resulted in the deaths of 10,000 people but probably killed many more. Shaking his head, he professed to still think regularly of three bodies in particular: a humble mother hunched in vain over her two children, dressed in school uniforms.

And as if the poor needed any more reminders as to the negligible value assigned to their lives, the perennial tremors of the earth in Mexico mean that earthquakerelated psychological trauma is



In ensuing years, US support for official corruption in Haiti would make the terrain extra fertile for political crisis, while further eroding the country's ability to respond to earthquakes and other disasters.

were killed and 130,000 homes destroyed, in addition to a number of schools and hospitals.

This came just over a decade after a 2010 earthquake killed some 220,000 people and rendered 1.5 million homeless. Only a smidgen of the billions of dollars that flowed in to "rescue" Haiti actually reached poor Haitian earthquake victims, going instead to aid organisations, international security forces, and other supposedly competent folks – like the UN peacekeepers who promptly unleashed a cholera epidemic upon

In ensuing years, US support for official corruption in Haiti would make the terrain extra fertile for political crisis, while further eroding the country's ability to respond to earthquakes and other disasters.

As for me, my own personal experience with earthquakes includes a tremor in southwestern Turkey in 2010 and the magnitude 7.4 earthquake that rocked Mexico's Oaxacan coast in June 2020. I can safely say that the latter episode was akin to feeling my world combust - but only momentarily, as it entailed no lasting damage to my house or person. In other words, it was a far and privileged cry from the experience of the latest earthquake victims in Turkey and Syria, many of whom - displaced by war - had undoubtedly already felt their respective worlds combust even prior to the quake.

Following the news of Monday's cataclysm, I spoke here in Oaxaca with a working-class Mexican man who, in September 1985, assisted in extracting bodeasily revived.

As for things not easily revived, in September 1986, one year after the Mexico City quake, the Washington Post reported that no fewer than 80,000 people remained homeless. Indeed, the city never quite fully recovered from either the physical damage or the disaster mismanagement. Precarity is nothing new.

And yet things are getting more precarious by the minute, as capitalism breaks new ground in the field of obliterating any and all aspirations toward a common humanity or planetary wellbeing – and the "disaster relief" industry concerns itself with maintaining its own viability while poor communities lurch from one disaster to the next.

While the rich insulate themselves from the fallout, the poor bear the brunt of military conflict, economic upheaval, climate-related havoc, and the coronavirus pandemic – which has left the earth's have-nots on even shakier ground.

As with all other present earthly afflictions, Monday's quakes in Turkey and Syria will hit the poor the hardest. And the only way out of a world where profit for the few means precarity for the many would be a total seismic shift.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Al Jazeera



All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, spaceand accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

► MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box #337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Methane Pollution Escalating in India

ethane is a colourless, odourless gas. However, the increasing presence of methane in our atmosphere is threatening multiple species of wildlife by hastening climate change. According to studies, this pollutant from oil and gas facilities has an impact on our climate, communities, and wildlife. One must speak up now to help reduce meth-

ane emissions and ensure a healthy environment for vulnerable wildlife. It is critical to keep super-pollutant methane under control, as it can be especially harmful to most terrestrial species. To protect biodiversity, we should do everything we can to protect wildlife like these social, herbivorous creatures and other diverse wildlife species in the country. Pollution from the oil and gas industries

Methane is emitted in conjunction with toxic pollution, which can cause asthma-inducing smog or even cancer. To continue protecting frontline communities and wildlife, cutting methane emissions from the oil and gas sector must be as stringent as possible. Regular inspections and repairs should be required at all oil and gas facilities, particularly those

endangers human health.

with methane leak-prone equipment. It's important to eliminate unnecessary gas flaring and establish community monitoring programmes. A healthy environment is a right, not a privilege, and strengthening methane rules will have positive wildlife and human health impacts for decades to come

Vijaykumar H K

Need to Reassess Composite Nationalism

Asad Mirza

omposite Nationalism as espoused by Hussain Ahmad Madani in early 20th century, holds validity even today also, besides becoming more relevant and giving a new interpretation to nationalism

Husain Ahmad Madani was a traditional Islamic scholar and a political activist, as well as an advocate of both a unified global Islamic polity and an Indian nation- state democracy, in which Muslims and non-Muslims were to consider one another as equal members of the

nation; and each of these aspects is demonstrated in his seminal work Muttaḥida miyyat Aur Islām (Composite Nationalism and Islam) published in 1938.

It provides an analysis of the Islamic intellectual tradition from

someone considered be a conservative and which can be seen to accommodate a secular government order for a Muslim minority.

Barbara D. Metcalf in introduction to the book had said, 'The assumption that a scholar like him was motivated by some "hermetic" Islam is thus misplaced,' and he was 'one of the most important Muslim figures in the history of twentieth-century South Asia'.

Madani, as a traditional Islamic scholar, clothes his vision in terms of an Islamic consciousness; in other words, it is not merely Muslim consciousness - i.e. the thoughts of someone who happens to be Muslim - but it is set forth as being scripturally coherent and faithful. He argued that Indian Muslims and non-Muslims possess a 'united nationalism'

(Muttaḥida Qaumiyyat). Madani's discussion of Qaumiyyat or nationalism can be seen as keeping with the age in which he lived, described as one in which 'nationalism [was] without doubt the most influential of the world's political creeds during much of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries'.

Within the context of the many debates surrounding notions of nation, nationalism, nation-state, citizenship, culture, multiculturalism, etc., Madani's work provides an argument for how Muslim minorities can be fully integrated and socially cohesive, without being considered disloyal to their faith or

Madani's Theory of United Nationalism Written in the final days of the British Raj, Madani's theory of united nationalism was ostensibly composed in response to misgivings that poet Allama Iqbal expressed about

united nationalism, in which he saw - to use Madani's characterisation – united nationalism as 'unethical' and 'un-Islamic' for 'Indian

As a result, Madani's response was to fit with the main aims of his life, which were: removal of British rule from India through a uniting of the various religious groups in India. Towards these goals, one can un-

derstand certain

points regarding Madani's

Madani builds his case – citing the 'Madinah Pact' and using the Arabic language, the Holy Qur'an and the Prophet's teachings - explaining the notion of nationalism

or Qaumiyyat as comprising communities or Ultimately, although Madani does not

directly address the complexities of race, his urge for Indian unity between Muslims and non-Muslims can be used for a call of greater togetherness amongst races, cultures or ethnicities (as one

PROXIMATE

Yet Madani's sense of not losing one's own identity in such a social enterprise entails retaining the notion of Islam's finality and acknowledging

chooses to define such 'group-

greater bonds of

brother-

hood ex-

foundation

(PBUH)

ist between

He wrote, "By

united national-

ism I mean here

'nationalism',

of which was laid

Muslims.

shackles of this slavery. In this regard, one should not hinder another's religion; rather, all nations (or communities) residing in India are free to follow their religions and moral values, and act as per their respective religious traditions. While maintaining peace and tranquillity, they should also publicise Indeed, they should all follow their re-

against such a barbaric regime and break the

spective culture, promote and protect their own personal law. Neither should a minority interfere in the personal affairs of other minorities or the majority, nor should the majority strive to absorb the minority in itself."

In summation, it is apparent that Muslims can form a nation with non-Muslims and it is neither an undue interference in religious affairs nor is it against the spirit of common

welfare that Islamic law envisages. So a Muslim, while (faithfully) observing his religion, can join hands with non-Muslims and can become a nation as they have lived

Further, it becomes obvious that Madani's interpretation of Oaumiyyat or nationalism, was not applicable only during that time, but it is

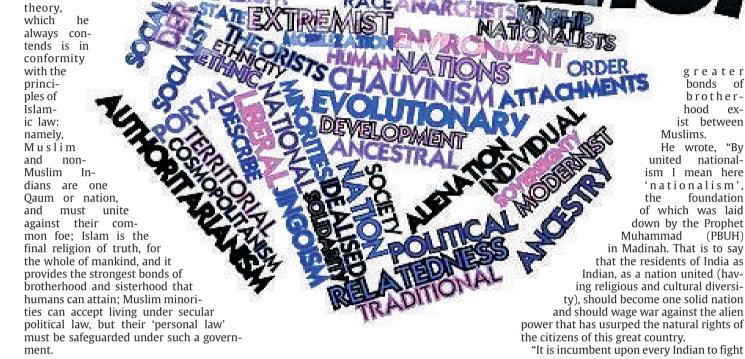
relevant even more, today

It would be more prudent if the current dispensation can try to include the interpretation of nationalism as espoused by other thinkers also, including Madani, to their own theory of nationalism. Only this act would be able to provide a more sustainable and growth-oriented approach to tackle many ills confronting out nation, today. Besides promoting this interpretation of

nationalism, not only India will be able to handle many of its current issues but will also be able to influence the global narrative of the concept, and thus be really seen as a 'Vishwa Guru'.

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

 $As ad\,Mirza\,is\,a\,political\,commentator\,based$ in New Delhi. He can be contacted on www.



IT WOULD BE MORE PRUDENT IF THE CURRENT DISPENSATION CAN TRY TO INCLUDE THE INTERPRETATION OF NATIONALISM AS ESPOUSED BY OTHER THINKERS ALSO, including Madani, to their own theory of nationalism. Only this act would be able to provide a more sustainable and growth-oriented approach to tackle many ills confronting our nation, today.

Human Challenge Studies: What We've Learned From Intentionally Infecting People With Covid

Simon Kolstoe

Then COVID began to spread rapidly in 2020, sending the UK and other countries into lockdowns, many people asked what they could do to help. While millions of people found novel ways to help others in their communities, a large number became interested in volunteering for medical research.

This presented an interesting situation for researchers who normally struggle to recruit participants. Suddenly there was significant enthusiasm from the public to volunteer for research studies. This included a willingness to volunteer for potentially risky "human challenge trials" that would intentionally expose participants to SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID.

Many people hoped, or even assumed, that deliberately exposing themselves to the virus in the name of medical research would speed up the production of pandemic-ending vaccines. But the reality was a bit more complex.

Beginning in 2021, scientists in the UK embarked on three SARS-CoV-2 human challenge studies with healthy young adult participants. However, none hastened the production of the vaccines in use today. So what did these studies tell us?

THE SCIENCE

One main difficulty in human challenge studies is how quickly the challenge agent (for example, a virus such as SARS-CoV-2) mutates. Challenge studies rely on the safe production of a well-characterised agent, but since this can take months, the risk is that by the time the infectious agent has been created for research, the dominant virus in circulation



may be quite a different variant. This was indeed the case with SARS-CoV-2, where the first and second challenge studies were conducted with the alpha variant about a year after it was the main variant of concern. The third challenge study, which is currently recruiting, is using the delta variant, and is facing a similar problem.

Could the challenge agent have been created more quickly? Perhaps, but with SARS-CoV-2, the high level of community infections meant that more traditional placebo-controlled studies (where people are given either an active or inactive vaccine and subsequent infections are recorded) were far more effective, and easy to conduct, for scientists trying to develop vaccines.



ould the challenge agent have been created more quickly? Perhaps, but with SARS-CoV-2, the high level of community infections meant that more traditional placebo-controlled studies (where people are given either an active or inactive vaccine and subsequent infections are recorded) were far more effective, and easy to conduct, for scientists trying to develop vaccines

So, contrary to many people's expectations, and despite their track record in accelerating vaccine development for diseases such as malaria, the SARS-CoV-2 challenge studies didn't speed up the immediate development of vaccines.

The studies are, however, still very useful, as they were able to follow the infection closely from first exposure through to the development of symptoms and subsequent recovery. They revealed just how infectious the virus is, as participants exposed to even the smallest dose became infected. They also provided a useful validation of the sensitivity of rapid

THE ETHICS

antigen tests.

It wasn't a surprise that the UK was the first country to conduct SARS-CoV-2 challenge studies. The UK has a history of conducting challenge studies dating back to the "flu camps" of the 1940s and has several active research groups with experience using this approach.

The healthcare system in the UK is also well set up for providing lifelong care through the NHS should any participants be harmed in a research study. One reason such studies were considered unethical in the US was the more individualised insurance-based healthcare system and subsequent lack of guaranteed long-term care from the state.

In the UK most medical research is reviewed by one of a network of about 60 research ethics committees coordinated through the Health Research Authority. The role of these committees is to balance the enthusiasm of researchers with the rights, safety and wellbeing of the potential participants.

In July 2020, the Health Research Authority established a new specialist research ethics committee ready to review any SARS-CoV-2 human challenge studies, of which I was a member. This was in parallel with the World Health Organization publishing ethical guidelines for any country conducting SARS-CoV-2 challenge

studies (to date only the UK has). On the specialist committee we did consider whether the challenge model was the most effective way to rapidly develop treatments. However, this was not our primary ethical concern, because we knew the studies would generate a wealth of other useful scientific knowledge.

Instead, we were more focused on the participants themselves, and the conditions that were required to conduct the studies in an ethically robust way. These included informed consent and how participants would be looked after in the isolation unit.

The practical experience of our specialist committee also offered a useful opportunity to engage internationally with the bioethics community and the substantial debate the challenge studies raised. Specifically, we have been able to closely consider the best ways to screen and recruit people for contentious studies like these and help develop new guidance for use in future studies.

Were these studies worthwhile? The COVID human challenge studies have undoubtedly been worthwhile, though perhaps not in the way many people originally expected. Challenge models enable the study of viral infection and disease progression in a carefully controlled environment and have a proven track record. But for a rapidly changing virus like SARS-CoV-2, they have been less helpful in the development of treatments and vaccines.

However, this may not be the case in future pandemics. The practical and ethical lessons learned from the challenge studies this time around could be invaluable next time we need to respond rapidly to a pandemic threat.

By arrangements with The Conversation

Work on strategically important Chushul-Dungti-Fukche-Demchok road in Ladakh has begun: Jaishankar

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: India has focused on a rapid development of infrastructure along the northern borders with China for obvious "strategic reasons", External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Wednesday amid the continuing 33-month border row in eastern Ladakh.

The minister told a group of reporters that the work on the strategically important Chushul-Dungti-Fukche-Demchok road, spanning 135 kilometres in the Ladakh region, began last month.

Jaishankar pointed out that 16 key passes required to maintain troops along the border with China have been opened in a record time and much ahead of the previous years, resulting in the saving of enormous funds in terms of the air sustenance of cut-off areas.

Some of the mountain passes along the border areas in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh have to be closed during the harsh winter months due to heavy snowfall.

Giving an account of the government's priorities, Jaishankar said the length of 6,806 kilometres of roads constructed along the borders with China from 2014 to 2022 was almost double the length of 3,610 kilometres built between 2008 and 2014.

In case of construction of bridges along the border with China, he said the total length was 7,270 metres from 2008 to 2014, while it went up to 22,439 metres during the period between 2014 and 2022.

"Sixteen key passes, which are required to maintain the troops on the China border,

have opened in a record time, much ahead of the previous years, thus saving enormous funds in terms of air sustenance of cut-off areas, apart immense economic and strategic advantages, Jaishankar said.

Citing an example, he said the traffic on the crucial Zojila axis was extended till January 4 last year and it was opened again on March 19, setting an all-time record of the pass being opened in just 73 days against the traditional norms of four-five months.

"We have focused on a rapid development of infrastructure along the northern borders with China for obvious strategic reasons," Jaishankar said.

"We have focused on rapidly developing border connectivity with our friendly neighbours to enhance trade, energy and other people-to-people exchanges," he added.

The external affairs minister said the construction of the Sela tunnel on the Balipara-Charduar-Tawang road, located at a height of 13,700 feet, will offer all-weather connectivity to the Indian Army to the Line of Actual Control (LAC) near Tawang.

It consists of two tunnels -- one 1,790 metres long, another 475 metres long. The construction of the tunnel is expected to be completed by August. Once completed, it will be the world's longest bilane tunnel located at a height of more than 13,000 feet.

The external affairs minister also spoke about the adoption of new technologies for the construction of infrastructure in high-altitude and inaccessible border areas.

National Seminar On Library Science In KIIT



Observer News Service

Bhubaneswar: Experts from the field of library science converged at the KIIT Deemed-tobe-University-organised seminar here on Sunday to discuss threadbare the open source movement. Vice Chancellor of the University Prof Sasmita Samanta emphasised the introduction of information analytics and data science into the syllabus to expand and broaden the opportunities for students of library science.

Addressing the seminar titled "Open Source Movement: What Next", Prof Samanta favoured increased use of modern-day technology such as AI and data science to give a fresh impetus to the library movement. She said the KIIT Central library embodies the best of library science and reflects the global perspective.

"I am attending this event with people who are committed to protecting, preserving and disseminating knowledge. You are key stakeholders acting as a bridge between the generation, she said welcoming the library scientists.

The seminar aims to provide useful information on open source software, journals and databases among library professionals to help the researchers and teachers openly and freely to carry out research without any monetary investment, said Director of the KIIT Central Library Bijayalaxmi Rautaray.

She praised the efforts of the Founder of KIIT and KISS Dr Achyuta Samanta for not only creating a world-class library but also being a great source of inspiration for the growth of library professionals to support teaching and research.

The speakers at the seminar

spoke eloquently about the KIIT Central Library, commending it for its infrastructure and its objectives.

"We don't have our future without a library. KIIT is an institution which believes that despite the overwhelming dominance of electronics in every field, the libraries movement should go on unhindered," said the HoD of PG Dept of Library Science at Sambalpur University Prof Bulu Maharana. A library is a great place to innovate, think and collaborate, he underscored.

Partha Mukhopadhyay of the University of Kalyani; Prof. Bhaskar Mukherjee, Banaras of Hindu University and Dr. Akhtar Parvez of Maulana Azad National Urdu University addressed different dimensions of the open access movement. Around 500 participants from different parts of the county participated

RBI Repo Rate Policy Tone Hawkish: Abheek Barua

Mumbai: Chief Economist HDFC Bank, Abheek Barua has said that the RBI raised the repo rate by 25bps and kept its stance unchanged at "withdrawal of accommodation" on expected lines. The policy tone was hawkish as the RBI recognized that they are still away from achieving their objective of durable disinflation.

He said in terms of the inflation risks, the RBI highlighted the elevated nature of core inflation and continuing global risks that could push up domestic inflation going forward. On growth, the RBI pegged GDP growth at 6.4% in FY24, higher than consensus expectations – sounding optimistic on the growth momentum. Going forward, the central bank is likely to become more data dependent, and this does not rule out another rate hike in the upcoming policy.

liquidity, the RBI



recognized that there might be some reduction in liquidity surplus as the facilities provided during the pandemic end, while providing reassurance that they are likely to balance these out through various instruments available at their disposal.

"Despite the comments on liquidity conditions remaining accommodative compared to pre-pandemic levels - signaling a somewhat hawkish tone - we expect the RBI to maintain adequate liquidity surplus to remain growth supportive going forward," he said.

British International School Organises Advanced Karate Training Camp

Observer News Service

Srinagar: British International School organised 1day advanced karate training camp in collaboration with R3A Karate Academy. Camp was hosted by Sensei Pooja Sharma (3rd Dan Black Belt) coach of school under the supervision of Shihan Ambedkar Gupta (7 Dan black belt, World Karate Federation Licenced Coach) who was the Chief Guest and invited trainer in the camp and Sensei Rajan Jamwal (4 Dan black belt President District Jammu Karate Association)was the guest of honour.

Nearly 100 students participated in this camp. Some students were selected by Shihan Ambedkar Gupta for the upcoming UT level karate training camp going to be held on 11&12 February 2023 which is to be conducted for the selection of WKF Events.

Chairperson of school Ms. Gita Sharma and Incharge Ms.Priyanka Katoch was also present at the occasion. Chairperson ensure that their school will continue such a program for the betterment and international exposure of the students in the field of karate and martial arts.

CONTD. FROM FRONT **PAGE**

3.90 Lakh Kanal

is not being followed and bulldozers have become the first response of the Union Territory administration to evict people from the lands they have been occupying.

"Due process has to be followed. Without issuing a single notice, they are directly sending bulldozers. If someone has occupied any property, issue them a notice, give them time to respond and then take action," Abdullah had said.

The official, however, said that demolishing any structure and retrieving any land is only done when the authorities are sure that the land or structure is illegal.

The official further said when that provided land to the people had been struck down by the court, there was no need to send the notice to the occupant.

It may be noted, the High court has struck down the Roshni Land Act in 2020. However the government made an oral statement in the court that it won't take any "coercive action" against petitioners. In January 2023, the Jammu and Kashmir

government had directed removal of all encroachments on land owned by UT, including Roshni land and Kahcharai land. The official said that the government pro-

vides notices to those occupants only if they think that the person might have "tangible grounds" to prove his claim.

He further said the drive will continue and no-one will be spared.

He further said that if the government has done an illegal activity by demolishing anyones structure and retrieving the land, the aggrieved persons would have approached the court.

"..But when you know that the court won't give you any relief, because you had illegally occupied the land, you stay silent and make noise on social media only," said the official.

Panun Kashmir

(NC) and Mehbooba Mufti of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), have voiced their concerns against the drive.

Mufti recently accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government of turning Jammu and Kashmir into Afghanistan by "demolishing the homes of poor and marginalised", while Abdullah said he was against people encroaching upon state land, but the administration should follow the due process of law.

Land measuring more than 10 lakh kanals has been retrieved across Jammu and Kashmir after the commissioner secretary of the revenue department, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, directed all deputy commissioners to ensure a 100-per cent removal of encroachments from state land, including "Roshni" and "Kahcharai" (grazing land), on January 7.

"We welcome the action taken by the Jammu and Kashmir administration against the illegal encroachments and constructions across the Union Territory, particularly by top political bigwigs. Panun Kashmir asks both the leadership at the helm of the governments in Jammu and Kashmir and the Centre to recognise such corrupt and illegal activity not merely as acts of corruption, but

as acts of internal subversion," Chrungoo told reporters here.

He demanded the formation of a special investigation team (SIT) to "investigate, assess and analyse the role of the NC and the PDP in the promotion and perpetuation of separatism and Islamic fundamentalism" in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The political processes in Jammu and Kashmir, right since the installing of the NC government here, have nourished separatism and communalism. In fact, various governments in Jammu and Kashmir, spearheaded by the NC and the PDP, have operated as vehicles for the use of democratic domains for the growth of fundamentalism and separatism." Chrungoo alleged

Voicing support to the anti-encroachment drive without discriminating between rich and poor, he said subversion of democracy happens when democratic space is allowed to be used for politics, which violates the Constitution and the basic ideology and integrity of the country.

'If harnessing halfway separatism is not abandoned lock stock and barrel as a strategic and tactical outlook, then even if Pakistan stops all support to separatism and terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, it will still survive and perpetuate," Chrungoo said.

Police Stops

Mehbooba planned to march from Railway Bhawan to Parliament, where she wanted to inform opposition parties about the Jammu and Kashmir administration's "bulldozer policy".

However, police detained the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, and took her and her party workers to Jantar Mantar. The protesters dispersed from Jantar Mantar.

"We had come to inform the public, opposition parties and members of the ruling BJP about the misery faced by the public at large in Jammu and Kashmir.

"If we can't go to Parliament, I wonder where we should go then. Does the government want us to get our grievances redressed at the United Nations," Mehbooba

There is no rule of law that can be seen in Jammu and Kashmir and "we came all the way to Delhi to speak our hearts out. But it seems that here also the voice of the general public is muzzled," she said.

Protest Held

Led by Rakib Ahmad, the protesters assembled near the Pratap Park on Residency Road, raising slogans against the Union Territory administration. Terming the eviction drive "anti-people"

and "anti-poor", the protesters demanded that it be stopped immediately. They tried to march towards the Lal

Chowk but were stopped by police.

Azad Fears

return if homes and small shops are demolished.

The eviction drive has resulted in corruption as people were paying bribes to revenue officials to ensure their names do not feature among those who have encroached on state land, the former chief minister of

Jammu and Kashmir alleged.

Azad thanked Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for their assurances of not harming the poor population, but demanded that an official order should be issued to provide relief to the distressed people.

"The government has done certain good things like ending the culture of hartal and stone-pelting (in Kashmir). It is a positive thing which has happened, but if they start demolishing homes and small shops, there is a likelihood that hartals and stone-pelting will return and the government itself will be responsible for it," the DAP chief told PTI

the government should not do anything which will end up spreading negativity as lakhs of people have been served notices asking them to vacate their homes and wind up their businesses.

"Earlier, the people were responsible for hartals and stone-pelting but now, if the same thing happens again, the government will be directly responsible. The government must encash on positivity rather than spreading negativity," Azad said.

He also suggested that the government should stop the drive as it is a loss for it as well as the poor.

"I am not speaking for big land owners, businessmen, politicians or thieves (land grabbers). If this drive is stopped, 98 per cent (of the poor) will be benefited. My only aim is that the homes of the poor and their small businesses remain intact so that they can earn their livelihood in a peaceful atmosphere," Azad said.

The DAP leader said the government should take a decision immediately in the interest of peace and issue an order to put an end to the eviction drive against the poor.

The drive has also generated corruption. Patwaris, tehsildars and other revenue officials are taking bribes from people to ensure that their names are not listed (among the encroachers). It (revenue department) has become a den of corruption," he alleged.

On allegations that the drive was discriminatory and those associated with the BJP were not touched, Azad said, "Anyone who has done wrong, whether he is from BJP, Congress, NC, PDP or Apni Party, should face the law.'

"Harassing the public or indulging in pick and choose will go against the government. It will create disharmony and the situation is bound to return to the likes of the 1990s," he said.

"Elections (assembly) have not taken place for a very long time, unemployment s on the rise and inflation has skyrocketed. We need to provide such an atmosphere where people can breathe easy but they are having sleepless nights in their own country," Azad added.

Wet Spell

a low of 8.3°C against 8.4°C on the previous night. It was 1.2°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 4.4°C (above normal by 3.4°C). Batote 3.5°C (below normal by 1.3°C), Katra 8.0°C (0.6°C above normal) and Bhadarwah 1.1°C (1.4°C

above normal)

Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 13.0°C and minus 6.4°C respectively, the official said.

Regarding the forecast, the MeT official said that partly cloudy weather was expected today and "Widespread light to moderate snowfall/rain in Jammu and Kashmir with chances of heavy snowfall over higher reaches from evening of February 9-10." (GNS)

CRPF Trained

two children died when an improvised explosive device (IED) left behind by the attackers went off the next day.

"The CRPF has imparted ne ing to 948 VDG members in collaboration with district police Rajouri from January 6, 2023 to January 25, 2023," he said in a written reply to a question of BJP member Sushil Kumar Modi.

The minister said at present, the sanctioned strength of VDGs is 4,985, of which 4,153 VDGs have been constituted and the Ministry of Home Affairs last year had decided that there would be not more than 15 members in each VDG.

The persons who shall be heading or coordinating the VDGs in the "more vulnerable areas" shall be paid Rs 4,500 per month and the person who are members of the VDGs on voluntary basis shall be paid a uniform rate of Rs 4,000 per month, he said.

The VDGs shall consist of following categories: those in possession of a valid arms licence and to whom weapons have been provided by the Jammu and Kashmir police, determined by the District Magistrate or Senior Superintendent of Police concerned. keeping in view the credentials of the volunteers, population of the village, its location and security requirement, persons in possession of valid licence and weapons or willing to purchase weapons on their own, Rai said.

Police Announces

night, police also warned of stern action against those facilitating the terrorists in any way.

On Sunday, Dhangri residents expressed concern over the "failure" of security agencies in tracing the terrorists behind the attacks in the village. They threatened to go on a hunger strike if the security agencies are unable to eliminate the militants within the next 15 days.

'The terrorists who engineered the attack in Dhangri village... are still hiding in the hills of Rajouri. They can engineer a terror incident again," police said.

"There are a few people who are facilitating the movement and survival of these terrorists besides providing them information on the movement of police and (security) forces," they said.

A close vigil is being kept on these "terror facilitators" and stern legal action will be taken against them very soon, they added.

"Rs 10 lakh and other rewards will be given to anyone who will share information about the terrorists. The name of the

informer will be kept secret," police said. Appealing to people to remain alert, they

said, "Peace is a prerequisite for development and people should cooperate with police in maintaining peace in all possible ways.'

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is probing the Dhangri attack. Police and security forces are conducting massive operations in Rajouri to track the attackers.

Over 120 operations have been conducted in the last five weeks, according to officials.

Peace Has Returned

on Wednesday. Addressing the concluding session of the three-day Y20 summit here, the Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister said that peace has returned to the region, and many developmental works are being carried out at present.

"Peace has returned to Jammu and Kashmir, and Northeast. In the case of Northeast, insurgency incidents came down by 89 per cent and civilian deaths are down by 85 per cent during the last eight years," he added.

Thakur said that with gradual improvement in the law and order situation of the region, the stringent Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) has been withdrawn from most parts of the Northeast.

In the case of Jammu and Kashmir, he said that the government formed district development committees, which was never done since India's Independence. 'We have got a very good response from

the local people of the valley. Peace is always possible with the participation of people in developmental works," the minister said.

As part of India's G20 Presidency, the Youth20 group's first inception meeting was held at Guwahati, deliberating ideas for a better tomorrow and drafting an agenda for action on five identified themes.

"During the meeting, 21 foreign delegates and 200 Indian delegates participated. In the run-up to the event, 10,000 youths in 36 colleges of Assam participated in seminars, debates, workshops and quiz competitions on Y20. Over 10 lakh students from around 4,000 schools also participated," Thakur said.

He claimed that nowhere else in the remaining 19 member nations of the G20 people's participation was so huge. At the closing ceremony, the 'White Paper'

on the five themes of Y20 was launched by Thakur, while Assam Education Minister Ranoj Pegu presented the 'Research Papers' on the five themes. The themes were Peace Building and

Reconciliation: Ushering in an Era of No War; Future of Work: Industry 4.0. Innovation and 21st Century Skills; and Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a Way of Life.

Shared Future: Youth in Democracy and Governance and Health, Well-being and Sports: Agenda for Youth were the two remaining themes on which Y20 delegates brainstormed in a series of sessions.

The minister said the themes were carefully chosen to be deliberated upon for a shared future for the global community and these issues present an extraordinary opportunity for the youths to create, contribute and collaborate with the development agenda of G20

Secretary Health Reviews Medical Preparedness

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Secretary Health and Medical Education (H&ME), Bhupinder Kumar, on Wednesday convened a meeting with senior officers of H&ME department to review preparedness for upcoming G20 summit 2023.

The agenda of the meeting was to finalize medical arrangements for the said summit besides ensuring an organized and time based medical attention to the invitees participating in the Summit and other officials.

Pertinently, G20 is an intergovernment cooperation forum of World's major developed and developing economies comprising 19 countries and the European Union. There will be 9 invitee countries and participants from various regional (ASEAN, African Union, African Union Development Agency) and International organizations (UN, IMF, World bank, WHO, WTO, ILO, FSB, OECD, ISA etc.)

During the meeting, Additional Mission Director, Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, Dr. Shafqat Khan, who has been nominated as single point of contact for health care arrangements during the G20 Summit 2023, made a presentation.

Various aspects of ensuring prompt and timely medical care at the meeting sites and other venues on the side-lines of the meeting were discussed and directions were issued to the HODs to earmark facilities in case of any medical adversity. It was also discussed that

specialist care will be made available for the visiting dignities and officers of the Government of India on round the clock basis

It was informed in the meeting that advance life support ambulances shall be deployed at the venues and enroute other excursion sites for the delegates and the visiting dignities. Besides, a medical task force shall be constituted to oversee overall arrangements at district

Secretary asked the Director Health Services Kashmir to undertake specialized training for the healthcare personnel who shall be deployed for duties during this period.

He instructed for establishing a Control Room to oversee working of health staff and other functionaries. He also directed the officers to ensure strict adherence to Covid protocols at all places and venues where the meetings are to be held.

MD National Health Mission, Ayushi Sudan, Principal Medical College Srinagar, Dr. Tanveer Masood, Principal Medical College Jammu, Dr. Shashi Sudan, Director Health Services, Jammu, Dr. Saleem ur Rehman and Director Health Services, Kashmir, Dr. Mushtaq Rather, Joint Director Planning, H&ME Department, Rajeev Bhushan, Additional Secretary H&ME Department, Rajeshwar Singh Charark, Director Coordination, New Medical Colleges, Dr. Yashpal Sharma and other senior officers of the department participated in the meeting.

DAK Seeks Earthquake Safety Audit Of Hospitals In Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Wednesday has sought earthquake safety audit of all the hospitals in the valley.

"Structural audit of hospitals should be done immediately to ensure they are resilient to quakes," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

'Recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria is a wakeup call for Kashmir which is vulnerable to similarly powerful seismic events," he said.

Dr Hassan said hospitals play an important role in savlives during an earthquake. They provide immediate medical succor in the form of emergency medical care.

"It is essential that these crucial life-saving assets remain functional at a time when they are needed most," he said.

The DAK President said there is an urgent need to assess the structural stability of heath

care institutions. "We need to identify the gaps and fill them on priority," he said adding "corrective measures such as strengthening and retrofitting of these lifeline buildings, if needed should be done on urgent basis.

Dr Nisar said hospitals in Kashmir need to increase their surge capacity to cope with increased number of patients in case of a disaster like earthquake.

They need to augment infrastructure, staff, space and supplies to manage sudden influx of an unexpected patient load during the disaster.

"Hospitals should have designated disaster wards and reserved staff in case of large scale disaster," he said.

General Secretary DAK Dr Arshad Ali said hospital staff should undergo disaster management training and periodic drills to test the response capabilities to disaster.

"Every hospital should have a disaster management committee to make a disaster plan for the hospital and ensure its implementation when needed," he said.

4598 Drug Smuggling Cases Filed In J&K From 2017 To **2021: Centre**

MoS Home Says NIA Empowered Under NDPS Act To Investigate 'Narco-Terrorism' Cases

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Centre on Wednesday said that 4598 drug smuggling cases were registered in Jammu and Kashmir from 2017 to 2021 and that drugs. Among these cases 12 have been registered by the National Investigation Agency.

In a written reply Union Minister of Home Nityanand Rai, as per the news agency KNO, said as per the report of NCRB, the number of cases of drug smuggling registered in J&K in the last five years including 743 in 2017, 680 in 2018, 918 in 2019, 933 in 2020 and 1324 in 2021.

He said there is no data or study to indicate an increase in smuggling and consumption of narcotics or drugs in Jammu and Kashmir in the last 5 years.

He said the data is available as per survey conducted by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on Extent and Pattern of Substance use in India through the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi during 2018 for which report was released in Febru-

He also said that the estimated number of various drug substance users with age between 18 to 75 is 585000 including 1,36,000 cannabis, 4,47,000 opioids, 1000 cocaine and

1000 Amphetamines type stimulant. He said the various steps taken by the Centre to deal with menace of Narco-terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir include National Investigation Agency empowered under NDPS Act 1985 for investigation of Narco terrorism cases.

"To keep check at the land borders, Border Security Force has been empowered under the Narcotics Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act for making interdiction of narcotic drugs," he

He further said the Government has introduced NCORD mechanism in 2016 to have effective coordination of actions among various Ministries, Departments, Central and States law enforcement agencies dealing with

"The mechanism was restructured in 2019 into a 4 tier structure as detailed under Apex Level Committee (headed by Union Home Secretary) Executive Level Committee (headed by Special Secretary (IS),MHA). State Level Committee (headed by Chief Secretary of the concerned State). District Level Committee (Headed by District Magistrate). The NCORD mechanism has been further strengthened by addition of new members at different levels to make it more effective and comprehensive," he added

Glass Igloo Becomes New **Tourist Attraction In Gulmarg**



Press Trust Of India

GULMARG: Thousands of tourists visit the ski resort, Gulmarg for abundant snowfall but this winter there was a surprise awaiting them - a glass igloo.

"It's a completely different experience. I am feeling very good, and it's a really fantastic experience to sit and have food inside an igloo," Kabir, a tourist from Delhi told PTI. Kabir is all praises for the hotel staff and the creator of the glass igloo concept as he feels that it brought him closer to nature.

"The ambience is nice and every cuisine is available, whether it be Indian, Chinese, or Continental," he added.

For Neha Kohli, another tourist from Delhi, it was a dream experience as she said she had seen such things only in books and movies.

"I never thought whatever we saw in books, we will actually sit inside an igloo and have food one day," Kohli said.

However, for Syed Waseem – the brain behind the concept, it took three years of research and development to bring this experience to tourists visiting Gulmarg.

"I travel around a lot. During one such trip to Finland, I saw people who come to see Northern Lights, and stay in these glass igloos. I was fas-

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A total of 187

militants were killed and 111

counter-militancy operations

carried out in Jammu and

ister of State for Home Nity-

cinated with the thought of bringing this concept to Kashmir," said Waseem, a hotelier by profession.

He said enquiries about the glass igloo led him to Austria, where these are manufactured. A team from the company manufacturing these igloos in Austria visited Kashmir last year to study the weather and climate in Gulmarg for ensuring the product is made

"The fabricators needed data like temperature, wind speeds and sunlight intensity. After obtaining all this, they developed an ideal structure for this

to specifications that can last

over a period of time.

place," he said. For the past two years, Waseem said he had constructed snow igloos outside his hotel in Gulmarg that had caught the imagination of the tourists but due to insufficient snowfall this winter, the natural igloos could not be made.

"If you want tourists to come back again and again, you have to add new attractions for them. These igloos have done that work for us. Otherwise, it snows in Himachal and Uttarakhand also," he said.

Waseem said he brought six glass igloos which cost him around Rs 50 lakhs. However, he is happy with the investment. He has placed three igloos

187 Militants Killed In J&K In 2022: Centre

on Wednesday. Rai said 125 militant initiated incidents and 117 encounters took place in Jammu and Modi. Kashmir in 2022.

ter-terror operations were anand Rai said in Rajya Sabha carried out in Jammu and he said.

Kashmir in 2021," he said, replying to a written question of BJP member Sushil Kumar

on the lawns of his hotel in

Gulmarg and the other three

in the compound of his restau-

rant that he runs at Kongdoori,

the first halt for the famed

is tremendous. In fact, I have

had gueries from some fellow

hoteliers here ... I think this is

As of now, the glass igloos

are used as restaurants only

but the man behind the con-

cept feels it can change the

tourism landscape of Kashmir.

tinations in Kashmir where

conventional constructions are

not feasible due to fragile ecol-

ogy. If the Government extends

a helping hand by providing

land on lease, these igloos can

be used as night stay facilities

Shoaib Ahmad, a travel agent,

said the igloos can be exploited

commercially for most of the

year in Kashmir as the weather

"There is hardly an extended

dry period in Kashmir's tour-

ist resorts. It can be sunny

one moment and raining cats

and dogs the next. The visi-

tors won't have to worry. They

can enjoy the sunshine or just

sip some warm drink without

getting wet, inside the igloo.'

at such places," he added.

can change very quickly.

"There are many tourist des-

going to catch up in a big way,'

"The response of the tourists

Gondola Cable Car.

he added.

"Altogether 100 encounters "As many as 180 terrorists and 129 terrorists initiated in-Kashmir in 2022, Union Min- were killed and 95 coun- cidents were also reported in the Union Territory in 2021



J&K Set To See Completion Of JJM By June 2023

CS Conducts Virtual Tour Of Works; Takes Feedback From People

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta conducted virtual tour of works taken up under the central flagship programme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) across the UT of J&K.

He interacted with public and officials of the department for taking first hand appraisal of the progress made in the mission so far.

The virtual tour took place in a meeting attended by Principal Secretary, Jal Shakti Department; Mission Director, JJM; Deputy Commissioners; Special Secretary, JSD; Director Finance, JSD; Chief Engineers; Superintending Engineers; Executive Engineers and other officers of the Jal Shakti Depart-

At the outset, the Chief Secretary asked the officers about the progress of the mission and asked them to meet the deadlines without any fail. He directed them to tender all the components of each scheme to complete them fully. He also urged them to expedite the tendering of remaining works so that these are taken up before March this year.

He impressed upon them to involve the local people so that the scheme runs successfully in future as well.

He enjoined upon the officers of the mission to augment the monitoring mechanism for the effective implementation of this mega mission. He also stressed on third party evaluation of the works besides greater role for public representatives and Paani Samities in monitoring progress.

He laid stress on using techniques like Critical Path Method (CPM) and Resource Management System for better control and understanding of the priority areas and discerning the way forward to complete each work on time.

carry out the capacity building of the field workers so that the mission worth Rs 11000 Cr er support activities as well.

is implemented efficiently. He maintained that such missions provide golden opportunity to departments to enhance their efficiency in terms of capacity of their employees and addressing the manpower requirements as well.

Dr Mehta also asked about the pace of water testing under IJM and the remedial measures taken in case of poor quality of water found anywhere. He exhorted upon them to involve people and PRI representatives in the testing process and give the testing kits to PaaniSamities for quality check of the tap

The Principal Secretary, Shaleen Kabra informed the Chief Secretary that the mission is under implementation from 2019 and has achieved a substantial progress till now. He informed the meeting that all rural institutions like schools, Anganwadi centres and health institutions has been provided piped water under this mis-

He revealed that every remaining rural household would get the tap water connection under this mission by June this year as most of the targets would be completed by then. In the presentation he threw light on all the aspects of the mission. He gave detailed analysis of the objectives, procedures, progress and way forward to take the mission to its logical conclusion.

It was further given out that of 6774 works 6712 had already been tendered out and 3696 works stands allotted till date. It was further revealed that 1893 works are currently under progress and 284 works stands completed in the UT. It was given out that all the works of he Mission would be allotted till March this year.

The meeting was apprised that in order to enhance the transparency and monitoring of the works NGOs have been empanelled as Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs). These ISAs are going to work across He instructed the officers to villages and help in capacity building of Gram panchayats, PaniSamities and perform oth-

KAS Officer, Lecturer Held For Seeking Rs 2.3 L Bribe

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Central Bureau of Investigation on Wednesday arrested an official of Tourism Development Corporation and a lecturer of Polytechnic College in a bribery case in Jammu.

According to a statement issued here, CBI arrested a Chief Accounts Officer (KAS), Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation and a Lecturer, Govt. Polytechnic College in a bribery of Rs. 2.3 lakh. The statement reads a case was registered on

complaint against the accused on the allegations that the Chief Accounts Officer demanded a bribe of Rs. 2.3 lakh through the lecturer from the complainant for processing payment in respect of bills submitted by his firm. "CBI laid a trap and caught the accused red-

handed while demanding & accepting bribe of Rs. 2.3 lakh from the Complainant. Searches are being conducted at the official and residential premises of the accused," it reads.

It reads both the arrested, identified as Sajad Ahmed, Chief Accounts Officer and Shokat Ali, Lecturer, will be produced tomorrow before the Court of Special Judge CBI cases, Jammu.

5 Of Family From UP Found Dead In Kupwara

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Five members of a family, including three children, hailing from Uttar Pradesh were found dead in their rented house in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday, police said.

Majid Ansari (35) and four of his family members were found unconscious in their rented accommodation at Kralpora in Kupwara district by their neighbours, who sought help from a local doctor, police said. All the five were declared dead upon examination, they added.

While police have launched the inquest proceedings, officials said suffocation was the like-

ly cause of the deaths. The other deceased have been identified as Ansari's wife Sohana Khatoon (30) and their three children -- Faizan (four), Abu Zarr (three) and an unnamed infant. The family hailed from Bijnor in Uttar Pradesh.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION (NORTH) SOPORE

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

e-NIT No. 40 of 2022-23, dated: 23-01-2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore, invites e-tenders from reputed and resourceful Bidders/ Firms/Companies/Joint Ventures/ Consortiums between bidder/firm and Financier of all classes registered in JKPWD/ CPWD/Railways or any other state Government for "Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical equipment at various water supply schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore". The bidding process shall be completed online on https://jktenders.gov.in in two covers viz. Cover 1st consisting of Pre- Qualification Criteria, General Terms and Conditions and Technical Specifications and Cover 2 shall consist of Financial Bid on item rate basis, in the prescribed BOQ.

	S. No.	Description of work	document Fee (In Rs.)	Earnest money	Estimated cost (Rs in Lacs)	completion (Days)
	1	Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of electro-mechanical equipment at various water supply schemes of Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore		Upload "Bid Secu- rity Declaration" duly notarized	As devised against each item of work in Form I of SBD	180 Days
Position of funds: Approved Under tal Jeavan Mission (HM)						

The tender inviting authority is Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division North Sopore The awarding authority is District Jal Jeevan Mission (DJJM).

CRITICAL DATES:

	I Publish Date II Document Download/sale start Date III Date of Pre-bid meeting IV Bid submission start date		23-01-2023 (02:00 pm)			
			23-01-2023 (02:00 pm)			
			02-02-2023 (02:00 pm)			
			23-01-2023 (02:00 am)			
	V	Document Download/sale end Date	14-02-2023 (06:55 pm)			
	VI	Bid submission end date	14-02-2023 (06:55 pm)			
	VII Date and time of Bid opening		15-02-2023 (02:00 pm)			

Bid documents can be accessed and downloaded from the website https://jktenders.gov.in

The pre-bid meeting will be held in the office chamber of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore

The whole bidding process shall be completed online on tender portal https://jktenders.gov.in. The intending bidders can download the bid document from the tender portal and can submit their bids by uploading them on the tender portal.

The valid bids received shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore Bids must be accompanied by bid security and cost of Tender Document and shall be payable at Srinagar

Bid Security declaration duly notarized shall be uploaded separately against each work instead of EMD (as annexed in SBD). However, to ensure due performance of the contract, Performance Security is to be obtained from the successful bidder.

The cost of tender documents should be in form of Treasury Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North) Sopore. The hard copies of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Receipts, Earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR/BG and other relevant documents shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 after opening of financial cover.

The bid shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the last date of submission of bids. If any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited and the bid shall be declared non-responsive.

Other details can be seen in the bidding documents from the website https://jktenders.gov.in Queries by email if any, should be made at phe.mdns@gmail.com

No: PHE/MDNS/DB/5715-27

Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division (North)

Dated: 23-01-2023 DIPK-17186-22 DT: 08-02-2023



Real Kashmir Return To Winning, Down Sudeva 4-2

Press Trust of India

ended its eight-game winless streak in the I-League with a thumping 4-2 win over Sudeva Delhi FC at the TRC Stadium here on Wednesday.

A brace by Richard Osei Agyemang (20th and 71st) and a goal each by Lalnuntluanga Bawitlung (17th) and Jestin George (83rd) gave the Snow Leopards full three points.

Sudeva Delhi's new forwards Alexis Gomez (22nd) and Shavkati Khotam (55th-penalty) helped it claw back to 2-2, but the host had enough left in the tank in the second half to regain its two-goal advantage and cruise to a much-needed win.

Midfielder Yakubu Wadudu picked out an unmarked Lalfine cross from the left wing. The Indian carefully headed it past Sudeva captain and custodian Priyant Singh to put the hosts

Three minutes later, Samuel Kynshi sent a tricky free-kick delivery into the six-yard box. side the six-yard box to poke

teammates, but his rather unusual touch deceived everyone in-SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC cluding goalkeeper Priyant, who failed to keep the ball from going into the back of his goal.

Delhi was quick to pull one back, and it did it with a moment of individual brilliance by its Argentine recruit Gomez's stunning free-kick into the top corner from more than 25 yards.

R Lalbiakliana continued to trouble Real Kashmir full-backs and in the 53rd minute, the 18-year-old proved too quick for defender Rupert Nongrum who brought him down inside the box.

Tajik striker Khotam stepped up to take the penalty and beat Subhasish Roy Chowdhury with a precise shot into the corner.

But Real Kashmir kept pushing, and its persistence paid off when Kynshi and Agyemang nuntluanga Bawitlung with a combined again from a set piece to score the hosts' third goal.

George sealed it for the home side from yet another set piece. This time, Sankar-lal Chakraborty's side failed to clear Loken Meitei's corner, and George reacted the quickest in-Richard Agyemang tried to flick home the fourth for the Snow the ball into the path of one of his Leopards.

Yousmarg Can Become An **Attractive Winter Sports Destination: Director YSS**

Observer News Service

YOUSMARG: Director Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K Subash C Chhibber on Wednesday visited famous tourist destination Yousmarg and took stock of the arrangements made for the ongoing skiing training programme being run by YSS since 1st of the current month.

He was accompanied by ID ashmir of YS&S Bashir Ahmed

for skiing and, since the launch of this new skiing venue, a number of skiing enthusiasts are visiting the place.

'Skiing will keep the tourist place a buzz during winters as well and will create avenues of job for the youth of surrounding areas," Director YSS added.

Director Chibber announced that the Department would be purchasing separate equipment like skis and gear etc. for Yous-



and DYSSO Budgam Gurmukh marg during the next financial

Director (YS&S), while exconduct of the basic training in Ski at the newly explored ski destination of Yousmarg by YS&S said, that Yousmarg is one of the best visiting places in the valley during summers and to make it an all season destination for tourists, this initiative was taken by the Department under of Secretary of the Department Sarmad Hafeez.

The Director said the snowcovered slopes here are perfect tition of the first batch.

year and efforts are on to develop the destination in the best pospressing happiness over the sible way as it has enough potential to be developed as an attractive winter sport destination.

Pertinently a group of 60 students selected from different districts of the Kashmir division are being trained about the basics of the sport by a team of well trained instructors in the 15-day long training course. A the supervision and guidance large group of girls selected from different Government Schools of I&K will be receiving training in the sport soon after the compe-

WTC Final To Be Held At The Oval From June 7

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The ICC on Wednesday confirmed that the second edition of the World Test Championship (WTC) Final between the top two Test-playing nations will take place at The Oval from June 7 to 11, with June 12 as the designated reserve day. The South London venue has hosted over 100 Test matches in its rich history, and in June will welcome the top two Test sides in the ICC World Test Championship standings, which will compete for the ICC WTC Mace following two years of

hard-fought competition. The ICC WTC Final is the pinnacle event in the Test calendar and is a week-long celebration of the longest format of the game. across a four-Test series starting



nation of two years of intense competition in the ICC WTC, spanning 61 Test matches over 24 series played to date.

While the two competing nations may not yet be known, there are a host of significant fixtures due to be played in the coming weeks to determine the finalists. Australia currently top the standings, with India in hot pursuit in second place, and both the teams go head-to-head This Ultimate Test is the culmi- in Nagpur on Thursday.

1st Test: India Eye Summit Clash, Australia Seek Revenge



Press Trust of India

NAGPUR: Rohit Sharma, a bonafide white-ball legend, will face his biggest test as India's red-ball captain against a determined Australian side which would be hungry for revenge when the much-awaited Border-Gavaskar series starts here Thursday.

lot of twists and turns, engrossing sub-plots and probably career-defining performances.

It's such a high-profile rubber that non-performance could mins and his players and they lead to end of career for some after this series.

Will captain Rohit Sharma Cummins if the Australian captain keeps a long leg and digs one short? Will Virat Kohli use the sweep shot more often

bowlers in recent times?

Can Suryakumar Yadav's 'three-dimensional' play earn him Rahul Dravid's faith ahead of Shubman Gill, the man touted to lead India's batting when the transition phase kicks-in in another 18 to 24 months? Will Axar Patel's under-cutters be more effective than Kuldeep Yadav's trickeries It is a series that promises a of bringing the ball back into right handers?

The back-to-back series defeats in their own den (2018-19 and 2020-21) have hurt Cumcertainly have revenge on its mind, even though it will be easier said than done on a pitch curb his instinct to pull Pat that promises appreciable turn from first day itself.

Australia Test matches since the epic 2001 series has, at times, against Ashton Agar and Na- been better than the Ashes. than Lyon as the batting stal- The journey of this batch of wart looks to turn around his Australian cricketers won't be Green (unavailable), Mitchell ordinary showing against slow complete if they don't emulate Starc (from 2nd Test).

the exploits of the Matthew Haydens, Justin Langers, Glenn McGraths or the Adam Gilchrists of 2004.

Steve Smith put it aptly, saying a series win in India will be bigger than the Ashes. **SQUADS:**

India: Rohit Sharma (captain), KL Rahul, Cheteshwar Pujara, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja, KS Bharat (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Axar Patel Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Kuldeep Yadav, Suryakumar Yadav, Umesh Yadav, Jaydev Unadkat, Ishan Kishan (wk). **Australia:** Pat Cummins

(captain), David Warner, Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne, Steve Smith, Travis Head, Alex Carey (wk), Matt Renshaw, Pe-The quality of India versus ter Handscombe, Nathan Lyon, Ashton Agar, Scott Boland, Lance Morris, Mitchell Swepson, Todd Murphy, Josh Hazlewood (unavailable), Cameron

Qatari Investors Set To Bid For Manchester United - Daily Mail



Agencies

Qatari investors are planning to make a huge bid to buy Premier League club Manchester United, the Daily Mail newspaper reported on Tuesday, citing unnamed sources.

The report described the investors as "a group of private, high-wealth individuals" from Qatar, which hosted the 2022 World Cup. United declined to comment when contacted by Reuters. Manchester United's New York-listed shares jumped nearly 16.5% in premarket trading.

Bloomberg News reported last month that Qatar Sports Investments (QSI), which owns Paris St Germain, was considering either a total takeover or a stake in Manchester United or their rivals Liverpool. QSI is a statebacked body founded by the emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, but European soccer governing body UEFA has strict integrity rules regarding multi-club ownership.

No club participating in its competitions is allowed to "directly or indirectly hold or deal in the securities or shares of any The team, managed by Erik ten other club". In 2017, Bundesliga side RB Leipzig and Austrian side Salzburg were both

cleared to play in the Champions League after UEFA said it was satisfied that energy drinks

manufacturer Red Bull did not have a controlling influence in both clubs.

The Daily Mail report states the interested investors are separate from QSI and that the money will come from an "individual fund" rather than a sovereign wealth fund. Jim Ratcliffe's company INEOS formally entered the bidding process to buy United last month after the club's U.S. owners, the Glazer family, said in November they had begun looking at options including new investment or a potential sale.

United fans have been clamouring for a change of ownership and the Glazers have been the target of intense criticism as the team last won silverware back in 2017, lifting the Europa League and League Cup trophies. In April, thousands protested outside Old Trafford, lighting flares and singing songs demanding the Glazers "get out of the club".

United's net debt, another bone of contention among fans, had grown to 515 million pounds (\$620.42 million) by September. Hag, are third in the league on 42 points after 21 games, three points behind Manchester City but eight adrift of leaders Arsenal, who have played a game less.

(\$1 = 0.8301 pounds)

Cummins, Rohit Play Down Pitch Talk



NAGPUR: Rival captains Pat Cummins and Rohit Sharma sought to put the focus back on cricket after a section of Australian media accused India of selectively watering the pitch in Nagpur.

The pitch at the Vidarbha Cricket Association Stadium finds itself under the spotlight even before the match starts with several Australian media pointing out that groundstaff had left the area outside left-handers' off-stump dry at both ends. Australia's playing XI, which Cummins would not reveal, could potentially feature five left-handed batsmen in their top seven, but the paceman appeared unperturbed.

"That's part of the challenge of playing away," Cummins, whose team just need to avoid a 4-0 whitewash to make the final of the World Test Championship in June, told reporters.

"Home teams want to win at home. In Australia, we're lucky we've normally got pace and bounce.

"Home match advantage, I don't think it's a terrible thing. It's another challenge and makes touring over here even harder when you know the conditions are custom-made for them."

Cummins said all-rounder Cameron Green, recovering from a finger injury, would miss the opener, joining pacemen Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc on the sidelines.

Australia may blood uncapped Todd Murphy alongside fellow off-spinner Nathan Lyon, and Peter Handscomb might pip Matthew Renshaw for the number six position to bring right-handed variety in their southpaw-heavy lineup. "I think it is a factor over here," Cummins said.

"With so much traffic from the right-handers' bowling, at times there is a bit more out there for the left handers."

Rohit shot down suggestions that India had rolled out a 'doctored pitch' for the contest.

"You just need to focus on the cricket that will be played on the next five days, and not worry too much about the pitch," he told a news conference. "All 22 players who will be playing here are quality cricketers ... You just got to come out and play good cricket to win the game, as simple as that."

Rohit said batters from both sides would have to think on their feet to counter spin. "When the ball spins a lot, your method of scoring runs becomes very important," explained the opener. "You'll have to rotate strike, and see how can

you score runs - sweep, reverse sweep, using your feet ... "That's what we've told the boys - 'find your own ways of scoring runs'. It's going to

be challenging. "Australia have a couple of quality spinners who can trouble us, no doubt about that."







Nasha Mukt Bharat Khushahaal Bharat

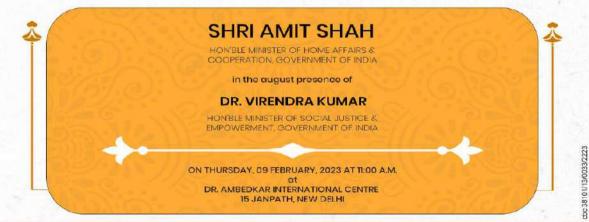


Let us all reiterate our commitment to share accurate information on drug abuse and make the dream of a drugfree India a reality.

- Narendra Modi

Dedication of 25 Addiction Treatment Facilities to the Nation

- The treatment center offers free counselling, medication and services for recovering from addiction
- Trained staff available at treatment center
- Easy entry into the treatment center on the basis of medical checkup
- De-addiction Treatment Centers would be established in 125 identified districts





for information about your nearest

24x7 Toll Free National

De-Addiction Helpline 14446

To know more, log on to https://nmba.dosje.gov.in/index.php

🕥 😝 👩 /Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan Follow on Social Media