

Turkey-Syria Earthquake

SURVIVORS STILL BEING FOUND AS DEATH TOLL TOPS 25,000

Agencies

Turkiye: Rescue crews on Saturday pulled more survivors, including entire families, from toppled buildings despite diminishing hopes as the death toll of the enormous quake that struck a border region of Turkey and Syria five days ago surpassed 25,000.

Dramatic rescues were being broadcast on Turkish television, including the rescue of the Narli family in central Kahramanmaraş 133 hours after the 7.8-magnitude temblor struck Monday. First, 12-year-old Nehir Naz Narli was saved, then both of her parents.

That followed the rescue earlier in the day of a family of five from a mound of debris in the hard-hit town of Nurdagi, in Gaziantep province, TV network HaberTurk reported.

Rescuers cheered and chanted, "God is Great!" as the last family member, the father, was lifted to safety.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, on a tour of

quake-stricken cities, raised the death toll in Turkiye to 21,848, which pushed the total number of dead across the region, including government and rebel-held parts of Syria, to 25,401.

Erdogan said a disaster of this scope is rare, affecting an area so large that is home to so many people.

He referred to it as the "disaster of the century" and said it had affected an area 500 kilometers (310 miles) in diameter that is home to 13.5 million people in Turkiye and an unknown number in Syria.

"In some parts of our settlements close to the fault line, we can say that almost no stone was left standing," he said earlier Saturday from Diyarbakir.

Still, the day brought one astonishing rescue after another, numbering more than a dozen.

Melisa Ulku, a woman in her 20s, was extricated from the rubble in Elbistan in the 132th hour **More on P6**



PEOPLE WHO ARE COMING OUT FROM THE RUBBLE NOW, it's a miracle if they survive. Most of the people that come out now are dead, and they come here."

Govt Makes List Of Roshni Beneficiaries, State Land Encroachers Public

Auqib Javed

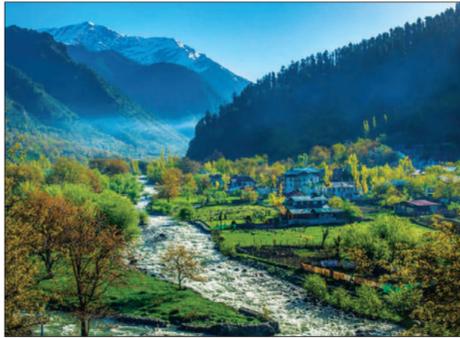
Srinagar: Unfazed over sharp criticism to its ongoing eviction drive in Jammu and Kashmir, the Union Territory administration has issued a list of Roshni Act beneficiaries and state land encroachers, revealing details of the land illegally occupied and mutated in the Valley over the years.

The list has been updated on the Divisional Commissioner's website <https://kashmirdivision.nic.in/webpages/Roshni/Roshni.html> where people can access all the details related to their lands.

An official told Kashmir Observer that this list is not final and will be updated.

The administration has made various sections in the list giving elaborate details of the land. Under Proforma A, details and list of land approved and mutation attested thereafter, has been provided of all the ten districts.

Under Proforma B, a list of land approved but mutation



not attested have been uploaded. In Proforma C, details and list of state land encroachment (recorded in revenue records, other than Roshni) has been provided with name and survey number including the area. And under Proforma D, details of state land encroachment (physically) but not shown in Revenue records (other than Roshni) have been uploaded. The list comes amid the

ongoing anti-encroachment drive in Jammu and Kashmir, evoking sharp criticism from almost all the major political parties of the Union Territory.

It may be noted, the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh has declared the Roshni Act as null and void in 2020.

The Jammu and Kashmir state lands (vesting of ownership to the occupants) Act was enacted in the year 2001 with the twin **More on P6**

Terror Incidents Down In J&K Post-Article-370: HM

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Union Home Minister, Amit Shah said on Saturday that there has been a huge reduction in terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir ever since the semi-autonomous status of the erstwhile state was revoked by the BJP-led government at the Centre in August 2019.

"When we assess the internal security scenario of the country eight years ago, the terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir, insurgency inside the Northeast and increasing violence in the left wing extremism areas, were the three major challenges in



front of us," Shah said. He made these remarks at the passing out parade of the 74th batch of the Indian Police Service (IPS) probationers at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy at

Hyderabad on Saturday. "Now, after 8 years, the government has succeeded in countering these three challenges to a large extent. He said that after the abrogation of Article 370, there has been a huge reduction in terrorist incidents in Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

Hailing the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Home Minister said that the main reasons for the reduction in the incidents of terrorism across the country was the policy of 'zero tolerance' against terrorism, strong framework of counter-terror laws, empowerment of all agencies and strong political will. **More on P6**

Car Showroom Demolished In Jammu

Authorities on Saturday demolished a car showroom during an anti-encroachment drive to retrieve state land here, a week after abandoning the exercise in the face of stonely pelting by a group of agitated locals. The showroom of M G Hector at Malik Market along Narwal bypass was demolished by the revenue department under stringent security arrangements, officials said. They said police and paramilitary personnel were deployed in strength in the locality and adjoining Bhatindi, Sunjwan and Channi before the bulldozers were moved in the morning to bring down the building. The bypass from Bhatindi to **More on P6**

Govt Official Falls In CBI Net

A government official was allegedly caught red-handed by sleuths of the Central Bureau of Investigation while he was taking bribe in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir, an official said. Junior Assistant, District Industries Centre (DIC), Gopal Raj Sharma was trapped on the basis of a complaint that he was demanding Rs 20,000 as bribe for issuance of No Objection Certificate (NOC) to avail subsidy in respect of **More on P6**

Man Dies In Hajin Accident

A man died in a road accident on Friday in Hajin town of north Kashmir's Bandipora district. 35-year-old Nisar Ahmed Dar son of Shahgund suffered critical injuries after a car he was traveling in, met with an accident at Bonikhan area on Friday evening, reports said. Dar was rushed to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival. "After conducting medico-legal formalities **More on P6**

Banihal Highway Reopens After 3-Day Closure

Over 1000 Stranded Vehicles Cleared, Fresh Traffic Likely To Be Restored Today



Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway was reopened for stranded vehicles Saturday after remaining closed for three consecutive days owing to multiple landslides in Ramban district, officials said.

The highway was closed on Thursday evening after the arterial road was blocked by landslides triggered by heavy rains at several places between Panthiyal and Ramsu, leaving

more than 1,000 vehicles including passenger vehicles and Kashmir-bound trucks carrying essential commodities stranded at different places.

The officials said the road clearance operation at Panthiyal, Cafeteria morh and Mehar was speeded up with improvement in the weather on Saturday morning and after several hours of hectic efforts, the road was cleared for stranded vehicles late afternoon. The iron and **More on P6**

Lithium Reserve Found In Reasi Is Of Best Quality: Official

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The country's first lithium reserve, found in Jammu and Kashmir, is of the best quality, a senior government official said here on Saturday, as upbeat villagers expressed hope the discovery will bring them a bright future.

The 5.9-million ton reserve of lithium, a crucial mineral for the manufacturing of electric vehicles and solar panels, had been discovered in Reasi district by the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

"Lithium falls in the critical resource category which was not earlier available in India and we were dependent for its 100 percent import. The G3 (advanced) study of the GSI shows the presence of best



quality lithium in abundant quantity in the foothills of Mata Vaishno Devi shrine at Salal village (Reasi)," J-K Mining Amit Secretary Sharma told PTI.

He said against the normal grade of 220 parts per million

(PPM), the lithium found in J&K is of 500 ppm-plus grading, and with a stockpile of 5.9 million tons, India will surpass China in its availability.

"India joined a select group of countries at the global **More on P6**

Haj-2023 To Be Cheaper By Rs 80,000 This Year

'Women Allowed To Undertake Pilgrimage In Groups Without Mahram'

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: The Haji Committee of India (HCOI) has taken a slew of people friendly initiatives to make Haj-2023 easy for women and senior citizens, besides making the annual pilgrimage to Mecca cheaper by Rs 80,000 from this year, Jammu and Kashmir Haj Committee chairperson, Safeena Baig said on Saturday.

Addressing a news conference, Safeena said that the government has also done away with the 'discretionary' Haj quota for pilgrims, keeping in view Prime Minister Narendra

Modi's "resolve to end VIP culture" in the country.

She said rich or poor, everyone will be treated equally as the decades old VIP culture was put to end by the ruling regime in India.

"I really congratulate the government for taking some excellent measures which are worth appreciation. The Haji Committee of India has approved group pilgrimage for women, in absence of a Mahram," she said.

"Women who haven't yet accomplished their dream of performing Hajj, can now be accompanied by **More on P6**

Fresh Snowfall, Low Visibility Delays Flights

The fresh light snowfall in Srinagar and elsewhere in Kashmir delayed the flight operations at Srinagar international airport due to low visibility in the early morning on Saturday. Several areas across Kashmir including Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir received fresh snowfall since the wee hours of this morning. **More on P6**

ONLY THE STRANDED VEHICLES were allowed to move towards their destinations after the road clearance agencies cleared the debris and made the road traffic worthy."

Despite being geographically distant from Kashmir how Kashmiris in West maintain cultural, social, and emotional linkages with their homeland. Tune-in to latest KO podcast

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**Scholarships
This Week**

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

**Scholarship Name 1:
LSCL Horticulture Internship 2023**

Description: LSCL Horticulture Internship 2023 is an opportunity offered by Ludhiana Smart City Limited via the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) internship portal to B.Sc. degree holders.
Eligibility: Open for B.Sc. degree holders who are specialized in Horticulture with relevant skills and interests. The internship will be available for a duration of 12 months.

- Prizes & Rewards: INR 12,000 per month
- Last Date to Apply: 28-02-2023
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/LHS13



**Scholarship Name 2:
OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022**

Description: OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022 aims to provide financial support to meritorious and underprivileged girl students pursuing graduation in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects from government colleges/universities.
Eligibility: Girl students from Haryana who have passed Class 12 and are currently pursuing graduation (any year) in STEM-related subjects from government universities/colleges are eligible. The annual family income of the applicants must be less than INR 6 lakh from all sources. Applicants must have scored an aggregate of 60% marks or above in Class 12 (or equivalent) examination. Students studying in the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year of STEM courses must score at least 60% in the previous class/semester.

- Prizes & Rewards: INR 30,000
- Last Date to Apply: 28-02-2023
- Application mode: OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/ONS1

**Scholarship Name 3:
DBS Scholarship Program**

Description: DBS Bank invites applications from students who are currently enrolled in Class 9 or 10 to support them in continuing their education. The scholarship is meant for children of police personnel (Sub-Inspector and below ranks).
Eligibility: Open for children of police personnel (Sub-Inspector & below ranks) residing in Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, or Puducherry. Applicants must be currently enrolled in Class 9 or 10.

- Prizes & Rewards: INR 20,000 per year (for up to 3 years)
- Last Date to Apply: 20-02-2023
- Application mode: Online applications only
- Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/DBSDS11



'Retrofitting Buildings In India With Fibre Reinforced Materials Can Enhance Their Seismic Resilience'

Press Trust Of India

Retrofitting buildings with concrete and polymer reinforced with fibre could make buildings in India more seismic resilient, thereby, enhancing their chances of surviving earthquakes, according to an expert.

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, have previously investigated corroded reinforcement in beams and columns of buildings, both relatively new and old, in a laboratory settings.

Aditya Singh Rajput, one of the researchers of the study, IIT, Ropar put forth their observations and a few solutions in this regard in a webinar titled "Assessment and Upgradation of Deteriorating Reinforced Concrete Structures: A Researcher's View", conducted in association with Indian Concrete Institute, Chandigarh Centre on February 8, 2023. The study reporting the findings was published in 2019 in the journal Engineering Structures.

"Corrosion of reinforcement in otherwise code compliant reinforced concrete (RC) columns of buildings reduced their seismic performance significantly by severely affecting the ductility of the columns," said Rajput.

Rajput suggested enhancing the ductility of potential hinge, or joint, regions of RC columns by using concrete and polymer materials reinforced with fibre.

"We replaced the concrete cover of the corroded columns with Ultra High Performance fibre Reinforced Concrete (UHPRC) and tested their seismic capacity by simulating earthquake con-

ditions," said seismic expert.

"We found that UHPRC is an effective material to restore seismic performance of code compliant RC columns," said Rajput.

"Against more than 10 per cent of corrosion in the reinforcement of columns, a combination of UHPRC and GFRP worked satisfactorily. GFRP stands for Glass fibre Reinforced Polymer and a layer of GFRP is placed jacketing the column," said Rajput.

"For columns degraded by more than 20 per cent reinforcement corrosion, UHPRC and two layers of GFRP yielded good results. However, columns with severe corrosion, more than 30 per cent, this amount of retrofitting did not suffice. This could be studied further," said the expert.

"Additionally, we also found that retrofitting using these techniques enhanced the vertical load bearing capacity of the columns beyond their original ones, thereby, further advancing our retrofitting technique," said Rajput.

Rajput quoted National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), India data and data obtained through RTIs which showed deaths and injuries from building collapses under service loads. The deaths occurring due to building collapses amounted to 28,764 from the year 1995 to 2015, which was about 1450 deaths per year, said the expert.

That is, this loss to life happened under normal or daily loading conditions of buildings in India. Rajput said that a natural disaster such as an earthquake or a cyclone would be unsustainable for such buildings and that India is home to one of the largest di-

lapidated housing stock in the world.

In the wake of immeasurable devastation caused in Turkey and Syria by the earthquakes and aftershocks, which the countries continue to receive, attention needs to be drawn to the seismic preparedness of buildings in India, the expert said.

The cause for the immense destruction across Turkey and Syria has been attributed to multiple factors.

However, according to a research paper titled "Turkey's grand challenge: Disaster-proof building inventory within 20 years", buildings in Turkey that warranted updation in accordance with their design codes and were constructed with poor materials and workmanship.

"The buildings in Turkey were poor in seismic resilience," said Rajput.

Poor construction workmanship, low quality of monitoring and maintenance, low quality of materials used in construction, over loading by carrying out additional construction, corrosion of reinforcement in beams and columns over time can cause the buildings to crumble under service loads, eventually collapse, leading to deaths, injuries and financial damage.

Such buildings under seismic vibrations are likely to collapse instantaneously, without much forewarning, possibly causing instant destruction to life and property, said the expert.

Buildings can be prevented from failing in this way. They can be rehabilitated in a manner such that they are made to fail gradually, and people in the building can be evacuated in the meantime, the expert said.

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Murtaza Ali Lone
S/o Nissar Ah Lone
R/o Shippora Magam
bmg

ازنیات پھالان
عنوان: درخواست فردوس احمد ولد محمد سید سلطان ملہ ساکن پھالان تحصیل پٹن بٹیش تھیل ڈات گانگی کے بجائے ملہ سکول رکھارڈ میں
اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ایک جمعی آمدہ از انمول و کشمیر بورڈ آف سکول ایجوکیشن زیرینر 13/KB/22 مورخہ 19/12/22 نسبت کا سٹ ڈات بدلے پیش کی ہے جوئی زیر کارونی ہے رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کو سکول رکھارڈ میں گانگی ڈات اندراج ہوئی ہے اور بائی دستاویزات دھار کارڈ و انکیشن کارڈ انس سال 2005 میں ملکہ ڈات اندراج ہوئی ہے ساکن اب گانگی کے بجائے ملہ ڈات سکول میں اندراج کرنے کا خواہ ہے لہذا ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات پریم کے اندر دفتر ہڈاش پیش کرے معیا ڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا
نائب تحصیلدار پھالان fko

ازعدالت
قرض واپس لینے منصف جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر
با اجلاس محترم میر احمد
محمد شفیع گانگی ولد محمد سید سلطان ملہ ساکن
نائب تحصیلدار پھالان
رہنما راجپوت ایڈووکیٹ
ایس۔ ایم۔ سی سرینگر
(سیول)
درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات
نام: محمد سید سلطان ملہ ساکن ملہ سکول رکھارڈ پٹن بٹیش تھیل ڈات گانگی
تاریخ وقات 17/07/1979
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے عدالت ہڈاش ایک درخواست بشمول ملٹی بٹیش اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات 17-07-1979 محمد سید سلطان ملہ ساکن کو سکول رکھارڈ میں گانگی ڈات اندراج ہوئی ہے اور بائی دستاویزات دھار کارڈ و انکیشن کارڈ انس سال 2005 میں ملکہ ڈات اندراج ہوئی ہے ساکن اب گانگی کے بجائے ملہ ڈات سکول میں اندراج کرنے کا خواہ ہے لہذا ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات پریم کے اندر دفتر ہڈاش پیش کرے معیا ڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہڈاش 23/02/2023
کو کٹر ہے۔
تقریر صدر
نائب تحصیلدار پھالان nj

ازعدالت چیف جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹ سبج سرینگر
با اجلاس راجا محمد سلیم
نصیر یحیٰ خان فخر نظام بی گانگی ساکن
شاہجہاں ایڈووکیٹ
ایس۔ ایم۔ سی سرینگر
(سیول)
درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ وقاتی از اس متونی شہید اختر زویہ نظام بی گانگی ساکن گمر پورہ نو اکمل
اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے عدالت ہڈاش ایک درخواست بشمول ملٹی بٹیش اندراج تاریخ وقاتی از اس متونی شہید اختر زویہ نظام بی گانگی ساکن گمر پورہ نو اکمل کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات پریم کے اندر دفتر ہڈاش پیش کرے معیا ڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
تقریر صدر
نائب تحصیلدار پھالان nj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار زون سرینگر
عنوان: درخواست از جانب اورین صدق رشید بٹ ولد شمس عبدالرشید بٹ ساکن لعل بازار علمدار کالونی نسبت اجرائی نیگل ہیر سرٹیفکیٹ
اشتہار ہر خاص و عام
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں درخواست ساکن ہے کہ اس کا والد متونی شمس عبدالرشید بٹ ساکن لعل بازار سرینگر مورخہ 2022-7-4 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے اس نسبت ساکن خواہاں ہے کہ اس کے متونی نیگل ہیر سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء فرمائی جائے۔ بروے رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ متونی لکھہ بذیل افراد پیش ہیں
نام عمر رشتہ پیشہ
اورین صدق رشید بٹ 42 سال پسر سرکاری ملازم
نگلہ 47 سال دختر گھر بیلا کام
قبل اسکے کہ درخواست ساکن پر نیکاروائی عمل میں لائی جائے۔ ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو شکایتی حد اجراء کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دفتر ہڈاش پیش کرے۔ معیا ڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار nj

ازعدالت سبج میوٹیل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر
با اجلاس فاروق نظیر
Sara Bano
رہنما راجپوت ایڈووکیٹ
ایس۔ ایم۔ سی سرینگر
(سیول)
سائل اسانکہ
درخواست بجز اندراج تاریخ پیدائش اوقات
نام: Abdul Razaq Mir
تاریخ وقات 28-02-1986
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان صدر میں ساکن نے عدالت ہڈاش ایک درخواست بشمول ملٹی بٹیش اندراج تاریخ اوقات
R/o Gosu Hazratbal Srinagar
مورخہ 09-02-2023 پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات پریم کے اندر دفتر ہڈاش پیش کرے معیا ڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئیدہ عدالت ہڈاش 28-02-2023
کو کٹر ہے۔
تقریر صدر
سبج میوٹیل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر nj

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TANTRAY NEWS AGENCY	RAJ BAGH	BASHIR NEW AGENCY	NOWHATTA
ARIF NEWS AGENCY	JAWHAR NAGAR	AGA NEWS AGENCY	ALI KADAL
MUSHTAQ KALASH-PURI	KALASHPORA	HABBAKADAL NEWS AGENCY	HAB-BAKADAL
ALTAJ NEWS AGENCY	FATEHKADAL	FAROOQ NEW AGENCY	GOJWARA
JEELANI NEW AGENCY	KHAWAJA BAZAR	DAR NEWS AGENCY	QAMAR-WARI
NAZIR NEWS AGENCY	RAINAWARI	CHANDER NEWS AGENCY	BEMINA
KHALID NEWS AGENCY	HAMDANIYA COLONY	JONSON NEWS AGENCY	SEKIDAFAR
BHAT NEWS AGENCY	JAMALLATTA	SHAFAT NEWS AGENCY	HAWAL
BILAL NEWS AGENCY	KAK SARAI	KHALIQ NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
MUZAFFAR ALI NEWS AGENCY	ALAMGIRI BAZAR	BILAL NEWS AGENCY	NOWSHEH-RA
TARIQ NEWS AGENCY	M.K. CHOWK	MUZAMIL NEWS AGENCY	SOURA
GULZAR NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	SUBHAN NEWS AGENCY	SKIMS SOURA
HASAN NEWS AGENCY	SOURA	NISAR NEWS AGENCY	LAL BAZAR
BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	BUCHPORA	BASHIR NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL
AIJAZ NEWS AGENCY	HAZRAT BAL	YASIR NEWS AGENCY	ZAKOORA

FOR ANY QUERY, CALL CIRCULATION DEPTT. : 0194-2502327

KU To Host C-20 Working Group Meeting Under India's G20 Presidency

KO News Service

SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir is set to host a two-day C20 Working Group Meeting on 'Gender Equality and Disability', a mega event that draws Indian and international experts to formulate policy white papers for discussions on the G20 platform.

Civil-20 or C20 is the Official Engagement Group of G20 providing a platform for civil society organizations, NGOs, and policy planners to engage important stakeholders and address the root causes of "gender inequality and disability".

The event being held at KU's Gandhi Bhawan on February 13-14 comes amid the University's selection from amongst 15 premier institutions in the country to host Youth20 events as part of India's G20 Presidency, a significant milestone in the varsity's imprint and visibility on the national academic landscape.

The C20 GED WG Meeting focuses on policy dialogues concerning two sub-themes including "Women's Safety" and "Engaging Men and Boys", besides highlighting "Udharaan" as a successful intervention to address gender inequality. It also envisions evolving a grass-roots approach to create pathways for improving women's access to legal aid and other social support systems. A special

focus of deliberations will also be on gender concerns related to specially-abled women.

Indian and international Coordinators and Co-ordinators of C20 GED Working Group are among 50 delegates expected to join deliberations in both online and offline modes. Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham is coordinating the event.

Vice-Chancellor KU Prof Nilofer Khan, who is personally monitoring the arrangements, said it is a historic occasion for the University to be associated with events related to the country's G20 Presidency.

"It is recognition of the University's commitment to not only promote our national policies and programs but also to advance the country's G20 goals and objectives," she said.

The Vice-Chancellor has already constituted a task force of academics and officers to oversee arrangements for the February 13-14 event.

Notably, the University of Kashmir has been chosen amongst 15 premier institutions in India to host a Youth20 event, marking a significant moment in its history and transition to come up as an institution of excellence in India. Youth delegates from G20 countries are scheduled to attend the Youth20 event in the second week of May 2023 at the University's main campus.

Need To Develop Career Guidance Ecosystem In J&K: Director NIT

KO News Service

SRINAGAR: The three-day workshop on 'Career Guidance and Counseling Orientation Program' organized by Move Beyond in collaboration with IIEDC, NIT Srinagar, UNICEF India and SCERT-JK concluded on Saturday at Bemina, Srinagar. The workshop was attended by government teachers from various government schools of the Valley.

The program was presided over by Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal, Director NIT Srinagar was Chief Guest and Chief Resource Person on the occasion, while Danish Aziz, Education Specialist, UNICEF India was 'Guest of Honor'.

Addressing the gathering, Prof Rakesh Sehgal, Director of NIT Srinagar said there is a need to develop a career guidance ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. It helps students choose the right

career path based on their educational and professional choices.

He also praised Move Beyond; the start-up of NIT Srinagar for doing a commendable job by empowering students and teachers.

"It provides them career guidance, and information and exploring different career paths that are in tune with their (students) strengths and personality," he said.

Prof. Sehgal also highlighted NEP 2020 and its role in the career guidance and counseling ecosystem in the country. NEP 2020 brings forth such an educational system where students are empowered to exercise their right of choice, he said.

"NEP 2020 emphasizes the career guidance and counseling ecosystem in schools. We have supported and will continue to support Move Beyond for their career guidance initiatives in the best possible manner," Prof. Sehgal said.



A view of migratory birds captured by KO photographer, Abid Bhat at Dal Lake in Srinagar on Saturday

Nallah Doodh Ganga restoration

SMC Asks Encroachers To Remove Illegal Structures Within 7 Days

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) on Saturday set a seven days deadline for all 'encroachers' to remove all residential or commercial structures illegally built on or along Doodh Ganga Nallah stretch from Alochi Bagh to Chattabal.

The civic body issued notices to all those having erected illegal structures over Doodh Ganga Nallah, asking them to remove the same within next seven days, failing which stringent actions as per law will be initiated against them.

"Whereas, Doodh Ganga Nallah from Alochi Bagh to Chattabal is an important channel for the management of storm water and for preventing urban flooding in the Srinagar City. Whereas, rejuvenation and restoration of Doodh Ganga Nallah from Alochi Bagh to

Chattabal has been taken up under Srinagar Smart City Limited with Drainage Circle (Civil), SMC as the executing Agency," reads a notice issued by the Commissioner SMC.

The notice further reads that a number of encroachments and illegal structures have come up on the site of Nallah which needs to be removed as restoration of Nallah is important for flood and storm water management in the City.

"Now, therefore, through this Public Notice, all such individuals/encroachers are given 7 days' time from the issuance of this notice to remove all encroachments/illegal structures erected on and along the Nallah, failing which Srinagar Municipal Corporation shall initiate action including removal of these encroachments at the risk and cost of the offenders/encroachers", it further reads.

Experts however said the choking of Doodh Ganga Nallah has also posed a serious threat to the environment and that the authorities must serve notice to everyone having encroached the Jhelum tributary.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Social activist and one of the petitioner's in Doodh Ganga case, Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat said he welcomes the government initiative to free Doodh Ganga Nallah from encroachers, but more needs to be done.

"Sewage is being thrown in the Doodh Ganga in various localities of civil lines including Bagh-e-Mehtab, Chanapora, Natipora and Bulbul Bagh. Whereas, the government has promised to set up Sewage Treatment Plants (STP's) but they are nowhere to be seen," he said, adding SMC under the Smart City Project needs to remove encroachment across the City", he added.

'Govt Committed To Provide Every Facility To Health Sector'

KO News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today said the administration is committed to make every health institution sufficient in terms of facilities available as per their status. He maintained that the aim is to provide efficient and quality service to the citizens.

The Chief Secretary also inaugurated the state of the art new digital cardiac catheterization lab for SKIMS, Soura here.

On the occasion Secretary, Health; Director, SKIMS; Director Health, Kashmir; HoDs of different departments of SKIMS and many other concerned officers participated in person or virtually through video link.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Mehta observed that the Endeavour of the government is to provide best facilities to its citizens. He said the administration is committed to make every health institution sufficient in terms of facilities

available as per their status. He maintained that the aim is to provide efficient and quality service.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the health professionals to improve work ethics to satisfaction levels. He told them to work honestly and with integrity for the benefit of poor masses. He said the health sector is one of the foremost priorities of the LG administration and the days are not far when people from outside would visit J&K for treatment.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Office Of The Executive Engineer
Ferozpora Basin Irrigation Division Tangmarg.

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS
Short term E-Tender Notice NO.74 OF 2022-23

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders on item rate basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. for following work :-

S. No	Name of work	Estt. Cost of Work (In Lacs)	Earnest Money (Amount in Rupees)	Qty.	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender (Amount in Rupees)	Head of Account	Position Of Funds
1	Supply of dry and Chopped Keekri Fire wood of Bukharis size including carriage up-to Divisional store of FBI Division at Tangmarg including weighting etc.	0.80 Lacs	1600/-	100/-Qtl	07 days	DEE	200/-	M&R /M&S / Assured NABARD	

1	Publishing date:	11-02-2022	04:00 PM
2	Download date start:	11-02-2022	05:00 PM
3	Bid Submission date start:	11-02-2022	06:00 PM
4	Bid Submission date Ends:	16-02-2022	04:00 PM
5	Date of Opening	17-02-2022	12:00 PM

Terms and Conditions:

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of 2% CDR/FDR tender document non-refundable/non-transferable) to be deposited under M.H 0702 Rev Misc in the shape of Treasury challan/ e-challan (mentioning therein NIT No. S.No of work) to be pledged in favour of the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti FBI Division Tangmarg and date on it must be prior to date of issuance of this tender notice, EMD).
- The whole quantum of fire wood should be dumped within 07 days after issuance of the LOI/ Formal allotment.
- That the fire wood is completed dry and chopped to the usable size for Bukharis (Fire pots).
- The tenders shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in.
- The tenders uploaded on the website up to due date will be opened as per the schedule above in the office of the Executive Engineer, FBI Division Tangmarg.
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- Tenders must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in the shape of EMD/Treasury Receipt/E challan pledged to Tender Receiving Authority.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited if :-
a. Any tenderer withdraws his tender during the period of tender validity or make any modification in terms and conditions of the tender.
b. The contractor fails to execute the agreement within 07 days after fixation of contract.
- Instructions to bidder regarding e-tendering process: Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the Downloads option as well as from Bidder Manual Kit on website www.jktenders.gov.in as per information Technology Act-2000.
- Bidders have to submit their bids on line in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must upload the scanned copy of all necessary documents like CDR /PAN/ in Tin/treasury Challan /E- Challan /Income tax/ latest GST Clearance Certificate/Registration card duly renewed and hard copies of L1 physically to Tender Receiving Authority after the date of opening of bid. Note:-Scan all documents on 100dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- Bidder has to submit Cost of tender document in the shape of CDR (Earnest Money) and relevant documents to be submitted to the Tender Receiving Authority by registered post/courier/by hand before the due date of submission of tenders as per time schedule specified.
- The payment shall be made only when the funds are received by this office under relevant head of accounts.
- All other terms and conditions shall be the same as laid down in the PWD Form No.-25 (double).

No: - FBID/CC/ 9508-25
DIPK-17338/22 Dated :- 11-02-2022

Sd/
Technical Officer

Sd/
Executive Engineer,
(Jal Shakti)
FBI Division Tangmarg

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
 20 Rajab
 1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5:55
ZUHR	12:45
ASR	4:32
Magrib	6:14
ISHA	7:36

This Day In History

- 1502 - Muslims in Granada forced to convert to Catholicism
- 1502 Vasco da Gama sets sail from Lisbon, Portugal on his second voyage to India
- 1528 - Treaty of Dordrecht between emperor & ecclesiastical power
- 1700 - The Great Northern War begins in Northern Europe between Denmark-Norway, Saxony and Russia and the Swedish Empire.
- 1818 - Chile gains independence from Spain.
- 1832 - Ecuador annexes Galapagos Islands
- 1861 - State troops seize US munitions in Napoleon, Arkansas, during the US Civil War
- 1886 - 2nd British government of Salisbury forms
- 1912 - The last Qing Emperor of China, Puyi abdicates after losing the support of the Chinese people and thus the mandate of heaven
- 1915 - Adolf Hitler receives the relatively common Iron Cross second class for bravery in World War I
- 1921 - Winston Churchill becomes British Minister of Colonies
- 1934 - The four-day February Uprising, sometimes called the Austrian Civil War, begins.
- 1935 - Great airship, USS Macon, crashes into Pacific Ocean
- 1953 - USSR breaks relations with Israel
- 1954 - The UK government establishes an organisation to control atomic energy in the country under The Atomic Energy Authority Bill
- 1955 McGuire Sisters' "Sincerely" single goes #1 & stays #1 for 10 weeks
- 1955 President Eisenhower sends 1st US advisors to South Vietnam
- 1955 - Soviets decides space center built in Baikonur, Kazakhstan
- 1960 - Chinese army kills 12 Indian soldiers
- 1964 - Fighting breaks out between Turks and Greeks over dispute islands in Cyprus and 16 are killed; the UN responds the following month by sending a peacekeeping force
- 1965 - Nuclear test at Pacific Ocean
- 1974 - Heads of state of Algeria, Egypt, Syria, and Saudi Arabia discuss oil strategy in view of the progress in Arab-Israeli disengagement
- 1979 - Kosmos 1076, 1st Soviet oceanographic satellite, launched
- 1979 - Bakhtiar resigns as prime minister of Iran after losing support of the military
- 1982 - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1985 - West Indies beat Australia 2-1 to win cricket's World Series Cup (Australian Tri-Series)
- 1991 - Iceland recognizes Lithuania's independence
- 1994 - XVII Winter Olympic Games opens in Lillehammer, Norway
- 1998 - Intel unveils its 1st graphics chip i740
- 1999 - US President Bill Clinton acquitted by the Senate in his impeachment trial
- 2001 - NEAR Shoemaker spacecraft touchdown in the "saddle" region of 433 Eros becoming the first spacecraft to land on an asteroid.

From KO Archives

Cabinet Gives Nod To Qazigund-Baramulla Rail Project

Observer News Service

New Delhi- The Centre today decided to take up work on war footing on Qazigund-Baramulla rail project, while the work on Udhampur- Qazigund railway project has been abandoned for the time being for financial reasons.

The decision to this effect was taken at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) which was chaired by Prime Minister Atal Bihari a Vajpayee.

Railway Minister Nitish Kumar, who briefed newsmen after the CCEA, said the prestigious project has been handed over to the IRCON International and is expected to be completed by the year 2003 year.

However, the government decided to abandon for the time being Udhampur-Qazigund Rail Project due to rough terrain and financial constraints.

He said the funds for the project will be made available by the centre so that the work is executed expeditiously. The Railway Ministry had already allocated Rs 75 crores for the preliminary work of the project. Nitish Kumar said the Jammu and Kashmir government has already completed acquisition of land for laying the track.

Infact work has already begun for the construction of Srinagar Railway Station.

The Project will help in transportation of goods in the Valley and ease pressure on the choked roads of the Kashmir Division.

While the IRCON International will be the main contractors for the project, small works will be allocated to local contractors. The Minister said that it was felt that the Udhampur-Qazigund Project would take a long period to complete as it involves huge amount and technical expertise. So the Cabinet was of the view that the work on the Qazigund sector should be taken up immediately. The Minister said funds will not come in the way of the completion of the project.

The much-publicised project, Udhampur-Qazigund-Baramulla, which will cost Rs 2500 crores, was announced by Prime Minister I.K. Gujral in 1997.

Nitish Kumar said that special incentives will be given to employees, who will be deputed for the execution of the project. This include insurance cover for Rs 15 lakhs each and free boarding and lodging.

از نیابت پھالسن

عنوان :- ایگن سیرٹیفکیٹ تکمیل واداران جائزہ

اشعار ہر خاص و عام

ماملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصددر میں پھالسن آعدہ از انگلستان 3-01-2022-15-12-2022 ایگن سیرٹیفکیٹ منوشول SDMP/DEP-38-23 مورخہ 2022-12-15 تاریخ ایگن سیرٹیفکیٹ منوشول ہوئی ہے جو کہ ریکارڈ دائی ہے اس بارے میں راقم کے پٹواری معلقہ سے پورٹ طلب کی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے سانس پٹن ہمارے کانسکرت دار ہے سانس کا اعداد و شمار 2022-11-26 کوٹ ہو چکا ہے موتانی کے واداران بذیل ہے۔

سمانہ شایہ تکیم 47 سال گھریلو کام زمینہ موتانی

مصباح ہتیم 26 سال زمینہ موتانی

اسرار اسن 21 سال زمینہ موتانی

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی فراکٹمنہ نہیں ہے سیرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی گھٹن کو کوئی مزید اعتراض ہو تو وہ بدستہ مشہور اخبار سانس دن کے اندر عام آدینے مضر اعتراض وادان حداد کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے بیجا کوئی مضر اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار FKO_r

Some months ago, the online buzz that Elon Musk, the world's most extravagant individual, is good to go for Twitter acquisition, one of the web's most-visited sites, was proclaimed with last-minute nerves by some and mirth by others. However, a definitive \$44 billion inquiry is: who can at last set the details of online discussion? Musk's response is the state of affairs: business companies and their chiefs. Yet, there is another option: the majority rule populace, acting through the law. Online entertainment organizations like to guarantee that they don't make the substance that shows up on their foundation. That is normally obvious. Yet, — as Musk comprehends — that doesn't make them any less strong. Running against the norm, stages rank, sort, and request the discourse of others. They edit. They block. They support. The quietness. They conclude who is seen and who stays stowed away. With a tick, any client — even the mightiest political pioneer — can be restricted from a stage for eternity. Is "sans discourse" when it tends to be smothered at the impulse of a tech firm with next to no allure or oversight? Web-based entertainment stages are not conventional organizations. At the point when they permit or deny specific types of articulation, they make contestable decisions about the idea of free discourse. Instagram, for instance, prohibits the showcase of most female areolas. Rihanna and Miley Cyrus are among the people who have had photos eliminated. Yet, assuming their snaps had been supplanted with pictures of male areolas, they could have been permitted. Some will concur with this. Others will not. Be that as it may, the stage's clients must choose the option to comply with its judgment. As well as making decisions, stages here and there make mistakes. In 2018, Twitter's (then, at that point) CEO Jack Dorsey told the US Congress that calculations had been "unreasonably sifting" 600,000 records, including a few individuals from Congress, from its inquiry auto-complete and "most recent outcomes". America's most senior government officials listened unobtrusively while the youthful leader made sense of how his foundation had scratched vote based system. However the public authority sat idle and inactivity has turned into the standard, in the US. During his official mission, Joe Biden began an appeal — a request! — requesting that Facebook keep "paid deception" from impacting the political race. Nancy Pelosi was decreased to imploring publicists to advise innovation organizations to diminish online falsehood. This is disturbing. In a sound political framework, public



Tweak the Internet

Nazim Humayoon

authorities shouldn't need to beg business organizations to safeguard the honesty of the majority rule framework. That's what history shows, left to market influences, stages will generally embrace rehearses that are great for business, regardless of whether they are destructive to a vote-based system or social attachment. Calculations steer pedophiles towards the records of small kids. Disinformation is overflowing. The top-performing join on Facebook in the initial three months of 2021 was a fake article about the "lethal" impacts of the Covid antibody. Musk says that his point is "free discourse". That

sounds admirable. However, reality requires splitting the difference. Free discourse absolutism — complete free discourse — is a figment. It is neither alluring in principle nor conceivable practically speaking. Each majority rules system perceives that dangers, pay-offs, prevarication, rebellion, and extortion are not meriting the law's security. Furthermore, even social orders that purify free discourse have regulations restricting calculated deception and work environment badgering. Western social orders have not yet observed the last response to the subject of what discourse ought to be allowed

and what ought to be taboo. Sensible individuals — to be sure, mature popular governments — regularly clash. How long has Musk spent examining these subtleties? What's more, regardless of whether he was a cautious researcher of reasoning and regulation, for what reason would it be a good idea for him to be permitted to force his origination on most of us? It doesn't follow that, by the ethical of being extremely rich, an individual ought to have unapproachable influence to set the conditions of social discussion. Business power ought not to be replaceable with political power. In Musk's vision, the principles of free



The commercial center of the thought is in a real sense a market. Be that as it may, another framework is conceivable — one in which definitive principles are chosen equitably. If experienced political networks can conclude standards connecting with touchy issues, for example, tax assessment, training, and fetus removal then they are equipped for discussing boundaries connecting with online disinformation, vicious and outrageous material, and unfamiliar political mediation

discourse are corporate resources for being purchased and exchanged like some other product. The commercial center of the thought is in a real sense a market. Be that as it may, another framework is conceivable — one in which definitive principles are chosen equitably. If experienced political networks can conclude standards connecting with touchy issues, for example, tax assessment, training, and fetus removal then they are equipped for discussing boundaries connecting with online disinformation, vicious and outrageous material, and unfamiliar political mediation. Managing online entertainment will be troublesome. Individuals will conflict. Also, that is fine. It would be desirable over a framework in which the most extravagant are passed on to set the conditions of social discussion, while most of us pause our breathing and trust they don't wreck it.

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

The author is pursuing MBA-Financial Management, Department of Management Studies, University of Kashmir

Why Did So Many Buildings Collapse In Turkey?

Birce Bora

Thousands of people like Rukiye are believed to still be stuck in the debris of collapsed buildings across Turkey's southeast following Monday's devastating earthquakes. According to the government, two major tremors and hundreds of aftershocks destroyed at least 6,444 buildings across 10 provinces, killing more than 12,800 people as of Thursday afternoon.

A tragic combination

As rescuers continue to search through the rubble looking for miracles, the nation is now trying to understand why this natural disaster — for which Turkey was supposedly preparing for more than 20 years — caused so much damage to the country's infrastructure.

Was it that the two earthquakes — the first at a magnitude of 7.8 and the second at 7.6 — were simply too violent for most buildings to survive? Or that the buildings were not up to modern construction standards? Was there negligence on the part of the authorities?

According to Professor Okan Tuysuz, a geological engineer from Istanbul Technical University, a tragic combination of all of the above led to Monday's catastrophe.

"We are dealing with truly massive earthquakes here," Tuysuz told Al Jazeera. "The first one was roughly equivalent to the energy release from an explosion of about 5 million tonnes of TNT. The second was equivalent to 3.5 million tonnes. Most buildings would struggle to withstand such force."

Siman Turkkan, civil engineer and president of Turkey's Earthquake Retrofit Association, agreed. "Not only were the earthquakes extremely forceful, but they also hit in quick succession," he explained. "Many buildings only received light to medium damage in the first quake but collapsed after the second one."

While factoring in that tremors at

these magnitudes in quick succession would pose a risk to any building, experts underlined that a tragedy on this scale was not in any way inevitable.

"According to official estimates, 6,000 to 7,000 buildings collapsed on Monday. However strong, no earthquake could have caused this much damage if all buildings were up to standard," Turkkan said.

On Wednesday, Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan defended his government's preparations for and response to the earthquakes during a visit to the disaster zone, saying it was "impossible for anyone to prepare for the scale of the disaster".

He then went on to say that the state will rebuild all collapsed buildings in all 10 provinces affected by the earthquake within a year.

"Just like we did in Malatya, Elazig, Bingol, Van [we will rebuild here]. This is a business we know well. Our government proved its ability [to rebuild] time and time again in the past. We will achieve the same in Hatay, in Maras and also in eight other affected provinces".

Most of the buildings that collapsed on Monday were constructed before 1999, when a magnitude 7.6 earthquake hit the Western Marmara region, killing 17,500 people. Since then, the government improved the Turkish seismic design code significantly and in 2008, embarked on an ambitious urban transformation project to prepare Turkey for the next big earthquake.

Code enforcement

In November 2022, after a magnitude 6 earthquake damaged more than 2,000 buildings in Duzce, northern Turkey, environment and urbanisation minister Murat Kurum underlined that the authorities were working towards making every building in the country "earthquake safe by 2035".

"We already rebuilt 3.2 million residences," Kurum said in a social media post. "250,000 residences across 81 prov-



The first one was roughly equivalent to the energy release from an explosion of about 5 million tonnes of TNT. The second was equivalent to 3.5 million tonnes. Most buildings would struggle to withstand such force

inces and 992 districts are currently being transformed [to meet current regulations]. 6.6 million houses and businesses have been audited. 24 million of our citizens are currently living in earthquake-safe abodes."

These ambitious efforts, however, were not able to prevent the disaster.

"On paper, Turkey's seismic design code is up to global standards — it is actually better than most," Turkkan said. "In practice, however, the situation is very different."

The government offered financial incentives but did not make participation in its urban transformation project compulsory. This effectively meant only people who were in a position to make money from rebuilding — people in possession of valuable plots suitable for further development — agreed to demolish their old properties and rebuild according to the latest code. Many did not want to spend money on rebuilding work or reinforcements that did not seem urgent. This is why, experts say, more than 20 years after the Marmara earthquake, Turkey is full of buildings

constructed using sub-par materials and long-discredited construction techniques that immediately crumble when faced with a strong tremor.

"This saddens me deeply as an engineer," Turkkan said. "If we managed to get everyone on board, we could have either reinforced or rebuilt all defective buildings in the past 20 years. We could have saved at least 5,000 of the buildings that we lost on Monday from complete destruction. We could have saved many, many lives."

Experts believe the government and local authorities could have taken further precautions to ensure all buildings were safe and earthquake design regulations are being implemented in all contexts.

"For years we held conferences, wrote reports and sent them to local authorities. We told them big earthquakes will inevitably hit cities like Hatay and Gaziantep again," Tuysuz said. "We explained to them however strong, no building built directly on a fault line can survive an earthquake — it would be torn apart. We said we should create accurate fault-line maps for the entire country and transform areas directly on active fault lines into green zones with construction bans. No one listened."

Even new buildings were lacking

There were also shortcomings in ensuring regulations were being followed in new construction.

"Some relatively new buildings also collapsed in this earthquake, which likely means contractors took shortcuts, tried to economise using sub-par materials and authorities failed to do their due diligence before approving construction projects," Tuysuz said.

Several schools, administrative buildings, hospitals and even the headquarters of Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) in Hatay also collapsed on Monday.

"According to the state's own regulations, public buildings are supposed to be much stronger than private ones,"

Turkkan explained. "When you are building a hospital, a post office or any other public building, you are instructed to use more concrete, more iron, get more detailed ground studies. This is to ensure those buildings survive any earthquake or other natural disaster and so that they can continue serving people at a time of crisis".

Tuysuz agreed. "It is completely unacceptable for a public building, a power plant or an airport to collapse in an earthquake," he said. "There are very strict regulations in place to prevent this. The scenes we are witnessing today in the southeast are proof of the state's shortcomings in implementing its own rules even in constructions over which it has complete control."

So what needs to be done?

There are some 20 million buildings in Turkey. In Istanbul, where experts believe a major earthquake will hit sooner or later, there are 1.2 million, according to the Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute at Bogazici University. Their experts believe a significant percentage of these buildings are not in a condition to withstand tremors at high magnitudes.

Reinforcing or rebuilding all at-risk buildings in all earthquake-prone areas would be technically and logistically difficult and costly. Yet it is a task that cannot be avoided or delayed.

"The government needs to be more forceful in making people get their buildings audited, reinforced and if necessary rebuilt," Turkkan said. "People are understandably not volunteering to pay up, but this is a matter of life and death, and it should be treated as such."

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

Are You Surrounded By A NARCISSIST?

Narcissists Attempt To Destroy Your Life With Lies Because They Know Theirs Can Be Destroyed With The Truth

Dr Rohi

Everyone nowadays is familiar with the term narcissism but its historical roots are less well known. In the Greek story of Narcissus, a lovely young man, renowned for his stunning looks, who discovered he couldn't resist gazing at his reflection in a body of water one day. Until he eventually wilted and died, he persisted in being preoccupied with his own image. Thus, his name endures as a reference for extreme self-regard. This is where the word 'narcissism' originates. People with narcissistic tendencies overestimate their own importance. For example, many narcissists overestimate their self-confidence or sense of accomplishment. Others are totally preoccupied with how they look. Some people make efforts to increase their influence or power. The majority of narcissists believe that they are superior to others and are elite or exceptional. They consider themselves to be extremely important, regardless of their actual social standing, and they want others to feel the same way about them. They live on other people's adulation and admiration. However, criticism from others can quickly demolish their haughtiness. When this happens, it frequently results in anger, rejection, or a barrage of insults. **Narcissists are often considered as emotional vampires who desperately need to drain others to get admiration and attention, regardless of how bad their behaviour is.**

Many people have subtle narcissistic traits in their personalities. It's only natural to feel proud of yourself when you do something significant or to like yourself when you look good. Occasionally, those sentiments of pride may cause us to become a little more self-absorbed than usual. But having those feelings occasionally doesn't make you a narcissist. True narcissists are defined by their narcissistic qualities, which rule their personality and way of life. Every element of their lives, including their work, friendships, and close connections, are impacted by the



THEY WILL SPREAD FALSE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW UNSTABLE YOU ARE IN ORDER TO TURN YOUR LOVED ONES AGAINST YOU. They pull you back in as you move on. Don't let this deceive you; it's not real

condition. Narcissistic Personality Disorder is a complicated disorder, just like all other personality disorders. This has become a contentious issue, owing to widespread misunderstanding. It's also been stigmatised as a personal choice, which it isn't. Here an individual have an excessive sense of self importance. Individuals with this mental condition demand excessive amounts of attention and want to be admired. It's possible for those who have this

disorder to be incapable of comprehending or caring about the sentiments of others. However, beneath their outward display of excessive confidence, they actually lack confidence in their own abilities and are severely hurt by the least criticism. A weak, rigid, and irrational concept of self lies at the heart of Narcissistic Personalities. People with Narcissistic Personality Disorders need to think of themselves as extraordinary in order to sustain their fragile self-

image. Many of the recurring patterns of behaviour they exhibit have this as their primary sources.

How Do People Develop Narcissistic Personality Disorders?

People with Narcissistic Personality Disorder do not have a single identified cause. In addition to early life events, it is also thought that genetics may be involved. Children who are over-valued, over praised, suffer from abuse, neglect, or trauma

may be particularly vulnerable. A risk factor could also be having a narcissistic or highly critical parent. Whatever the reason, these kids grow up with a weak sense of self and a high need for praise from others. Additionally, a lot of narcissists have very poor self-esteem. They overstate their abilities or accomplishments as a result of these attributes. Additionally, they are continually looking for affirmation from other people. Comprehend-

ing narcissists in your life requires understanding this crucial aspect. Although they exhibit haughty and conceited conduct, their sentiments of inferiority are deeply ingrained.

How a Narcissist Brainwashes you?

- Cutting you off from your network of supporters.
- Tricking you into perceiving things a certain way.
- Using gas-lighting to make you question your own judgement.
- Destroy your self esteem.
- Dose you with occasional positive words or experiences.
- Controlling you.
- Degrading and demeaning you, then occasionally doing something positive in order to create a trauma bond.
- Make you walk on eggshells out of fear of disapproval.

You are now brainwashed and under the control of a narcissist. Narcissists are addicts. They are addicted to being significant. They are addicted to attention and constantly being validated and acknowledged. They live for narcissistic supply that is their drug. A narcissist fabricates elaborate tales that are wholly false. One day the mask will come off, revealing the reality, and they'll try to convince you otherwise by rejecting everything you've learnt (gas-lighting). They might even hold you accountable for what you are accusing them of doing (projection). You are now in trouble because of rumours that you shouldn't have heard. They will go to great lengths to shield their life through lies, and manipulating you is a twisted game they play. They will spread false information about how unstable you are in order to turn your loved ones against you (the flying monkeys). They pull you back in as you move on (hovering). Don't let this deceive you; it's not real.

'What are narcissists looking for, after all? Just someone at their level that they can feel superior to.' Luigina Sgarro

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Why An AI Arms Race Threatens Human Jobs

Daron Acemoglu
Simon Johnson

Microsoft is reportedly delighted with OpenAI's ChatGPT, a natural-language artificial-intelligence program capable of generating text that reads as if a human wrote it. Taking advantage of easy access to finance over the past decade, companies and venture-capital funds invested billions in an AI arms race, resulting in a technology that can now be used to replace humans across a wider range of tasks. This could be a disaster not only for workers, but also for consumers and even investors. The problem for workers is obvious: there will be fewer jobs requiring strong communication skills, and thus fewer positions that pay well. Cleaners, drivers, and some other manual workers will keep their jobs, but everyone else should be afraid. Consider customer service. Instead of hiring people to interact with customers, companies will increasingly rely on generative AIs like ChatGPT to placate angry callers with clever and soothing words. Fewer entry-level jobs will mean fewer opportunities to start a career – continuing a trend established by earlier digital technologies.

Consumers, too, will suffer. Chatbots may be fine for handling entirely routine questions, but it is not routine questions that generally lead people to call customer service. When there is a real issue – like an airline grinding to a halt or a pipe bursting in your basement – you want to talk to a well-qualified, empathetic professional with the ability to marshal resources and organize timely solutions. You do not want to be put on hold for eight hours, but nor do you want to speak immediately to an eloquent but ultimately useless chatbot. Of course, in an ideal world, new companies offering better customer

service would emerge and seize market share. But in the real world, many barriers to entry make it difficult for new firms to expand quickly. You may love your local bakery or a friendly airline representative or a particular doctor, but think of what it takes to create a new grocery store chain, a new airline, or a new hospital. Existing firms have big advantages, including important forms of market power that allow them to choose which available technologies to adopt and to use them however they want.

More fundamentally, new companies offering better services generally require new technologies, such as digital tools that can make workers more effective and help create better customized services for the company's clientele. But, since AI investments are putting automation first, these kinds of tools are not even being created.

Investors in publicly traded companies will also lose out in the age of ChatGPT. These companies could be improving the services they offer to consumers by investing in new technologies to make their workforces more productive and capable of performing new tasks, and by providing plenty of training for upgrading employees' skills. But they are not doing so. Many executives remain obsessed with a strategy that ultimately will come to be remembered as self-defeating: paring back employment and keeping wages as low as possible. Executives pursue these cuts because it is what the smart kids (analysts, consultants, finance professors, other executives) say they should do, and because Wall Street judges their performance relative to other companies that are also squeezing workers as hard as they can. AI is also poised to amplify the deleterious social effects of private

equity. Already, vast fortunes can be made by buying up companies, loading them with debt while going private, and then hollowing out their workforces – all while paying high dividends to the new owners. Now, ChatGPT and other AI technologies will make it even easier to squeeze workers as hard as they can. AI is also poised to amplify the deleterious social effects of private

equity. Already, vast fortunes can be made by buying up companies, loading them with debt while going private, and then hollowing out their workforces – all while paying high dividends to the new owners. Now, ChatGPT and other AI technologies will make it even easier to squeeze workers as hard as they can. AI is also poised to amplify the deleterious social effects of private

sible through workplace surveillance, tougher working conditions, zero-hours contracts, and so forth.

These trends all have dire implications for Americans' spending power – the engine of the US economy. But as we explain in our forthcoming book, *Power in Progress: Our Thousand-Year Struggle Over Technology and Prosperity*, a sputtering economic engine need not lie in our future. After all, the introduction of new machinery and technological breakthroughs has had very different consequences in the past.

Over a century ago, Henry Ford revolutionized car production by investing heavily in new electrical machinery and developing a more efficient assembly line. Yes, these new technologies brought some amount of automation, as centralized electricity sources enabled machines to perform more tasks more efficiently. But the reorganization of the factory that accompanied electrification also created new tasks for workers and

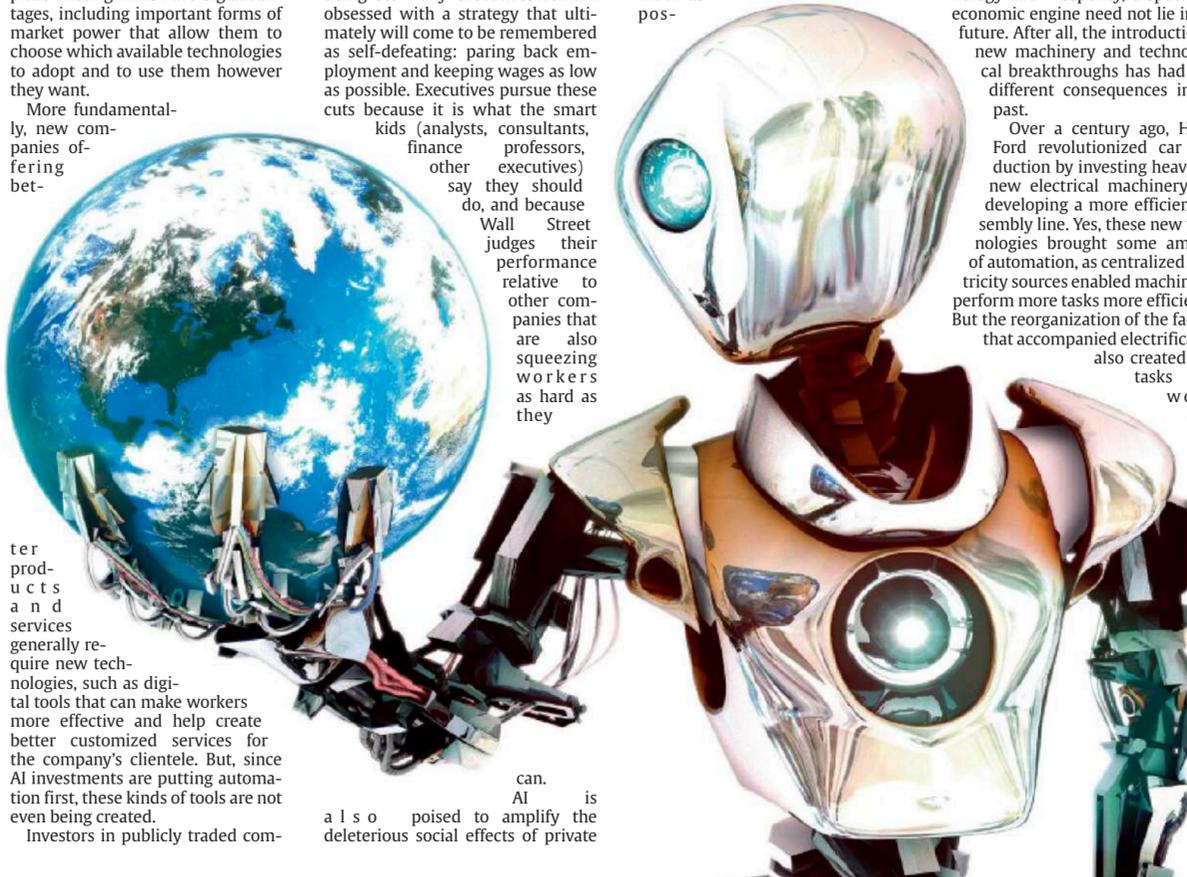
thousands of new jobs with higher wages, bolstering shared prosperity. Ford led the way in demonstrating that creating human-complementary technology is good business.

Today, AI offers an opportunity to do likewise. AI-powered digital tools can be used to help nurses, teachers, and customer-service representatives understand what they are dealing with and what would help improve outcomes for patients, students, and consumers. The predictive power of algorithms could be harnessed to help people, rather than to replace them. If AIs are used to offer recommendations for human consideration, the ability to use such recommendations wisely will be recognized as a valuable human skill. Other AI applications can facilitate better allocation of workers to tasks, or even create completely new markets (think of Airbnb or ride-share apps).

Unfortunately, these opportunities are being neglected, because most US tech leaders continue to spend heavily to develop software that can do what humans already do just fine. They know that they can cash out easily by selling their products to corporations that have developed tunnel vision. Everyone is focused on leveraging AI to cut labor costs, with little concern not only for the immediate customer experience but also for the future of American spending power.

Ford understood that it made no sense to mass-produce cars if the masses couldn't afford to buy them. Today's corporate titans, by contrast, are using the new technologies in ways that will ruin our collective future.

-Daron Acemoglu is a professor of Economics at MIT, and Simon Johnson, a former chief economist at the International Monetary Fund, is a professor at MIT's Sloan School of Management
- Khaleej Times



Jeans, Skirts, Makeup, 'Funky' Hairstyles Banned For Haryana Govt Hospital Staff

Press Trust of India

Chandigarh: Makeup, "funky hairstyles", and long nails are out for medical and other staff at Haryana government hospitals, and so are T-shirts, denims and skirts, as the state is going to implement a dress code for healthcare professionals.

Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij said on Friday the dress code being prepared by the state government is in final stages.

The dress code must be adhered to by the on-duty staff 24 hours a day, including on weekends, evenings and night shifts, he said, asserting the erring employees will be marked absent for the day.

The minister said a hospital requires its employees to follow certain conduct, and a dress code is an essential component which gives the organisation a "professional touch".

"Funky hairstyles, heavy jewellery, accessories, makeup, long nails during working hours are unacceptable, especially in the healthcare centres," said the minister, a BJP leader.

He said jeans of any colour, denim skirts and denim dresses are not considered professional dresses and, therefore, will not be permitted. The employees will have to wear a name badge declaring their designation.

"Sweatshirts, sweatsuits, and shorts are not permitted. Slacks, dresses, skirts and palazzos shall not be permitted too. T-shirts, stretch T-shirts,

stretch pants, fitting pants, leather pants, capris, sweat-pants, tank tops, see-through dresses or tops, crop tops, off-shoulder dresses, sneakers, slippers etc will not be permitted. Similarly, footwear must be black, clean, comfortable and free from funky designs," the minister added.

The purpose of the dress code policy, Vij said, is to maintain discipline, uniformity and equality among the staff in government healthcare centres.

"A well-followed dress code policy in a hospital not only gives an employee his professional image but also presents an elegant image of an organisation among the public," he said.

All hospital staff working in clinical roles (medics and paramedics), cleanliness and sanitation, security, transport, technical, kitchen, field and other departments should be in a proper uniform during their working hours, the minister said.

Employees looking after non-clinical administrative work in hospitals shall wear only formals, said Vij. "Every employee is expected to wear neat, clean dress and practice good hygiene."

"Hair must be clean, well-groomed and neat. Men's hair should be no longer than collar length and should not interfere with the patient's care," he said.

PIL In SC Wants Renaming Commission' For Places Named After 'Foreign Invaders'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: A PIL has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking a direction to the Centre to constitute a 'renaming commission' to restore the "original" names of ancient historical, cultural and religious places which were "re-named" by foreign invaders.

While Mughal Garden was recently renamed Amrit Udyan, the government did nothing to rename the roads named after invaders, the PIL said and contended that the continuation of these names is against the sovereignty and other civil rights guaranteed under the Constitution.

The PIL filed by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay said that alternatively the court may direct the Archaeological Survey of India to research and publish the initial names of ancient historical and cultural religious places, which were renamed by barbaric foreign invaders to secure the Right to Information under the Constitution.

The PIL said, "We are celebrating the 75th anniversary of independence but there are many ancient historical cultural religious places in the name of brutal foreign invaders, their servants and family members".

Upadhyay in his petition said that the invaders not only renamed the general places but also deliberately changed the names of ancient historical cultural



religious places and their continuation after 75 years of independence is against sovereignty, right to dignity, right to religions and right to culture guaranteed under Article 21, 25 and 29.

He said that successive governments have not taken steps to correct the barbaric act of invaders and injury is continuing.

The PIL urges that the Union home ministry be directed to constitute a renaming commission to find out the original names of such places, named after the barbaric foreign invaders.

"The cause of action accrued on January 29, 2023, when Mughal Garden was renamed Amrit Udyan, but the government did nothing to rename the roads named after invaders like Babur Road, Humayun Road, Akbar

Road, Jahangir Road, Shahjahan Road, Bahadur Shah Road, Sher Shah Road, Aurangzeb Road, Tughlak Road, Safdarjung Road, Najaf Khan Road, Jauhar Road, Lodhi Road, Chelmsford Road and Hailey Road, etc", the PIL said.

It said that the injury to the citizens "is extremely large because 'Pandavas' with the blessings of Lord Krishna and 'Balram', converted 'Khandavaprastha' (deserted land) into Indraprastha (Delhi) but there is not even one Road, Municipal Ward, Village or Assembly Constituency in the name of Lord Krishna, Balram, Yudhishtira, Bheema, Arjun, Nakul, Sehdev, Kunti, Draupadi and Abhimanyu".

"On the other hand, there are roads, municipal wards, village and assembly constituency in the name of barbaric foreign invaders, which is not only against the sovereignty but also violates the right to dignity, right to religion and right to culture guaranteed under Articles 21, 25, 29 of the Constitution", the PIL said.

Upadhyay made the Centre, all states and Union territories, and the Archaeological Survey of India parties to his petition.

It also sought direction to the Centre and the States to update their websites and records and mention the original names of ancient, historical, cultural and religious places, which have been named after the foreign invaders.

Constitution Remarkable Homegrown Product Of Self-Governance, Dignity And Independence, Says CJI

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Mumbai: The Constitution of India is a remarkable home-grown product of self-governance, dignity and independence and while some speak of it in entirely adulatory terms, many others are cynical about its success, Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud said on Saturday.

The CJI, who was speaking at the first convocation ceremony of the Maharashtra National Law University in Nagpur, said India's colonial masters did not bestow the Constitution on us.

When the Constitution is viewed from the context in which it emerged, it is nothing short of remarkable, he asserted.

While the Constitution has made tremendous strides, much work needs to be accomplished and the deep rooted inequality that existed in the past persists even today, the CJI further said.

If young law students and graduates are guided by constitutional values then they would not fail, he added.

Referring to the Preamble, he said it is a short but weighty party to the Constitution, and states that "We the people of India give to ourselves this Constitution".

"This is immeasurably significant because it marks the transition of the people of

India from the status of subjects to the status of citizens. The colonial masters did not bestow the Constitution upon us as an act of grace. Ours (Constitution) is a document that is home grown a product of self-governance, dignity and independence," the CJI said.

"The success of our Constitution is generally viewed from two opposite ends of the spectrum. Some people speak of our Constitution in entirely adulatory terms, while others are cynical of the success of our Constitution. The reality is neither here nor there," he said.

As a government document, the potential of the Constitution is "indeed informative", the CJI said.

"When the Constitution is viewed from the context in which it emerged, it is nothing short of remarkable," the Chief Justice of India said, adding the Constitution has made tremendous strides towards a more just and democratic society.

"But much work remains to be accomplished till we rest. The deep-rooted inequality, which fractured our society at the time of independence, persists even today. The best and surest way to make this inequality a distant dream of the past is to inculcate the spirit of constitutionalism in our society," he opined.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Survivors Still

since the quake, following the rescue of another person at the same site in the same hour. Ahead of her rescue, police announced that people shouldn't cheer or clap in order to not interfere with other rescue efforts nearby. She was covered in a thermal blanket on a stretcher. Rescuers were hugging. Some shouted "God is great!"

Just an hour earlier, a 3-year-old girl and her father were pulled from debris in the town of Islahiye, also in Gaziantep province, and soon after a 7-year-old girl was rescued in the province of Hatay.

The rescues brought shimmers of joy amid overwhelming devastation days after Monday's 7.8-magnitude quake and a powerful aftershock hours later caused thousands of buildings to collapse, killing more than 25,000, injuring another 80,000 and leaving millions homeless.

Not everything ended so well. Rescuers reached a 13-year-old girl inside the debris of a collapsed building in Hatay province early Saturday and intubated her. But she died before the medical teams could amputate a limb and free her from the rubble, Hurriyet newspaper reported.

Even though experts say trapped people can live for a week or more, the odds of finding more survivors were quickly waning amid freezing temperatures. Rescuers were shifting to thermal cameras to help identify life amid the rubble, a sign that any remaining survivors could be too weak to call for help.

As aid continued to arrive, a 99-member group from the Indian Army's medical assistance team began treating the injured in a temporary field hospital in the southern city of Iskenderun, where a main hospital was demolished.

One man, Sukru Canbulat, was wheeled into the hospital in a wheelchair, his left leg badly injured with deep bruising, contusions and lacerations.

Winning in pain, he said he had been rescued from his collapsed apartment building in the nearby city of Antakya within hours of the quake on Monday. But after receiving basic first aid, he was released without getting proper treatment for his injuries.

I buried (everyone that I lost), then I came here," Canbulat said, counting his dead relatives: "My daughter is dead, my sibling died, my aunt and her daughter died, and the wife of her son" who was 8 months pregnant.

A large makeshift graveyard was under construction on the outskirts of Antakya on Saturday. Backhoes and bulldozers dug pits in the field on the northeastern edge of the city as trucks and ambulances loaded with black body bags arrived continuously. Soldiers directing traffic on the busy adjacent road warned motorists not to take photographs.

The hundreds of graves, spaced no more than 3 feet (a meter) apart, were marked with simple wooden planks set vertically in the ground.

A worker with Turkey's Ministry of Religious Affairs who did not wish to be identified because of orders not to share information with the media said that around 800 bodies were brought the cemetery on Friday, its first day of operation. By midday on Saturday, he said, as many as 2,000 had been buried.

"People who are coming out from the rubble now, it's a miracle if they survive. Most of the people that come out now are dead, and they come here," he said.

Temperatures remained below freezing across the large region, and many people have no shelter. The Turkish government has distributed millions of hot meals, as well as tents and blankets, but is still struggling to reach many people in need.

The disaster compounded suffering in a region beset by Syria's 12-year civil war, which

has displaced millions of people within the country and left them dependent on aid. The fighting sent millions more to seek refuge in Turkey.

The conflict has isolated many areas of Syria and complicated efforts to get aid in. The United Nations said the first earthquake-related aid convoy crossed from Turkey into northwestern Syria on Friday, the day after an aid shipment planned before the disaster arrived.

The UN refugee agency estimated that as many as 5.3 million people have been left homeless in Syria.

President Bashar Assad and his wife have visited injured quake victims in a hospital in the coastal city of Latakia, a base of support for the Syrian leader.

Syrian state TV said Assad and his wife Asma on Saturday morning visited Duha Nurallah, 60, and her son Ibrahim Zakariya, 22, who were pulled out of rubble the night before in the nearby coastal town of Jableh.

The head of the World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, arrived in Syria's northern city of Aleppo on Saturday, bringing with him 35 tons of medical equipment, state news agency SANA reported. He said another plane carrying an additional 30 tons of medical equipment will arrive in the coming days.

The opposition Syrian Civil Defense, also known as the White Helmets, said Saturday that it "is almost impossible to find people alive."

The total death toll in Syria's northwestern rebel-held region has reached 2,166 many of them women and children. The total dead in Syria was 3,553, while in Turkey, officials counted 21,043 dead through Saturday.(AP)

Govt Makes List

objective of generating resources for financing power projects and conferment of proprietary rights to the occupants of the state land.

The act popularly called as Roshni scheme initially envisaged conferment of proprietary rights of around 20.55 lakh Kanals (102750 hectares) to the occupants of which only 15.85 per cent land was approved for vesting of ownership rights.

The scheme was finally repealed by the then governor Satya Pal Mallick on November 28, 2018.

In 2014, however, the Comptroller and Auditor General had estimated that only Rs 76 crore had been raised from the transfer of encroached land between 2007 and 2013.

Car Showroom

the Sunjwan Army garrison was also closed for vehicular traffic, while security forces were seen patrolling the interior localities to maintain law and order.

On February 4, the area witnessed stone-pelting when the joint teams of revenue and police officials started razing the building, forcing them to abandon the process.

Several persons were arrested following the clashes which had left a policeman injured.

Even as major political parties including the National Conference, the Congress and the PDP have voiced their concerns against the drive and demanded an immediate end to it, the authorities have so far retrieved more than 10 lakh kanals of land across Jammu and Kashmir after the Commissioner Secretary, Revenue department, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri directed all deputy commissioners to ensure 100 per cent removal of encroachments from the state land including Roshni and Kahcharai (grazing) on January 7.

Govt Official

a loan, the official said. The official said the complainant had taken a loan of Rs 10 lakh from a bank under the Prime

Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) scheme, which was sponsored by DIC, Samba.

A trap was laid by the CBI and the accused was caught red-handed while demanding and taking a bribe of Rs 15,000 from the complainant, the official said, adding searches are being conducted at the office and residential premises of the accused.

Man Dies In

the body will be handed over to his family members," an official told a local news agency KNO

Terror Incidents

Shah said that during the last seven decades, the country has seen many ups and downs in the field of security and faced many challenges, and while facing these challenges, more than 36,000 police personnel have made the supreme sacrifice.

"Looking back at the 75 years after independence, today India's situation has changed from Local to Global and from Violent to Vibrant," he said.

Speaking about the changed situation in North-East, the Home Minister said that over 8,000 cadets have been brought back to the mainstream by signing a peace deal with many insurgent organizations in the North East and settling the border disputes between the states.

"A wave of development has begun today and with the establishment of peace a dawn of new era has been witnessed in North East. By filling the security vacuum and cracking down on their top leadership of LWE, the number of 96 districts under Left Wing Extremist zones in 2010 reduced just to 46 in 2021," he said.

"India has showcased a successful example to the world by banning PFI. Central agencies and the police of all the states of the country have succeeded in banning an organization like PFI by successful operation in a single day. It shows the maturity and power of our democracy," he added.

The Home Minister further said that at present the security scenario is changing from Geographical to Thematic and now multi-dimensional policing will have to be accepted instead of single dimensional policing.

"In place of geographical threats like Northeast left wing extremism, communal hotspots, now thematic threats like cyber crime, misuse of data, misinformation are emerging that need to be dealt firmly," he said.

"Earlier there were challenges of terrorism, extremism and day-to-day policing, but now we are faced with multidimensional challenges like terror Finance, narco terror, fourth generation information warfare," he added.

Calling upon police forces to be equipped to grapple with these challenges, Shah said that a new approach is to be devised by the authorities to counter the challenges and strengthen policing.

"Our focus should be on the security of the country's economic centres, protection of human rights of the poor, evidence-based investigation, evidence-based forensic science, and cracking down on terror links of narcotics, cyber and financial fraud," he added.

Banihal Highway

steel tunnel at Panthiyal was almost completely damaged by the shooting stones from the hillock overlooking the highway, the officials said.

They said hundreds of stranded passengers were provided food and shelter by the Ramban district administration.

"Only the stranded vehicles were allowed to move towards their destinations after the road clearance agencies cleared the debris and made the road traffic worthy," a traffic department

official said.

He said the fresh traffic from the twin capitals is likely to be restored on Sunday morning, depending on the road condition. However, there will be one-way restrictions on the heavy motor vehicles plying on the highway.

Meanwhile, an Army official said the Army evacuated 34 sportspersons including Kickboxer champion Tajamul Islam from north Kashmir's Bandipora from Panthiyal Friday night and arranged accommodation and food for them at Banihal.

Islam, who recently won a gold medal in the U-14 World Kickboxing Championship held in Cairo, Egypt, along with nine other girls, 13 boys and 11 officials and coaches from Haider Sports Academy were going to attend the national trials for kickboxing in Delhi's Talkatora Indoor Stadium, the official said.

He said they got stuck near Panthiyal due to heavy rain and landslides and were noticed by an army patrol party. As soon as the sports faculty contacted the 12 Rashtriya Rifles Battalion, a team went to evacuate them and to provide them with all necessary assistance.

All the sports persons were thankful to the Army for their assistance, the official said.

Fresh Snowfall, Low

The wet weather conditions continued intermittently till afternoon.

Officials at the Srinagar international airport said that the flight operation remained suspended till 10:30 AM due to the fresh snowfall and low visibility.

They said that the flight operation was resumed again after the weather conditions and visibility improved.

"All the flights were operated. No flight has got cancelled," they said.

Meanwhile, the Director Meteorological department (MeT) has predicted more rains and snow at isolated places in Kashmir tomorrow.

There is a possibility of cloudy weather conditions tomorrow with chances of light rain and snow at isolated places of Kashmir, he said, adding that the weather would remain dry in Jammu region tomorrow.

The MeT director has also advised people to stay alert and away from avalanche prone areas.

The Jammu and Kashmir Disaster Management Authority (JKDMA) has also issued an avalanche warning for 12 districts of Jammu & Kashmir in the upcoming 24 hours.

The DMA has issued a 'Medium Level' warning above 2000 to 2500 metres over Anantnag, Bandipora, Baramulla, Ganderbal, Kupwara, Kulgam, Doda, Kishtwar, Poonch Rajouri and Reasi districts.

It also expressed apprehension of 'Low Level' avalanche occurrence above 2200 metres over Anantnag, Kulgam and Ramban district.

People living in the specified areas have been advised to take precautions and avoid venturing in the avalanche prone areas, the advisory reads further.

Lithium Reserve

level after this finding and it will fulfil the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' (self-reliant India)," he said.

Sharma said lithium has widespread usage and its discovery at a time of India's G20 presidency provides an opportunity for J-K to showcase its rich reserves.

Asked about the possible timeline for its extraction to start, he said every project takes its own time. "We had G3 level study and it will now be followed by G2 and G1 study before the final extraction of the metal."

"Everything will be done at the earliest and we will collaborate with the GSI and extend our full support in this historical feat," he said.

The officer assured the people that the reserve will be a game-changer for them as the local youths are given preference in any project as per the government's industrial policy.

"The local youth, whether skilled, semi-skilled or unskilled, will be part of this project. People who will be affected by this project will be adequately compensated and rehabilitated under rules," he said.

People living in the villages around the site are excited at the discovery.

"It is a very happy moment for all of us and we are feeling proud. After the railway projects and Mata Vaishno Devi shrine, which are major source of employment for the locals, this project is going to be a game-changer for us," Salal Deputy Sarpanch Rajinder Singh said.

Salal is home to the Salal Hydroelectric Power Station, a run-of-the-river hydropower project on Chenab river. Salal is located on way to under-construction paradigmatic Chenab railway bridge with a height of 359 meters, 30 meters higher than the iconic Eiffel Tower in Paris.

Jaspal Singh, another villager who claimed to have worked as a labourer with the GSI survey team, said they surveyed the hills for the last two years and returned about three months back.

"We are feeling lucky to be part of this project which will generate ample employment opportunities for the locals. We salute the hard work of the survey team especially given the challenging situation during the outbreak of Corona pandemic," he said, adding "one of the team members died during the survey".

Senior Democratic Azad Party leader (DAP) and former minister Jugal Kishore Sharma congratulated the people for the finding of the lithium reserve and urged the government to ensure that the local youth be given employment in the project.

"The industry for excavation of the metal should be set up in Reasi and the local people should be engaged," the former member of legislative assembly from Reasi said.

He said there is also a need for fully exploring the lower Himalayas across Jammu and Kashmir.

Haj-2023 To Be

their spouses, who have already performed Hajj through HCOI in the past," she added.

She said those having already travelled to the holy city to perform Hajj, have to pay additional charges, though nominal, if they wish to accompany their spouses.

"Although males having performed holy trips in the past were not allowed through HCOI twice, she said.

"We used to have some additional quota which generally goes up to 6,000 in J&K being a Muslim majority, but now we are mulling to make it 10,000. There are so many new things added in the policy by the government," Safeena said, adding there will be no bar for the people above 65 years of age, as the government has withdrawn the upper age limit.

She also stated that following hectic deliberations between HCOI and the Saudi government, the cost of annual pilgrimage is likely to reduce by around Rs 80,000.

"So, it means a pilgrim who had to pay an amount of Rs 4.50 lakh earlier, will now pay around Rs 3.5 - Rs 4 lakh," she said.

She said the people intending to undertake the holy pilgrimage can avail the form online free of cost. She added that if anyone faces any problem, he/she could get a hard copy from Haj House.

Safeena also said that those facing problems in getting their passports or whose travel documents have expired could contact Haj House officials for assistance.

Khadi Emerging As New Avenue Of Lucrative 'Start-Up': Jitendra Singh



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Union minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday said Khadi is fast emerging as a new and lucrative start-up avenue, giving full credit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for having popularized the fabric across the world.

"Today, Khadi garments and outfits have assumed the status of designer items and elite wear. Modi has popularised Khadi across the world with the mantra of Khadi for nation, Khadi for fashion and Khadi for transformation," the minister of state in the prime minister's office said.

Singh was addressing a North Zone level programme organised by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district, wherein subsidy margin amount of more than Rs 100 Crore was distributed online to beneficiaries and entrepreneurs spread across the north Indian states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan and Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh.

The programme was organised under the supervision of KVIC Chairman Manoj Kumar who underscored the recent decision to increase the wages from Rs 7.50 per hank to Rs 10 per hank, which will lead to rise in the monthly income of artisans by around 33 per cent

and 10 per cent increase in the wages of weavers.

The minister expressed disappointment that while the Start-up movement had picked up in other parts of the country, it was yet to pick up in this region.

"The worth of Khadi for entrepreneurship and industry is being realised more and more," he said and recalled that Prime Minister through his radio broadcast "Mann Ki Baat" had appealed on several occasions to buy khadi, as a result of which now there has been a record sale of Khadi products and also manifold increase in export of Khadi.

In order to build a prosperous, strong and self-reliant nation, the minister motivated the beneficiaries for running their units successfully and said that this would motivate other youth also to give up the desperate struggle to secure a government job and instead go for more lucrative livelihood options.

The KVIC chairman said the Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme is playing a crucial role in realising the dream of a self-reliant India.

"Khadi and Village Industries Commission through its various programmes are generating employment opportunities for artisans at their door steps in remote areas at very low cost," he said.

Education Is The Journey Of Inner-Self: LG

Observer News Service

MYSURU: The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that in the last 8 years, the world has witnessed emergence of a new India which has resolved to regain its past glory, be the economic powerhouse and become the driving force for all-round development of humanity.

"Education is the journey of the inner-self. This whole world is a university and every experience of life is education," he said.

Addressing the inaugural function of the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE), Mysuru here on Saturday, the LG also highlighted the key role of educational institutions to realize the undiscovered potential of the students.

Sharing the message of Mahatma Gandhi with the students, the LG said, the real meaning of education is to find the inner voice of oneself.

"The inner voice is the only guide in your journey and through this inner voice one can



achieve excellence in life. When we realize the voice of our inner-self, we experience education in its truest sense," he said.

Sinha cited examples of many great personalities of the world and India including Sant Kabir, Guru Rabindranath Tagore, Mahatma Gandhi, Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein, S Ramanujan, Gregor Mendel, Sachin Tendulkar, who listened to their inner voice and followed the path.

"Rabindranath Tagore advocated trans-disciplinary learning. Knowledge gave rise to action and action gave rise to knowledge. We must take inspiration from the life experiences of great person-

alities and discover our inner-self and bring knowledge into practice," the LG said.

He emphasized that colleges and universities must create an environment where students not just strive for marks and attain degrees but strive for experiential learning.

"Today, Knowledge-economy is the gateway towards prosperity across the world. We should introspect how our educational institutions should contribute towards strengthening India's knowledge economy," he added.

Earlier, the LG paid his respectful obeisance to Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Rajendra Mahaswami and Jagadguru Sri Shivarathri Deshikendra Mahaswami.

"Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering has contributed immensely to the nation-building and has achieved recognition for playing a unique role in societal transformation," he said.

"India is prime mover of peace and prosperity in today's world and the educational institutions like SJCE has helped in technological advances that are taking place now," he added.

National Lok Adalat Resolves 75,250 Cases In J&K

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A total of 75,250 cases were settled at the day-long National Lok Adalat across Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, an official spokesperson said.

Over Rs 45 crore was awarded as compensation or settlement amount in civil, criminal, labour disputes, electricity and water bills cases, land acquisition, family matters, cheque dishonour, and

bank recovery cases during the Lok Adalat, the spokesperson said.

He said, under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority, the Jammu and Kashmir Legal Services Authority organised the first National Lok Adalat of 2023.

Quoting the information received from different legal services institutions, the spokesperson said a total of 88,723 cases were taken up by

142 benches at various courts across the Union territory.

"Out of these, 75,250 cases were disposed of and an amount of Rs 45,05,14,697 was awarded as compensation or settlement amount in motor accident claims, civil, criminal, labour disputes, electricity and water bills cases, land acquisition, family matters, cheque dishonour and bank recovery cases," the spokesman said.

Strong Winds Trigger Panic In Tulail, Gurez



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Strong winds created panic in Tulail valley of Gurez tehsil in northern Kashmir's Bandipora district where one and a-half feet of fresh snow has accumulated for a few days, locals said here on Saturday.

They told a local news agency KNO that the strong winds created panic in Tulail area of Gurez since last evening while people preferred to remain indoors due to the winds. "Due to strong winds since last night, people here have been very scared," they said, adding that "strong winds are being witnessed from other parts of Gurez."

Meanwhile, a heavy snow slide was also reported from GG-sheikh village of Tulail today. However, there was no loss of life or property damage in the incident.

An official said that the overall situation in the Gurez is normal. However, the amount of snowfall in the region was less than expected. He said that the authorities had already advised people to take necessary precautions to ensure their safety.

Similarly, strong winds forced calling off of a number

of sports activities as a precautionary measure on day 2 of the 3rd edition of 'Khelo India Games', being held at Kongdori spot of famous ski-resort Gulmarg, officials said here.

Although, the officials termed strong winds as a normal routine occurrence but still as a precautionary measure some activities were suspended.

An independent weather forecaster Faizan Arif said that Tulail, Gurez, Gulmarg, and even in some plains, gusty winds were reported yesterday and today. "This is quite common even in winter sometimes," he said.

"A Western Disturbance has been affecting J&K for the last 3 days and windy weather was supposed to be associated with the weather system. The models had forecast wind gusts up to 40 kts/h. Now, wind gusts are expected to reduce from tonight and nothing significant is expected in the coming days," he added.

"From central parts of Pakistan and Afghanistan, these gusty winds carried dust along with them whose effect became visible on Friday when brownish-type snow was reported from north Kashmir parts," he added

Baramulla, Sopore Residents Asked To Remove Encroachments

Agencies

BARAMULLA: Irrigation and Flood Control Department has asked people in Baramulla and Sopore to remove illegal encroachments over Jhelum river banks and other water bodies within the period of seven days, failing which strict action would be taken against the encroachers.

According to a notice, people who have encroached over the Irrigation and Flood control (I&FC) land in the district have been asked to remove encroachments within seven days.

"If any person fails to remove the encroachment, the department would swung into action and people have to pay the charges of the same," it said. It reads that strict action

under the law would be taken against the people who fail to remove illegal encroachments within a stipulated time.

A similar kind of notice has been issued for the general public by the department in Sopore sub-division as well.

As per officials separate eviction notices have been issued to residents across the district for the same

Kumar Reviews Ayushman Bharat PMJAY SEHAT Scheme In J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Secretary Health and Medical Education (H&ME), Bhopinder Kumar, on Saturday chaired a meeting to review implementation of Ayushman Bharat PMJAY/ SEHAT scheme in J&K.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), State Health Agency (SHA), Sanjiv Gadkar gave a detailed presentation about implementation of the scheme in J&K. He informed that more than 98 per cent of families of J&K have at least one Ayushman Card and more than 83 per cent beneficiaries have received Ayushman cards.

He further informed that more than three lakh treatments have been performed under the scheme during the current policy period and claims amount worth over Rs.

430 crore stand released in favour of the hospitals. He further gave a detailed overview of the work done by Public and Private empanelled hospitals.

CEO further informed that action against the 25 erring hospitals has been initiated and the State Anti Fraud Unit is closely monitoring the activities of all such hospitals.

Secretary H&ME said that Ayushman Bharat PMJAY/ SEHAT scheme is one of the most ambitious schemes of J&K and its effective implementation has improved the access of people to better healthcare considerably. He stressed upon the different stakeholders to strengthen monitoring and evaluation and make sure that actions are directed towards the resolve of zero tolerance to fraud under the scheme. He added that the government will not hesitate in

de-empanelment and blacklisting of hospitals if they indulge in fraud activities.

Bhopinder directed both Directors Health Services Kashmir and Jammu to keep vigil on different laboratories working under their jurisdiction and see if they comply with the guidelines under the scheme. He stressed upon the participants to improve reporting/analysis under the scheme especially scale up activities under the beneficiary feedback system, beneficiary audit, table top audit exercises and State Anti fraud Unit.

The meeting was attended by Directors of Health Services, Jammu and Kashmir, Deputy Secretary H&ME Tak, State Nodal Officer, SHA, Sanam Mansoor and other senior functionaries of Health and Medical Education Department.

Will Not Allow Non-Locals To Settle In J&K: Bukhari

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari on Saturday said his party will not allow non-locals to settle in the Union Territory as he criticised the administration for its ongoing anti-encroachment drive to retrieve state land.

The former minister appealed to people to maintain peace and promised to reverse all "anti-people" decisions of the administration once his party comes to power.

"We will not allow the non-locals to settle in Jammu and Kashmir. The land in J&K belongs to the people of the erstwhile state of J&K," Bukhari said at a function here.

The function was organised to welcome PDP youth leader from Samba Sanny Sangral, who along with dozens of youth, joined Apni Party at its Gandhi Nagar headquarters.

Expressing concern over the anti-encroachment drive, he said the government has no other option but to regularise unauthorised colonies.

"Even the government in Delhi has regularised such colonies from time to time, but it seems they do not understand the issues of the poor people,"

he said, criticising the BJP for delaying assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The administration has no right to displace people from their land. If we form the next government, we will reverse anti-people decisions of the administration like stopping the darbar move practice and anti-encroachment drives," he said.

He said the decision regarding unauthorised colonies should be left to the elected government.

Referring to the demolition of a showroom at Malik Market in Narwal area of Jammu during the anti-encroachment drive, he said 40 workers lost their means of livelihood by this "wrong decision".

"The government should have taken action against the revenue officials who allowed the construction of the showroom in the first place besides the person who sold the land. If there was stone pelting, the government was responsible for it," he said.

He, however, appealed to the people to maintain peace

"Our fight against the elements, who want to create division in the name of region and religion, will continue. The Apni Party is committed to bring stability, peace and prosperity," he said.

Fire Damages Electronic Goods Worth Crores In Sopore



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Electronic goods worth crores were lost in a fire incident in North Kashmir's Sopore town.

The fire incident occurred at Haigam Sopore and the shop gutted in the fire incident belonged to Azad Shams

Shah who was running the shop by the name of 'Arif Electronic'.

Locals sources said that electronic goods worth crores were destroyed in the fire incident.

Police have taken cognizance of the fire incident and registered a case under relevant sections of law. (KNT)

SKUAST-K Innovator Bags Rs 50 Lakh BIRAC BIG Grant

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K) innovator Sameena Lone has been selected for the Government of India's BIRAC BIG grant worth Rs 50 lakh.

Biotechnology Ignition Grant (BIG) is a flagship programme of the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), which provides the right admixture

of fuel and support to young startups and entrepreneurial individuals. BIG is the Department of Biotechnology (DBT)'s largest early-stage biotech funding programme in India. Funding grant of up to Rs 50 lakh (USD 60,500 approx) to best-in-class innovative ideas to build and refine the idea to proof-of-concept.

Sameena Lone, an innovator scholar in the SKUAST-K's Division of Vegetable Science, supervised by Dr Khurshid Hussain, Assistant Professor, Division of vegetable science, SKUAST-K and mentored by Naveed Hamid, BDA, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Cell of the university, submitted her innovative proposal on 'Organic & Disease-Free Seed Potato Production through Tissue Culture in Kashmir' under Industrial Biotechnology, Clean Energy & Environment category

in Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), a Not-for-Profit Company' of Government of India which supports technology innovators and entrepreneurs to

pursue a promising technology idea, and establish and validate proof of concept (POC) for the idea under the BIG grant scheme a few months back. More than 500 innovators across the country had applied under the said scheme and only 26 got selected

for the final pitching round before the panel committee from which only nine innovators were selected under the given category across the nation.

SKUAST-K innovator is the only one from Jammu and Kashmir to receive the BIRAC BIG grant in the present round.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST Kashmir Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai congratulated the innovator and her team of mentors for securing the BIRAC Grant. He appreciated the level of effort and dedication of the team and support from SKUASTK Innovation, Incubation & Entrepreneurship Centre that brought laurels to the University. He further added that such achievements are so precious that they not only boost the morale of the innovators but help in developing the ecosystem for innovations, incubations & startups.

CS Calls For Declaring All Villages 'ODF Plus Model' By Aug 15

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Saturday reiterated his direction to all the Deputy Commissioners to achieve 'ODF Plus Model' status for all their villages by the 15th of August this year.

Dr Mehta made these remarks while inaugurating the Divisional Level Capacity Building Programme on Management of all Components of SBM(G)-Phase-II for officers of the Rural Development Department (RDD) attended by the Deputy Commissioners of Kashmir Division.

The inaugural ceremony was also attended by Commissioner Secretary, RDD; Secretary in RDD; Director, Rural Sanitation and many other concerned officers.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary stressed upon all participants to put in dedicated efforts to ensure that the open defecation free behaviour is sustained in all the Gram Panchayats, besides safe solid and liquid waste management facilities in these villages.

Dr Mehta also called for proper disposal of legacy waste and improving visual cleanliness in the rural areas. He also maintained that happiness of common mass-

es is connected with cleanliness so every one has to contribute in terms of sanitation and cleanliness of their surroundings.

Dr Mehta urged the officers to work in coordination with each other evolving a simple methodology without complicating the action plan to achieve the target. He observed that the task of cleanliness is basic and understood by all. He emphasised on conducting the cleanliness activities in a dedicated manner with clear objective to remove all the dirt around us. He remarked that this task is easy if everyone considers it as basic necessity; just as food, shelter, wa-

ter, electricity and clothes.

Emphasising on active involvement of people and PRI members in such activities the Chief Secretary asked officers to motivate and convince the rural population by sensitizing them about the significance of the cleanliness. He emphasized that it is vital for sustenance of good health and prosperity of the people. He stated that no human likes to reside in a dirty place. He directed all to make it a mission and make a resolve that we have to make our rural areas clean and hygienic by this year's Independence Day without any fail.

The Commissioner Secretary, RDD, Mandep Kaur in her address revealed that the progress of UT from last few years is although good but much has to be achieved yet. She made out that around 4400 of our villages are in the aspiring category of becoming ODF+ villages.

She set out that the model is evolving with us and the process is underway to make whole of the UT as ODF+ within the given timeframe. She made out that much of the work like door to door collection of waste and clearing of legacy waste has been started in all of our villages.



Real Kashmir Draw 2-2 With NEROCA In I-League

AIFF dock Real Kashmir 3 points for Churchill gaffe

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Mizoram-born midfielder Lalnuntluanga Bawitlung scored a last minute equaliser on Saturday to save Real Kashmir FC the blushes in the front of its home crowd as the team managed to draw 2-2 against NEROCA FC in I-League at Synthetic Turf, TRC here.

Real Kashmir were off to a flyer when Ghanian defender Richard Osei Agyemang gave his team the lead in the 10th minute of the match. However, the Snow Leopards' joy was short-lived as the referee awarded Imphal, Manipur-based NEROCA a penalty in the 13th minute. NEROCA's 25-year-old Jamaican international Jourdain Fletcher stepped up to take the spot kick and scored to bring his side on equal terms.

The next goal in the match came in 70th minute when central defender Agyemang scored an own goal to give NEROCA a 2-1 lead. Barely two minutes later, Real Kashmir's new head coach Gifton Noel-Williams substituted Agyemang for Ghanian striker Ernest Boateng. The English coach also changed his team's formation with the move, shifting from three at the back to four.

But it wasn't until the 90+4 minute of extra time when Bawitlung grabbed a riveting equaliser for the home side to send a cheer across TRC.

There are some positives for the Snow Leopards to take from the draw as it was clawed from the jaws of defeat and they re-

main unbeaten under new management. Real Kashmir next play Mohammedan SC on Thursday, February 18 at Synthetic Turf TRC.

AIFF Dock Real Kashmir 3 Points

All India Football Federation (AIFF) issued a statement on Saturday to announce that Real Kashmir will be docked three points for playing an ineligible player in their match against Churchill Brothers FC on November 28. Real Kashmir had won the match 1-0.

"AIFF Disciplinary Committee has decided that Match No. 22 of the Hero I-League, played between Real Kashmir FC and Churchill Brothers FC will be forfeited by the former due to a violation in the league's regulations," the statement reads.

"The appeal for the matter was made by Churchill Brothers FC Goa about a substitution made on the 64th minute by Real Kashmir, which has been deemed to have violated Articles 6.5.6 and 6.5.7 of the Hero I-League 2022-23 Regulations, which is punishable under Article 57 of the Code.

"As per Article 57.1 of the Code, the Committee deemed that the match is forfeited by Real Kashmir, as a consequence of which, three points will be taken away from the club and awarded to Churchill Brothers. Further, a fine of Rs 60,000 has been imposed upon Real Kashmir, as required by Section 57.1 of the Code," it added.

Khelo India Winter Games 2023 Concludes Its Day 2

- ▶ Several winter games organised at Golf Club
- ▶ Alpine G Slalom cancelled due to bad weather



Observer News Service

GULMARG: Snow and wind marked the second day of the 3rd Khelo India Winter Games as number of events in different categories were held on the slopes of Gulmarg on Saturday.

Gulmarg Golf Club hosted a number of competitions, including Cross Country 15 Km Sprint Senior Men, Cross Country 10 Km Sprint Senior women, Cross Country 2 Km Sprint Junior Boys, Cross Country 1.5 Km Sprint Junior Girls, Bobsleighing & Skeleton and Snow Shoe long distance event in men and women categories. The Ice hockey and Ice Skating competitions were held at Rink Gulmarg.

The snow amid strong winds made its presence felt during the games, as Alpine G Slalom of every category which were scheduled to be held at Kangdoori were cancelled.

At the first leg of Khelo India 2023, the Jammu and Kashmir Ski Mountaineering Association conducted a Sprint Women competition in which Divya Thakur from Himachal Pradesh got first position, Ishani Sawant from Maharashtra achieved 2nd position while third position was achieved by Kajaol Saxena of Uttar Pradesh.

Similarly, in the Ice Stock men's event, Maharashtra won gold, Daman & Diu silver, while Rajasthan and Karnataka won bronze.

In the women's category of the same game Ladakh got gold,

Maharashtra silver, J&K (B) and Punjab got bronze each.

In Ice Hockey three matches were played in which Army defeated UT J&K by 3-0, AIPSCB defeated Himachal by 5-0 and UT Ladakh defeated UT J&K by 2-0.

The players coming from different parts of the country expressed their pleasure after participating in the games. They shared their experience and expressed optimism that this winter games of Khelo India shall give them encouragement and experience to perform in Olympic games.

A player from Rajasthan said that Khelo India provides them a great opportunity to prove their talent and achieve success to make their state proud.



India Move Closer To WTC Final, Australia Kept Waiting

Press Trust of India

NAGPUR: India's innings and 132-run victory against Australia in the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy here on Saturday has helped them move closer to a second World Test Championship (WTC) final berth, while extending the Pat Cummins-led side's wait for a title round spot confirmation.

Following the win, crafted by the Indian spin-bowling pair of Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja, No.2 India are now on 61.67 percentage points as compared to 70.83 of No.1 Australia.

However, India still need two more wins from the remaining three Tests of the series to guarantee themselves a minimum points percentage of 62.50, which would beyond doubt knock third-placed Sri Lanka out of contention. If India win all the three remaining matches of the series, they could reach a best possible percentage of 68.06.

India's innings win, while extending Australia's wait in the WTC final race, also shut the door on England and the West Indies' hopes of securing a berth in the 2021-23 cycle of the Test championship.

Australia still have plenty of cushion to make the WTC final, but a 0-4 loss to India could bring third-placed Sri Lanka back in contention, as the Islanders still have a two-match Test fixture against New Zealand commencing next week.

In the event of Rohit Sharma's side making a clean sweep of

the series, Australia's points percentage will drop to 59.64. If Sri Lanka manage to win both their Tests against the Blackcaps, it will take their points percentage to 61.1, which will be good enough to get them past Australia and secure a WTC final berth.

However, Sri Lanka will be better served if Australia go undefeated in at least two of the next three Tests, as a 2-0 win for India would only take Rohit's side to 60.64 points percentage. Sri Lanka can then better it by making a clean sweep of two-match Test series against the Kiwis and leapfrog India to seal a WTC summit clash against Australia.

But going by Indian spinners' exploits in the first Test in Nagpur and the playing conditions expected to favour the home side, it's unlikely Rohit's side will stop at just two wins.

"For Australia, a win in any of the next three Tests will help them to a minimum points percentage of 64.91, while a draw would help them finish at 61.40 (provided there are no points lost on over-rate), still enough for them to make it to the final ahead of Sri Lanka, who can at best finish at 61.11 points percentage," according to calculation made by the ICC.

South Africa will play a home series against the West Indies in February-March, but even a sweep in that contest might not be enough depending on Sri Lanka's showing in New Zealand and the result of series between India and Australia.

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