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...PULWAMA ATTACK ANNIVERSARY

ECI To Take Call On J&K Elections, Statehood After Polls: HM

Agencies

Agartala: Union Home Minister Amit Shah has said that the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir will come up after assembly polls, and that a call on the timing of elections will be taken by the Election Commission

In an interview with ANI, Shah also said there has been improvement in the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, and terrorism-related figures were at their lowest.

Shah said Article 370 pertaining to Jammu and Kashmir, which was abrogated by the BJP-led government in 2019, had harmed the country. He said the way development is taking place in Jammu and Kashmir, terrorism is gradually ending.

"See all the figures, there is a lot of change in Jammu and

Kashmir," he said. minister The said he cannot comment on the timing of the polls in Jammu and Kashmir.

"I had clearly stated that statehood will be

'Big Drop In Terror Cases Post Art-370'

arlier, the Union Home Minister said in Karnal that there is a big drop in terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir after the abrogation of Article 370 and a record number of tourists are visiting the Union Territory. Presenting the President's Colour to the Haryana Police in recognition of its exceptional service, Shah also said the BJP government at the Centre has successfully tackled internal security challenges -- terror activities in Jammu and Kashmir, insurgency in the North East and More on P6

SINCE 1950, IT WAS ON OUR AGENDA **TO REMOVE ARTICLE 370** from Jammu and Kashmir. Today, the way Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing development and decrease in terrorism shows the changes that are coming."

restored in Jammu and Kashmir after elections. The process of preparation of voters' list is nearing completion in the UT. Now, the Election Commission has to take a call on elections," he said. Asked about his earlier statement mentioning the emer-gence of new leadership in Jammu and Kashmir, Shah said that new leadership will emerge from local bodies where polls had been held earlier.

"The panchs and sarpanchs who have been elected, new leadership will emerge from them... Since the time terrorism started in Jammu & Kashmir, the terrorism-related More on P6



Pulwama on this day in 2019.

heroes who we lost on this

day in Pulwama. We will

never forget their supreme

Their

He

sacrifice.

tweeted.

courage

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid tribute to the CRPF personnel who lost their lives in a terror attack on their convoy in

motivates us to build a strong and developed India." "Remembering our valorous

Home Minister Union Amit Shah also paid tribute to the CRPF personnel killed in the 2019 suicide attack at Pulwama in More on P6

I PAY HOMAGE TO THE BRAVE SOLDIERS who laid down their lives in the ghastly terror attack in Pulwama on this day in the year 2019. The nation can never forget their sacrifice. Their valour and indomitable courage will always remain an inspiration in the fight against terrorism."

Highway Shut, 2,500 Vehicles Stranded

Ramban: The 294-km-long Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remained closed since Monday evening following shooting stones in Ramban district, after which 2,500 vehicles are stranded on the mountainous road, officials said.

The traffic movement on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway remained continuously disrupted due to shooting stones at Mehar-Cafeteria (Ramban) since last night, officials said.

He said the Nationa

LG Asks Youth To Strive For **Excellence, Not Marks**

'Youth Should Have Courage To Explore The Unexplored'



Gujarat: The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday called upon the younger generation to draw inspiration from the life of towering personalities of the country like Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and take India forward on the path of peace and prosperity.

"Education withou tical experience has no purpose. We must imbibe the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi and make efforts for experiential learning. We need to create an environment in which our youth are encouraged for new discoveries, new



he proactive approach of security forces in the aftermath of the 2019 Pulwama suicide attack has led to a huge improvement in the situation in Kashmir, a senior CRPF official said on the fourth anniversary of the strike that killed 40 personnel of the paramilitary force. "The situation in Kashmir has improved post the Pulwama attack. Stone pelting incidents do not take place anymore while 'hartals' have come to an end. Record tourists are arriving in Kashmir," CRPF Inspector General (Operations) M S Bhatia told reporters after a wreath laying ceremony at the Pulwama Martyrs' Memorial, around 21 kilometres from Srinagar. More on P6

Only 37 Militants Active In **Kashmir: ADGP**

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Vijay Kumar claimed on Tuesday that all the nineteen militants. who were involved in February 14, 2019 Pulwama attack were charge-sheeted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). Kumar said eight out of the

total nineteen militants involved in 2019 Pulwama attack; eight were killed in security forces action while four, including three foreigners are alive and seven others arrested.

"Security forces have broken the back of Jaish-e-Mohammad outfit in the valley, as all long standing militants including top commanders of this outfit have been neutralized and we will ensure that this outfit won't flourish again," Kumar told media after paying tributes to the slain security personnel on their fourth anniversary at the Martyr's Memorial in Lethpora, Pulwama on Tuesday.

The provincial police chief also said that cases registered under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) are disposed off 'considerably'.

"1600 UAPA cases pending till October last have come down to 900, while 13 convictions have also taken place. Cases registered under UAPA are disposed off considerably, which I think is a remarkable achievement," he said.

"19 militants More on P6

Rahul Gandhi To Visit Srinagar Today: Report

Agencies

New Delhi: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will be travelling to Srinagar on Wednesday on a personal visit, said sources.

Rahul Gandhi, who was scheduled to visit Varanasi on Tuesday, had to return to Delhi as his flight was unable to land at the Varanasi airport.

The Congress has alleged that he airport authorities denied Rahul Gandhi's plane permission to land at the Varanasi airport. Congress leader Ajay Rai has alleged that the airport authorities did not grant permission as they were under pressure, and that they used President Droupadi Murmu's visit as an 'excuse'. "Rahul Gandhi was scheduled to arrive here and then go to Prayagraj, but the airport authority did not allow his plane to land due to More on P6



Ladakh Parties To Protest In **Delhi Demanding Statehood**

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance, an amalgam of trade unions, social, political and religious groups from Ladakh, are set to hold a protest at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Wednesday to raise demand of statehood for the Union Territory.

Ladakh became a Union Territory, along with Jammu and Kashmir, when Article 370 and 35 A were abrogated on August 5, 2019. While Jammu and Kashmir is a UT with legislature, Ladakh does not have any provision for it.

The two groups, which came together with a set of demands for Ladakh, will hold a daylong protest in the national capital on Wednesday, activist and politician Sajjad Hussain told PTI.

"When Ladakh was made a Union Territory, we were promised development. However, it's been four years and we cannot see any development happening," Hussain said. "Leh Apex Body and Kargil

Democratic Alliance are holding

a joint protest. We are raising a four point agenda, under which our demands are statehood for Ladakh, sixth schedule under Constitution, job reservation, a separate Public Service Commission for Ladakh, and two parliamentary seats for Leh and Kargil," he said.

Ladakh-based activist and educator Sonam Wangchuk, who had recently gone on a five-day 'climate fast', to 'save Ladakh', said the protest is being held in Delhi so that their voice reaches the government.

"We raised our voice from Ladakh, but no one has reached out to us yet. Perhaps our voice did not reach them, so we have come to Delhi to hold a protest," Wangchuk said.

"We have been talking to the government, but in the last three years, the process has stagnated. I did a symbolic protest by holding a fast, we were hoping the government will call us for discussions at least. Sadly, no invitation has been given so far," he said.

"It is our duty as More on P6

Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has been trying to clear the debris but the continuous shooting stones have been hampering operations.

"About 2,500 vehicles are stranded on the route," he said, adding that if the weather remained favourable, the road clearance work will remain on and the highway More on P6

inventions," Sinha said. He made these remarks while addressing 'Rashtra Katha Shivir', organized by Dharmabandhuji, Swami

Celebrate Valentine's Day



Vedic Mission Trust, at Pransla here on Tuesday. The national-level camp provides a platform for the overall personality development of youth.

Sharing his thoughts, the LG called upon the young & brilliant minds assembled at the shivir from all parts of the country to

to plan the celebrations in

Kashmir," Madhya Pradesh

Marvelling at the scenic

native Saket Sharma said.

Valentine's week here."

S

dedicate themselves towards nation-building.

Competence, Competitiveness and Youth will be the three major factors in shaping the future of India in the Amrit Kaal," he said.

'The speed of progress largely depends upon young generation. Youth with More on P6

Couples Descend On Kashmir To Mystery Shrouds Man's Death In Car Blaze

Police Says Deceased Had Strained Relationship With Wife, All Angles Being Probed

Auqib Javeed

beauty, his wife Prabha Shree said, "There can be nothing Srinagar: The mystery over the more beautiful than celebrattragic death of a baker in South ing Valentine's Day in Kashmir. Kashmir's Anantnag district We actually plan to celebrate further deepened on Tuesday after police revealed that the de-Besides visiting the faceased man had a strained relamous Mughal Gardens dottionship with his wife.

35-year-old Shabir Ahmad Rather was charred to death inside his car in Panzgam

village of Kokernag during the intervening night of February 12 and 13. Initially the death was believed to be accidental, but the ongoing police probe is looking at the case beyond it. A senior police officer told Kashmir Observer on Tuesday that the man went to sleep inside his Maruti van following a heated argument with his wife at their house More on P6

turning the Kashmir landscape white this winter, love birds are making a beeline to resorts such as Gulmarg in north Kashmir and Pahalgam in south Kashmir.

Press Trust Of India

Valentine's Day.

Gulmarg: The festival of love is

in full bloom in Kashmir with

couples from across the country

arriving in the Valley to celebrate

With abundant snowfall

"We came to this beautiful

S



Valley to make Valentine's Day a memorable one. The weather is nice and I am feeling lucky that we were able

ting the banks of the Dal Lake, the tourists have also added Gulmarg and More on P6 K E Α

Minor Boy Drowns To Death

minor boy died on Tuesday after falling into a stream in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. Two-year-old Rumaan Wahid Zargar slipped into Lar-Kol in his native village of Chew, Budgam on Tuesday evening, reports said.

The child's body was retrieved from the stream and shifted to the hospital. However, the minor was declared dead at the hospital.

Colleges In Kashmir To Reopen Today

Ollowing a fifty day winter vacations, Colleges in winter zones in Jammu and Kashmir are all set to resume academics from Wednesday. In December-2022, the Jammu and Kashmir Higher **Education Department announced** winter vacations for all government degree Colleges of Jammu and Kashmir. The Higher Education Department in an order had said that the degree Colleges falling in Kashmir and the winter zones of the Jammu division will observe winter vacation from December 27 to February 14-2023. More on P6

Camera-Fitted Drone Found In Kathua

olice on Monday seized a camera-fitted drone which was found in a field in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir,



sources said. The drone was found in Kalaspur village on

Monday night, they said. According to security agencies, it appears that the drone was used for photography and shooting videos at weddings, the sources said. Security agencies, however, are on alert after the recovery of the drone, they said.

Mortar Shell Destroyed In Poonch

120-mm mortar shell was destroyed Tuesday in a controlled explosion by Army experts after it was found in a forward village near the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, officials said. The old mortar shell was found during road construction work between Islamabad and Shahpur in Bandi Chachi by the Border Roads Organisation around 1:15 pm, the officials said. They said the concerned army unit was informed and the shell was destroyed under a controlled mechanism.

PDD Employee Lands In ACB Net

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he sleuths of Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday arrested a Power Development Department (PDD) employee in Central Kashmir's Budgam district for demanding and accepting a bribe. Javid Ahmad Najar, MR Technician 3rd Sheikhpora PDD, was arrested red-handed while accepting a bribe of Rs 2000 in Budgam, quoting sources, a local news agency KDC reported. The sources said that on receipt of the complaint, a FIR was registered, under section 7 Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 More on P6

Elderly Man Found Dead

60-year-old man was found dead under mysterious circumstances at his home in Mendar area of Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, officials said.





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Emissions From Fertilisers Could Be Cut Down By 80%: Study

Press Trust of India

missions from manure and synthetic fertilisers could be reduced by as much as 80 per cent, to one-fifth of current levels, according to a new study

Researchers have quantified that two thirds of emissions from fertilisers take place after they are spread on fields, with one third of emissions coming from production processes, the study said.

The researchers, from University of Cambridge, UK, have calculated the carbon footprint for the full life cycle of fertilisers, the study said.

Fertilisers are responsible for approximately five percent of total greenhouse gas emissions, the first time this has been accurately quantified, and found that carbon emissions could be reduced to one-fifth of current levels by 2050, the study said.

Although nitrogen-based fertilisers are already known to be a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, this is the first time that their overall contribution, from production to deployment, has been fully quantified, the study said.

Their analysis found that manure and synthetic fertilisers emit the equivalent of 2.6 gigatonnes of carbon per year - more than global aviation and shipping combined, the study said.

Carbon emissions from fertilisers urgently need to be reduced; however, this must be balanced against the need for global food security, the study said.

According to the study, earlier research has estimated that 48 per cent of the global population are fed with crops grown with synthetic fertilisers, and the world's popu-lation is expected to grow by 20 per cent until 2050.

The Cambridge researchers said that a combination of scalable technological and policy solutions are needed to reduce fertiliser emissions while maintaining food security.

However, they estimate that if such solutions could be implemented at scale, the emissions from manure and synthetic fertilisers could be reduced by as much as 80 per cent, to one-fifth of current levels, without a loss of productivity.

The results are reported in the journal Nature Food.

"Incredibly, we don't actually know how many chemicals we produce globally, where they end up, where and how they accumulate, how many emissions they produce, and how much waste they generate," said co-author Dr Andre Cabrera Serrenho from Cambridge's Department of Engineering.



48 per cent of the global population are fed with crops grown with synthetic fertilisers, and the world's population is expected to grow by 20 per cent until 2050.

Serrenho and his co-author Yunhu Gao undertook a project to accurately measure the total impacts of fertilisers, one of the two main products of the petrochemical industry, the study said.

Of all the products made by the petrochemical industry, the vast majority, as much as 74 per cent, are either plastics or fertilisers, the study said.

"In order to reduce emissions, it's important for us to identify and prioritise any interventions we can make to make fertilisers less harmful to the environment," said Serrenho.

"But if we're going to do that, we first need to have a clear picture of the whole lifecycle of these products. It sounds obvious, but we actually know very little about these things," said Serrenho.

The researchers mapped the global flows of manure and synthetic fertilisers and their emissions for 2019, along all stag-

es of the lifecycle, by reconciling the production and consumption of nitrogen fertilisers and regional emission factors across nine world regions, the study said.

After completing their analysis, the researchers found that unlike many other products, the majority of emissions for fertilisers occur not during production, but during their use.

"It was surprising that this was the major source of emissions," said Serrenho.

"But only after quantifying all emissions, at every point of the lifecycle, can we then start looking at different mitigation methods to reduce emissions without a loss of productivity," said Serrenho.

The researchers listed and quantified the maximum theoretical impact of different mitigation methods – most of these are already known, but their maximum potential effect had not been quantified.

Emissions from the production of synthetic fertilisers are mostly from ammonia synthesis, partly due to chemical reactions used in the production process.

The most effective mitigation at the production stage would be for the industry to decarbonise heating and hydrogen production.

Fertilisers could also be mixed with chemicals called nitrification inhibitors, which prevent bacteria from forming nitrous oxide.

However, these chemicals are likely to make fertilisers more expensive.

"If we're going to make fertilisers more expensive, then there needs to be some sort of financial incentive to farmers and to fertiliser companies," said Serrenho.

"Farming is an incredibly tough business as it is, and farmers aren't currently rewarded for producing lower emissions, said Serrenho

JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR Present:- Ms Tabasum Mohammad Umaan Wani Applicant v/s Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar. (Non-Applicant) **PUBLIC NOTICE** Whereas an application has been received from the applicant for registration of Birth of Mohammad Umaan Wani in the records of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted in writting before the undersigned within seven days from the date of this Publication. The details of the Person are as under:-Name:- Mohammad Umaan Wani Sex:-MALE Father's Name:-Ghulam Mohammad Wani Mother's name: Shafiga DOD: 26-03-2016 R/o: Goripora Noorbagh Srinagar Place Of Death:-at home Sd/-

IN THE COURT OF JMIC,

Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

Non applicant

In The Court of JMIC, First Additional Munsif Srinagar

Presen - Mr Shafeeq Ahmad Malik

Saiah Bono W/O : Late Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o Radio Colony Ikhrajpora Jawahar Nagar Srinagar

Versus

Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, an application has been received from the applicant for registration Birth Death of Ali Mohammad Bhat in the records of SMC. Srinagar. Objection. if anv\ be submitted in writing before the undersigned within seven days from the date of this publication. The details of the person are as under: Name: Ali Mohammad Bhat Male Sex: Father's Name: Mohmd Bhat Mother's Name: Malla Ded D.O.D: 27-02-2017 Residence: Radio Colony Ikhrajpora Jawahar Nagar, Srinagar Place of Death: Home i.e Radio Colony Ikhnajpora Jawahar Nagar Srinagar nj

Before The Hon'ble High Court Of J&K And Ladakh At Srinagar WP (C) No.169 Of 2023

(Under Article 226 of the Constitution India) (Matter pertains to District Anantnag)

In the case of :

Villagers of Watihal- Revenue Halqa Korigam Tehsil Qazigund District Anantnag-Kashmir THROUGH;

1. All Mohammad Lone (Age 68 years) s/o Abdul Gani Lone; 2. Ghulam Hassan Lone (Age 65 years) s/o Ghulam Qadir Lone.

3. Javaid Ahmad Itoo (Age 50 years) s/o Abdul Gani Itoo; 4. Gul Mohammad Lone (Age 62 years) s/o Ghulam Mohammad Lone;

All residents of village Watihal- Revenue Halqa Korigam Tehsil Qazigund District Anantnag-Kashmir.

v/s

... Petitioners

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT

1. Union Territory of J&K through Commissioner Secretary enue Department, Civil Secre

Hospital And Central Heating Division Srinagar

-----Telefax:- 0194-2496089, Email ID:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in------

Gist of e-tender NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2022-23/215/e-tendering

Dated:-11.02.2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT e-tenders are invited from registered/reputed/experienced firms with J&K UT Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the below mentioned work:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost	Cost of	EMD	Time of		TS No
	(in Rs.)	T/Doc. Amountcompl		AA Accorded Vide No:		
		(In	(In	etion		
	-	rupees)	rupees)	(in days)	-	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Repairs to the AMF Panel of	82,000/-	100	1600	5	664-JK(HME)of	36 of 02/23
320 KVA DG Set by way of					2020Dt:-07.09.2020	(AEE SD/3 rd)
Providing and fitting of contac-					By Financial Com-	
or and other allied items at					missioner, H&ME	
District Hospital, Ganderbal.					Department	
Repairs to the AMF Panel of	82,000/-	100	1600	5	660-JK(HME)of	37 of 02/23
320 KVA DG Set by way of					2020Dt:-07.09.2020	(AEE SD/3rd)
Providing and fitting of contac-					By Financial Com-	
tor and other allied items at					missioner, H&ME	
District Hospital, Kulgam.					Department	
Repairs to the AMF Panel of	82,000/-	100	1600	5	675-JK(HME)of 2020	38 of 02/23
320 KVA DG Set by way of Pro-					Dt:-07.09.2020	(AEE SD/3rd)
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and other allied items at JLNM					missioner, H&ME	
Hospital. Srinagar.					Department	
Supply, Installation, Testing	1,53,000/-	200	3100	5	675-JK(HME)of 2020	MHCHD/
and Commissioning of Off					Dt:-07.09.2020	TS/159
oad Changeover along with					By Financial Com-	Dated 02/23
3.5 Core 185 Sqmm Aluminium					missioner, H&ME	
armoured cabling at JLNM					Department	
Hospital, Srinagar.						
Supply, Installation, Testing	1.80.000/-	200	3600	5	660-JK(HME)of	MHCHD/
and Commissioning of Off	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	[· · ·		-	2020Dt:-07.09.2020	TS/160
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3.5 Core 185 Sqmm Aluminium					missioner. H&ME	54124 02/25
armoured cabling at District					Department	
Hospital, Kulgam.					Department	

1. Downloading of Bids:- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 11.02.2023(18.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 11.02.2023(18.00 hrs)

2. Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site12.02.2023(10.00 hrs) to 17.02.2023(14:00hrs) in two (02) covers.

3. Opening of Bids :- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 17.02.2023 at 16.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar Sd/-

Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar

MHCHD/TS/10609-14 DIPK-17409/22 Dt:-14-02-2023 **CIVIL SECRETARIAT, JAMMU**

Subject: Applications for the position of Vice-Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu.

The Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir has constituted a Selection Committee fo recommending a panel of suitable aspirants for the position of Vice Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Jammu (J&K). The position is to be filled up on tenure basis for a period not exceeding 03 years or attainment of 65 years of age, whichever is earlier. Aspirants for this position should not be more than 62 years of age as on the closing date of application.

The committee invites applications from eminent agricultural scientists with outstanding credentials and also solicits appropriate nominations from renowned personalities of eligible candidates fulfilling the following criteria:

Essential Qualifications and Experience:

- A distinguished scientists or academician with Doctor of Philosophy degree in Agriculture/ Veterinary or related fields.
- More than 10 years experience in the grade of professor or equivalent position in any academic organization of repute.
- Administrative experience of at least 03 years in handling affairs of any university or a national institution as Dean/ Joint Director/ Director or equivalent. Or
- 05 years experience at the level of Head of the Department/Division or equivalent position in any academic organization of repute.
- Minimum of 20 research publications in peer-reviewed national/ international journals including books.
- Demonstrated experience in leadership.

Desirable Experience:

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- Good understanding of financial management including revenue generation, planning and fisca control.
- Demonstrable success in developing and executing National and International collaborative arrangements.
- Experience of working in Statutory Authorities of a university such as Board of Studies/Academic Council/ Executive Council/Board oi Management.
- Experience of handling accreditation procedures, quality assessment and guiding students for Masters' and PhD.
- Experience of international exposure through participation in meetings, workshops, seminars, or conferences held outside the country.

Mode of Application:

Applications received from eligible candidates through e-mail only shall be considered. Such applications should reach by or before 13.03.2023 to:

Tej Krishan Bhat,

JKAS Special Secretary to the Government, Agriculture Production Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu, J&K UT

E-mail: tej.krishankas@jk.gov.in Mobile No. 9419044146

The CV/Bio-data must contain general information (name, present position/ post last held, date of birth, address for correspondence, e- mail ID and contact/mobile number), educational gualifications, area of specialization, service details (including date of appointment as Professor, equivalent), administrative posts held, publications, number of persons guided for Post-Graduation & Ph.D degree.

- Applications received after the last date shall not be considered.
- Shortlisted applicants may be invited for personal interaction. 5.

The details are also available on official website: www.jkapd.nic.in

Agriculture Production Department, J&K U

Sd/- Atal Dulloo, IAS

Financial Commissione

(Additional Chief Secretary

(Convener, Selection Com

o Government, Rev Jammu/ Srinagar

- 2. Divisional Commissioner Kashmir (Tankipora Srinagar).
- 3. Deputy Commissioner, Anantnag.
- 4. Assistant Commissioner (Development), Kulgam.
- 5. Tehsildar. Oazigund (Anantnag).
- 6. Block Development Officer, Kund (Kulgam).

7. Senior Superintendent of Police, Kulgam.

Respondents

In the meantime, subject to the objections from the other side and till next date of hearing before the Bench, statusquo be maintained with regard to the land in question. nj

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB Certificate for my daughter namely Tafseer Zehra . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the BDO Shareabad Khore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Altaf Ahmad Malla F/O Tafseer Zehra (DOB 03-11-2017) bmg R/O Hassan Abad (Kantar Bugh Singhpora Dist: Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB Certificate for my daughter namely Tafseer Zehra . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the BDO Shareabad Khore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Altaf Ahmad Malla F/O Zainab Altaf (DOB 30-11-2015) bmg R/O Hassan Abad (Kantar Bugh Singhpora Dist: Pattan

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Fatehr's name & residence of my son has been wronlgy written in DOB Certificate issued by Lal Ded Hospital Srinagar as jAVEED aHMAD & R/o Drigam while the correct father's name & R/o is Irshad Ahmad Hajam, R/O Batapora Kanihama Magam. which needs to be corected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication f this notice. After tha tno objection shall be entertained. Haseena Bano W/o Irshad Ahmad Hajam bmg R/o Batapora Kanihama

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THATTHE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT

DIPK-17315-22 Dated: 10-02-2023



KASHMIR OBSERVER^{®®} Srinagar | Wednesday | 15-02-2023

LCMA Starts Dredging Of Shoreline In Dal Lake

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The J&K Lake Conservation and Management Authority (LCMA) has started the dredging of the shoreline of the northern side of the Dal Lake under 'Lake Conservation Programme'.

After completion of the shoreline dredging of the Hazratbal Basin, the department has shifted Crawl Cat Dredger to the Northern side of the Dal Lake (Laam area) for dredging of the shoreline.

In phase 1st, the department of LCMA has taken up the dredging along the shoreline in the Laam area of the lake for a stretch of 2 km approx. along the road by Departmental Dredger- Crawl Cat Dredger to achieve an average depth of 1.5 mtrs approx.

The stretch to be covered under phase 1st is from NPL bund to Kral Sangri and the dredging of the area has been initiated for the 1st time crush/arrest abnormal to growth of weed and azola formation. Presently the average depth of the lake in this stretch is less than two feet on average

which is the sole cause of formation of azolla/ red bloom of the lake in this stretch because of water stagnation.

The dredged material is being deposited across the road in the earthen dykes constructed by the Mechanical Division of the JKLCMA on the barren land provided by the locals/inhabitants at Laam region; being the proprietary/ Maliki land of the locals.

The total tentative quantity of material to be dredged out is almost 1.70 lac cums. approx. up to the stretch of Kral Sangri in phase 1st.

Presently the work has been taken up in hand after enormous efforts by the authority utilizing the available departmental machinery both for the construction of the earthen dykes and dredging as well.

Accordingly a trap team

tion in Srinagar and further

investigations into the mat-

said that relevant details of

this trap case will be shared

An official from ACB

ter are going on

later on. (KDC)

In order to clear/clean the shoreline beyond Kral Sangri, efforts are on to work out an alternative to deploy one more departmental dredger upto Oberoi basin and beyond for which possible modalities are being



Not A Single House Will Be Demolished For Doodh Ganga Restoration: Mayor

'SMC not a part of the current land retrieval drive'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Mayor Srinagar, Junaid Azim Mattu on Monday held a detailed meeting with the residents and community elders of various localities and colonies on the stretch of Aloochi Bagh to Chattabal Doodh Ganga Rejuvenation and Restoration Project and assured the residents that no colonies will be displaced, nor any houses demolished - including the downtrodden colonies and slum settlements on

this stretch. The meeting was also attended by Commissioner SMC and CEO Srinagar Smart City, Athar Aamir Khan, SE City Drainage in addition to senior officials

and engineers. Junaid assured the local residents that the Doodhganga Canal Restoration and Rejuvenation Project was a vital flood mitigation project that would first and foremost benefit the residents and colonies in Aloochi Bagh, Haft Chinar, Batamaloo and Chattabal.

Junaid while condemning traditional mischief mongers and agent provocateurs who were provoking the people and spreading misinformation, assured the residents that not a single residential colony, including slum structures, would be disturbed or affected by this project.

'The Public Notice that has been issued concerns encumbrances, obstacles and physical encroachments within and on top of the canal and does not pertain to residential colonies, houses or structures. Not a single house will be demolished by this project. It is my assurance to the residents that this won't be allowed",



The Public Notice that has been issued concerns encumbrances, obstacles and physical encroachments within and on top of the canal and does not pertain to residential colonies, houses or structures. Not a single house will be demolished by this project. It is my assurance to the residents that this won't be allowed

Junaid said while interacting with the residents

He said contrary to what is being wrongly peddled by vested interests, this restoration project will resolve the longstanding issue of localised urban flooding and water-logging in these areas — benefiting the locals of these areas.

He also made it very clear that attempts to connect SMC with the ongoing land eviction and retrieval of State land drive were misleading and a larger deliberate ploy to spread misinformation and canards.

"SMC is not involved in the ongoing drive in any way, shape or form - neither at the policy level nor at the execution level As the Mayor of Srinagar, I have formally urged the administration to put in place a humane and sympathetic policy of regularisation, especially for the poor and downtrodden sections of our society - keeping in view the fragile and sensitive economy of J&K", the Mayor added.

Junaid further said he has passed strict directions to ensure that no scope is left for misinterpretation of steps being taken for public and community welfare, such as the Doodhganga Rejuvenation and Restoration Project.



This Day In History

1933 - President-elect Franklin Roosevelt survives assassination attempt 1936 - Hitler announce building of Volkswagens (the People's Car,

- aka the Kaefer/beetle)
- 1939 German battleship Bismarck was launched
- 1942 German U-boat shells Antillian oil refinery 1942 - Japanese troops march into Palembang, South Sumatra
- 1942 -WWII: British ruled Singapore surrenders to the Japanese
- 1944 891 British bombers attack Berlin 1944 - Attack begins at Monte Cassino monastery, Italy
- 1948 Mao Zedong's army occupies Yenan.
- 1955 1st pilot plant to produce man-made diamonds announced. 1956 - Pirates & KC As cancel an exhibition game in Birmingham Alabama, because of local ordinance barring black from playing against white
- 1959 Antonio Segni forms Italian government
- 1965 Canada replaces Union Jack flag with Maple Leaf
- 1965 Maple Leaf becomes official flag of Canada 1966 -KeesVerkerk becomes world champion all-round skater
- 1967 1st anti-bootleg recording laws enacted
- 1970 Dominican DC-9 crashes into sea at Santo Domingo, kills
- 1970 Nationalists disrupt UN session on Congo
- 1971 After 1,200 years Great Britain abandons pence & shilling system for decimal currency
- 1973 USSR launches Prognoz 3 to study sun (589/200,300 km)
- 1977 Social-democrats win Danish parliamentary election 1984 500,000 Iranian soldiers move into Iraq
- 1985 STS 51-E vehicle moves to launch pad
- 1985 World chess championship match abandoned-Karpov 25, Kasparov 23.
- 1989 Israel attacks border strip Taba near Egypt 1989 - Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan ends
- 1993 Bombings by mafia drug lords kill 14 in Bogota, Colombia 1994 - US asks Aristide to adopt a peace plan from Haiti
- 1995 Population of People's Republic of China hits 1.2 billion
- 1996 Mortar attack on the US Embassy in Athens, Greece.
- 2000 Indian Point II nuclear power plant in New York State vents inactive ste

ACB Arrests Principal, AP For Accepting Bribe

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau on Tuesday afternoon trapped and arrested a principal and an Assistant Professor of higher education department for accepting bribes.

Official sources said that a professor identified as, Tariq Ashai, who is the principal of GDC Pattan, was arrested red-handed while accepting a bribe of Rupees 60000 at SP

They said that on receipt of the complaint, a FIR was registered, under section 7 Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 in Police Station ACB north Kashmir and investigation was taken up.

was constituted. The team laid a successful trap and caught Tariq Ashai while accepting a bribe of rupees 60,000 on the spot in presence of independent witnesses. investigations, During another Assistant Professor

worked out.

(History) of the Degree College Pattan was also arrested in this case and is identified as Professor Imiyaz Ahmad, a resident of Wanigam Pattan. Both the officers of higher education department were taken to a police sta-

College in Srinagar.

Found Dead In City

Bla Resident Among Two

Agencies

Srinagar: A resident from north Kashmir's Baramulla district and a nonlocal were found dead in mysterious circumstances in Bemina and Batamaloo area of Srinagar on Tuesday morning.

As per official reports, body of north Kashmir local identified as Nas-

eer Ahmad Lone, son of Habibullah, a resident of Baramulla, was found in vehicle (Tata mobile) bearing registration no JK13G-0150 near Tengpora area of Batamaloo by CRPF jawans of 73 battalion this morning.

In another incident, a non-local labourer identified as Babu Ali (65), Son of Hussain,

a resident of Jalalpur area of Uttar Pradesh state, was found dead in a rented accommodation at SD colony here. His body was shifted to SMHS for further medico-legal formalities.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of both the incidents and further investigations set into motion.(CNS)

Man Succumbs At SKIMS

Day After Losing His Legs,

Agencies

Srinagar: An elderly man, who lost his legs yesterday after allegedly attempting suicide by jumping in front of a moving train in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, succumbed to his injuries at SKIMS, Soura on Tuesday morning.

An official said that the man from

Mattan allegedly tried to commit suicide when he jumped in front of a moving train at Sadora area and lost both his legs

He said he was shifted to GMC Anantnag in a critical condition where from he was referred to SKIMS Soura for specialized treatment, however, today morning he succumbed to his injuries.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited

M.A. Road Srinagar, Kashmir-190001

E: iapmd.kmr@jkbmail.com

Zonal Office Srinagar

Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department (IAPMD)

2001 - First draft of the complete human genome is published in the journal "Nature'

2002 - At the Tri-State Crematory in La Fayette, Georgia investigators find uncremated bodies disposed of in the woods and buildings on crematorium's property. One of the worst incidents of abuse in the funeral service industry

From KO Archives Counter-Insurgents Form Joint Front In J&K

Observer News Service

AMMU - In a bid to counter the growing menace of foreign militants of yesteryears under eleven different counter insurgency groups have joined hands and formed Muttahida Quomi Mahaz (Joint National front).

This group will give a befitting reply to Pakistan's Inter service Intelligence (ISI) and militants and agents in the state, chairman of the front and National Conference MLC Javed Hussain Shah told reporters here yesterday.

Shah, who also heads a counter insurgency group, national security organisation, said efforts were also on to bring J&K Awami League supremo Jamshed Shirazi alias Kukka Parrey and Liaquat alias Hilal Haider in the new front.

He said the Centre should not be soft toward the Hurriyat Conference and demanded arrest of the Hurriyat leaders who he alleged are involved in anti-national activities.

Besides holding rallies and mass contact programmes, the Mahaz would appeal to people to come to the streets against the Hurrivat and ISI.

Organisations which have joined the Muttahida Quomi Mahaz front include National Security Organisation of Javed Hussain Shah, all J&K People's Patriotic Front of Nabi Azad, Jammu Kashmir Welfare Forum of Sammad Khan, Militancy Mukhalif Morcha of Ch. Jalal-u-Din, Sada--Kashmir of Shabnum Shafiq, Aman Conference of Majid Khan, Muslim Mujahideen of Mukhtarul-Aziz, Kashmir Liberation Council of Mushtaq Ahmed Lone, Secular Awami Tehreek of Abdul Ahad, J&K lkhwan of Bashir Ahmed Khan and Awami Tehreek headed by Wali Mohammad Wani

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 15 February, 2001)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I. Shamima w/o Ghulam Nabi Thakur, R/O 75, Hamza colony Bernina am the daughter and a Legal Heir of the original allottee of Plot no 75 in Housing Colony Bernina Srinagar, Kashmir and I have applied for transfer of leasehold rights to freehold rights of above said plot in my favour. Objections. if any may be conveyed to the office of the Deputy General Manager Housing Board Unit II. Habitat centre Bemina, Srinagar, Kashmir within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. However ,no objections will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.

Shamima W/O; Ghulam nabi Thakur D/O; Abdul Sattar NJ R/O: 75, Hamza Colony, Bemina , Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

have lost my Provisional Certificate / Marks Card bearing Roll no; 1906050 Regd No: CUS-19-GWC-10975 . Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objecion in the concerned office within a period ofseven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

INF

Hadiya Rasool D/o Gulam RasooL Dobi DOB 28-08-2000

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB for my son Zain Ali Rather . If anybody having any objection may contact Police Station Sumbal Sonawavri within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Saiad Ahmad Rather F/o Zain Ali Rather (DOB 22-10-2020

fir x

inf

SAD DEMISE

Mother of Mohamad Yaqoob Khan of Zadimasjid, Safakadal Srinagar passed away on February 14, 2023. Mourning will be for three days only and there will be no any congregation Fateh Khawani. Those who wish to extend their condolences can visit to residence of bereaved family during 3 days. BEREAVED Mohamad Yaqoob Khan, Mohamad Ayoub Khan,

Ab Majeed Khan (sons) Through Mohamad Aslam Khan 9797360098

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my passport as Hajra Bano Rather While my correct name is Hajra Bano which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Hajra Bano bmg

R/o Hardushoora Tangmarg Baramulla



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

Whereas Mr. Asaf Rasool Kanue, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 06.09.2022 thereby calling upon the Borrower namely Mr. Akhtar Hussain Joo S/o Mohammad Jaffar Joo R/o Mandibal Nowshera Srinagar, to repay an amount of Rs. 53,51,880.71 (Rupees Fifty Three Lakh Fifty One Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty And Paisa Seventy One Only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.08.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken symbolic possession of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 7th day of February of the year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 55,23,345.71 (Rupees Fifty Five Lakh Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred Forty Five And Paisa Seventy One Only) togeth er with future interest thereon from 01.01.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred. The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

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

Mortgage of land measuring 07 marlas along with single storied residential building falling under khasra no. 3521 min of khata no.5470 and khewat no. 1680 min at Mandibal Nowshera in estate Zoonimer and district Srinagar standing in the name of Mr. Akhtar Hussain Joo S/o Mohammad Jaffar Joo R/o Mandibal Nowshera

Dated: 08.02.2023 Place : Srinagar	SAJAD AHMAD WANI Authorized Officer
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir,	India
CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E : info@jkbma	il.com ; W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-6434/22 DATED: 14-2-2023

J&K Bank Serving To Empower

NEWS

Survivors Leave Earthquake-Hit Homes In Turkey, Unsure Of Return



Agencies

iza Atahan, from the southern Turkish prov-Lince of Hatay, put his wife and daughter on a bus taking them to safety 300km (186 miles) away, then returned to his earthquake-damaged home to guard their belongings.

'I do not have a lot of expectation from this life but the lives of our children are important," he said, as his family headed to a student dormitory - emergency accommodation arranged by the government. He hopes to spare them the chaos and hardship facing Hatay in the next months.

They join the more than 158,000 people who have evacuated the vast swathe of southern Turkey devastated by the earthquake, according to government figures. Even more fled in panic immediately after the earthquake, causing traffic chaos as they looked for passable roads.

One of the deadliest tremors in Turkey's modern history has killed more than 37,000 people in Turkey and Syria. Rescuers worked through the night to rescue people clinging to life beneath the rubble eight days later, but hopes of finding many more survivors were fading on Tuesday.

Hundreds of residents are leaving Hatay province daily, unsure of whether or when they will be able to return. They gather at a plot of land on the side of the main road leading into Antakya.

Security officials take names and ask them where they want to go, then assign them to buses taking them to provinces all over Turkey, from Istanbul, a 12-hour drive north west, to Hakkari, a 12-hour drive east near the border with Iraq. 'WE WILL NOT RETURN'

Hamza Bekry, 22, a Syrian originally from Idlib who has lived in Hatay for 12 years said he was heading west to Isparta in southern Turkey.

"Our house collapsed completely. Several of our relatives died, there are still ones under the rubble. My family went to Isparta, I am going there too, we will not return to Hatay."

"It is very hard... We will start from zero, without belongings, without a job." Fatma Yitir has been living in a car since the earthquake.

"We do not have water, electricity. We are miserable. We are shaken and tired. We are thinking about going to Ankara. My son is there, working in a hospital. We will stay there for a while."

UK Says 'Closely Monitoring' Tax Surveys At BBC Offices In India

Press Trust Of India LONDON: The UK is "closely

monitoring" the situation following the Income Tax surveys at the BBC offices in India, British government sources here said today.

The Income Tax department conducted survey operations at the BBC's offices in Delhi and Mumbai on Tuesday with the officials describing the action as part of an investigation into alleged tax evasion. Reacting to the Indian IT de-

partment's action, the UK-based British public broadcaster said that it was "fully cooperating" with the authorities and hoped that the situation will be resolved "as soon as possible".

While there has been no official statement from the UK government related to the action, British sources said they are "closely monitoring" reports of tax surveys conducted at the offices of the BBC in India.

In New Delhi, officials said the survey was being carried out to investigate issues related to international taxation and transfer pricing of BBC subsidiary companies, and alleged that the BBC had been served with notices in the past but was "defiant and non-compliant" and had significantly diverted its profits.

The IT action against the BBC comes weeks after the broadcaster aired a controversial twopart documentary -"India: The Modi Question"- on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and 2002

Gujarat riots. The Income Tax Authorities

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The BJP on

Tuesday accused the British

Broadcasting Corporation

(BBC) of unleashing "ven-



are currently at the BBC offices in New Delhi and Mumbai and we are fully cooperating," a BBC spokesperson said in a statement.

"We hope to have this situation resolved as soon as possible," the spokesperson said.

The BBC did not give fur-ther details of what has been described as "surveys" by the Income Tax (IT) department, which reportedly involved local BBC staff being prevented from leaving or entering the office premises and their mobile phones and other gadgets being seized

Meanwhile, there was shock in the UK as news of the action unfolded early on Tuesday morning and a broad consensus has been that the action was linked to the controversial BBC documentary aired in the UK last month.

"Everyone's shocked and no one is fooled that today's tax survey, as it's being called, is a retaliation to the recent BBC documentary 'The Modi Ques-

tion'," said Dr Mukulika Banerjee, a leading author and academic at the London School of Economics (LSE).

"The BBC is an independent public broadcaster so if it puts out a documentary, it is not acting at the behest of the British government. In fact, BBC journalists routinely grill the British PM and all elected officials holding them accountable for their actions. The word 'independent' means just that," she said.

"Finally, the Indian government has appointed India as the 'Mother of Democracy' during its year of the G20 Presidency and plastered posters across every inch of the country proclaiming that. It should know then that one of the basic principles of being a democracy is to recognise that press freedom is an essential central pillar of a functioning democracy. They really need to understand that this is what press freedom looks like. And stop its shameful harassment of the BBC in Delhi and Mumbai," she added.

How Global Watchdogs Reacted To Tax Searches At BBC India Offices

Press Trust of India

NEW YORK: Global media watchdogs and human rights bodies on Tuesday criticised the Indian government's income tax survey operations at the BBC's offices in New Delhi and Mumbai, saying the action "smacks of intimidation" and was a "blatant affront" to freedom of expression.

The Income Tax officials described the action as part of an investigation into alleged tax evasion.

Reacting to the Indian IT department's action, the UKbased British public broadcaster said that it was "fully cooperating" with the authorities and hoped that the situation will be resolved "as soon as possible". The New York-based independent non-profit Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) urged the Indian government to stop harassing journalists.

Its Asia programme coordinator Beh Lih Yi said: "Raiding the BBC's India offices in the wake of a documentary criticising Prime Minister Narendra Modi smacks of intimidation". "Indian authorities have used

tax investigations as a pretext to target critical news outlets before, and must cease harassing BBC employees immediately, in line with the values of freedom that should be espoused in the world's largest democracy," CPJ said in a statement.

"The searches by the tax authorities of the offices of @BBC-World in #Inde, 3 weeks after the censorship of his documentary on @narendramodi, consti-



tute an outrageous reprisal. RSF denounces these attempts to silence any criticism of the Indian government," Paris-based Reporters Without Borders (RSF) tweeted.

International Amnesty tweeted: "These raids are a blatant affront to freedom of expression." "The Indian authorities are clearly trying to harass and intimidate the BBC over its critical coverage of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party. The overbroad powers of the Income Tax Department are repeatedly being weaponised to silence dissent. Last year, tax officials also raided the offices of a number of NGOs, including Oxfam India. These intimidatory acts, which undermine the right to freedom of expression in India, must end now," it said in a statement.

The South Asia Solidarity Group, a human rights organisation based in the UK, dubbed it a "blatantly vindictive move".

"In the wake of the government's ban on sharing extracts or screening the documentary, this raid makes it clear that the Modi government will attack all those who criticise Narendra Modi, the BJP and those close to them," said Mukti Shah, spokesperson for the group.

Curtains Down On High-Voltage Campaign For Tripura Assembly Polls



Press Trust of India

AGARTALA: The high-decibel sembly elections, marked by bitter political attacks and promises of development, ended on Tuesday. The northeastern state, where top leaders had stepped up their electoral spadework over the past few days, is set to witness a triangular fight this time, with the BJP-IPFT coalition seeking to retain supremacy, the Left-Congress combine looking to wrest power, and regional outfit Tipra Motha making its debut at the hustings after its stunning performance in the autonomous council polls. Polling to the 60-member assembly will be held on February 16. Votes will be counted on March 2.

"The campaign for the assembly elections ended at 4 pm on Tuesday without any major law and order issue

China's Xi Hails Iran 'Solidarity' During 'Complex' **World Situation**



Agencies

hailed Beijing's "solidarith Iran on Tuesdav

invasion of Ukraine, while Iran is already under strict US hinese President Xi Jinping sanctions due to its nuclear programme.

omous" reporting against India and alleged that its propaganda and the Con-gress' agenda go together.

The remarks came soon after Income Tax officials surveyed the British broadcaster's offices in Mumbai and Delhi, Addressing a press conference, BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia rejected the Congress' criticism of the Income Tax (I-T) action and said the government agency should be allowed to do its job, adding that the "timing of the action was not decide by any government or outside power". Hitting out at the London-headquartered public broadcaster, he said the BBC is the "most corrupt" organisation in the world and the Congress should remember that former prime minister Indira Gandhi had also banned the broadcaster. The BJP leader further

"tainted and black history of working with malice against India". "BBC propaganda and Congress agenda go together. Congress should remember that its own leader and former prime minister Indira Gandhi had imposed a ban on the BBC," he said. He cited its past reports,

claimed that the BBC has a

BBC Propaganda, Congress

Agenda Go Together: BJP

including the one which described a terrorist as a "charismatic young militant" and allegedly called Holi a "filthy" festival. It works in India, but has little regard for its Constitution, Mr Bhatia said. "This shows that the BBC does venomous and shallow reporting on India. The BBC wishes to operate in India yet refuses to respect the icons of the country. In a BBC programme, its presenter had the temerity to say that Mahatma Gandhi had failed in his attempt to liberate India in 1946," Mr Bhatia said.

Broadcasting Corporation". The news broadcaster should definitely pay heed to the words of UK's longest serving prime minister, he said.

Mr Bhatia said India is a country that gives opportunity to every organisation and individual as long as they are willing to abide by the Constitution and do not have hidden agendas and "spew venom" against the country. At a time when India

is marching ahead

glob-

as he hosted the Islamic republic's President Ebrahim Raisi at the start of a three-day trip.

For the first state visit by an Iranian president to China in more than 20 years, Raisi has brought a large trade and finance delegation to Beijing and was earlier greeted by Xi on a red carpet.

"In the face of the current complex changes in the world, times, and history, China and Iran have supported each other (and) worked together in solidarity and cooperation," Xi said, according to state broadcaster CCTV.

Both countries face pressure from Western nations over their positions on Russia's

Iran has emerged as one of Russia's few remaining allies as Moscow has been pushed deeper into international isolation over the invasion.

Western countries have accused Tehran of supplying armed drones to Russia for use in the war in Ukraine, a charge it denies.

In December, Washington outlined what it said was an extensive relationship between and Russia involving Iran equipment such as helicopters, fighter jets and drones. Moscow's offensive in Ukraine is a sensitive issue for Beijing, which has sought to position itself as neutral while offering diplomatic backing to its strategic ally Russia.

The BJP spokesperson said former British prime minister Margaret Thatcher described the BBC as "Bolshevik

ally under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, there are many powers which do not like it, Mr Bhatia said, claiming that the Congress, its leader Rahul Gandhi and other opposition parties also feel 'pained" by the country's

rise under PM Modi. Accusing opposition Congress of supporting "antinational" forces, he said, "Your hate for PM Modi is so much that you politicise even a probe agency's work. You always question constitutional authorities such as the Supreme Court and the Election Commission."

poll machinery is geared up to conduct free, fair and peaceful elections on February 16," Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Gitte Kirankumar Dinakarrao told PTI. Polling will take place in 3,328 polling booths, of which 1,100 are sensitive and 28 critical, he said.

During the month-long campaign, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP president I P Nadda and a dozen central ministers canvassed in favour of candidates of the saffron party, listing the benefits of the double engine government.

The party had also organised 'Vijay Sankalp Yatra', rallies and road shows to woo the electors.

NEWS MAKERS

BJP Received Rs 614 Cr As Donation, Congress Rs 94 Crore In 2021-22: ADR

Press Trust of India

The BJP received Rs 614 crore as donation in 2021-22, while the Congress got Rs 95 crore, according to poll reform body ADR.

According to a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), the total donations (above Rs 20,000)declared by the national parties for 2021-22 was Rs 780.774 crore from 7,141 donations.

"A total of Rs 614.63 crore from 4,957 donations was declared by the BJP, followed by Rs 95.46 crore from 1,255 donations declared by Congress. The donations declared by the BJP are more than three times the aggregate declared by the Congress, NCP, CPI, CPI(M), NPEP and AITC for the same period," the ADR said.

The Bahujan Samaj Party (SP) declared it did not receive any donation above Rs 20,000 during 2021-22 as it has been declaring for the past 16 years, the ADR said.



The total donations of the national parties during 2021-22 rose by Rs 187.03 crore, an increase of 31.50 per cent from 2020-21. Donations to the BJP rose from Rs 477.55 in 2020-21 crore during to Rs 614.63 crore 2021-22, up 28.71 per cent, in a year.

The party's donations had decreased by 41.49 per cent during FY 2020-21 in comparison to FY 2019-20. The Congress' donations increased from Rs 74.52 crore during FY 2020-21 to Rs 95.46 crore during FY 2021-

22 (28.09 per cent increase). While Congress donations had decreased by 46.39 per cent between FY 2019-20 and FY 2020-21.

In comparison to the previous financial year, the decrease in donations declared by CPI(M) was 22.06 per cent (Rs 2.85 crore), and by the National People's Party was 40.50 per cent (Rs 24.10 lakhs).

The segregation of donations according to state was made by ADR based on the addresses provided by the parties in their donations report to the Election Commission. A total of Rs 395.85 crore was donated to the national parties from Delhi, followed by Rs 105.3523 crore from Maharashtra and Rs 44.96 crore from Gujarat.

A total of Rs 12.26 crore (1.57 per cent of total donations received by the national parties, FY 2021-22 could not be attributed to any state/ Union Territory due to incomplete/ undeclared information provided by the parties.

Over 64 Lakh Cases Settled In Karnataka Lok Adalat In A Day - A Record

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: The Karnataka State Legal Services Authority has said that a record 64,13,608 cases were settled in the Lok Adalat held on February 11. These include the 52,11,424

traffic challan petty cases in the two-week window ending last Saturday, reported Press Trust of India.

On January 27, the Executive Chairman of Karnataka State Legal Services Authority requested the State government to provide at least 50 per cent concession in traffic challan fine amount.

The State government had agreed to the request made by Justice B Veerappa and issued order in an order on February 2 providing 50 per cent concession. As a result, total 52,11,424

traffic challan petty cases were disposed as Pre-Litigation cases across Karnataka and a fine amount of more than ₹152 crore was collected.

The Karnataka State Legal Services Authority last evening said, it has now requested the State to extend the window for traffic offences and the rebate for two more weeks.

Apart from the traffic cases, the Lok Adalat settled 4,14,202 revenue cases, 14,723 Bank Pending cases amounting to ₹157 crore, 670 matrimonial cases, 2,724 partition suits, 4,050 motor vehicle claims cases where compensation amount of ₹179 crore were awarded.

The Lok Adalat also settled 10,766 Negotiable Instruments Act cases and 116 RERA cases among others.

Woman Killed Allegedly By Live-In Partner, Body **Stuffed In Mattress**

Press Trust of India

PALGHAR: Tulinj Police in Maharashtra's Palghar district on Tuesday arrested a man who was trying to escape after allegedly killing his live-in partner.

The accused was held by Railway Protection Force personnel from a train at Nagda in Madhya Pradesh, a police official said.

Megha (37), a nurse, was found dead in her rented house in Tulinj area on Monday after foul smell began to emanate from inside and neighbours alerted the police.

The body was found stuffed in a mattress. She was suspected to have been killed sometime last week, said senior inspector Shailendra Nagarkar. The accused, her live-in partner, was jobless and they used to quarrel often. During one such quarrel he allegedly killed her, the official added.

He also messaged his sister about the killing and sold off furniture in the flat before fleeling.

A case of murder under Indian Penal Code section 302 has been registered and further probe is on, the official said.

STATE

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: More than 184.12 acres of state land was retrieved during an anti-encroachment drive in Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, an official spokesman said.

Ramban Deputy Commissioner Mussarat Islam and other senior officers personally monitored the drive, which was jointly carried out by revenue and police teams, in various tehsils of the district, the spokesman said.

He said state land measuring 524 kanal was reclaimed in Banihal where several illegally raised structures were also demolished

Similarly, the enforcement teams retrieved 394 kanal state land in Gool tehsil, 245 kanal in Ramban, 160 kanal in Khari, 93 kanal in Ramsu, 28 kanal in Batote and 27 in Pogal-Paristan (Ukhral), the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the Jammu and Kashmir unit of the Congress on Tuesday staged a protest rally against the drive in Sunderbani area of Rajouri district.

Led by former legislator and chief spokesperson of the Pradesh Congress Committee Ravinder Sharma, the protesters raised slogans against the BJP and J&K administration before dispersing peacefully.

Opposing the eviction of small farmers and poor people who are cultivating the land for decades, Sharma said lack of elected government has brought large-scale miseries to common people.

"A fair, just and rational policy should be framed to regularise the land of poor and common people," he said favouring evictions of land grabbers who have illegally usurped large chunks of surplus lands allegedly in connivance with corrupt revenue officials.

The Congress leader threatened mass agitation if "coercive action" is initiated against the poor and farmers.

"All previous governments framed rules and laws to settle the poor, landless and farmers, especially tillers, but this government directly under the BJP-led Centre is uprooting them," he said.

CRPF MEN DISPLAYING SOPHISTICATED ARMS at an event organised to pay tributes to their 40 colleagues killed in a suicide attack on February 14, 2019 at Lethpora in Pulwama. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

J&K Cops Upbeat Over Induction Of High-Tech All-Weather Shooting Ranges

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Upbeat over the induction of two state-of-the-art containerised shooting ranges (CTSR) in Jammu and Kashmir, policemen are queuing up for undertaking firing practice on these ranges in all-weather conditions to hone their skills.

Police is likely to induct more such systems in Jammu, Srinagar and other districts of the Union territory after the success of these ventures.

"For the first time, we have got two units of containerised shoot ranges in Jammu and Kashmir. One of these has been installed in Jammu and another in Srinagar," Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP)

ing Control System (MCS) was inaugurated by DGP Dilbag Singh in Jammu last week.

Div Com Kashmir Takes Review Of

party fold, Rampaul said his joining will further strengthen the NC at the grassroots level.

two tubes and two cops can undergo firing practice at a time in three body positions. He said the biggest advantage of the system is that it can be operated day and night. 'We had a firing range facil-

ity used only during the day. But in this new facility, you can practice any time, including at night," Kulbir said.

He said if the forces are engaged during the day, they can practice any time even at night. A policeman, who undertook firing practice on the newlyinducted range, said it is useful for sharpening of hitting targets. "You can do firing practice any time. There is no timeline for it. My skills have improved. Target hitting has sharpened due to several features of correcting the shots," he said.

The CTSR and its MCS meets all international standards of

safety and pollution with soft-The SSP said the CTSR has ware capability of decreasing and increasing the firing range of up to 300 metres, officials said.

The air-conditioned shooting range, which can be utilised round-the-clock, can also be easily transported to any other location, they added.

The shooter can fire in standing, kneeling and lying positions, and it has electronic multi-function targets and virtual target systems, the officials said.

The CTSR has control stations and a monitoring tab near the shooter, they said.

Its systems are capable of displaying and recording shot location on the target, possible score, aggregate score, indicate mean point of impact, indicate type of exercise in progress and show group size, they added.

Mercury Hovers Below Sub-Zero Level In Kashmir

Dry Weather Forecast Till February 18

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid forecast for mainly dry weather till February 18, the minimum temperature hovered below sub-zero level in Kashmir Valley despite considerable rise on Tuesday. Quoting a meteorological de-

partment official, news agency GNS reported that Srinagar recorded a low of minus 1.6°C against the previous night's minus 4.0°C . Today's minimum temperature, he said, was below normal by 1.8°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of minus 3.0°C against minus 4.6°C on the previous night and it was 2.0°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir. Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of minus 4.6°C against minus 10.0°C on the previous night and it was 0.4°C above normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's An-

antnag district. Kokernag recorded a low of minus 2.4°C against minus 4.6°C on the previous night and

it was 2.4°C below normal for the place, the officials said. Gulmarg recorded a low of

minus 7.2°C against minus 11.0°C on the previous night and it was 1.0°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at minus 3.5°C against minus 5.7°C on the previous night and it was 2.3°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 7.2°C against 3.6°C on the previous night. It was 2.9°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said. Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 0.8°C (below normal by 0.4°C), Batote 3.8°C (above normal by 1.2°C), Katra 8.0°C (0.1°C below normal) and Bhadarwah 1.4°C (1.2°C above normal)

Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 12.2°C and minus 17.4°C respectively, the official said.

Regarding the forecast, he said, mainly dry weather was expected till February 18.

'Choose Life, Not Tobacco' **ADC Shopian Chairs Coordination Committee Meeting**

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The Additional Deputy Commissioner, (ADC) Shopian, Yar Ali Khan on Tuesday chaired a district level Coordination Committee meeting at Mini Secretariat, here to review the action taken till date towards the furtherance of Tobacco free society and to discuss and approve the future plan of action against the implementation of COTPA Act, 2003

At the outset, CMO Shopian, Dr Arshid presented an overview of the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP), while an expert from DHSK presented discussion on the agenda points.

On the occasion, directions were given for making all government institutions/ private premises 'Tobacco Free Zones'

and all educational institutions as 'Tobacco Free Educational institutions ' as per the guidelines. ADC also directed for displaying mandatory prominent signages across the district, at public places, institutions, etc denouncing use of Tobacco products. Directions were also passed to all stakeholders for taking strict action against retailers promoting Tobacco use through surrogate advertising. Emphasis was given on con-

ducting intensive IEC activities across the district for dissemination of information on the adverse impacts of tobacco use. Capacity building of stakeholders was asked to be stressed for implementation along with increasing challans against the violations of the Act.

Besides, feasibility of vendor licensing was also discussed in the meeting.

CORRECTION

This is for the information to the general public that my name and date of birth was wrongly mentioned in my passport as Jani Begum Wife Of Noonda Sheikh and DOB 04-06-1961 while as my correct name is Jana Begum wife of Noor Din Sheikh and DOB 04-06-1960. Now I have applied for the corrections in particulars of my passport, if anybody have any objection he/she should report it to Passport Officer Srinagar within a week after the publication of this notice. No objection will be entertained afterwards.

Wing Reconstituted; 10 Nominated As VPs

NC's Jammu Women's

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The National Conference on Tuesday reconstituted its Jammu province's women's wing, nominating 10 leaders including four district development council (DDC) members as vice presidents, a party spokesman said.

Provincial president of women's wing Satwant Kour Dogra reconstituted the body after getting approval from party's Jammu provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta. She also nominated eight provincial secretaries and 38 working committee members, he said.

The spokesman said DDC members Attiga Jan, Pooja Thakur, Suriya Begum and Shahmim Akhter, Hameeda Rana, Rubia Beigh, Raj Kour, Rama Gupta, Puspa Dogra and Ashma Mehra were nominated as vice presidents of the women's wing of the Jammu province.

The nominated provincial secretaries include DDC members Shahmim Begum, Shah-



vincial office bearers and working committee members of the women's wing will work with close coordination to strengthen the party at the grassroots level and also ensure the strengthening of the women workforce in their respective areas across the Jammu province.

Meanwhile, Bishnah Block President of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Mohan Lal Sandhu along with his supporters joined the National Conference on Tuesday in the presence of party zonal president and former minister Babu Rampaul here. Welcoming Sandhu in the

mim Akhter, Parveen Begum and Gulshan Akhter, while there

include state vice president (women's wing) Bimla Luthra and former legislator Deepinder Kour, the spokesman said.

Gupta hoped that new pro-

Kulbir Singh told PTI here. The CTSR and its Monitor-

G20 SUMMIT



KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Wednesday | 15-02-2023

All Heritage Sites, Protected **Monuments Must Be Renovated: Secretary Culture Dept**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: All heritage sites and other protected monuments must be renovated and given facelift on mission mode while ensuring that their aesthetics and sanctity are not compromised with, Secretary Culture, Dr Syed Abid Rashid Shah said, while chairing a meeting to review works of various departments under his ambit at the Civil Secretariat Tuesday.

Secretary Culture informed that the government is committed to reviving the Culture Department on a massive scale for bringing about a cultural renaissance in the union territory.

He laid great emphasis on promoting and giving due recognition and operating to Abhinav Theatre, Kala Kendra Jammu and Tagore Hall in Kashmir. These places have been nerve centres of J&K cultural space and should be throbbing with the year, he stressed.

He urged the officers to connect to the locals as well as the visitors with our heritage through social media. The departments are working well to preserve our shared treasures and the same must be shared with the public to generate their curiosity and interest, he emphasised.

Over the course of the meeting, Dr Abid discussed strategies to make the department vibrant and to connect more with the youth.

Speaking to representatives of Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Arts Culture & Languages, the Secretary said, we have rich and vibrant cultures in Jammu & Kashmir. We need to organise events to give a new lease of life to them and attract youth towards it.

He also directed respective officers to meditate on and submit a feasibility report on initiating Cultural Apprenticeship in Tradicultural activities throughout tional Artforms programme.

Departments & Agencies To Meet Deadlines

Dev Works In High Level Meet

Stresses On Flawless Coordination Among All Concerned

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In view of the G20 Summit engagements to be hosted by Srinagar, the Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Tuesday chaired a high level maiden meeting of concerned Officers to take holistic review of related developmental projects and other beautification works, here.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Commissioner SMC/ CEO SSCL, Director Health Services, Director ULB Kashmir, Director Floriculture, Director Tourism, C.E SSCL, C.E R&B Kashmir, SSP City Traffic, SSP Traffic Rural, Director SKIMS, Principal GMC Srinagar, S.E KP-DCL, S.E ERA, Regional Director Social Forestry, DGM BSNL and representatives of BEACON, NHAI, Wildlife, AA&CL etc.

At the outset, the Div Com took work wise review of all 25 projects besides other beautification works scheduled to be completed ahead of G20 Summit meetings to be held in the KASHMIR

summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory.

On the occasion, the Div Com issued a slew of directions vis-avis meeting the deadlines of the work projects. He termed the said event as an important activity and directed all the Heads of Departments (HoDs) to pull up their socks and warned that no failure shall be allowed.

He asked all the HoDs to intimate him if there is any issue hampering the work progress and he was ready to move extra mile vis-a-vis removing the impediments to ensure timely completion of all work projects.

The Div Com stressed on flawless coordination among all the concerned departments and agencies to meet the set

made it clear that by 20th of April everything should be in perfect condition.

He informed that weekly meetings shall be held in this regard to have a clear understanding of the progress of work on a week-on-week basis and directed all the HoDs to expedite their works as such meetings shall determine our preparation for the biggest event.

Earlier, all the HoDs presented detailed and percentage wise progress on work projects The Div Com gave them work-wise deadlines and demanded that every work should be completed within the set deadline.

Name: Jana Begum, W/o Noor din sheikh, R/o : Baghi Buchroo, DOB: 04.06.1960

از نیابت چوکر مضمون: درخواست منجانب محمد عمران مير ولدعبدل القادر ميرسا كنه موضوع كرشهامه نسبت Unemployment سر لفيكيك تجق خود اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کے نسبت سائل کے کاغذات زیر بحث دفتر ہذا میں زىركاردائى ہے۔ بيان رپورٹ بپٹوارى حلقە ونمبردارسائل مذكورہ دھ ہذا ميں راہاتش یذیر ہےاور مستجمی ترک سکونت اختیار نہیں کی ہے۔ نیز سائل مذکورہ تا حال سی تجھی سرکاری یا غیر سرکاری محکمہ میں کا منہیں کرر ہائے۔ قبل اس کے کہ سائل کی درخواست پر مذید کاردائی کی جائے۔اول ہرخاص وعوام کوبذریعہ اشتہار طلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگراس بارے میں سسی شخص یا اشخاص کوکوئی عذر بااعتراض موتوا یک ہفتہ کے اندردفتری اوقات میں اسالتاً یادکالتاً اپنے عذر یا عتراض پیش کریں۔ بعد گذرنے عیاد کوئی بھی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا نخر ریالصدر نائت تخصيلداه azk

New Highways To Reduce Travel Time Across Districts, Divisions: CS

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Tuesday exuded hope that in near future the travel time across different Districts and Divisions of J&K would get drastically reduced with the completion of different National Highway projects currently at different stages of execution.

Mehta made these remarks in a meeting with different stakeholders called for reviewing the progress of land acquisition and other issues pertaining to construction of a number of National Highways across the UT

In addition to the Principal

Secretary, PWD the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Forest; Principal Secretary, PDD; Divisional Commissioners; Secretary, Revenue; concerned Deputy Commissioners, Director, representatives from NHAI, NHIDCL, BRO, and many other concerned officers.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary stressed upon the executing agencies to complete all these road projects providing enhanced connectivity to different regions in a fixed timeframe. He enjoined upon them that the significance of these roads is eminent and deserves all efforts to be made to complete them on time.

He directed the Deputy Commissioners to facilitate the executing agencies in performing their work smoothly. He observed that these highways are directly linked with the economic upliftment of people as the trade and commerce would also see growth by enhanced movement of people. He pointed out that tourism sector is going to be the biggest gainer by their completion. Mehta enquired from the ex-

ecuting agencies about the bottlenecks affecting the pace of their work. He instantly passed on directions to the concerned government departments for taking the measures to address them. He

made out that both the executing agencies and different government departments should work in coordination with each other and held regular deliberations for resolving issues without wasting time. He asked them to own these significant national projects and show eagerness in seeing them completed well on time. He fixed timelines for each of the road project for its completion.

The Principal Secretary, PWD, Shailendra Kumar provided details of progress made so far in constructing different National Highways. He also informed the meeting about the nature of issues confronted in implementation of these projects. It was given in the meeting that the Jammu-Akhnoor Highway would be opened in a phased manner for the ease of public. It was revealed that in next 15 days the 30 km stretch would be opened as per the directions of Chief Secretary and by 15th of May the remaining stretch would be finished reducing the travel time to just about half an hour to reach Akhnoor. The work on the beautification of the Flyover and parking underneath is also going to be taken in hand shortly, as was added in the meeting.

Similarly regarding the Srinagar-Baramulla-Uri Highway it was apprised that the land acquisition

process is going on smoothly and large stretches of land already been compensated. It was also given out that the process of construction of Bye-passes to Pattan, Baramulla and Uri towns is being expedited with a Fly over near Sangrama town. The Executing agency was told to take work in hand on the stretches handed over to it by the district administration.

Moreover the Bye-passes for the important towns of Pulwama, Kulgam and Shopian were also deliberated upon in length for their early completion under the National Highway project of Srinagar-Pulwama-Shopian-Kulgam(NH-444). The travel time by completion of this highway would be half as that taken at present. The extension of this Road to the tourist destinations of Yousmarg-Doodhpathri in district Budgam came also under discussion and its early completion.

Regarding the Katra-Amritsar-Delhi Expressway it was said that the shifting of some religious structures and commercial establishments is in final stage in district Jammu. In addition the Srinagar Ring Road, Akhnoor-Poonch Road were also discussed. The issues faced were sought resolution for and the concerned directed to work earnestly for making these projects end with desired outcomes as laid for each of them.

deadlines of works. He also

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KASHMIR OBSERVER

Wednesday | 15-02-2023

Glimmer Of Hope

reating a faint hope of the Assembly elections being held in Jammu and Kashmir in the near future, the union home minister said in an interview on Monday that it was for the election commission to take a call on it. He said that the process of preparation of voters' list was nearing completion in the Union Territory. As for the reinstatement of statehood, the home minister said it will be discussed after elections. Also on Monday, the Supreme Court rejected a plea challenging the government's decision to form a delimitation commission in the UT which has apparently brought us a step closer to holding of elections. . .

But there is still doubt whether the exercise will be held at all. If elections are really to be held by around the middle of the year, by now the schedule should have been announced. As things stand, several political parties are reaching out to people, but they aren't campaigning, still uncertain about the elections.

The UT is now far more peaceful than it was before 2019, another condition for elections The home minister also highlighted this fact in his interview saying there has been a decrease in terrorism-related incidents in the UT following the revocation of Article 370, and that development efforts in the region are contributing to the improving situation. He pointed to the figures on the evolving situation and which do vindicate the government.

A recent MHA review highlighted the progress made in J&K over the last year on economic and security fronts. The union territory, the report said, witnessed "a 54 percent reduction in terrorist incidents, a 22 percent drop in recruitment of militants and 84 percent decline in the deaths of security forces." In real terms, the militancy related violence has decreased from 417 incidents in 2018 to 229 in 2021 while the number of slain security personnel had reduced from 91 in 2018 to 42 in 2021.

On the development front, the report says that the BJP government at the centre has brought an investment of Rs 56,000 crores in just three years. Under the Prime Minister's Development Package in Jammu, the report mentions, J&K got about 63 projects in hydroelectricity at a cost of Rs 80,000 crore.

One biggest indicator of the new normalcy, as highlighted by the home minister, has been the growth of tourism, And last year is said to have broken all previous records. According to the tourist officials, the number of tourists Kashmir received this year is the highest so far, beating by far even the pre-turmoil period record. Would this normalcy lead to polls? There's no certainty. But the coming weeks and months will make things clear on this score.

The Veracity of Indo-U.S. Defence Ties

Defence and Trade, besides people to people ties have emerged as the main barometer through which India-US ties could be described as a strategic partnership, and which could deliver the highest priorities for both

Asad Mirza

Real arlier this month, during the visit of NSA Ajit Doval to the United States, India and the U.S. kick-started the inaugural dialogue on the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET). In addition, the two sides announced a set of programmes aimed at increasing the depth and scope of bilateral cooperation in cutting edge technology, including the defence sector.

The iCET aims to build supply chains, giving a boost to joint production and development between the countries and increase linkages between the Indian and American start-up ecosystems

A White House 'fact sheet' released after the meeting highlighted six areas of planned cooperation: strengthening innovation ecosystems, defence innovation and technology cooperation, resilient semiconductor supply chains, space, STEM talent and next generation telecommunications.

Also announced was a privatepublic dialogue to further 5G/6G cooperation and the adoption of Open RAN (technology to connect phones to each other and to the internet) in India.

The U.S. also committed to a speedy review of an application from General Electric to produce jet engines in India for India-manufactured Light Combat Aircraft.

The initiative is a particularly significant milestone in the bilateral relationship, having been announced at the highest level - by PM Narendra Modi and U.S. President Joe Biden at the Quad summit in Tokyo in May 2022, which also shows the resolve of the two leaders to change the dynamics of Indo-U.S. bilateral relationship.

Reportedly, Washington is also considering easing export controls and restrictions on India. In a statement, the MEA said that export barriers to India in a few critical areas could be initiated through efforts towards legislative changes, while the White House in a statement said the Biden administration would work with the U.S. Congress to lower barriers to U.S. exports to India of high performance computing and source code technology The initiative comes at a time when the U.S. is seeking to outcompete China in critical technologies and tighten the screws on China's semiconductor industry. Biden administration officials were quick to emphasise, however, that iCET is not just about China. One senior Biden aide has been reported to have said that these efforts are about more than just China because this isn't just about defence. This is a multi-layered approach in a lot of different places; this is about wanting to participate in India's rise and the "next logical milestone" in the bilateral relationship.

owing to the political will of both the countries, who want to ensure that the India-U.S. ties remain on a growth track and become more profound.

nessed considerable improvement

But in this regard it would I be much more appreciable if the U.S. administration initiates a in joint production mechanism on I

stability maintenance and related aspects. With the US designating India as "Major Defence Partner," a status unique to India, India is now at par with its closest allies. Though, this has opened doors to Indian procurement of sensitive defence technologies, thus, creating a new landscape for elevated Indo-U.S. cooperation, like signing equipment and funds billions of dollars to take measures to address the challenges posed to America's national security by China.

The NDAA seeks to strengthen U.S.-India relations by directing the Departments of Defence and State to pursue greater engagement and expanded cooperation with India related to emerging



National Security Advisor Ajit Doval (centre), his American counterpart Jake Sullivan (left) attended "special and unique reception" hosted by India's Ambassador to US.(ANI)

the lines of the current U.S.-Israel defence projects, which is much more robust. Though India joined QUAD, it is a common perception that India has not been able to get what it really wanted from the U.S. for this cooperation. If there is some progress on the lines mentioned above, then it may help to completely transform the U.S.-India bilateral relations.

The current shared interests of India and the U.S. encompass humanitarian assistance, counterterrorism cooperation, fighting violent religious extremism, maritime security activities, weapons of Defence Technologies and Trade Initiative (DTTI), BECA, COM-CASA, LEMOA etc., yet much remains to be achieved.

Of the above-mentioned agreements, India and the United States signed the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement - BECA in October 2020, during the third round of 2+2 dialogue and it is considered to be a major milestone aimed at boosting bilateral defence cooperation.

The pact will allow the U.S. armed force to provide advanced navigational assistance and avionics on U.S.-supplied aircraft to technology, joint research and development, defence and cyber capabilities, and other opportunities for collaboration.

The NDAA includes targeted investments, needed reforms, and enhanced oversight. It addresses a broad range of pressing issues, from the strategic competition with China and Russia, to disruptive technologies like hypersonic, AI, and quantum computing, to modernising our ships, aircraft, and other equipment.

But the NDAA should be looked at as an instrument through which the U.S. wants to steps up its capabilities, crucial to operations in the Indo-Pacific, from space assets to naval mines. Additionally, this means that the real aim of the bill is not bolstering the bilateral ties but to ensure Indian role in any action against China. Moreover, we should also have a look at the defence agreements or purchases expected at the forthcoming Aero India-2023. Only if the U.S. offers any latest technology or equipment for the Indian defence forces, including joint production, then it will really mean that the bilateral defence ties are booming.

OTHER OPINON

Ban on wheat exports may hit farm incomes

n Monday, HT reported that the ban on export of wheat and non-premium rice is likely to continue beyond March. While an official decision is yet to be taken, multiple factors seem to be nudging the government towards such a decision. They include elevated domestic inflation for cereals, low grain stocks with the government and uncertainty over weather outlook for the two most important cereal crops in the rabi (wheat) and kharif (rice) season. The former suffered heavily because of a premature heat wave last March (hence the caution) and the latter might be adversely affected if this is a weak monsoon year because of the El Nino effect.

A decision to ban exports, in the wake of so many contingencies, is not something that ought to be criticised. Food security is a strategic objective and sovereign countries are free to tweak policies to safeguard it. What needs to be kept in mind while pursuing such policies, however, is that the benefits are not without their side effects.

The most significant side effect will be on farm incomes. When farmers are not allowed to exploit windfall gains of high prices either in domestic or foreign markets, they incur a loss of potential income. This can hurt more under two circumstances. If input prices and prices of other consumables are also growing at a high rate, the terms of trade for farming move in an adverse direction. And if adverse weather leads to a crop failure or sub-par yields, price-capping moves deprive farmers of the opportunity to recover their sunk costs. Such collateral damage can lead to both political discontent and headwinds to rural demand. The government will be hoping that the benefits of low inflation compensate for such disaffection.

Hindustan Times

The bilateral ties between India and the United States have witproliferation monitoring, regional

Though India joined QUAD, it is a common perception that India has not been able to get what it really wanted from the U.S. for this cooperation. If there is some progress on the lines mentioned above, then it may help to completely transform the U.S.-India bilateral relations India. India will get real-time access to American geospatial intelligence that will enhance the accuracy of automated systems and weapons like cruise missiles, ballistic missiles and armed drones.

Additionally, India gets access to topographical and aeronautical data through the sharing of information on maps and satellite images, which will be helpful in navigation and targeting. It will also provide Indian military systems with a high-quality GPS to navigate missiles with real-time intelligence to precisely target the adversary.

Meanwhile, in December last year, the U.S. Senate passed the National Defence Authorisation Act - NDAA, along with a \$858 billion defence bill seeking to strengthen defence ties with India, including supporting efforts to reduce India's reliance on Russian-built military Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He can be contacted at www. asadmirza.in

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Is Writing a Fame-Building Tool?

HE past few years have witnessed a huge number of people, pouring from all directions, donning their thinking caps, and putting their thoughts to paper, seemingly trying to bring change in the society and system. It's true writing has the power to act as a catalyst for change. But, before attempting to change anything, there needs to be a lot to be changed.

Coming straight to the point, checking newsfeed on Facebook

a couple of days back, my eyes struck on an article that a young lad had written. It was a nice article, but the distressing part of it was the mentioning of so many things that one had a feeling of the writer praising himself beyond limits. This piece of writing was made to attract the eyes of the people, and not to change anything whatsoever.

"Here I am..." that's what was written at the top of the Facebookpost. Not only this, in the comments' section, 'thanks' 'thanks' followed by love emoticons in torrents as replies to the compliments had one bury head in shame.

There's nothing wrong with emoticons and Facebook-sharing, but when a serious issue is being shared on a social media platform, such acts reveal the other side of the story: showcasing.

Put differently, those who are worried about issues work for solving it, their minds most of the time trying to discover solutions. Writing aside, they work at grassroots, are pure by heart, mind, and actions.

It's high time that we mended ourselves. Nothing is going to change unless our words carry some holiness, unless we care less for ourselves and more for those that we often write about.

Peer Faizan Bashir

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Denouncing Submission to Desires

Abid Hussain Rather

VERY living creature on the globe has some basic prerequisites for its existence. There are some basic entities like air, water, food etc. which a living being can't do away with in order to survive on the surface of earth. Such requirements are sine qua nons for survival and viability of living beings. As long as such requirements are available, a living being exists; once these basic requirements are no longer attainable, a living being ceases to exist. For its existence, every living creature has to struggle hard for his basic requirements as the surrounding conditions are not always favourable to him. Human beings, though the noblest creation, aren't exceptions to these principles. They too have some basic prerequisites for their existence. They can't survive without their basic needs. Like other living creatures they too have to struggle hard for their survival. No human being can go against the laws of nature and remain static. Instead every single soul has to be assiduous to earn his livelihood and live comfortably. He has to create new ways and new techniques to adopt himself with the changing environment. Unlike other creatures, human beings don't restrict themselves to attainment of basic needs for their survival, rather their materialistic greed provokes their unending inner desires with no satisfying results. They always remain busy in fulfilling their inner desires which has been an unending process since the dawn of human civilization.

Naturally, every human being has countless desires- desires of wealth, happiness, success, richness, power, fame and many more to count. When channeled appropriately these desires help the human beings to achieve a higher status in life, but uncontrolled desires for more and more materialistic gains lead us astray. When our power of desires surpasses our power of intellect and imagination we fall from the state of 'noblest creation' to the lowest level of creaturehood. As Almighty has mentioned in Quran,

"And who is more astray than one who follows his desires without guidance from Allah? Indeed Allah doesn't guide the wrongdoing people. " (Al Quran 28:50)

It can't be denied that these desires start right from childhood and continue till the



NATURALLY, EVERY HUMAN BEING HAS COUNTLESS DESIRES- DESIRES OF WEALTH, happiness, success, richness, power, fame and many more to count. When channeled appropriately these desires help the human beings to achieve a higher status in life, but uncontrolled desires for more and more materialistic gains lead us astray.

last breath of a person. But these desires change at every stage of life on account of the alluring illusion of worldly affairs and changing states of the human mind. The materialistic greed of the world has no terminating point and resultantly it accelerates the human desires with every passing day. As narrated by Anas bin Malik that the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) said:'If the son of Adam had a valley of gold, then he would still like to have a second. And nothing fills his mouth but dust, Allah turns to whoever repents' (Jami at – Tirmidhi, Book 36, Hadith 34). It is the natural tendency of almost all human beings that after fulfilling one desire they aspire for the next and the process goes on till their last breath.

Uncontrolled and unrestricted avarice to fulfill their all desires ultimately turns human beings slave of their own desires. They remain suppressed under the burden of their own desires throughout their life but distressingly the more they fulfill their desires, the more are there to accomplish. These uncontrolled and unfulfilled desires create chaos, confusion, perturbation and uneasiness and may compel a person to adopt wrong ways and means for their accomplishment thereby leading him to disobey Almighty.But to his utter dismay he never succeeds in fulfilling all his desires till he expires. We chase behind our desires in search of happiness and pleasure but eventually we realise we are chasing an illusory mirage. Mirza Ghalib has beautifully verbalised this unending course in his famous couplet:

Hazaaron khwahishen aisi ke har khwahish pe dam nikle,

Bohat nikle mere armaan, lekin phir bhi kam nikle.

(Thousands of desires, each worth dying for...

Many of them I have realized... yet I yearn for more...)

The basic reason for our limitless desires is that we have forgotten the spiritual essence of our lives and our hearts are filled with materialistic greed. Instead of being content and satisfied with what we have been bestowed with, we chase after more and more materialistic gains which results in unhappiness, disturbance and dissatisfaction as it is impossible to fulfill our all desires. We continuously run after our desires throughout our lives and in this struggle we forget the main objective of our creation. We forget the very fact that this worldly life is temporary and we have to leave this world one day. We forget our hereafter life in the opalescent illusion of worldly beauties. We forget the Quranic verse in which Almighty says that every soul will taste death and worldly life is nothing but enjoyment of delusion (Al Quran 3:185). There-fore, for a peaceful and happy life, we should limit our desires and enjoy and appreciate what we have. To chase everything we want would be a never ending and futile process which disturbs the peace of our mind. We should seek a way of living that is ethically sound. We need to prioritize our basic needs and limit our endless wants and desires. We should have a positive attitude towards our life and express our gratitude for what we have. Sometimes we should forgo something and observe patience for something better over time as the Almighty is the best planner. We should be generous in our life as generosity de-escalates our selfishness and creates a sense of sharing in us which ultimately leads to peace and happiness. We should value social relationships and give more emphasis to serve society rather than getting more inclined towards our personal interests. We can explore our creative potentials to generate happiness in non-material, aesthetic and spiritual ways instead of searching for joy and happiness in materialistic benefits . By adopting these approaches we can delimit our desires and live a happy, prosperous and peaceful life.

The author can be reached at rather1294@gmail.com

From "Me" to "We"

Michal Leibowitz

Growing up, my family never had much patience for "we liked it" people, those couples who use the royal "we" as though their relationship is its own fiefdom. For instance, the husband who, when asked, "What did you think of the show?" responds, "Oh, we liked it." The rule was that when one of these couples came to dinner, we had to contain ourselves until they were on the front walk – then my siblings and I would start in.

What goes around comes around, and in recent years that kind of teasing has often been directed at me. Or I guess, we, me and my husband, David, who in the course of our half-decade relationship have found ourselves, on occasion, speaking like the king and queen of Genovia.

Growing up, my family never had much patience for "we liked it" people, those couples who use the royal "we" as though their relationship is its own fiefdom. For instance, the husband who, when asked, "What did you think of the show?" responds, "Oh, we liked it." The rule was that when one of these couples came to dinner, we had to contain ourselves until they were on the front walk — then my siblings and I would start in.

What goes around comes around, and in recent years that kind of teasing has often been directed at me. Or I guess, we, me and my husband, David, who in the course of our half-decade relationship have found ourselves, on occasion, speaking like the king and queen of Genovia.

The problem with "we liked it" has to do with identity. No matter how good your relationship, you're probably not always on the same page as your partner. So, speaking as a collective tends to come off one of two ways: either you have no idea what your partner really thinks (and also don't care), or you're rubbing everyone else's nose in how in sync the two of you are, practically one person.

There are a lot of things I've changed my mind about in recent years. But few are as significant as the U-turn I've made on relationships and identity, in my regard for the "we" and of all the cringe that comes with it. When David and I argued during our early years — whether over a big thing, like where we were going to live, or small things like the dirty dishes growing skins in the sink — we did so as individuals. I, especially, tended to approach our arguments as a zero-sum game. If there was a refrain during these years, it was David saying, sometimes yelling in frustration, "We're on the same team!"

I agreed with this, at least in theory. (It sounded good.) But that theory didn't have much to do with how I understood, in practice, couplehood. A relationship, in my mind, was like a market economy. Yes, a loving couple shows affection for each other, provides acts of service and thoughtful



gestures, but at the end of the day, each person has to look out for herself and her own interests. Especially — cue my mother's voice in my head — the woman.

This is, admittedly, an unromantic way to think about a relationship. But it makes sense in the context of what the British sociologist Anthony Giddens, writing in the 1990s, called a "pure relationship". A pure relationship is one that is entered into for the purpose of meeting two individuals' needs and which continues only as long as it continues to deliver enough satisfaction to each. If your needs aren't being met — or if the compromises involved are too great — you're free to move on to someone else. Contrast this with a past vision of romance, one in which you find your one true soul mate and make a vow: for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health.

You can see how a common divorce narrative begins where the pure relationship model leaves off. The narrator (often a woman, educated, employed) describes why she chose divorce. The decision does not seem to be about abuse or infidelity, about money or children. It is not even about lack of love. The relationship was "crushing my spirit," writes Lara Bazelon, in one exemplar of the genre. "How much of my life — I mean the architecture of my life, but also its essence, my soul, my mind — had I built around my husband?" asks Honor Jones in another. "Who could I be if I wasn't his wife?" There's a sense in these narratives that the woman's identity, her very sense of self, has been colonised by marriage and by motherhood.

There's a feminist reading of these stories, one in which the divorce is liberating and empowering (that's certainly how their narrators see it). But there's also a reading that acknowledges this divorce narrative — and the rise of the pure relationship — as symptoms of a society that is deeply sceptical, even allergic, to any mode of relation that undermines the individual.

Twins, especially identical twins, offer an interesting counterpoint to this emphasis. Because they have so much in common, they offer a rebuke of sorts to our obsession with identity. In the book Twins in the World, Alessandra Piontelli lists recommendations from psychologists on how to raise healthy twins. The list includes the advice that identical twins be made to sleep in separate rooms, dress in distinctive ways, and never be called "twins". The sociologists Florence Chiew and Ashley Barnwell argue that to a society preoccupied by individuality, the tangled identity of twins is unhealthy. To allow twins to view themselves as a duo is to permit a "dangerous intimacy" that deprives them of their singular identities.

My husband, by the way, is a twin. An identical twin. A twin for whom, contra the psychological recommendations, twinniness is a core part of his identity. Throughout their childhood and adolescence, David and his brother chose the same classes, collaborated on group projects and partnered for debate. They weren't immune to rivalry, but mostly they channeled their competitive drives for their team of two. Their stories of their times in high school are the story of the glory days of their partnership.

The psychologist Scott Stanley defines "we-ness" as a relationship where two people have a deep connection that bolsters a sense of shared identity. If you have a strong sense of we-ness, your partner's satisfactions and dissatisfactions are increasingly identified with your own. Your goals have changed, too. The relationship is no longer "an exchange market where two individuals were competitors," he writes, but "a non-competitive relationship that could maximize joint outcomes." The point of life is no longer just to fulfill yourself — you're seeking something for the team.

My husband learned early how to nurture a sense of individuality, but also a sense of joint identity and of a shared future. (We joke that when David imagines his dotage, he pictures himself sitting on a porch somewhere next to me – and his twin. It's not really a joke.) He understands in a deep way something I still sometimes struggle to grok: that to love someone for better and worse, for all of your days, involves a certain kind of surrendering of the "I" for the sake of the "we." It involves allowing another person to play a role in defining who we are and what we value.

Yes, this identification can go too far, creeping into enmeshment or codependence. There's a risk of overidentification, of finding one's singular identity obliterated by the couple's identity, of one's individual goals washed away in the couple's new future. But fear of this extreme, I think, often pushes people toward an overcorrection in the other direction, toward solitude, complete independence, contingency.

I don't know when David and I became a "we". There was no moment of enlightenment, no ego death, no onceand-for-all realisation that the boundaries between I and him are gone. In truth, "we-ness" is for us a sporadic state, something that lives in constant tension with our individual 'I's – perhaps especially mine – sometimes subordinated to them, sometimes elevated above. David thinks something changed at the point of marriage, that the legal creation of "us" also affected a deeper kind of psychological buy-in.

I think our "we" is more an accumulation of small moments. The table tilts, you slip into another frame, and the world looks the same but different. The language of sacrifice, for instance, doesn't make sense. You can't sacrifice for that which is you. His joy is not simply important to you because he's important to you. It is your joy. The boundaries don't dissolve, but they're porous.

Philippe Lazzarini is Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

LIFE & TIMES

Both, Smokers And Vapers, Suffer Similar Level Of DNA Damage: Study

Press Trust Of India

cientists have found that vapers and smokers have similar levels of DNA damage, which is more than twice the amount found in non-users, according to a new study.

According to the study, DNA damage was higher among those who vaped or smoked more frequently. It was also higher in vapers who used vape pods and mods, as well as sweet-, fruit- or mint-flavoured vapes, it said.

A group of researchers from the Keck School of Medicine of University of Southern California (USC), US, analysed epithelial cells taken from the mouths of vapers, smokers, and people who had never vaped or smoked, the study said.

E-cigarettes, used regularly by more than 10 per cent of US teens and more than 3 per cent of adults, were once pitched as a healthy alternative to tobacco cigarettes.

But research increasingly links the use of e-cigarettes, or vaping, to many of the same life-threatening diseases that plague smokers, the study published in the journal Nicotine & Tobacco Research said.

"For the first time, we showed that the more vapers used e-cigarettes, and the longer they used



them, the more DNA damage occurred in their oral cells," said Ahmad Besaratinia, professor at the Keck School of Medicine and the study's senior author.

"The same pattern held up in smokers," said Besaratinia.

The study showed similar levels of DNA damage between vapers and smokers: 2.6 times and 2.2 times that of non-users, respectively, it said.

In terms of devices, vapers who used pods had the highest levels of DNA damage, followed by those who used mods. In terms of flavours, sweet-flavoured vapes were linked to the highest levels of DNA damage, followed by mint/ menthol- and fruit-flavoured vapes, the study said.

The most popular products, including flavoured vapes, used by about 85 per cent of teens who vape. also appear to be the most harmful, in terms of producing DNA damage, the study said.

DNA damage to oral epithelial cells, which line the mouth, is an early change that is associated with an increased risk for many types of chronic disease, including cancer and inflammatory diseases, the study said.

The study is the first to clearly distinguish between the DNA dam-

C The devices and flavours that are most popular and highly consumed by youth vapers, as well as adults, are the ones that are associated with the most DNA damage

age that occurs in exclusive vapers versus smokers and to provide details about the risks vapers face based on how often they vape and what devices and flavours they use, it said.

Vapers are difficult to study because they typically have a history of cigarette smoking or are dual users, who both vape and smoke tobacco cigarettes, the study said.

We designed our study to tease out the effects of vaping in e-cigarette users who were neither cigarette smokers nor dual users at any point in their lives," said Besaratinia

"The devices and flavours that are most popular and highly consumed by youth vapers, as well as adults, are the ones that are associated with the most DNA damage,' said Besaratinia.

According to the study, the researchers recruited 72 healthy adults and split them into three groups, matched for age, race and gender: current vapers (who had never smoked), current smokers (who had never vaped) and people with no history of smoking or vaping.

They verified the history of each participant using detailed questionnaires, interviews and biochemical tests to ensure that any observed effects could be directly linked to either vaping or smoking, the study said.

Besaratinia and his team also collected data on how often, and for how long, participants had smoked or vaped, and in the case of vaping, what devices and flavours they used, the study said.

Then, they collected a sample of epithelial cells from each participant's mouth and tested for damage to specific genes known to indicate assault to the genome, the study said.

"Clearly these results have significant implications, both for public health and regulatory agencies,' said Besaratinia.

Covid Vaccines Do Not Increase Risk Of Adverse Events: Study

Press Trust Of India

OVID-19 vaccines did not cause an increased risk of adverse events such as heart attack, stroke, cardiac arrest, myocarditis, pericarditis, and deep vein thrombosis, according to a study.

The research, published in the journal Vaccines, monitored the entire population of the Italian province of Pescara for 18 months, from January 2021 to July 2022.

The team led by researchers from the University of Bologna in Italy collected inhabitants' health data and analysed the frequency of a number of serious diseases such as cardiovascular disease, pulmonary embolism and thrombosis. Pulmonary embolism is a blood clot that blocks and stops blood flow to an artery in the lung while thrombosis occurs when blood clots block veins or arteries. The study showed that none of the diseases examined were found to be more frequent among the vaccinated than among the non-vaccinated.



frequent among vaccinated persons, regardless of gender, age and clinical risk profile. The analysis also confirmed that vaccinated persons who contracted COVID-19 were more

protected against the coronavirus than those who recovered after contracting the disease but were not vaccinated. A higher incidence of the dis-

eases considered was found among those who had not contracted CO-VID-19 and had only one or two doses of the vaccine, compared to those who had three or more doses. the researchers said.

This counterintuitive finding is due to an epidemiological bias caused by the restrictions implemented during the emergency," Manzoli. The data gathered show that 83.2 per cent of the vaccinated population who did not contract COVID-19 received at least three doses of vaccine. Those who received only one or two doses did not complete the vaccination cycle either because they died or because they were deterred by the onset of a disease," the scientist added.



Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department (IAPMD) Zonal Office Srinagar M.A. Road Srinagar, Kashmir-190001 E: iapmd.kmr@ikbmail.com

Authorized Officer

Possession Notice

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

Whereas Mr. Shafiq Hussain Mir, as the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated **28-11-2022** thereby calling upon the Borrower namely M/s Khan Carving Prop Mehraj-ud-din Khan to repay an amount of Rs. 29,35,972.45/= (Rupees Twenty Nine Lac Thirty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy Two And Paisa Forty Five Only) being the balance outstanding as on 28.11.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being authorized officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken **Symbolic possession** of the mortgage property described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the O8th day of month February of the year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount in aggregating to Rs. 30,27,237.45/= (Rupees Thirty Lac Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Seven And Paisa Forty Five Only) together with future interest thereon from 01.02.2023 and other charges incurred or to be incurred. The borrowers attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the



"The results obtained clear-Manzoli said.

ly show that there was no in-The study is currently the only one in the world that monicreased risk of serious diseases among the vaccinated," said tored the population for more Lamberto Manzoli, a professor than a year, taking into account at the University of Bologna. numerous factors including age, "There were isolated adverse gender and clinical risk of the cases, but the safety profile of

participants. More specifically, the results obtained show that both deaths registered and the occurrence of the diseases examined were less

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

Description of the Immovable Property

Equitable Mortgage of property comprising of double storied residential house with attic along with land underneath & appurtenant thereto measuring 09 marlas 145 Sfts. bearing khasra no.132, khata no.411 and Khewat No.173 situated in mouza Brari Nambal, Tehsil Khas & Distrcit Srinagar in the of Mr Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Khan S/o Mr Maqbool Ahmad Khan R/o Aquilmir Khanyar Srinagar.

Dated: 08.02.2023 Place : Srinagar

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

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

DIPK-17445/22 dated: 14-02-2023

Office Of The Executive Engineer **R&B** Division Shopian

Fax No / Tel No 01933-260226 email: rnabdivisionshopian@gmail.com

INVITATION OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Subject:- Permission for Right of Way (RoW) Telecom Infrastructure OFC.

the vaccines used during the

pandemic was confirmed: it is

now important to continue the

follow-up over a longer period,"

The authorized signatory District Coordinator Falcon Engineering vide application No. JA/1/BHAR/FORM1 C/4228 Dated: 08/12/2022 has submitted a proposal in this office for seeking of permission for Right of Way/ for the purpose of laying of fibre utility on road side. After joint visit the details of RoW is as under:

S.	Name of Road			Length In	Width of Trench In	Estimated amount for
N		From KM	To KM	Mtrs	Mtrs	restoration In lacs
1	Chitragam Chowk to Kashwa road	1 st	2 nd	1200	0.50	1.45

The above proposal for seeking of permission for laying of fibre utility on above roads is published for public comments within seven days in the interest of general public.

In view of above the comments of public are invited on captioned proposal on mbdivisionshopian@amail.com or below mentioned address Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian near Old Bus Stand.

DIPK-17445/22 dated: 14-02-2023	
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Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (UT) Office Of The Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora

Tele/fax: 01933/295537; Email Id: xenphemechsouthawp@gmail.com

GIST of e- NIT (Short Term) JSD/PHE/MDSA/ e-NIT No: 91 of 2022-23 Dated: 13/02/2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory Jammu and Kashmir online e-tenders are invited in Single Cover System on item rate basis from registered and experienced contractors/firms whose registration cards are valid in terms of standing rules and are active for execution of the following Works:

S.	Name of Work	Est. Cost	Earnest Money	Cost of	Time of	Class of Contractor	Programme/ Funds/ AA Accord No/
No		Rs.	Deposit	T/Doc. (Rs)	Comp		Tech. Sanction No.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commis-	1,29,868/-	2,597/-	200/-	30 days	Electrical / Mechanical	Capex UT
	sioning of open well pumping equipment					contractors / SSI Units	Accord No.: 21-MCS of 2022-23
	with 20 HP motor including P/F of MUG - 30					with GST registration.	Dated: 11-01-2023 T.S No.: 132 of
	starter at water supply scheme Aishmugam.					-	01/2022-23 Dated: 13/02/2023

The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, and bill of quantities (B.O.Q)s set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen /downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in and www.phekashmir.com as per schedule of dates given below:-

I	01	Publish Date on Tender Portal	13-02-2023 (02:00 PM)
I	02	Start of downloading of tender documents	13-02-2023 (02:00 PM)
I	03	On line bid uploading start date	13-02-2023 (02:00 PM)
I	04	Last date of uploading of bid	20-02-2023 (04:00 PM)
I	05	Date and time of opening of Tech bids (online)	21-02-2023 (01:00 PM)

Note: - CDR & Treasury Receipt/e-Challan mentioning NIT No and Work shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora as per the format annexed. Head 0215 - Revenue & Miscellaneous. All other details can be had from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in -\h2

	Ju/
Executive E	nginee
Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical	Divisior
(South) Awa	ntipora

IDSA/5255 Dated: 14/02/2023

BUSINESS

WPI Inflation Eases To 2-Year Low Of 4.73% In Jan; Food **Items Turned Expensive**



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The wholesale price-based inflation declined to 2-year low of 4.73 per cent in January on easing prices of manufactured items, fuel and power, even though food articles turned expensive.

This is the eight straight month of decline in the rate of wholesale price-index (WPI) based inflation.

It was 4.95 per cent in December 2022 and 13.68 per cent in January last year.

'Decline in the rate of inflation in January, 2023 is primarily contributed by mineral oils, chemicals & chemical products, textiles, crude petroleum & natural gas, textiles, and food products," the Commerce and Industry Ministry said on Tuesday.

The decline in the rate of price rise was mainly due to a favourable base effect, economists said, adding that going forward, softening commodity prices would help ease WPI inflation further.

Although inflation in manufactured items softened, in the

case of food articles it rose to 2.38 per cent in January, from (-) 1.25 per cent in December, 2022. Inflation in pulses was 2.41 per cent, while in vegetables it was (-) 26.48 per cent. Inflation in oil seeds was (-) 4.22 per cent in January, 2023.

Fuel and power basket infla-tion eased to 15.15 per cent, from 18.09 per cent in December 2022. In manufactured products it was 2.99 per cent, against 3.37 per cent in December, 2022.

Deloitte India, Economist, Rumki Majumdar said high base effect and falling global prices are aiding in reduced manufacturing prices.

"We expect the cost of production to remain steady in the near future. Rising food prices are keeping the inflation index higher, which is of concern. Higher food prices also contributed to a higher CPI," Majumdar said.

Bank of Baroda Chief Economist Madan Sabnavis said WPI inflation may be expected to trend further downwards in the next two months and could end at closer to 4 per cent by March.

Record 1.88 Cr Tourist Footfall Witnessed In 2022 In J&K: Govt

'Religious Tourist circuits being established across J&K to promote Pilgrimage tourism'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: For the first time in history of Jammu and Kashmir, record 1.88 Crore tourists visited UT in the year 2022 to enjoy the beauty of various famed tourist spots, a government spokesperson said on Tuesday. 'The enhanced tourist arrivals in the Union Territory

has generated greatest employment in various regions, highlighting its overall devel-opment through a constructive approach, transformative initiatives and inewvitable reforms to empower J&K for its people, culture and society," the spokesperson said.

"The Government of India is also making a significant thrust to ensure better infrastructural facilities for the region's people and entice visitors. This has resulted in a fortuitous surge in tourist activities with better law and order, promising security system, and maintenance of peace in addition to infrastructural and connectivity improvements.

J&K administration is also focused on exploring the full potential of pilgrimage tourism by developing various religious tourist circuits across the union territory. Keeping in view the increasing number of devotees coming to visit Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine, facilities and infrastructure is being strengthened.



As per the official data, the economic prosperity in rural construction work of Manareas

Remarkably, with the launch of the new J&K Film Policy talai Wellness Center has been completed at a cost of Rs. 80 crore and the design of Katra in 2021, Jammu and Kashmir Multi Modal Station has been has emerged as the favourite shooting destination for film finalized. Similarly, twork on Tawi Riverfront is going on in industry and permission has full swing besides Mansar and been granted for shooting of Surinsar have made their presmore than 150 films and web ence on the tourism map of series in less than two years.

the country. The Government Jammu and Kashmir as a is working tirelessly to open tourist destination that is now Sanasar Tulip Garden for local being promoted on all possible global forums and that is the Similarly, the work on conreason it witnessed highest-evservation and renovation of er tourist footfall and air traffic 18 historical-cultural heritage in recent years.

sites in Jammu, Kathua, Ram-After registering a record tourban. Reasi. Samba and Udhamist footfall this year, mainly in pur will commence shortly. In leisure and adventure tourism April this year, Jambu Zoo shall due to sustained efforts of the be thrown open to the people. Tourism Department and the Home-stay Scheme has been stakeholders during the last two launched with a view to foster years, Jammu and Kashmir is employment generation and now opening to MICE tourism.

'Rs 176 Cr Project Approved **To Boost Fish Production** Across J&K'

Trout production to increase by 2.5 times from 1,663 to 4,000 tonnes

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir has abundant water resources and great potential for fish and fisheries development. However, due to some challenges like outdated infrastructure, inbreeding depression, limited variety of aquaculture species, fragile aquatic ecosystems and lack of modern aquaculture technologies, the Fish farming was not progressing.

Now, to overcome these challenges and make Fish farming a prosperous sector, the UT government has approved a Rs. 176 crore project to boost fish production. The project involves importing genetically improved fish seed, upgrading existing hatcheries and fish rearing units, introducing species diversity in aquaculture through R&D, and commercializing trout and carp fish production using modern technologies such as RAS and Biofloc, said a govern-

ment spokesperson. Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo, who leads the Agriculture Production Department of J&K, said that the aim of the project is to promote sustainable development of fisheries for nutritional security, employ-

prosperity in the UT of J&K. The programme aims to increase fish production, productivity, and growth rate, as well as to strengthen social security and welfare measures for the fishing community, facilitate improved post-harvest practices and value addition, and create market linkages, he added.

ment generation, and economic

"One of the prime requisites for successful aquaculture is the availability of good quality fish seed. The Technical Programme under the project includes importing genetically improved varieties of fish seed to ensure the overall success of fish farming practices. Quality fish seed determines the health, size, growth rate, disease resistance, and other physical and physiological characteristics of the fish, which in turn affect the overall fish production", Dulloo said.

The ACS further remarked that in addition to importing genetically improved fish seed, the Technical Programme also aims to establish new hatchery units and upgrade existing ones on modern scientific lines. This will improve the quality and quantity of fish seed available for fish farming, and enable the production of a more diverse range of aquaculture species, he added.

India Likely To Witness Extreme Weather Events, Needs To Plan: Expert

Bloomberg

NEW DELHI: India is likely to witness more extreme weather events, including intense heat waves, heavy flooding and severe drought that pose challenges to food and energy

is only going to intensify every year, driven by a warming planet, he said in an interview on the sidelines of a G20 working group meeting on climate and



The country must plan to deal with such events and invest in climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, Ravichandran said. The government is examining alternative sources of energy, such as offshore wind power and tidal energy, he said.

The nation faced a grueling summer last year, with temperatures touching record levels in several parts of the country. Deadly heat waves strained energy supplies and hit wheat crops, forcing India to ban exports of the grain at a time when the world faced a shortage following Russia's war in Ukraine.

Air India To Purchase 250 Airbus Aircraft In Largest-**Ever Aviation Deal**



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Tata Group-owned Air India will buy 250 aircraft, including 40 wide-body planes, from Airbus as the airline expands its fleet and operations.

This is the first time in more than 17 years that Air India has placed an aircraft order. It is also the first order placed by the carrier under the ownership of Tata Group. On Tuesday, Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said Air India has signed a letter of intent to acquire 250 aircraft from Airbus. It will include 40 wide-body A350 planes and 210 narrow-body aircraft. During a virtual event being attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron, among others, Chandrasekaran said the wide-body planes will be used for ultra-long haul flights.

are called ultra-long haul flights. Since acquiring loss-making Air India from the government in January 2022, Tata Group has been taking various measures to revive the carrier.

Air India, earlier under the ownership of the government, had acquired new aircraft more than 17 The airline's last order was for 111 planes -- 68 from Boeing and 43 from Airbus -- and that deal was worth USD 10.8 billion. The order was placed in 2005. On January 27, when the Tata Group completed the first year of taking over Air India, the airline said it was "finalising a historic order of new aircraft to

3RD HANDICRAFTS QUALITY CONTROL COUNCIL MEETING HELD Major Decisions Taken To Promote GI/Non GI Labeled Handicraft products

people and tourists this year.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Handicrafts Quality Control Council in its 3rd meeting held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of Director Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir pro-posed that GI and Non GI QR Code based labels recently launched by Lt. Governor be adopted by all the establishments who are doing their business in Handicrafts sector under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir

Handicrafts Quality Control Act 1978. It was give



ous market and tourist plac-

airports of the country.

across UT of J&K

In the follow-up action, mir made special reference it has been suggested that department shall launch to the empowerment of the categories of craft people so mass awareness campaign that this step of inclusion through electronic and print will in turn attract more and media, Radio jingles, and more people towards the shall erect hoardings at vari- cottage sector and employment opportunities for

security for the second-most populous nation. The extremes are increasing - hot is becoming hotter and cold is becoming colder," said M. Ravichandran, the top bureaucrat at the country's earth sciences ministry. This trend

Generally, flights that have a duration of a little over 16 hours wide-body fleet.

power future growth. The airline has put in place a roadmap under Vihaan. AI for transformation over the next five years and has taken various measures, including committing USD 400 million to refurbish the interiors of its entire

cordingly strict action will be taken against those business holders who will not adhere to the act and will not refrain from selling the machine made products on the pretext of original ones.

The council, under the chairmanship of Director H&H Kashmir also proposed that all Registered Handicraft Dealers/ shopkeepers/ retail unit holders/ whole sellers shall be served a notice to promote only G.I labeled/ tagged items in their business establishments.

youth can get a flip. es like Railway stations, Airports, Gulmarg, Pahalgham, The meeting was also at-

Boulevard Road, etc for protended by Vikas Gupta, Director Handicrafts and Hanmotion of GI notified craft and as well at other major dloom, Jammu, Atul Sharma, Managing Director Handicrafts and Handloom, Cor-It was decided that members from MEERAS Society poration, Mirza Shahid Ali Dy. Director Quality Control, & TAHFUZ Society shall conduct special inspection drive Zubair Ahmad, Director IICT along with enforcement Srinagar, Sajid Nazir Repwing of Quality Control Diviresentative from CDI, Rafig Ahmad Sofi and Ali Mohamsion and day wise Inspection schedule shall be prepared mad Guroor Representative from TAHAFUZ Society and mutually with both societies Gh Nabi Dar Representative The Director of H&H Kashof MEERAS Society

environment in Bengaluru.

expose millions of Indians to climate disasters, kill thousands every year and increase economic hardships by eroding farm productivity. At the same time, it burdens the country's energy supplies by pushing de-

As the demand for electric-Erratic weather conditions ity to run cooling appliances shot up, India had to import expensive coal to keep the lights on. The government has asked power plants to again import the fuel during the approaching summer to prepare for a likely surge in demand.

First Ever SARAS Ajeevika Mela **Concludes On Promising Note**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The first ever 11day long Saras Aajeevika Mela Jammu 2023 organised by the J&K Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) concluded today with much fanfare. The mela hosted artisans from all over the country and offered a wide variety of finest handicraft and handloom products from the remote areas of Rural India to the visitors.

The Mela which began here at the scenic Bagh-ibahu garden on 4th February 2023 continued till today, giving opportunity to thousands of art and food lovers to satiate their yearning for same

More than 300 women artisans from different parts of rural India participated and showcased their products on 57 stalls provided by the JKRLM for exhibition purpose. Around 300 women from self-help groups from 17 States /UTs displayed



handicraft, handloom and natural food items from different rural areas across the country in these stalls.

During the exhibition, stalls offering handlooms, handicrafts and non farm products were main attractions for the visitors Besides, food stalls of various cuisines had also been an added attraction for people of all age

watering cuisines from vari-

ous states and local cultural

Mission Director, Jammu

programs in the evenings.

groups and backgrounds. Huge number of people visited the venue. The Mela remained the favourite choice of all for the reasons of having decorated stalls, diversified products, mouth

Kashmir Rural Livelihoods Mission, Indu Kanwal Chib called "it was a historic occasion for entire Jammu and the people who came here to

attend this grand Fair". She termed the Saras Ajeevika Mela Jammu a big success as never before has such a wonderful event of this scale been held in Jammu, she added.

The MD further reiterated that the fair also aided in exchange of urban and rural

cultures among women who come across different parts of the country. SARAS not only provided them opportunities of economic upliftment but they also got an opportunity to learn about each other's rich culture and traditions" she observed.

Seed Certification System Goes Digital In J&K With Launch Of SATHI Portal

Move Will Help Farmers Buy Quality, Genuine Seeds: Atal Dulloo

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Continuing its efforts to strengthen the farmer welfare programmes and develop agriculture sector across J&K, two State Seed Certification Agencies of Jammu/Kashmir will go digital via Centralized Online Seed Traceability Portal SATHI (Seed Authentication, Traceability & Holistic Inventory).

This was expressed by Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo, during the formal launch of SATHI portal for Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Atal Dulloo said that to make Seed Certification more efficient and transparent with provisions for effective monitoring and traceability of seeds, Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, conceived and developed a Centralized Online System 'SATHI' for capturing various parameters such as grower details, seed testing details, lot details, sample details, Certification agency, among others of notified seed varieties. He highlighted that this move will help farmers to buy quality and genuine seeds besides help in curbing menace of spurious seed.

The ACS further said that with the help of smart phone, farmers can scan the Quick Response (QR) code on the seed packing and various details about the seed will flash on the screen, which will allow farmers to cross-check whether they are buying good quality seeds or not. He added that the process will not only improve the credibility of seed producers by value addition for seeds in the market but will also help the seed law enforcement authorities to conduct spot assessment of the genuineness of seed and initiate action against offenders.

Commercial Vehicle Industry Volumes To See 7-10% Growth In FY24: Icra

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The commercial vehicle industry volume is expected to grow in the range of 7-10 per cent in the next financial year, rating agency Icra said on Tuesday. The volume growth would

be on account of government infrastructure spending, replacement demand, back-to-school and office scenarios and e-commerce expansion, it noted.

The growth will, however. moderate from 24-26 per cent in the current financial year, it added.

Icra noted that the growth trends were visible in third quarter of the current fiscal, with wholesale dispatches reporting a growth of 16 per cent on a year-on-year basis, supported by replacement demand, improvement in the macroeconomic environment, and healthy traction in the underlying indus-



mining, automobiles, and e-commerce.

Freight rates continued to hold up, which, coupled with healthy freight availability, is supporting fleet operator viability, it noted. The growth trends continued to be broad-based across all the three subsegments – medium & heavy commercial vehicles (M&HCV), light commercial vehicles (LCV), and buses, in the third quarter and nine months ended December 31,

2022, Icra said. "Sales in the domestic CV industry continue to be propelled by multiple tailwinds

including replacement of ageing vehicles, pick-up

in mining, infrastructure and construction activities, improvement in the overall macroeconomic environment and healthy fleet utilisation levels resulting in improved fleet operator viability," Icra Assistant Vice President & Sector Head -Corporate Ratings Sruthi Thomas.

Furthermore, the continued thrust of the government on infrastructure development, as evidenced in the increased capex outlay of Rs 10 trillion in the Union Budget for 2023-24, would augur well for sustained growth, especially in the heavy truck segment over the near-term, she added.

tries such as steel, cement,

News

HC Directs Authorities To Provide Alternative Shelter Home To Cows Of Gaushala **To Be Demolished**

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has directed the authorities to provide an alternative shelter home for the cows of a gaushala' located in the slums at Bhairo Marg in the city which is to be demolished.

The high court clarified the condition of maximum period of stay of three months shall not be applicable to the cows which are to be moved to the alternative bovine shelter.

The high court's order came while it was hearing a plea challenging an eviction notice issued by the Public Works Department (PWD) asking all slum dwellers of Bhairo Marg near Pragati Maidan to voluntarily demolish their dwellings failing which the structures will be removed with the help of police.

The notice said people re-siding there will be sent to shelter homes in Dwarka or Geeta Colony where the maximum period of stay will be three months.

Justice Prathiba Singh said it is the settled position in law that until and unless jhuggi (slum) clusters are duly notified, stay on demolition is not feasible.

"In view of the fact that the impugned eviction notice itself identifies the alternative accommodation which is to be given to the petitioner, that is, shelter home in Dwarka, Geeta Colony, it is directed that the reliefs sought by the petitioner would not be liable to be granted.

"However, considering that there are some cows which are in the premises of the petitioner, an alternate shelter home for the cows shall also be provided by the respondents within a week. Thereafter, the respondent authorities will give the petitioner a period of one week for moving to the shelter home," the court said. The high court said it will

be the responsibility of the authorities to ensure that the basic amenities at the relocated shelter home are duly made available to the petitioner.

Petitioner Keshaw Sanyasi Gawo Shewasharam' said it is a registered trust and is running a cow shelter and temple at Bhairon Marg, and challenged the PWD's January 28 eviction notice which asked them to demolish their structures within 15 days of receiving the notice.

2 Days 'Shallabugh Bird Festival' Culminates With A 'Bird Watching' Event At Ganderbal



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The two days Shallabugh Bird festival that commenced on 13th of February culminated today with a bird watching event organized by the Department of Wildlife Protection, Jammu & Kashmir Govt. (Wetlands Division, Kashmir) at 'Shallabugh

nice event was orga-nized by the Department of Wildlife Protection, J&K Govt. (Wetlands Division, Kashmir) and the District Administration Ganderbal in joint collaboration with SKUAST-Kashmir and Kashmir Birdwatch.

trustee of Center for Conservation of Culture & Heritage, bird lovers from Kashmir University, S.K.U.A.ST-K, Kashmir Bird Watchers Club, Biodiversity Management Committees, students of Govt. Degree College Ganderbal participated.

During the event different bird species belonging to various shapes, sizes and colours were spotted by the bird lovers in Shalabugh Wetland like, coots, cormorants, egrets, mallards, pintails, Shoveler, Gadwall, tufted Duck etc.

Later, a local meet of fringe communities were organized in which Dr Raja Muzaffer Bhat briefed the participants that bird watching tourism has a high potential to improve the financial and environmental well-being of local communities, educate locals about the value of biodiversity and create local and national incentives for successful protection and preservation of natural areas.

He also emphasized the need of adopting effective measures for systemic conservation and development of Shalabugh Wetland Conservation Reserve.

The locals of the area raised different issues pertaining to protection and conservation of Shalabugh wetland and Rashid Yahya Naqash, Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir Region, Srinagar assured them, that department is taking concrete steps to restore the pristine glory of Shallabugh Wetland which is now a RAMSAR site and a home to more than 3 lakh migratory/resident birds.

Nikki Haley Launches Her 2024 US Presidential Bid; To **Challenge Donald Trump**

Press Trust of India

KASHMIR OBSERVER

SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY | 15.02.2023

Washington: Prominent Indian-American politician Nikki Haley launched her presidential campaign on Tuesday, becoming the first Republican to challenge former US President Donald Trump in his 2024 bid for the White House. Haley, 51, is the two-term

Governor of South Carolina and the former US Ambassador to the United Nations. "I'm Nikki Haley, and I'm

running for President," she announced in a video message.

"It's time for a new generation of leadership to rediscover fiscal responsibility, secure our border, and strengthen our country, our pride and our purpose. Some people look at America and see vulnerability. The socialist left sees an opportunity to rewrite history," she said.

Identifying herself as proud daughter of Indian immigrants, Haley talks about growing up in Bamberg, South Carolina and how it shaped her belief in a strong and proud America.

"We turned away from fear toward God and the values that still make our country the freest and greatest in the world. We must turn in that direction again," she said.

Casting herself as a younger, fresher alternative to Trump, Haley had been hinting at a White House bid for weeks.

Her formal declaration means she will be the first contender to join the contest against her former 76-yearold boss Trump, who announced his third bid for the White House late last year.

"Republicans have lost the popular vote in seven out of the last eight presidential elections that have to change. Joe Biden's record is abysmal,

but that shouldn't come as a surprise. The Washington establishment has failed us over and over and over again. It's time for a new generation of leadership to rediscover fis-cal responsibility, secure our border and strengthen our country, our pride and our purpose," Haley said.

"China and Russia are on the march. They all think we can be bullied. Kicked around. You should know this about me: I don't put up with bullies. And when you kick back, it hurts them more if you're wearing heels," she said.

Before entering the presidential ballot, Haley has to win the Republican Party's presidential primary which will start in January next year. The next US presidential election is scheduled to be held on November 5, 2024.

Haley's 3-minute 30 seconds video starts with her voiceover, describing the racial divide of the city she was born in. "The railroad tracks divided

the town by race. I was the proud daughter of Indian immigrants, not black, not white. I was different, but my mom would always say, your job is not to focus on the differences, but the similarities," she said.

"And my parents reminded me and my siblings every day how blessed we were to live in America. Some look at our past as evidence that America's founding principles are bad. They say the promise of freedom is just made up. Some think our ideas are not just wrong, but racist and evil. Nothing could be further from the truth," she said.

Nimrata Nikki Born to immigrant Randhawa Punjabi Sikh parents, Haley is the third Indian-American to run for US presidency in three consecutive election cycles.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

ECI To Take

figures are at its lowest today. Crores of tourists and yatris are visiting Jammu and Kashmir now. This is a huge change," he said.

Amit Shah said removing Article 370 has been on the agenda of BJP and Jan Sangh. He also referred to India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru in the context of Article 370.

"Since 1950, it was on our agenda to remove Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir. Today, the way Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing development and decrease in terrorism shows the changes that are coming," he said.

Shah said those slamming the BJP should answer in whose tenure terrorism grew in Jammu

lives in the gruesome Pulwama attack in 2019," Sinha said in a tweet. Their valour and sacrifice for the motherland

will never be forgotten and will continue to inspire generations to come, he said. Paying rich tributes, Singh said the nation is indebted to the our brave heart martyrs who served the nation and its citizens till their last breath while making supreme sacrifice of their lives.

Kashmir Situation

Bhatia said there is "excellent" synergy between security agencies in Kashmir and "we are proceeding to wipe out terrorism from the mir Valle "We are working against the terror ecosystem and keeping an eye on OGWs (over-ground workers) who provide logistics and shelter to terrorists. We are trying to deny them space where they can execute any plans," he said. The CRPF has taken various steps towards modernisation of weaponry and gadgets to ensure that terrorists are not able to carry out another Pulwama-like attack, the officer said. "Modernisation is a work in progress. The national highway is under round-the-clock surveillance through CCTV cameras. We are using drones and have 12 stations along the highway. We have inducted (land) mine-proof vehicles and bullet-proof vehicles as well. The impact can be seen on the ground," Bhatia said. On killings of members of minority communities in Kashmir last year, Bhatia said, "It is a sign of cowardice to target an unarmed person." "We are carrying out area domination. We are determined to protect minorities," he said.

Kumar said that a total of 37 local militants including Farooq Nali from Pakistan and Riyaz Chatri from Pulwama, are long standing militants active in the valley while all top commanders of the Jaish outfit have been killed. Rest, he said, are new recruits who have joined

militant ranks recently. He said the security forces mainly focus on narco-terrorism and terror funding modules, as 25 hand grenades were recovered by the security forces a day earlier while cash amounting Rs 41 lakh was also recovered in Baramulla and Rs 26lakh in Srinagar.

"25 hand grenades were recovered yesterday. We mainly focus on sticky bombs, greades and pistols. Since we are busting small modules, we focus on narco-terrorism and terror funding," he added.

LG Asks Youth

their creativity and innovation, are the most powerful resource for societal transformation," he added.

Underlining the importance of acquiring knowledge through experiences to bring change in the society, the LG said that the process of learning should never end.

"Lifelong learning converts the vision into mission. Our young population with courage and conviction to create, invent and innovate can achieve unprecedented success in every sector," he said.

The LG asked the youth to light the lamp of knowledge in the society and to contribute in transforming India into a knowledge economy.

could not contain their excitement about spending the day in the Valley.

'There is no better place than Kashmir to celebrate Valentine's Day. This place is really a paradise on Earth. Our anniversary is coming up and this trip is the best gift I could give to my wife," Himanshu said.

For Tanu Chaudhary from Ahmedabad in Gujarat, the Valentine's Day visit to Kashmir was a surprise gift from her husband Rahul.

"It's heaven. This was a surprise trip from my husband. It is special to be here," she said.

For people associated with the travel and tourism industry, the combination of snowfall and Valentine's Day was the elixir they needed to overcome the losses suffered due to the prolonged lockdown post the abrogation of Article 370 and the outbreak of COVID-19. "Kashmir has always been on the wishlist of tourists from all over the country. Since last year, they have come here in larger numbers and no one is complaining," Abid Bhat, a travel agent, said.

Wetland Conservation Reserve'. The event was orga-

Bilal Ahmad Sheikh, Vice chairperson (D.D.C, Ganderbal), Dr Raja Muzaffer Bhat, Managing

"As far as elections are concerned, do they not remember the local body polls, these were held under our rule, these did not take place for 70 years. Three families were holding sway in Jammu and Kashmir, and they are making noise...Faroog Abdullah had gone to England. In whose tenure, terrorism grew, who allowed it to grow, there should be an answer," he said.

Big Drop In Terror

Left Wing Extremism -- in the last eight years.

"Today I can say with satisfaction that after the abrogation of Article 370, there is a big reduction in terror incidents in Jammu and Kashmir. And record number of tourists visit Jammu and Kashmir. It is a matter of satisfaction." he said.

The Union Home minister also said the Narendra Modi government will bring changes in the Criminal Procedure Code, the Indian Penal Code and the Evidence Act to make forensic investigation compulsory for crimes which attract punishment of six years or more.

"Under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the Home department is tackling several internal security challenges effectively. Jammu and Kashmir, the North East and Left Wing Extremism, the pain of which the country suffered for many decades," Shah said in his address.

The Union minister said the Modi government achieved a big success in curbing terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir.

The same way in the North East, more than 8,000 armed youths who were part of several insurgency groups surrendered and they were brought to the mainstream, he said.

PM Modi,

lammu and Kashmir, saying the nation can never forget their sacrifice.

"I pay homage to the brave soldiers who laid down their lives in the ghastly terror attack in Pulwama on this day in the year 2019. The nation can never forget their sacrifice. Their valour and indomitable courage will always remain an inspiration in the fight against terrorism." Shah tweeted.

Over 40 soldiers had made the supreme sacrifice after a suicide bomber rammed his vehicle into the CRPF convoy.

In a retaliatory attack, the Indian Air Force targeted terror camps in Balakot in Pakistan.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir LG Manoj Sinha and Director General of Police Dilbag Singh also paid tributes to the fallen security personnel.

"Tributes to the brave martyrs who lost their

Only 37 Militants

involved in the 2019 Pulwama attack were charge-sheeted by the NIA. Of them, 8 have been killed and 7 are in jail while rest four among 3 foreign terrorist's including Azhar Masood, Rouf Masood and Alvi and one militant from Pulwama Kashmir are in Pakistan at present," he added.

On the presence of active militants in Srinagar, the ADGP said no one amongst long standing militants is alive in the city and that no new recruitments are taking place in Srinagar.

"Except Momin, no new youth has joined militancy in Srinagar so far. Regular movement of Momin and Basit from Pulwama has been reported from the Eidgah side. We missed contacts with them several times, but we will either arrest them or neutralize them soon," Kumar said, adding we see Jaish has started recruiting local youth again.

He also claimed that a total of seven to eight Jaish militants and five to six foreigners are active in the valley at present, while all long standing members including top commanders stand neutralized by the security forces.

"Operation against terrorism is on and we have broken the back of Jaish outfit for the last three years in Kashmir, no long standing militant of this outfit is alive. Sameer Dar and Zahid, both from Pulwama were killed. A total of seven to eight Jaish terrorists are active and five to six Ft's including Musa Suliamani is active in Kulgam, he is a Jaish Militant and a long standing militant. We are after him and will neutralize or arrest him soon," ADGP said.

Regarding smuggling of weapons, he said "SF's recover weapons on a daily basis which are either dropped via drones or brought in through LoC or IB.

"We have made our network strong. We recover whatever comes from IB or LoC while associates too are arrested," Kumar added.

Ladakh Parties

citizens to raise our voice and the duty of the government to listen to us," Wangchuk added.

The Leh-based Ladakh Apex Body of People's Movement for 6th Schedule and Kargil Democratic Alliance are the bodies from the two regions of Ladakh which have been demanding statehood.

The LAB and KDA, both representing different social and religious groups from the two regions of Ladakh – Leh and Kargil, joined hands to forward their demands in August 2021.

In January this year, the home ministry constituted a high-powered committee headed by Minister of State Nityanand Rai to "ensure protection of land and employment" for the people of Ladakh.

The two bodies, however, rejected the committee, and decided not to attend any meeting conducted under its aegis, saying the mandate of the committee did not mention the issues raised by them.

"Both bodies decided not to attend the meetings until the agenda is fixed and composition of the committee is redone," Hussain said.

"People are concerned about their cultural identity, political representation as well as job security," he added.

Highway Shut

will be restored for traffic soon.

One-Way Traffic Resumes

A traffic police official said that the singleway traffic was restored after clearance of the debris. "Firstly stranded vehicles will be cleared," he said and urged commuters to "travel with caution."

Intermittent shooting stones at Mehar-Cafeteria area in Ramban on highway led to closure of the highway throughout the night and till around 10 a.m., he said.

Mohita Sharma, SSP Traffic Highway, said that the authorities were clearing stranded vehicles on priority as the thoroughfare remained blocked for the entire night due to shooting stones. "LMVs from Qazigund and Udhampur to follow soon," she said.

"Young generation must draw inspiration from the life of towering personalities of the country like Mahatma Gandhi, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and take India forward on the path of peace and prosperity," he said.

"Youth should have the courage to explore the unexplored. Keep learning, innovating and be curious. Strive for excellence not for marks and do not look at any stage of life as success and perfection," he added.

Sinha further said that competitiveness is another important factor that needs to be nurtured to enable youth to provide better solutions to basic problems and also contribute to corruption-free, transparent governance.

"Today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, every section of society is being provided with equal opportunity and equal access to resources. Youth should be ready to become the active partner in India's developmental journey," he added.

Youth from J&K attending the camp also spoke on the changed scenario of Jammu Kashmir.

Rahul Gandhi

pressure from the government. They said there is a heavy aircraft movement and traffic congestion and did not give permission," Rai alleged.

The Congress MP was scheduled to arrive in Varanasi on Monday night and offer prayers at Shri Kashi Vishwanath Temple today

The Lok Sabha Secretariat has sought a reply from Rahul Gandhi on the breach of privilege notice given against him by Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi and BJP MP Nishikant Dubey over "misleading, derogatory, unparliamentary and incriminatory statements" during a discussion of the motion of thanks on the President's address.

Gandhi has been asked to furnish his reply by February 15 for consideration by the Lok Sabha Speaker.

Gandhi, in his speech in the Lok Sabha on February 7, made several allegations against the government over the Hindenburg-Adani row.

Couples Descend

Pahalgam to their itineraries.

"We came here to celebrate Valentine's Day. This is the best day of our lives," said Naveen Saini, a tourist from Jaipur in Rajasthan.

His partner Ritu said this was her first Valentine's Day in Kashmir.

Several couples on romantic escapades could be seen enjoying playful snowball fights.

Himanshu and Prerna, a couple from Jaipur,

Aijaz Dar, who runs a taxi service, is happy that he found clients in all four seasons last year and the year's first one.

"We had a steady stream of tourists coming to Kashmir throughout the year. Valentine's Day has only prolonged the winter arrivals in Kashmir," he added.

Mystery Shrouds

in native Panzgam village.

"Actually, Rather's car suffered a dent apparently due to an accident while his kids and wife were onboard. When he reached home, his wife started grilling him and the couple had a heated argument," said the police officer, wishing not to be named.

Rather, he said, took a blanket and firepot from his house and went to sleep inside his car.

"It was in the dead of the night that the vehicle caught the fire and he was charred to death," the officer said, adding. "It's either an accidental death or a suicide"

The officer further said that Rather's body was taken to Sub District Hospital (SDH) Knag for medico-legal formalities. He also said that police have questioned many people, including Rather's family as part of its investigations.

"We have done the postmortem and the FSL details are pending. Everything will be cleared once the report comes," the officer added

PDD Employee

in Police Station ACB Central Kashmir and investigation was taken up.

Accordingly a trap team was constituted. The trap team laid a successful trap and caught Javid Ahmad Najar while accepting a bribe of rupees 2000 on the spot in presence of independent witnesses.

The official was taken to a police station in Srinagar and further investigation into the matter is going on.

Elderly Man

under section 174 CRPC have been initiated.

Colleges In Kashmir

It had also said that the degree Colleges falling in the summer zone of the Jammu division shall observe the vacation from January-1 to January-10-2023-(KNO)

SPORTS

J&K Bags 76 Medals As 2023 Khelo India Winter **Games Conclude In Gulmarg**



Observer News Service

GULMARG: J&K won 26 Gold, 25 Silver and 25 Bronze medals to top the medals tally as 3rd Khelo India Winter Games 2023 came to a conclusion on Tuesday at winter destination Gulmarg.

The closing ceremony of the five-day long games was attended by over two thousand participants including players, tourists and officials of different departments.

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs and Youth Affairs & Sports, Nisith Pramanik, was the chief guest and distributed medals to the players.

Joint Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Prem Kumar Jha; Secretary Youth Services & Sports and Tourism, Sarmad Hafeez; Secretary J&K Sports Council Nuzhat Gul; CEO, Gulmarg Development Authority besides Major General RK Sing and President Winter Games Rouf Trumboo and officers of line departments were also present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Nisith Pramanik remarked that

the 3rd Khelo India Winter Games held at Gulmarg was a major event compared to the previous events. He said that the next event would be even bigger event which would be compared with other international events.

He expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Minister Anurag Thakur and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha for the developing sports infrastructure in J&K which helps youth to excel in different sports. Union Minister said that play-

ers such as Sarfaraz Ahmad and Arif Khan who played in the win-ter Olympics made our nation proud.

While distributing medals among the winners of Junior Girls Snow Shoe sport and Sprint boys, Nisith Pramanik expressed pleasure over the exemplary performance of J&K players who bagged gold in these competitions.

Maharashtra came second with 13 Gold, 8 Silver and 6 Bronze medals. The third position was achieved by Himachal Pradesh 10 Gold, 14 Silver and 7 Bronze while Army scored 10 Gold, 10 Silver and 9 Bronze Medals





Downtown Heroes Qualify For 2nd Division I-League



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Downtown Heroes FC qualified for the Group Stage of the 2nd Division I-League on Tuesday after defeating Corbett FC 2-1 in the Qualifiers Stage at SAI STC Ground in Assam.

In their first qualifiers fixture, the Heroes defeated Assamese team United Chirang Duar FC 5-1.

Downtown Heroes, led by experienced head coach Hilal Rasool Parray, knew a win on Tuesday would confirm their place in the Group Stages of the competition. Parray deployed an atsana Singh brought the side on equal terms. Ateeb Ahmed Dar then put the Heroes ahead in the 85th minute of match.

The win means that Downtown Heroes qualified for the Group Stage with 1 game to spare.

"We would like to express our deepest gratitude to all our well wishers and supporters who have stood by us throughout our journey to qualify for the I League 2nd Division. Your unwavering support and encouragement have been instrumental in our success," the Heroes said in a statemen

BCCI Chief Selector Chetan Sharma In Midst Of TV Sting Controversy

- 'Ganguly never liked Virat'
- 'Players take injections to play'
- 'Ego tussle between Rohit and Virat'



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: BCCI chief selector Chetan Sharma was caught

players take injections to expedite their return to competitive cricket despite being 80 to in a controversy on Tuesday af



Sharma alleged that a lot of and former BCCI president Sourav Ganguly.

speak to the media.

Sharma was unavailable for a comment when contacted by

It is learnt that the BCCI is

looking into the matter, as na-

tional selectors are bound by

contract and not supposed to

"It will be (BCCI secretary)

Jay's (Shah) call as to what will

From Qatar To Elon Musk, Man **United Sale Rumours Grow**

Agencies

MANCHESTER: The race is on to buy Manchester United and it will take deep pockets to meet an estimated price of \$6 billion. No wonder the oil and gas rich state of Qatar is being so heavily linked with a bid and Elon Musk's name refuses to go away despite the Tesla owner saying he was joking when writing on Twitter last year about his intention to swoop in for the Premier League club. With a declaration of interest

expected to be made by Friday, only one potential buyer has gone

ticularly eager to take control of one of the biggest clubs in the world and gain a stake in soccer's most popular league.

Chicago Cubs owner the Ricketts family, Boston Celtics part-owner Steve Pagliuca and New York Jets owner Woody Johnson were all in contention, while there was also a reported bid from Saudi Arabia, as well as British-based interest.

With United anticipated to command double the price of Chelsea, the shortlist of serious buyers is likely to be even more exclusive.

A sovereign wealth fund has



tacking 4-3-3 formation against Uttarakhand-based Corbett FC.

However, the Heroes started poorly in the match and went behind early on. Sakti Nath Oraon scored in the 16th minute to give Corbett FC a lead they maintained till the end of the first half.

The Srinagar-based club's comeback started in the 50th minute when the Heroes' Manipur recruit Pukhrambam Mani-

Downtown Heroes will next play Shillong Lajong FC, who also won their first two games and have qualified for the 2nd Division Group Stages. The match is scheduled to be held on February 16.

Downtown Heroes FC Playing XI:

1 Furgan, 4 Zahid, 6 Hyder, 13 Rajender, 18 Shahid, 17 Shahmeer, 19 Mehran, 20 Jirjar, 9 Parvaj, 11 Hayat, 14 Ateeb.

Shopian Villages Celebrate Jasia's WPL Selection

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Celebrations are tional kehwa.

going on at the residence of Jasia Akhtar here ever since she became the first cricketer woman from Jammu and Kashmir to be picked by a Women's Premier League (WPL) franchise during the

auction in Mumbai on Monday.

"When I got the news of Jasia's selection, I could not believe it. I am feeling very happy for her," Jasia's cousin, Khushnuma, told PTI as a stream of neighbours visited the cricketer's house in Shopian to celebrate her achievement.

The 34-year-old right-hand top-order batter was picked by Delhi Capitals for a base price of Rs 20 lakh.

"Jasia jaisi koi nahi. The #CapitalsUniverse is stoked to have you!" DC tweeted after the auction.

The second of five siblings, Jasia, who represents Rajasthan in domestic cricket, was crazy about the game since childhood

"She was mad about cricket right from childhood. When we used to study, she would go out

Khalid Hamid, Jasia's first coach, hoped she gets enough opportunities to showcase her

to play," Khushnuma said, as

well-wishers sipped the tradi-

skills.

"We hope she gets enough chances and fulfils her dream of performing on the

international stage," Hamid said. Murtuza Bashir, who helped Jasia hone cricketing skills while she was at school, said there is no dearth of sporting talent in Kashmir but infrastructure needs to be upgraded

for grooming talent. 'My request to the administration is to provide us with the infrastructure and facilities where raw talent can be identified and players can be groomed. You will find many Jasia Akhtars, Abdul Samads and Parvez Rasools here. The need is to have an outdoor stadium and an indoor stadium where the raw talent can be prepared for a

bigger stage," Bashir said. 'I want to thank Delhi Capitals who showed faith in her capabilities. I hope she performs as per the expectations of the team management," he added.

ter he allegedly revealed classified selection matters during a sting operation conducted by

a TV channel. Sharma, who was recently reinstated by the BCCI after being removed following India's showing in the T20 World Cup in Australia, was seen during the sting operation casting aspersions on players like Vi-rat Kohli and Jasprit Bumrah. Sharma also allegedly revealed his internal discussions with head coach Rahul Dravid and Virat Kohli during the sting

conducted by Zee News.

The former India pace bowler also alleged that there was a difference of opinion between him and the team manage-

ment over Bumrah's return from a stress fracture for the T20I series against Australia in September.

Bumrah still continues to be out of action, and will likely miss the entire four-Test Border-Gavaskar series and the three-match ODI series after that.

there was an ego tussle between former captain Kohli

be Chetan's future. The question is whether T20 skipper Hardik Pandya or ODI and Test captain Rohit Sharma would like to sit with Chetan in a selection meeting knowing that he has let out internal discus-

sions," a senior BCCI official Sharma also alleged that told PTI on conditions of anonymity

India-Australia Delhi Test Tickets 'Sold Out'

viding security for the game.

Shreyas Iyer To Join India's

Iyer has successfully com-

pleted his rehabilitation at the

National Cricket Academy fol-

lowing a back injury and will

econd Test against Australia.

Middle-order batter Shreyas

Squad For 2nd Test

Test cricket.

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The second Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy between India and Australia, beginning in Delhi on Friday, will be played in front of a packed house.

Delhi is hosting its first Test since December 2017. India won the opening Test in Nagpur inside three days to take a 1-0 lead in the four-match series.

"The tickets are sold out and we are expecting a full house.

chanda said on Tuesday.

of 40,000.

were put on sale while 8000 were distributed among the A section of the stands is

also reserved for families pro-



December, but was ruled out The series opener in Nagpur of the home ODI series against also attracted a healthy crowd, New Zealand due to swelling making it a good advert for in the lower back.

Iver also missed the opening Test against Australia in Nagpur as he hadn't fully completed his rehabilitation.

On Tuesday, the Board of Control for Cricket in India said Iyer had been cleared by its medical team and will join the Test squad in Delhi.

join India's squad ahead of the Iyer had posted a few videos of his intense rehab pro-Iyer played the two-match gramme, under trainer S Rajni-Test series in Bangladesh in kanth, at the NCA in Bengaluru.

public so far. Jim Ratcliffe, the billionaire owner of petrochemicals giant INEOS and one of Britain's richest people, announced his intention to bid last month.

Other confirmed candidates have been quiet, though that is likely to change after Friday.

Merchant bank Raine Group is handling the process a year after overseeing the sale of Chelsea, which commanded the biggest ever price for a soccer team when bought for \$3 billion by a consortium led by Todd Boehly and Clearlake Capital.

That price was driven up by interest from around the world, with U.S.-based bidders par-

long-been considered a likely bidder and reported interest from Qatar has gathered pace in recent weeks. The Gulf country already backs Paris Saint-Germain through Qatar Sports Investments and any bid for United would have to come from a separate entity to meet UEFA ownership rules on teams competing in the same tournament. According to reports, a buyout of United would come from the Qatar Investment Authority. If a bid comes from Oatar.

then Ratcliffe, a boyhood United fan and said to be worth \$15.1 billion, would face a considerable challenge to compete. (AP)

Belgian Goalkeeper Dies After Saving Penalty

Agencies

🗖 elgian goalkeeper Arne Es-B peel died aged 25 after he collapsed on the pitch on Saturday moments after saving a penalty for an amateur team. Winkel Sport B, who play in the second provincial division of West Brabant in Belgium, were 2-1 up against Westrozebeke when their opponents were awarded a penalty in the second half.

According to reports in Belgian media, Espeel saved the spot kick but dropped to the ground immediately afterwards. Emergency services rushed to help Espeel and tried to revive him with a defibrillator but he was pronounced dead shortly after he was taken to a hospital. The game was played at the club's home ground in Sint-Eloois-Winkel in

the West Flanders Province. "Winkel Sport is in very deep mourning by the sudden death of Arne Espeel," the club



said in a statement. "We wish family and friends of Arne our heartfelt condolences in this heavy loss. Football is an afterthought."

An autopsy was scheduled to have taken place on Monday to determine the cause of Espeel's death. A report in the Het Nieuwsblad newspaper said more than 1,000 people turned up to pay tribute to Espeel on Monday evening.

There is a lot of interest since a Test match is being played in Delhi after a long time," DDCA joint secretary Rajan Man-

The Arun Jaitley Stadium roughly has a seating capacity

A total of 24,000 tickets DDCA members, which is the norm. The remaining seats will be used for the dignitaries attending the game.

SRINAGAR | WEDNESDAY | 15.02.2023



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