

Architect Builds Narrative Of Shia-Sunni Reconciliation In 'Shi'ism In Kashmir'

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: Hakim Sameer Hamdani's book 'Shi'ism in Kashmir—A History of Sunni-Shi' Rivalry and Reconciliation' was released at Kani Home, in the outskirts of the city on Saturday.

Academician Prof Siddiq Wahid was the Chief Guest on the occasion. The event was presided by Convener INTACH Saleem Beg.

The book release function was attended by scores of people across political and sectarian divides. On the occasion, book

reviews were presented by noted columnist Muhammad Maroof Shah and Media Lecturer Raashid Maqbool.

Muhammad Maroof Shah described the book as the first attempt to trace the 'problematic' relationship between the Shias and Sunnis in Kashmir and try to move to the reconciliatory paradigm which the book has tried to unearth primarily in the 19th century.

"The book helps us to demystify and demythologize various notions and ideas that are cropped in the popular



imagination. I think all of us should read it," Maroof said. Maroof further said that

various sources from material, textual history and other sources have been quoted in

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Sb in the Shia community and his role against the Shias. The way we have been told about the conflicting history of Shias and Sunnis, it is true to some extent but the conflict was not primarily religious"

this book and in contemporary times it is important to converge on more important points and try to evade issues which can cause sectarian divide.

"The book also shows clear inaccuracies in major notions

regarding the othering of Makhdoom Sb in the Shia community and his role against the Shias. The way we have been told about the conflicting history of Shias and Sunnis, it is true to some **More on P10**

Govt Transfers Nine JKAS Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Union Territory government on Saturday ordered the transfer of nine Jammu and Kashmir Administrative officers (JKAS) officers in the interest of the administration.

According to an order issued by the General Administration Department (GAD), Atul Gupta, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kathua has been transferred and posted as Joint Director, Information, Jammu.

Mohammad Aslam, JKAS, Joint Director, Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Kashmir has been shifted and posted as Joint Director, Information, Kashmir, against an available vacancy.

Similarly, Sapna Kotwal, JKAS, Joint Director, Information, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Secretary, J&K Advisory Board for Development of Pahari Speaking People.

In a separate order, the GAD ordered the transfer of six more officers in the administration.

According to the order, Kusum Chib, JKAS, Collector, Jammu Development Authority has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Samba.

Rehana Akhtar Bili, JKAS, Deputy Director, Information, Jammu has been **More on P10**

India Slams Pakistan's 'Propaganda' At UNHRC

Says Islamabad Has 'Unique Distinction' For Hosting Designated Terrorists

Press Trust Of India

Geneva: Pakistan has the "unique distinction" of hosting the most number of UNSC-designated terrorists and terror organisations, and its policies are directly responsible for thousands of civilian deaths in the world, India has said as it slammed Islamabad for its "malicious propaganda" against it.

Exercising its right of reply to Pakistan's statement at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva on Friday, India said when it is not entirely focused on suppressing its own population, Pakistan actively lends its energies to aid, host and abet international terrorists.

"It has the unique distinction of hosting the most number of UNSC designated terrorists and terror organisations. Osama bin Laden lived next to Pakistan's premier military academy. Its security agencies have nurtured and sheltered Hafiz Saeed and Masood Azhar for decades," First Secretary of India's Permanent Mission to UN Seema Pujani said.



"These are but a few dreaded names from the annals of Pakistan's history of supporting terrorism. Pakistan's policies are directly responsible for the death of thousands of civilians around the world," she said in response to a statement delivered by Pakistan.

Pujani said Pakistan's obsession with India while its population battle for their lives, livelihood and freedom is an indication of the state's misplaced priorities.

She said its leaders and officials should focus their energies on

working for the benefit of their own population instead of "baseless propaganda" against India.

"Pakistan's representative has once again chosen to misuse this august forum for its malicious propaganda against India," she said.

Pujani raised the issue of enforced disappearances, saying students, doctors, engineers, teachers, and community leaders are regularly disappeared by the State never to return.

"Pakistan is a State which responds to any calls for reforms with enforced disappearances.

In the last decade, Pakistan's own Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances has received 8,463 complaints. The Baloch people have borne the brunt of this cruel policy," she said.

In her statement, Pujani also expressed regret over a statement made by Türkiye at the UN session.

"We regret the comments made by Türkiye on a matter that is an internal affair of India and advise it to refrain from making unsolicited comments on our internal matters," she said.

Pujani also spoke about the persecution of religious minorities in Pakistan and asserted that no religious minority can freely live or practice its religion in the Muslim-majority country.

"The Ahmadiya community continues to be persecuted by the state for simply practicing their faith. To even obtain a Pakistani passport, the community has to denounce its founder. Equally worse is the treatment of the Christian community. It is frequently targeted through draconian blasphemy laws.

"State institutions **More on P10**

....ROW OVER RELOCATION

KP Employees 'Surrender', End Strike After 310 Days



Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Kashmiri Pandit government employees demanding relocation outside the Kashmir Valley in the wake of targeted killings by militants, suspended their 310 days long strike, saying they were "surrendering" as authorities had "stopped" their salaries.

The protesters comprised Kashmiri Pandits working in different government departments under a prime minister's employment package.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has neither accepted nor rejected the demand but the protest had to be suspended as stopping of salaries is "choking us financially", protesters affiliated to the All Migrant (Displaced) Employees Association

Kashmir (AMEAK) said.

Last year in May, following the killing of their colleagues Rahul Bhat and Rajini Bala by militants, many had also moved to Jammu from the Kashmir division of the Union Territory. While Bhat was shot dead inside his office in central Kashmir's Budgam on May 12, Bala, a school teacher, was gunned down in south Kashmir's Kulgam district on May 31 last year.

The employees said the core committee of AMEAK will meet to take a decision over resuming their duties in the Kashmir Valley.

"We have unanimously decided to suspend the ongoing agitation and are surrendering before the government. We have **More on P10**

Rejects OIC's 'Unwarranted' References On J&K

India has assailed the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) for its "unwarranted references" to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and for allowing Pakistan to hijack and misuse its platform for carrying out Islamabad's "nefarious agenda" against New Delhi. Exercising its right of reply at the High-Level Segment of 52nd session of the Human Rights Council, Seema Pujani, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India in Geneva, outrightly rejected the reference to the statement made by the OIC representative. "As regards the **More on P10**

J&K HC Grants Relief To PDP Youth Leader

Says Terror-Accused Parra Can Take Oath As DDC Member Provided There Are No Legal Restrictions

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court has directed the Pulwama deputy commissioner to administer the oath of office as a DDC member to terror-accused PDP youth leader Waheed ur Rehman Parra, provided there are no legal restrictions envisaged under the Panchayati Raj Act.

Parra could not take the oath after being elected as a district development council (DDC) member in December 2020 following his arrest in two terror-related cases. He is presently on bail in both cases and has moved the high court for taking the oath.

"This court deems it

appropriate to observe that in case if there is no legal restriction/prohibition envisaged under the Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 read with Panchayati Raj Rules 1996 in administering the oath of office to the petitioner by the Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, then the Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama shall not default in carrying out the statutory duty of administering oath of office to the petitioner notwithstanding the pendency of the present writ petition," high court judge justice

Rahul Bharti said in his order. Parra, in his petition, had said the election entitles him to take the oath of office for which the deputy commissioner, Pulwama, who is the chief executing officer of the **More on P10**



LG Interacts With Students From Assam Says Student Exchange Program Will Connect Divine Energy Of Brahmaputra And Vitasta

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that the student exchange program provides a strong base for national composite identity and allows the young generation of both Assam and Jammu and Kashmir to learn & share values and experiences.

Sinha made these remarks while interacting with a group of 30 students from Higher education institutions of Assam visiting J&K under "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" initiative.

Interacting with the students, Sinha extended his best wishes for their exploratory journey across UT to explore its culture, heritage, literature & cuisine and to



strengthen the emotional bonds between the people of J&K and Assam.

He said that the student exchange program, part of Yuva Sangam, will connect the divine energy of Brahmaputra and Vitasta, provide a strong base for national composite identity and it will allow the young generation of both Assam & J&K to learn & share values and experiences.

"Despite the distance of 2500 kilometres between Jammu and Guwahati,

students will find here the same ancient spiritual and cultural richness for which Assam has been known since ages. This is the true celebration of the diversity as well as unity of the Nation," the LG said.

During their one-week tour of Jammu Kashmir the students will visit various places including Raghunath temple, Suchetgarh Border, Chenab Rail Bridge, Historical Pahari architecture. The students were accompanied by Manoj Singh Gaur, **More on P10**

Pak Pushing Terrorists, Arms To Revive Terrorism: DGP

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Director General of Police Dilbag Singh on Saturday said Pakistan is trying to push more terrorists, drugs and weapons into Jammu and Kashmir, where the graph of militancy is on decline with security agencies determined to finish terrorism.

He termed the recovery of seven kilograms of heroin, over Rs 2 crore and arms and ammunition from a house of a notorious drug peddler near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district as a "big success", saying the security forces are working comprehensively to dismantle the entire support structure of terrorism in the Union Territory.

"We have checked infiltration (of terrorists) through underground (tunnels) and over-ground channels, but Pakistan is still making continuous efforts to push the terrorists in large



numbers into this side," the DGP told reporters on the sidelines of a function in Samba district.

He said the infiltration bids are made to fill the militant ranks and upscale the graph of militancy which is on decline.

However, police along with other security agencies are alert to frustrate any attempt to disrupt peace and determined to finish terrorism from Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said. **More on P10**

Man Held With Fake Currency

Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested a man and recovered counterfeit currency notes from his possession in South Kashmir's Kulgam district. Khurshid Ahmad Naik of Waripora Kund was nabbed when he tried to flee from the police manning a checkpoint on the highway near Manigam Crossing, a police spokesperson said Saturday. During the search, he said, 37 counterfeit currency notes of Rs 500 denomination were from his possession. "He has been arrested and shifted to PP Mirbazar where **More on P10**

Leopard Found Dead In Anantnag

A leopard was found dead on Saturday in Ashmuqam area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district. An official said that the leopard was found dead by the residents of Iram colony in an open field. He said that a police team reached the spot after receiving information from the locals. "Later the concerned SHO along with his team recovered the carcass of leopard and later hand it over to wildlife department," he added

Heart Attack Kills CRPF Man

Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) constable died on Saturday after suffering a heart attack in Tangmarg area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district. 44-year-old Sanjay Kumar Singh of CRPF 176 battalion complained of chest pain to his colleagues at their camp in Waripora, Tanmarg, reports said. Singh was rushed to Srinagar's SK institute of medical sciences for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him dead. Heart attack is believed to have caused the death of the CRPF man.

JKNPP Delegation Calls On LG

A delegation of J&K National Panthers Party called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, at the Raj Bhavan here on Saturday. The delegation led by its working president P K Ganju appreciated the efforts of the UT administration in ensuring a peaceful environment and the unprecedented development in the UT, an official spokesperson said. The delegation, he said, also discussed ongoing development projects and initiatives for the welfare of the people and submitted a **More on P10**

3 Arrested With Contraband Substance

Jammu and Kashmir police said they arrested three drug peddlers in Wagub area of Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Saturday. Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that during a naka checking at Wagub crossing police stopped a four-wheeler, following which 3 persons were arrested after a contraband (Heroin-like substance) weighing 6.70 grams was recovered from the dashboard of the vehicle. He identified the arrested persons as Zahoar Ahmad Malik of Handwara, **More on P10**

1 Lakh Tourists Visited Kashmir In Feb

Department of Tourism Kashmir is anticipating a comparatively much high flow of tourists this year, as over one lakh tourists have already visited the Valley in the recently concluded month of February. Expressing his contentment Fazl-ul-Haseeb, the recently appointed Director for Kashmir Tourism, talking to media persons said that the Valley received over one lakh tourists in the month of February alone. Haseeb said that the Department is working on several methods to prepare itself for the upcoming tourist season. **More on P10**



J&K Bank
 Serving To Empower

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
 Impaired Assets Portfolio
 Management Department
 Zonal Office Anantnag
 Bakshiabad, Anantnag-192101
 email: amid.zoksou@jkbmail.com

E-AUCTION/SALE NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE OF PROPERTY MORTGAGED TO THE BANK UNDER SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST (SARFAESI) ACT 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Whereas, Ms. Shaista Manzoor (Assistant General Manager), being one of the Authorized Officer of The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd (hereinafter referred to as the Bank), in exercise of powers conferred under Securitization & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (the Act) and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the Rules), issued a Demand Notice dated 16-08-2022 thereby interalia calling upon Mr. Faisal Fayaz Dar S/O Fayaz Ahmad Dar R/O Gulshanabad, KP Road, Anantnag for payment of its dues aggregating to Rs.26,93,015.04 (Rupees Twenty Six Lacs Ninety Three Thousand Fifteen And Paise Four Only) outstanding as on 31-07-2022 together with future interest and other cost and charges within a period of 60 days.

Whereas, Consequent upon failure by the borrower to repay the Bank's dues within stipulated time, Mr. Nazir Ahmad Lone, Chief Manager, as one of the Authorized Officer of the Bank, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the Rules took over the physical possession of the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinafter under section 13(4) of SARFAESI Act 2002 on 04-02-2023. Whereas the undersigned as Authorized Officer of the Bank and in exercise of the powers conferred under the Act and the Rules hereby notifies the sale of the Secured Asset detailed herein for realization of the dues on "as is where is, as is what is, whatever is there is and without recourse" condition.

Name of the Borrower(s)/Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)	(i) Mr. Faisal Fayaz Dar S/O Fayaz Ahmad Dar R/O Gulshanabad, KP Road, Anantnag;(Borrower/Mortgagor). (ii) Ubaid Ali Mir S/O Mr. Ali Mohammad Mir R/O Nazuk Mohallah Anantnag(Guarantor).
Amount in Demand Notice (excluding interest and other expenses from 01-08-2022)	Rs.26,93,015.04/- (Rupees Twenty Six lacs Ninety Three Thousand Fifteen and paise Four Only)
Amount Due on 28-02-2023 in Housing Loan Account (Excluding interest from 01-03-2023upto date.	Rs.18,09,493.52/- (Rupees Eighteen Lacs Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Three And Paise Fifty Two Only)
Legal and other Charges Due as on 28-02-2023 in Housing Loan Account	Rs.15,510/- (Rs.Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Ten Only)
Description of the mortgaged Property/ Secured Asset (Put on sale)	A Double storied residential house having plinth area of 429 SFT, with land underneath and appurtenant thereto, measuring 2 Marlas 5 Sirsai and 17 SFT comprising of Khasra No 3122, Khata No 2998 and Khawat No 977 of Mouza Qasba Bhagat Tehsil and District Anantnag
Reserve Price	Rs.18,90,255/- (Rupees Eighteen Lacs Ninety Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Five Only)
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Rs.1,89,025.50/- (Rupees One Lacs Eighty Nine Thousand Twenty Five and Paise Fifty Only)
Bid Increase Amount	Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)
Name of the Branch	Branch office New Market, Anantnag
Authorized Officer/Designation	Juneed Ahmad Wani Designation Chief Manager Authorised officer Contact No.7006277328
Last Date & Time of submission of Bid, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Documents	07.04.2023 up to 04.00 P.M
Date and Time of e-Auction	11.04.2023 between 02.00 P.M to 04.00 P.M
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & Other Remittance/s detail/s by RTGS toAccount Number	Account No. 0161070700000001 Account Name : E Auction Account (SUNDRY DEPOSITS ACCOUNT) IFSC CODE: JAKA0BUBBLE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1) The Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS and NO COMPLAINT BASIS". To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties, except specifically disclosed herein. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized Officer/ Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the description, condition or accuracy of the details regarding the property/ies given hereinabove.

2) It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The physical inspection of supra property/ies put on auction will be permitted to interested bidders on Bank's working days between 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM up to 07.04.2023 with prior permission of the Authorized officer. Inspection of the documents relating to the properties will be permitted to the interested bidders or their authorized representatives at Branch Office New Market, Anantnag between 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM up to 07.04.2023. The bid price shall be absolute in terms and should not be linked to any reference. Conditional bids shall be rejected.

3) The interested bidders shall submit their offer through website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> (the user ID and password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with "https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net") through their login ID and Password. The EMD 10% of RESERVE PRICE shall be payable through NEFT/RTGS/DD (EMD remittance details given above) on or before 04:00 PM on 07.04.2023. Please note that Cheques shall not be accepted as EMD amount.

4) After Registration by the bidders in the website, the intending purchaser/ bidder is required to get the copies of following documents uploaded in the web-portal before last date of submission of the bid(s) viz. i) Copy of the NEFT/RTGS/challan, ii) Copy of PAN card/Aadhar Card iii) Proof of identification (KYC) viz. copy of Voter ID Card/Driving License/ Passport etc. iv) Copy of proof of address, v) Duly Filled up & Signed Copy of Annexure II & III attached to the Tender form, without which the bid is liable to be rejected.

5) The Interested bidders who require assistance in creating login ID and password, uploading data, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may avail online training on E-Auction from M/s e-procurement Technologies Ltd. (Auction Tiger), Ahmadabad: Contact Person; Mr. Ram Sharma, Mobile No. 9978591888/ 9265562818/9265562821/9374519754, Contact No. 079-68136837/68136880.

E-Mail ID: ramprasad@auctiontiger.net, support@eauctiontiger.net during office hours on working days.

6) Only buyers holding valid User ID/Password and confirmed payment of EMD through NEFT/RTGS shall be eligible for participating in the online auction process.

7) The interested bidders who may have submitted their EMD not below the 10% of reserve price through online mode/DD before 04:00 PM on 07.04.2023 shall be eligible for participating in the e-auction. The e-auction of above properties would be conducted exactly on the scheduled date and time as mentioned above by way of inter-se bidding amongst the bidders. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount" against the Property. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the e-auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes (subject to unlimited extensions of 5 minutes each). The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the reserve price) on closure of online auction shall be declared as successful bidder and a communication to that effect will be issued through electronic mode which shall be subject to approval by the Authorized Officer and Secured Creditor.

8) The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price, adjusting the EMD already paid, within next working day of the acceptance of bid price by the Authorized Officer and the balance 75% of the sale price on or before 15th day of the sale or within such extended period as agreed upon in writing by and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer which may not exceed 90 days from the date of auction. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder, the amount already deposited by the Bidder shall be liable to be forfeited and the property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/right in respect of property/amount.

9) The prospective qualified bidders may avail online training on e-auction from M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. prior to the date of e-auction. Neither the Authorized Officer/Bank nor M/s. e-procurement technologies Ltd shall be liable for any network problem and the interested bidders to ensure that they are technically well equipped for participating in the e-Auction event.

10) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/additional stamp duty/transfer charges, fees etc. and also all the statutory/non statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc. owing to anybody. The successful bidder shall have to bear any tax on account of the sale over and above the bid amount.

11) The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest offer and the Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. NOC or any requisite document from any concerned authority for registration of Conveyance Deed has to be obtained by the purchaser only.

12) The bidders are advised to go through the detailed terms and conditions of e-auction available on the website of M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction.

13) The publication is subject to the force majeure clause.

14) The sale certificate shall be issued after receipt of entire sale consideration and confirmation of sale by secured creditor. The sale certificate shall be issued in the name of the successful bidder. No request for change of name in the sale certificate other than the person who submitted the bid / participated in the e-Auction will be entertained.

15) The bid once submitted by the bidder, cannot be cancelled/ withdrawn and the bidder shall be bound to buy the property at the final bid price. The failure on the part of bidder to comply with any of the terms and conditions of e-Auction, mentioned therein will result in forfeiture of the amount paid by the defaulting bidder.

16) Decision of the Authorised Officer regarding declaration of successful bidder shall be final and binding on all the bidders. The Authorised Officer shall be at liberty to cancel the e-Auction process / tender at any time, before declaring the successful bidder, without assigning any reason. The conditional bids may be treated as invalid. Please note that after submission of the bid/s, no correspondence regarding any change in the bid shall be entertained. The payment of statutory / non- statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc., owing to anybody shall be the sole responsibility of successful bidder only. In case of any dispute arises as to the validity of the bid (s), amount of bid, EMD once to the eligibility of the bidder, authority of the person representing the bidder, interpretation and the decision of the Authorised Officer shall be final in such an eventuality, the Bank shall in its sole discretion be entitled to call off the sale and put the property to sale once again on any date and at such time as may be decided by the Bank. For any kind of dispute, bidders are required to contact the concerned authorised officer of the concerned bank branch only.

17) Special Instructions Bidding in the last moment should be avoided in the bidders own interest. Neither The Jammu & Kashmir Ltd. nor Service provider will be responsible for any lapse/failure (Internet failure/power failure etc.). In order to ward-off such contingent situations bidders are requested to make all necessary arrangements / alternatives such as power supply backup etc., so that they are able to circumvent such situation & are able to participate in the auction successfully. (For detailed term & conditions please refer to website <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net> of M/s E-procurement Technologies Ltd.).

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) READ WITH RULE 9 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002. The borrower(s)/guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) are hereby notified to pay the outstanding sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction and get the property redeemed, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and costs.

Ref: 852 Date: 01-03-2023 Place: Anantnag	DIPK-NB-6705/22d dated: 04-03-2023	AUTHORIZED OFFICER
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK19385GCC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E : info@jkbmail.com ; W : www.jkbank.com		

IN THE COURT OF JMIC,
JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR

Present:- Ms Tabasum

Rukhsana
v/s
Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar.

Applicant

(Non-Applicant)

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Name:- Aarizo Shafi
Sex:-FEMALE
Father's Name:-Mohamad Shafi Ahanger
Mother's name: Rukhsana
DOB: 24-10-2009
Residence: Khonmoh Lasjan
Place Of Birth :-Al Aziz Hospital
nj Judge Small Causes, Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

My mother's name has been wrongly written in my passport bearing No: G6613050 as Gulshan Ara while her correct name is Gulshana Begum which needs to be corrected. If anybody have 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.

Musaib Mushtaq
S/o Mushtaq Ahmad Dar
R/o Potushai Bandipore Baramulla bb

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name in the university records is mistaken entered as Sajad Muneer S/O Ab Hamid Rather while as my actual name as per records is Sajad Muneer S/O Ab Hamid Rather. Now I am applying for correction of the particulars. Anyone having any objection in this regard may please contact Islamic University of Science and Technology Awantipora in seven days. No objection will be entertained after the expiry of the designated time period.

SAJAD MUNEER
S/O AB HAMID RATHER
R/O AARATHI BUDGAM bmg

ازعدالت چیف جوڈیشل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

بالا اجلاس: Mr.Tasleem Arif

رجسٹرار تحسین اینڈ تھنکس
الیں سامی سی سرینگر (بیول)
نام
سائل / سالک
Mohmad Yousuf Dada
درخواست: بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش
نام: Javaid Ahmad Dar
تاریخ وفات / پیدائش 10-03-1988
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں سائل سالک نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بیضر اندراج تاریخ 10-03-1988 کو پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکور یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر پس ایم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہذا میں 11-03-2023 کو مختار ہے۔
تقریر الصد nj

ازعدالت سب جج میڈیکل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

بالا اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹرار تحسین اینڈ تھنکس
الیں سامی سی سرینگر (بیول)
نام
سائل / سالک
Bilal Ahmad
درخواست: بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش / وفات
نام: Misra Begum
تاریخ وفات / 25-04-2005
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں سائل سالک نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بیضر اندراج تاریخ 25-04-2005 کو پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکور یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر پس ایم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہذا میں 09-02-2023 کو مختار ہے۔
تقریر الصد

ازعدالت سب جج میڈیکل مجسٹریٹ سرینگر

بالا اجلاس مہرین مشتاق

رجسٹرار تحسین اینڈ تھنکس
الیں سامی سی سرینگر (بیول)
نام
سائل / سالک
Bibi Gegum
درخواست: بفرج اندراج تاریخ پیدائش / وفات
نام: Abdul Razaq Najar
تاریخ وفات / 28-04-1998
معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں سائل سالک نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست بشمول حلفی بیضر اندراج تاریخ 28-04-1998 کو پیش کی ہے۔ لہذا عوام الناس کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست کوئی مذکور یا اعتراض ہونے کی صورت میں اپنے عدالت اشاعت اشتہار کے اندر پس ایم عدالت میں آ کر پیش کرے۔ بعد گزرنے معیا کوئی قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تاریخ آئندہ عدالت ہذا میں 09-02-2023 کو مختار ہے۔
تقریر الصد nj

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Srinagar | Sunday | 05-03-2023

2

Scholarships This Week

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

Scholarship Name 1:
Keep India Smiling Foundational Scholarship & Mentorship Programme 2022-23

Description: Colgate-Palmolive (India) Ltd. is giving young students an opportunity to pursue their academic/career aspirations by providing them with scholarships for education. This scholarship program aims to provide foundational support to individuals, who are deserving and meritorious but may lack the resources to pursue their dreams.

Eligibility: Students who have passed Class 10 with at least 75% marks or Class 12 with at least 60% marks in 2022 board exams are eligible to apply for the scholarship program for pursuing their higher secondary, 3-year graduation, and 4-year BDS Dental course. Annual family income of all applicants must be less than INR 5 Lakhs per annum.

Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship ranging from INR 5,000 to INR 20,000 for 1 year

Last Date to Apply: 10-03-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SKSP1

years, due to which they are unable to continue bearing the cost of education and are at risk of dropping out.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 75,000

Last Date to Apply: 15-03-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/HEC12

Prizes & Rewards: Scholarship ranging from INR 5,000 to INR 20,000 for 1 year

Last Date to Apply: 10-03-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SKSP1

Scholarship Name 3
HDFC Bank Parivartan's ECS Scholarship 2022-23

Description: HDFC Bank invites applications from students studying in Class 1 to postgraduation level. The scholarship supports meritorious and needy students belonging to underprivileged sections of society.

Scholarship Name 4
OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022

Description: OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022 aims to provide financial support to meritorious and underprivileged girl students pursuing graduation in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) subjects from government colleges/universities.

Eligibility: Girl students from Haryana who have passed Class 12 and are currently pursuing graduation (any year) in STEM-related subjects from government universities/colleges are eligible. The annual family income of the applicants



Description: Mahindra Finance invites applications for the 'Saksham Scholarship Program for Drivers' Children' from students belonging to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Telangana. The scholarship is meant to support underprivileged and meritorious children of drivers (all light motor vehicles and small commercial vehicles such as Taxi, Jeep, Car & delivery vans such as Pickup, magic, school van etc) holding a valid driving license who are studying in Class 9 to postgraduation level

Eligibility: The scholarship is open for Indian nationals only. The students must be studying in any of the standards between Class 1 to 12, Diploma, Undergraduate or Postgraduate (including professional and non-professional courses) level. The applicants must have passed their previous qualifying examination with at least 55% marks and their annual family income must be less than or equal to INR 2.5 lakh. Preference will be given to those applicants who are facing a personal or family crisis that has occurred during the past three

must be less than INR 6 lakh from all sources. Applicants must have scored an aggregate of 60% marks or above in Class 12 (or equivalent) examination. Students studying in the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th year of STEM courses must score at least 60% in the previous class/semester.

Prizes & Rewards: INR 30,000

Last Date to Apply: 15-03-2023

Application mode: OakNorth STEM Scholarship Program 2022

Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/ONSSI

Lewis Superacids Produced, Could Reduce Non-Biodegradable Compounds Into Sustainable Chemicals: Study

Press Trust Of India

Chemists have succeeded in producing very special catalysts, called Lewis superacids, which can be used to split strong chemical bonds and accelerate reactions, according to a new study.

With this discovery of the chemists from the University of Paderborn, Germany, non-biodegradable fluorine-containing hydrocarbons, similar to Teflon, and potentially even climate-damaging greenhouse gases such as sulphur hexafluoride could be converted back into chemicals that can be used sustainably, according to the study.

The production of these substances has so far proven to be extremely difficult, the study said.

The scientists have now published their results in the journal "Angewandte Chemie". Compounds that add pairs of electrons are called Lewis acids.

Because of this ability, they are often used to speed up chemical reactions.

Lewis superacids are stronger than antimony pentafluoride - the strongest Lewis acid - and can break even the sturdiest bonds.

"For strong bonds, you need very reactive reagents, i.e., substances that react extremely readily with carbon-fluorine or sulphur-fluorine bonds, which are particularly stable," explained Jan Paradies from the Chemistry Department from the University of Paderborn.

"Intrinsically, these Lewis superacids are incredibly reactive, making them difficult to make and use.



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CORRIGENDUM

In reference to E-Auction Notice regarding auction of Villa No. 8, Block-D, Ansal Villas, Village Satbari, Tehsil- Mehrauli, New Delhi along with land underneath & appurtenant thereto located in Khasra no. 812 min (4-3) and Khasra no. 813 min (3-10) admeasuring 7 bhisgas and 13 biswas (1.607 acres) in the account of M/S Trans Asian Industries Exposition Pvt. Ltd, published in Newspapers "Tameel Irshad" and "Kashmir Observer" on 28.02.2023, it is informed that the E-Auction notice stands withdrawn. All are requested to take note of it.

Dated: 03.03.2023 Place: Gurugram Haryana	Authorized Officer
Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India CIN: L65110JK19385GCC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928 ; E : info@jkbmail.com ; W : www.jkbank.com	
DIPK-NB-6704/22 dated: 04-03-2023	

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Sub-Committee To Undertake Preliminary Exercise For EDI Restructuring

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a move aimed at restructuring the Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI), the Jammu & Kashmir government has constituted a sub-committee to undertake a preliminary exercise for facilitating a committee constituted by the Union Territory administration last year for its reorganization.

The government has constituted a sub-committee under the chairmanship of administrative secretary, Department of Industries & Commerce to examine the documents in line of with the terms of reference of restructuring committee constituted on April 21, 2022 for J&K EDI and to undertake a preliminary exercise for facilitating the committee to arrive at decisions and corrective measures in light of special audit,

GAD committee report and special audit EDI.

According to an order, the panel comprises Director/ Executive Director EDI, Director Finance, Industries and Commerce Department, and one officer each of Law and ARI & Training departments not below the rank of additional secretary.

As per its terms of reference, the committee shall revisit the vision document 2030, frame a revised salary structure and promotion norms, suggest measures for release of grant-in-aid and examine the audit report for further necessary action.

The EDI was established by the government of Jammu and Kashmir in March 1997 to effectively enable entrepreneurship development in the state. The institute started its regular activities from February 2004.

CCIK Demands Beautification Of Srinagar Airport

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industries Kashmir (CCIK) Saturday said Srinagar international airport needs a beautification as the same is not in a good state.

The CCIK said Kashmir being the major tourist destination, its Srinagar airport should be exceedingly appealing, lovely, and outstanding as the visitors should feel welcomed upon arrival and enjoy a paradise-like ambience due to the airport's lush greenery and natural appearance.

The airport currently appears to be nothing more than a concrete building that doesn't fit in with Kashmir's surroundings. The airport should symbolize Kashmir which is heaven on earth and should be maintained and beautified. Several other amenities, such as few baggage checkpoints and decent seating areas throughout, are lacking at the airport. The outer look of the airport, especially garden and roads, are

not well maintained to give it a paradise-like look full of natural greenery.

The CCIK said there is a huge number of travelers in cues as the airlines have a limited staff and the travelers especially elderly people, women and senior citizens have to wait for a long time to get their boarding passes.

CCIK requests authorities to direct the airlines to have more counters and sufficient staff so that the common people do not suffer. CCIK said it seems that airlines' staff is much concerned about excess baggage for minting money from people but lack facilities at their counters. The airfare is touching the sky but the ground facilities are lacking.

CCIK requests LG Manoj Sinha, Civil Aviation Ministry government of India and Director of Airport Authority to look into the matter for making Srinagar airport one of the best airports in the country as Kashmir is the crown of tourism and the Srinagar airport should be brought up to international standard.

8th 'Technology Exhibition Cum Seed Mela' Begins At SKUAST-K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, today inaugurated 8th 'Technology Exhibition cum Seed Sale Mela' at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agriculture Science and Technology Kashmir (SKUAST-K).

The two day event is being held under the theme 'Sustainability to Sustainable Commercial Agriculture'.

Mayor, SMC, Junaid Azim

work done by the Startups and interacted in detail with the Entrepreneurs and discussed the innovative work done by them.

Advisor also visited stalls displaying and highlighting Farmer Welfare Schemes and programs besides the exhibits displayed by other stakeholders dealing with agriculture inputs, farm machinery and organic products.

Speaking on the occasion, Advisor Bhatnagar observed

that such exhibitions play an important role in offering opportunities to farmers to access reliable, updated and relevant information. He laid emphasis on connecting farmers with experts from University and industry as that will help them reduce risks and uncertainty.

Advisor Bhatnagar further highlighted that the present LG led administration is promoting the culture of start-ups and entrepreneurship in agriculture and allied sectors so as to tap the potential of the agriculture sector fully across Jammu and Kashmir.



Admin Reviewing 700 Year Old Mangaleshwar Bherav Temple In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Saturday visited Mangleshwar Bhairav Temple and Khankah Naqashband Sahib (RA) to review progress of works being undertaken for restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of Architecture and Heritage of Religious Places/Assets in the District.

DC inspected ongoing Reconstruction works on 700-year-old Mangleshwar Bhairav Asthapan at Brari Nambal, Babadem being undertaken at a cost of Rs 1.62 crore.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner was given first hand appraisal about the pace and progress of the Reconstruction works of Mangleshwar Bhairav Asthapan Temple being carried out by concerned executing agencies on heritage patterns.

The DC was informed that work is going in full swing on

different components of the project including reconstruction of main Temple, Guard Room and fixing of four overhead informative directional signages.

The DC asked the concerned to speed up the pace of work and ensure preservation and maintenance of Architecture and Heritage of the site.

He asked them to take up the works on Deveri path from entrance to main temple along the canopy and also traditional Khatamband works on the canopy ceiling and inside the main temple.

The DC further asked the concerned to construct a washroom facility for the devotees, besides taking other landscaping and beautification works at the temple.

The Deputy Commissioner also visited Khankahi Naqashband Sahib(RA) in Nowhatta area of Shahr-e-Khaas of the District and took stock of the measures being taken for development of 500 years old Historic Khankahi Naqashband Sahib


(RA), one of the finest examples of Kashmiri ancient and medieval wooden architecture.

On the occasion, the DC was informed that a detailed Project Report of Rs 6.50 crore has been prepared for the beautification and renovation of the Khankah.

The DC directed the concerned to take up the measure for physical works so that all works proposed in DPR are completed at the earliest. He also directed for speeding up the process of land acquisition undertaken to expand the Khankah compound.

The DC further asked them to construct a washroom at the shrine premises and ornamental grill around the Khanqah of Naqashband Sahib (RA).

While interacting with the local members of the Khankah, the DC assured them that all possible measures will be taken to further beautify the Khanqah of Naqashband Sahib (RA) on heritage pattern and upgrade the facilities for convenience of the devotees.



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- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



HIGHWAY STATUS



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

 <div>HIJRI CALENDAR</div> <div>12 Shaban 1444</div>	PRAYERS
	FAJR 5:37
	ZUHR 12:43
	ASR 4:47
	Magrib 6:32
	ISHA 7:50

This Day In History

- 1793 - French troops are defeated by Austrian forces and Liège is recaptured
- 1795 - Amsterdam celebrates Revolution on the Dam; Square of Revolution
- 1795 - Treaty of Basel - Prussia ends war with France
- 1915 - World War I: The LZ 33, a zeppelin, is damaged by enemy fire and stranded south of Ostend.
- 1924 - Computing-Tabulating-Recording Corp becomes IBM
- 1931 - Gandhi & British viceroy Lord Irwin sign pact
- 1943 - Anti-fascist strikes in Italy
- 1943 - RAF bombs Essen Germany
- 1949 - The Jharkhand Party is founded in India.
- 1958 - Explorer 2 fails to reach Earth orbit
- 1959 - Iran & US sign economic & military treaty
- 1968 - US launches Solar Explorer 2 to study the Sun
- 1970 - Nuclear non-proliferation treaty goes into effect
- 1970 - Dubnium atoms are first detected conclusively.
- 1979 - Voyager I's closest approach to Jupiter (172,000 miles)
- 1979 - Iran resumes petroleum exports
- 1980 - Earth satellites record gamma rays from remnants of supernova N-49
- 1981 - Michael Stewart's musical "Bringing Back Birdie" opens at Martin Beck Theater, NYC for 4
- 1982 - Russian spacecraft Venera 14 lands on Venus sends back data
- 1991 - Iraq repealed its annexation of Kuwait
- 1993 - Fokker 100 crashes at Skopje Macedonia, 81 die
- 1994 - Largest milkshake made; 1,955 gallons of chocolate in Nelspruit, South Africa
- 2012 - 27 members of Iraq's security force are killed by gunmen disguised as police in Haditha
- 2012 - Tropical Storm Irina kills 65 in Madagascar
- 2013 - Venezuelan Vice-President Nicolás Maduro assumes the presidency after the death of Hugo Chávez
- 2013 - Willcom announces the world's smallest mobile phone, weighing 32 grams
- 2014 - A survey by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights reports that about 1/3 of women in the European Union have experienced physical or sexual violence since the age of 15
- Event of interestEvent of Interest
- 2015 - Harrison Ford crash-lands his 1942 Ryan Aeronautical ST3KR aeroplane in California
- 2015 - 8th Islamic State militants ransack and destroy ancient cities of Nimrud, Hatra and Dur-Sharrukin in Iraq
- 2016 - US air strike kills 150 Al-Shabaab militants north of Mogadishu, Somalia

From KO Archives

Mines Removal Likely To Delay Bus Service

Agencies

ISLAMABAD - Removal of landmines on both, sides of the Line of Control is one of the major problems that can delay the launch of the Muzaffarabad-Srinagar bus service.

Dawn quoting sources said on Sunday that senior military officers of India and Pakistan had established contact the other day and discussed early clearance of mines. The two sides would exchange information about the number of mines on each side of the border.

They did not rule out the possibility of the assistance in the form of technical know-how and financial help to carry out the job. Both India and Pakistan had planted thousands of mines along their border areas, including Kashmir, after wars in 1948, 1965, 1971 and 1998 (Kargil).

Sources said the two countries had agreed that not only the mines -would be removed but a road would be built to facilitate the bus travel as the existing road on both sides of the LoC was in bad shape.

Report said that Pakistan would provide funds to the army to get the road repaired and mines removed as early as possible.

"But this job perhaps cannot be completed by April 7, the date agreed between the two countries for revival of the old kind route on both sides of the LoC", a source said.

During a visit to Jammu on Monday, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh had hinted the possibility of starting another bus service between Jammu and Sialkote.

(Kashmir Observer, 05 March, 2005)

‘Neutral Maternal Behaviour Linked With Epigenetic Changes In Children’

Press Trust of India

Neutral maternal behaviour towards their infants has been linked with an epigenetic change related to stress response in children, according to a new study which added evidence to the importance of early development.

Epigenetics are molecular processes independent of DNA that influence gene behaviour.

In this study, researchers found that neutral or awkward behaviour of mothers with their babies at 12 months correlated with an epigenetic change called methylation, or the addition of methane and carbon molecules, on a gene called NR3C1 when the children were 7 years old.

This gene has been associated with regulating the body's response to stress, the study said.

"There is evidence of a relationship between the quality of maternal-infant interaction and methylation of this gene though these are small effects in response to a relatively small variation in interaction," said Elizabeth Holdsworth, a Washington State University biological anthropologist and lead author of the study.

The study is published in the American Journal of Human Biology.

Other studies have connected extreme stress in early life, like neglect and abuse, to more dramatic methylation on this particular gene in adults.

However, Holdsworth emphasized that the small difference indicated by this study may be an indication of normal human variation and it is hard to determine if there are any long-term effects.



For this study, Holdsworth and her co-authors analyzed a subsample of 114 mother-infant pairs from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children, a project that tracks a cohort of children born in 1991 and 1992 in Avon, UK.

The researchers first analyzed data from an observational study of the mothers sharing a picture book with their children at 12 months, in which their interactions were coded on warmth.

The study focused on mothers be-

cause they are often infants' primary caregivers. The vast majority of the women in this sample were white, college-educated and from middle-income households, it said.

The range of warmth they displayed only varied slightly with the

"coldest" behaviour classified as awkward or neutral, but this is exactly what the researchers hoped to test: that if even small differences in social interaction could be linked to an epigenetic change, the study said. The observed behaviour was then

compared against data from an epigenetic analysis of the children's blood samples taken at age seven, the study said.

The researchers found that the mothers showing awkward or neutral behaviour toward their infant correlated with a small increase of methylation on the NR3C1 gene, the study said.

This gene encodes a receptor involved in the regulation of the HPA axis – the interaction between the body's hypothalamus, pituitary and adrenal glands. This axis plays a role in stress response, including production of the body's primary "stress" hormone, cortisol.

The HPA axis can be activated by almost anything that requires a quick release of energy from reacting to a real threat to watching a scary movie to simply exercising.

The NR3C1 gene is known to be involved in activating this axis, but more research is needed to understand how methylation of that gene is associated with stress response, Holdsworth said, as some studies have shown increased methylation linked to hypo-reactivity, or blunted response while others have shown hyper-reactivity.

Researchers are working to uncover how these changes happen, particularly during infancy when the body is developing rapidly, as well as what they might mean, they said.

"Within developmental biology, we know humans grow to fit the environment that they're in, which contributes to normal human biological variation. It's not necessarily good or bad," said Holdsworth.



‘Higher Omega-3 Levels Linked With Increased Protection From Severe Covid’

Press Trust Of India

A higher level of omega-3 fatty acids may be associated with an increased protection from severe COVID-19 infection, according to a study.

The research, published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition (AJCN), explored the role of omega-3 fatty acids, especially EPA and DHA, and whether they might be protective against contracting or suffering adverse outcomes of COVID-19.

The researchers from Fatty Acid Research Institute (FARI) and the University of South Dakota, US compared the risk for three COVID-19 outcomes: testing positive, hospitalisation, and death as a function of baseline plasma DHA levels.

DHA levels (percentage of total fatty acids) were measured by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectroscopy but were converted to Omega-3 Index (percentage of EPA+DHA in red blood cell) for this analysis.

The three outcomes were available for 110,584 subjects (hospitalisation and death) and for 26,595 ever-tested subjects (positive COVID-19 PCR test result).

These COVID-19 outcomes were assessed between January 2020 and March 2021.

In the fully adjusted models, subjects with the highest Omega-3 Index levels were 21 per cent less likely to test positive

than those with lowest levels, the researchers said.

The risk for a positive test was 8 per cent lower for each 1-SD (standard deviation) increase in plasma DHA percentage, they said.

Subjects with the highest Omega-3 Index levels were also 26 per cent less likely to be hospitalised than those with lowest levels, and risk for hospitalisation was 11 per cent lower per 1-SD increase in DHA percentage, the researchers said.

The team noted that South Korea and Japan have reported an extremely low severity of COVID-19 disease.

Although masking practices, social distancing policies and other population-wide interventions contributed to this, they noted that the Omega-3 Index values of healthy South Korean and Japanese individuals are about 8-12 per cent and 7-11 per cent respectively, which is much higher compared to those of 4-5 per cent in Western populations such as the US.

"This study confirms previous findings that low omega-3 status is associated with increased risk for hospitalisation with COVID-19," said William S. Harris, President, FARI.

"We extended these findings by also showing reduced risk for testing positive with the infection and by providing evidence that the risk for death may also be reduced," Harris added.

Why Risky Selfies Are A Public Health Issue

Media often portrays people involved in selfie incidents as foolish or selfish

The Conversation

Selfies have been called everything from an artform to narcissistic and a sign of a dysfunctional society.

THEY CAN ALSO KILL

When people go to extreme lengths to take an image to share on social media perhaps in remote or picturesque locations they can risk their lives.

So we need to move beyond describing selfies as a social phenomenon, fuelled by the rise of smartphones and social media.

We need to treat dangerous selfies as the public health hazard they really are.

MORE DEATHS, YEAR AFTER YEAR

Certain picturesque locations have been linked to selfie deaths. This includes Yosemite National Park in California. In Australia, we've seen people die at places including cliffs, natural pools and waterfalls.

THESE ARE NOT ISOLATED INCIDENTS

One study found 379 people worldwide were killed due to selfies between 2008 and 2021, with even more injured. Incidents are more likely in young adults, particularly males.

Many are travellers or tourists (particularly in Australia and the United States). In Australia and the US, selfie takers tend to be injured or killed while solo, and commonly in locations very difficult for emergency services to access.

In countries such as India and Pakistan, selfie takers are more likely to die, tragically, as a group, especially near bodies of water, such as lakes.

Researchers have called for the introduction of no selfie zones around hotspots, such as tall buildings. Russian and Indian authorities have introduced these. Russia has launched a safe selfie guide.

But it's not clear how effective these strategies have been. If anything, selfie incidents seem to be increasing globally.

MEDIA CALLS THESE FOOLISH, SELFISH

The media often portrays people involved in selfie incidents as foolish or selfish.

This seems to confirm our research showing media reports often blame the victim. Reports almost never provide safety information.

But taking selfies is a normal part of everyday life for millions of people. We need to stop judging people who are taking risky selfies, and in-



stead see risky selfies as a public health issue.

WHY IS THIS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE?

We've had similar problems with other activities we now see as public health hazards.

These include driving without a seatbelt, riding a bicycle without a helmet, smoking cigarettes or excessive alcohol consumption.

These are all examples people once considered normal, which we now see as risky. Taking dangerous selfies needs to be added to that list.

By thinking of these selfies as a public health issue, we move away from victim blaming and instead need to effectively communicate risk to selfie-takers.

One example relates to the popular selfie hotspot, Figure Eight Pools in the Royal National Park, New South Wales, where people can be overwhelmed by big, freak waves.

Authorities have produced a colour-coded risk rating that takes into account ocean and weather conditions. People can go online to see if the risk of going to the pools is very low to extreme.

If we think of these risky selfies as a public health issue we also move towards education and prevention.

Signs at selfie hotspots are one thing. But we know signs are often ignored, or simply not seen.

So we need to better communicate safety messages to selfie takers when and how they will actually take notice.

Our research with Instagram aims to do this by communicating directly to selfie takers through the Instagram app. The aim is to tailor safety messaging to Instagram users by

geolocating them with known risky selfie spots sending users a safety alert in real time.

With the right communication strategy, we know we can reduce the number of these entirely avoidable tragedies.

5 tips to stay safe when taking selfies in nature

1. Think about weather and water conditions

Weather and coastal conditions can change rapidly. Just because the weather and waves don't appear dangerous when you start your selfie journey, they might be when you get there. Check before you go, avoid bad weather, and keep a close eye on tidal and wave conditions.

2. Don't walk past safety signs and physical barriers

Warning signs are there to provide life-saving information. Pay attention to signs and heed their advice. Don't jump or go around any physical barriers blocking access. They are likely there for a good reason.

3. Stay on the designated path

Staying on paths and trails is safest and also does fragile ecosystems a big favour.

4. Don't get too close to the edge. Be aware of crumbling edges

Don't trust cliff edges and be aware of unstable ground. Cliff edges are naturally eroding and your extra weight doesn't help. People have died from cliff edges crumbling away while standing on them.

5. No amount of likes' is worth your life

Consider your motivations for taking selfies and using social media. Studies show spending time in nature is good for our health. But the world looks better when not viewed through a screen.

Long Covid Associated With Reduced Brain Oxygen Levels, Cognitive Impairment: Study

Press Trust Of India

Long COVID is associated with reduced brain oxygen levels, declined cognition and heightened levels of depression and anxiety, according to new research studying the impacts of the disease.

Researchers from the University of Waterloo, Canada, combined the results of two new parallel studies – a laboratory study involving cognitive testing and imaging of oxygen levels in the brain, and a national population survey of Canadians in 2021 and 2022.

The laboratory study found that individuals who had experienced symptomatic COVID-19 illness performed worse on two computer tasks – one measured inhibition and the other impulsive decision-making, the research describing the findings said.

Compared to those who had not been infected, people who had been infected showed a

symptoms.

Respondents who had COVID reported difficulty concentrating and problems with inhibition, as well as increased symptoms of anxiety and depression, the research said.

These effects appeared to be marginally stronger among unvaccinated individuals and were still detectable after controlling for how long ago respondents were infected, the research said.

Previous studies have shown a link between COVID and test performance, self-reported cognitive symptoms and differences in brain structure measured by MRI, but not oxygenation changes in the brain, the paper said.

Older women were more affected than others in the case of the brain imaging outcomes, the paper said.

"We don't know for sure why this was the case, but there have been other studies showing that older women are



lack of increase in oxygen saturation in an area of the brain that is normally engaged during one of the tasks, the study said.

"We are the first to show reduced oxygen uptake in the brain during a cognitive task in the months following a symptomatic COVID-19 infection," said Peter Hall, lead author and researcher at the University of Waterloo.

"This is important because a lack of sufficient oxygen supply is thought to be one of the mechanisms by which COVID-19 may cause cognitive impairment," said Hall.

The second study in this paper, a population survey of more than 2,000 Canadians aged 18 to 56, examined the relationships among COVID, cognitive function and psychiatric

especially impacted by some post-COVID-19 syndrome symptoms," Hall said.

In the case of the population study, "It appears that, regardless of gender and other demographic factors, COVID-19 infection at baseline is correlated with increased problems with emotion regulation six months later: depression, anxiety and agitation.

"In some cases, we are talking about symptom levels that are at or above recommended as cut-off scores for psychiatric diagnoses," said Hall.

The studies were conducted during earlier waves of the pandemic. The researchers did not examine whether Omicron and later variants have the same effects on the brain as earlier variants.

Cloudy Weather
Forecast In J&K



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid forecast for “partly to generally cloudy” weather in next 24 hours, the minimum temperature recorded a fall in Kashmir Valley and increase in Jammu on Saturday, officials said.

A meteorological department official here said that Srinagar recorded a low of 6.4°C against 6.6°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 4.2°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 4.2°C against 5.6°C on the previous night while Pahalgam recorded a low of 1.2°C against 1.7°C.

Kokernag recorded a low of 4.7°C against 4.8°C on the previous night and it was 3.8°C above normal for the place, the

officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 1.0°C against minus 0.6°C on the previous night and it was 4.2°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir’s Baramulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 4.2°C, the same as on the previous night and it was 3.2°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 13.2°C against 12.7°C on the previous night. It was 0.9°C above normal for J&K’s winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 6.4°C (above normal by 0.9°C), Batote 9.2°C (above normal by 3.4°C), Katra 13.6°C (3.1°C above normal) and Bhadarwah 7.0°C (4.9°C above normal). (GNS)

J&K First In Country To
Start PSGA Auto-Appeal
For Online Services: CS



Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Secretary A K Mehta on Saturday launched the Public Services Guarantee Act (PSGA) auto-appeal feature of a few online services offered by the administration.

He said the revolutionary step to integrate the auto-appeal feature to the Service Plus platform, the first of its kind in the country, would act as a turning point in maintaining transparency and accountability in services to the public.

Mehta said the feature is going to auto escalate the appeals in case the services are not provided to the applicant within the time limit set under the PSGA.

He advised the Information

Technology Department to work on activating this feature for all the 445 services offered by the administration to people at the earliest.

“This attribute in online services is going to be the landmark in eradicating corruption and malpractices,” he said, emphasizing that this would promote fairness set as priority by the current dispensation in all of its affairs including offering of government employment and public contracts to its citizens on the basis of merit alone.

As per the officials, it was evident from the reports generated on service portal e-UNNAT (Jan sugam) that more than 90 per cent of services are being delivered to the public within stipulated time.

Govt Unani Hospital
Starts Ultrasonography,
Spirometry Facilities

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director of the Department of Ayush Dr Mohan Singh on Saturday inaugurated the ultrasonography and spirometry facilities for the general public at Government Unani Hospital at Shalteng here.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Singh said that the installation of ultrasound and spirometer machines was a long-pending demand of patients who come from far off places to avail the specialized treatment methodologies of Unani system of medicine.

He said that patients suffering from gastrointestinal, renal and liver disorders or chronic lung diseases can now avail diagnostic facilities at the hospital on nominal charges..

Dr Singh thanked Secretary to the Government Health and



Medical Education Department Bhopinder Kumar under whose regular monitoring the Ayush Sector is achieving new heights with regard to patient care in the UT.

He advised the Unani medical officers to further promote Unani treatment among people. He emphasised lifestyle management, and treatment of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) by utilizing the principles and practices of age-old Ayush systems.

Construction Of
‘WDS’ In Eco-Fragile
Zone Raises Eyebrows

Syed Mohammad Burhan

SRINAGAR: The construction of an alleged “waste disposal structure” at Kijpora, Kangan by the Rural Development Department has left at least two government departments up in arms against the RDD.

The alleged “waste disposal structure” that is coming up near the Environment park in the environmentally fragile zone has raised alarm bells among locals and environmentalists.

On 3rd March, 2023, the Department of Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing Office of the Mass Media Officer, Srinagar vide letter No: NMO/DEE/22-23/1064 has written to the block Development Officer, Kangan that the dumping of solid waste is going on unabated on the rear side of Environment park which is resulting in inconvenience to visitors besides adding to the dog menace.

“It is requested that dumping of solid waste be stopped forthwith as it is endangering the fragile ecosystem of the park and Sindh River. Early action is solicited” the letter states.

In another letter, the Executive Engineer Irrigation & Flood Control Division, Gandarbal on 3rd March, 2023 has written to the Assistant Commissioner Development vide letter no: IFCD/GBL/7204-11 that the Rural Development Department, Kangan have started the construction of



Waste Disposal Structure at Kijpora without seeking NOC from this Department.

“The said construction is being carried out 137m away from present water course of Sindh Nallah and is 42m away from present water course of Wangath Nallah”

“It is requested to direct the concerned Block Development Officer (BDO) to stop the work till proper demarcation is received till subsequent report is received from the concerned quarters” the letter reads.

However, the concerned BDO said that he has received no such letters and negated the claims that the Department was constructing a “waste disposal structure.”

Speaking to Kashmir Observer, BDO Kangan Mohamad Arif denied the claims and said the land on which the construction is carried out is far away from the concerned tehsildar has provided

the land extracts as well.

“Streams flow across Kangan. Does that mean we don’t have to construct anything. We don’t carry out any construction work until we get a nod from the Revenue Department” Arif said.

“We as a society are used to polluting water bodies, if you travel across Sindh, you will find trash all along the way. If we are taking steps to curb the menace, why are some people getting annoyed”

Arif further said that people think that we are constructing a dumping site, which is not the case.

“We are constructing a Segregation Shed in order to stop illegal dumping of waste. The Shed will host machines which will help in the scientific disposal of waste.

“This is not a waste disposal site.” He clarified.

“In order to clear the dumping site, we are constructing this structure” he added.



Excavation Of Khellani Tunnel's
1st Tube In Doda Completed

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd (NHIDCL) has completed the excavation of the first tube of the strategic Khellani tunnel along NH 244, an alternative road connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country.

The work on the 1.574 km tunnel, which is crucial for the Sudhmahadev- Goha Khallani Chhatroo Khanabal highway project, started on March 25, 2021, to provide alternative all-weather connectivity and shorten the distance between Doda and Kishtwar districts by 30 km, an official said.

“The breakthrough on the Khellani project was achieved on February 24 but because of the loose strata, we are in the process of stabilising it. Within another 10 days, the work will be completed and in the next 7 to 8 months, this tunnel will be made motorable,” senior site engineer, NHIDCL, Harjeet Singh told PTI.

He said the work on the second tube is also going on at a brisk pace and if everything goes as planned, the breakthrough is expected by April-end.

The Khellani tunnel, constructed at a cost of Rs 431.28 crore, will bypass the slide-prone Batote-Pul Doda which has already been declared “unsafe” due to the reservoir of Baglihar hydroelectric project.

In 2008, around half a-kilometre patch of the highway between Batote and Pul Doda washed away due to capillary

action caused by Baglihar pondage, the officials said.

The management staff of APCO Infra-Tech Private Limited, which is the contractor of the Khellani tunnel project, are also positive to complete the construction of the tunnel in time after the breakthrough of one of the twin tubes of the tunnel.

“We started the work on this tunnel in March 2021 and we have completed above 85 per cent of the work and have already successfully made the breakthrough of the 1st tube. There are maximum chances that we will complete the work within time,” Assistant General Manager, Khellani Tunnel Project, Vinay Kumar Singh said.

He said the road has been planned to reduce the travelling time for the inhabitants of the Doda and Kishtwar districts and boost the economy of the area besides providing an alternate all-weather road between Jammu and Srinagar.

Doda district Vice President of BJP, Sanjay Saraf credited the local member parliament and Union Minister Jitendra Singh for his efforts in sanctioning and fast-tracking the work on the project.

“This road will change the fortunes of the people of Doda and Kishtwar as the tourism industry emerging as the mainstay of the economy of the region will surely get a major boost because visitors no longer will be compelled to ply on a dangerous and treacherous road, instead they can enjoy the shorter and safer journey,” Saraf said.

NON-PAYMENT OF ELECTRICITY BILL

Power Supply To 5 Govt
Offices, Dak Bungalow
In Rajouri Snapped

Agencies

RAJOURI: Power Distribution Corporation Limited (PDCL) Jammu Saturday disconnected a number of electricity connections of five government offices, Dak Bungalow besides few shops and residential houses.

Officials said that over pendency of normal bills, defaulters are issued notices for submission of payment.

They said that a special team of department on Saturday carried out drive in Rajouri town areas and electricity connections of chronic defaulters, including Government departments, have been disconnected with immediate effect.

The government offices where connections of electricity have been disconnected include the office of executive engineer of public works department, office of superintendent engineer of public works department, office of assistant executive engineer of public works department, store complex of public works department, office of assistant labor commissioner Rajouri, industrial training institute complex.

Alongside, the electricity connection of central dak bungalow Rajouri that comes under control of public works department has also been disconnected with immediate effect.

Besides these offices electricity connections of residential complexes of executive engineer public works department, superintendent engineer public works department, assistant executive engineer public works department and five residential quarters of public works department complex have also been disconnected.

The team also came hard on a number of private defaulters and disconnected their connections.

These private establishments where connections have been removed include two medical shops, a tea stall and a Photostat shop in Gujar Mandi market of Rajouri town, three shops and house of Sarpanch, four shops and a house near sports stadium Kheora.

Officials said that electricity connections have been snapped as these defaulters, including Government offices were not paying any concern on the repeated notices—(KNO)

EPFO Making All-Out Efforts To Publicize Process Of Joint Option

Observer News Service

NEW DELHI: The online joint (employee and employer) option form with the necessary documents has been hosted by EPFO in the unified portal for contributing on higher salary to the EPS-95. The form paves the way for giving effect to the SC order dated 04.11.2022, while adhering to the basic scheme provisions. More than 8,000 members have already applied online as on date

though the submission deadline is 03rd May, 2023.

Since, the contributions of both the employee and employer on higher wages are involved, the EPF and EPS-95 schemes require the joint request when they contribute on higher salary. This is not a new requirement and predates the EPS-95 and the position has been affirmed by SC in the RC Gupta case stating that it is a necessary pre-cursor for exercising joint option on higher salary under EPS.

The circular dated 20th February 2023 adheres to the provisions of the Scheme and complies with the Supreme Court orders. The correct assessment of contributions and their deposit and diversion to Pension Fund, the past services rendered and the remittances made are necessary for correct calculation of the benefits and valuation of the Pension Fund. The EPFO closed the options on 4th of March 2023 for the retired EPS members (prior to 01.09.2014 and whose

options were not considered earlier). It has received 91,258 online applications from this category of employees as on 04.03.2023.

EPFO has been making all-out efforts to publicize the process of joint option which can be submitted online till 03rd May, 2023. In respect of persons who were EPF members as on 01.09.2014, The online applications are being preferred by the employees since 27th February, 2023 and already 8,897 members have applied to their employers.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Notice Inviting E-Tenders-NIT No. 52 of 2022-23

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jand K U.T, e-tenders on percentage basis are invited in Single cover system from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K.U.T Govt. for the following works:-

S. NO.	NAME OF WORK	Estt Cost (Rs in lacs)	Earnest Money (EMD) Rs	Time for completion	Class of Contract	Cost of Tender document (Rs)	Major Head of Account	Tender opening authority
1	Silt clearance of Veervar Zamindari Khul from RD 9000-10500 mtrs , at spots	0.50	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
2	Silt clearance of Eidgh branch of Veervar Zamindari Khul from RD 0-1500 mtrs at spots	0.50	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
3	Silt clearance of Ara Khul Sallar from RD 0-1500 mtrs at spots	0.30	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
4	Silt clearance of Gorivan branch of Veervar Zamindari Khul from RD 0-1500 mtrs at spots	0.30	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
5	Silt clearance/Deepening of Wullarhama L.T.S Khul from RD 600-1200 mtrs at spots	0.30	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
6	Silt clearance of Pethan Zamindari Khul from RD 0-3800 mtrs at spots	0.30	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
7	Repairs /restoration of Wohan Canal Right Veervar Zamindari Khul and Pethan Zamindari Khul by way of Construction of diversion Bund , removal of Bed material and laying of crates	2.41	5000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
8	Silt clearance of Yenner zamindari Khul from RD 0-2500 mtrs at spots	0.42	1000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
9	Silt clearance from main Dehgam Bringi Canal from R.D 2500m to 5600 mts at spots	0.70	2000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
10	Restoration of supply channel of sunder kull (Augmentation channel of Brengi canal), Dawuk ladihi Gohan, shaji Kull and Valloo ladihi.	0.74	2000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
11	Removal of load deposition on Shah Ist and lailan Ist canals at spots from RD 0-2500 mtrs.	0.84	2000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
12	Removal of load deposition check ladi RD 0-4000 mtrs at spots	0.62	2000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
13	Silt clearance of Munniwar ladi from RD 2500 to 3800m & its branches viz marag ladihi and Guran ladi from RD 0 to 850m including C/o Cross Bund and Supply Channel	1.62	4000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
14	Silt clearance of Munirwar ladi from RD 225-2500 mtrs including construction of Lining wall near breached spots at RD 1720 - 2440 mtrs	2.49	5000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag
15	Removal of Silt load deposited on Pranigam Ladihi and Dalwach Ladihi at spots	1.27	3000/=	3 Days	DEE	200	2702 M&R	Ex.Engineer, ID Anantnag

1.

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information , eligibility criteria , specifications , bill of quantities (BOQ) set to terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from :-

2.

1.	Publishing date	01.03.2023	02.00 PM
2.	Download Date Starts	01.03.2023	02.00 PM
3.	BID Submission Date Starts	01.03.2023	02.00 PM
4.	BID Submission Date Ends	13.03.2023	06.00 PM
5.	Date of opening of tenders	14.03.2023	10:00 AM

3.

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in and The bids uploaded shall be opened online on above mentioned date by the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag in presence of the bidders who may wish to be present. In case of holiday or office happening to be closed on the basis of opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

1.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies (on 100dpi) of all necessary documents like Cost of Tender document in the form of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Anantnag / latest GST clearance certificate / Registration card duly renewed along with Verification/BID Security in the form of EMD as per above. After opening of tenders online, the 1st lowest bidder shall be asked to deposit the CDR/FDR (2% Uploaded at the time of Uploading of Bid and rest 1% before the issuance of Allotment Order) pledged to tender receiving authority and other documents in original. The CDR/ FDR and other documents in original shall be deposited within two Days positively after opening of tenders. The EMD in the shape of CDR/FDR of the successful bidder will be retained as performance security deposit till expiry of defect liability period, whereas the EMD of unsuccessful bidders will be returned latest by 30 days after award of the contract. The check list of documents for cover 1st is attached with the NIT & bidders are advised to recheck the uploaded documents as per the Check list.

2.

In case the bid of the bidder is unbalanced, the bidder has to upload additional performance security deposit in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG as per the breakup given below failing which the tender shall be rejected. The date of CDR/FDR/BG should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.

3.

S.No	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz. Quoted percentage on BOQ.	Additional Performance Security
01.	Upto and Including 15% Below	Nil
02.	> 15% upto and including 20% Below	5% of Advertised Cost
03.	> 20 % upto and including 25% Below	10 % of Advertised Cost
04.	> 25% upto and including 30% Below	15 % of Advertised Cost
05.	> 30 % Below	20 % of Advertised Cost

4.

Contractor / Bidder who fails to submit the CDR/FDR / Treasury Challans as required, there EMD will be forfeited, besides they will be barred/prohibited from participating in the Tendering process for a period of Six Months (06 Months) in the first instance. Their online uploaded tenders will not be considered for the said period.

5.

Contractor who shall be allotted the work has to start the work within the stipulated time period after the date of allotment as the works are of very important nature.

6.

The department shall not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids due to any reason what so ever.

7.

The tenders shall remain valid for 90 days.(Ninety Days)

8.

As soon as the contract is fixed with the successful bidder, he has to enter into an agreement with the department.

Remittance Head-0702

Position of AAA:- (i) Accorded Vide AA No.347 -DB- of 2023. Dated 11-02-2023. Issued vide No. SE/Hyd/DB/AA/ 11976-77. Dated 11-02-2023.

Position of TS. (i) Accorded vide TS NO: 27-DB- of 2022-23.Dated 16-02-2023. Issued vide No.IDA/ 7426. Dated 16-02-2023.

Position of Funds:- Budgetary Provisions.23-24

No.IDA/8005-27

Dated:- 28-02-2023

DPK-18276-22

DT: 04-03-2023

Executive Engineer,
Irrigation Division Anantnag



THE UP VANTAGE



₹5001 crore & above

103 MoUs

₹2001-₹5,000 crore

100 MoUs

₹501-₹2,000 crore

359 MoUs

₹201-₹500 crore

595 MoUs

₹51-₹200 crore

1369 MoUs

Up to ₹50 crore

16724 MoUs

“Along with infrastructure, UP has changed its 'Soch and Approach' for ease of doing business. It is driving the growth of New India. From electricity to connectivity, there has been improvement in every field. The state is witnessing holistic development”

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

₹34+
lakh crore
intended
investments

19250
MoUs signed

94+
lakh Job
Opportunities

UP & SINGAPORE STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC TIES BEYOND GIS 2023



Singapore & Uttar Pradesh to cooperate in urban development, sustainable development industry and skill development

Singapore and its companies are enthusiastic about enhancing economic cooperation with the state through increasing investment in different sectors. In this series, the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry has signed an MoU with the UP government for the first time, which is in addition to the deals signed at the UPGIS. Under the agreement, the governments of Singapore and Uttar Pradesh will cooperate in areas of mutual interest such as urban development, sustainable development industry, and skill

21 COMPANIES AND 58 DELEGATES PARTICIPATE IN UPGIS

It is worth mentioning that 21 Singaporean companies and 58 delegates participated in the UPGIS held in Lucknow from February 10 to 12.

development. This collaboration will enable Singapore and its companies to better understand Uttar Pradesh and showcase their expertise. This cooperation between UP and Singapore has been identified in 5 major areas. Under this, a pilot project for urban development is slated to be implemented in Kudha Keshavpur, Ayodhya, to demonstrate the efficacy of smart water technologies in enhancing UP's water sustainability. Whereas,

Sustainable Industrial Park, upgradation and digitization of MSMEs, content development, pedagogy training, certification as well as training of civil servants and government officials are also included.

JOINT PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE
A Joint Partnership Committee (JPC) is being constituted for planning, monitoring, implementation and review of cooperative activities of the

MoU. The JPC will comprise senior officials from Singapore and Uttar Pradesh with expertise in the respective fields. JPC will mutually decide whether they need other agencies for better management under the MoU. This JPC will submit regular progress reports to the Permanent Secretary (Development) of the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Singapore as well as the Chief Secretary of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

6 COMPANIES SIGN MoUs

- Global Schools Foundation operates K-12 schools in India under Global Indian International Schools (GIIS). One of these is also in Noida, Uttar Pradesh. Now the foundation aims to open its school campuses in other cities of the state. This foundation is a non profit education institution which provides skill based education to the students in different curriculum.

- Venture Capitalist Golden State Capital has also signed MoU for investment in UP. This venture is active in the United States and Asia. The firm is looking forward to building a data center facility in Greater Noida, UP.

- Singapore's furniture company Sam & Sara Holdings will also invest in UP. The company is already providing a manufacturing and warehousing facility in

Moradabad, UP, but now the company aims to start a Furniture Training Institute in UP.

- SATS Ltd. is eager to start its second food production facility in Uttar Pradesh. SATS LTD is a leading provider of food solutions and is also known for its gateway services in Asia. In India, the company provides inflight catering in association with Taj Hotels, while working with Air India in ground and cargo holding. SATS Food Solutions India will soon be opening a Central Frozen Food Production Plant in Bengaluru.

- VANS Chemistry has entered into an MoU to set up an e-waste collection and pre-dismantling center in Greater Noida, UP. This will be the main center of the company in North India. VANS Chemistry is an e-waste management service provider that acts as a one stop solution.

- Singapore's Transworld Group company Transworld Terminals Pvt. Ltd. will expand its services in Uttar Pradesh. The company is about to start a multi-purpose warehouse facility in Greater Noida, UP. The company provides container freight stations, warehousing and distribution as well as end to end logistics facilities in India.



“Uttar Pradesh has attracted investment proposals worth more than ₹34 lakh crore through the UP Global Investors Summit 2023. We got the cooperation of Indian missions abroad, ambassadors, high commissioners, as well as business and industrial organisations. With positive cooperation, we hope to achieve the target of \$ 1 trillion economy of Uttar Pradesh”

Yogi Adityanath
Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

TEAM YOGI IS READY TO IMPLEMENT MoUs

The Uttar Pradesh government is bracing to implement investment proposals of more than ₹34 lakh crore. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has instructed to set up investment implementation units in all 75 districts of the state and hold ground-breaking ceremony to implement the proposals within the next six months. A secretary level officer would head the investment implementations . The state government has directed to track status of every MoU

and review at regular intervals . A nodal officer will be nominated for every MoU and a call centre would also be set up to help and meet the needs of foreign investors.

The UP government has also decided to appoint 'Udyami Mitra ' for speedy implementation of the signed MoU's. The Udyami Mitras will be appointed by Invest UP under the Mukhya Mantri Udyami Mitra Yojana These Udyami Mitras will contact investors, listen to their problems, get them

solved and explain to them in detail about the facilities available to them.

As many as 105 Udyami Mitras will be appointed on a one-year contract in the first phase, 70 of these posts will be for the districts, 10 for the Invest UP office and headquarters and 25 posts for working with various industrial development authorities.

They will be given honorarium and allowances of ₹70,000 per month each. Notably, 29 MoUs worth ₹2.80 lakh crore have been

signed with PSUs and the investors are ready to work on them immediately. Top priority is being given to implement 99 MoUs of investments worth ₹2.45 lakh crore on public private partnership (PPP) model. Another 34 proposals involving investments of ₹3.90 lakh crore of various schemes are to be implemented in the next two years. A total of 782 proposals involving an investment of ₹4.11 lakh crore are from big industrial houses.

UP'S RELIGIOUS SITES GET IMPRESSIVE INVESTMENTS

The religious and spiritual centres of UP, have received investments of ₹ 4.14 lakh crore during the UP Global Investors Summit. These have been received under various sectors such as tourism, hotels, logistics, education and will generate 4.35 lakh employment opportunities.

Varanasi is leading the list which has received the maximum 434 MoU's worth ₹ 1.37 lakh crore. Employment for 1.35 lakh people will be opened up through this. Ayodhya, has got investment of ₹ 45,402 crore. This will generate employment for 53,472 people. Next in line is the Vrindyanchal Dham of Mathura. The Danish government will set up a Smart River Laboratory in Varanasi to monitor the cleaning of river Ganga. This MoU was signed between Dan Jørgensen, Minister of Denmark, and Swatantra Dev Singh, Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of Uttar Pradesh.



RIVER LABORATORY IN VARANASI

In the Global Investors Summit 2023, an MoU worth ₹1000 crore has been signed between the Government of Denmark and the Government of Uttar Pradesh regarding the cleaning of Ganga and its tributary river Varuna. The Danish government will set up a Smart River Laboratory in Varanasi to monitor the cleaning of river Ganga. This MoU was signed between Dan Jørgensen, Minister of Denmark, and Swatantra Dev Singh, Minister of Jal Shakti, Government of Uttar Pradesh.

A MILESTONE IN UAE-UP RELATIONS

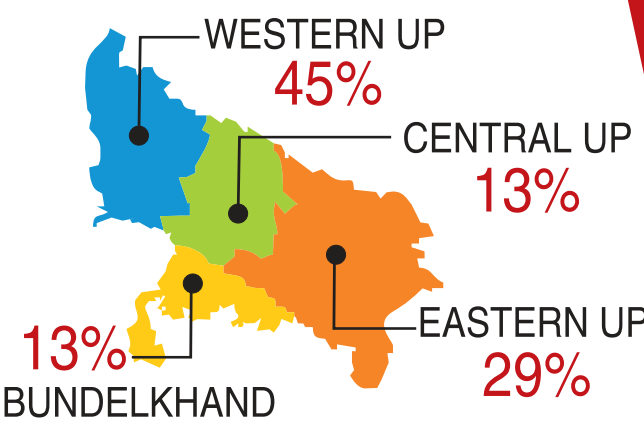
- UP links MoUs worth thousands of crores of rupees with Lulu Mall and Elana Group
- Products of Self Help Group (SHGs) will also be available in Lulu Malls

Apart from traditional investments in Uttar Pradesh, focus is on new and emerging sectors. These include defence, space, food processing, agriculture processing, climate, drone technology, logistics and many other areas. In this series, some UAE companies are going to set up food parks in Uttar Pradesh.

UK TO INVEST IN DEFENCE, AEROSPACE AND MEDICAL SECTORS

The United Kingdom will be making huge investments in defence and aerospace as well as medical sectors in Uttar Pradesh. Defence and aerospace is top priority among the 25 sectors identified to give a flight to the development to the state. At the same time, the state government has also issued its own policy regarding defence and aerospace so that the state can emerge as a hub in this sector.

REGION-WISE INVESTMENT BREAK UP



INVESTORS IMPRESSED BY START-UPS

The words of Canadian author Bob Proctor 'It all starts with an idea' came alive at the UP Global Investors Summit as more than 450 Uttar Pradesh-based start-ups set up their kiosks at the event venue and left the investors impressed with their business pitch. A few of the start-up ideas that caught everyone's attention

EMPLOYING HOMEMAKERS THROUGH CLOUD KITCHEN
Set-up with an aim to employ homemakers and provide home-cooked food to the working class, a Lucknow-based start-up, 'Ridlo', is delivering food prepared by homemakers to office-goers. The home-

cooked food is also delivered to events. The per plate cost, inclusive of delivery charges is relatively cheaper from Zomato and Swiggy.. **SHAKE YOUR PHONE THRICE TO GET HELP**
Aimed at ensuring women safety, the Laadli app is an emergency response application. Yet to be launched app helps a woman contact loved ones and police outposts in emergencies. In case, a woman feels threatened, she can just shake the phone back-and-forth thrice. The act will send a notification to the contacts whose details will be entered into the app by the user. It also has a video feature which begins to film

ongoing activities once activated. This video is sent to users' chosen contacts and law enforcement authorities. **MAKE A 'THUNDEROUS IMPRESSION WITH DESI SUPERCAR**
If you're into supercars, three youngsters from Uttar Pradesh have manufactured a relatively pocket-friendly but equally striking option for you. They have made a 'Desi' super car with premium features. Manufactured after four years of toil and research, the super car named 'Thunder' runs on electricity. It has all the features offered by big supercar brands.

“Uttar Pradesh has a stable and decision-making government. In achieving the goal of making India a \$ 5 trillion economy, the state has resolved to make itself a \$ 1 trillion-economy. Uttar Pradesh is now capable and ready to play the role of growth engine of new India.”

Droupadi Murmu
President

6 With Project Vistaar, we look at creating an ecosystem of diversity, inclusivity & sustainability in Uttar Pradesh, along with fostering social uplift. **ANOOP KUMAR TRIVEDI MD, TATA BLUESCOPE STEEL**



6 We are committed to investing Rs 2,032 cr through nine projects in UP. We are also confident that our group will set benchmark as we will offer the best standards and quality in industry **KHALID MASOOD DIRECTOR, SHALIMAR CORP**



6 European Investment Bank will increase investment significantly from existing 1.5 billion Euro to 3 billion Euro. EIB has financed Lucknow Metro and is also giving financial aid to Agra and Kanpur Metro projects **KRIS PEETERS VICE PRESIDENT, EIB**



6 We opened first hypermarket & mall in Lucknow last year. We have a special ODOOP section in hypermarket. We have signed an MoU with UP govt to promote ODOOP products across the country **ANANTH RAM DIRECTOR, LULU GROUP**



6 We appreciate the right ecosystem given IT & ITES in Uttar Pradesh. We also look forward to the new IT policy, which seems to be enabling the right environment for future generations **RAHUL SINGH COO, HCL TECH**



I am thankful to PM Narendra Modi and CM Yogi Adityanath for positive changes which have motivated businesses. I have grown up in this city. For me, the two MoUs, for expansion of ADROSONIC and setting up a digital innovation lab, is rather an emotional investment to show gratitude to my home state **MAYANK CEO & MD, ADROSONIC**



MEERUT DIVISION GETS MAXIMUM PROPOSALS LUCKNOW, AGRA, JHANSI & VARANASI ARE THE TOP 5 DIVISIONS

The Uttar Pradesh Global Investors Summit, has proved to be more encouraging for many divisions in the state . In terms of investment, Meerut, Lucknow, Agra, Jhansi and Varanasi are among the top five divisions of Uttar Pradesh respectively. Division-wise, Meerut division has received maximum investment of ₹9,85,566 crores, followed by ₹2,91,468 crores in Lucknow, ₹2,60,947 crores in Agra, ₹2,18,498 crores in Jhansi, ₹1,96,632 crores in Varanasi, ₹1,78,285 crores in Gorakhpur, ₹1,39,671 in Mirzapur, ₹1,28,040 crore in Bareilly, ₹96,367 crore in Chitrakoot, ₹80,607 crore in Kanpur, ₹77,547 crore in Ayodhya, ₹67,563 crore in Prayagraj, ₹67,467 crore in Aligarh, ₹44,704 crore in Moradabad and ₹20,101 crore in Saharanpur divisions. The state has received investment

proposals of ₹19,250 crore in Basti division, ₹10,593 crore in Devidatan and ₹6,648 crore in Azamgarh divisions. Apart from this, investment proposals amounting to ₹4,58,648 crore have been made for various areas of the state, which have not been classified division-wise. The developing areas of Bundelkhand and Purvanchal, have outshined other regions in terms of receiving investment. Jhansi division and Chitrakoot division falling under the Bundelkhand region have attracted many of the investors. While the Jhansi division is in the top five in terms of investment proposals, the Chitrakoot division is included in the top ten. Similarly, in the Purvanchal region, the Varanasi division is at fifth position and the Gorakhpur division is at number six at state level.

RAMPUR, AZAMGARH TO BECOME INDUSTRIAL TOWNS

₹2548
CRORE IN AZAMGARH
₹4807
CRORE IN RAMPUR
By carrying out development in the cities of Azamgarh and Rampur, the state government has succeeded in bringing investments to the two districts through UPGIS 23.

A new identity has been given to these districts that were once known for rampant crime and riots. The state has received investments proposals worth ₹2548 crores in Azamgarh, ₹4807 crores in Rampur providing thousands of job opportunities to the youth especially of these districts.

HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR TO CREATE OVER 7 L JOBS MoUs OF ₹2,57,922 CRORE

Pt. Vasudev Tiwari Skill University to invest ₹40,000 crore

The UP Global Investors' Summit has opened doors to new possibilities in every sector including education. This will play a pivotal role in fulfilling the Yogi government's resolve of providing quality education and generating employment opportunities for the youth. 64 MoUs worth ₹2,57,922 crore have been received in higher education sector, which will provide employment to more than 7.82 lakh youths. It is noteworthy that Uttar Pradesh has the highest number of youths in the country. Owing to the government's sustained efforts to create an investment-friendly environment in the state, various well-known organizations have also shown keen interest in joining UP in its growth journey. Pandit Vasudev Tiwari Skill University is also to invest ₹40,000 crore in Jhansi. More than 5000 youths of Bundelkhand, will be connected with new employment opportunities through only one institution. At the same time, RPM Group has also expressed the desire to set up RPM University providing 1200 employment opportunities by investing ₹500 crores.

In current times, inflation is a burning global issue. The main reasons (at global level) being geopolitical crisis, supply-chain disruptions, trade sanctions, erratic exchange rates and the aftermath effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inflation is dangerous because it directly affects the standard of living of the people. These days, all the economies of the world—underdeveloped, developing and developed nations—suffer from inflation.

Inflation, in simplest terms, can be defined as the increase in the prices of most goods and services (of common use) over a given period of time. It measures the average price change in a basket of goods and services over a given period of time. Due to inflation, the purchasing power of a currency unit decreases as goods and services get expensive and this decreasing purchasing power of the currency directly affects the cost of living of the people and their spending and buying habits.

For instance, you bought a list of household essentials last month at an expense of Rs. 2,000 but this month, the price of a certain food item in the same list has risen and that has led to an increase in the cost to (say) Rs. 2100. Now, you have two choices: either you may be forced to reduce an item from your buying list or buy the same list of goods by paying an extra amount of Rs 100. This extra Rs. 100, which you pay for the same list of goods is due to inflation. In every country inflation is measured by a central authority and in India, inflation is measured by “The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation”.

How is Inflation measured?

In India, the inflation rates can be measured at three levels: producer, wholesaler and retailer (consumer). Prices generally rise at each level till the commodity finally reaches the hand of the consumer. These are described very briefly below:

Consumer Price Index (CPI): It is an index measuring retail inflation in the economy by collecting the change in prices of most common goods and services used by consumers. CPI is based on 260 commodities, but it includes certain services too. CPI is also called a market basket; it is calculated for a fixed list of items including food, housing, apparel, transportation, electronics, medical care, education, etc. The base Year for CPI is 2012. This index is used to calculate the Dearness Allowance (DA) for government employees. In India, there are four consumer price index numbers, which are calculated, and these are as follows: CPI for Industrial Workers (CPI-IW), CPI for Agricultural Laborers (CPI-AL), CPI for Rural Laborers (CPI-RL) and CPI (Rural/ Urban/ Combined).

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI): This is the most popular inflation rate calculation methodology in India. The index used to calculate wholesale inflation is known as ‘Wholesale Price Index’. This method measures the average change in prices of goods at the wholesale level. This inflation rate is often known as headline inflation. It shows the combined price of a commodity basket comprising 676 items. WPI (2011-12) reckons only basic prices and does not include taxes, rebate/ trade discounts, transport and other charges. The new series of WPI with base 2011-12 is effective from April 2017.

Inflation: A Global Burning Issue

Mohd. Rafi Hajam



Causes of Inflation

There are two types of factors that can cause inflation in an economy. They are Demand Pull Inflation (DPI) and Cost Push Inflation (CPI). DPI factors include the rise in population, increase in money supply, black money, rise in income, excessive government expenditure etc., while as CPI factors include the increase in production costs, rise in Minimum Support Price (MSP), rise in international prices, hoarding and black marketing, rise in indirect taxes etc.

Rising prices are a cause of concern not only for our country but also for the world at large, as the price rise over time reduces the purchasing power of the consumer.

Looking at the data on inflation rates released last month (12th January, 2023), the National Statistical Office (NSO) reported that the country's retail inflation, which is measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), dropped to a 1-year low of 5.72% in December 2022 from 5.88% in November, 2022. This year, on 16th January, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry reported that the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), which calculates the overall

Therefore, the best way to beat inflation is to invest money in such avenues in which there is a possibility of getting returns equal to or more than the inflation rate. Additionally, keeping an eye over monthly released inflation figures apprises us of the current state of our currency

prices of goods selling at wholesale prices, hit a 22-month low of 4.95% in Dec'2022, from 5.85% in Nov'2022. This is for the first time in the calendar year-2022 that the CPI inflation hit below the RBI's upper margin of 6%.

Decline in the rate of inflation in December, 2022 is primarily contributed to the fall in prices of food articles, mineral oils, crude petroleum and natural gas, food products, textiles and chemicals & chemical products. However, major economies of the world—like the USA, the UK and other European countries—observed hikes in the inflation rates due to the Russia-Ukraine war. CPI inflation reached historically high levels in the US at 8.6%, at 9.1% in the UK and at 7.9% in Germany in May 2022. In Japan, where CPI inflation often remains negative, it increased to 2.4%. In comparison to these nations, India's inflation rate was the lowest because of the timely steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India.

At the global level, Zimbabwe (269.0%), Lebanon (162.0%), Venezuela (156.0%) and Syria (139.0%) have the highest rates of inflation in the world, as per the records/ data of October 2022. Overall, the data further indicated that more than 100 countries have inflation higher than India. Among the major economies in Asia, inflation in Sri Lanka stood at 64.30%. Iran, Pakistan, Kazakhstan and Myanmar had inflation of 52.20%, 26.6%, 18.8 %, and 16.1%, respectively, in October 2022.

The heat of increasing inflation is not only felt by the economy at large, but also by the individuals; i.e., by the consumers who resort to savings from their earnings. Inflation, however, silently enters our pockets and eats up the hard-earned monetary wealth saved with different motives.

Inflation is not always a bad thing; instead, inflation at a moderate level is desired in the economies, especially in developing countries like India. Uncontrolled and unchecked inflation can ruin the whole economy. Therefore, the responsibility for the government, policy makers, politicians and economists is to protect and safeguard the common man from the rising prices. Both the central government and the central bank (Reserve Bank) should try to tackle inflation with their policies which are known as Fiscal and Monetary Policies respectively.

Inflation is increasing day by day. It is obvious that the rate of inflation in the next 10 to 15 years will be much higher than today. Therefore, the best way to beat inflation is to invest money in such avenues in which there is a possibility of getting returns equal to or more than the inflation rate. Additionally, keeping an eye over monthly released inflation figures apprises us of the current state of our currency. It is always a prudent decision to plan spending and investment as per inflation rates. Since inflation is a macroeconomic phenomenon with an impact at the micro level, therefore taking decisions judiciously at the micro level can help to restrict the inflation at the macro level.

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

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Time To Abandon Colonial Geography

Zafar Bangash

For instance, most people are familiar with such expressions as the ‘Middle East’ or ‘Far East’. The question that immediately comes to mind is, ‘middle’ or ‘far’ from where? In other words, what is the starting point that is used to designate a particular name for a region?

Colonialism has had a profoundly negative impact on victim societies in many different ways. From stealing their resources to imposing alien systems of education and languages on well-establish traditional societies, the colonial experience has been an unmitigated disaster.

Colonized people were taught to hate their culture, dress and local languages. Under colonial rule, they were forced to acquire western education to get a job in their own country. This necessitated learning the language of their colonial master whoever it happened to be. English, French, German, Dutch, Flemish (Belgium version of Dutch), Spanish or even Portuguese were imposed on colonized peoples.

Theoretically, colonialism has ended but it would be wrong to assume that the colonized states of Asia and Africa have achieved true independence. The elites in these societies have more in common with their colonial masters in Europe than their own impoverished masses. Many of these societies are also quite dependent on their former, or not so former colonial masters.

There is another area where colonialism, or more specifically British colonialism, has had a major impact on how the regions of the world have been named. For instance, most people are familiar with such expressions as the ‘Middle East’ or ‘Far East’. The question that immediately comes to mind is, ‘middle’ or ‘far’ from where? In other words, what is the starting point that is used to designate a particular name for a region?

It would be immediately obvious that the starting point is assumed to be the tiny island of Britain, that pompously calls itself ‘great’ Britain. There is nothing great about it. In its hey days—the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries—it may have been a military power, primarily because of its naval strength, but today it does not rank even among the middle powers. Yet its disastrous legacy continues to plague the world.

Let us be clear, Britain is not the centre of the universe even if the British continue to believe in this myth. True, there is one area where the British enjoy an advantage. English is considered a universal language. No other language comes close, not even French, much to the chagrin of the haughty French.

The reason is simple. People of British origin settled (colonized) many parts of the world: North America, Australia, New Zealand and parts of Asia such as India and Malaysia, and Africa. That is quite



an achievement for people living in grime and hardly able to afford potatoes. In North America, Australia and New Zealand, they committed genocide of indigenous peoples. The North American settlement was predicated on another myth: that Christopher Columbus had ‘discovered’ America. He had done no such thing.

The North American continent was already populated by Indigenous peoples who had their own well-established culture. In fact, there is evidence from tablets found in the US bearing Arabic writings that prove Muslims had predated Columbus by many centuries.

The Indigenous peoples lived in harmony with nature, unlike the European settlers who have also caused irreparable damage to the environment. Had the European settlers not massacred the Indigenous peoples, the native population in North America would be nearly one billion strong. Through genocide, they have been reduced to a few million scattered on far-flung reservations.

Let us, however, return to the question of colonial language and how various regions have been named. Instead of the ‘Middle East’, it is more accurate to call it West Asia. We already have Central Asia, the region that is also called Eurasia. Instead

of the Far East, it should be called by its proper name, Southeast Asia.

Let us reverse the equation. Suppose we take the heartland of the Muslim world as the centre of the world. It is not an unreasonable assumption. Based on this, North America would be called the ‘Far West’, Europe as the ‘Middle West’ and tiny England, which is so insignificant, it would not even merit a mention. Australia and New Zealand would be called ‘Far South’.

How is that for rearranging the world's geographical language and paying the colonialists back in their own coin? It is time for the rest of the world, especially the Muslims to abandon the political geography of colonialism and use more accurate expressions to describe the various regions of the world. Asia is the world's largest continent. It should assert itself more forcefully. A good starting point would be to refer to the various regions of the world by a more accurate designation.

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

“Two recent works from MANUU and Kashmir narrate and describe the history of Islamic studies subject at GLocal level, concise but comprehensively”

Back in 1990, Prof. Syed Maqbool Ahmad (in an Urdu quarterly, ‘Islam aur Asr-e Jadid’, 22, 1: 5-18, pp. 6, 16) wrote: “Islamic Studies, as a subject dealing with the study of Islamic history, culture and civilization, is not a new discipline”; “its name is new”, but the not the subject itself and the contents it covers, because “the discipline is as old as Orientalism itself.” Orientalism, literally the study of the Orient/ East, is here taken specifically to mean the study of Islam and Muslims. This is the general conception of the discipline, which has passed through different stages/ phases before it got this specific name, as become evident from many works, including Mapping Islamic Studies: Genealogy, Continuity and Change (Azim Nanji, 1997), Approaches to Islam in Religious Studies (Richard Martin, 2001) and Bloomsbury Companion to Islamic Studies (Clinton Bennett, 2013), to name a few: Orientalism, Theology, Religious Studies, Areas Studies and Islamic Studies. The concept of Islamic Studies as a social science discipline “has a long journey in contemporary world, having different meanings and perspectives in Arab world and in Western world”.

The history of Islamic Studies, both in the West and East, is centuries old. In the West, it has passed through different stages/ phases (beginning with Orientalism). In the East, including the Indian context, its history dates back, to speak from the academic/ teaching point of view, to the early decades of 20th century. Similarly, in J&K it was introduced from late 1980s.



BOOK-1

Title: Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future

Editor: Prof. Mohd. Fahim Akhtar

Publication Details: Hyderabad: Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU), August 2022; Pages: 184; ISBN: 978-93-95203-58-6; Paperback; Price: 225/-

It will not be unfair to add here that the history of subject is both ‘extensive and complex’. It has passed through different stages, and has transformed, especially in the past few decades, tremendously. Keeping in view the significance of the subject, its long history both in Western as well as in Eastern/ Arab world and considering the fact that it is subject of utmost importance in India too, so there have been many attempts to narrate and recount its journey. Though most of these attempts have been made by the Western scholars (like Nanji, Martin, Bennett and others) with a more focus on the evolution and development of this subject within the western perspective, there are few attempts by the Muslims of India too to recount the journey of this discipline, at global level in general and in the Indian context in particular. Two (2) such recent attempts are: Prof. Mohd. Fahim Akhtar’s Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future (published in August 2022) and Dr. Ashraf Amin’s Islamic Studies in Academia: Evolution, Approaches and Prospects (published in January 2023): Former is a compilation of

Mapping ‘Islamic Studies’ Discipline

Evolution, Advancement and Approaches

Tauseef Ahmad Parray

the selected papers presented in a two day national seminar organized by ‘Department of Islamic Studies’ (DoIS), MANUU and Henry Martin Institute, Hyderabad (HMI) on April 24-25, 2019, while as later attempts to put Islamic Studies as a social science discipline in the proper perspective by accounting and narrating its development in general and in Kashmir in particular, with the aim “at facilitating the understanding of Islamic Studies as a social science discipline and its current status in addition to its future prospects” (p.3).

The objective of the Seminar organized by DoIS, MANUU was “to elaborate and examine the achievements of Islamic Studies in recent past, and to chalk out the action plan for future.” In this seminar, a total of thirty-two (32) papers (both in Urdu and English) were presented by senior and young faculty members and researches of the subject—from Kashmir to Kolkata. Out of these, eighteen (18) papers have been compiled in Prof. Akhtar’s Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future, which are preceded by ‘Message’, ‘Preface’ and ‘Introductory Remarks’, respectively by the VC, Director of Translation and Publication Division, and HoD, DoIS, MANUU, and ends with Seminar Report (by Dr. M. Irfan Ahmad) and ‘Suggestions and Recommendations’ (by the senior and young paper presenters).

Compiled by Prof. Akhtar (Head, DoIS, MANUU), Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future consists of eighteen (18) chapters and are divided thematically under three (3) parts: Part-I, “Islamic Studies: Concept and History” (chapters 1-4); Part-II, “Institutions of Islamic Studies in India and their Contribution” (chapters 5-10); and Part-III, “Islamic Studies: Curriculum, Contemporary Relevance and Future (Prospects)” (chapters 11-18).

The main theme of the chapters 1 and 3 in part-I and chapters 11-15 in part-III is the discipline of Islamic Studies at the global and national level, its genesis and development in East and West, transitions and transformations of the subject from early stages to the current times as well as contemporary relevance, challenges, and future prospects of this discipline. Few chapters throw light on the journey of the subject from ‘Orientalism to Islamic Studies’ (chapter 3), contemporary issues/ trends in research to be explored in Islamic studies (chapter 12) and Chapters 2, 4 (in part-I), 5-10 (part-II) and 16-18 (part-III) discuss the teaching and research, curriculum and contribution of various departments/ institutes of Islamic Studies, spread throughout India (like Jamia Milia Islamia, Aligarh Muslim University, Aliah University, MANUU, Osmania University, Lucknow University), contribution of Zakir Husain Institute of Islamic Studies (JMI) and Islamic Studies through the Distance Education at MANUU as well as a general survey of the development of the subject in India, since 1920. Many chapters also provide comparative analysis and evaluation of the curriculum taught at various universities (chapter 17) as well as content analysis of selected courses like ‘Islam in India’ (chapter 16).

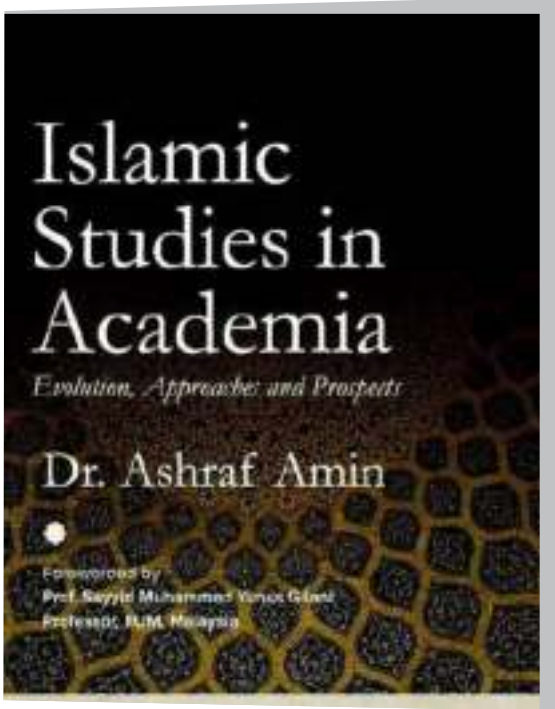
All in all, Islamic Studies: Concept, Present Scenario and Future is a valuable and significant contribution which will prove helpful to the students and researchers of Islamic studies not only to know genesis and genealogy of the subject at global level and in Indian context but also to know about the curriculum, teaching and research in this subject, while not overlooking its challenges and future prospects.

Dr. Ashraf Amin’s Islamic Studies in Academia (published in January 2023 by a local publishing house) attempts to account and narrate the history of Islamic Studies, as a social science discipline, in general and in Kashmir in particular and tries to put it in the proper perspective y referring to the genesis and genealogy of this subject from Western and Islamic perspective by looking at its present scenario and taking into consideration the future prospects as well (pp. xii, 3). In the Introduction (pp.1-4), the author (presently working as an Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Central University of Kashmir) presents the overall objective and purpose of this work in these words: the book attempts “to acquaint the readers to the discourse on Islam and Islamic Studies in the Western and Muslim scholarly circles. The work is not an exhaustive account of the historical journey of Islamic studies in Muslim and Western scholarship but ... [it does] not fail in offering a healthy overview of Islamic studies as an academic discipline in Western and Muslim academia till date.” (p. 3)

Divided into eight (8) chapters (excusing Introduction and Conclusion), preceded by Acknowledgements, Preface (pp. x-xii) and Introduction (pp. 1-4) and a Foreword (pp. vii-ix) by Prof. Sayyid Muhammad Yunus Gilani (presently at IUUM, Malaysia) and ends with Conclusion (pp. 97-101), Bibliography (pp. 105-110) and Appendix (pp. 111-146).

In his ‘Foreword’, Prof. Gilani (who is a pioneering figure in establishing Islamic Studies at Shah-i-Hamdan Institute of Islamic Studies (SHIIS), University of Kashmir in particular and in J&K in general, ‘Teacher of the Teachers’ in this field and has been aptly described by Dr Amin as “one of the unparalleled Islamic Studies scholars” [p. 113]) puts forth that “Islamic Studies is [an] all comprehensive and all-embracing discipline”, which “aims at overall personality building of an individual on Islamic

lines” for it is “a life-long process of study and development” (p. vii). He appreciates the efforts of Dr. Amin in these words: “the author discusses the fallacies of the Western scholarship in understanding Islam and Muslims; he has considerably deliberated



BOOK-2

Title: Islamic Studies in Academia: Evolution, Approaches and Prospects

Author: Dr. Ashraf Amin

Publication Details: Kulgam, Kashmir: Wular Publishing House (WPH), January, 2023; Pages: xii+146; ISBN: 978-93-90666-28-7; Paperback; Price: 350/-

upon the genesis of Islamic Studies within Islamic framework” and thus calls this book as a helpful reference guide in “understanding and comprehension of Islamic Studies as an academic discipline” (p. ix).

In its eight (8) chapters, the book throws light, albeit briefly, on the genesis ad genealogy, evolution and growth, methods and approaches, challenges and prospects of this discipline by discussing its ‘Nature, Origin, Definitions’, ‘Western’ and ‘Islamic’ contexts, Traditional and Modernist Approaches, place and position of Islamic studies as a social science subject, followed by three chapters on its place in Modern-day Academia, in Malaysian Seminaries and its history and growth in J&K. The

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All in all, both these works by Prof. Akhtar and Dr. Amin make a substantial contribution to the literature (in Urdu and English) on narrating and describing the history of the discipline of Islamic studies as a social science subject at the local, national and global levels

main points, arguments and historical facts vis-à-vis the concept and growth of Islamic studies as a multi/inter/trans-disciplinary social science subject are summarized below:

The field of Islamic Studies, which is often taken for-granted (resulting in misunderstanding it), emerged as a formal social science discipline in the West at the dawn of the modern era, but a lot has changed since then (p. xi);

The emergence of the modern academic study of Islam in the West was primarily associated with the Oriental Studies or Orientalism, which later on witnessed two major developments: ‘scientific study of the history of religion’ (or as a part of Religious Studies) and studying Islam/ Muslims as a social science subject under the ‘study of “other” cultures and peoples’, revealing that its boundaries were constantly being revised (pp. 8, 9);

The study of Islam and Muslims in the Western academy has a long and perplexed history (p. 19);

Western studies of Islam progressed from viewing it in the 12th century as a Christian heresy or a false religion to more systematic and disciplined approaches in the late 16th and 17th centuries (p. 24);

The contemporary approach of Western scholarship towards Orient, especially the Muslim Orient, would be labelled as ‘New Orientalism’ that views Islam and Muslims in terms of ‘anti-modernity and anti-democracy’ (p. 32);

In Islamic framework, Islamic Studies is a faith-based study of Islamic religious sciences intended to preserve Islam through approximate interpretations for posterity (p. 37);

There are two major trends in studying Islam, viz., ‘imperial prejudices’ and ‘systematic view’; and since the second half of 20th century, later has become ‘general trend’ (p. 43);

Public interest in Islam has increased dramatically in the first decade of 21st century, especially since the events of 9/11, which has powerfully affected the discipline of Islamic studies (pp. 74-75); and

Inter-disciplinary and trans-regional centres for the study of Islam and Muslims in modern world have been identified as key locations for the development of new approaches to Islamic studies (p.76).

This is followed by a chapter on “Islamic Studies in Jammu and Kashmir” (pp. 92-96) in which the author narrates the history of Islamic Studies as “one of the prime subjects in humanities and social sciences” which has seen an “increasing interest” among the students for its “multi-disciplinary nature” (p. 92). It provides a brief profile of the departments of Islamic Studies in a chronological order with a focus on their academic achievements since their inception, viz., SHIIS, University of Kashmir (KU; 1988), DoIS, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST; 2006), Department of Religious Studies (DoRS), Central University of Kashmir (CUK; 2017) and DoIS, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri (BGSBU; 2017). He describes these departments, respectively, as: SHIIS has “acted as pioneer in the progress and consolidation of Islamic studies in modern academia”; DoIS, IUST has “made a unique name in academics” by generating a “great atmosphere of learning and research”; DoRS, CUK is the “first of its type where religious understanding, religious literacy and Islamic sciences meet for a joint academic stride” and is “fine blend” of trans/inter/multi-disciplinary “approaches in religion and Islamic studies”; and DoIS, BGSBU, though youngest of all, has “outshined all other departments of Islamic studies in organizing seminars, workshops, conferences despite limited resources” (pp. 92, 93, 94, 95). However, one finds it surprising to note that the author has referred to the journal, Revelation (which is still in its infancy) published by DoRS, CUK but has ignored the SHIIS, KU’s annual journal Insight Islamicus—published since 2001 and indexed in London-based Index Islamicus. Also, surprising is the fact that in profiling these departments, he has focused on faculty members of SHIIS, KU while in others he has not mentioned the names of any faculty member and even date of establishment of the department is not mentioned in each case.

These chapters, most of them being brief, are followed by ‘Conclusion’ in which he tries to summarize overall history of the subject from Western and Muslim perspectives and concludes that “Islamic studies, as taught in the west, is a discipline that seeks to explain what the Islamic [read as Muslim] world has achieved in the past and what the future holds for it” (p. 102).

In the Appendix (pp. 111-146), he has provided academic profile of the a dozen faculty members of Islamic studies who have worked are and/or working in the universities of KU, IUST, CUK and BGSBU.

Though addressed, and written for the students and scholars of Islamic studies, the book has many shortcomings; some of them include: inconsistency in referencing style and in Bibliography; incomplete or no references for many quotations and statements (see e.g., pp. 8, 16, 41, 5-56, 59, 62, 67); indirect/ secondary references for easily available/ accessible books (see e.g., pp. 41, 50, 52); typo errors (pp. 97, 133); and no coverage or profiling of Islamic studies departments of India.

Keeping aside these shortcomings, Dr. Ashraf Amin’s Islamic Studies in Academia is a valuable reference guide for the students and scholars of Islamic studies which will prove helpful to them in understanding and comprehension of Islamic Studies as an academic discipline.

All in all, both these works by Prof. Akhtar and Dr. Amin make a substantial contribution to the literature (in Urdu and English) on narrating and describing the history of the discipline of Islamic studies as a social science subject at the local, national and global levels. Both will prove helpful in knowing and understanding the genesis, genealogy, growth, approaches, challenges and prospects of Islamic Studies as an academic discipline.

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Army Releases Photos Of Soldiers Playing Cricket In Eastern Ladakh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: The Indian Army has released photos and videos of its soldiers playing cricket at a very high-altitude forward location in eastern Ladakh amid the lingering border row with China along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the region.

The Army's Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps, which is responsible for guarding the LAC in the Ladakh sector, released the photos and said, "We make the impossible possible."

The match was played at an altitude of 14,500 ft and reflects the high morale and enthusiasm of the soldiers deployed in the inhospitable terrain, sources in the military establishment said.

However, the exact location was not mentioned.

The Fire and Fury Corps said in a tweet on Friday that the cricket competition was organised at an "extreme high altitude" area in sub-zero temperatures.

"Patiala Brigade Trishul Division organised a cricket competition in an extreme high altitude area in sub-zero



temperatures with full enthusiasm and zeal. We make the Impossible Possible," it said.

A short video clip of the match has also come out.

This comes amid the continuing standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in the Demchok and Depsang regions of eastern Ladakh.

Tensions erupted on May 5, 2020 following a violent clash in the Pangong lake area. The ties between the two countries nosedived significantly following the fierce clash in the

Galwan Valley in June 2020 that marked the most serious military conflict between the two sides in decades.

As a result of a series of military and diplomatic talks, the two sides completed the disengagement process in 2021 on the north and south banks of the Pangong lake and in the Gogra area.

In line with a decision taken at the 16th round of military talks, the two sides carried out disengagement from Patrolling Point 15 in the Gogra-Hotsprings area

in September last year.

But the face-off between the two of the planet's biggest military forces lingered on in Demchok and Depsang regions though the Indian side pressed for completion of the disengagement in remaining friction points at the earliest.

On February 22, India and China held in-person diplomatic talks in Beijing and discussed proposals for disengagement in the remaining friction points along the LAC in an "open and constructive manner".

RAPE AND MURDER OF 4-YR-OLD

SC Releases Youth Awarded Death Penalty After Holding He Was Juvenile At Time Of Offence

New Delhi, Mar 3 (PTI) The Supreme Court on Friday ordered the release of a 20-year-old man, who was awarded the death penalty for rape and murder of a four-year-old child in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh in 2017, after holding he was juvenile when the offence was committed.

A bench of Justices BR Gavai, Vikram Nath and Sanjay Karol said, "The conviction of the appellant (youth) is upheld; however, the sentence is set aside".

It said since the appellant at present would be more than 20 years old, there was no requirement of sending him to the Juvenile Justice Board or any other child care facility or institution.

"Appellant is in judicial custody. He shall be released forthwith," the bench said and modified the November 15, 2018 order of the Indore bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court by which it had confirmed his conviction and death sentence in the case.

The top court, which passed the verdict on the appeal of the youth, had ordered an inquiry by the trial court into the juvenility claim made by him.

"We have perused the report and also the material evidence led before the Trial Court on the basis of which the conclusion has been drawn by the Trial Court. The report is based upon documentary evidence as also oral evidence of the present head-mistress, the retired headmaster, five teachers of the primary institution and also the guardian of the appellant," the bench said.

It said it would also be pertinent to note that the institution is not a private institution but a government primary school and this court does not find any reason to disbelieve or even doubt the testimony of government servants both working and retired.

"In addition to the mark sheets by the institution, there is also the date of birth certificate issued by the institution. Further, the original Scholar register and other documents were also produced before the Trial Court in the inquiry.

"This Court, therefore, has no reason to doubt the correctness of the conclusion arrived at by the Trial Court regarding the date of birth of the appellant. We, therefore, accept the

report of the Trial Court and hold that the appellant was aged 15 years, 4 months and 20 days on the date of the incident," the bench held.

The top court rejected the plea of the state government that the accused be sent for ossification test to ascertain his claim of juvenility on the ground that the state has not raised any objection during the inquiry done by the trial court.

"Secondly, ossification test will only give a broad assessment of the age. It cannot give an exact age. There is also an element of margin of plus or minus 1 to 2 years. Even if we permit the said test, it does not lead us anywhere. It will have no bearing on the assessment made by the Trial Court after the inquiry," it said.

Referring to the provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015, the bench said the law provides full coverage to a person who is established to be a child on the date of the offence to avail the benefits admissible to a child under the law, even if the case has been finally decided and also such person has attained majority.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Architect Builds

extent but the conflict was not primarily religious," he noted.

Media lecturer Raashid Maqbool, in his review said that the way Sameer has examined the sources of Kashmir's past is 'incisive and insightful'. "It is a wonderful book and an important read" Raashid said.

Academician, Prof Siddiq Wahid said that the book provides an academic perspective on the Shia Sunni divide and it is important to go through the book for fostering unity.

"When we go through Kashmir's modern history, we do have fault lines but it is important that the middle ground is explored"

Convener INTACH, Saleem Beg the idea behind such initiatives is to be as objective as possible.

"A lot of literature has developed in isolation on parallel streams about Shias against Sunnis and Sunnis against Shias and we can't put it under the carpet.

"The book makes a successful attempt to interrogate the literature that is available about these sects & contradictions and bring out the reality about what has been written so that we can reach a sensible conclusion" Saleem said.

"History writing is a dialogue between the present and the past. The spirit of dialogue has been maintained in the book and what we understand as a religious idiom has not been a foundational allium of the conflict. It has been political"

Hakim Sameer Hamdani, author of the book said that he hopes that the book opens up a field of research for future study.

"I was always interested in the material culture of Kashmir. In researching my previous work which was on the Muslim shrines of Kashmir, I repeatedly went through the textual history through tazkiras and tareekhs. I had an engagement with the text that predates my previous book" Sameer said.

He said that it took him around a year to write this book.

Speaking about the high cost of the book, Sameer said it was not in his hands.

"Unfortunately, we don't have a South Asian edition. It is a global edition which is costly. I have written to the publishers to lower down the price. Let's see what happens."

The 232 page book has been published by I.B. Tauris, UK and is available on amazon.

Govt Transfers

transferred and posted as Personnel Officer, Associated Hospitals, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

"Manu Hansa, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Samba, is transferred and posted as Sub Divisional Magistrate, Marh, vice Rajeev

Kumar Khajuria, JKAS, who shall await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department," reads the order issued by Sanjeev Verma, Commissioner/Secretary to the government.

He shall also hold the additional charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Marh, till further orders.

According to the GAD order, Parul Khajuria, Jr. Scale JKAS, Cultural Officer, Directorate of Information, Jammu has been transferred and posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports Department.

Beenish Wani, Jr. Scale JKAS, Information Officer in the Directorate of Information, J&K has been transferred and posting as Assistant Director, Employment, Ganderbal while Manoj Pandita, Under Secretary to the Government, Information Department has been posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Cooperatives Department, the order adds.

NIA Attaches

and Panzgam areas, measuring over three kanals belonging to Pir alias Imtiyaz Alam, they said.

Pir, who was reportedly in charge of launching terrorists into Jammu and Kashmir through Line of Control, was designated a terrorist by the Centre on October 4 last year under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) for his role in terror activities.

According to the notification, Pir participated in several online propaganda groups to unite ex-militants and other cadres for the expansion of activities of Hizbul Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba, and other terrorist organisations.

The NIA action follows the attaching of a Srinagar-based property of the founder and self-styled chief commander of the Al-Umar Mujahideen, Mushtaq Zargar alias 'Latram', on Thursday, and the attachment of property of The Resistance Front (TRF) operative Basit Ahmad Reshi in Baramulla district on Friday.

India Slams

officially reserve sanitation' jobs for Christians. Underage girls from the community are converted to Islam abetted by a predatory state and an apathetic judiciary. Hindu and Sikh communities face similar issues of frequent attacks on their places of worship and forced conversion of their underage girls," she said.

The Indian diplomat said the state's crack-down on those who wish to raise their voice against any of these heinous policies is also incomparable.

"A bill which proposes a five-year jail term for anyone who scandalises or ridicules' the military or the judiciary is currently on the table in Pakistan's Parliament," she said.

Rejects OIC's

OIC statement, we reject the unwarranted references to the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir," Pujani said in a statement on Friday.

"The fact is that the entire territories of the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been, are and shall always be part of India. Pakistan is in illegal occupation of Indian territory," she said.

Instead of calling upon its member Pakistan to give up state-sponsored terrorism and to lift its occupation of Indian territory, the OIC has "let Pakistan hijack and misuse its platform for carrying out its nefarious agenda of engaging in malicious propaganda against India," Pujani said.

India has previously criticised the Jeddah-based OIC for its attempt to interfere and meddle in India's internal affairs as completely unacceptable.

A spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs has said that the OIC has already lost its credibility by taking a blatantly communal, partisan and factually incorrect approach to issues.

KP Employees

projected our demand for relocation but the government neither accepted nor rejected our demand," senior member of AMEAK Ruban Sapru told reporters.

He said since Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha had time and again assured a secure atmosphere to them in the Kashmir Valley, the core committee of the organisation decided to suspend the agitation and wait for the government's response.

Rohit Raina, an AMEAK member, said that "we have only suspended the protest and the next course of action will be decided by the core committee of AMEAK".

"Our only concern for which we had fled the Valley is our security," he said, accusing the administration of twisting arms by stopping their salaries.

The killing of Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma by militants in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on February 27 reflects the ground situation but "we hope that the government will ensure our security in the Valley", Raina said.

Neha, who was part of the protest, said they are left with no option but to "surrender" before the government after it "stopped their salaries".

"We do not feel safe there (in Kashmir) but nobody is listening to us. The government exploited the employees by stopping our salaries and choking us financially," she said.

RK Bhat, the president of Youth All India Kashmiri Samaj (YAIKS), an organisation of Kashmiri Pandits, urged Kashmiri Muslims to come forward to ensure the security of minority Hindus living in the Valley.

"The real custodian of ensuring the safety

and security of the miniscule Kashmiri Pandit population in the Valley is the majority community and they have to ensure it to maintain real Kashmiriyat. Kashmiriyat is meaningless until and unless Kashmiri civil leaders, political leaders and religious preachers do not publicly and consistently denounce killings of Pandits," Bhat told reporters here.

He said Kashmiri Pandits belonged to Kashmir and the central government should involve grassroots level leadership of the community for preparing a blueprint for their return and rehabilitation in the Valley.

"We hope the J&K Reorganization Bill, 2019, will end our miseries and reconnect our lost roots and ancestral motherland soon. We hope the process of delimitation and new arrangements should make (Kashmiri) Pandits politically empowered democratically," he said.

Bhat also appealed to various Kashmiri Pandit groups to unite for their rights.

"At this crucial time when our own people are again being killed, we have to rise above party lines, personal interests and affiliations to form a 'joint action committee' of all (Kashmiri) Pandit organisations globally and work for comprehensive rehabilitation of the entire community," he said.

He said the community needs to be united and speak in one voice for a dignified return to their roots in the Valley.

J&K HC Grants

Pulwama DDC, has to invite him for the needful purpose.

"When the petitioner, no doubt, is facing trial in two FIRs, but is on bail in both the cases and, as such, is enjoying his legal liberty," the court said, quoting the argument of the counsel for the petitioner that Parra's implication in the two criminal cases does not denude him of his entitlement to join the office as an elected member of the DDC, Pulwama.

Parra was arrested in a criminal case on January 17, 2021, for alleged commission of offence under various sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, the Arms Act and the Explosive Substances Act. Accordingly, he could not volunteer himself for the purpose of calling upon the deputy commissioner, Pulwama for the purpose of his oath taking as an elected Pulwama DDC member.

Parra was granted bail by the special NIA court on January 9, 2022, but was not released and was booked in another case registered at police station, Counter-Intelligence Kashmir, Srinagar under various sections of the U(A)PA and the Indian Penal Code. However, he again secured his bail in terms of an appeal before the division bench of the high court and the bail was granted to him on May 25, 2022.

LG Interacts

Director, IIT Jammu and their coordinators.

Pak Pushing

"Strict action will be taken against anyone who tries to disrupt the peaceful atmosphere," he said.

The police chief said besides pushing militants Pakistan is also involved in smuggling of drugs and weapons into this side.

Referring to the seizure of drugs and money in Poonch on Friday, he said police and other security agencies "had a very big success in the fight against narco-terrorism".

"This impure action of Pakistan was to keep terrorism alive Security agencies are acting sternly against drug traffickers and an investigation is on to unravel the whole conspiracy and bring the culprits to book," he said.

Singh said inter-state connections have started emerging during the probe in the case, which has international ramifications as "some dollars were also seized".

The DGP said Pakistan is making attempts to push more consignments of drugs and weapons and also trying to lure the youth into terrorism by handing them the smuggled weapons.

"The proceeds of the drug trade are utilised to fund terrorism with some of the drug peddlers used as couriers and overground workers to raise the support structure for terrorists. We are working on a comprehensive level to dismantle the entire support structure of terrorism, which is our duty and we are working on it," he said.

Man Held With

he remains in custody," the spokesperson said, adding "Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 31/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered at Police Station Qazigund and investigation has been initiated,"

JKNPP Delegation

memorandum of important public issues.

3 Arrested With

Towseef Ahmad Lone of Jammu and Kamran Mushtaq Lone of Srinagar.

He said a case FIR No.14/2023 U/S 8/21-29 NDPS ACT has been registered and further investigation has been set into motion.

1 Lakh Tourists

"We are working on scientific methods to calculate the number of tourists given it is an age of big data", he said, as per news agency GNS.

"We are collecting data-based on scientific methods besides also collecting data from registered and unregistered hotels also", Haseeb said.

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

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KO PODCAST

Day After Rout, Indian Players Back In Nets; Shami Set To Play 4th Test

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: A day after an embarrassing nine-wicket rout at the hands of Australia, some of India's Test squad members were back at the Holkar Stadium for a gruelling 90-minute net session.

With head coach Rahul Dravid and batting coach Vikram Rathour for company, opener Shubman Gill, middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer, all-rounders Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, and left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav sweated it out in two nets adjacent to the match strip.

The third Test, played on an extremely turning pitch with variable bounce, ended in just over two days.

While Kuldeep had a long bowl at the nets, the other four enjoyed extended batting sessions against local net bowlers and also faced throwdowns.

There were no experimental or innovative shot selections but plain and simple copybook batting as they looked to get some form back before the

fourth and final Test, starting in Ahmedabad from March 9.

Shami set to be back in playing XI

India's senior-most speedster Mohammed Shami is expected to feature in the playing XI for the final Test after being rested as part of workload management during the Indore game.

The Indian team management, in consultation with its medical staff, has decided to space out the pace bowlers, who are going to play the IPL and are in the ODI World Cup plans.

Hence Shami, who had played the first two Tests and is also a part of the ODI squad, was rested for the third game. In his place, Umesh Yadav was drafted in as the second pacer after Mohammed Siraj.

With Siraj bowling only 24 overs in the first three games for one wicket, Umesh, with his better show in Indore, and who is not part of the white ball set-up, stands a good chance to share the new ball



with Shami in Ahmedabad.

Siraj is likely to feature in all three ODIs between March 17 to 22 and will probably get some time off during the final game at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

Shami, who has been the

best pacer on view across both teams with seven scalps from 30 odd overs in the series, will be needed on a dry Motera surface that might be conducive for reverse swing.

India are currently lead-

ing the series 2-1 but need to win the last game, in order to nullify the result of Sri Lanka's upcoming away series against New Zealand, and qualify for the World Test Championship final.

GCA curators haven't received any directive from Team India

The pitch at Holkar Stadium has been rated by ICC match referee Chris Broad as "poor", and the Gujarat Cricket Association (GCA) is unlikely to risk its reputation by preparing something that attracts the attention of the game's governing body for the wrong reason.

"We haven't received any instructions from the Indian team management and our local curators are preparing a normal track as we have always done through the season," a state association source told PTI on Saturday.

"In fact, last Ranji game over here in January, Railways scored 500 plus (508) batting first and Gujarat, although suffered innings defeat, scored 200 plus in both innings. It won't be too different this time," he said.

There are 96 hours still left for the Test match to begin and one doesn't know what will happen once BCCI curators Taposh Chatterjee and Ashsh

Bhowmick take over.

"Obviously, last few days the BCCI's grounds and pitches committee instruct the local curator. But, certainly, from our end our endeavour is to produce a good Test match pitch," the official said.

The last time two Test matches were held in Ahmedabad, they ended in just under two days.

"You have to factor in that the Day/Night Test and the one after that were the first ones held after the stadium was refurbished and you had no clue how the pitch will pan out," he added.

Kohli visits Mahakaleshwar Temple with wife

With the third Test ending way before schedule, star batter Virat Kohli and wife Anushka Sharma on Saturday visited Shree Mahakaleshwar Temple in Ujjain to offer prayers.

While some of the players stayed back in Indore, a few, including skipper Rohit Sharma, returned to Mumbai and will join the team in Ahmedabad on March 6.

Real Kashmir Play Sreenidi Deccan In Season's Final I-League Match



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC will take on Sreenidi Deccan FC at the Deccan Arena in Hyderabad today, Sunday, March 5, in what will be their last match of the 2022-23 I-League campaign. The match is slated for a 3:00 PM kick off.

Real Kashmir face a tough opponent in Sreenidi Deccan as the home team boasts as unbeaten run at the Deccan Arena, winning eight and drawing one. However, the Snow Leopards had overcome their Sunday's opponents 2-1 in Srinagar earlier in the season, and the team would hope to upset the second-placed team.

RKFC is also coming into the match with a five-game unbeaten run and have shown considerable improvement since appointing Englishman Gifton Noel-Williams as their Technical Director in January.

While RoundGlass Punjab FC have already secured the I-League title as well as a promotion to Indian Super League this season, the clash between Real Kashmir and Sreenidi isn't altogether inconsequential for the Srinagar side.

The Snow Leopards have accumulated 30 points from 20 matches and a win on Sunday could cement them a top-five finish in the 2022-23 I-League season.

Dir Tourism Felicitates Guinness Record Holder Cyclist Adil Teli



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director Tourism, Kashmir, Fazlul Haseeb on Saturday felicitated J&K's ace cyclist Adil Teli who has entered into the Guinness Book of World Records for covering Leh-Manali cycle track in record time.

Adil, a resident of Narbal in Baramulla district, peddled the high altitude and arduous path from Leh to Manali – a distance of 470 km – in 29:18:21 hours, thus breaking the earlier record set by Bharat Panu, who finished the track in 35 hours, 32 minutes and 22 seconds on October 11, 2020.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director Tourism said the department is keen to provide a platform to young adventure lovers and appealed to the youth to come forward in honing their skills.

He said the Tourism Department has prioritised adventure

sports and many major initiatives like opening new trekking and cycling treks, new adventure activities, rafting and other water sports activities have been added to the attraction of tourists. Director Haseeb said many more such interventions would be made in coming times also.

Senior officers of the Tourism Department besides many adventure enthusiasts were present on the occasion.

In his address, Adil Teli thanked the Department for sponsoring and supporting him. He said without the support of the department achieving such a feat would not have been possible for him.

It may be recalled here that Adil's Leh to the Manali cycle yatra was sponsored by the Directorate of Tourism Kashmir and the cycle rally was flagged off from TRC on September 09, 2022.

Smith May Lead In Ahmedabad Too As Cummins Stays Home

Agencies

Steve Smith has no ambition to be Australia's full-time captain again but the 33-year-old may continue to lead them in the fourth and final test against India as regular captain Pat Cummins stays put in Sydney.

Cummins returned home after the second test in Delhi to be with his ailing mother after Australia had dropped 2-0 behind in the four-test series for the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. Smith led their brilliant turnaround in Indore where they beat India by nine wickets inside three days to secure their place in the final of the World Test Championship (WTC) in June.

Coach Andrew McDonald said Cummins remained in touch with rest of the squad in India.

"He's obviously dealing with what he's dealing with at home but he's still so invested in this group," McDonald told reporters on Saturday.

"Our thoughts are still with him and his family at this difficult time.

"We're in constant contact



with him daily, so at the moment he's not here and the test match is a few days away, so we'll discuss with Pat on a daily basis."

Smith led Australia between 2014 and 2018 before he was stripped off the honour following a ball-tampering scandal in South Africa. He remains Cummins's deputy since the pace-man became test captain in November 2021 and has stepped in three times to lead Australia since then.

Smith said he had no ambition to return as full-time cap-

tain at any stage.

"My time is done. It's Pat's team now," Smith said after inflicting on India what was only their third defeat on home soil in their last 46 tests dating back to 2012.

"I've obviously been able to stand in this week, obviously in tough circumstances with Patty going home. Our thoughts are still with him back home," Smith said. "But India is a part of the world I love captaining ... it's probably my favourite place in the world to captain."

Cricket World Remembers Spin Great Shane Warne On 1st Death Anniversary

Agencies

World cricket fraternity took to social media on Saturday to remember the late Australian spin great Shane Warne, who passed away on this day last year after suffering a cardiac arrest. England Cricket, the official handle of Australia's arch-rival England, took to Twitter saying, "Never forgotten, Warne."

Cricket Australia also remembered Warne and former Australian wicketkeeper-batter Rod Marsh, who also passed away on the same day.

"We lost two icons of Australian cricket one year ago today. You are greatly missed, Rod and Warne," tweeted Cricket Australia.

Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), a global cricketing body with considerable global influence and "guardians of the laws of cricket", also tweeted, "Today we remember one of the very best to play the game. Shane Warne will forever be in our thoughts."

Legendary Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, who had many back-and-forth battles with the spinner on field, said that he misses Shane not only as a great cricketer, but also as a friend.

"We have had some memorable battles on the field & shared equally memorable moments off it. I miss you not only as a great cricketer but also as a great friend. I am sure you are



making heaven a more charming place than it ever was with your sense of humour and charisma, Warne!," tweeted Tendulkar.

Former Australian wicketkeeper-batter Adam Gilchrist also remembered Rod, "the man who inspired me to chase a dream" and Warne, "the bloke who was a dream to have on your side".

"To the man who inspired me to chase a dream and the bloke who was a dream to have on your side...may you both continue to #RIP," tweeted Gilchrist.

Former England batter and Ashes-winning skipper Michael Vaughan also tweeted, "RIP King ... #Warne."

Warne passed away on March 4 after a suspected heart attack while vacationing in Thailand.

One of the most loved and followed cricketers in history, the Victorian single-handedly reinvented the art of leg-spin when he burst onto the international scene in the early 1990s. And, by the time he bid adieu to the sport in 2007, Warne had become the first bowler to collect 700 Test wickets.

Warne finished his international career with 708 Test wickets and a further 293 in One-Day Internationals, placing him second on the list of all-time international wicket-takers behind his great friend and rival Muttiah Muralitharan of Sri Lanka at 1,347. (ANI)

FIFA Rules Panel Wants More Added Time In Games

Agencies

WASHINGTON DC: The 100-minute matches that became routine at the World Cup in Qatar are set to become routine in club soccer, FIFA's rule-making panel said Saturday.

The panel known as IFAB stressed the need for accurate calculation of time added on for stoppages in play because of injuries, substitutions, time-wasting and goal celebrations.

At the World Cup in Qatar, five minutes of additional time each half became routine as referees followed FIFA instructions and several games stretched for 10

to be calculated accurately.

"We have to ensure that also the application of the laws of the game are universal," Infantino said, noting they were currently inconsistent with average effective ball-in-play time in leagues worldwide ranging from 50 to 60 minutes per game.

"We will monitor leagues all over the world" to ensure proper stoppage time is played, Infantino said, though adding, "I don't think there is any coercive measure to be taken."

Referees adding on the full amount of time for an injury stoppage "removed the incentive for players to stay down longer



minutes after the regulation 90.

"It has been widely appreciated by everyone. We want to fight against time-wasting, we want the fans to enjoy the game," Infantino said at the IFAB news conference.

Infantino said the laws of soccer need not be changed as they already require additional time

than necessary," Bullingham said.

The panel agreed they did not want to curb goal celebrations.

"They are the essence of the joy of football," said Patrick Nelson of the Northern Ireland federation. "But equally if you're the team that has just conceded the goal you want to make sure that time is added back on." (AP)

Man United Faces Biggest Title Test Vs Liverpool

Agencies

MERSEYSIDE: One of English soccer's biggest rivalries resumes at Anfield on Sunday with the tables turned.

Last season, it was Liverpool in pursuit of a quadruple of trophies. This year, it is a Manchester United team rejuvenated by manager Erik ten Hag that has a chance to win four titles.

If United can navigate its way around arguably its most difficult remaining test in the Premier League, a serious title challenge could be possible.

Having already played leading pair Arsenal and Manchester City home and away this season, a trip to Anfield represents the

last major test of United's credentials, even after Liverpool's recent struggles for consistency.

A Liverpool team that has already beaten City and Italian league leader Napoli at home this season could threaten Ten Hag's ambitions. The Merseyside club would relish the opportunity to derail United's momentum as well as boost their own push for a Champions League qualifying spot.

As impressive as United's transformation has been under its Dutch manager, the team has yet to secure a win against one of its major rivals away from Old Trafford. That makes the visit to Anfield potentially even more instructive regarding the 20-time league champions' progress. (AP)



Civilians Flee Embattled Town As Ukrainian Pullout Looms



Associated Press

KHROMOVE (UKRAINE): Pressure mounted Saturday on Ukrainian troops and civilians hunkering down in Bakhmut, as Kyiv's forces tried to help residents flee amid what Western analysts say may be preparations for a Ukrainian withdrawal from the eastern city that Russian forces have spent months trying to capture.

A woman was killed and two men were badly wounded by shelling while trying to cross a makeshift bridge out of Bakhmut on Saturday, according to Ukrainian troops who were assisting them.

A Ukrainian army representative who asked not to be named for operational reasons told The Associated Press that it was now too dangerous for civilians to leave the city in Donetsk province by vehicle and that people had to flee on foot instead.

Bakhmut has for months been a key target of Moscow's grinding eastern offensive, with Russian troops, including large forces from the private Wagner Group, inching ever closer to Kyiv's key eastern stronghold.

An AP team near Bakhmut on Saturday saw a pontoon bridge set up by Ukrainian soldiers to help the city's few remaining residents reach the nearby village of Khromove.

Later, they saw at least five

houses on fire as a result of attacks in Khromove.

Ukrainian units over the past 36 hours destroyed two key bridges just outside Bakhmut, including one linking it to the nearby town of Chasiv Yar along the last remaining Ukrainian resupply route, according to U.K. military intelligence officials and other Western analysts.

The U.K. defence ministry said in the latest of its regular Twitter updates that the destruction of the bridges came as Russian fighters made further inroads into Bakhmut's northern suburbs, ratcheting up the pressure on its Ukrainian defenders.

The Institute for the Study of War (ISW), a Washington-based think tank, assessed late on Friday that Kyiv's actions may point to a looming Ukrainian pullout from parts of the city.

It said Ukrainian troops may "conduct a limited and controlled withdrawal from particularly difficult sections of eastern Bakhmut," while seeking to inhibit Russian movement there and limit exit routes to the west.

Capturing Bakhmut would not only give Russian fighters a rare battlefield gain after months of setbacks, but it might rupture Ukraine's supply lines and allow the Kremlin's forces to press toward other Ukrainian strongholds in the eastern Donetsk region.

Top Scientist Behind Russia's Sputnik V Covid Vaccine 'Strangled To Death With A Belt'

Press Trust Of India

MOSCOW: Andrey Botikov, one of the scientists who helped to create the Russian COVID-19 vaccine Sputnik V, was strangled to death with a belt at his apartment here and police have arrested a suspect in connection with the murder, according to a Russian media report on Saturday.

Botikov, 47, who worked as a senior researcher at the Gamaleya National Research Center for Ecology and Mathematics, was found dead in his apartment on Thursday, Russian News Agency TASS quoted the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation as saying.

Russian President Vladimir Putin honoured the virologist with the Order of Merit for the Fatherland award for his work on the COVID vaccine in 2021. Botikov was one of 18 scientists who developed the Sputnik V vaccine in 2020, according to reports.

His death is being investigated as a murder, the committee, which is the investigating authority in Russia, said in a Telegram statement.

According to investigators, a



29-year-old young man strangled Botikov with a belt during an argument and fled. Law enforcement agencies said the murder was a domestic crime and the result of a conflict, the report said.

The suspect was arrested shortly after Botikov's body was found, the federal investigative agency said in the statement.

"The location of the attacker was established in short order. During the interrogation, he pled guilty and was charged. The defendant has a previous criminal record, as he stood trial on charges of committing a serious crime. In the near future, the investigation plans to petition the court to place the defendant in custody pending trial," the Investigative Committee said.

UN Nuclear Head Meets With Iranians Amid Enrichment Concerns

Associated Press

DUBAI: The head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog was meeting with officials in Iran on Saturday, days after it was revealed that the country had enriched particles of uranium to near weapons-grade, raising new alarm over its long-disputed nuclear programme.

Rafael Mariano Grossi, the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, declined to comment on his discussions during a press conference with the head of Iran's nuclear programme, saying the delegation's work was still ongoing.

"It's an atmosphere of work, of honesty and cooperation," Grossi said. He later met with Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi and was expected to speak with reporters upon his return to Vienna.

Earlier this week, the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency reported that uranium particles enriched up to 83.7 per cent just short of weapons-grade were found in Iran's underground Fordo nuclear site.

The confidential quarterly report by the IAEA, which was distributed to member states on Tuesday, came as tensions were already high amid months of anti-government protests in Iran and Western anger at its export of attack drones to Russian forces fighting in Ukraine.

The IAEA report says that inspectors in January found that two cascades of IR-6 centrifuges at Iran's Fordo facility had been configured in a way "substantially different" to what had been previously declared. The IAEA took

samples the following day, which showed particles with up to 83.7 per cent purity, the report said.

The IAEA report only spoke about "particles," suggesting that Iran isn't building a stockpile of uranium enriched above 60 per cent the level it has been enriching at for some time. However, the agency also said in its report that it would "further increase the frequency and intensity of agency verification activities" at Fordo after the discovery.

Iran has sought to portray any detection of highly enriched uranium particles as a momentary side effect of trying to reach a finished product of 60 per cent purity. However, experts say such a great variance in the purity even at the atomic level would appear suspicious to inspectors.

Hubble Captures A Time-Lapse Movie Of DART Collision: NASA



Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) Hubble Space Telescope captured a series of photos of asteroid Dimorphos when it was deliberately hit by a 1,200-pound NASA spacecraft called DART on September 26, 2022, according to their statement.

Hubble's time-lapse movie of the aftermath of DART's collision reveals surprising and remarkable, hour-by-hour changes as dust and chunks of debris were flung into space, NASA said in their statement.

Smashing head on into the asteroid at 13,000 miles per hour, the DART impactor blasted over 1,000 tons of dust and rock off of the asteroid.

The Hubble movie offers invaluable new clues into how the debris was dispersed into a complex pattern in the days following the impact, NASA said.

This was over a volume of space much larger than could be recorded by the LICIACube cube-sat, which flew past the binary asteroid minutes after DART's impact, they said.

The primary objective of DART, which stands for Double Asteroid Redirection Test, was to test our ability to alter the asteroid's trajectory as it orbits its larger companion asteroid, Didymos, the agency said.

Though neither Didymos nor Dimorphos poses any threat to

Earth, data from the mission will help inform researchers how to potentially divert an asteroid's path away from Earth, if ever necessary, the statement said.

The DART experiment also provided fresh insights into planetary collisions that may have been common in the early solar system.

"The DART impact happened in a binary asteroid system. We've never witnessed an object collide with an asteroid in a binary asteroid system before in real time, and it's really surprising.

"I think it's fantastic. Too much stuff is going on here. It's going to take some time to figure out," said Jian-Yang Li of the Planetary Science Institute in Tucson, Arizona.

The study, led by Li along with 63 other DART team members, was published on March 1 in the journal Nature.

The movie shows three overlapping stages of the impact aftermath: the formation of an ejecta cone, the spiral swirl of debris caught up along the asteroid's orbit about its companion asteroid, and the tail swept behind the asteroid by the pressure of sunlight, resembling a windsock caught in a breeze, the statement said.

The statement described that the Hubble movie starts at 1.3 hours before impact. In this view both Didymos and Dimorphos are within the central bright spot; even Hubble can't resolve the two asteroids separately.

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