

How A Man Lost His Adult Education Mission in Kashmir

Umer Ahmad

Gulzar Ahmad's spirit for social work shot up when the Adult Education Scheme or Taleem Baligan was implemented in Kashmir a decade ago.

Then 27 and a fresh college-graduate, Gulzar was appointed as a motivator with a monthly remuneration of Rs. 2000. His role was to encourage educated youth to teach illiterates in the community.

But soon after his joining, Gulzar and his ilk were

attached to primary schools. It was against the rules and the role. Sensing the need for a proactive step, Gulzar started educating adults in his village Rawatpura, a picturesque hamlet at the foothills of Tosamaidan.

"I was very happy when the Adult Education Scheme was launched in Kashmir," Gulzar says. "Without giving it a thought, I joined because I knew this is what I have been meaning to do in life - help my people who couldn't receive education."



The Adult Education Scheme was launched to increase the literacy rate throughout India. Its aim was to compete with the global literacy rate. Government appointed two motivators—one male and one female—from every ward to

I BELIEVE EDUCATING A MALE MEMBER IS EDUCATING ONE INDIVIDUAL, while educating a female is educating an entire family and newer generation. To make a good and mannered society, educating women is a must."

implement the scheme. The motivators would encourage and engage the educated youth as volunteers. But the process proved daunting for Gulzar.

Hailing from district Budgam, which is one of the financially-backward districts

of Jammu & Kashmir, Gulzar struggled to motivate volunteers for the literary cause.

"So we rented a private room," Gulzar recalls. "The owner was kind enough to not take any rent from us. We started teaching **More on P6**

Rahul Gandhi Asked To Quit Official House

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Disqualified Lok Sabha member Rahul Gandhi has been asked to vacate the official bungalow allotted to him by April 22, official sources said on Monday.

The notice to vacate the 12, Tughlaq Lane bungalow was served by the Housing Committee of the Lok Sabha and follows the disqualification notice issued last week.

A local court in Gujarat had convicted Gandhi in a criminal defamation case on March 23 and sentenced him to two years in jail. The two-year jail term triggered his automatic disqualification as Lok Sabha member.

A senior official said a disqualified Lok Sabha member has to vacate the official bungalow within one month of losing his membership.

Another official said that Gandhi can write to the Housing Committee seeking an extended stay, a request that can be considered by the panel. The notification issued by the Lok Sabha Secretariat **More on P6**

LS Okays Budget For FY-24 Amid Ruckus

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Parliamentary approval for the Budget for 2023-24 was on Monday completed after Lok Sabha passed the Finance Bill with a fresh amendment and Rajya Sabha gave its nod to all the three related legislations without any debate amid continuing din over the Adani issue.

First Rajya Sabha approved the Rs 45 lakh-crore spending proposed in the Budget, followed by the nod to the Finance Bill that contains tax proposals. It also approved the Appropriation Bill and Demands for Grants, besides Budget for Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The nod to Finance Bill included a fresh amendment moved by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman that sought to correct the rate of STT (securities transaction tax) to be levied on trading of options and futures in the derivative market.

After the Lok Sabha cleared the Finance Bill, which has 64 official amendments, the finance

ministry on Friday issued a statement saying that there was a typographical error in the amendments with respect to the change in STT on options trading.

The error, the finance ministry said, will be rectified in accordance with the extant procedure of the government of India.

As per the amendments, the STT on options has been increased from 0.017 per cent to 0.021 per cent.

The amended Finance Bill was then presented to Lok Sabha, which too approved it amid a ruckus that opposition parties created demanding a probe into allegations against Adani.

Soon after Lok Sabha reassembled at 4 pm, members of opposition parties wearing black clothes started raising slogans demanding a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe in Adani issue.

Congress members were in the well raising placards and shouting slogans. Papers were laid and committee reports were tabled amid din. **More on P6**



Two elderly men read the holy Quran inside the shrine of Sufi saint Hazrat Sheikh Syed Abdul Qadir Jeelani (RA) in Khanyar locality of the Old City on the fifth day of Ramazan on Monday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Govt Orders Transfer Of 13 JKAS Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Union Territory government on Monday ordered transfer of 13 Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to a government order, Rakesh Sharma, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Hiranagar, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Hiranagar, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, District Employment & Counselling Centre, Jammu. **More on P6**

LG Directs PDD To Curb Power Theft, Wrong Metering

Directs For Ensuring Power Supply To New Industrial Estates, Railway Tunnels
Observer News Service

Jammu: The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday directed the power development department (PDD) officials to curb electricity theft, wrong metering and unauthorized extensions in load besides carrying out surprise checks through a dedicated enforcement wing.

Chairing a high-level meeting at the Civil Secretariat here to review the power scenario in Jammu Kashmir, the LG appraised the multi-pronged strategies to meet



the high electricity demand in the summer season and directed for integrating reforms for making the Power sector robust and resilient. Sinha also called for enquiring into public complaints, besides passing explicit directions for ensuring power supply to new industrial estates and railway tunnels. The LG also directed for immediate steps to ensure functioning of all the meters on 11 kV, and repair of the damaged meters within one month. "Smart meters must be saturated **More on P6**

PDD Starts Drive To Cut Energy, Commercial Losses

Facing high aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses in electricity distribution, Kashmir Power Development Corporation has initiated several measures, including disconnecting services to defaulters, to reduce the deficit. "As far as KPDC is concerned, it has the highest AT&C losses in the country. I would say we are around 64 per cent," Chief Engineer KPDC Javeed Yousuf Dar told PTI. The J&K government purchases electricity worth Rs 7,500 crore every year and **More on P6**

Schools Warned Against Indulging Into 'Uniform Trade'

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: The Directorate of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) on Monday warned of stern action against private schools forcing parents to buy books and uniforms for their kids from 'designated' shops.

Talking to the reporters on the sidelines of a function at Girls Higher Secondary School (GHSS) Kothibagh here, Director School Education Dr Tassaduq Hussain said the department will act tough

against private schools forcing parents to follow their dictates.

The Director Education said stern action will be initiated against private schools found involved in floating norms prescribed by the government.

"We have directed all ZEOs and CEOs to act tough against private schools that force parents to follow their dictates, like purchasing books and uniforms from the designated shop. We are busy with exams, which are nearing end while **More on P6**

...RAJOURI KILLINGS

Villagers Threaten Migration If Attackers Not Caught

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Family members of the Dhangri militant attack victims on Monday threatened to migrate from their village to a "safer" place and return the ex-gratia amount if the government fails to catch the attackers and bring them to justice.

Militants had struck Dhangri village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on January 1 and targeted villagers and fled

before planting an Improvised Explosive Device (IED).

While five people were killed in the firing by militants, two others died in the IED explosion the next morning. As many as 14 villagers were injured in the twin attacks.

The attackers are still at large. Saroj Bala, who lost two sons -- Prince and Deepak -- in the militant attack, said if the government cannot provide her justice, it should **More on P6**



LG Sinha Asks I&C Dept To Nurture Start-Up Culture

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday asked the officials of Department of Industries & Commerce (I&C) to strive to maintain the momentum of growth recorded in the previous year and build a stronger ecosystem for nurturing start-up culture that would further drive economic growth.

"Sustained efforts are required to give a fillip to the

start-up ecosystem that will further support entrepreneurship, and enable large-scale employment opportunities," Sinha said.

He made these remarks while chairing a review meeting of the I&C department at Civil Secretariat here on Monday.

During the meeting, the LG was informed about the progress made and the milestones achieved towards developing a robust industrial ecosystem **More on P6**

S H O R T T A K E S

SSP Crime Among 2 Police Officers Shifted

The government of Jammu and Kashmir has in the interest of administration ordered for transfers and postings in the Police Department with immediate effect. Amritpal Singh, IPS, SSP Crime Kashmir, is transferred and posted as SSP Rajouri while as Mohammad Aslam, JKPS, SSP Rajouri, is transferred and posted as Commandant, JKAP 13th Battalion, reads an order.

Minor Girl Slips To Death

A minor girl died on Monday after falling into a well in Kalaroos area of North Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said. Seven-year-old Zaika slipped into a well near her home in Dal Kalaroos area of the district, reports said. The girl was later found by the family and evacuated to NTPHC Kalaroos in an unconscious state, where the doctors declared her dead. Confirming it, a police official told a local news agency GNS that they are collecting **More on P6**

IGR J&K Changes Helpline Number

The Inspector General of Registration (IGR), J&K has changed the Helpline number from 0194-3575911 to 0194-3100104, an official spokesperson said Monday. He said that the helpline was recently established by IGR office for facilitation of the general public to register their complaints and queries and for seeking response and guidance on various issues related to document registration during office hours. "The citizens of **More on P6**

Girl Student Dies Of Cardiac Arrest

A girl student died on Monday after suffering a cardiac arrest in North Kashmir's Kupwara district. 18-year-old student Ulfat suffered a cardiac arrest shortly after returning to her home in Bakihakra village of Handwara after appearing in class 12th exams, reports said. The girl student was taken to a nearby hospital by her family in an unconscious state. However, the doctors there declared her dead. Meanwhile, a pale **More on P6**

Gandhi Presents Special Painting To LG

K K Gandhi, renowned Artist & Painter on Monday presented his special live painting "Land of Shiva" to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bawan. The Lt Governor **More on P6**

Covid Cases Above 10,000 After 134 Days

India has logged 1,805 new coronavirus cases, while the active cases have surpassed the 10,000-mark after 134 days, according to Union health ministry data updated on Monday. The daily positivity rate has been recorded at 3.19 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 1.39 per cent. The active cases have increased to 10,300, the data updated at 8 am stated. On Sunday, the health ministry had put the count of active cases at 9,433. **More on P6**

Office Of The Chairman Building Permission / Assistant Commissioner Revenue Budgam

Subject: - Publication of rates for construction of commercial buildings in rural areas of Tehsil Budgam .
PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the Government vide order No. 11 RD&PR of 2022 Dated: 22-01-2022, issued by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Civil Secretariat, Jammu & Kashmir, designated a competent authority for accord of approval/ permission for construction/ re-construction/alteration of residential/commercial buildings in rural areas of J&K.
 Whereas, this office vide letter No. DCB/SQ/BP/2023/426-27 dated 10.02.2023, has sought some clarification/directions from the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir. The Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir vide letter no Divcom/LRS/7144/3703-15 dated 15.02.2023, has clarified that the Additional Deputy Commissioner / Assistant Commissioner, Revenue is empowered as chairman of the competent authority.
 Whereas the above-said committee was empowered to fixation of fees for the purpose
 Whereas, a meeting of the said committee was held on 24.03.2023, in which deliberations were held upon fixation of fees for permission of construction of commercial buildings in rural areas, in the meeting following rates were proposed by the committee.

S. No	Structure / floor / new construction/ alteration	Fee per SFT
01	Basement	15/
02	Ground floor	22/
03	First floor	18/
04	Second floor	18/
05	Third floor	15/
06	Compound walling	20/
07	Government building	15/
08	Stilt floor for parking	18/
09	Residential (Per Sft)	15/

herefore, through the medium of this public notice, objections if any are called from the general public with respect to the above-said proposed rates. The same can be filed before this office within seven days from the date of publication of this notice.
 NO:-DCB/SQ/BP/2023/
 DIPK-18854/22 Date:- 27.03.2023

Dr Muzamil Maqbool (JKAS)
 Chairman SDLC/ Assistant Commissioner
 Revenue Budgam

Office Of The Block Medical Officer Khag

Subject: AUCTION TENDER NOTICE

Tenders are hereby invited from registered auctioneer/Kabadi walk's for auction of unserviceable dead stock items at PHC Khag with a affixed revenue stamp of Rs. 5 along with CDR amounting 5000/= (five thousand only) in favour of BMO Khag Budgam; Interested participants can submit their tenders to the office of the undersigned on working days from 10.00am to 4.00pm within five days after the issuance of this notice.

DIPK-18868/22 dated: 27-03-2023

Sd/-
 Block Medical Officer Khag

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Office Of The Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar,
 NEAR J&K BANK ZALDAGAR
 Telefax No. 0194-2503195 e-mail Id: xenmidsrinagar@gmail.com

Sub:- Extension in bidding time for this office Short Term e-NIT No. 42 OF 2022-23, Dated: 17-02-2023 for below mentioned work:-

Part-4:-
 Design, supply, installation and testing of vertical turbine motor of 40HP capacity to be coupled with available 05 Cusec pump at LIS Zazna-A.
 Ref:- JK Government official e-Procurement portal Tender ID No's:- 2023_JFC_205722_4

EXTENSION NOTICE - 4

Due to no response to this office above referred e-NIT for the subject work, the critical dates are again extended as under: -

Bid submission/ Document download / sale end Date	01/04/2023 at 1400 hrs
Date and time of Bid opening	03/04/2023 at 1230 hrs

Rest of the terms and conditions shall remain un-altered as laid down in the original e-NIT.

No. MIDS/Ts/ 4937-42
 DIPK-18859/22 Dated:- 27-03-2023

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer,
 Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar

Directorate General Resettlement
Ministry Of Defence

Brings together job seekers and job givers on a single platform at

DGR Ex-Servicemen Job Fair at Jammu
 providing an opportunity
 for second Innings in Employment to Ex-Servicemen

ON 29 MARCH 2023 AT ASC GROUND, NEAR MANDA ZOO, BC ROAD, JAMMU - 180007

TIMINGS : 08:00 AM ONWARDS

REGISTRATION FOR ALL EX-SERVICEMEN WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT THE VENUE

- Documents to carry: ESM to bring ESM I card and five copies of latest CV/Bio Data with photograph
- Dress for ESM : Open Collar/Mufti
- Entry on First Come First Serve Basis

Benefits for ESM Job Seekers

No cost access to Multiple Job Opportunities
Hassle Free Recruitment Process
 Interact with Recruiters from Top PSUs/Corporates

For further queries & assistance, please contact

Joint Director (SE & CI) Directorate
 General Resettlement

West Block IV, RK Puram, New Delhi-110 066

Email : seopadgr@desw.gov.in

Tel: +91 1120862542 Website: http://www.dgrindia.gov.in

CBC - 10401/11/0004/2223

ASF ENTERPRISES

Sale and Services of Computers 2nd. Floor Munir
 Manzil Regal Chowk Srinagar [J&K] ,
 Ph.0194-24 77949 , 9419001176, 9419776235

Sale and Sendee of Laptops, Desktops,
 Printers, Photocopiers, Faxes, ,CCTV Cameras,
 Security System and Refilling of all Types of
 Cartridges, Toners
 Registered
 Government
 order Suppliers.



J&K Bank Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited
 Zonal Office Anantnag

RE-TENDER NOTICE

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank invites offers from Owners of premises on lease basis for housing its **Offsite ATM at Hard-Toru on ground floor**, as per the details given below:

S. No	Name of the ATM	Location	Carpet Area in sq. ft.(approx.)
01	Offsite ATM at Hard-Toru, Anantnag	Locality: Hard-Toru, Tehsil: Mattan, Anantnag, District: Anantnag.	Upto 120 sq. ft

Further details, requirements, terms and conditions, Technical Bids and Financial Bids proforma relating to the same can be obtained in person from **Zonal Office Anantnag** during working hours and also can be downloaded from Bank's website **www.jkbank.com** from **28/03/2023** under the link "EOI & Tender / Notification" in the Quick Access Tab.

The interested parties/persons owning the premises and having a clear title over the property should submit their offers in format prescribed by Bank by or before **10/04/2023 (05:00 PM IST)** at **Zonal Office Anantnag-192101**.

Bank reserves the right to cancel/reject any/all offer(s) without assigning any reason thereof.

Dated: 27.03.2023 Zonal Premises Committee
 Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
 CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048 ; T : +91 (0)194 2481 930-35 ; F : +91 (0)194 248 1928
 E : info@jkbank.com ; W : www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-7048/22 Dated: 27-03-2023

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

I Syed Ab Rashid Shah S/O Syed Ab. Aziz Shah R/O Harduwall have purchased Plot No 472 in Housing Colony Ompora Budgam from Sh. Nisar Ahmad Rather S/O Ghulam Qadir Rather R/O Khanpora Budgam originally allotted in favour of Sh. Chman Lal Dhar S/O Sh. Sri Kanth Dhar R/O Pandit Qtr. Sanat Nagar the following original papers issued by the J&K Housing Board. I have applied for transfer of leasehold rights of above said plot in my favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhinagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.
 Syed Ab. Rashid Shah
 S/O Syed Ab. Aziz Shah
 R/O Harduwall Budgam. mcb

The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education
 New Campus Bemina Srinagar
 Notice for General Public

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

Roll No: 847203
 Class 10th
 Year & Session : April-May / 1991
 Registration: 32733-HGG IX -89
 Name : Shaheen Bashir Dar
 Father's Name: Bashir Ahmad Dar
 Mother's Name : Mehbooba
 Date of Birth:- 16-11-1974
 Residenc:- Darba; Maod Lada;



According to the candidate concerned has approach to this office for issuance of Duplicate Qualification /Marks Certificate/s, so before the same is processed and provided to the candidate, under rules, anybody having any objection in this regard, shall bring into the notice of Assistant Secretary of Certificate as well as Assistant Secretary Examination Unit I & III KD within the period of 10 & 7 days respectively, from the date of publication of this notice.
 (Besides the above referred "Qualification / Marks Certificate/s" bearing No: 119528 be treated as "CANCELLED")
 No: F(Cer is-I-DQC)/B/KD/22
 Dated 09-11-2022
 arinf Assistant Secretary
 Certificates, KD.

Public Notice

I have lost my passport bearing No: T3484363 somewhere. Now I want to apply for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained
 Mohammad Saleem Lone
 S/O Ghulam Ahmad Lone
 R/O Takiya Ahmad Shah Bandipora BB

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Wajahat Shafi Kanth S/o Mohd Shafi Kanth R/o Lane 7 Baghati Shoor Ellahi Bagh While travelling from Hawal to Gajwara have lost my wallet which contains all my documents including PAN Card, Driving Licence, Aadhaar Card, Bank Credit/Debit Card . If anybody has found it he is requested to return the same on given address otherwise I have to apply for the duplicate of the documents in that case anybody having any objection may contact concerned deptt within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Wajahat Shafi Kanth S/o Mohd Shafi Kanth
 R/o Lane 7 Green Colony Baghat Shoor Srinagar
 Ph. No: 9149908110 NJ

From The Office Of Advocate Khudisfandyar & Qazi Ayaz & Associates.

In the case of:
 1. Rafiq W/o. Shabir Ahmad Khan
 2. Shabir Ahmad Khan S/o. Mohammad Sidiq Khan
 3. Sahil Ahmad Khan S/o. Shabir Ahmad Khan
 4. Irshad Ahmad Khan S/o. Shabir Ahmad Khan
 All Residents of. Safriyar Habba Kadal. Srinagar
 Applicant/Caveator

Vs
 Public at Large

Non applicant/Caveator

In the matter of. Caveat Petition in terms of Section 14B-A of CPC The Caveat has reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file a suit or any other type of proceedings or any other proceedings before the Hon'ble Court on the ground of distorted facts/ misrepresentation and concealing the material facts and may succeed in obtaining some relief or order in ex-parte at the back of Caveator and without providing reasonable opportunity to the caveator and in such eventuality the caveator will be put to irreparable loss and inconvenience. It will be proper that the caveator will be given Opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble Court before passing any order or direction.
 nj

Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE 1st CLASS AT SRINAGAR

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC
 CNR: JKSG030075912023 Date of filing 16.03.2023

Fayaz Ahmad S/o Mohd Sidiq Bathyari R/o Chaipan Kocha
 Naid Kadal Srinagar Applicant

Versus

Registrar, Births and Deaths, SMC Srinagar

Non-Aplicant

WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Ghulam Qadir Bathyari S/o Abdul Samd Bathyari R/o Naid Kadal SR Gunj/Srinagar has died on 24-08-2020 the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the death particulars, Ghulam Qadir Bathyari , in the concerned register of births and deaths.
 Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this publication.

Dated, this 16 th day of March 2023.

Sd/-
 (AHTZAZ AHMED)

NJ 2nd Additional (JMJC), Srinagar

Public Notice

It is for the information of General Public that the name of my parents are has been wrongly written in school records as

	Wrong	Correct
Father	Jahangir Ahmad Mir	Mohd Jabbar Ganie
Mother	Ishrat Jan	Sakeena Bano
Address	Yaripora Kulgam	Hermain Shopian

which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Govt Middle School Yaripora Kulgam within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Arbeena Akhter
 Father's Name: Mohd Jabbar Ganie
 Mother's Name: Sakeena Banoo
 R/o Hermain Shopian fko

BEFORE THE HON'BLE J&K SPECIAL TRIBUNAL AT SRINAGAR

In the case of:-

Mst. Haseena
 D/O Aziz Bhat and Mst. Maali W/O Ghulam Mohammad Haji
 R/O Baghwanpora, Noorbagh, Srinagar, Kashmir
(Caveator)

Versus

Public at Large

(Non- Caveators)

In the matter of:- CAVEAT APPLICATION.
 May it please your HONOUR,
 The Caveator most humbly submits as under:-

01. That the Caveator is the resident of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and has every right to invoke the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Court.
 02. That the caveator by virtue of building permission Order No. SMC/2022/347 dated 03.06.2022 had started construction, but due to intervention of noncaveators the construction got halted.
 nj

از نیابت چوکر
 درخواست منجانب سائند احمد ختیر عبدالاحد چوپان ساکنہ چوکر تحصیل کتزر ہمدان عظمیٰ EWS سرٹیفکیٹ اشتہار برآمد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکنہ نے ایک درخواست پیش کی ہے جو کہ دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پتواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکنہ کا والد عبدالاحد چوپان ولد سید اللہ چوپان موضع چوکر کاسکوٹ دار سے ساکنہ مذکورہ وہ ہذا میں مسلسل طور پر رہائش پذیر ہے اور کبھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے ساکنہ مذکورہ کو وہ ہذا میں ایک مکان رہائش ایک منزلہ 499 مربع فٹ زیر قبضہ موجود ہے اسکے علاوہ رقم تعدادی 252 مربع فٹ گن وگا کا موجود ہے کتبہ ساکنہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی 5500 روپے ہے
 سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کریں معیا گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار fko

J&K Bank Installs Mobile Charging Stations At 3 Hospitals Under CSR

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Under its Corporate Social Responsibility, J&K Bank has dedicated 45 Mobile Charging Stations for public utility at three hospitals in Srinagar. These charging terminals have been set-up for the convenience of patients and their attendants visiting these hospitals.

The Bank's Zonal Head Srinagar, Shabir Ahmad and Medical Superintendent SMHS Hospital Dr Muzaffar Ahmad Zargar today dedicated these device charging stations to the public formally at SMHS Hospital in presence of officials from Bank and the hospital. Pertinently, under the initiative, the Bank has also installed these charging stations at Children's Hospital Bemina and Lal Ded Maternity Hospital, the other two associated hospitals of GMC, Srinagar.

Speaking on the occasion, Zonal Head Shabir Ahmad said, "The situations of visiting a hospital occur unexpectedly and more often than not, the patient or the attendant are caught up in a situation where the battery runs out and phone is rendered useless.", adding, "Taking cognizance of such

an exigency, J&K Bank as a socially responsible corporate decided to set up these charging stations inside these hospitals for we believe they can provide much needed relief and support to both the patients and attendants going through such situations".

Besides lauding the Bank's role in socio-economic development of J&K, Dr Muzaffar Ahmad Zargar thanked the Bank for providing these terminals under CSR. "Since mobile phones have become key means of communication, these charging stations will provide much-needed relief to patients and their attendants facing difficulty in keeping their mobile devices charged during their stay in the hospital", he said.

Notably, the charging stations can be used to charge multiple mobile phones at a time and provide a variety of cords that suit widely used handsets. Placed perfectly throughout the hospitals with a focus on waiting areas where patients and visitors usually spend most of their time, these stations offer easy and convenient charging facilities to the people for their electronic devices while in hospital.



A boy flies a kite at Zaina Kadal Bridge in the old city on a sunny Monday, KO Pic Syed Mohammad Burhan

Traffic Police Srinagar Gets Speed Radar Guns

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to curb high-speed driving of vehicles, Traffic Police Srinagar on Monday said they have received a few 'Speed Radar Guns' - a specialized device to assess the speed of moving vehicles.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) for City Traffic, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah while speaking to the media at his office said they were short of the equipment to measure the speed of moving vehicles, and now they have received an inventory of a few 'Speed Radar Guns'.

"We would be using the speed radar guns, which would assist us in detecting the people who drive erratically and at high speeds," he said, adding that in the coming months, the Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) is going to be activated. The installation of multiple cameras will automatically detect and minimize traffic violations, he added.

Talking about Sunday's Parimpora incident in which a group of boys riding two-wheelers was seen allegedly harassing a family and said to be involved in stunt biking, the SSP said, "There was a swift action

by the Parimpora police station, and the action will serve as an indication to those who are involved in these kinds of acts. Law is very clear about it and nobody can escape."

Shah said the initiative on underage driving and rash driving was taken last year but the effort can only be successful if parents cooperate. He urged parents to not allow minors to drive either four-wheelers or two-wheelers, and those who do so should make sure their children have all the required paperwork, including a driver's license, and that they are wearing helmets when riding two-wheelers.

Police Arrests Three Drug Peddlers In Qamarwari

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Police claimed to have arrested three drug peddlers at Qamarwari area in the old city and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

A police spokesman in a statement said that police station Parimpora received a docket on behalf of the In-charge Police Post Qamarwari stating there in that he along with Escort was conducting Naka checking at Arampora Qamarwari, when an Auto-rickshaw (JK01H-8070) heading towards Arampora from Parimpora with three persons on board, tried to escape after seeing police.

The trio, spokesman

said was however tactfully apprehended

"During checking of the said Auto two polythene bags were recovered in which 2.5 kilograms of Ghanja and 2.5 kilograms of Poppy Straw-like substance were recovered," he added.

The trio has been identified as Azhar Mohiuddin Bhat of Firdous Colony Bemina, Ajaz Ahmad Khan of Arampora Qamarwari and Khalid Kansa of Bandipora presently residing at PDD Colony Qamarwari.

A formal case FIR number 46/23 has been registered at the police station concerned and the trio has been booked under different sections of the NDPS Act.

Nine Held For Attacking Car-Borne Family in Parimpora

Srinagar: Police claimed to have arrested a group of youth, who allegedly harassed and attacked a family travelling in a car near Parimpora area on the outskirts of Srinagar, a day earlier.

A video went viral on social media where in a family travelling in a car was seeking help while a group of youth on Scotties were chasing and attacking them at Parimpora area of Srinagar on Sunday evening.

"Police took cognizance of a video wherein a group of youths on bikes are seen harassing & attacking a family on road. Midnight raids were conducted by teams led by SDPO West & SHO Parimpora," Srinagar police said in a tweet.

"All 9 accused are arrested & 4 Bikes seized. FIR registered in Parimpora PS", it added.

UPHC Batamaloos Bags Kayakalp Award

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Urban Primary Health Centre (UPHC) Batamaloos in Srinagar District has been selected for the Kayakalp Award in the category of UPHCs for promoting cleanliness, Hygiene and Infection Control practices in Public Health Care from Jammu and Kashmir this year.

The UPHC Batamaloos tops in External Assessment (EA) of UPHCs by obtaining the highest EA score of 87.22 among all 20 Districts of J&K for the year 2022-2023 for showing exemplary performance in adhering to standard protocols of cleanliness and

infection control.

The Kayakalp Awards are given annually to the Health facilities with the highest standards of sanitation, hygiene and biomedical waste management.

The Kayakalp Award started in 2015 with the aim of encouraging and incentivising public health facilities in the country to demonstrate their commitment to cleanliness, hygiene and infection control practices.

Commenting on the Award, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad said that the sincere efforts and hard work put in by our dedicated staff of UPHC Batamaloos have been recognised.

The DC congratulated staff members of UPHC, Batamaloos and urged them to work with added zeal and dedication and treat patients in a compassionate way. He said this award has brought along more responsibilities on their shoulders to maintain the cleanliness and hygiene at the health facility.

The DC also stressed other health facilities to improve their ranks in all categories under Kayakalp that shapes our perception on how our hospitals and other health institutions will look. Besides, it also creates confidence among patients in our health institutions for treatment.

KU's NSS Units At Main, North Campus Organizes Workshop For Students

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The National Service Scheme (NSS) units of the University of Kashmir at the main campus Srinagar, and North Campus Baramulla, organized several activities for volunteers and students from different departments and colleges.

These events were held on the directions of Vice-

Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan under the umbrella of G20 programs being organized by the University during 2023.

On March 25, the NSS Unit III at North Campus, Baramulla, organized a 'Plantation and Cleanliness Drive'. Prof Bashir Ahmad Ganai, Director, North Campus, inaugurated the event, in presence of staff including

Bilal Ahmad Kaloo, NSS Program Officer and Unit III.

Volunteers from different departments planted Conifer saplings on the occasion as part of the varsity's greener campuses initiative. A cleanliness drive was also held at Boys Hostel premises, North Campus, by the NSS volunteers under the aegis of 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan'.

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AUCTION CUM-SALE NOTICE
(For Sale of Secured asset under the SARFAESI Act, 2002)

Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower/Mortgagor that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 28.04.2023, for recovery of Rs. 53,35,241.84 being balance outstanding as on 28.02.2023 due to The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd. (Secured Creditor) from Mr. Irshad Ahmad Tantray S/o. Mr. Abdul Samad Tantray R/o. Danganpora Sopore District Baramulla, Sole Proprietor of M/S Lucky Fruit Traders (Borrower cum Mortgagor). The reserve price will be Rs. 105.32 Lacs and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 10,53,200.00.

Khata No.	Khwat No.	Survey No.	Area Mortgaged	
			Kanals	Marlas
52	07	4238/2906 min	03	02
1380	253	2039 min	02	04
1383	253	2041 min	02	05
Total			07	11

The tender document containing full details of the properties and all the terms and conditions can be had from **JK Bank Branch Office T.P. Sopore** during office hours on all working days against a payment of Rs.100/-. The completed tenders must be received in the said Branch latest by 26.04.2023. The tender should be accompanied by an Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of not less than 10% of the Price Offered (which in any case should not be below the Reserve Price for the property concerned) in the form of a Demand Draft/ Pay Order payable at Sopore, Kashmir, issued by a commercial bank in favour of **The Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch T.P. Sopore**. This publication is also 30 days notice to the borrower/mortgagor of the above said loan account about holding of sale on above mentioned date/ place if the outstanding dues are not paid in full.

Date: 24.03.2023
Place: Sopore

Authorized Officer
The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.

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

DIPK-NB-7045/22 DATED: 27-03-2023

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
06 RAMAZAN
1444

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5:00
ZUHR	12:36
ASR	4:01
Magrib	6:51
ISHA	8:12

This Day In History

- 1809 - Peninsular War: France defeats Spain in the Battle of Medin.
- 1845 - Mexico drops diplomatic relations with US
- 1854 - Britain & France declare war on Russia (Crimean War)
- 1866 - 1st ambulance goes into service
- 1885 - US Salvation Army officially organized
- 1891 - 1st world weightlifting championship held
- 1904 - Japanese troops advance in Korea, defeat the Russians at Chongju, and capture the town
- 1910 - 1st seaplane, takes off from water at Martinques France (Henri Fabre)
- 1913 - Guatemala becomes a signatory to the Buenos Aires copyright treaty.
- 1920 - Anton Denkin's White Russian troops defeated by Bolsheviks/Soviets at Novorossiysk on the Black Sea (The British aid Denkin in his escape)
- 1922 - 1st microfilm device introduced
- 1929 - Democratic constitution goes into effect in Ecuador
- 1930 - Turkish cities Constantinople & Ankara change their names to Istanbul & Ankara
- 1933 - German Reichstag confers dictatorial powers on Hitler

From KO Archives

Soz Revolts, Blasts Farooq Abdullah's Decision 'Insult To Kashmir Genius'

Observer News Service

New Delhi- Senior National Conference leader and former union minister Saifu-ud-din Soz, today revolted against his party leadership's decision to support the BJP led government at the center and made an "impassioned" appeal to Farooq Abdullah to "reconsider your stand" in the interests of people of Kashmir.

"RSS will continue to guide and inspire the destiny" of the Vajpayee government" and the contention of Farooq Abdullah that he needed maximum support (funds) from the center, for the welfare of the state and had this compulsion for supporting the BJP government "is fraught with dangerous consequences", Soz said in a strongly worded statement issued here late this afternoon.

He said that "short run political and economic gains involving many awkward compromises are no substitutes for long term and enduring political assertions" adding that even after Abdullah offered his party's support to the BJP, there was "no guarantee" that the ruling alliance will support National Conference commitment to restore internal autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir".

"I don't think that Farooq is naive and does not understand that, in response to a coalition consensus, the BJP has just temporarily put the abrogation of Art. 370, uniform civil code and Ram Mandir on a back burner", Soz said in his statement.

The four-time Lok Sabha member and "official spokesman" of the National Conference, Soz, is said to have tried his best in last few days to convince Abdullah against taking any "hasty decision" on extending support to Vajpayee government. Soz is learnt to have been in touch with other senior National Conference leaders on this issue and most of them, including some senior ministers of Farooq government are reported to be in unanimity with Soz's stand. Soz, sources said talked to Farooq on phone late last evening and this morning, but seems to have failed in persuading his leader to change the stand. Soz, as already reported, attended the meetings of the United Front, even after Farooq Abdullah declared to have severed his relations with the Front, regretted that Abdullah took such a major decision without taking into confidence his senior party colleagues and also putting the issue before the party working committee, highest decision making body.

This stance of Farooq Abdullah, not convening the party working committee before taking such an important decision "is an insult to the genius" of the people of Kashmir, Soz said and asked "are the people of Jammu and Kashmir supposed to live at the mercy of a central government of the day?" Soz also charged Farooq Abdullah with "misquoting" his father, Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah, in dealing with the center. "All the Sheikh said was that center and state should endeavor to maintain a harmonious relation within the frame work of center-state relations", Soz said and added that Farooq was "mistaken in his belief that generally people have short memories. He said that Farooq's announcement that he would be placing the issue of extending support to BJP after having taking the final decision himself, was "nothing short of adding insult to the injury".

Soz advised Farooq Abdullah, to reconsider his decision, "even at this late stage" and try to appreciate the fact that "short run political or economic gains involving many awkward promises are no substitute for long term and enduring pro-people assertions which always rest on calm reflections and cool thinking".

"My worry is that Doctor Sahib, in his hurry to drive-tail short run situations of advantage with his politics of compromise, might cripple the very goose that invariably laid the golden eggs for him", Soz said.

(Kashmir Observer, 28 March, 1998)

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Tuesday | 28-03-2023

Environmentally Friendly Consumption

Last year, while global trade slowed down in the second half of 2022, the demand for environmentally friendly goods continued to grow, according to a report by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). Trade in green goods, which use fewer resources and pollute less, increased by four percent, reaching a record \$1.9 trillion in 2022. Electric and hybrid vehicles, non-plastic packaging, and wind turbines were among the green goods that performed especially well in 2022. The UNCTAD believes that growth in green goods is here to stay, fueled by momentum on climate action. It forecasts that the market for electric cars, solar and wind energy, green hydrogen, and other environmentally friendly technologies will quadruple in value by 2030 to reach \$2.1 trillion. The UN agency also warned that developed countries were seizing most of the economic opportunities related to green technologies, while developing countries were falling behind and urged the international community to support emerging green industries in developing economies through global trade rules and technology transfers.

While the report shows that globally the trend is shifting towards buying green goods, in India and also in our union territory, the situation is largely contrary to this. True, the sales of electric vehicles have picked up in recent years across the country but the trend remains limited to high-end goods only. As far as ordinary day to day goods, people aren't mindful enough about buying environmentally friendly products. For example, buying food items contained in plastics. In Kashmir, this has become a scourge.

Now the situation is such that polythene is everywhere. There's hardly any shop in Valley where you can't get polythene carry bags. Though polythene pollution is a worldwide phenomenon, in Kashmir the penetration seems to be even deeper. Few years ago, research published in the journal Anthropocene revealed that no part of the planet is free of the scourge of plastic waste. Supermarket bags, compact discs, nylons and other plastics litter roads, croplands and water bodies. The impact has often been highly damaging. The study stated that more than 300 million tonnes of plastic are manufactured every year. But the polythene, the study argued that the humble plastic bag and plastic drink container play a far greater role in changing the planet than has been realized.

Though several times bans have been imposed on the use of plastic bags in Jammu and Kashmir over the last two decades, not much has changed on the ground. The reason is that the bans were never seriously implemented. Here's hoping that the current government finally gets the act right and ensures not only that the use of plastic is strictly banned but that the use of environmentally friendly products is aggressively promoted.

OTHER OPINION

Chilling effect

Mr. Gandhi has been sentenced to two years in prison, the maximum sentence for criminal defamation, and disqualified from his membership in the Lok Sabha. Both the conviction and sentence raise legal questions. Does the remark amount to defaming anyone in particular, or to people with the surname 'Modi' as a group? Case law indicates that the expression 'collection of persons' used in Section 499 of the IPC, with reference to those who can be defamed, has to be an identifiable class or group and that the particular member who initiates criminal proceedings for defamation must demonstrate personal harm or injury by the alleged defamatory statement. It is difficult to sustain the argument that all those with the surname, and not merely the three individuals including Prime Minister Narendra Modi who were referred to, can be aggrieved persons. Also, it is not clear if the complainant, BJP MLA Purnesh Modi, had shown that he was aggrieved by the alleged slur either personally or as a member of the 'Modi' group.

The maximum sentence is also troubling. Statutes prescribe maximum jail terms so that trial courts use their discretion to award punishments in proportion to the gravity of the crime. It is questionable whether attacking an indeterminate set of people with a general remark will amount to defamation, and even if it did, whether it is so grave as to warrant the maximum sentence. The correctness of the judgment will be decided on appeal, but the political cost to Mr. Gandhi in the form of disqualification from the House and from electoral contest will have a lasting impact, unless he obtains a stay on the conviction rather than mere suspension of sentence. In a country that often frets over criminalisation of politics, corruption and hate speeches, it is ironic that criminal defamation should overwhelm the political career of a prominent leader. A modern democracy should not treat defamation as a criminal offence at all. It is a legacy of an era in which questioning authority was considered a grave crime. In contemporary times, criminal defamation mainly acts as a tool to suppress criticism of public servants and corporate misdeeds. In 2016, the Supreme Court upheld criminal defamation without adequate regard to the chilling effect it has on free speech, and to that, one must now add, political opposition and dissent. Opposition parties expressing dismay at the verdict against Mr. Gandhi should include abolishing criminal defamation in their agenda.

"The power elite in Pakistan has long fed off the animosity between India and the national passions over the Kashmir

Why Peace with India Matters Most for Pakistan

Pakistan's rivalry with India stands to benefit no one. Saad Hafiz argues that it is time that Pakistan's strategic decision makers realize that making peace with India is in Pakistan's national interest

Saad Hafiz

Moreover, the financial meltdown, shambolic governance, disruptive politics, and terrorist threats have sharply diminished Pakistan's international standing. Instead of building a genuine democracy where power rests with the people, Pakistan has relied on strongmen, messiahs, and miracles'



Pakistani Rangers (wearing black uniforms) and Indian Border Security Force (BSF) officers lower their national flags during parade on the Pakistan-India joint check-post at Wagah border, near Lahore, Pakistan August 14, 2019. REUTERS/Mohsin Raza

THESE days triumphalism and despair are the contrasting moods in New Delhi and Islamabad. There is no denying that India has acquired much global power and influence in recent decades.

Today, India presents an optimistic vision of the future, a bankable, stable, and responsible player in the world order. The timing of India's rise is just right. The western powers looking to counterbalance a rising China have found a willing partner in India. It inclines them to give India a free pass on the steady erosion of democratic norms, the rule of law, press freedom, and minority rights under the BJP rule.

Unlike Pakistan, uninterrupted democratic governance, high-caliber visionary political leadership, prudent economic management, and civilian supremacy over the armed forces have propelled India's rise on the world stage. India is the most favored destination in the region for foreign investment because of its high political stability and optimistic economic forecasts.

Pakistan, in contrast, bankrupt and unstable — always on the lookout for rescuers to throw it an economic lifeline — has few supporters and partners. Its hopes of a bailout rest on the premise that it is too big to fail because of its strategic location and as the world's fifth-most populous nation.

Moreover, the financial meltdown, shambolic governance, disruptive politics, and terrorist threats have sharply diminished Pakistan's international standing. Instead of building a genuine democracy where power rests with the people, Pakistan has relied on strongmen, messiahs, and miracles.

Additionally, the gap between India and Pakistan has widened from an economic perspective, placing Pakistan at a significant disadvantage compared to India.

According to the World Bank, India's GDP in 2021 was \$3.2 trillion. By contrast, Pakistan's GDP was \$348 billion, about 10 percent of India's. In addition, India is likely to overtake Japan and Germany to become the world's third-largest economy by 2030, while Pakistan's economic prospects appear dim.

Furthermore, India has a natural leadership role in South Asia because of its size, location, and economic prowess. Hence, it is time for Pakistan to recognize reality and give up its futile and sapping rivalry with India. The ball is squarely in Pakistan's court to dial down tensions. It must take practical steps toward peace with India because the current no-peace-no-war stalemate only hurts Pakistan.

The power elite in Pakistan has long fed off the animosity between India and the national passions over the Kashmir dispute to avoid

of Pakistan's internal weaknesses when the opportunity presented itself, a natural reaction in times of war and conflict.

Undoubtedly, the aggressive posture of the BJP government against Pakistan is unhelpful to peace efforts. But Pakistan must share some of the blame because of its inability to prevent cross-border terrorism directed at India and punish the perpetrators, a long-held reasonable Indian grievance against Pakistan. Moreover, Pakistan has no choice but to deal with the BJP because the ruling party, without credible opposition, is expected to govern India for the foreseeable future.

On its part, India shouldn't overplay its growing advantages over Pakistan. It must show a broad vision and encourage a sense of a different South Asian future in which all can play a constructive

The power elite in Pakistan has long fed off the animosity between India and the national passions over the Kashmir dispute to avoid making tough internal decisions'

making tough internal decisions. Yet, Pakistan facing economic survival is in no position to sustain its adversarial posture toward India. For example, Pakistan cannot afford to match India's military modernization and investments in new platforms and postures.

Interestingly, policy circles in Pakistan often label India as a regional hegemon with evil designs on Pakistan. And that India's hostile policies force Pakistan to have a powerful military might be at the expense of health and education for its citizens. Yet, the 75 years of India-Pakistan relations show that despite provocations, India has not stoked conflict and confrontation, willfully waged wars, and caused indiscriminate harm to Pakistan. India took advantage

role. Prime Minister Modi can afford to spend some of his sizable political capital to play a statesmanlike role in reviving frozen ties between India and Pakistan.

More people-to-people contacts and robust trade relations with India can help Pakistan to regain some of its lost direction. One less major threat off the table can help Pakistan to refocus on sustainable development, particularly human security. It is a sensible course in a competitive world.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. Author is a noted Pakistani columnist. He can be reached at shgcci@gmail.com



OBSERVER MAIL

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Women's Due

The ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) in Tamil Nadu has moved a step closer to fulfilment of its key electoral promise of the much-anticipated scheme of 1000 monthly honorarium (Magalir Urimai Thogai) for eligible women heads of families, and the same is said to be launched

on the birthday of the Dravidian stalwart and the former Chief Minister C.N. Annadurai on September 15, 2023. This is widely hailed as a revolutionary scheme and will be a game-changer in the socio-economic life of TN women. What is also striking about the scheme is that for the first time in India, a medium-size

State like Tamil Nadu, with a relatively large per capita income, has decided to expand its scope, taking it closer to the concept of Universal Basic Income (UBI). Implementing the scheme is not all that easy, as it requires collating enormous amount of data, adroitness, and operational efficiency in identifying the 'eligible

women' who can truly and meaningfully benefit out of it. Nevertheless, the novel and innovative scheme is sure to make a huge impact in the political landscape of Tamil Nadu, and can be a precursor to the rest of the Indian states.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

Understanding Right to Dignity in Islam

Umer Riyaz

Human dignity is recognition that human beings possess a special value intrinsic to their humanity and as such are worthy of respect. It unfolds that a person is inherently and by nature venerable and honorable. None has the right to humiliate, insult and diminish the respect of any human being irrespective of the reasons and circumstances. Human dignity is a fundamental value that elevates a person's feeling of being revered. Everything that diminishes human dignity contradicts the principle of honor and respect such as torture, insult and humiliation. But unfortunately, the world is witnessing a visible violation of human rights in contemporary times. The status of human life as well as its dignity is largely depreciated. However, the Quran says: "And We have certainly honored the children of Adam and carried them on land and sea and provided them with good things and preferred them over many of those whom We have created" (Al-Isra:70). Human dignity is a basic principle upon which not only the principles of human rights are based but also all the principles of the divine religions endorse the same. This dignity is equal for every human being irrespective of his cast, creed and gender.

However, Islam came with the message of equality without affecting differences in livelihoods, ages, colors and races centuries before the formulation of modern human dignity theories. It was a manifestation of the greatness of the Creator and His wisdom in the construction of the universe within a framework of coexistence, cooperation and integration. The Quran explicitly defines this concept in the following verse: "O people, indeed We created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes so that you may know one another. Indeed, the most honorable of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you" (Al-Hujrat:13). In other verse it is mentioned: "And among His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and colors. Indeed, in that are signs for those of knowledge" (Al-Rome:22). The quality of life of the corporeal being is depended on food and nourishment while as the souls or ethereal being is depended on honor which diminishes by humiliation, oppression and disrespect. Therefore, the Prophet ﷺ forbade striking on anybody's face because it is a subject of



one's dignity. Similarly, Almighty forbade any action which degrades or lowers human dignity by saying: "O you who have believed, let not a people ridicule another people, perhaps they may be better than them, nor let women ridicule other women, perhaps they may be better than them, and do not insult one another and do not call each other by offensive titles. Wretched is the name of disobedience after one's faith. And whoever does not repent then it is those who are the wrongdoers" (Al-Hujrat:11). The aforementioned verses depict that almighty Allah forbade the believers from making fun of others by mocking them and looking with contempt. Moreover, He forbade cursing anyone with unpleasant words because that becomes a catalyst of hatred and lead



ALLAH COMMANDED MANKIND NOT TO BE SUSPICIOUS of any human being including slaves and not to spy on their private lives and follow their shortcomings

people to ignorance. Thus, sarcasm and mockery does not emanate except from a soul polluted with arrogance and it is a tool for destroying human relations. The Almighty states: "And speak kindly to people". (Al-Baqarah:83)

Allah commanded mankind not to be suspicious of any human being including slaves and not to spy on their private lives and follow their shortcomings. Furthermore, He also commanded not to talk ill about them or make backbiting in

order to corrupt their image. Allah terms these social evils equivalent to eating the flesh of one's own dead brother. On the contrary, He commanded us to protect ourselves from these reprehensible things and to stamp out the root of these evils. On the authority of Al-Ma'rur bin Suwaid, he said, "I met Abu Dhar who was wearing a cloak and his slave too was wearing a same so I asked him about the reason. He replied: I insulted a man by cursing his mother so the Prophet ﷺ

said to me: O Abu Dhar, you still have some characteristics of ignorance. Your slaves are your brothers..." (Bukhari).

Human dignity is a one of the basic spirits of Islam, it obligated Muslims to observe the human dignity that Almighty Allah bestowed to man with His bounty and mercy in which He did not differentiate between Muslims and non-Muslims. The Prophet ﷺ resoundingly and reverberatory said on farewell pilgrimage: "O people, your Lord is one,

your father is one, and there is no superiority for an Arab over a non-Arab, nor for a non-Arab over an Arab, nor for a white over a black, nor for a black over a white except with piety." (Bukhari)

Islam commanded its followers to preserve the dignity of non-Muslims and respect their feelings and sentiments. The Almighty Allah says: "And do not argue with the People of the Book except in a way that is best, except with those who do wrong among them" (Al-Ankabut:46). In Islamic perspective man is honored being regardless of his ethnicity, culture, origin, religious belief and his position and value in the society. Almighty said: "And do not insult those who invoke other than Allah, lest they insult Allah as an enemy without knowledge" (Al-An'am:108). There is an explicit prohibition against harming the gods of the other faiths in order to preserve human dignity, freedom, and to respect their religious sentiments and emotions. While interpreting this verse Imam Al-Qurtubi says, it is not permissible for a Muslim to insult their students, their religion, or their churches and not expose anything that leads to that as it is the way that leads person to sin.

Preserving human dignity is evident to us in the Prophet's ﷺ dealings with non-Muslims even with the dead among them. On the authority of Jabir bin Abdullah, he said: "A funeral passed by us, so the Prophet ﷺ stood up for it, and we also did the same, so we said: O Messenger of God, it is the funeral of a Jew! He said: "If you see the funeral, stand up." (Bukhari). This depicts that Islam is a religion of peace, mercy and justice that seeks to guide people and bring them out of darkness into light.

In numerous hadiths, Prophet ﷺ urged Muslims to uphold the divine morals and to deal others with mercy as Allah is merciful to his servants. In other traditions Messenger ﷺ of Allah says: "Those who are merciful will be shown mercy by the Most Merciful, and have mercy on those on earth and He who is in heaven will have mercy on you" (Tirmidhi). He also says: "He who does not have mercy will not be shown mercy" (Muslim). Thus, Islamic law preserve human dignity and considers all those acts against the spirit of Islam that undermine human dignity.

Research Scholar, Department of Arabic BGSB University, Rajouri

Does It Matter What Time I Go To Bed?

Frederic Gachon
Meltem Weger

Some of us love to be tucked up in bed by a particular time every night, ensuring a certain number of hours of sleep. Others go to bed when they start to feel tired, or when they've finally finished everything they wanted to get done, and get up when they need to in the morning.

But does it matter what time you go to bed?

WHY PRIORITISE SLEEP?

Getting a good night's sleep can improve brain function, mood, metabolic health and immunity.

Not getting enough sleep or having poor sleep quality increases the risk of infections and other health problems such as depression, dementia, weight gain, diabetes and high blood pressure.

Recent studies even suggest not getting enough sleep at night can also increase the risk of developing long COVID.

Perhaps surprisingly, sleeping for seven to eight hours is associated with better health outcomes than shorter or longer sleeps.

HOW DOES OUR BODY CLOCK WORK?

The timing of our sleep is orchestrated by the so-called "circadian clock", the body's internal biological timekeeper. It helps regulate many processes on a daily basis including the timing of our sleep-wake cycle.

During evolution, living species – from bacteria and plants to humans – have acquired a circadian clock to optimise bodily processes in an



environment that changes throughout the day. Consequently, almost all aspects of behaviour, physiology and metabolism are rhythmically organised to anticipate these daily changes.

While we are, in theory, able to sleep at any time during the day as long we're sufficiently tired, our circadian clock dictates us to be "diurnal", meaning we're active during the day and sleep during the night. Working against this default

stage – by doing shift work, where we work regular shifts at night or alternate between shifts, or staying up longer/waking up later over the weekend – can result in poorer health because it disconnects our physiology and behaviour from our internal circadian clock that is supposed to organise it.

Even the apparently harmless weekend sleep-in after a late night increases the risk of obesity and mental health issues. Indeed, this

regular shift in our sleeping schedule every weekend creates a so-called "social jetlag" that, to some extent, mimics the effect of shift work.

BUT DO YOU LIKE TO GET UP EARLY OR LATE?

Our individual biological night (when our body thinks it's night) may differ substantially from the actual environmental night (when it's actually night time). But our modern society doesn't

Even the apparently harmless weekend sleep-in after a late night increases the risk of obesity and mental health issues. Indeed, this regular shift in our sleeping schedule every weekend creates a so-called "social jetlag" that, to some extent, mimics the effect of shift work

really support going to bed late and waking up later in the day. It can be even considered a sign of poor self-discipline and laziness. We're told "the early bird catches the worm", or that early risers have an advantage over late risers and tend to be more productive and successful.

But our sleep preferences are not really a matter of choice: they are mainly driven by our genes and depend on our chronotype. The chronotype is the natural tendency of a person to sleep or be active at a certain time during the day according to their circadian rhythms.

While most of us already know the expression that people can be either larks (early types) or night owls (late types), these chronotypes are the two extremes on the spectrum. Most people are somewhere in the middle. As our chronotype depends on in-

dividual differences in our circadian clock properties, it is not really possible to actively alter our chronotype.

However, it can change over a lifetime: children are larks, adolescents tend to be night owls, and after the age of 20 and as we increase in age, we become lark-like again.

The chronotype itself does not affect how much sleep we need, which is also mainly influenced by other factors and genetics.

Rather, our chronotype interacts with our social obligations such as school, work or family responsibilities, which can affect how much sleep we get. Later chronotypes may have a disadvantage due to the pace of modern life as their natural chronotype conflicts with the demands of their schedule.

Consequently, a late chronotype is often associated with poor cardiometabolic health (affecting your heart and blood vessels) and the higher risk of depression.

In this context, there is a growing call from scientists for schools to delay the start time for teenagers to ensure sufficient sleep and improve health outcomes and school performance.

So there is no simple answer to the question of when to go to bed. While a regular good night's sleep with an average of seven to eight hours is important for general health and wellbeing, our optimal bedtime depends on our internal circadian clock and other factors including genetics that control how long we need to sleep.

By arrangements with The Conversation

Israel In Chaos, Flights Grounded, Embassies Shut

AGENCEIS

TEL AVIV- Workers from a range of sectors in Israel launched a nationwide strike on Monday, threatening to paralyze the economy as they joined a surging protest movement against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to overhaul the judiciary.

Departing flights from the country's main international airport were grounded, large mall chains and universities shut their doors, and Israel's largest trade union group called for its 800,000 members — in health, transit, banking and other fields — to stop work. Local governments were expected to close the preschools they run and cut other services, and the main doctors union announced its members would also walk off the job.

The growing resistance to Netanyahu's plan came hours after tens of thousands of people burst into the streets around the country in a spontaneous show of anger at the prime minister's decision to fire his defense minister after he called for a pause to the overhaul. Chanting "the country is on fire," they lit bonfires on Tel Aviv's main highway, closing the thoroughfare and many others throughout the country for hours.

Thousands of protesters gathered Monday outside the Knesset, or parliament, to keep up the pressure.

"This is the last chance to stop



this move into a dictatorship," said Matityahu Sperber, 68, who joined a stream of people headed to the protest. "I'm here for the fight to the end."

The overhaul — driven by Netanyahu, who is on trial for corruption, and his allies in Israel's most right-wing government ever — has plunged Israel into one of its worst domestic crises. It has sparked sustained protests that have galvanized nearly all sectors of society, including its military, where reservists have increasingly come out publicly to say they will not serve a country veering toward autocracy.

Israel's Palestinian citizens,

however, have largely sat out the protests. Many say Israel's democracy is tarnished by its military rule over their brethren in the West Bank and the discrimination they themselves face.

The turmoil has magnified longstanding and intractable differences over Israel's character that have riven it since its establishment. The protesters say they are fighting for the very soul of the nation, saying the overhaul will remove Israel's system of checks and balances and directly challenge its democratic ideals.

The government has labelled them anarchists out to topple a democratically elected

leadership and says the plan will restore a balance between the judicial and executive branches and rein in what they see as an interventionist court with liberal sympathies.

At the center of the crisis is Netanyahu himself, Israel's longest serving leader, and questions about the lengths he may be willing to go to maintain his grip on power, even as he battles charges of fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in three separate affairs. He denies wrongdoing.

The firing of his defense minister at a time of heightened security threats in the West Bank and elsewhere, appeared to be a

last straw for many, including apparently the Histadrut, the country's largest trade union umbrella group, which had sat out the month-long protests before the defense minister's firing.

"Where are we leading our beloved Israel? To the abyss," Arnon Bar-David, the group's head, said in a rousing speech to applause. "Today we are stopping everyone's descent toward the abyss."

On Monday, as the embers of the highway bonfires were cleared, Israel's ceremonial president, Isaac Herzog, called again for an immediate halt to the overhaul. "The entire nation is rapt with deep worry. Our security, economy, society — all are under threat," he said. "Wake up now!"

Opposition leader Yair Lapid said the crisis was driving Israel to the brink.

"We've never been closer to falling apart. Our national security is at risk, our economy is crumbling, our foreign relations are at their lowest point ever, we don't know what to say to our children about their future in this country," Lapid said. "We have been taken hostage by a bunch of extremists with no brakes and no boundaries."

It was unclear if the threats posed by the strikes to Israel's economy, which is already on shaky ground, would prompt Netanyahu to halt the overhaul.

Israeli media reported that a lawyer representing the prime

minister in his corruption trial threatened to quit if the overhaul was not halted.

The developments were being watched in Washington, which is closely allied with Israel yet has been uneasy with Netanyahu and the far-right elements of his government. National Security Council spokesperson Adrienne Watson said the United States was "deeply concerned" by the developments in Israel, "which further underscore the urgent need for compromise."

"Democratic values have always been, and must remain, a hallmark of the U.S.-Israel relationship," Watson said in a statement.

Netanyahu had reportedly spent the night in consultations and was set to speak to the nation, but later delayed his speech. Some members of Netanyahu's Likud party said they would support the prime minister if he did heed calls to halt the overhaul.

The architect of the plan, Justice Minister Yariv Levin, a popular party member, was long a holdout, promising he would resign if the overhaul was suspended. But on Monday, he said he would respect the prime minister's decision should he halt the legislation.

Still, Netanyahu's hard-line allies pressed him to continue on. "We must not halt the reform in the judicial system, and we must

not give in to anarchy," National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir said.

Netanyahu's dismissal of Defense Minister Yoav Gallant appeared to signal that the prime minister and his allies would barrel ahead. Gallant had been the first senior member of the ruling Likud party to speak out against it, saying the deep divisions were threatening to weaken the military.

And Netanyahu's government forged ahead with a centerpiece of the overhaul — a law that would give the governing coalition the final say over all judicial appointments. A parliamentary committee approved the legislation on Monday for a final vote, which could come this week.

The government also seeks to pass laws that would grant the Knesset the authority to overturn Supreme Court decisions and limit judicial review of laws.

A separate law that would circumvent a Supreme Court ruling to allow a key coalition ally to serve as minister was delayed following a request from that party's leader.

Netanyahu returned to power late last year after a protracted political crisis that sent Israelis to the polls five times in less than four years. The elections were all a referendum on Netanyahu's fitness to serve while on trial for corruption. (AP)

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

How A Man Lost

adults from that room only."

This was the beginning of a long journey for Gulzar and his colleague, Afroza. The duo went out of their ways to implement the scheme, but couldn't get any dues.

"But nothing deterred us from the goal we had embarked upon," says Gulzar with an assertive gesture. "After finishing our duties at primary school, where we were attached, we would go to teach adults in anticipation of helping our community grow."

Gulzar's efforts encouraged many adults to resume their education, especially females who always outnumbered males in his classroom. Most of those women hadn't completed their education due to financial compulsions and the 'silent sacrifice' they go through in the society, Gulzar says. "I believe educating a male member is educating one individual, while educating a female is educating an entire family and newer generation. To make a good and mannered society, educating women is a must."

In Kashmir, Gulzar says, female folks bear a huge responsibility for children, be it their primary needs or their education. "By ignoring women education, we're actually letting our new generation suffer."

Gulzar's mission went on to inspire people from neighboring villages who showed eagerness for his classes. He started separate sessions for them before Government of India scrapped the scheme in 2018. The step, Afroza says, came as a rude shock to learners as well as educators.

"We worked for years with a hope that the government will take the Adult Education Scheme further and design some advanced courses for those who got enrolled in it," Afroza says. "But they instead scrapped it and didn't pay remuneration of 18-months to motivators."

Realizing that all motivators are now a deadwood for the government and there is no hope in the scheme, Gulzar with the help of an NGO—School of Rural Development and Environment (SRDE)—eventually started a digital literacy programme.

"With the help of SRDE, I was able to start a computer class in my village," he says. "The computer lab saw a huge crowd of students and we couldn't say no to anyone given the limited resources."

There has been a visible impact of Gulzar's contribution in his village. The people who enrolled in the adult education scheme are now able to do all the basic tasks, be it filling a form or withdrawing money from banks.

"Adult education programme made me an able citizen," says Haseena Begum, a Budgam resident. "I'm able to use online banking, like mPay and do other bank transactions now. If given a chance, I would go further to receive education."

But despite this constructive change, Gulzar is distraught over the derailing of his mission. "Had the government continued it," he says, "we would've touched and transformed several lives at the grassroots."

Rahul Gandhi

was marked to various departments, including the Directorate of Estates, New Delhi Municipal Council, and all the benefits available to Gandhi as a member of Parliament too are under review.

Govt Orders

Abhishake Abrol, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jammu (South), has been transferred and posted as Deputy Secretary to the Government, School Education Department.

Vinay Kumar, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Vijaypur, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner (Nazool), Jammu, vice Jasmeet Singh, JKAS, who has been asked to await further orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department.

Manisha Koul, JKAS, Deputy Director,

District Employment and Counselling Centre, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Hiranagar. "She shall also hold the charge of the post of Sub-Registrar, Hiranagar, in addition to her own duties, till further orders," reads the order.

Shabir Ahmad Wani, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kupwara, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Bandipore.

Parvaiz Rahim, JKAS, Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Bandipore, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kupwara.

Hilal Ahmad Bhat, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the Mining Department, Srinagar, has been posted as Personnel Officer in the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir, against an available vacancy.

Atul Dutt Sharma, JKAS, Project Officer, Wage Employment (ACD), Kishtwar, has been transferred and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Jammu (South).

Abdul Gaffar Bhat, JKAS, Tehsildar, Shahabad Bala, has been transferred and posted as Deputy Director, District Employment and Counselling Centre, Anantnag, against an available vacancy.

Meanwhile, as per separate order, Trikansh Bhusan, Junior Scale JKAS, Deputy Registrar (Hqr) in the office of Additional Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Finance Department.

Sadia Ahmed, Junior Scale JKAS, Administrative Officer, J&K Services Selection Board, Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Functional Manager, DIC, Srinagar.

Pankaj Kumar, Junior Scale JKAS, Functional Manager, DIC, Srinagar, has been transferred and posted as Administrative Officer, J&K Services Selection Board, Jammu and Aflaq Ahmed, Junior Scale JKAS, District Information Officer, Anantnag, has been transferred and posted as Under Secretary to the Government, Revenue Department.

LG Directs PDD

feeder-wise to protect consumer interests and quality standards. It will empower the consumers and help them to conserve energy and usage in an efficient manner," the LG said.

He also sought a report on steps taken to reduce AT&C losses. Sinha further directed the department to fix the responsibility and draw up an action plan for reducing the losses within a specific timeframe.

The LG emphasized on training and capacity building of PDD staff; online registration of new consumers; massive awareness drive; proper maintenance of power infrastructure and constitution of teams of officers for monitoring physical condition of equipment.

He also reviewed the steps taken towards quality control; completion of languishing projects, revenue realization and network strengthening.

H. Rajesh Prasad, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department briefed the chair on the effective measures taken to bridge the demand and supply gap.

It was informed that additional capacities were created during the winter to enable peak demand and 10 percent more power was supplied as compared to last year.

Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary; Dr Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, Principal Secretary to Lt Governor; Shiv Anant Tayal, Managing Director, JPDCL; Ch. Mohd. Yasin, Managing Director, KPDC; Chief Engineers and senior officials attended the meeting, in person and through virtual mode.

LS Okays

Rama Devi who was in the Chair asked finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to move the amendment to the Finance Bill as recommended by the Rajya Sabha. The amendment was passed by the voice vote amid ruckus, thus completing the Budgetary exercise.

In the Finance Bill 2023, passed by the Lok Sabha on Friday, the Securities Transaction Tax on options is proposed to be increased to 0.0625 per cent from 0.05 per cent and on futures contracts to 0.0125 from 0.01 per cent.

After the Lok Sabha cleared the Finance Bill, which has 64 official amendments, the finance ministry issued a statement saying that there was a typographical error in the amendments with respect to the change in STT on options trading.

The error, the finance ministry said, will be rectified in accordance with the extent procedure of the government of India.

As per the amendments, the STT on options has been increased from 0.017 per cent to 0.021 per cent.

"In case of STT, the rate is proposed to be changed from 0.05 per cent to 0.0625 per cent. There was a typographical error which is being corrected," the ministry said.

In percentage terms, STT on sale of futures has been hiked from 0.01 per cent to 0.0125 per cent and in case of options it has been hiked from 0.05 per cent to 0.062 per cent.

Traders in the futures segment will now have to pay an STT of Rs 1,250 on Rs 1 crore of turnover against the earlier levy of Rs 1,000. The new rules will come into effect from the new financial year 2023-24.

Under the new tax regime with effect from April 1, if a taxpayer has an annual income of Rs 7 lakh s/he pays no tax. But if s/he has income of Rs 7,00,100 s/he pays tax of Rs 25,010. Thus an additional income of Rs 100 leads to a tax of Rs 25,010.

The amendment provides that the tax payable should not be more than the income that exceeds Rs 7 lakh. This means, an individual having income up to Rs 7,27,700 could stand to benefit from this marginal relief.

Other amendments include raising the tax rate on royalty and fee for technical services from 10 per cent to 20 per cent.

From April 1, investments in debt mutual funds will be taxed as short-term capital gains, stripping investors of the long-term tax benefits that made such investments popular.

Currently, investors in debt funds pay income tax on capital gains according to the income tax slab for a holding period of three years. After three years these funds pay either 20 per cent with indexation benefits or 10 per cent without indexation.

After the amendment, such gains from transfer of units of specified mutual funds will be treated as short term and taxed at slab rates.

This is in addition to taxation of market linked debenture proposed in the original bill. Specified mutual funds have been defined to include funds where not more than 35 per cent of proceeds is invested in shares of domestic companies. This may include debt mutual funds and gold ETFs where investment in domestic companies is less than 35 per cent of proceeds of the fund.

The move will bring taxation of such mutual funds on par with bank deposits which are taxed at slab rates.

The current Parliament session is scheduled to end on April 6. There is speculation that the duration of the session may be curtailed after completion of the budgetary exercise.

Unlike the past, the Parliament this time did not discuss the demands for grants of the identified ministries. The Business Advisory Committee had approved discussions on the ministries of railway, rural development, health and family welfare, panchayati raj, tribal affairs and, tourism and culture.

According to the Budget papers, the total expenditure in 2023-24 is estimated at Rs 45,03,097 crore, of which total capital expenditure has been pegged at Rs 10,00,961 crore.

During the current financial year ending March 31, 2023, the total expenditure has been estimated at Rs 41,87,232 crore, which is more

than the outlay of of 2021-22 by Rs 3,93,431 crore.

Besides other things, the Budget 2023-24 reflects continuing commitment of the Union government to boost economic growth by investing in infrastructure development and increasing capital expenditure by 37.4 per cent over revised estimate of 2022-23.

Effective capital expenditure has been estimated at Rs 13,70,949 crore in 2023-24 showing an increase of 30.1 per cent over the revised estimate of 2022-23.

With regard to fiscal deficit, the Budget proposed to bring it down to 5.9 per cent of the GDP from 6.4 per cent likely in the current financial year.

To finance the fiscal deficit in 2023-24, the government plans the net market borrowings at Rs 11.8 lakh crore from dated securities.

LG Sinha Asks

in Jammu Kashmir.

Discussion was also held on One District One Product (ODOP) and District Export Plan to realize the true potential of a district, fuel economic growth and generate employment.

PDD Starts Drive

recovers only Rs 3,500 crore, Dar said.

"So, this is a serious issue so that is why it becomes necessary that we recover the charges from the consumers. It is the reason why we have taken the step of disconnecting supply to consumers who have huge arrears outstanding against them," he added.

The Union Territory administration also announced an amnesty scheme for defaulters, waiving off the interest and surcharge accumulated in their outstanding bills.

"We treat any consumer who has outstanding against him as a defaulter. Any consumer who has not paid for three billing cycles is to be treated as a defaulter and the bill that goes to the consumer is to be treated as notice. The KPDC reserves the right to disconnect service to any consumer who has not paid," he added.

The disconnection drive is vigorous and a large number of connections have been disconnected. The list of defaulters has been available with each and every electric sub-division.

Arshad Ahmad, a resident, said the steps taken by KPDC have resulted in improved electricity supply.

"The voltage has increased because the unnecessary use of electricity has dropped. The hooking (electricity theft) has also come down substantially," he said.

Ahmad, however, said there was still room for improvement as load shedding happens at crucial times like Iftaar and Seheri.

Another city resident Sheikh Imran said the people of Kashmir were not yet ready for installation of smart meters.

"Do the people have capacity to pay the high bills that these meters generate? Electricity is needed for various purposes during winter. The bills will be so high that people might need to sell property to pay for it," he added.

Schools Warned

new classes are set to begin. However, we are constantly looking into the issue, we will ensure that violators are dealt with sternly," he added.

He asked the parents to directly call his office number, north or south zone Directors or local ZEOs and CEOs in case they are forced to purchase uniforms or books for their kids from designated shops.

Hussain said the department under the supervision of Alok Kumar, Principal Secretary to Government School Department, makes all out efforts to impart quality and inclusive education to the children under National Education Policy (NEP).

He also said that 1000 kindergartens will be started, while pre-primary classes up to middle school level will also be started in the valley within the next one or two years.

"We really want to impart quality and inclusive education to our children under NEP," he added.

Villagers Threaten

"shoot me dead too".

"We don't need jobs. We don't need money. We need justice by bringing terrorists and their supporters to book. If they don't address our demand, we will all migrate from here (Dhangri)," she told reporters in Rajouri.

Flanked by a large number of villagers, Bala said though 90 days have passed since the gruesome attack, there were no whereabouts of the terrorists involved.

"We have not received any information about the progress of the case and terrorists involved in the attack so far," She said.

Bala said she appreciated the support provided to the victims' families by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and J-K BJP Ravinder Raina. However, contrary to it, the J-K DGP said the attackers were Pakistani terrorists and have gone back after the killings, she added.

"How is it that? My son was fired 18 to 20 rounds. Terrorists from across the border would fire a single or twin shot to kill a person but why were so many bullets fired? They (attackers) killed people after checking their IDs," Bala said.

"Even if that is true, what about those who gave them support to infiltrate, guided them and provided food and shelter here," she asked. "The administration, in order to escape its responsibilities, transferred the SSP and the SHO probing case," Bala said.

Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh on Thursday said militants had infiltrated from Pakistan and killed innocent people in Dhangri village.

Asserting that the victims' families do not need jobs or ex-gratia, Dhangri village sarpanch Deeraj Kumar said that the money will be returned back to the same account where from it was credited if justice is not provided to the families.

Minor Girl

necessary details regarding the incident.

IGR J&K Changes

J&K are therefore informed that they should contact the IGR office on the above mentioned helpline number for any future queries," he added.

Girl Student Dies

of gloom descended on the village as news of her death spread.

Gandhi Presents

appreciated KK Gandhi for his work of art, and the endeavours to promote art and culture in Jammu Kashmir.

KK Gandhi completed the live painting on the canvas size of 5x10 ft in acrylic colour within one day.

Covid Cases

The death toll has increased to 5,30,837 with six deaths, one each reported by Chandigarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh in a span of 24 hours, and two reconciled by Kerala.

The total tally of Covid cases is 4.47 crore (4,47,05,952), the data stated.

The active cases now comprise 0.02 per cent of the total infections, while the national Covid recovery rate has been recorded at 98.79 per cent, according to the health ministry's website.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has increased to 4,41,64,815, the data stated. The case fatality rate has been recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.65 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered so far under the nationwide Covid vaccination drive.

SED Probes IT Refund By Some Employees Using Fake Docs

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Authorities on Monday said that some of its employees have 'fraudulently claimed Income Tax refunds by producing the fabricated documents.'

Director Finance, School Education Department in a circular has said, "All the HOD's as well as DDO's of sub-ordinate offices in particular and all employees in general working under the Administrative Department of School Education Department UT J&K are informed that a meeting was convened by Principal Commissioner, Income Tax on March-24 in his office chamber at Rajbagh wherein the DDO's of various institutions attended the meeting.

"The chair intimated that number of income tax refund claims of employees has increased manifold from last two years as the employees are utilizing the services of some

tax professionals wherein TDS deducted from their salaries by DDO is refunded by using various sections of Income Tax on the basis of fabricated documents," it reads.

The official further said, "These bogus refund claims have been viewed seriously by the Income tax Department and details of such employees who have claimed refunds has been prepared and intimated to the Chief Secretary to Government of J&K."

"However, it has been felt that before their names are forwarded to their respective departments one time relaxation has been given to such claimants till 31-03-2023 that a rectified IT as (ITR-U) may be filed otherwise it shall have some serious repercussions followed by Departmental enquiries and imposition of penalties U/S 270(A) and U/S 276 (C) of Income Tax Act 1961," reads the circular—(KNO)

Unknown People Chop Down Apple Trees In Anantnag

Police Registers Case, Starts Investigation

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Unidentified persons chopped scores of apple trees in two different places at Kandipora area of Bijbehara in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, locals said Monday.

The inhabitants of Kandipora, Bijbehara said that during the intervening night of Sunday-Monday (March 26&27), miscreants damaged apple orchards belonging to some nine families in Kandipora area of Bijbehara.

They said miscreants chopped down more than a hundred fruit-bearing apple trees by using axes and saws.

The locals said that the apple orchards are their only source of livelihood. "Dozens of families are dependent on these trees and the chopping down of the trees has created tremendous panic among the locals," they added.

The locals have appealed to the higher ups to find the culprits and compensate for the losses they have suffered.

A police official said that the locals have registered a complaint in this matter and an FIR vide number 72/2023 under relevant sections of law has been registered while further investigation has been taken up—(KNO)

ASHTHAMI, NAWAMI FESTIVAL

DC Ganderbal Chairs Meet To Finalize Arrangements



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shyambir on Monday visited Kheerbawani Temple Tullamulla to inspect and finalize the arrangements for ensuing Ashtami and Nawami festival which is to be celebrated on 29th and 30th March.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Additional District Development Commissioner Ganderbal, Mushtaq Ahmad Simnani, Tehsildar Lar and other concerned.

On the occasion the DC took the round of the premises and inspected the preparation for the celebration of Ashtami & Nawami and ordered the concerned officers to ensure quality arrangements are put in place on both the days for the convenience of the devotees visiting here.

The DC was briefed by the

representatives of Darmath trust regarding the arrangements to be put in place including un-interrupted power and water supply, repairment of street lights, availability of adequate essential food items, sanitation and cleanliness in and around the Kheerbawani Temple, deployment of health teams, adequate transport facilities, security arrangements and other related arrangements.

On the occasion the DC assured the representatives of Darmath trust that all requisite facilities will be put in place on time.

Earlier, the DC convened a meeting of concerned officers to finalize the arrangements for both the days here at DC Office.

The said meeting was attended by Additional District Development Commissioner, ACD, ACP, EO Municipal Council Ganderbal, Tehsildar Lar besides representatives of Darmath trust.

Dates Losing Sweetness In Kashmir Due To High Rates

Auqib Javeed

SRINAGAR: The people in Kashmir Valley are complaining that the shopkeepers are selling dates at exorbitant rates with the Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs (FCS&CA) doing little enough to check the rates.

Dates are consumed worldwide by the people at the time of Iftaar—the time of breaking the fast. It is available at almost every grocery store and shop in the Valley.

"It's Sunnah (Prophet Muhammad's practice) to break the fast with dates," said Mohammad Haris, a resident of Srinagar.

Due to its high demand, a number of shopkeepers, including street vendors, switch to selling dates during this month. The markets in Srinagar city and other towns of the valley popular for dates, remain abuzz with customers.

In Ramzan, the demands of the dates remain exceptionally high throughout the month. However, the department allegedly seems helpless in taking any measures to keep a check on the rising prices.

"We have this problem every year. There is no mechanism to keep a tap on rates," said Shafeeq Ahmad, a resident of Srinagar.

Ahmad says the consumers have no choice other than to buy the dates at high prices.



Abid Bhat/KNO

Hilal Ahmad, another Srinagar resident said that the sellers take undue advantage of the holy month and have been selling the dates at varying prices.

A variety of dates are imported to the valley from different countries including Saudi Arabia, Iran, Jordan, Bahrain, Iraq, Algeria, Qatar etc.

The dealers argue that due to the high demand of dates in this month, the rates are high from the companies.

"Mostly high-end dates are in demand. We have low-cost dates available as well. The consumers buy the dates according to their budget," said Abdul Rashid, a well-known dry fruit seller in Koker-Bazaar, Srinagar.

Rashid almost sells 2 tons of different varieties of dates every day. "The rates vary from Rs 150 to Rs 1500 per kg.

Another dealer Gani Kumar at

Parimpora Fruit Mandi said that they sell 5000 boxes of dates, weighing five kilograms each, at the beginning of Ramdhan.

Different types of dates are sold in Kashmir including both high-range and low-range, mainly Ajwa, Mabroom, Kalmi, Sudayi, Sukhri, Amber, and Medjool.

According to reports, The Ajwa dates are selling at Rs 1250/kg, Mabroom Rs 1000/kg, Kalmi Rs 650/kg, Sudayi Rs 700/kg, Sukhri Rs 700/kg.

Dr Abdul Salam Mir, Director, FCS&CA, Kashmir told Kashmir Observer that the department has constituted four market-checking teams in Srinagar city and other parts of the valley to check the food pricing.

"We can't do much about dates since they are exported from outside but we will definitely check whether the dates are sold at genuine prices," Mir said.

Night Temp Drops Below Normal In J&K

Mercury Settles Sub-Zero Level In Pahalgam, Gulmarg

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Amid forecast for mainly dry weather in the next 24 hours, the minimum temperatures recorded a drop in Jammu and Kashmir with mercury settling below sub-zero level in Pahalgam and Gulmarg on Monday.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that Srinagar recorded a low of 3.0°C against 5.7°C on the previous night and it was 3.1°C below normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 2.1°C against 5.0°C on the previous night and it was

2.6°C below normal for the gateway town of Kashmir.

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 1 minus .8°C against 2.0°C on the previous night and it was 3.4°C below normal for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kokernag recorded a low of 3.1°C against 4.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.6°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of minus 1.9°C against minus 1.4°C on the previous night and it was 1.1°C below normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baram-

ulla district, he said.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 1.6°C against 3.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.9°C below normal for the north Kashmir area.

Jammu recorded a low of 12.5°C against 11.9°C on the previous night. It was 4.1°C below normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal, he said, recorded a low of 3.8°C (below normal by 2.7°C), Batote 6.1°C (below normal by 2.4°C), Katra 11.2°C (2.6°C below normal) and Bhandarwah 3.6°C (1.8°C below normal).

Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of minus 3.8°C and 2.0°C respectively.

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER D H PORA

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders affixed with stamp worth Rs 5/- are invited from registered / authorized dealers for supply of the essential Drugs & Consumables, Laboratory reagents, Stationary items, X-ray Films, Dental Material, Spectacles (Power Lenses), IEC Material, Sanitary items and Bio Medical Waste Collection Bags. The tenders should reach this office within 21 days from the date of publication of this notice. The list can be had from the office of the undersigned on any working day from the day of publication of this notice. The tender will be opened on the last date at 2 Pm. In case of Holiday tender will be opened on the next working day by the committee framed for this purpose.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- The items are to be supplied to this office within the stipulated time as mentioned in supply order positively after the placement of order.
- Rates should be inclusive of all taxes.
- Rates in any way shall not be higher than the rates charged by you for any other Govt, institution or department.
- This Office will procure the above mentioned items only for the periods when the supplies through department or J&K MSCL are short/ not available.
- The undersigned can reject partly or wholly the tender of any party without assigning any reason.
- If the items not supplied within the stipulated time the undersigned is authorized to issue orders to the next party without any reason.
- In case of any dispute the undersigned will act as arbitrator and decision taken would be binding on both the parties.
- The rates shall remain valid for financial year 2023-2024.
- The rates are F.O.R Block Medical officer D H Pora.

No: BMO/DHP/250-53
Dated: 27-03-2023

DIPK-18897-22
DT: 27-03-2023

Block Medical Officer
DH Pora

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GENERATION DIVISION POWER HOUSE GANDERBAL

Email: xeneganderbal@gmail.com Tel / fax - 01942-416234
e-NIT No. GDG/18 of 2022-23 Dated: 25/ 03 /2023

E-NOTICE INVITING TENDER
On behalf of Managing Director JKPCD, online e-bids in double cover system are invited (Cover-I-Techno-Commercial Bid and Cover-II-Price Bid) from authorised firms/ contractors/Self Help Groups registered with J&K government or any organization owned by PSUs/ State Government/ Central Government having sufficient related experience for undertaking the following titled work at Generation Division Ganderbal.

S.No	Scope Of Work	Quantity	Cost Of Tender Document	Estimated cost (Rs)	EMD @ 2% (Rs)	Time Completion
1.	Repair of Trash Rack Gate at RD 40000 of power house Ganderbal	As per scope	Rs 300/-	1.00 lacs	2000/-	Within 30 days from date of LOA

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information , eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the Departmental website jktenders.gov.in or www.jkspdc.nic.in as per schedule of dates given below.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	25-03-2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding document	27-03-2023 to 08-04-2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	27-03-2023 1400 hrs
4.	Bid submission End Date	08-04-2023 up to 1600 hrs
5.	Deadline for receiving Hard Copies (Proof of Cost of tender document and EMD)	08-04-2023 up to 1600 hrs
6.	Date and time of opening of Bid (online)	10-04-2023 or any other convenient date.
7.	Venue for submitting the hard cop of EMD & Cost of tender (proof)	Office of the Executive Engineer, Generation Division, Ganderbal, Kashmir.

Position of AAA = Accorded
Technical Sanction = Sanctioned
Position of Funds = Available

- The entire process of bidding shall be online. The bidding document consisting of BOQ (Bill of Quantities), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the government website jktenders.gov.in or www.jkspdc.nic.in. The bidder has to submit the bids (complete in all respects) online on the said website. The subsequent opening as well as comparison of bids (on the opening date/time) shall be online on the said website. The following documents are to be uploaded along with the bid; otherwise the bid shall be liable for rejection:
i) Details of Contractor along with working phone no. and e-mail id on the letter head of contractor.
ii) Cost of Tender Document in the shape of Bank slip/ demand draft in favour of the Chief Pay & Accounts Officer Kangan with the detail as: Account No. 0071010200005002 IFSC code : JAKAOKANGAN Bank: J&K Bank Ltd Kangan
iii) Earnest Money Deposit in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Chief Pay & Accounts Officer Kangan.
iv) Copy of Valid Registration Certificate.
v) Copy of valid GST Registration Certificate.
vi) Copy of PAN Card.
vii) Experience/Relevant Work Orders' and Completion Certificates copies.
viii) Income tax Certificate for last three years.
ix) Information regarding the current litigation (if any) in which the bidder is involved; parties concerned and disputed amount on registered affidavit/stamp paper of Rs 10/-.
- The bidders need to submit the proof/cost of e-bid document as stated above table through Bank slip/Demand Draft pledged to the Chief Pay Accounts Officer Kangan payable at Kangan with the detail as: Account No. 0071010200005002 IFSC code : JAKAOKANGAN Bank: J&K bank Ltd Kangan The Bank slip/Demand Draft must be uploaded along with the e-Bids but the original Bank slip/demand draft should reach the office of Executive Engineer, Generation Division, Ganderbal up to the cutoff date.
- All the e-bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD @ Rs. 2000/- in the form of CDR/FDR/BG only, pledged to the Chief Pay Accounts Officer Kangan payable at Kangan. Hard Copies of original instrument of EMD and cost of tender document shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Engineer, Generation Division, Ganderbal up to the cutoff date.
The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-
a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b. Failure of successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
c. Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 180 days from the date of opening of bids.
7. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened on same website in the Office of Superintending Engineer Generation Circle-II Bemina Srinagar Kashmir.
8. No price bid will be accepted in physical form.
9. The bidders are advised to visit the site for assessment and go through the contents of the SBD before quoting the rates.
10. Modification in scope of work and extension of period of download of tender specification, closing opening date if required will be notified through corrigendum.

No:GDG/T/237-46
Dated:- 25-03-2023

DIPK-NB-7036-22
DT: 27-03-2023

Sd/
Executive Engineer
Generation Division Ganderbal

Downtown Heroes Register First Win In I-League 2



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Downtown Heroes FC registered their first win of the 2nd Division League (I-League 2) on Monday by pipping Himachal Pradesh-based football club Tectro Swades FC 1-0 at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

Mehran Hilal Dar scored the only goal of the match in the 31st minute. The win lifts the Heroes from the bottom of the Group A table, with three points from three games.

Elated with the win, the founders have credited the coaching staff, especially head

coach for this win.

"Despite not a good start to the tournament, our coaching staff, especially the head coach Hilal Rasool Parray and Ajaz Ahmad, backed the team and kept them motivated," Downtown Heroes founder Mushtaq Bashir said in a statement.

"This win has boosted team's morale and we're hopeful of good performance in the upcoming matches as well," he added.

Downtown Heroes is the only club from J&K who made it to the 2nd Division I-League this year.

Taekwondo Premier League With 12 Teams Launched



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: As many as 12 teams will vie for honours in the Indian Taekwondo Premier League (TPL), which was launched here on Sunday.

The franchise-based league, to be held in Delhi in June this year, has found takers in Hyderabad, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Assam, Delhi, Bengaluru, Dehradun, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal, Chennai and Gujarat.

Top taekwondo exponents Jun Lee and Moon Dae Sung, a world, Olympic and Asian Champion, hailed the TPL as a path-breaker.

"There are 10 lakh registered players in the country, making it one of the more popular sports in India," Sung said while addressing about 400 players.

"The top players will get the opportunity to hone their skills

at the highest level and, I am sure, India will soon see an Olympic medal winner." Taekwondo, which finds its origins in South Korea and is a form of martial art that involves kicking and punching, is practiced by over 20 million athletes in about 200 countries and is an Olympic sport.

An international panel led by Jun Lee, the TPL commissioner, Kim Chang Kwon, chief TPL coach, and Sung will pick the players following selection trials in 12 cities.

The mentors and coaches for each team have been identified.

"The TPL will be played out in a team format, with each team boasting five top players. We have also restricted ourselves to the 58.1kg-67.9kg category to keep the competition fast and thrilling," Ganesh Duvvuri, the founder director, said.

Indore Pitch Rating Changed From 'Poor' To 'Below Average'



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The International Cricket Council (ICC) has changed the pitch rating of Indore's Holkar Stadium -- the venue for the third Test between India and Australia -- to 'below average' from 'poor' following a BCCI appeal.

The ICC also gave the Narendra Modi Stadium pitch in Ahmedabad, the venue for the fourth Test, an 'average' rating for the slow batting deck where both teams had one completed innings each. The match had ended in a tame draw, with India winning the series 2-1.

At Indore, Australia had defeated India by nine wickets inside three days of the Border-Gavaskar Test to secure a World Test Championship final berth.

The ICC appeal panel reviewed the earlier decision of the match referee Chris Broad and found that there was not enough excessive variable bounce to warrant the 'poor' rating. The pitch,

which had initially received three demerit points, will now get only one demerit point.

"The footage from the Test was reviewed by an ICC appeal panel consisting of Wasim Khan, ICC General Manager - Cricket, and Roger Harper, ICC Men's Cricket Committee Member. Both were of the opinion that, while the guidelines had been followed by the Match Referee in accordance with Appendix A of the Pitch Monitoring Process, there was not enough excessive variable bounce to warrant the 'poor' rating," said an ICC statement on Monday.

"The panel, therefore, concluded that the pitch should be rated 'below average', meaning the Holkar Stadium will receive only one demerit point instead of the original three."

The Holkar Stadium pitch offered a lot of help to the spinners, with 14 wickets falling on the first day and, out of the 31 wickets to fall in the Test, 26 were picked up by spinners.

IPL 2023: Full Squads List

Agencies

The Indian Premier League 2023 is all set to begin on Friday, March 31 with reigning champions Gujarat Titans' (GT) taking on MS Dhoni-led Chennai Super Kings (CSK) at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The two-month-long cricket league will witness 74 matches across 12 venues this season.

The 16th IPL season will begin with GT vs CSK clash followed up by the first double-header day where Punjab Kings (KKR) and Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) vs Delhi Capitals (DC) will take place in Mohali and Lucknow. The day games will begin at 3:30 PM IST while the evening games will start at 7:30 PM IST.

IPL 2023 Squads:

GUJARAT GIANTS: Hardik Pandya, Shubman Gill, David Miller, Wriddhiman Saha, Matthew Wade, Abhinav Manohar, Sai Sudarshan Rahul Tewatia, Rashid Khan, Vijay Shankar, R Sai Kishore, Jayant Yadav, Mohammad Shami, Alzarri Joseph, Yash Doyal, Noor Ahmad, Darshan Nalkand, Pradeep Sangwan

RAJASTHAN ROYALS: Karun Nair, Navdeep Saini, Riyan Parag, Shimron Hetmyer, Daryl Mitchell, James Neesham, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shubham Garwal, KC Cariappa, Jos Buttler, Anunay Singh, Corbin Bosch, Dhruv Jurel, Kuldeep Sen, Kuldeep Yadav, Rassie van der Dussen, Obed McCoy, Tejas Baroka.

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: MS Dhoni (c), Devon Conway, Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ambati Rayudu, Subhanshu Senapati, Moeen Ali, Shivam Dube, Rajvardhan Hangargekar, Dwaine Pretorius, Mitchell Santner, Ravindra Jadeja, Tushar Deshpande, Mukesh Chowdhary, Matheesha Pathirana, Simarjeet Singh, Deepak Chahar, Prashant So-



lanki, Maheesh Theekshana, Ajinkya Rahane, Ben Stokes, Shaik Rasheed, Nishant Sindhu, Kyle Jamieson, Ajay Mandal, Bhagath Varma.

DELHI CAPITALS: Rishabh Pant, Axar Patel, Prithvi Shaw, Anrich Nortje, David Warner, Mitchell Marsh, Sarfaraz Khan, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Mustafizur Rahman, Kuldeep Yadav, Khaleel Ahmed, Chetan Sakariya, Lalit Yadav, Ripal Patel, Yash Dhull, Rovman Powell, Pravin Dube, Lungi Ngidi, Vicky Ostwal, Aman Khan, Phil Salt, Ishant Sharma, Mukesh Kumar, Manish Pandey, Rilee Rossouw

ROYAL CHALLENGERS BANGALORE: Virat Kohli, Glenn Maxwell, Mohammad Siraj, Faf Du Plessis, Harshal Patel, Wanindu Hasaranga, Dinesh Karthik, Shahbaz Ahmed, Rajat Patidar, Anuj Rawat, Akash Deep, Josh Hazlewood, Mahipal Lomror, Finn Allen, Suyash Prabhudessai, Karn Sharma, Siddharth Kaul, David Willey, Reece Topley, Himanshu Sharma, Manoj Bhandage, Rajan Kumar, Avinash Singh, Sonu Yadav, Micheal Bracewell

PUNJAB KINGS: Shikhar Dhawan (c), Shahrux Khan, Prabhsimran Singh, Bhanuka Rajapaksa, Jitesh Sharma, Raj Bawa, Rishi Dhawan, Liam Livingstone, Atharva Taide, Arshdeep Singh, Baltej Singh, Nathan Ellis, Kagiso Rabada, Rahul Chahar, Harpreet Brar, Sam Curran, Sikandar Raza, Harpreet Bhatia, Vidwath Kaverappa, Mohit Rathee, Shivam Singh.

LUCKNOW SUPER KINGS: KL

Rahul, Ayush Badoni, Karan Sharma, Manan Vohra, Quinton de Kock, Marcus Stoinis, Krishnappa Gowtham, Deepak Hooda, Kyle Mayers, Krunal Pandya, Avesh Khan, Mohsin Khan, Mark Wood, Mayank Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Nicholas Pooran, Jaydev Unadkat, Yash Thakur, Romario Shepherd, Daniel Sams, Amit Mishra, Pre-rak Mankad, Swapnil Singh, Naveen-ul-Haq, Yuvraj Chavak.

SUNRISERS HYDERABAD:

Aiden Markram, Abdul Samad, Rahul Tripathi, Glenn Phillips, Abhishek Sharma, Marco Jansen, Washington Sundar, Fazalqah Farooqi, Kartik Tyagi, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, T Natarajan, Umran Malik, Harry Brook, Mayank Agarwal, Heinrich Klaasen, Adil Rashid, Mayank Markande, Vivrant Sharma, Samarth Vyas, Sanvir Singh, Upendra Yadav, Mayank Dagar, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Anmolpreet Singh, Akeal Hosein

MUMBAI INDIANS: Rohit

Sharma (C), Suryakumar Yadav, Tim David, Dewald Brevis, Tilak Varma, Ishan Kishan (wk), Tristan Stubbs, Vishnu Vinod, Cameron Green, Arjun Tendulkar, Ramandeep Singh, Shams Mulani, Nehal Wadhwa, Hritik Shokeen, Arshad Khan, Duan Jansen, Piyush Chawla, Kumar Kartikeya, Raghav Goyal, Jofra Archer, Jason Behrendorff, Akash Madhwal

KOLKATA KNIGHT RIDERS:

Shreyas Iyer (c), Nitish Rana, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Venkatesh Iyer, Andre Russell, Sunil Narine, Shardul Thakur, Lockie Ferguson, Umesh Yadav, Tim Southee, Harshit Rana, Varun Chakravarthy, Anukul Roy, Rinku Singh, N. Jagadeesan, Vaibhav Arora, Suyash Sharma, David Wiese, Kulwant Khejroliya, Litton Das, Manddeep Singh, Shakib Al Hasan.

European Clubs Seal FIFA Deal To Increase WC Revenue

Agencies

FIFA's compensation paid to clubs that release players for the men's World Cup has been increased by nearly 70% to \$355 million for the 2026 and 2030 tournaments, the global soccer governing body and the European Club Association (ECA) said on Monday.

The Club Benefits Programme affords clubs a share of national team competition revenues in return for releasing players and also protects clubs in case their players are injured on international duty.

The previous amount earmarked for the 2018 and 2022 World Cups was \$209 million. A renewed Memorandum of Understanding was signed on Monday at the ECA General Assembly in Budapest, Hungary. "We are delighted to have signed this landmark agreement," ECA Chairman Nasser Al-Khelaifi said.

"The MoU recognises the central role of clubs in football glob-



ally and ensures that they are properly represented in decision making around issues which affect them."

Earlier this month, FIFA had announced a 32-team Club World Cup will be played every four years from June 2025, replacing its annual competition which featured seven teams.

The decision was met with opposition from leagues such as Spain's LaLiga but the MoU will now have both FIFA and the ECA working together on its various sporting and commercial aspects for the 2025 edition.

"FIFA and ECA will also now establish closer working practices on a future new Club World Cup... and working together on future editions including on potential structures for managing the commercial rights going forward."

U-20 WC Draw In Indonesia Postponed Amid Protest Against Israel Participation

Agencies

The draw for the Under-20 FIFA World Cup that was scheduled to take place in Indonesia next week will be postponed, a source told Reuters after Bali's governor refused to host Israel's team. The Indonesian Football Association (PSSI) said the draw that was to be held on Friday had been cancelled. FIFA were still conducting checks on tournament readiness.

The 24-team tournament is scheduled to be held from May

20-June 11 across six cities and

Israel were set to make their debut in the competition. The Jakarta Post reported earlier this month that Bali's governor Wayan Koster had written to the Ministry of Youth and Sports imploring them to "adopt a policy forbidding the Israeli team from competing in Bali" due to the conflict with Palestine.

The letter was also sent to the PSSI. Reuters could not reach the governor's office for comment. Reuters has also contacted the Israeli FA for comment.



U-20 WORLD CUP INDONESIA 2023

Nitish Rana Replaces Shreyas Iyer As KKR Captain



Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Kolkata Knight Riders on Monday named left-handed batter Nitish Rana as the team's new skipper for the upcoming season of the Indian Premier League.

Rana will replace Shreyas Iyer, who is likely to undergo back surgery and is in danger of missing the entire season.

In fact, KKR's statement was an indicator that Iyer's chances of an early return to play looks improbable at the moment.

"...Nitish Rana would captain the side in the absence of Shreyas Iyer, who is recovering from a back injury. While we are hopeful that Shreyas will recover and participate at some stage in the IPL 2023 edition, we feel fortunate that Nitish, with the captaincy experience having led his state side in white ball cricket and the IPL experience he has had with KKR since 2018, will do a great job," KKR said in a statement.

"We are also confident that under head coach Chandrakant Pandit and the support staff, he will get all the support needed off the field, and the highly experienced leaders in the squad will provide all support that Nitish may need on the field. We wish him the best in his new role and Shreyas a full and speedy recovery," it further stated.

While Rana has captained Delhi in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, the results have been far from encouraging for the southpaw. It is understood that he would be asked to implement the strategy prepared by coach Pandit, who along with team boss Venky Mysore and former Mumbai Ranji stalwart Abhishek Nayar will be calling the shots.

It may be noted that Rana was dropped by Delhi in this season's Ranji Trophy squad due to his poor show and inept technique in red-ball cricket.

Rana has captained Delhi in 12 T20s in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, with eight wins and four defeats.

The 29-year old middle-order batter was bought by KKR ahead of the 2018 season and has been retained by the franchise ever since.

Rana 74 matches for KKR, scoring 1744 runs at a strike rate of 135.61.

KKR will open their campaign against Punjab Kings at Mohali on April 1.

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