

# Home Secy Chairs Meeting Of Top Police Brass In Srinagar

Director IB, ACS Goyal; DGP Dilbag Singh Attend Meeting At Police Hqs

Observer News Service

**Srinagar:** With the prestigious G-20 meeting round the corner, the Union Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Wednesday chaired a meeting of top brass of Jammu and Kashmir police (JKP) here.

Flanked by Director Intelligence Bureau (IB), Tapan Kumar Deka, the Union Home Secretary chaired the meeting at the Police Headquarters Srinagar, a police spokesperson said.

The meeting, among others, was attended by Additional Chief Secretary J&K, R. K. Goyal, DGP Dilbag Singh, Special DG CID R. R. Swain, ADGP Jammu, Mukesh Singh, ADGP Headquarters PHQ, M. K. Sinha, IGP Traffic J&K, Vikramjeet Singh and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri.

DGP and other officers, the spokesperson said, briefed the Union Home Secretary regarding the working of Jammu and Kashmir Police and measures taken for maintaining peace in



the Union Territory. "On the occasion, DGP on behalf of all ranks of J&K Police presented mementos to the Union Home Secretary & DIB as a token of love & respect," he said.

Earlier, the Union Home

Secretary was received by DGP and his team of officers on his arrival at PHQ.

Bhalla's visit to the police headquarters comes a day after he chaired a security review meeting at SKICC. Besides reviewing | [More on PIO](#)

## Stringent Action Taken Against Anti-Nationals: DGP

The Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh said on Wednesday that police and the central forces were working hard to maintain prevailing peace in Jammu and Kashmir despite Pakistan's attempt to push militants into the Union Territory to disturb peace. Speaking to journalists during his visit to Ramban district on Wednesday, Singh said various conspiracies of Pakistan to supply arms, ammunition and drugs through drones have been detected and exposed by Jammu Police along with security forces. Besides, he said, stringent actions were taken against the people involved in the anti-national activities. He also said that operations were being carried out in both regions of Jammu and Kashmir regularly to foil all "evil" | [More on PIO](#)

## Properties Of 3 Attached For Militant Links

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday attached the properties of three persons for their alleged involvement in militancy-related activities in the Kashmir Valley, officials said.

The central agency has stepped up its vigil against militant outfits, their affiliates, agents and over-ground workers (OGWs) by conducting raids on properties of militant suspects and accused across locations in Kashmir, they said.

The NIA attached the immovable properties of three accused in two different cases of militant activities involving members or cadres of proscribed militant organisations like Hizbul Mujahideen (HM) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), among others.

In the first case, immovable properties of two accused -- Doulat Ali Mugal and Ishaq Pala -- were attached in Herman in Shopian district under the UA(PJA) Act, the NIA said.

While Pala, currently lodged in central jail Agra, was a militant of HM/Al-Badr organisation, Mugal was an overground worker of the proscribed HM and is currently out on bail, it said. | [More on PIO](#)

# Srinagar Spruced Up To Welcome G20 Delegates

Major Shrines, Buildings To Lit In G20 Motif; Electric Poles To Have LED Lights



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

Majid Nabi

**Srinagar:** The J&K administration is sprucing up the summer capital with a G20 theme to welcome delegates from G20 nations ahead of the first major international event to be held under India's G20 Presidency in Srinagar on May 22 and 23.

Besides, some revered Muslim shrines including Peer Dastgeer Sahab (RA) at Khanyar, major buildings in the Srinagar city are likely to be lit in the G20 motif, while 1000 electric poles will be illuminated with multi color LED lighting.

Officials at Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) told Kashmir Observer that Srinagar city will be spruced up right from the Airport Road to SKICC, the main venue of G20 travelers track meeting.

They said 15 major buildings including Hotel Lala Rukh at Lal Chowk, Budshah

building, SPS Library, TRC buildings and Kashmir Arts Emporium will have façade LED lighting.

They also said that Chatti Padshahi revered by Sikh community will also be illuminated with LED lighting to mark the occasion.

Confirming the development, Commissioner SMC, who is also Chief Executive Officer of Srinagar Smart City Ltd, Athar Amir Khan said all arrangements in this direction have been finalized.

Khan said the work on Airport Road, MA Road stands completed while similar arrangements will be put in place in some old city areas as well.

"Around 15 major buildings in Srinagar have been identified to be lit in the G20 theme, while around 1000 electric poles will be illuminated with LED lighting. These multi-color lights make evenings beautiful and at the same time offer pleasant feelings to people," he added.

## HC Dismisses CRPF Man's Plea Against Dismissal In 2001

Says Doctrine Of 'Delay And Latches Is Not To Be Taken So Lightly'

M Ahmad

**Srinagar, May 10:** Observing that the doctrine of "delay and latches" is not to be taken so lightly, the J&K and Ladakh High Court has dismissed a petition filed by a paramilitary CRPF personnel against his dismissal more than two decades ago.

The petition was filed, Nissar Ahmad Shah, stating that he was appointed as Constable in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) at Assam in 1998. In 2000 he was granted leave for 60 days from

12 July 2000 to 9 September 2000 on account of his mother being ill. Unfortunately, Shah said, he lost his mother and his wife. These harsh circumstances, he said, led to adverse psychiatric symptoms and he had to undergo consistent treatment and had to maintain proper follow-up from the year 2001.

Shah had first filed a petition in 2011 but had withdrawn it later. Again in 2017 he filed a fresh petition which was dismissed by the court today. "Even if it is presumed that the petitioner (Shah) was having psychiatric issues | [More on PIO](#)



Kathua Gangrape-Murder

## Punjab Court To Resume Trial Of Accused Shubam Sangra

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** Decks have been cleared for commencement of trial of Shubam Sangra, accused in the Kathua gangrape and murder case of 2018, at a court in Punjab after he was declared an adult by Supreme Court last November.

Sangra was among eight accused arrested in connection with the sensational gangrape and murder of an eight-year-old nomadic girl in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir.

On April 24, the Supreme Court disposed of a miscellaneous application, arising out of its impugned final judgement of November 16, 2022, and directed that the further trial



of Sangra, pending before the court of sessions judge, Kathua, will commence in the court of Principal District and Sessions Judge in Pathankot in Punjab.

The court in Kathua is scheduled to hear the case for the

final disposal on May 23 in light of the Supreme Court decision.

Though the trial was expected to begin in Pathankot as per a Supreme Court order of 2018, the crime branch submitted its charge sheet | [More on PIO](#)

# Srinagar Airport Starts E-Cart Service For Women Flyers, Senior Citizens

Agencies

**Srinagar:** The authorities at the Srinagar International Airport have started an e-cart service from the drop gate to the terminal building and back, for the special convenience of lady passengers and senior citizens.

The Director of Srinagar International Airport Kuldeep Singh said that they have started the initiative for the convenience of lady passengers and senior citizens, and are seeking feedback to further augment the free service.

"As of now, we have started the free service for the convenience of female passengers and senior citizens with two e-carts from the drop gate to the terminal building and back. We



are seeking public responses for the service, after which we may consider if any further augmentation is required," he said.

The Director said though most

of the passengers come in their own vehicles or cabs, they have still started the service on an experimental basis, which will be operated and controlled by the Airport Authority of India (AAI).

The Srinagar airport authorities in a tweet said the service is an initiative to give special convenience to lady passengers and senior citizens.

"For the special convenience of our lady passengers and senior citizens we are starting an e-cart service from Drop Gate to Terminal Building and back," the airport authorities said in a tweet.

"This service is being introduced on an experimental basis and it is free of charge please give your feedback," reads another tweet--(KNO)

## Destabilised Pak Dangerous For All Countries: Dr Farooq

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** A destabilised Pakistan is dangerous for all countries, including India, former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Farooq Abdullah said here on Wednesday.

The remarks of the former Union minister came a day after Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chairman Imran Khan was arrested in a corruption case.

"A destabilised Pakistan is dangerous for all countries including our own country. We want a stronger and a democratic Pakistan where democracy flourishes, which will also improve its relations with India," Abdullah, the president of the National Conference (NC) told reporters.

Abdullah said the internal

situation in Pakistan was "very dangerous" and its economic condition was also very bad.

"Heavy floods hit the region last year, and many areas are still impacted by that. The people there are still suffering. In such circumstances, the situation turning like this is more dangerous," he said.

The three-time chief minister of J-K said while the situation in the neighbouring country was dangerous, it had a history of such events.

"If you look at Pakistan's history, since independence, the first PM was assassinated, then (Zulfiqar Ali) Bhutto was hanged, then his daughter Benazir Bhutto fell to bullets. Now, Imran Khan is the fourth former PM, who has been now jailed. | [More on PIO](#)

## Rajouri Residents Cautioned About Militant Threats



Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** Police on Wednesday asked people to remain vigilant and alert toward militant threats in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district.

Motorcycle-borne policemen made announcements in different parts of Rajouri town, asking people to keep

a watch on their surroundings and inform police of any suspected activity or object.

"People should check their vehicles, report any unclaimed object around houses, shops, or on roads," a policeman announced.

The announcement was made on the directions of top police officials, he said.

## Search Operation Carried Out In Poonch

Security forces on Wednesday morning launched a cordon and search operation (CASO) following movement of "suspected people" in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch town, sources said. Some locals noticed suspicious movement of some armed people in Poonch town, they said. Two schools in the town have also been shut, the sources added. | [More on PIO](#)

## 2 Militant Associates Held In Sopore

Police on Wednesday claimed to have arrested two militant associates and recovered arms & ammunition, including improvised explosive device (IED) from their possession in Sopore town of North Kashmir. Police, army's 22RR and the personnel of CRPF 197 battalion launched a cordon and search operation (CASO) in Saidpora Bypass area of Sopore after receiving input about the presence of two suspected individuals, | [More on PIO](#)

## Nomad Family Rescued from Margan Top

Police on Wednesday rescued a family of nomads along with over 100 cattle trapped after snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, officials said. Police received a distress call that some nomads along with their livestock, one driver and one motorcyclist were stuck in the Naribal area of Margan top due to heavy snowfall, they said. Acting swiftly, Kishtwar SSP Khalil Poswal constituted a special team for conducting a rescue operation, the officials said. | [More on PIO](#)

## MP, DDC Chairperson Call On LG

Pranod Tiwari, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan here on Wednesday. Tiwari discussed with the Lt Governor various issues of public importance and development in J&K. Nazir Ahmad Khan, Chairperson, District Development Council Budgam also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him about various matters pertaining to development of the district. The Lt Governor assured the Chairperson | [More on PIO](#)

## Infant Girl Drowns To Death

In a heart wrenching accident, a year-old girl died on Wednesday after falling into a stream in South Kashmir's Kulgam district. Zainab Zahid, daughter of Zahid Ahmad Naiko slipped into a stream at her native village Sunigam on Wednesday afternoon, reports said. The infant was retrieved from the stream and shifted to the hospital by her family for treatment. However, the doctors there declared dead. A pall of gloom descended in the village when | [More on PIO](#)

## Teenager Found Dead In Anantnag

An 18-year-old boy was found dead under mysterious circumstances in the Daksum area of Kokernag in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Wednesday. Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that the boy identified as Mohsin Ahmad Deka, son of Mushtaq Ahmad Daka of Dessu Daksum was found dead mysteriously. He said that he had left home to play cricket, but was found dead in mysterious circumstances. "He has been shifted to SDH Kokernag for | [More on PIO](#)

## Fire Damages Jamia Masjid In Tral

Jamia Masjid was gutted in a fire incident at Tral town in Pulwama district on Wednesday morning. News agency KNO reported that fire broke out in Jamia Masjid Noor ul Islam in Tral town following which locals, Police and fire tender rushed to the spot and prevented the fire from spreading to nearby locality and controlled the fire. He said that the fire has been brought under control after extensive damage to the Masjid. Initial reports | [More on PIO](#)

S H O R T T A K E S





To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Srinagar | Thursday| 11-05-2023

2

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

## Office Of The Executive Engineer Mughal Road Project Division Shopian

NIT No: - 13/MRP/SPN/e-TENDERING/2023-24

Dated: 09/05/2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT of J&K, e-tenders are invited on Percentage Basis in Single cover from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works: -

S. No.	Name of work	Cost of Tender (In lacs)	Cost of T/Doc (In Rs.)	EMD (In Rs.)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of contract "A" & "B"
1.	Construction of Diversion at Avalanche Prone Stretch at Km 30+800 in Sub Division 2nd on Mughal Road Shopian side	30.00	1100	60000	30	

(Tenderer must go through general conditions thoroughly)

Position of AA/TS:

Accorded

Special Conditions:

- Performance security shall be furnished by the contractor within 03 days of issuance of LOA, Opening of Bid, failing which the concerned tender issuing authority shall forfeit the performance security and issue a fresh tender forthwith.
  - The contractor shall start the work within weeks after issuance of NTP, failing which the penalties as warranted under the contract rules shall be initiated viz, forfeiting performance security.
  - The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor as per the timeline stipulated in NIT /agreement, failing which action shall be initiated against contractor by forfeiting performance security.
  - If the contractor/firms fails to complete the work within the time mentioned in the NIT/Contract, then the allotted contract will automatically be treated as cancelled after forfeiting the performance security of the contractor/firm and work put to fresh tender without serving any notice from this office.
- The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jkenders.gov.in](http://www.jkenders.gov.in).

1. Date of issue of Tender Notice	09-05-2023	
2. Period of downloading of bidding documents	10-05-2023	10:00 A.M
	17-05-2023	04:00 P.M
3. Bid submission Start Date	10-05-2023	10:00 A.M
4. Bid Submission End Date	17-05-2023	04:00 P.M
5. Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	18-05-2023; 11:00 A.M in the Office of Executive Engineer Mughal Road Division Shopian	

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH-0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer Mughal Road Division Shopian (Tender inviting authority) (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-65) Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer Mughal Road Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority).
- All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/Bid Security (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG.
- The 1st lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favor of Executive Engineer Mughal Road Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.

Sd/-  
HD/DM

DIPK-1337/23

DATED: 10-05-2023

Sd/-  
Technical Officer

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Mughal Road Division  
Shopian

## Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Chief Medical Officer, Srinagar

### Press Release

Vaccination Schedule For Selected Haj Pilgrims Of District Srinagar.

It is for the information of selected Haj Pilgrims of district

Srinagar that their vaccination camp shall be held at Bait-ul-Hujaj,

Haj House, Bemina Srinagar as per the below mentioned schedule. It

shall be noted that no pilgrim from other district/districts shall be

vaccinated in Srinagar as their vaccines / vaccination cards have

already been dispatched to their respective districts.

Date	Cover No				
15 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	JKF-17-2-0 JKF-35-2-0 JKF-37-2-0 JKF-41-3-0 JKF-56-2-0 JKF-63-2-0 JKF-73-2-0 JKF-76-2-0 JKF-97-4-0 JKF-98-2-0 JKF-100-2-0 JKF-104-2-0 JKF-115-2-0 JKF-118-2-0 JKF-119-2-0 JKF-122-3-0 JKF-131-2-0 JKR-132-2-0 JKF-137-2-0 JKF-139-2-0 JKF-146-2-0 JKF-148-2-0 JKR-153-2-0	JKF-157-2-0 JKF-158-3-0 JKF-160-2-0 JKF-190-2-0 JKF-191-1-0 JKF-193-2-0 JKF-197-2-0 JKF-200-2-0 JKF-201-2-0 JKF-202-2-0 JKF-219-2-0 JKF-220-2-0 JKF-242-4-0 JKF-246-2-0 JKF-288-2-0 JKF-299-2-0 JKF-317-2-0 JKR-325-2-0 JKF-338-2-0 JKF-356-2-0 JKF-365-4-0 JKF-389-2-0	JKF-425-2-0 JKR-429-2-0 JKF-488-2-0 JKF-492-3-0 JKF-496-3-0 JKF-501-2-0 JKF-502-1-0 JKF-503-2-0 JKF-510-2-0 JKF-512-2-0 JKR-518-2-0 JKF-541-2-0 JKR-543-2-0 JKF-545-2-0 JKF-561-3-0 JKF-562-2-0 JKR-567-2-0 JKF-570-2-0 JKF-575-2-0 JKF-580-2-0 JKF-591-2-0 JKR-592-2-0 JKR-594-2-0	JKF-595-4-0 JKF-596-2-0 JKF-597-2-0 JKF-600-1-0 JKF-601-3-0 JKF-604-1-0 JKF-605-2-0 JKR-610-2-0 JKF-613-2-0 JKF-620-3-0 JKF-626-2-0 JKF-627-1-0 JKF-629-2-0 JKF-662-2-0 JKF-671-2-0 JKF-676-1-0 JKR-702-2-0 JKF-703-2-0 JKR-720-2-0 JKF-727-2-0 JKF-732-1-0 JKR-739-2-0 JKF-741-2-0	JKF-746-2-0 JKF-750-2-0 JKF-753-2-0 JKF-756-2-0 JKF-766-1-0 JKF-769-3-0 JKF-770-2-0 JKF-773-2-0 JKF-776-2-0 JKF-777-2-0 JKR-780-2-0 JKF-782-2-0 JKF-784-2-0 JKF-785-2-0 JKR-787-2-0 JKF-790-2-0 JKF-793-2-0 JKF-794-2-0 JKF-795-2-0 JKF-804-2-0 JKR-819-2-0 JKF-833-2-0 JKR-844-2-0

JKF-845-2-0 JKR-850-2-0 JKF-852-2-0 JKF-862-2-0 JKR-868-2-0 JKF-878-1-0 JKF-880-2-0 JKF-881-3-0 JKF-882-2-0 JKF-887-3-0 JKF-888-3-0 JKR-898-2-0 JKF-899-1-0 JKF-903-1-0 JKR-907-4-0 JKF-908-2-0 JKF-929-2-0 JKF-931-3-0 JKF-935-2-0 JKF-936-1-0 JKF-953-2-0 JKF-959-2-0 JKF-965-2-0 JKF-968-2-0 JKF-1024-1-0 JKF-1075-1-0 JKF-1079-2-0 JKF-1082-2-0	JKF-1083-2-0 JKR-1086-2-0 JKF-1090-4-0 JKF-1091-3-0 JKF-1092-4-0 JKR-1094-2-0 JKR-1098-2-0 JKF-1103-1-0 JKF-1113-3-0 JKF-1122-1-0 JKF-1115-2-0 JKF-1120-2-0 JKF-1125-2-0 JKF-1129-2-0 JKF-1132-2-0 JKR-1135-2-0 JKF-1136-2-0 JKF-1139-2-0 JKF-1145-2-0 JKF-1152-1-0 JKF-1163-2-0 JKR-1173-3-0 JKF-1199-3-0 JKF-1206-2-0 JKF-1216-3-0 JKF-1244-2-0 JKF-1079-2-0 JKF-1280-4-0	JKF-1296-1-0 JKF-1301-2-0 JKF-1359-2-0 JKF-1403-2-0 JKF-1441-2-0 JKF-1443-2-0 JKF-1447-2-0 JKR-1454-2-0 JKF-1468-3-0 JKF-1469-2-0 JKF-1476-2-0 JKR-1528-2-0 JKF-1537-2-0 JKF-1543-4-0 JKF-1568-3-0 JKF-1589-4-0 JKF-1596-2-0 JKF-1627-2-0 JKF-1632-1-0 JKF-1637-1-0 JKF-1643-1-0 JKF-1663-1-0 JKF-1668-2-0 JKF-1677-2-0 JKF-1682-2-0 JKF-1685-2-0 JKR-1686-2-0 JKF-1687-2-0	JKF-1688-2-0 JKF-1689-1-0 JKR-1705-2-0 JKF-1707-1-0 JKF-1708-2-0 JKF-1717-2-0 JKR-1722-2-0 JKF-1730-1-0 JKF-1749-2-0 JKF-1757-3-0 JKR-1775-2-0 JKF-1776-2-0 JKF-1780-2-0 JKF-1797-1-0 JKF-1804-1-0 JKF-1811-2-0 JKF-1837-3-0 JKF-1846-2-0 JKF-1866-3-0 JKF-1918-2-0 JKF-1943-1-0 JKF-1950-2-0 JKF-1954-2-0 JKF-1972-2-0 JKF-1974-4-0 JKF-1975-2-0 JKF-1980-2-0 JKF-1982-1-0	JKF-1989-2-0 JKF-2010-4-0 JKF-2012-1-0 JKF-2022-2-0 JKR-2023-2-0 JKF-2034-4-0 JKF-2057-2-0 JKF-2060-2-0 JKF-2066-1-0 JKF-2093-2-0 JKR-2098-2-0 JKR-2100-2-0 JKF-2101-2-0 JKF-2104-2-0 JKR-2106-2-0 JKF-2110-4-0 JKF-2113-4-0 JKF-2115-2-0 JKF-2116-2-0 JKF-2128-2-0 JKF-2132-2-0 JKF-2136-2-0 JKF-2143-2-0 JKF-2148-2-0 JKR-2151-2-0 JKF-2161-2-0
--	--	--	--	--

JKR-2162-2-0 JKR-2164-2-0 JKF-2172-3-0 JKR-2193-2-0 JKF-2194-2-0 JKF-2200-2-0 JKF-2205-3-0 JKF-2206-2-0 JKF-2207-1-0 JKR-2208-2-0 JKF-2209-2-0 JKR-2210-2-0	JKF-2213-2-0 JKF-2215-3-0 JKF-2217-2-0 JKF-2218-3-0 JKF-2219-3-0 JKF-2222-3-0 JKF-2229-2-0 JKF-2239-2-0 JKF-2242-1-0 JKR-2250-2-0 JKF-2253-2-0 JKF-2256-2-0	JKR-2257-2-0 JKF-2258-2-0 JKF-2261-2-0 JKF-2262-2-0 JKF-2264-3-0 JKF-2265-1-0 JKF-2267-2-0 JKF-2270-2-0 JKF-2275-3-0 JKF-2278-2-0 JKF-2279-2-0 JKF-2280-2-0	JKR-2281-2-0 JKF-2282-2-0 JKR-2292-2-0 JKF-2293-2-0 JKR-2294-2-0 JKF-2301-2-0 JKF-2310-2-0 JKF-2315-2-0 JKF-2320-2-0 JKF-2327-2-0 JKF-2331-2-0 JKF-2337-2-0	JKR-2354-2-0 JKF-2369-2-0 JKF-2377-2-0 JKF-2392-2-0 JKF-2412-1-0 JKF-2418-4-0 JKR-2420-2-0 JKF-2433-3-0 JKF-2443-2-0 JKF-2461-2-0 JKF-2491-3-0
--	--	--	--	--

JKF-2499-2-0 JKF-2503-2-0 JKF-2507-2-0 JKF-2510-1-0 WMJKF-2533-1 JKR-2546-3-0 JKF-2547-2-0 JKF-2554-2-0 JKF-2557-2-0 JKF-2559-2-0 JKF-2564-2-0 JKF-2572-2-0 JKF-2592-2-0 JKF-2620-2-0 JKF-2621-1-0 JKF-2627-2-0 JKR-2634-3-0 JKF-2651-1-0 JKR-2663-2-0 JKF-2679-1-0 JKF-2699-3-0 JKF-2700-3-0 JKR-2705-2-0 JKF-2727-4-0 JKF-2729-2-0 JKF-2740-2-0 JKF-2750-2-0 JKF-2761-4-0 JKR-2764-2-0 JKF-2767-2-0 JKR-2768-2-0 JKF-2776-4-0 JKR-2788-2-0 JKF-2792-2-0 JKR-2807-2-0 JKF-2814-2-0 JKF-2822-2-0 JKR-2825-2-0 JKR-2826-2-0 JKF-2828-2-0 WMJKF-2829-1 JKR-2831-2-0 JKR-2860-2-0	JKR-2861-2-0 JKF-2862-2-0 JKF-2867-2-0 JKF-2868-1-0 JKF-2871-2-0 JKR-2872-3-0 JKR-2873-2-0 WMJKF-2875-1 JKF-2876-2-0 JKF-2878-1-0 WMJKF-2879-1 WMJKF-2881-2 JKF-2883-2-0 JKF-2885-1-0 JKF-2892-2-0 JKF-2893-2-0 JKF-2924-4-0 JKF-2928-2-0 JKR-2933-3-0 JKR-2937-2-0 JKF-2939-3-0 JKF-2943-1-0 JKR-2958-2-0 JKR-2974-2-0 JKF-3009-2-0 JKF-3022-4-0 JKF-3038-1-0 JKR-3089-2-0 JKF-3095-1-0 JKF-3102-1-0 JKF-3105-2-0 JKR-3129-2-0 JKF-3137-2-0 JKF-3148-2-0 JKF-3152-2-0 JKR-3158-2-0 JKF-3161-3-0 JKF-3166-4-0 JKF-3167-2-0 JKF-3169-2-0	JKF-3177-1-0 JKF-3178-2-0 JKF-3240-2-0 WMJKF-3242-1 JKF-3247-2-0 JKF-3253-2-0 JKF-3262-2-0 JKF-3266-2-0 JKF-3275-2-0 JKF-3284-2-0 JKF-3299-1-0 JKF-3327-3-0 JKF-3331-2-0 JKF-3337-2-0 JKF-3348-4-0 JKF-3362-2-0 JKF-3363-4-0 JKF-3371-2-0 JKF-3372-1-0 JKF-3375-2-0 JKF-3381-2-0 JKF-3394-2-0 JKF-3418-3-0 JKF-3426-2-0 JKF-3429-1-0 JKF-3434-2-0 JKR-3443-2-0 JKF-3460-3-0 JKF-3481-2-0 JKF-3484-2-0 JKR-3487-2-0 JKF-3500-2-0 JKF-3505-2-0 JKF-3534-3-0 WMJKF-3545-1 JKF-3546-2-0 JKF-3548-1-0 JKR-3549-2-0 JKF-3550-2-0 WMJKF-3551-1 JKF-3552-2-0 JKF-3554-2-0 JKF-3568-2-0 JKF-3582-2-0	JKF-3583-3-0 JKF-3584-2-0 JKF-3586-4-0 JKF-3587-3-0 JKF-3654-3-0 JKF-3656-1-0 JKF-3657-3-0 JKF-3661-2-0 JKF-3662-3-0 JKF-3663-2-0 JKF-3665-2-0 JKF-3667-2-0 JKF-3673-2-0 JKF-3674-2-0 JKF-3686-2-0 JKF-3710-2-0 JKF-3712-3-0 JKF-3721-4-0 JKF-3729-2-0 JKF-3735-2-0 WMJKF-3736-1 JKF-3741-2-0 JKF-3747-2-0 JKF-3753-2-0 JKF-3755-1-0 JKF-3758-2-0 JKF-3764-3-0 JKF-3768-2-0 JKF-3780-1-0 JKF-3790-3-0 JKR-3792-2-0 JKF-3795-2-0 JKF-3805-2-0 JKF-3848-3-0 JKR-3855-2-0 JKR-3883-2-0 JKR-3889-2-0 JKF-3895-2-0 JKF-3921-2-0 JKF-3922-1-0 JKR-3926-4-0 JKF-3936-4-0 JKF-3939-2-0	JKF-3942-2-0 JKF-3952-2-0 JKR-3957-2-0 JKR-3967-2-0 JKF-3972-4-0 JKR-3985-1-0 JKF-3991-3-0 WMJKF-3993-2 JKF-4000-2-0 JKR-4073-2-0 JKR-4112-2-0 JKF-4142-2-0 JKF-4164-2-0 JKF-4182-2-0 JKF-4186-2-0 JKF-4187-3-0 JKF-4188-2-0 JKF-4193-2-0 JKF-4195-2-0 JKR-4196-3-0 JKF-4199-2-0
--	--	--	--	--

No: Haj/2023/DYCMO/Sgr/167

DIPK-1378/23 Dated: 10-05-2023

Dy Chief Medical Office Srinagar

## 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.



### PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing Consumer ID No; 021304000907 from Mohd Ramzan Hakeem S/o Mohd Subhaan Hakeem R/o Parray Mohalla Palhallan To Gh Mohi Din Hakeem S/o Mohd Ramzan Hakeem R/o Parray Mohalla Palhallan . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his/her objection in the office of the Executive Engineer PDD Pattan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Ayaz Ahmad Sheikh  
S/O Gh Mohi Din Sheikh  
R/o Tantarypora Palhallan

fko

### PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing Consumer ID No; 0213040009902 from Gh Mohi Din Hakeem S/o Mohd Ramzan Hakeem R/o Gashroo Mohalla Palhallan to Sajaad Mohi Din Hakeem S/o Gh Mohi Din Hakeem R/o Gashroo Mohalla Palhallan . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Executive Engineer PDD Pattan within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.  
Sajaad Mohi Din Hakeem  
S/o Gh Mohi Din Hakeem  
R/o Gashroo Mohalla Palhallan

fko

## Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir NOTICE

Where a application for Re-Registration and Change of address of ownership has been received FROM OWNER OF VEHICLE NO: DL6C9J766 . Namely Name .Shamikh Rasool shah S/o. GH Rasool shah Ro Iqbal Abad, chrar I sharief Type Of Vehicle .AUDI



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed Re-Registration and Change of address of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No: ARTO/bud/264

Dated: 10-05-2023

Sd/ Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir

fko

از غیابت والکولکرلہ پورہ  
باجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ایگزیکٹو جیٹروپورہ  
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب محمد عمران بٹ وائسرا احمد بٹ وائسرا منظوراولادان منظور احمد بٹ ساکنان موضع وائی گنڈ بمراو عطا بٹی  
RBA سرٹیفیکٹ تحت 294 SRO  
اشتبہار بمراو آگاہی ہر خاص و عام  
محالہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں درخواست سالک دفتر پڑائیں زیکارڈی ہے اس سلسلے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ منظور پکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالک اور اس کا والد اگرڈش پندرہ سال سہہ پڑائیں رہائش پے ہے اور بھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سالک کی مہوار آمدنی 11500 روپے بتائی گئی ہے کہہ پڑیل فرد پر مشتمل ہے  
منظور احمد بٹ ولد غلام احمد بٹ زمینداری 45 سال سربرہ کہہ مساجد بیٹیکم گھر پلکام 43 سال محمد عمران بٹ پیر زمین تعلیم 23 سال ناصر احمد بٹ پیر زمین تعلیم 23 سال منہک منظور اختر زمین تعلیم 19 سال  
اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کم نہیں ہے سرٹیفیکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی مہدار یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا مہدار یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم اندر دفتر پڑائیں پیش کرے معیار اگر نہ بعد کوئی بھی مہدار یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا  
fko  
نائب تحصیلدار

از غیابت والکولکرلہ پورہ  
باجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ایگزیکٹو جیٹروپورہ  
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب رفعت رسول مریہ اختر دختران غلام رسول بٹ ساکنان موضع محمود پورہ بمراو عطا بٹی  
RBA سرٹیفیکٹ تحت 294 SRO  
اشتبہار بمراو آگاہی ہر خاص و عام  
محالہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں درخواست سالک دفتر پڑائیں زیکارڈی ہے اس سلسلے میں پڑاری حلقہ سے رپورٹ منظور پکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالک اور اس کا والد اگرڈش پندرہ سال سہہ پڑائیں رہائش پے ہے اور بھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سالک کی مہوار آمدنی 18000 روپے بتائی گئی ہے کہہ پڑیل فرد پر مشتمل ہے  
غلام رسول بٹ ولد عبدل غنی بٹ مزدوری 50 سال سربرہ کہہ مساجد بیٹیکم گھر پلکام 48 سال رفعت رسول اختر زمین تعلیم 22 سال مریم اختر اختر زمین تعلیم 20 سال اقرا رسول اختر زمین تعلیم 15 سال معروذ رسول اختر زمین تعلیم 13 سال  
اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کم نہیں ہے سرٹیفیکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی مہدار یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا مہدار یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم اندر دفتر پڑائیں پیش کرے معیار اگر نہ بعد کوئی بھی مہدار یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا  
fko  
نائب تحصیلدار





## Midnight Blaze Guts 6 Shops At Exchange Road

Observer News Service

Srinagar: At least six shops were gutted in a midnight blaze on Exchange Road in Lal Chowk area of Srinagar, officials said on Wednesday.

The shopkeepers said the fire broke out in the morning following which they rushed to the scene, but found their shops having turned into ashes.

"I had a denting and painting workshop and all

my machinery including electronic items worth more than 10 lakh have been damaged in the fire incident", said Tahir Ahmad a fire victim.

Meanwhile, an official said the fire incident was reported around 2:49 am, following which four fire tenders were rushed to the spot to douse off the flames.

He said four automobile workshop sheds and two Kiryana shops were damaged in the inferno.

## Tactile Tiles Used On Walkways In Srinagar To Help Blind, Specially-Abled

Observer News Service

Srinagar: With a pleasant view to attract the people in the first-ever wire-free and exclusively pedestrian market, the Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) has used tactile tiles for the blind and specially-persons to help them walk safely on the roads.

The visually impaired persons will no longer have to face hardships and remain dependent on the support while passing through the roads in Lal Chowk area as under the much-hyped smart city project, the SSCL has used tactile tiles to assist the blind and specially-abled persons on the roads.

Officials said that tactile tiles have been used by the SSCL at Polo View market, outside Srinagar's Press Enclave and other places to assist

the blind and specially-abled persons.

Pertinently, it is for the first time that the government has made such a facility available on the roads for the blind and specially-abled persons in Srinagar.

Officials said that the tactile tiles would help the blind persons to identify the turn and way while passing through the road.

Notably, Srinagar City is witnessing a massive development ahead of the G20 event, slated to be held between May 22-May24.

A first of its kind wire-free and exclusively pedestrian market has been established at Polo View in Srinagar here under the smart city project while the other projects are also going on and is expected to be completed by the end of this week.

## Power Shutdown Notified For Kashmir Parts

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Power Controller Kashmir has informed that, the power supply to Receiving Station Water-hall shall remain affected due to carry out upgradation works on May 13 and 15 from 10 am to 4.30 pm.

Similarly, in order to carry out shifting of electrical utilities the power supply to receiving station Brakpora shall remain affected on May 15 from 11 am to 3 pm

Likewise, the power supply to 33 KV Habak-Zakura-Burzhama line shall remain affected on May 17 from 9 am to 3 pm due to Branch Cutting of trees laying in the vicinity of the line.

Similarly, in order to carry out shifting of electrical utilities, the power supply to receiving stations Mirbazar, Vessu, Chowgam,Qazigund Railway and Kund shall remain affected on May 11 from 11 am to 3 pm.

## ‘Speed Up Construction Work On NH-44 Flyovers At Lasjan, Nowgam Junctions’

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Deputy Commissioner (DC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Wednesday directed the concerned executing agency 'to speed up the work on construction of flyovers on NH-44 (Jammu-Srinagar highway) at Lasjan and Nowgam Junctions and Employment Complex, Bemina, besides other development works in the District by deploying additional men and machinery by or before ending May, 2023.

The directions came following a visit by DC Srinagar to oversee the progress of works being carried out on several major developmental projects in the district to ensure movement of traffic is improved on the corridor of Nation Highway.

At Lasjan, the Deputy Commissioner inspected the progress of works on the 560-meter span Fly-over/Grade Separator being executed by NHAI at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.03

crore. The DC was apprised by the Project Manager NHAI that over 90 percent of the work on the project has been completed and work is going on in full swing.

The was also informed that the work on Rotary way adjacent to the fly-over has been completed and has been thrown open for vehicular traffic to ease the traffic flow.

On the occasion, the DC directed the concerned executing agency to speed up the work by deploying additional men and machinery to complete the project by or before ending May, 2023 so that movement of traffic is improved on the corridor of Nation Highway. The DC also inspected the ongoing work on flyover of 0.85 km span at Nowgam crossing being carried out at a cost of Rs 36.90 crore for which completion timeline has already been set to June 2023 as per terms of the contract. The DC was apprised that over 50 percent of work has been completed including piling work and execution of pile cap and pier cap is under progress.



Devotees mainly Kashmiri Pandit's perform havan on the birth anniversary of Mata Zeshta Devi at Zeshta Devi Temple in Srinagar on Wednesday. Ko Photo, Abid Bhat

## G20 Selfie Standee, Banners And Flags To Mark Y20 Event AT KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: An acrylic selfie standee of G20 logo, banners of G20 Countries and colorful flex hoardings displaying the rich heritage of Jammu and Kashmir are among key attractions at the University of Kashmir as the Varsity readies to hold the mega Y20 Consultation meet on climate change under India's G20 Presidency on Thursday, May 11.

The historic event, to be inaugurated by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, who is the Chancellor of the University, at the sprawling Convocation Complex also includes a mega Sustainability Exhibition showcasing J&K's bouquet of arts, crafts, traditional livelihood practices and scientific innovations.

Two gate-type canopies highlighting the theme of the Youth20 Consultation have also been set-up at the entrance of the Maulana Rumi and Sir Syed gates of the University. All around the main campus, as well as Institute of Technology, Zakura Campus, small flex hoardings with photo-

graphs of Shankaracharya Temple, Dargah Hazratbal Shrine, Shri Amarnathji Cave Shrine, Mela Kheer Bhawani Temple, Gurudwara Chhatti Padshahi, and other revered places in J&K, have been pole-mounted all across the University Campus.

More flex hoardings depicting J&K's vast diversity of arts and handicrafts, pashmina-shawl weaving, carpet-making, 'Sozni' work, and copper-work, among others, have also been put up.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Nilofer Khan said the event is a great opportunity for youth to showcase their determination to fight climate change. She said the Sustainability Exhibition will showcase the innovations of our talented youth and their passion to join the country's mission to promote entrepreneurship and startups.

Registrar Dr Nisar A Mir said the addition of new elements will draw more youth to get acquainted with the essence and message of G20 and Y20 and to spread it further in the society.

Media Advisor KU, Dr Salima Jan, who is Chairperson of the Me-

dia Committee for Y20, said new elements like G20 selfie Standee and heritage hoarding banners will help create more awareness about the theme of the event.

Joint Registrar Dr Ashfaq A Zarri who is Coordinating the Sustainability Exhibition, said the Exhibition will showcase a blend of traditional livelihood practices as well as modern innovations on Sustainability. He said several academic and government institutions have been roped in to expand the ambit of the Exhibition.

An important aspect of the Exhibition is the live demonstration of how these handicrafts are made and weaved by master craftsmen, Dr Zarri said.

Live painting and poster-making competitions involving students and a cultural program, organized by the Department of Students' Welfare, are an added attraction. The event will also feature a theme-related 'Tarana' prepared by MERC, while documentaries on University of Kashmir and climate change will also be screened during the event.

## YS&S Department Srinagar Organizes Mega Yoga event

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Under the aegis of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' a Mega Yoga event was today organized by Zonal Physical Education Officer Zone Batamallu at GHSS

Amirakadal.

150 Students participated with great enthusiasm and determination.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer Srinagar also graced the occasion with his presence.

Addressing the participants, experts said that Yoga is a way

of life and stressed on the need to practice it for a healthy mind and body.

On the occasion, the Zonal Physical Education Officer appreciated the physical education staff for putting their efforts to make the Mega Yoga event a success.

### GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR UT Office Of The Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam

ENGINEERING COMPLEX BUDGAM PIN NO.191111  
E-MAIL:- XENRNBDIVBUD@GMAIL.COM,PHONE-FAX:- 01951-255208

#### TENDER NOTICE

E-tendering NIT No.-18-MDB of 2023-24/1450-65 DATED:-09-05-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money(Rs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	MH Acct
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Construction of Clock Tower at New Bus Adda Budgam (Balance Work)	Rs.25.70 Lacs	Rs.51400/-	Rs.1100/-	45days	"AAY" "BEE"	FC Grants
2.	Repair Renovation for office of NT Head-quarter at DC office Budgam	Rs.0.92 Lacs	Rs.1840/-	Rs.200/-	10days	"DEE"	District Capex Budget NFB Sector

Position of AAA = Accorded

Position of TS = Accorded

Position of funds:- = Available/Committed,

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	09-05-2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	10-05-2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	10-05-2023
4.	Bid Submission End Date	15-05-2023 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	16-05-2023 at 11.00A.M in the office of Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam
	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	Within 7days of receipt of LOI. (The bidder as to provide 5% of allotted Cost as Performance Security within 7days after opening of Financial Bid) in shape of CDR/FDR/BG

No: EE/MDb/1450-65

DIPK-1371/23

DATED:-10-05-2023

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
Muffasil (R&B) Division  
Budgam,

- 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- ( Closed )



HIJRI  
CALENDAR

20 Shawwal  
1444

#### PRAYERS

FAJR	3 :57
ZUHR	12:27
ASR	5: 19
Magrib	7:25
ISHA	8: 58

## This Day In History

- 330 - Constantinople (Byzantium) becomes the capital of the Roman Empire
- 868 - The Diamond Sutra, the world's oldest surviving, dated, printed, book printed in Chinese and made into a scroll
- 1189 - Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa and 100,000 crusaders depart Regensburg for the Third Crusade
- 1310 - Fifty-four members of the Knights Templar are burned at the stake in France for being heretics
- 1421 - Jews are expelled from Styria Austria
- 1674- Netherlands & Cologne sign peace treaty
- 1752 - 1st US fire insurance policy issued in Philadelphia
- 1784 - Britain & Tipu Sahib of Mysore sign peace treaty
- 1792 - Columbia River discovered & named by US Captain Robert Gray
- 1800 - French naturalist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck give a lecture first outlining his theories of evolution at the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle in Paris, France
- 1812 - Waltz introduced into English ballrooms. Some observers consider it disgusting and immoral.
- 1812- British Prime Minister Spencer Perceval is assassinated by John Bellingham in the lobby of the House of Commons, London. Ironically, descendants of both were later elected to Parliament at the same time.
- 1820 - Launch of HMS Beagle, the ship that would later take a young Charles Darwin on his famous scientific voyage
- 1867 - Treaty of London drawn, concerning Luxembourg
- 1907 - A derailment outside Lompoc, California, kills 32 Shriners when their chartered train jumps off the tracks at a switch near Surf Depot
- 1911- The United States becomes a signatory to the Buenos Aires copyright treaty.
- 1921- The Allied Supreme Council warns Germany to pay reparations or the entire Ruhr Valley will be occupied; Germany agrees

## From KO Archives

## US Blacklists HuM, LeT, JeM

WASHINGTON- The Bush administration has designated three Pakistan-based groups - Harkat ul-Mujaheddin (HuM), Jaish-e-Muhammed (JeM) and Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) as "Foreign terrorist organisations", prohibiting US residents from extending material support to them.

This also denies individuals representing these groups from entering or doing business in the US. In all 42 groups, active in different parts of the world, figure in the list and its purpose is to identify and isolate these groups by encouraging friends and allies of the US to deter its citizens from supporting them, says the US State Department's Country Reports on Terrorism 2006, released in Washington on Monday.

Groups of Concern: The Department has designated another five organisations as "Groups of Concern". These include the Communist Party of India (Maoist), United Liberation Front of Assam (UEFA), Harkat-ul-Jihad-I-Islami (HUJI), Hizbul Mujahedin (HM) and Jamaat-ul-Mujaheddin (JUM). The report says Harkat-ul-Mujaheddin (HUM), an Islamic terrorist group based in Pakistan, is politically aligned with the radical political Party Jamaat Ulema-i-Islam's Fazlur Rehman faction (JUI-F), and operates Primarily in Jammu and Kashmir.

"As in previous years," the US document points out, terrorists staged hundreds of attacks on people and property in India. The most prominent terrorist groups were extremists operating in Jammu and Kashmir, Maoists operating in the "Naxalite belt" in eastern, southern and central India and ethnic linguistic nationalists in the north-east. It notes that the Indian government blamed two prominent Pakistan-based organisations, Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and Jaish-e-Mohammad (JEM), for several attacks in major Indian cities.

It also records Indian officials' complaint that terrorist infiltration into Jammu and Kashmir had increased in 2006.

(Kashmir Observer, 11 May, 2007)



## Israel Renews Attacks On Gaza, Palestinians Respond With Rockets



Agencies

At least five Palestinians have been killed in Israeli air attacks that pounded the Gaza Strip for a second straight day, according to Palestinian health officials.

The renewed bombardment on Wednesday prompted a barrage of retaliatory rocket fire from the besieged enclave towards southern Israel. The Israeli air raids struck multiple locations across the besieged enclave, including in the south and the north, and a number of sites belonging to the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) movement.

Local media reported that at least one other Palestinian was wounded east of Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip. The PIJ did not confirm that the victims were members of its group.

Reporting from Gaza City, Al Jazeera's Youmna El Sayed said locals were on "high alert", with a lot of worries as schools and public and private facilities have closed and people try to stay indoors following a series of attacks on Tuesday that killed at least 15 people, including several civilians. "There is a very

high sense of tension and worry among the residents of Gaza since the Israeli attacks yesterday. Everything in Gaza is closed and people have remained in their homes," she added.

Arabic media reported that Hamas, the group running the Gaza Strip, said the rockets launched from there were an answer to the "massacre committed by the Israeli occupation", as Palestinian media reported that the retaliatory rockets came "under the name of the [Gaza] factions' joint room" which includes Hamas and other Gaza-based armed groups.

Israeli journalist Barak Ravid quoted Israeli army spokesman Daniel Hagari as saying that there was no immediate indication that Hamas was involved in the fighting.

On the Israeli side, authorities told citizens living in towns along the Gaza fence to evacuate or remain inside shelters.

Reporting from Ashkelon in southern Israel, Al Jazeera's Willem Marx said the Israeli army was on high alert as sirens were initiated. Israel's Iron Dome aerial defence system also intercepted rockets.

## India Leads List of 10 Countries with 60% of Global Maternal Deaths, Stillbirths

Press Trust of India

CAPE TOWN: India leads a list of 10 countries that together account for 60 per cent of global maternal deaths, stillbirths and newborn deaths, and 51 per cent of live births globally, a report released by the United Nations has said. The latest published estimate in the progress tracking report by the WHO, UNICEF, and the UNFPA was launched on Tuesday at the ongoing 'International Maternal Newborn Health Conference' (IMNHC 2023) here. It shows there were a combined 4.5 million deaths -- maternal deaths (0.29 million), stillbirths (1.9 million) and newborn deaths (2.3 million) -- in 2020-2021.

Sub-Saharan Africa and Central and Southern Asia are the regions experiencing the largest number of deaths, although, across all regions, there is variation regarding the pace at which countries are progressing in their efforts to achieve the global 2030 targets.

The four-day conference, which is being hosted by the Government of South Africa and AlignMNH -- a global initiative funded by the Bill



and Melinda Gates Foundation in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), kick-started on May 8.

According to the first-ever joint Every Newborn action Plan (ENAP) and Ending Preventable Maternal Mortality (EPMM) progress tracking report, the global progress in reducing deaths of pregnant women, mothers and babies has flatlined for eight years due to decreasing investments in maternal and newborn health.

"Pregnant women and newborns continue to die at unacceptably high rates worldwide, and the coronavirus pandemic has created further setbacks to providing them with the health care they need," Dr Anshu Banerjee, Director of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Ageing at the World Health Organisation (WHO), said.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief requested the court

## Exit polls give edge to Congress in high-stakes Karnataka battle

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Exit polls on Wednesday predicted a tight contest between the Congress and the BJP in the high-stakes Karnataka Assembly polls with most pollsters giving an edge to the grand old party.

India Today-Axis My India predicted a clear majority for the Congress with 122-140 seats in the 224-member assembly and gave the BJP 62-80 seats. It gave 20-25 seats to the JD (S), the third major player in the race.

News 24-Today's Chanakya also forecast a majority for the Congress with 120 seats as against 92 seats for the BJP and 12 for the JD(S).

The result for the three-cornered contest between the ruling BJP, the Congress and former prime minister H D Deve Gowda's Janata Dal (Secular) will be announced on Saturday.

While the ABP News-C Voter exit poll predicted that the Congress would get 100-112 seats, BJP 83-95, JD(S) 21-29, the Republic TV-P MARQ forecast that the Congress will get 94-108 seats, the BJP 85-100 and JD(S) 24-32.

The India TV-CNX exit polls gave the Congress 110-120 seats and the BJP 80-90 seats. They predicted 20-24 seats for the JD (S).

The TV9 Bharatvarsh-Polstrat exit poll stated that the



Congress is likely to get 99-109 seats, the BJP 88-98 and the JD(S) 21-26 while the Zee News-Matrise Agency predicted that the Congress would get 103-118, the BJP 79-94 and the JD(S) 25-33.

The News Nation-CGS poll said the BJP would get 114 seats, the Congress 86 and the JD(S) 21. The Suvarna News-Jan Ki Baat forecast that the BJP was likely to win 94-117, Congress 91-106 and the JD(S) 14-24.

Times Now-ETG exit polls gave 113 seats to the Congress and 85 to the BJP. It predicted 23 seats for JD (S).

In the 2018 Assembly elections, BJP emerged as the single largest party by winning 104 seats out of total 224, followed by the Congress at 80 and JD(S) at 37. There was one independent member, while

BSP and Karnataka Pragyanvantha Janata Party (KPJP) had

one legislator each.

With no party having a clear majority and as the Congress and JD(S) were trying to forge an alliance, B S Yediyurappa of BJP staked a claim and formed the government. However, it had to resign within three days ahead of the trust vote, unable to muster the required numbers.

Subsequently, the Congress-JD(S) alliance formed the government with Kumaraswamy as CM, but the wobbly dispensation collapsed in 14 months as 17 legislators resigned and came out of the ruling coalition and defected to the BJP, facilitating it to come back to power.

In the by-polls held subsequently in 2019, the ruling party won 12 out of 15 seats.

In the outgoing Assembly, BJP has 116 MLAs, followed by the Congress at 69, and JD(S) at 29.

## "I Will Meet Same Fate As...": Imran Khan Says He Fears For His Life

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's former Prime Minister Imran Khan told an accountability court on Wednesday that he feared for his life and was afraid that he will meet the same fate as Maqsood Chappasi, a key witness in Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's money laundering case who died last year.

Khan, 70, appeared before the accountability court at the Police Lines Headquarters in H-11/1 Islamabad on Wednesday, a day after he was dragged from the Islamabad High Court and arrested, sparking widespread clashes between his supporters and police.

"I have not been to the washroom in 24 hours," the former prime minister said during the hearing.

The Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf chief requested the court



that his personal physician Dr Faisal Sultan be granted access to him, the Express Tribune newspaper reported.

"I am afraid I will meet the same fate as 'Maqsood Chappasi'," Khan said in reference to a key witness in Prime Minister Sharif's money laundering case who died due to a cardiac arrest last year, it said.

The PTI had termed the witness' death "mysterious". "They give [you] an injection, and [you] slowly die," Khan said.

During Wednesday's hearing, the National Accountability Bureau (NAB) requested a 14-day physical remand of the PTI chief. The anti-corruption court, however, sent Khan on an eight-day physical remand to NAB.

Accountability court judge Muhammad Bashir heard the case at the New Police Guest House, where the NAB presented reasons behind the former prime minister's arrest.

Last night, the Islamabad High Court (IHC) termed Khan's arrest legal in the Al-Qadir Trust case.

Khan's dramatic arrest on Tuesday deepened the political turmoil and sparked violent protests across Pakistan. Khan's party has claimed that at least four people were killed and over a dozen injured in different parts of the country in violent clashes between the security forces and PTI supporters.

## Delhi Riots Case: Seven-Year Jail Term To Nine Men

Agencies

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Tuesday handed a seven-year jail term to nine men, who were convicted in March in a case relating to 2020 North-East Delhi riots, for the offences of rioting and being part of unlawful assembly under different Sections of the IPC, 1860.

Additional Sessions Judge Pulastya Pramachala observed that their -- Mohd Shahnawaz a.k.a. Shanu, Mohd Shoaib a.k.a. Chhutwa, Shahrukh, Rashid a.k.a. Raja, Azad, Ashraf Ali, Parvez, Md Faisal and Rashid a.k.a. Monu -- acts instilled a sense of insecurity among people and jeopardised the communal harmony in the society.

"...all these convicts have been held guilty for offences punishable under Section 147/148/380/427/436 read with Section 149 IPC as well as under Section 188 IPC. They have been held guilty against the charges that during the night intervening between February 24, 2020 and February 25, 2020, at Chaman Park, Shiv Vihar, Tiraha Road, Delhi from 12 midnight onwards they all belonging to Muslim community along with their other associates (unidentified) formed an unlawful assembly."

The court stated that "the object whereof was to cause maximum damage to the persons belonging to Hindu community as well as their properties and to create fear and insecurity in the minds of the members of Hindu community and this mob including aforesaid convicts committed vandalism, theft and mischief by fire in the House No. A-49A."

The court has also imposed a fine of Rs 21,000 on each of the nine convicts and out of the total amount, Rs 1.5 lakh is directed to be disbursed to the complainant/victim as compensation.

"All the fines shall be recoverable as per Section 421 read with 431 CrPC. Convicts shall be entitled for benefit under Section 428 CrPC. All the sentences shall run concurrently," the court said.

The court said: "Communal riot is that menace, which poses serious threat to sense of fraternity among the citizens of our nation. Communal riots are treated as one of the most violent forms of public disorder that afflicts society. It leads to not only loss of life and property, but also causes great damage to social fabric. During communal riots, innocent ordinary people get caught into the circumstances beyond their control, which leads to the violation of human rights as well."

In this case also, the court added that "the convicts indulged into communal riots, which had its impact upon, not only limited to the people residing in the affected area, rather it affected the mindset of people beyond limits of territory in the society."

Thus, impact of the crime committed by the convicts in this case, is not limited to loss caused to the complainant only. Rather their acts left a deep scar over the social fabric, and economy and stability of our nation. The alleged acts instilled sense of insecurity among the people, while jeopardising the communal harmony in the society, the court said.

## Govt Panel Suggests Ban Of 4 Wheeler Diesel Vehicles By 2027

Agencies

HYDERABAD: For the purpose of reducing emissions, a group from the oil ministry has advised the Indian government to ban the use of four-wheeled diesel cars by the year 2027 and encourage the use of gas and electric-powered vehicles.

The oil ministry statement reads, "By 2030, no city buses should be added which are not electric...diesel buses for city transport should not be added from 2024 onwards."

It is questionable if the petroleum ministry would ask the cabinet for permission to put the suggestions of its Energy Transition Advisory Committee, which is led by the former oil secretary Tarun Kapoor.

In order to increase the usage of electric vehicles in the nation, the government should explore "targeted extension" of the incentives provided under the FAME scheme's (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric and Hybrid Vehicles) program beyond March 31.



The group recommended that starting in 2024, new registrations be limited to electric-powered municipal delivery trucks. Further recommendations included increased use of railroads and gas-powered vehicles for the transportation of commodities. In two to three years, the nation's railway network is anticipated to be all electrified.

According to the report, long-distance buses in India would eventually need to run on electricity, however, petrol may be used as a bridge fuel for 10 to 15 years.

### NEWS MAKERS

## Saudi King Salman Invites Syrian President Asad



RIYADH: King Salman has invited Syria's President Bashar Al-Assad to attend an upcoming Arab League meeting that will take place on May 19 in the Kingdom, Saudi Press Agency reported on Wednesday.

The invitation to the meeting was handed over by the Kingdom's ambassador to Jordan, Naif bin Bandar Al-Sudairi, during a meeting with the

president in Damascus.

Al-Sudairi conveyed the greetings of King Salman and Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to Al-Assad and their wishes for security and stability for the Syrian government and people.

In return, Al-Assad conveyed his greetings and appreciation to the king and crown prince.

The Arab League restored

Syria's membership into the organization during a meeting in Cairo on Sunday.

Syria's membership was suspended for brutally cracking down on mass protests against Assad in 2011. Since then, the uprising turned into a civil war that killed nearly a half million people and displaced half of the country's pre-war population of 23 million.

## Indian Student Studying In UK Sent Threat Mail To Salman Khan: Cops

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: The Mumbai Police have issued a look out circular (LOC) against an Indian student pursuing medical education in the United Kingdom for allegedly sending a threatening email to Bollywood actor Salman Khan, an official said.

The police have initiated the process to bring the student back to India as he has been identified as the sender of the email, the official said on Tuesday.

The investigation revealed the student hails from Haryana. He is in the third year of a medical course.

The student is likely to return to India by the end of this year when his academic session ends in the UK, the official said.

Police suspect the student allegedly sent threatening messages to Salman Khan in the name of jailed gangster Goldy Brar in March.

A few days ago, Salman Khan received an e-mail on one of his official IDs which stated that he should meet gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's aide Goldy Brar and sort out their differences once and for all, or be ready to face the consequences.

The Mumbai Police recently nabbed a minor boy after he called up the control room and allegedly threatened to kill Salman Khan.



## UP Teacher Submits Fake Covid Certificate To Get Out Of Election Duty

Press Trust of India

PILIBHIT, UTTAR PRADESH: A primary school teacher in the Puranpur area here has been caught submitting a fake COVID-19 positive medical certificate to get exempted from polling duty in the upcoming municipal elections, an official said.

He said orders have been issued to file an FIR against Ritu Tomar posted in Pachpeda village primary school of Puranpur block.

The official on Tuesday said Ms Tomar was assigned the duty of polling officer II in polling party number three at the

pink booth in the municipal elections slated for May 11.

"The teacher had given an application seeking exemption from election duty with a document certifying her as Covid positive," CDO Pilibhit, Dharmendra Pratap Singh said.

When the officers checked the certificate, they found that she had edited the document of another person for seeking exemption from polling duty, he said.

The CDO said he ordered Basic Shiksha Adhikari Amit Kumar Singh on Tuesday to register an FIR against the teacher in this matter.



## LG Participates In Mahayagya On Zeashta Mata Jayanti



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday participated in the Mahayagya organised on the auspicious occasion of Zeashta Mata Jayanti, here at Zeashta Devi Temple, Zeathyar Srinagar.

The Lt Governor sought the blessings of Mata Zeashta and prayed for the well being of

one & all.

The Lt Governor, during his visit, also interacted with the people and extended his heartiest greetings on the auspicious occasion.

Members of Kashmiri Pandit community; Office bearers of Zeashta Devi Prabandhak Committee and prominent citizens from all walks of life were present.

## Residents Protest Opening Of Liquor Shop In Uri

Agencies

**BARAMULLA:** Cutting across religious lines, Muslims, Pandits, and Sikhs Wednesday took out a march against the government proposal to set up a liquor shop in the Lagama Uri area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district.

A local news agency KNT reported that scores of people participated in the march. The protesters were holding placards reading: 'Sharab Khana Bandh Kro'.

"At a time when the government claims of waging a war against drug abuse, it is mulling to open up a wine shop in Lagama Uri. This will be destructive for the unemployed youth," said a local Sumit Ku-

mar Raina.

"Please don't encourage liquor business and don't see this trade through the prism of money. It will annihilate everything and will propagate moral degradation in this peaceful part of Kashmir," said another protester.

"We want to appeal to the Lieutenant Governor to close this wine shop. They are playing with the future of our children," the protesters said adding that instead of opening a wine shop, the government should provide jobs to the unemployed youth.

Later on, the protesters presented a memorandum to SDM and SDPO Uri requesting them not to allow the liquor trade in Uri.

## Chief Justice Administers Oath Of Office To Justice Sreedharan

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh on Wednesday administered the oath of office to Justice Atul Sreedharan as Judge of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, in the Chief Justice's Court Room at Srinagar.

The Oath taking ceremony was physically attended at Srinagar by Justice Sanjeev Kumar, Justice Rajnesh Oswal, Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul, Justice Mohan Lal, Justice Rahul Bharti, Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi and Justice Wasim Sadiq Nargal while Justice Tashi Rabstan, Justice Sindhu Sharma, Justice Sanjay Dhar, Justice Puneet Gupta, Justice Javed Iqbal Wani, Justice Mohammad Akram Chowdhary and Justice Rajesh Sekhri participated online from Jammu Wing of High Court.

The proceedings of the oath taking ceremony were conducted by Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General of High Court



of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, who read out the contents of the Notification received from Government of India, Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Justice (Appointments Division) and the Letter of Authorization issued by the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, authorising Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, to administer the Oath of office to the newly transferred Judge.

The ceremony was also attended by the Former Judges of High Court, Advocate General, Secretary Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Additional Solicitors General of India,

Srinagar/Jammu, Additional Director General of Police Security, President Bar Association, Jammu/Srinagar, Senior Advocates, Principal District Judge Srinagar, Officers and functionaries of the Civil Administration and Police, Officers and Staff of the Registry, family members and guests of Justice Atul Sreedharan.

With the transfer of Justice Atul Sreedharan as Judge of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, the strength of Judges of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh has risen to 16 Judges including the Chief Justice against the sanctioned strength of 17.

## BJP Demands Issuance Of EPICs For KPs In Jammu, Elsewhere

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The Jammu and Kashmir BJP on Tuesday demanded issuance of Election Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) for the displaced Kashmiri Pandit community members living in Jammu and other parts of the country.

J-K BJP spokesperson Girdhari Lal Raina made the demand while raising important issues with Pandurang K Pole, Chief Electoral Officer, Jammu and Kashmir, related to the effective participation of the displaced community in election process.

"We demand issuance of EPICs for the displaced KP community in Jammu and other parts of country, where they put up presently and not in Kashmir valley from where they were ex-terminated," Raina said.

The former Legislative Council member also asked for utilisation of the mechanism in place with assistant returning officers (AROs) and other support staff that caters to the special needs of this segment of population.

"It is this mechanism through which voter registration is happening. Why can't EPICs be dis-

tributed to 100,000 through this very system," he asked.

He pleaded for issuance of necessary instructions to the concerned authorities for proper segregation and distribution of EPICs to the displaced voters.

"EPICs are being distributed by BLOs in their areas, we understand sorting and distribution is being done as per territorial assembly constituencies," Raina said.

In this process, EPICs of displaced community voters don't reach the intended persons and get lost in transition, he stressed.

## Principal Arrested For Inflicting Corporal Punishment On Student

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** A principal of a private school was arrested in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district on Wednesday for inflicting corporal punishment on a class 4 student, officials said.

An FIR has also been lodged against the principal after a written complaint was filed by the minor's family members.

The matter came to light after a video of the incident went

viral on social media platforms.

Police registered FIR under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Juvenile Justice Act at Vijaypur police station, conducted raids at suspected locations and arrested the accused Principal, they said.

Further investigation of the case and interrogation of the accused is underway, officials said.

The principal has been identified as Kuldeep Jallu alias Bablu, they added

## Probe Ordered Into Allegations Of Poor Blacktopping On Poonch Roads

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** District Magistrate Poonch, Yasin M Choudhary has ordered inquiry into the allegations of poor blacktopping work on two roads in Poonch district.

An official said that there were allegations of poor blacktopping on Chandak to Sathra and Bus stand Mandi to Shri Baba Budha Amarnath temple.

He said that inquiry officer has been asked to submit a detailed inquiry report within fifteen days for further necessary action.

Locals had alleged that both these roads were blacktopped



last year only and have turned dilapidated within less than a year allegedly due to poor quality work.

Additional District Development Commissioner Poonch, Malikzada Sheraz ul Haq has been appointed as inquiry officer and has been asked to submit a detailed inquiry report within 15 days—(KNO)

## Youth Injured After Being Stabbed By His Friend In Anantnag

**SRINAGAR:** A youth was injured after being stabbed by

his friend outside his home after some argument.

His friend in Krangsoo area of Mattan in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Wednesday.

Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that Adnan Altaf of Krangsoo was stabbed by his

He said Adnan received injuries in his arm and shoulder in the attack. "He was shifted to a hospital, where his condition is said to be stable," he said.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident.



## Committed To Provide Safe Drinking Water To All: DC Shopian

Chairs Block Diwas At Keller, Listens To Issues, Instructs For Redressal Promptly

Observer News Service

**SHOPIAN:** To take first hand appraisal of public issues at their doorsteps, the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb on Wednesday presided over the weekly Block Diwas programme at Keller, Shopian.

At the outset, PRLs, locals appreciated the development works completed during the previous year in the area while putting up developmental requirements for consideration for the ensuing year.

Various public issues, demands and grievances pertaining to water supply, upgradation of transform-

ers, establishment of Degree College, assessment of Hailstorm damage, development of playfields, promoting tourism, conduct of awareness camps, construction of bridges, and roads, etc were put forth by public representatives and people of the villages including Keller, Wathoo, Kathohalan, Mastpora, Moshwara, Dunaroo, Doompora, and other villages.

DDC heard all projected grievances and issues patiently and issued directions for resolving the issues on priority. Many grievances were addressed on spot while assuring people that the rest of

the grievances will be redressed in a time bound manner, as per feasibility.

Officers present at the venue also responded to various queries and issues raised by the people.

The DDC also instructed concerned to keep an account of issues and requirements for public welfare, as raised during the public outreach camp.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC was all praise for the tourism potential of the area and said that efforts shall be made to give fillip to the tourism activities in the area especially promoting the eco-tourism potential of Zampathri, Gaddar and Collier.

He also spoke on the ambitious Mission of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) and committed for the timely completion of all water supply schemes and filtration plants and the universal coverage of tapped water to all households as per JJM specified timelines.

On the occasion, the ISA team of NEESWO demonstrated the use of the Field Test Kit (FTK) before the audience in presence of DDC Shopian.

Among others, the programme was attended by district/sectoral officers, tehsil and block level officers, officials, PRLs and general masses of various villages of the tehsil.

## Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Takes Pivotal Steps to Increase Insurance Penetration in the UT of Ladakh



**Ladakh, April 26, 2023:** With the aim to increase insurance penetration in India, the insurance regulator IRDAI has allotted states and union territories to every insurer. Under this initiative, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has been allocated the union territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, and the state of Uttar Pradesh, where it will operate as the lead insurer.

To take insurance to the grass-root level in UT of Ladakh and bring more citizens under the protection and ambit of insurance, Mr. Aijaz Khan, National Head - Bancassurance - Public Sector Banks, Bajaj Allianz General Insurance and other senior officials from the Company recently met Brigadier (Dr.) B. D. Mishra, Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh. They discussed in great detail how insurance would positively impact the region's economic welfare and how it will help important industries of the region, like MSME, Transportation, and Agriculture, to thrive. They further discussed how the Company could collaborate closely with the government to increase insurance awareness and its uptake in the UT.

The Company officials also met Shri. Jamyang Tsering Namgyal Member of Parliament from Ladakh. In the meeting, Shri. Namgyal gave his valuable input on what concrete steps can be taken to secure Ladakh and strengthen the financial security of its citizens and how insurance will be integral to the UT's overall economic growth. These suggestions will help the Company to address the worries of the people of Ladakh and offer them industry's best insurance solutions with super customer experience backed by digital capabilities.

Furthermore, the Company officials met Shri. Tashi Gyalson, Chief Executive Councillor of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Leh, Ladakh, to discuss various activities the Company can undertake to safeguard economically weaker sections of the society and cover them under health insurance so that our brothers and sister can avail quality medical care and be financially secure.

### About Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

Bajaj Allianz General Insurance is India's leading private general insurance company. Bajaj Allianz is a joint venture between Bajaj Finserv Limited, India's most diversified non-bank financial institution, and Allianz SE, the world's leading insurer and largest asset manager. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance offers general insurance products such as motor insurance, home insurance, health insurance as well as other unique insurance plans such as pet dog insurance, wedding insurance, event insurance, and film insurance. The Company began its operations in 2001 and has been constantly expanding its operations to be close to its customers. Today, it has a pan-India presence in close to 1,000 towns and cities. Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has received the issuer rating of [ICRA]AAA from ICRA Limited. This rating indicates the highest degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations.

**For any media queries from Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, please contact:**

- Nikhil Bharadwaj: +91 9975592317 | [nikhil.bharadwaj@bajajallianz.co.in](mailto:nikhil.bharadwaj@bajajallianz.co.in)
- Richa Gaikwad: +91 8308598200 | [richa.gaikwad@bajajallianz.co.in](mailto:richa.gaikwad@bajajallianz.co.in)
- Sumedha Pandey: +91 9205612829 | [sumedha.pandey@bajajallianz.co.in](mailto:sumedha.pandey@bajajallianz.co.in)

## Choudhary Inaugurates Renovation, Fencing Project Of G&B Hostel In Kupwara

Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** Secretary, Tribal Affairs, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary on Wednesday visited Kupwara and inaugurated repair, renovation and fencing project of Gujar Bakerwal hostel, Kupwara.

Deputy Commissioner, Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattaray and other senior officers were also present on the occasion.

Secretary held an interaction cum public outreach programme with parents, students and staff of Gujar Bakerwal Hostel and took stock of pace of work on different projects being executed in tribal villages of Kupwara.

During the visit of Gujar & Bakerwal Hostel Kupwara, Secretary reviewed status of facilities being extended to the students in the hostel.

Dr. Shahid, while addressing during the out-

reach programme at the hostel, congratulated the district administration Kupwara for active involvement of tribal communities in different development plan formulation and their execution as well.

He appreciated the district administration for ensuring participation of tribal community in different welfare and development programmes.

Secretary assured the people all support from the Tribal Affairs Department regarding quality education, infrastructure development, youth engagement, empowerment and skill upgradation of tribal communities, provision of facilities in different sectors including healthcare, veterinary, Animal Husbandry, employment, promotion of tribal art and culture.

"The Tribal Affairs department in collaboration with district administration is actively engaging with all

the stakeholders for a coordinated approach aimed at overall welfare and holistic development of tribal community of the district" Dr. Shahid maintained.

Earlier, Deputy Commissioner elaborately explained about the status of implementation of various development projects in the district. He said that Tribal dhokhs in areas like Bungas and Drangyari are being turned into home stays as tourist footfall is increasing in the district.

He informed that around 100 tribal students are availing education, boarding and lodging facilities in Gujar Bakerwal Boys hostel, Kupwara.

Later, a colourful cultural programme depicting importance of education of tribal boys and girls was presented by the students of hostel.

Secretary distributed certificates of appreciation and mementos among the students, staff and community

leaders for their exemplary achievements in different fields.

Secretary also had feedback on different issues concerning welfare and development of the district.

Director Tribal Affairs, Musheer Ahmad Mirza; SSP Kupwara, Yougal Manhas; DDC Member Kalaroose, Mustafa Rahie; DDC Member Hyhama, Haji Sonaulah Khan; ACD Kupwara, Hilal Ahmad Mir, Chief Education Officer Kupwara A.H Fani, BDO Hayhama, Dr. Tarique Ahmad Padder, Warden G&B Hostel, Nisar Ahmad, ZEO Khumriyal, ZEO Sogam, BMO Sogam, Dr. Fareed besides other officers from district administration were present on the occasion.

Later, Secretary along with Deputy Commissioner and officers of district administration paid a visit to Tribal Smart School Gund Jahangeer and Tribal smart School Gagat to take stock of education facilities there.



KASHMIR OBSERVER™

Thursday | 11-05-2023

Pakistan's  
deepening turmoil

The shock arrest of former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on corruption charges has sparked nationwide protests, with his party Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) calling for his release and challenging the legality of his arrest. The charges against Imran Khan relate to the alleged gain of hundreds of canals of land in the name of Al Qadir University Trust, which his supporters believe are trumped up to ensure his imprisonment. The protests that have followed his arrest have been widespread, with people even attacking houses of Army generals and the defence installations, something that was thought unimaginable in Pakistan.

Khan's arrest has only further deepened the ongoing turmoil in the country. The reason for the arrest has become beside the point here. Truth is that Khan has become immensely popular in the country after he lost power in a vote of no-confidence last year. He has been claiming his government was toppled by the United States miffed with his growing closeness to Russia and China. He has been demanding the resignation of the government and the holding of the fresh elections. Last year, soon after his ouster, Khan has held successive mass rallies to force the government out of power. While the Pakistan government, backed by the military establishment, is unlikely to resign anytime soon, Khan's stubborn political campaign has destabilized the country. At the same time, his popularity has skyrocketed and in case of an election, he is expected to return to power with a landslide majority.

However, Pakistan is not only facing a political turmoil. Over the last two years, the country has careened from crisis to crisis: political, economic and on a security front. Pakistan economy is on the verge of a default with agreement with the International Monetary Fund far from being concluded. The IMF is putting stringent conditions before it advances loan to bail out the country.

On the other hand, after a relative peace for some years, Tehreek Taliban Pakistan has again become a major security challenge for Pakistan. In recent months, the TTP has mounted several daredevil attacks on Pakistan's security installations.

So we have a situation where a cascade of crises are colliding in Pakistan and Khan's arrest and the unfolding mass protests could push the country to the brink. The lingering turmoil in Pakistan, if not addressed in the near, could also have repercussions for regional stability. But it is only Pakistan that can save itself. Its coalition government composed of 16 parties, the powerful military establishment and the judiciary have to work together to resolve the unsettling situation. Failure to do so will be catastrophic for the country.

OTHER OPINION

Requiem for  
rupee-rouble trade

India sought to promote settlement of trade transactions in rupees last July to facilitate more trade with Russia (and neighbours like crisis-ridden Sri Lanka) that is facing punitive US-led sanctions for its ongoing war in Ukraine. At a time when its sourcing of deeply-discounted Russian oil, coking coal, and defence equipment is on the rise, the expectation was that the settlement of a part of India's growing import bill in rupees would ease the strains on its current account or goods and services trade with the rest of the world.

The rupee-rouble trading arrangement has since been put in place with the RBI approving the opening of special vostro accounts by more banks for settling cross-border trade in the Indian currency. But the remarks of Russia's foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, on the sidelines of the recent meeting of the council of foreign ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in Goa, cast doubts on the future of this arrangement. Lavrov admitted that Russia's huge accumulation of rupees has become "a problem", that to use this money, it has to be transferred to another currency. This statement came a day after a Reuters report indicated that efforts by both nations to settle bilateral trade in rupee-rouble have been suspended. Although both nations denied the report, Lavrov's remarks add grist to the speculation regarding the prospects of India's efforts to settle trade in local currencies.

Russia's "problem" with the accumulation of rupees stems from the boom in India's imports from that country after the war in Ukraine began last February. This burgeoned to \$51.3 billion in early April from \$10.6 billion due to India's growing reliance on deeply-discounted Russian oil despite the efforts of western nations to discourage it and the imposition of price caps. India's oil imports ballooned to 1.63 million barrels per day in April—accounting 34.5% of the country's oil imports—up from 69,000 b/d in March 2022 according to energy cargo tracker Vortexa. This growing reliance has come at the expense of India's traditional sources of energy supplies such as OPEC.

Financial Express

Strained Indo-Pak  
Ties to Stay

India taking down Pakistan at the SCO meet is indicative of changing diplomatic might of India. India will not stick to fake goody words any longer. It signals Pakistan about the need to do more to shed the tag of being a global headache on terrorism

Asad Mirza

Coming soon after the recent Shanghai Cooperation Council's (SCO) Defence Ministers' Summit in New Delhi, India last week hosted the Foreign Ministers of the SCO at Goa. The common thread between these two summits was the tough posturing by India against its two neighbours Pakistan and China.

At the Goa meeting, India's External Affairs Minister, S Jaishankar, revealed that India had twice called out China and Pakistan at the summit for violating India's sovereignty through their connectivity projects. The statement was made in response to a question on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), which runs through Indian territory currently under Pakistan's illegal occupation.

Earlier, India had sort of reprimanded the Chinese Defence Minister at the New Delhi meeting, on the issue of the stalled talks over the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

India's Critique of Pakistan

Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari was in Goa to represent Pakistan at the SCO-CFM. A visit, which happened after a 12 year gap. The last Pakistani foreign minister to visit India was Hina Rabbani Khar, when she met her Indian counterpart SM Krishna in Delhi in 2011.

However, what soured the atmosphere this time in Goa, was references made by Zardari over Kashmir and Pakistan being a victim of terrorism itself. Though he also called for reviving the stalled talks.

India, in a strongly worded response to Pakistan's overtures for talks, said victims of terrorism do not sit together with perpetrators of terrorism to discuss terror.

Rebutting each of the points made by Zardari, EAM S Jaishankar said he (Zardari) was "a promoter, justifier and spokesperson for a terrorism industry which is the mainstay of Pakistan. The tough Indian response came after the news of the death of five Indian Army soldiers in a terrorist attack near the Line of Control (LoC) on Friday. Jaishankar said Bilawal's suggestion to sit together and talk was "hypocritical" and said India was feeling "outraged" by the incident.

India's Stand on China

Jaishankar had a similar position on China whose readout on the bilateral between him and its Foreign Minister described the situation on the boundary as stable. Jaishankar said that there is an abnormal position in the border areas. We have to take the disengagement process forward. I have made it very clear. India-China relations will not be normal if peace and tranquillity in the border areas is disturbed. This message was on the same lines as delivered by the Indian defence minister to his Chinese counterpart, a fortnight ago.

Responding to Zardari's diatribe, Jaishankar said Bilawal's opposition to a G-20 meeting to be held in Kashmir had no basis since Pakistan was not even a member of that grouping. On Bilawal's opening address at the SCO conference where he said the issue of terrorism should not be used to score diplomatic points, the minister said: "We are not scoring diplomatic points. We are exposing Pakistan. As a victim of terrorism, we are authorised to do so. We have put up with it. It speaks so much



The SCO meet also showed yet again that body language speaks volumes in geopolitics and diplomacy. The distance between the two foreign ministers while posing for photographs was noticeably gaping. However, the cold Indian demeanour, a departure from customary diplomatic niceties, and continuing with its old parroting by the Pakistani minister were more targeted at their respective domestic audiences

about the mindset of that country."

He asked Pakistan to "smell the coffee" regarding its grouse about the abrogation of Article 370 as a violation of international agreements. "370 is history. Sooner the people realise it, the better." Jaishankar said.

Indian response to CPEC

EAM Jaishankar also took exception to the mention of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) at the SCO meeting, both by Pakistan and China. And rightly so, as SCO is a multilateral forum, not a bilateral one and further India's adversarial stand on the CPEC has been very clear from the beginning, as it passed through the PoK. India has consistently opposed the Belt and Road Initiative and CPEC, as these projects violate India's territo-

rial integrity and sovereignty.

Jaishankar very clearly stated that connectivity is good for progress, but connectivity cannot violate the sovereignty and territorial integrity of nations.

Bilawal's Overture

On his part Bilawal Bhutto Zardari blamed India's Kashmir policy for the "frozen peace" between India and Pakistan. The India-Pakistan relationship soured significantly after India announced the withdrawal of special powers from Jammu and Kashmir and the division of the state into two union territories in August 2019.

India has always maintained that it wants regular neighbourly ties with Pakistan while emphasising that the onus is on Islamabad to create a safe environment for such an engagement.

The tough Indian response to both Pakistan and China, mainly stems from its exhaustion with its neighbours, who in spite of several Indian initiatives to better relations, prefer to stick with their age-old stands on the contentious issues, preferring not to respond positively to any Indian efforts in this regard.

The SCO meet also showed yet again that body language speaks volumes in geopolitics and diplomacy. The distance between the two foreign ministers while posing for photographs was noticeably gaping. However, the cold Indian demeanour, a departure from customary diplomatic niceties, and continuing with its old parroting by the Pakistani minister were more targeted at their respective domestic audiences.

The Indian leadership in view of the forthcoming elections in Karnataka wanted to be seen as acting tough, while the Pakistani minister wanted to showcase his ability to rake-up old issues in the backdrop of the economic woes of Pakistan. But overall this posturing does not augur well for friendly relations between the neighbours in the foreseeable future.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer  
Asad Mirza is a senior political commentator based in New Delhi.  
He can be contacted at [www.asadmirza.in](http://www.asadmirza.in)



OBSERVER  
MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O. Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001  
email: [editpage.ko@gmail.com](mailto:editpage.ko@gmail.com)

Employment Despair

UNEMPLOYMENT is a very serious problem for the young people in Kashmir. There are thousands of people who do not have any work to do and are not even able to find work for themselves. Unemployment refers to the situation where a person wants to work but cannot find employment in the labour market, and that is a phenomenon which is widely common in Kashmir. There are so many young dynamic and talented people who deserve to hold good positions but are not being provided with the right

opportunities. It is ironic how jobs and opportunities are still achievable only through sifarish even in the 21st century and it might sound surprising or people might argue that it is not the case anymore, but truly it is. Besides the lack of jobs, lockdowns to contain the coronavirus for two consecutive years forced many industries to shut down thus increasing unemployment, making the scenario even worse. Also, an unemployed person is more likely to do socially unacceptable work to earn bread. Thus, very often in a society

where there are a huge number of unemployed people, there will be a great proliferation of thieves, snatchers, bank-robbers and much more serious anti-social elements.

Unemployment has aided to the deteriorating mental health condition of the youth, many young people nowadays are committing suicide owing to a spectrum of social deprivations including unemployment. The government needs to pay heed to the plea of qualified young people and find more ways to create jobs. Moreover, people should focus on becoming

job creators and not job seekers and they should not lose hope on not finding a job but rather work towards building their own ways of income so that they overcome unemployment for themselves and for people who would eventually work for them and their venture. The deserving students of Kashmir have been

deprived of the right opportunities for long enough, now it is time for the authorities to stand up and create a productive platform for the talented youth of the valley.

Fazil Mir



# Managing Embarrassment

## How to share in your humanity and laugh at yourself.

Stephanie Cox MS

What's the most embarrassing thing you've done today? I'm sure you can think of something. Or if you can't, perhaps you try hard to shove any embarrassing times out of your head, only for them to return at the most inconvenient times. Like when you're trying to sleep or right before an important social event that you feel ill-equipped to deal with.

When we get embarrassed, we want to hide. Just crawl into a hole. The fear of judgment and rejection due to our blunders can eat away at our psyche until isolation seems like the only option.

But this self-isolation only works to further our sense that we deserve separation. That we're so awkward and socially inept that we should reject all attempts at connection—for our sake and the sake of others.

Isolation strengthens the notion that when we do bad things, we are bad and need to sit alone in our badness.

It is also not the answer. Yet, if isolation isn't the

answer, then what is?

### Compassion

One possibility is self-compassion. Self-compassion is not the same as self-pity. Rather, it is the understanding that we all are part of the same human experience and share in the same human condition. That is that we are fallible and imperfect. Every one of us.

When we slip up, it's not just us; it's us joining the ranks of all the other slip-ups and misses that we all run into from time to time. Let self-compassion encourage you to speak kindly of yourself and say you're no different than the next person. Especially in all your sufferings and foibles.

### Laughing at Yourself

Another tool is to learn to laugh at yourself. We are conditioned most of the time to take ourselves so seriously that when we make a mistake, we forget a big

fact—that mistakes are often funny!

Case in point: I'm currently on a trans-continental flight to Denver, Colorado, for training. I'm about 30 minutes in, wondering what the topic of this article will be. As someone who tries to be environmentally conscious, I carry my own refillable, insulated water bottle with me. I love this thing! It's blue and shiny with a straw and vacuum-sealed, so it keeps everything cold. It works great. Except when I'm thousands of feet in the air in a pressurized cabin.

Feeling a bit thirsty, I opened the spout to get a drink and proceeded to shoot a geyser of ice-cold water about one foot in the air all over myself and my neighbor. The poor woman didn't acknowledge it or me, except for a subtle and stoic wipe of the side of her face that I had just splattered. She did not say a word to me.

Was this embarrassing? Absolutely. Was this also funny? Yes. Am I uncomfortable as I sit here (for the remaining 3.5 hours) in a puddle, looking like I wet myself? Oh yeah. Am I human? Also, yes, and I appreciate comedy and boy, was that a bit.

### Inviting Someone to Laugh With You

The most powerful tool of all in living with the reality that embarrassment is part of life is learning to invite others into the mess with you.

There is something very freeing about doing something stupid and sending a text to a close friend to say: "You won't believe what I just did...." Inviting others to laugh with you (and maybe at you a little) is an act of rebellion in a world where we're taught that embarrassment is shameful and you should hide your face from everyone because of it.

We're so isolated in our society. Shame and embarrassment are big contributors to that. Yet, we always have the option to take ourselves out of the hole and into the light where all the other embarrassing people hang out.

I'll be there, probably still in wet pants.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

# Women in Islam: Muslim Women in the Islamic Golden Age

SOUKEYNA OSEI-BONSU

"Tonight I am a Dahlia, I have invented a dream that seems it could come true so I work and pray that the fruits of this moon that has risen across my iris continues to glow a path that will take me to everlasting bliss."

~ Soukeyna Osei-Bonsu, 'Dahlia'

The days of Ramadan have left us and the summer solstice approaches. On the longest day of the year should we be fortunate to reach it, I will be brought to reflect on the brevity of life, the futility of worry and consequently what it means to harbour a legacy.

Boundedness is for the human body which originates from three darkneses in the wombs of our mothers (Qur'an 39:6) and will invariably return to be swallowed by the darkness of the earth. The mind and soul however are built for higher pursuits and do not experience the confines of life and death. If we possess as Ghazali said, 'only what will not be lost in a shipwreck', then surely as a community the pursuit of knowledge to leave on earth when we are gone should take precedence.

Leaving a legacy (sadaqa jariya) of the mind and soul for the time we spent on this side of living was something fundamentally understood by the Muslimah's of past civilisations. Being at the vanguard of the arts, humanities, sciences, Islamic thought and scholarship as a Muslim woman was a tradition that was not framed as a threat to a successful marriage and home as it is across the Muslim world today. These were two paths that were not diametrically opposed but rather worked symbiotically to produce Muslim women who cherished knowledge and the dissemination of it just as deeply as they cherished raising a family.

Because today's field of da'wah is predominantly occupied by men, much of what we hear concerning us revolves around marriage and the raising of a family being a Muslim woman's highest aspiration. Any ambition outside of this pursuit is relegated to the crusade of the feminist agenda. Marriage is no doubt a sacred institution and act of worship, though as with Allah's (swt) first injunction to 'Read' (Qur'an 96:1), this is not what our lives should begin and end with. To forward humanity and contribute to global knowledge is another noble albeit discouraged act of worship.

Looking back to great women of Islam and the context in which they flourished, this was profoundly understood. An example is Aisha bint Abu Bakr, the dutiful wife to Muhammad ( ), who according to Hafiz ibn Hajar taught scholars, great politicians such as Amr ibn al'As and great jurists and hadith scholars such as Abu Hurayrah and Abdullah ibn Abbas.

Another example is scholar Aisha bint Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqas who was honoured to have the great Imam Malik as one of her pupils (2). From muhaddithat (had-



ith scholars) Khadijah bint Ahmad, Lady Rajab and Lady Fatimah bint Ali who all taught the great scholar Imam Jalal ud din Suyyuti (3), to Maryam Andalusi in Spain who established her own educational institute which seekers of knowledge would flock to (4) – the women of the past had the agency to be guiding moons to both male and female believers as well as obedient wives and nurturing mothers.

In this piece, I look specifically to women of the Islamic Golden Age from the 8th to the 14th century – a period of rapid Islamic expansion and enlightenment rooted in a tradition of truth seeking, deep reflection and exploration, which the revelation of the Holy Qur'an set a precedent for.

**Islamic Golden Age (8th to 14th century)**

Fatimah bint Yahya – 9th Century

A prolific mujtahidah from the 9th C, Fatimah bint Yahya would apply ijtiḥad (legal reasoning to make a decision) to derive Islamic rulings. Being a mujtahidah meant that Fatimah had to have legal knowledge on opposing arguments in

fiqh, to give an Islamic ruling. Al Shawkani said about her:

"She was famous for her knowledge. She had debates with her father on several juristic issues. Her father, the imam, confirmed that Fatimah applied ijtiḥad in deriving rulings. This indicates that she was prominent in the knowledge, for the imam would not say something like that except for one who deserved it." (5)

Fatimah's husband Mutahhar ibn Muhammad ibn Sulayman ibn Muhammad would often refer to Fatimah for juristic judgement. If a complicated issue arose that was posited to Mutahhar and his students, they would seek an answer from Fatimah. When a sound answer was given Mutahhar's students would say, "This is not from you. This is from behind the curtain." (6)

Fatima al Fihri is remembered for establishing the first university in Fez, Morocco – Al Qarawiyyin university. According to UNESCO, this is the oldest in the world that is still operating.

Born to a wealthy family in Tunisia,

Fatima inherited a substantial amount of wealth after the death of her father and husband. Fatima, who had Islamic knowledge instilled in her from a young age, did not remarry but used her wealth to establish a knowledge centre in Morocco to be of service to the ummah. The university taught Islamic theology, law, poetry, philosophy, logic, rhetoric, grammar, geography, science and mathematics without a fee (7). The building of Al-Qarawiyyin university and mosque began in Ramadan 857 AD and continued over two to three years. Fatima al Fihri fasted every day until the building of the mosque and university was complete (8).

### Al-Ijlīya Al-Astrulabi – 10th Century

Al-Ijlīya Al-Astrulabi, also known as Mariam, was a 10th-century astronomer and maker of astrolabes in Aleppo, in what is now northern Syria. An astrolabe is used to determine positionality in latitude or tell the local time as well as measure celestial events. Al-Ijlīya Al-Astrulabi was inspired by her father who was an apprentice astrolabe maker and as Al-Ijlīya Al-Astrulabi's prolificity grew she was employed in the court of Sayf Al Dawla – Emir of Aleppo (9). With the help of the astrolabes designed by Al-Ijlīya Al-Astrulabi, the position of sun, moon, stars and planets were able to be determined which meant that the Qibla, prayer times and the days of Ramadan and Eid would be known.

### Sutayta al-Mahmali – 10th Century

Sutayta al-Mahmali was a polymath who specialised in mathematics. She lived in Baghdad and was taught by her father, judge Abu Abdallah al-Hussein. The fields she excelled in include Arabic literature, hadith, jurisprudence, ḥisab (arithmetics) and fara'idh (successoral calculations). She is remembered for her contributions to the algebraic inheritance formula which informed what the heirs of an estate would receive.

### Lubna of Cordoba – 10th Century

Lubna of Cordoba was a mathematician from Andalus also renowned for her all encompassing intellect and poetry. She was born into slavery and raised in the palace of Cordoba's caliph. Starting as a copyist, Lubna ascended in her career to become the palace secretary for the Caliph and the manager of the library of Madinat-ul-Zahra. She was also one of the first female travellers, travelling solo to the middle east for her work and visiting Cairo, Damascus and Baghdad.

She was a polymath who mastered Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and was also involved in teaching children. She set up a school in the library for street children and trained the children of the royal household in chess.

### Zaynab Al Shahada – 12th Century

Zaynab Al Shahada was a famous 12th century calligrapher and the appointed calligrapher of Musa Palace, who was prominent in the study of Islamic law and hadith. Not much is known about Zaynab but we know that many would flock to her to receive an Islamic licence from her (ijazah) to teach. Because of her intellect she was appointed teacher to the Abbasid Caliph – Yaqut. Zaynab was known to use her free time to study the Islamic sciences and literature.

### Princess Gevher Nesibe Sultan – 13th Century

Princess Gevher Nesibe Sultan was the 13th century princess of the Sultanate of Rum. She was the daughter of Kilij Arslan II and sister of Kaykhusraw I. Upon her deathbed, she is known for having established a hospital in her memory where she desired that the sick be treated with no charge. Princess Gevher's brother carried out her last request, beginning the building of the hospital in 1204 and opening the hospital in 1206. The hospital also had an adjoining madrasah devoted to medical research and studies. Princess Gevher Nesibe Sultan also built a mosque in Kayseri, Turkey.

These are just some of the women of the Islamic Golden Age who were illuminated by knowledge and contributed to humanity, disseminating light beneath each footprint everywhere they travelled. These were women who were emissaries of Allah and the women we should aspire to emulate. Let us learn from the powerful legacy of these women and invent a dream for our futures in Jannah insha'Allah. Let us leave a legacy that will outlast the boundedness of our human bodies.

### References

- (1) Woman of Shari'ah, Abdur Rahman I. Doi, page 141
- (2) Woman of Shari'ah, Abdur Rahman I. Doi, page 142
- (3) Leading Ladies who made a difference in the lives of others, Muhammad Ishaque Multani pages 110-111
- (4) Leading Ladies who made a difference in the lives of others, Muhammad Ishaque Multani, page 141
- (5) Al Muhadithat: The Woman Scholars of Islam page 144
- (6) Al Muhadithat: The Woman Scholars of Islam page 144
- (7) "Fatima al-Fihri", Teach Mindset
- (8) Gray, Shaykha Tamara, "Fatima al-Fihri- 15 Centuries of Female Scholarship.", Seekers Guidance
- (9) Necat Tasci, Ufak, "Mariam al Astrulabi: A Muslim woman behind the 10th-century astrolabes.", TRT World

The article was originally published by Amaliah



# Ability To Chew Properly Helps Improve Blood Sugar Levels In Type 2 Diabetes Patients: Study

ANI

A researcher at the University at Buffalo, advised medical professionals who treat patients with Type 2 diabetes (T2D) to examine their patients' teeth. The findings of the study published in PLOS ONE on April 14, Eskan showed that T2D patients with full chewing function have blood glucose levels that are considerably lower than those of patients with reduced chewing function. Eskan works as a clinical assistant professor in the UB School of Dental Medicine's Department of Periodontics and Endodontics. The data from 94 T2D patients who were seen at an outpatient clinic in a hospital in Istanbul, Turkey, were examined in the retrospective analysis. The patients were split into two groups.

The first group consisted of patients who had strong "occlusal function"-enough teeth that were correctly positioned and made contact with one another to allow for efficient food chewing. The blood glucose level for that group was 7.48. The second group's blood glucose level was over 2 per cent higher, at 9.42, and they



could hardly chew at all due to missing part or all of those teeth.

When you sit down at a picnic table with family and friends, mastication-chewing-is the last thing on your mind. However, as you bite into your burger, several things start to happen. Digestion, the process by which your body extracts nutrients from food, begins as chewing stimulates the production of saliva. Nutrients that are important to reduce blood glucose levels include fibre, which is obtained in large part through chewing appropriate foods.

Chewing also has been reported to stimulate reactions in the intestine that lead to increased insulin secretion, and the hypothalamus that promote a feeling of satiety, resulting in less food intake. Eat-

ing less decreases the likelihood of becoming overweight, which is a major risk factor for developing T2D.

Eskan received his DDS at Hacettepe University, a leading medical research center in Turkey, and earned his PhD at the University of Louisville, where he also completed a residency in periodontology. "My special clinical interest is to treat dental patients who are systemically compromised," he said. His research goal is to contribute to the big picture of improving public health. This research notes that, as of 2019, almost half a billion people worldwide had diabetes, and at least 90% of those patients with diabetes have T2D.

Addressing oral health has recently become part of the approach to managing diabetes along with encourag-

ing patients to maintain a healthy weight, eat a healthy diet, and quit smoking. "Our findings show there is a strong association between mastication and controlling blood glucose levels among T2D patients," said Eskan. This study did not find any independent variables that could affect blood glucose levels among the subjects because there were no statistical differences among subjects regarding body mass index (BMI), sex, smoking status, medications, or infection as indicated by white blood cell count (WBC) at the baseline.

The dramatic improvement in one patient's case described in a 2020 study co-led by Eskin illustrates the potential benefit of improving occlusal function through dental implants and appropriate fixed restoration. A T2D patient whose chewing function was severely impaired by missing teeth presented initially with a blood glucose level of 9.1. The patient obtained nutrition by using a bottle and eating baby food. Four months after treatment with a full mouth implant-supported fixed restoration, the patient's glucose level dropped to 7.8. After 18 months, it decreased to 6.2.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Industrial Traning Institute Anantnag)

Skill Development Deoportment

MIS code: GR01000003

PH. NO: 01932-225374

Fax: 01932-222581

Website: www.itianantnag.org

Email: itianantnag@gmail.com

ISO-29990-CERTIFIED

NOTIFICATION

All those candidates who have passed All India Trade test before 2014 and have not received their NTC's till date are Informed to submit the photostate copy of their Marks sheet (PSTC) with the office of ITI ANANTNAG, within (07) seven days so that their data can be shared with DGT for generation of e-NTC, Failing which their case cannot be processed for generation of NTC in absence of required documents and for which they shall be personally responsible.

No:ITI/Ang/Trgs/12/235-38

DIPK-1355/23

Dated: 10/05/2023

(Imran Wajahat )

Principal ITI Anantnag

FREE

One to one and group mental health counselling services in the clinic as well as in online mode

HEALTHY MINDS

Our team of well qualified and trained professionals comprises both child/adolescent as well as adult psychologists & counsellors that work under the guidance & supervision of senior consultant psychologists.

WE PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL HELP IN OVERCOMING THE FOLLOWING AND MANY MORE CONDITIONS

■ Anger & Stress management

■ Personal Empowerment

■ Post Traumatic Stress disorder

■ Depression

■ Anxiety Disorder

■ Suicide Prevention and more

CALL FOR FREE CONSULTATION! 10AM - 4PM, Monday - Saturday

9469 807 321

9469 811 096

9070 130 280

HOUSE NO. 27, LANE NO 16 A, GOGJI BAGH

HELP FOUNDATION

Kashmer

+

+

+

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer JSD PHE Division Bijbehara

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E- NIT No.19 OF 2023-24 dt.06-05-2023, issued under No. 1631-51 Date: 09.05-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, J&K Union Territory e-tenders (in Single Cover System) are invited on percentage basis from approved and registered Govt. contractors, for the works mentioned below: -

S N o.	Name of work	Adv Cost Rs in Lacs	Time of completion	Earnest money	Class of Contractor	M.H	Cost of Tender doc. (in Rs)
1.	Laying of filter media to 0.76 lac gallons SSFP, grill work to 0.76 lac gallons SSFP, const. of Anchor blocks, Angle Iron pillars, leveling of ground and realignment of 125mm dia RWM and fixing of flanges to 100 mm dia feeding main, Chain link fencing to 0.76 lac gallons SSFP and SR for WSS Khatana Basti under NRDW.	38.04	45 days	76080	AAV/BEE	NRDWP	800/-
2.	Laying of filter media to 0.66 lac gallons SSFP, construction of 2 No. Sluice chamber, connecting and commissioning of SSFP and SR and Chain link fencing for WSS Upper Dandipora under NRDW.	39.75	45 days	79500	AAV/BEE	NRDWP	800/-

POSITION OF AAA: Accorded POSITION OF TS : Available

01. 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 www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below.

02. Bids must be uploaded on Jketenders.gov.in with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Bijbehara (Tender receiving authority).

03. Earnest Money equivalent to 2% of Advertised cost shall have to be uploaded by the tenderer in shape of CDR/FDR/BG without which the tender shall not be entertained.

04. The quantity of items in the BOQ are purely on tentative basis just to arrive at a genuine / exact comparative cost. The quantity items in the BOQ can increase or decrease and shall not be mentioned in the allotment order.

05. The successful bidder shall have to respond within the minimum possible time (not more than 03 hours) to execute the requisite job failing which the Engineer In-charge or the authorized supervisory staff shall be at liberty to get the job executed / completed through any other means on the risk and cost of the allottee. If the allottee will fail to respond in time continuously for 03 turns his contract shall be deemed to have been cancelled and the job shall be put to fresh tenders after forfeiting of his performance security and shall be debarred to take part in any other tendering process of the Division.

06. The tenderer shall have to satisfy himself regarding all aspects like topography of the area, climatic conditions, geographical conditions within the peripherals of the area, before tendering for the stages of the particular area at his own expenses.

07. The tenderers have to submit the tender online without any addition or alteration in the rate schedule items or any conditions thereof. No conditional tender whatsoever shall be entertained even if the rates shall be lowest one.

08. The tenderer has to understand fully the nature of work or works as per proper nomenclature of items of work in rate/quantity schedule in the form of BOQ.

10. The tenderer has to sign a deed at the time of allotment and has to give full details of men and machinery available with him or he has to give a written bond duly stamped as per norms of providing men and machinery as required for execution of any of the work or works allotted to him.

11. The successful bidder has to remain in close liaison with the Divisional Office and subordinate sub divisional offices of PHE Division Bijbehara till the expiry of the contract, besides the tenderer shall have to remain available (24x7) round the year as such have to maintain his residence near Head Quarter of the respective sub division, so as to remain available during night hours also.

12. The contractors who wish to put their tenders for stage contracts should bear in mind that the works under stage tendering needs day and night operations and has to execute the work or works in all conditions of weather or any untoward situations.

Unbalanced Tender:

13. In case tender of the lowest tenderer is found unbalanced, the successful one shall have to produce additional performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/ Bank Guarantee before fixation of contract as per following breakup within a period of 07 days (from opening of tender), failing which the CDR of the tenderer shall be forfeited

S. No.	Percentage of Unbalanced Tender viz advertised cost on account of low rates	Additional performance security
1	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2	Greater than 15% and upto 20% below	5%
3	Greater than 20% and upto 25% below	10%
4	Greater than 25% and upto 30% below	15%
5	Greater than 30%	20%

14. The Payment to the concerned agency shall be made as per availability of funds.

15. The items which may not figure in the BOQ but found necessary for execution shall be paid as per SSR or lowest market rates decided by the contract committee of the Divisional Level.

16. Work done claims has to be supported with pre, during and post photographic evidence.

17. Critical dates :

01	Date of Issue/Uploading of Tender Notice .	09-05-2023
02	Start of Downloading	09-05-2023 4:00 PM
03	Bid Submission Start Date	09-05-2023 4:00 PM
04	Bid Submission end date	09-05-2023 4:00 PM
05	Date & time of opening bids (on line)	20-05-2023 11:00 AM

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.

2. The Bidder shall be debarred for participation in tendering process for 02 years in the Department and performance security is forfeited if :-

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications 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 07 days after fixation of contract.

2. Instructions to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

2-1.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in acquaint bid submission process.

2-1.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendor.

2-1.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form./Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.

2-1.4 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid. Besides, original/Photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted by L-1 after opening of financial bid.

2-1.5 The ENIT No. Advertised cost and S No. of the work shall be written on the e-challan/treasury receipt and date of e- challan/treasury receipt shall be after date of issuance of tender notice without which no tender document shall be accepted and is liable to be rejected.

2-1.7 The bidders who do not qualify as per above terms their price bids would not be opened up and would be declared as disqualified one.

2-2 The successful bidder if fails to adhere the instructions within the stipulated time as are given to him for fulfillment of the contract, the work be allotted in favour of the next lowest bidder at his risk and cost and has bear cost differentiation and forfeiture of performance security and has to face blacklisting .

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

3. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

4. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt /e-challan in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Bijbehara. The original Treasury Receipts/E-Challan (cost of tender document), and relevant documents to be submitted to the tender opening authority by L-1 after opening of financial bid.

5. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the percentage inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

6. Price escalation and taxes:-The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

7. Bidders are advised to use "Mv Documents" area in their user on PHE e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

8. In case of CRF and any other specified project the relevant guidelines/standard bidding document shall be followed.

9. Instructions to Bidder (ITB)

15-1. All bidders shall include the following information and documents with their bids:-

a. Copies of original documents defining constitution/legal status, place of registration and Principal place of Business.

b. Valid GST No.

16-2. The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.

12-3. All documents relating to the bid shall be in English Language.

13. General conditions of Contract:-

15-2 Penalty for delay in completion:-In case of delay in completion of work beyond stipulated period of completion, penalty up to maximum of 10% of the contract shall be imposed.

15-4 Advance Payments: - No mobilization advance/equipment advance shall be paid.

15-6 Amendment of bidding documents:- Before the dealing for submission of bids the employer may modify the bidding documents by issuing Addenda.

15-7 The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

15-8 Traffic regulations:- The contractor is bound to adhere to traffic regulations as is applicable from time to time and ensure arrangements of smooth regulation of traffic during execution of work.

15-11 Safety:- The contractor shall be responsible for safety of all activities at site of work.

15-12 Discoveries:- Anything of historical or other interest or other interest or of significant value Un expectedly discovered on the site shall be the property of the government.

15-13 Tests:- The contractor shall be solely responsible for carrying out the mandatory tests required for the quality control at his own costs.

15-14 Termination:- The employer may terminate the contract if the contractor causes a fundamental breach of the contract.

15-15 Fundamental breach of contract will include:-

a. Pursuant to the process of termination of defaulted contract, the employer reserves the right to invite fresh tender for the balance work at the risk and cost of defaulter contractor.

b. If in case contractor fails to start /complete the work, within the stipulated time period, his performance security shall be forfeited after termination of the contract. Besides, defaulting contractor shall be debarred from taking works in PHE Department at least for Two consecutive years.

15-16 Major Labour Laws applicable to establishment engaged in building and other construction Work:-

a) Workmen compensation act 1923.

b) Payment of Gratuity Act 1972.

c) Employees P.F. and Miscellaneous Provision Act 1952.

d) Maternity Benefits Act 1951.

e) Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act 1970.

f) Minimum Wages Act 1948.

g) Payment of Wages Act 1936.

h) Equal remuneration Act 1979.

i) Payment of bonus Act 1965.

j) Industrial disputes Act 1947.

k) Industrial employment standing orders Act 1946.

Trade Union Act 1926.

m) Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986.

n) Inter State Migrant workmen's (Regulation of employment & Conditions of service) Act 1979.

o) The Building and other Construction workers (Regulation of employment and Condition of service) Act 1996 and the Census Act of 1996. p) Factories Act 1948.

q) Compliance with Labour Regulation Laws of J&K State.

15-17 Specification/Quality Control: - All items of works shall conform to Specifications as per IRC/MORTH/NBO/CPWD/ SSR/ Any other prescribed specifications.

15-18 Insurance: - Insurance cover to Labour / Machinery / Work / Plant material / Equipment by the contractor shall be mandatory.

15-19 Laws Governing the Contract:- The contract shall be governed by Laws of the land.

15-20 Court's Jurisdiction:- In case of any disputes/differences between contractor and Department the jurisdiction shall be J&K State 15-21 Time extension:-Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work. 15-22.The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not full fill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

15-23. All other terms, conditions are as per the PWD form 25 (Double agreement form).

Sl. No	DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR QUALIFYING
01	Enlistment card Registration with latest card renewal 2023-24 or online mode
02	Card verification
03	Latest GST Certificate along with GST 3B
04	Treasury challan/e-Challan
05	Earnest Money equivalent to 2% of Advertised Cost shall have to be uploaded by the tenderer nthe shape of CDR/FDR/BG without which the tender shall not be entertained
06	Debarred Affidavit duly notarized
07	Bidder Address details
08	The tenderers who wish to participate shall have to submit/upload the affidavit stating they're in that, if he is declared L1, after opening of finical bid, he will submit the performance security (unbalanced bid) of Advertised cost.

DIPK-1358/23

dated: 10-05-2023

Executive Engineer,  
J.S PHE Division Bijbehara



Dulloo Assesses GI Tagging Of 5 Newly Recommended Crops From J&K

Stresses importance of historical data, literature-based evidence

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo, Wednesday chaired a meeting to evaluate the Geographical Indication (GI) status of five recently recommended crops from Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Secretary APD, Special Secretary APD, Directors of Sheep Husbandry and Animal Husbandry in both Kashmir and Jammu, Directors of Sheep Husbandry and Horticulture in Jammu and Kashmir, Director of Agriculture, Jammu, Technical Officers from APD, heads of Technical Working Groups (TWGs) and other concerned both in person and online.

The meeting commenced with presentations by the TWG heads, who provided updates on progress of GI certification applications for the newly recommended crops including Kevur, Lakhanpur Bhalla/Bada, Thandi Khui ki Barfi, Kud Ka Patisa and Pecan nut.

During the detailed discussion, the TWG heads shared their work on each crop, presenting evidence of origin backed by historical data, emphasizing the unique characteristics of each crop and high-

lighting their distinct features. Dulloo encouraged the TWGs to prioritize historical data and literature based evidence, ensuring a robust foundation for successful GI certification of these crops.

He asked them to seek guidance from experts and consult relevant departments with knowledge, evidence and historical background information on these crops.

Dr. Rajni Kant, a GI expert from Varanasi, provided valuable feedback during the meeting. He emphasized the significance of product inheritance and the distinctive attributes of each crop to minimize the risk of rejection during the GI registration process.

Dr. Kant's said that his team is actively working on identifying additional evidence to support comprehensive GI applications for these products.

The meeting decided to work speedily towards filing GI applications for Kud's patista and Thandi khui barfi, while acknowledging the need for further work to gather evidence for the other three products.

Atal Dulloo expressed his commitment towards completing all the necessary formalities, gradually initiating the application process in a timely manner.

ACS APD Reviews Implementation Of HADP

Exhorts officers to achieve targets in set timelines



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, Wednesday reviewed implementation of certain schemes being executed under the ambitious Holistic Agriculture Development Plan (HADP) during a meeting held with concerned officers and other stakeholders.

The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K; Directors of Sericulture; Agriculture and Horticulture Jammu and Kashmir besides other concerned officers.

ACS impressed upon the officers to implement the holistic plan in its entirety keeping its aims and objectives in mind. He asked them to do all the preliminary works before hand regarding issuing of tenders, procurement and management of human resources.

He asked them to maintain all standards of transparency by framing thorough specifications of tender documents for timely procurement and utilization of resources. He stressed on accepting applications for all the components exclusively through online mode on its portal from the public. He made out that the same has been launched with the aim of ensuring transparency, accountability and fairness.

Dulloo also took note of the position of funds available under each scheme of this plan. He assured that all requirements raised during the meeting would be taken into account for early resolution. He also directed the officers to submit deliverables under each of the component so that these are completed within

the set timeframe.

ACS exhorted upon the officers to ensure that all projects being executed under HADP are completed within the set timelines. He was apprised that all the preliminary preparations and consultations with the stakeholders are apace and going to be implemented in letter and spirit within its set timeframe.

The sub projects taken up for discussion during the meeting included Development of Seed & Seed Multiplication chain, Promotion of Niche Crops, Promotion of Vegetable/Exotic Vegetables under open and protected cultivation, Strengthening of Agriculture Marketing in UT, Medicinal & Aromatic Plants, Beekeeping, Promotion of Sericulture, Promotion of Millets and Nutri-cereals, Farm Mechanization Automation besides Promotion of year round Mushroom Cultivation.

Some of the works which were also deliberated upon during the meeting included 100% off take of seeds, framing of strategy document for development of breeder and foundation seeds, establishment of 500 CSPs/SPOs, engagement of 12000 primary seed producers, Promotion and expansion of area under crops like Saffron, Kala zeera, Chilli, Mushkbudji, Red Rice etc.

Similarly, the meeting discussed creation of new mandies, establishment of CA stores, creation of Agriculture Branding Centres, Market Intelligence Cell, area expansion under Medicinal & Aromatic Plants besides establishment of Centre of Excellence on Herbal technology and beekeeping.

NCLT Admits Go First's Insolvency Plea; Imposes Moratorium On Airline's Financial Obligations

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: In a major relief to cash-strapped Go First, the National Company Law Tribunal on Wednesday admitted its plea for voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings and imposed a moratorium on the airline's financial obligations that bars lessors from taking back aircraft.

The tribunal's ruling, which was reserved on May 4, caps more than a week of uncertainty for the crisis-hit carrier, which has more than 7,000 employees on its rolls, and also comes against the backdrop of lessors moving to deregister at least 45 planes of the airline.

Besides, the Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) Abhilash Lal -- who will be in charge of the affairs of the airline as the board has been suspended -- has been directed not to retrench any employees.

Allowing the plea, a two-member NCLT bench said there is existence of unpaid debt and default committed by Go First above the limits under IBC. It has placed on record the demand notices issued by the creditors, which is not even disputed by its representing lessors.

Hence, it has no other option but to admit the present application "under Section 10 of the Insolvency & Bankruptcy Code (IBC)", said the NCLT bench headed by President Justice Ramlingam Sudhakar.

"Accordingly, the application of the corporate applicant (Go First) admitted," said a 41-page NCLT order.

With liabilities worth Rs 11,463 crore, the airline has sought voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings as well as an interim moratorium on its financial obligations under section 10 of IBC, which allows a company to approach NCLT for initiation of insolvency after default.



NCLT has also provided protection to the debt-ridden carrier by declaring a moratorium as per the provisions of IBC.

Following this moratorium, Go First is now protected from any suits or continuation of pending suits or proceedings against it, including the execution of any judgment, decree or order in any court of law, tribunal, or arbitration panel till the completion of the insolvency proceedings.

Moreover, it has also restrained on transfer, encumbrance, alienating, or disposing of its assets and any action to foreclose, recover or enforce any security interest created by it in respect of its property.

The insolvency tribunal has appointed Abhilash Lal as Interim Resolution Professional (IRP) as suggested by Go First and "directed to take charge of the CIRP of the corporate debtor with immediate effect".

"The IRP will ensure to take all necessary steps including the execution of the arbitral award to keep the corporate debtor as a going concern and run its services smoothly," it said.

Besides, NCLT also directed IRP to ensure that retrenchment of employees is not resorted to as a matter of course.

"In any event, any such decision/event should be brought to the attention of this adjudicating

authority," it said.

NCLT further ordered the suspended board of directors and ex-management of Go First to "extend all necessary support and cooperation to the IRP and his team in keeping Go First 'a going concern' and running its operations/services smoothly".

It also directed the suspended management "to deposit Rs 5 crore with the IRP to meet the immediate expenses".

"The amount, however, will be subject to adjustment by the committee of creditors as accounted for by Interim Resolution Professional and shall be paid back," it said.

The tribunal also rejected the opposition from the aircraft lessors of Go First, contending that before taking any decision on Go First's voluntary plea for insolvency, it is necessary that the notice be issued to the creditors giving them an opportunity to object it.

Several aircraft lessors, including SMBC Aviation Capital Ltd, Narmada Aviation Leasing, Yamuna Aviation Leasing, GAL MSN, and GY Aviation Lease, had opposed Go First plea and submitted that they wish to file an application under Section 65 of IBC, which deals with fraudulent or malicious initiation of proceedings.

Vital Boost For Pashmina Sector: H&H Deptt Commissions OFDA 4000

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- In a major boost towards the testing and authentication of Pashmina, a state of art equipment OFDA 4000 stands procured by the Handicrafts & Handloom Department Kashmir.

The equipment was inaugurated by Director Handicrafts and Handlooms Kashmir, Mahmood Ahmad Shah, Wednesday at the Pashmina Testing and Quality Certification Centre, Bagh e Ali Mardan Khan Nowshera, Srinagar.

At this occasion, Director was briefed that the equipment was unique and its availability would enhance the testing process for classification of Pashmina and other fibres. He was

in less than a minute and can determine such characteristics of the fibre like micron, length, crimp etc. and can test Pashmina fibre, yarn and fabric thus making testing easy and hassle free.

With the availability of the OFDA 4000 the process of labelling of Pashmina based GI crafts particularly Pashmina, Kani and Sozni is set to receive a big boost and shall result in widespread use of the GI certified products and would also help in checking of counterfeit Pashmina.

Further the availability of the equipment would not only help in securing the future hand-made Pashmina sector in the UT of J&K but shall also significantly increase the earning of the artisans associated with



also informed that the testing results of the equipment are more accurate and would decrease the time period required for testing and certification of Pashmina significantly.

Further the equipment is the first one to be commissioned in the UT of J&K and such facility of testing with OFDA 4000 is available at very limited places in the country.

The equipment is capable of testing more than 40000 fibres

Pashmina craft.

On this occasion the staff of Handicrafts and Handloom Department and Pashmina Testing Centre were provided training by Hebert Hornik from Hornik Fibretech in the operation and maintenance of the equipment.

The Department intends to conduct awareness camps about GI testing and labelling so that the stakeholders of the Pashmina sector take advantage of the said facility.

Round 9 Of India-UK FTA Talks Concludes With 'Detailed' Policy Discussions

Press Trust of India

LONDON: The ninth round of India-UK free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations concluded with detailed discussions across a range of policy areas, the UK government said on Wednesday.

A joint outcome statement issued by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) revealed that Round 9 of the ongoing talks took place between April 24 and 28 in a hybrid format, with some Indian officials travelling to London and others attending virtually.

There is no date set for the 10th round of negotiations, which is likely to be hosted by New Delhi, also in a hybrid format.

"In continuation of the eighth round of negotiations held during 20-31 March 2023 in New Delhi, the United Kingdom and the Republic of India held the ninth round of talks during 24-28 April for a UK-India FTA," the DBT statement said.

"As with previous rounds, these were conducted in a hybrid fashion a number of officials from India travelled to London and others attended virtually. During the round, detailed discussions took place across a range of policy areas," it said. "The tenth round of negotiations is due to take place in the coming months," it added.

India and the UK have been negotiating an FTA since January last year, with a

goal towards a comprehensive pact that is expected to significantly enhance the bilateral trading relationship worth an estimated GBP 34 billion in 2022.

Recently, Britain's Chief Negotiator for the FTA Harjinder Kang was appointed the country's new Trade Commissioner to South Asia and Deputy High Commissioner for Western India, based in Mumbai.

UK Business and Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch said he is expected to use the FTA talks experience to build on the UK's "outstanding track record" on trade in South Asia. Kang has been succeeded in the role of the UK's Chief Negotiator for the India-UK FTA by Kate Thornley, previously Deputy Chief Negotiator.

UT of J&K  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION QAZIGUND  
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT NO. 07 OF R&B/QAZIGUND/2023-24 /E-TENDERING/ 892-906 DATED: 08-05-2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on percentage rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt., CPWD, Railway and other U.T / Central Government works for the following works:-

S. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Incl'd. GST) (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Construction of protection bund back side of h/o Mohd Iqbal Parry and mohd Afzal Mir at Ward No. 03 MC Qazigund	1.96	200	3920 /-	10 Days	14th F.C	DEE Class
2	Construction of tile path from and side wall back side of the H/o Arshid Hussain Qazi to Gate of Mir Jee Andrabi at Ward No. 04 MC Qazieund	1.43	200	2860 /-	10 Days	14th F.C	DEE Class
3	Development of park at Mukdampora at ward No. 02 MC Qazigund	2.39	200	4780 /-	20 Days	14th F.C	DEE Class
4.	Requirement of drain from back side of Farooq Ahmad Mir to cow shed of Gh. Qadir at Dardkoot ward No. 07.M.C Qzd.	1.95	200	3900 /-	20 Days	14th F.C	DEE Class
5	Construction of Tile path from Gudallal to H/O Ghulam Mohd. Shah and others at Ward no.1 MC Qazigund	1.96	200	3920 /-	10 Days	14th F.C	DEE Class

THE RATES ARE INCLUSIVE OF CURRENT RATE OF GST FOR WORKS)

Project Sanctioning Authority:- President Municipal Committee Qazigund.

Position of AAA: Accorded vide No .MC/Qzd/Works/ 02 of 2023 Dated: 28-04-2023

Position of T.S: Accorded

1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Se of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

S.No	Particulars	Dated	
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	From	08.05.2023
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	10.05.2023 (11:00AM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	To	19.05.2023 (04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	From	10.05.2023 (11:00AM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	To	19.05.2023 (04:00PM)
			20.05.2023 (11:00AM)
		In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division QAZIGUND	

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt (Under MH- 0059 PWD) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division QAZIGUND. Tender Inviting Authority Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt(Refer Govt. order No. 0.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) and EMD (2% of advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division QAZIGUND Tender receiving Authority).

3. All the Bidders have to submit Earnest Money/ Bid Security (EMD @2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG. Non submission of Earnest Money/ Bid Security shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

4. The lowest responsive (Successful) Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Qazigund Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period(DLP) of the work. Failure to produce Performance Security shall render the L1 as non-responsive and case for debarring of the Contractor he forwarded to Higher Authorities for a period of 01 Year.

5. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@2% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG of the successful Bidder shall be released after receiving Performance security @3% of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG and same shall be released after successful completion of Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.

6. The date and time of opening of Bid shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer PWP(R&B) Division QAZIGUND

7. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of Opening of Technical bids.

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 specified time period before issue of letter of intent.

c) Successful Bidder fails to execute the agreement within 07 days after fixation of contract

d) If at any stage of work, the bidder back up from the contract, again the Performance security/EMD as well as work done claim will be forfeited.

9. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. Bidders arc advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

f. Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with the same should be obtained only from the bidder who is declared as L-1 after opening of financial bids.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

10. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

11. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division QAZIGUND (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date and EM) in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division QAZIGUND must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document), EMD and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.

12. Bidders arc advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

13. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

14. Bidders arc advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

15. In case of CRF and Other specified project, the relevant guideline/ standard bidding document shall be followed.

No 892-906  
Dated: 08-05-2023

DIPK-1312-23  
DT: 10-05-2023

Executive Engineer  
PWD (R&B) Division Qazigund



## Delhi court seeks status report from police over FIRs lodged against WFI chief

**New Delhi:** A Delhi court on Wednesday sought a status report from the city police over the FIRs registered against Wrestling Federation of India chief and BJP MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh over sexual harassment charges.

Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Harjit Singh Jaspal issues notice to the Delhi Police over a plea moved by the wrestlers seeking monitoring of the investigation and recording of the statement of the alleged victims before the court. The court directed the police to file the report by May 12 when it will further hear the matter.

The plea moved by the women wrestlers had sought a direction from the court to produce a status report on the investigation in the matter. The application claimed that nothing has been done by the police after the registration of FIRs on April 28.

"Police are not ready to conduct any inquiry. Not even the statement of the victims have been recorded before the court by the police," it claimed.

The copies of two FIRs against Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh were also produced in the court in a sealed cover. One FIR was

registered under the POCSO Act in the matter of sexual harassment with a minor girl while another FIR has been registered for sexual harassment of other complainants. The women wrestlers had approached the Supreme Court over the matter following which the FIRs were registered.

Going by the Supreme Court order, statements of the victims ought to be recorded before the court within 24 hours of lodging of FIR, the counsel claimed, adding that the statements were recorded three days after the FIRs were lodged. He claimed that it has been alleged that an officer in the Sports Ministry had called the husband of one of the victims and asked him to settle the matter. The counsel also alleged that another official of a state wrestling body had approached the coach and family of the victim to get the matter settled.

"That person said that the girls have made a mistake. He said meet Neta ji, he will settle the matter," the counsel claimed.

The country's top wrestlers, including Bajrang Punia, Sakshi Malik and Vinesh Phogat, resumed their sit-in protest at Jantar Mantar on April 23, demanding the arrest of the Wrestling Federation of India president.

# Manipur: Soldiers fired on in Imphal East; life limping to normal elsewhere

Press Trust of India

Imphal: Firing by unknown militants in Manipur's Imphal East district left one Assam Rifles personnel injured on Wednesday, while life in the violence-hit north-eastern state continued to limp back to normal elsewhere with curfew being relaxed in 11 districts for six hours a day.

People sheltered in temporary camps also started returning home, a defence official said.

At least 60 people were killed and over 30,000 rendered homeless in rioting which engulfed Manipur last week.

Of those who had to leave their homes, 26,000 have been evacuated outside their districts while 4,000 remained in relief camps close to their homes, Information and Public Relations Minister Sapam Ranjan Singh said.

Soldiers on an area domination exercise were fired on by unknown militants at 11 am at Dolaithabi area in Imphal East district, Spear Corps of the Army said.

"After firing a few rounds, the miscreants ran away. One



Assam Rifles personnel sustained gunshot wounds. He is currently under treatment," the army unit said in a tweet.

Various militant groups are known to have participated in the ethnic rioting that broke out between the majority Meitei and tribals mostly from the Kuki and affiliated tribes last week over a move to grant the majority community scheduled tribe status.

A total of 128 columns of the Indian Army and Assam Rifles or nearly 10,000 soldiers

continued flag marches in the affected areas and undertook round-the-clock aerial surveillance using unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

"The Indian Army along with Assam Rifles have significantly re-engineered the security architecture and numerous resources have been infused in Manipur, especially in the backdrop of the prevailing security situation," a statement issued by the Defence PRO said.

Stranded people are now returning homes and getting

reunited with their loved ones, it said.

Curfew was relaxed in 11 districts including Imphal West, Bishnupur, Churachandpur and Jiribam for six hours from 5 am, officials said.

The Army is undertaking surveillance of areas not only in the hinterland but also along the India-Myanmar Border.

"Round-the-clock surveillance through Unmanned Aerial Vehicles with specific tasking, employment of MI-17 and Cheetah helicopters of Indian Air Force and Army and numerous foot patrols and flag marches to restore the confidence of locals on ground are being resorted to," the defence statement said.

Meanwhile, Assam Rifles said the force has evacuated 1,229 people from Nagaland, who were stranded in Manipur.

They include 47 Konyak tribe women from Yairipok in Thoubal district who were workers at a veneer factory there.

Inspector General of Assam Rifles (North) Maj Gen Vikas Lakhera said in Kohima that most of the people from

Nagaland who were stranded have been rescued.

He said that though no more calls were received on the helpline numbers, the lines are still open for those requiring help.

Violent clashes broke out in the north-eastern state after a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the 10 hill districts on May 3 to protest against the Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status.

The clashes were preceded by tension over the eviction of Kuki villagers from reserve forest land, which had led to a series of smaller agitations.

Meiteis account for about 53 per cent of Manipur's population and live mostly in the Imphal Valley. Tribals -- Nagas and Kukis -- constitute another 40 per cent of the population and reside in the hill districts.

The army also urged people not to fall for "malicious attempts to disturb harmony through manipulated interpretation or misrepresentation of facts" as "inimical elements may once again attempt to spread malicious unverified content".

## CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

### Home Secy Chairs

the preparedness for the upcoming G20 working group meeting scheduled from May 22 to 24, he also reviewed the overall security situation in Jammu and Kashmir in the wake of Rajouri and Poonch attacks.

### Stringent Action

attempts of terror groups", who are pushed by Pakistan to disrupt the peace and order in Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, the DGP inaugurated transit accommodation at Kowbag and newly constructed JIC at Ramban besides reviewing the security scenario of the district with jurisdictional officers, a police spokesperson said. Singh, he said, also held a joint security review meeting with Army officers at sector 11 Headquarters Chanderkot.

Chairing officers meeting at the transit camp, the spokesperson said, the DGP emphasized that local & highway security grids need to be kept fully geared up at all levels and joint efforts of all security forces must continue to ensure that elements inimical to peace are not given any space to disturb peace.

Singh, he said, also stressed on enhancing the functioning of model nakas on the National Highway and directed to ensure that these model nakas are functional round the clock.

"He said that the working with devotion and dedication in the right direction has to continue for the peace and stability of the Union Territory. He directed for keeping a strict vigil on attempts of transportation of drugs through National Highway," the spokesperson said.

The DGP, he said, also emphasised upon the officers to make adequate use of modern security gadgets including CCTVs and drones to further augment the security of the district. Besides, the DGP directed for ensuring smooth traffic management on National Highway.

Later, DGP visited Sector 11 Army headquarters Chanderkot where he chaired a joint security meeting with the Army & Police officers.

"During the meeting the overall security and security measures in the DKR range and along the strategic highways was discussed," the spokesperson added

### Properties Of

The NIA said Pala, while in central jail Srinagar, had conspired with his co-accused, including Riyaz Naikoo -- the HM commander killed in an encounter with government forces in May 2020 -- and Mugal, and assisted Danish Ghulam Lone and Suhail Ahmad Bhat to cross the border from Kupwara sector to join militant ranks and wage a war against the state.

Mugal had provided logistic support to accused Lone and Bhat at Kupwara when both were about to cross the LoC, it said.

The duo was chargesheeted by the NIA on February 22, 2019 and charges were framed by NIA Special Court Jammu on August 6, 2019.

The properties attached on the orders of NIA Special Court include land measuring 5.5 marlas and 3.5 marla, one double-storey house of Mugal located at Manigah village in Kupwara, and immovable property in the form of two rooms under the ownership of Pala at Allora village in Shopian, the NIA said.

The agency said it had launched investigations into the case in February 2018 and had busted a HM module of OGWs/terrorists.

Others arrested and chargesheeted in the case were Danish Ghulam Lone, Suhail Ahmad Bhat, Feeroz Ahmad Lone, while key conspirator Reyaz Ahmad Naikoo, a top militant of the Hizbul Mujahideen, was killed in an encounter with the government forces, the NIA said.

In the second case, the agency attached the immovable property of accused Fayaz Ahmad Magray, an OGW of JeM and currently lodged in district jail Jhajar, Haryana.

The property consisted of six shops constructed over land measuring 5.5 marlas at Lethpora, Pulwama, the NIA said.

Magray was chargesheeted on August 1, 2018 for conspiring, along with local/Pakistani militants of JeM, to execute a fidayeen attack on CRPF Group Centre Lethpora, Pulwama. He carried out a recce of the CRPF centre and provided logistic support to JeM militants before and after the attack, it said.

During the attack, two militants Fardeen Ahmad Khandey and Manzoor Ahmad Baba, along with one Pakistani Abdul Shakoor, were killed inside the CRPF Group Centre Lethpora. Other key conspirator militants, namely Mudassar Khan and Sajjad alias Mufti Waqas (Pakistani), were killed in subsequent encounters, the agency said.

The NIA launched investigations in February 2018 into the criminal conspiracy to commit acts of militancy and violence in Kashmir.

The investigations led to the busting of a module of OGWs of JeM. Besides Magray, other accused arrested in the case were identified as Nissar Ahmad Tantray, Syed Hilal Andrabi and Irshad Ahmad Reshi, the agency said, adding all of them were subsequently chargesheeted.

### HC Dismisses

since 2001 till 2011 after the order passed by this court, he still waited for six years till 2017 to approach this court by way of filing this petition," a bench of Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi said, adding, "The memorandum of charges dated 26.01.2001 was duly received by the petitioner (Shah) which substantiates that the petitioner had knowledge with respect to the disciplinary proceedings initiated against him but the petitioner chose to remain silent for about 10 years and approached this court in 2011".

Moreover, the court said, Shah was supposed to challenge the termination order of 2001 at least after the same was provided to him by

this court. "The petitioner slept over the matter, remained in deep slumber for about six years."

The court underscored that the doctrine of delay and latches was not to be taken so lightly when Shah "miserably failed to explain as to why he could not approach this Court after the termination order was furnished to him on 16.12.2011."

"Petitioner has nowhere explained the inordinate delay in approaching this court after about six years," the court said, adding, "The conduct of the petitioner reflects his inefficiency to be allowed to serve in a disciplined force."

Subsequently, the court dismissed Shah's plea, holding same to be without "merit" and suffering from "delay and latches."

### Punjab Court

against Sangra under various sections including murder, rape, kidnapping and wrongful confinement before the chief judicial magistrate in Kathua.

The Kathua court has fixed May 23 as the next date of hearing in the case. The crime branch will inform the court about the Supreme Court order.

Sangra was also shifted from a juvenile home to Kathua Jail after the crime branch served the Supreme court order of November 2022 in which he was declared as an adult.

The Crime Branch charge sheet detailed Sangra's alleged involvement in the horrific crime. It said Sangra was responsible for an overdose of sedatives forcibly administered to the girl, rendering her "incapacitated" to resist sexual assault as well as her murder.

"She was forcefully administered five tablets of Clonazepam of 0.5 mg each on January 11, 2018 which is higher than the safe therapeutic dose. Subsequently more tablets were given... The signs and symptoms of an overdose may include drowsiness, confusion, impaired coordination, slow reflexes, slowed or stopped breathing, coma (loss of consciousness) and death," a medical expert was quoted as saying in the charge sheet.

The peak concentration of clonazepam is achieved in the blood after one hour to 90 minutes of oral administration and its absorption is complete, "irrespective of administered either with or without food", according to the concluding opinion.

Doctors were of the opinion that tablets given to the girl could have pushed her into a state of shock or coma.

The crime branch had filed a complaint (a charge sheet in case of juvenile) when he was lodged at the correctional home in Kathua as per the laid down norms under the law.

Sangra, who had been filing petitions at various courts, finally got caught when an application for a birth certificate led to the unravelling of the conspiracy to proclaim him as a juvenile.

With Sangra being tried in the gang

rape-murder case, the quest for justice for the girl who was smothered to death in captivity in January 2018 takes a decisive turn.

The inconsistencies in dates and false information in the application for birth certificate filed by Sangra's father on April 15, 2004 were crucial in nailing the lie.

The affidavit filed in the court cited the inconsistencies in the application to buttress its claim that Sangra was a juvenile. This was submitted in court along with medical reasons by the Crime Branch, which was contesting the trial court's decision to treat Sangra as a minor.

Sangra's father applied at the tehsildar's office in Hiranagar, Jammu for birth certificates of his three children. Police said the date of birth of the eldest child, a boy, was stated to be November 23, 1997, that of a daughter was February 21, 1998, and Shubam Sangra October 23, 2002.

The difference in the birth days of the two elder children was just two months and 28 days, "which by any medical standard is impossible", the affidavit states.

This, it says, indicates the father's casual approach in furnishing the particulars of the dates of birth.

Moreover, no place of birth was mentioned for the older two, but Sangra was stated to be born in a Hiranagar hospital. A subsequent investigation did not corroborate this, officials said.

The painstaking investigation, which resulted in the affidavit, was backed by a report of a board of medical experts that determined Sangra's age as not less than 19 and not more than 23 on January 10, 2018 when the brutal assault took place, they said.

The case was transferred out of Jammu and Kashmir and shifted to Pathankot on orders from the Supreme Court on May 7, 2018.

The special court on June 10, 2019 sentenced three men to life imprisonment "till last breath" - Sanji Ram, the mastermind and caretaker of the 'devasthanam' (temple) where the crime took place, special police officer Deepak Khajuria and a civilian named Parvesh Kumar.

Three other accused -- Sub Inspector Anand Dutta, Head Constable Tilak Raj and special police officer Surender Verma -- were convicted for destruction of evidence to cover up the crime and handed down five years in jail and Rs 50,000 fine each. They are out on parole.

The seventh accused, Vishal Jangotra, son of Sanji Ram, was acquitted.

### Destabilised Pak

I hope to God that his life is saved," he added.

### Search Operation

Acting on the information, security forces launched a cordon and search operation in Khakha Nawan, Purani Poonch, Jernally

Mohalla of Poonch, they said.

The operation was going on when the last reports came in from the area. Security forces are already on high alert and the setup is fully activated following the attack in Bhatta Dhurian in which five soldiers were killed on April 20. Security forces are also undertaking Operation Trinetra in neighbouring border district of Rajouri's Kandi forests following the killing of five paratroopers in an explosion triggered by militants during a CASO last Friday.

### 2 Militant

a police spokesperson said Wednesday. During the search operation, he said, 2 suspects were spotted trying to run away in an attempt to break the cordon.

"Assessing the situation, the vigilant troops displayed situational awareness, extreme restraint and exceptional fire control in not opening the fire. Subsequently, both the suspected individuals were arrested on the spot," he said.

Police identified the duo as Kaiser Manzoor Mir and Muzaffar Majeed Mir.

During initial questioning, the spokesperson said, both the accused confessed that they were working as associates for local militant of Lashkar-e-Taiba Bilal Ahmad Mir of Brath Kalan Sopore.

"Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including 15 Pistol rounds, 25 AK-47 rounds, 01 IED and 02 Hand Grenades were recovered from their possession," he said.

He added that a case under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station and further investigation is in progress.

### Nomad Family

A nomad family along with their livestock of more than 100 sheep were rescued and shifted to a safer place, they said.

The driver and the motorcyclist too were rescued, they added.

### MP, DDC

DDC Budgam of appropriate redressal of all the genuine issues put forth by him during the interaction.

### Infant Girl

the news of the infant's death spread. Many villagers were seen comforting the Naiko family for the loss.

### Teenager Found

postmortem to ascertained the cause of death."

Meanwhile, police have started further investigation in this regard.

### Fire Damages

suggest a short circuit to be the cause of fire while further investigation has been taken up, he said.

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

KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

KO PODCAST



## ICC Has No Written Assurance On Pakistan's Participation In ODI World Cup: Sources

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The International Cricket Council has got no written assurance from the Pakistan Cricket Board over its national team's participation in the upcoming 2023 World Cup in India even as impasse regarding the Asia Cup continues.

"India coming to Pakistan and Pakistan going to India doesn't depend either on BCCI or PCB. So, PCB can't give any assurance to ICC about its participation in the global event. "It is the Pakistan government that will give approval just like in case of BCCI, it can only come to PCB subject to government clearance," an ICC board member privy to developments told PTI on Wednesday.

Pakistan are likely to play India in Ahmedabad with bulk of

their matches expected to be held in southern India cities like Bengaluru and Chennai.

Meanwhile, the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) is all but set to shift the Asia Cup to Sri Lanka after most of the member nations decided to reject the 'Hybrid Model' idea floated by PCB chairman Najam Sethi. According to the proposal, Pakistan would have played all its matches in Pakistan with India playing their games in Dubai, Sharjah and Abu Dhabi.

However, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have expressed their reservations about travelling to and fro between Pakistan and UAE should they qualify for the Super Fours.

An ACC source confirmed that if the tournament is shifted to Sri Lanka, Pakistan will not participate in the event.



## Sports Activities In Full Swing Across J&K: YSS



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Under its "Sports for Seniors" initiative, the Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) organised different competitive sports and recreational activities for the elderly on Thursday at different sports zones of all the 20 districts of J&K. Hundreds of senior citizens from various zones participated in these events.

Following directions of Secretary to Government, YSS, and under the guidance of Director YSS, 'Nature Walk 23,' an out of box initiative of making youth visit different historically important and naturally beautiful places of the valley, first group of 25 students from different schools of Anantnag

district took a walk of famous Dachigham National Park.

They were escorted by three senior field officials of the YSS department. The students were briefed about various important and rare aspects of the National Park.

Joint Director Kashmir, YSS Waseem Raja visited Ranger Chadoora, Budgam to inaugurate an Inter-School Tug of War competition of girls for all age groups. He in his speech appreciated the Sports zone for encouraging participation of girl students in the tourney. He further said that such initiatives would surely help the Department in maximizing the participation of girls in competitive sports. He was accompanied by DYSSO Srinagar and other officials of the Department.

## Wrestlers Demand Lie Detector Narco Test On Brij Bhushan

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The protesting wrestlers on Wednesday demanded lie-detector Narco Test on Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh under Supreme Court supervision after he claimed innocence to allegations of sexual harassment.

Some of the country's top wrestlers, including Olympic medalists Bajrang Punia and Sakshi Malik and Asian Games gold winner Vinesh Phogat, have been protesting at Jantar Mantar here for more than a fortnight, demanding arrest of Singh for allegedly sexually ha-

arrassing seven women wrestlers, including a minor.

"Those people speaking in favour of the WFI chief and saying that we are lying, I would say that Brij Bhushan should undergo a Narco Test under Supreme Court... and also the seven women wrestlers (who have alleged sexual harassment)," said 2016 Rio Olympics bronze medalist Sakshi said at a press conference here.

"Whosoever is found guilty, hang them," she added.

A day after Delhi police registered two FIRs against him on April 28, Singh had claimed innocence and said he was ready "to face any kind of investigation."

## IPL 2023: Resurgent KKR Face Struggling RR



Press Trust of India

**KOLKATA:** A resurgent Kolkata Knight Riders will look for their third victory in a row in their fight for survival when they face a struggling Rajasthan Royals in the IPL here on Thursday.

Facing must-win scenarios, the two-time champions showed tremendous resilience to bounce back into reckoning after their wins over Sunrisers Hyderabad and Punjab Kings, both in dramatic last-ball finishes.

The wins have not only boosted their sagging morale but also taken the side to sixth place from eighth on the points table.

As things stand, four teams including KKR and Rajasthan Royals, are locked on 10 points in a mid-table traffic rush for the playoffs.

RR may be ahead on net run rate (NRR) but the equation could change quickly if KKR continue their winning run, as a victory for either side will take them into the top-four.

In terms of key battles and

team strategies, KKR would once again rely on Varun Chakravathy, who has been the central character in both their previous wins.

Having defended nine runs in the last over against SRH, Chakravathy's 3/26 made all the difference against Punjab Kings.

At a time their seasoned slow bowler Sunil Narine is finding it difficult to get wickets, Chakravathy has emerged as KKR's spin spearhead with 17 wickets so far this season.

While KKR's think-tank refuses to give up on Narine who has just one wicket in the last eight matches, it's Chakravathy's four overs which would again be crucial.

With the KKR team management not bowling World Test Championship final-bound Shardul Thakur against PBKS, the pace department looked woefully short on experience.

Had it not been for the heroics of Rinku Singh and Andre Russell, the seam duo of Vaibhav Arora and Harshit Rana had almost lost the match after leaking 36 runs in the last

two overs against PBKS.

It remains to be seen if KKR utilise the services of a "fit-again" Shardul in the crunch match. Against a batter-heavy Royals with the likes of Yashasvi Jaiswal, Jos Buttler and Sanju Samson in fine form, KKR would hope their bowlers get their act together.

The biggest positive for KKR in their win over PBKS has been the return to form of the big-hitting Andre Russell (42 runs off 23 balls).

The Jamaican was at his vintage best when he demolished Sam Curran with three sixes in a match-flipping 20-run penultimate over.

While skipper Nitish Rana has been the backbone of their batting, Rinku's emergence as a finisher is coming off well for the team. From the Royals' perspective, the trio of Rana, Rinku and Russell would be their main threats. Their battle against the Royals' spin-bowling stalwarts Ravichandran Ashwin and Yuzvendra Chahal in the middle overs could prove to be decisive.

Match starts: 7.30pm.

## BCCI Could Earn Rs 9 Billion From ICC During 2023-2027 Cycle

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian cricket board (BCCI) could witness another round of cash windfall during the next five-year cycle between 2023-2027 with estimated earnings of over USD 1.15 billion (INR 9 billion) from ICC's share of annual revenue.

While this is still not official but an influential ICC member said it is just a matter of time before BCCI is officially given 38.50 per cent of ICC's annual revenue of 600 million USD, which comes to USD 231 million for world's richest cricket board.

"It is a proposed model and it's based on cricket (rankings), performance (in ICC events) and commercial (contribution to sport). Now India contributes such a significant share to the commercial element," a senior BCCI source told PTI on condition of anonymity.

Such has been India's dominance that a list published by ESPN Cricinfo states that England and Wales Cricket Board



(ECB) are second-best beneficiary with annual earnings of USD 41.33 million (6.89 per cent) while Australia with USD 37.53 million (6.25 per cent) are a distant third. The Pakistan Cricket Board are fourth with USD 34.51 million revenue which stands at 5.75 per cent.

During the last FTP cycle (2018-2022), ICC's annual revenue was near half USD 307 million, approximately and USD 1536 million for a five-year period.

BCCI earned USD 405 million for five years (around USD 81 million per annum) after hefty bargaining between

erstwhile Committee of Administrators (CoA) and the then ICC chairman Shashank Manohar, who didn't have too many friends in the board at that time. It was still around 26 per cent of the annual share back then.

In the last FTP cycle, ECB were second best with a share of 7.8 per cent while all other boards barring Zimbabwe got 7.2 per cent.

With secretary Jay Shah heading the ICC's all-powerful financial decision making Finance & Commercial Affairs (F&CA), the BCCI could drive home the point and double their annual ICC revenue by nearly three times.

"During last cycle, BCCI never had a powerful representation the ICC's F&CA and now things have changed," the source added.

As proposed model, ICC will allot around 11 per cent of its revenue for all associate nations this time while last time it was around 14 per cent.

## Ball Was Off Pitch: Ancelotti After 1-1 Draw With City In CL

Agencies

**MADRID:** The match between Manchester City and Real Madrid played at Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday resulted in a 1-1 draw. After the match, Real Madrid's manager Carlo Ancelotti said Manchester City's equaliser in Wednesday's Champions League semi-final first leg should not have counted as the ball was off the pitch. Man City fight back from a goal down to draw 1-1 with Real Madrid but Carlo Ancelotti was unhappy with the officiating for Kevin De Bruyne's stunning equaliser; Vinicius Jr had given Real the lead with an

he protested the goal and the Italian was still unhappy with the official after the game. Vinicius Junior had given Real Madrid the lead against the run of play with a thunderous effort before De Bruyne stepped up for his team to bring them level with an equally-impressive strike when the hosts were in charge.

Ancelotti's side had struggled to cope with City for the opening half-hour but grew into the game after going ahead and looked more threatening in the second half. After the match, Carlo Ancelotti, added: "A good game, an interesting game. Difficult for us in the first half, but



equally impressive strike.

After the match, Carlo Ancelotti said "The technology said it. I don't understand why VAR didn't check it. The referee didn't pay attention to many things tonight", according to Sky Sports. Ancelotti was not happy with the referee for failing to consult with VAR after City's goal because he felt Bernardo Silva took the ball over the touchline in the build-up to Kevin De Bruyne's stunning strike.

Referee Artur Soares Dias showed Ancelotti a yellow card for entering the field of play as

in the second half it was much better. They controlled possession in the first half but we were in good control defensively and when we started to play the ball we created a lot of difficulties.

"You have to stay calm, you have to keep the position defensively, do not go crazy to press, stay there and play the low block, and when we had the opportunity we scored the first goal. [Vinicius Junior] is a fantastic moment but the team played well. "I am satisfied, with a good sensation about the game on Wednesday." (ANI)

## Sergio Busquets To Leave Barcelona At End Of Season



Agencies

**MADRID:** Sergio Busquets is ending his "unforgettable journey" of nearly two decades with Barcelona, he said Wednesday. Busquets, whose contract ends this season, announced his decision with a video released on social media.

"It hasn't been an easy decision but the time has come," the 34-year-old Busquets said. "It has been an honor, a dream and a reason for pride to have been able to wear this badge."

Busquets arrived at Barcelona in 2005 and made it to a "B" team coached by Pep Guardiola after two seasons with the under-19s. He helped the "B" team gain promotion and eventually made his

first-team debut in 2008.

He has played 718 matches for Barcelona, putting him third all-time behind Xavi and record-holder Lionel Messi. Busquets has won 31 titles with the Catalan club, including three Champions Leagues and eight Spanish leagues. He is about to finish his career with another league title as Barcelona holds a 13-point advantage at the top with five games remaining.

One of the best defensive midfielders Barcelona has had, Busquets has scored 18 goals and had 40 assists. He has been team captain for the last two seasons, and was among the veterans who chose to accept a cut in their salaries during the club's recent financial struggles.

## India Has The Numbers, China Still Has More Clout In Sports

Agencies

While India has overtaken China as the world's most populous nation and has perhaps grandiose ambitions of becoming a major international player, it has a long way to go to match its Asian neighbor's clout in the sports arena.

China has won 283 Olympic gold medals, which is 273 more than India. China's capital has hosted the Olympics twice: the Summer Games in 2008 and the Winter Games in 2022.

India has hosted the Asian Games and the Commonwealth Games but hasn't yet staged the Olympics — although there's the promise of an Indian bid for 2036.

"China has been successful on the tracks and fields of the world, India hasn't," Simon Chadwick, professor of sport and geopolitical economy at the SKEMA Business School in France, told The Associated Press. "India has underperformed."

Except in cricket.

India's overwhelming sporting success has been the devel-

opment of the Indian Premier League, the world's richest and most dominant franchise cricket competition. And with that, India has created something China hasn't been able to achieve: a domestic league that is lucrative as well as internationally successful.

China's big plans to become a soccer powerhouse started with billions of dollars being spent on famous players and coaches from around the world, generating global headlines for the Chinese Super League for a decade until an economic downturn and then the COVID-19 pandemic changed everything.

Troubles in the property sector — particularly painful as more than half of the Chinese league's top-tier teams were owned by real estate companies — put an end to hopes that the league would rival the biggest in the world.

Instead, ambitions of the league being a launching pad for international success for China and its national team have been replaced by allega-



tions of corruption and the financial problems that have resulted in several clubs folding, including defending champion Jiangsu FC in 2021.

Meanwhile the brand value of the India's Twenty20 cricket tournament, established in 2008, grew to an estimated \$8.4 billion in 2022.

The IPL last year sold its five-year broadcasting rights for \$6.02 billion, making it one of the most lucrative sports league

in the world in terms of revenue per game, behind the NFL but above English soccer's Premier League.

"India is home to one of the most powerful sports properties in the world," Chadwick said. "Which shows that the country has the resources and the expertise to successfully engage with sport."

Arunava Chaudhuri, a sports consultant and former All India Football Federation media

manager, said that needs to extend beyond cricket.

"The key is that India moves away from a one-sport country," he said. "Success in badminton, wrestling, boxing has shown progress, but team sports are a different challenge."

Then there's that talk of India bidding for the 2036 Olympics, with Chaudhuri saying the city of Ahmedabad "is being prepared for that."

India's Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur told the Times of India newspaper in December that the government would support an Olympic bid and it would be prepared in time for important IOC meetings in Mumbai, which are being held in October.

"If India is putting in so much effort to promote sports, I can assure you that we will not only host the Olympics, we will host it in a big way," Thakur told the newspaper. "This is the right time to host the Games. If India is making news in every sector from manufacturing to services, then why not in sports?"

Indian states such as Gujarat, home to the 132,000-seat Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, and Odisha have taken the lead.

Dubbed as 'India's Sporting Capital', Odisha state has invested more than \$250 million to build stadiums for field hockey, tennis, badminton and aquatics. The Odisha city of Bhubaneswar hosted the field hockey World Cup in January and was one of six soccer venues for the women's Under-17 World Cup last October.

"India is developing fast and might have an ambition to showcase its achievements through sports," Ivanhoe Li, CEO of Beijing-based sports marketing company Fangze Sports, said. "Hosting a world-class event is not difficult but having great athletic performances might be a question."

The U.N.'s Department of Economic and Social Affairs declared in April that India's population was expected to reach 1.425 billion by the end of the month, surpassing mainland

China's population. It brought a lot of optimism in India, but China remains well established to pick up where it left off in 2020 sports.

**CHINA BOUNCING BACK**

China's sports industry was hit by three years of stringent COVID-19 policies and a series of strict lockdowns which only ended in December, forcing a 12-month postponement of the 2022 Asian Games and Beijing relinquishing hosting rights for soccer's 2023 Asian Cup.

That's something the Chinese want to put in the past. The country is ready to get back into the business of sports and the government has projected that the value of the sports industry would reach around \$725 billion by 2025, a rise from \$434 billion in 2021.

Li, the sports marketing expert, is optimistic about the future, fueled by a boom in the country after three years when hundreds of millions of people had to curb discretionary spending. (AP)





*Famous Irani  
Chai of Bombay  
now in Srinagar*

## DONNER KEBAB

**REGULAR  
BARBECUE  
CHILLI GARLIC  
LEBANESE**

## VEG BURGERS

**ALOO TIKKI  
CRISPY PANEER  
PERI PERI  
CHILLI GARLIC  
TANDOORI  
BARBECUE**

## QUICK BITES

**DRUMSTICKS  
CHICKEN STRIPS  
CHICKEN WINGS  
CHICKEN POP CORN  
CHICKEN CHEESY POPCORN  
CHICKEN PERI PERI POPCORN**

**IRANI CHAI  
PINEAPPLE TEA  
BUN MASKA  
BUN MASKA WITH JAM**

## SANDWITCHES

**TURKISH BURGER  
(BUN MASKA SPECIAL)  
CHICKEN CRISPY BURGER  
CHICKEN PERI PERI  
MEXICAN BURGER  
BARBECUE BURGER  
CHILLI GARLIC  
ZINGER BURGER  
KINGSIZE BURGER**



JK Bank Lawns,  
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,  
Srinagar

