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KASHMIR OBSERVER **9** Srinagar | Tuesday | 16-05-2023

Public Notice PUBLIC NOTICE				IN THE COURT OF JMIC, JUDGE SMALL CAUSES, SRINAGAR Present:- Ms Tabasum						PUBLIC NOTICE		
I have applied for the renewal of my driving licence bearing dl No: pb-0620030068023 wherein my name has been wronlgy written as Reyaz Ahmed S/o Hussain Ahmed while my correct name is Reyaz Ahmad S/o Gh Hassan Wani which needs to corrected as well. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may fiel his/her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.	Mareyama Mareyama V/s Registrar Births & Deaths SMC, Srinagar. (Non-Applicant) PUBLIC NOTICE Whereas an application has been received from the applicant for registration of Birth of Mareya- main the records of SMC Srinagar. Objection, if any, be submitted in writting before the undersigned within seven days from the date of this Publication. The details of the Person are as under:- Name:- Mareyama Sex:-FEMALE Father's Name:-Ghulam Mohammad Bhat Mother's name: Zoona DDB: 13-03-1971 Place Of Death:-Chandihaar Wanganpora Srinagar							I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate of namely Basit Khaleel Khanday S/o Mohd Khaleel Khan Ogmuna (DOB: 12-10-2009). If anybody having any ot in this regard he/she may fiel his/her objection in the of the Block Development Officer Kunzer within a period of days from the date of publication of this notice. After objection shall be entertained. Mohd Khaleel Khanday F/o Basit Khaleel Khanday R/o Ogmuna Karhama	ndayR/c bjectior office of of sever			
Reyaz Ahmad Wani S/O Gh Hassan Wani		e Ab Jabaa Ihallan Pa	attan	nj			Juc	dge Small (Cause	-/Sd s, Srinagar	I have lost Date of Birth (DoB) certificate of my son. No	
R/o Brah Anantnag fko			fko	Governm	ent of lamm	111 & Ka	shmir				applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objective this regard He/She may Contact Concerned authorities seven days from the publication of this notice after the objection will be entertained.	s within
Government of Jammu and Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Budgam. NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS Fresh E-NITNO05+/EE/PMGSY/B/DB OF 2023 dated 12-05-2023 For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor,UnionTerritory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders are				Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER NIT No.19/R&B/CDII/2293-2302 of 2023-24 Dated: 13.05.2023.							Mohd Shafi Lone F/O Raiyan Ahmad Lone R/O Thindima Kreeri	askri_r
invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligit J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central (ble Contractors regist	ered with Union of the follow	on Territory of	For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor J&K UT, e-tend and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Gov following works:							PUBLIC NOTICE My sons name wrongly mentioned in Date Of Birth Cer	rtificato
No Cost includ- ment (in Rs.`)		date of open- ing of tender		S. Name of Work	(Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc.	Earnest Money (In Rs)		.H of count	Class of Contractor	as Ammar instead of Ammar Nisar Now I am applying correction if anybody have any objection in this rega	g for its ard He/
	2.06 90 Days	23-05-2023 At 4:00 P.M	A-class Civil /HPMO	2 Improvement/ Upgradation of road from Shergari P lice Station to Reck Chowk by way of P/L 50mm thic bituminous macadam in patches/ stretches, 25mm thick semidense withfomm thick seal coat. (Machine mix to be laid with paver). Improvement/ Upgradation of road leading to Direc torate of Rural Development and Agriculture Compl at Lal Mandi by way of P/L 50mm thick bituminous	3 100.00 100.00 100.00 Bitumen & GST 97.60 97.60 97.60 100.00 100.	(In Rs) 4 1600/- 1600/-	<u>5</u> 200000/-	6 7 20 Days C8 20 Days	δŢ	8 Civil with HMPO/AAY/ BEE Class	She may contact with (B D O) office Wagoora within from the publication of this notice after that no object be entertained. Name: AMMAR NISAR S/o : NISAR AHMAD DAR R/O : CHECKI Block : WAGOORA	
Position of AAA :-Accorded Position of T.S :-Accorded Major Head of Account :-5054 (CNT).				macadam, 25mm thick semidense with6mm thick seal coat (Machine mix to be laid with paver). 3. Improvement / Upgradation of road from Tagore Ha to Town Square Mall by way of P/L 50mm thick Bit minous macadam, 25mm thick semidense with6mm thick coal coat (Machine with be have).	u- Incl. C/O	800/-	38000/-	10 Days			PUBLIC NOTICE	
SPECIALCONDITIONS:- a) Performance security shall be furnished by the contractor within 10 day: issuing authority shall forfeit the Earnest Money Deposit and recommend the b) The contractor shall start the work after 10 days of after is security and shall be recommended for blacklisting C) c) The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor a be initiated against contractor by forfeiting performance security and shall concerned shall be reflected in his/her APR. d) If the contractor / firms fails to complete the work within automatically treated as cancelled after forfeiting the performance security notice from this office. e) For Macadamisation works under City & Town/Pot Holes Frr Hot Mix Plant (HMP) Owners have to upload an undertaking stating there int in material (within 40 Kms from the worksite), failing which the bid of suc The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility critering the secure of the secure	he contractor for blacklisting an issuance of NTP, failing which is per the timeline stipulated in l be recommended for blacklist the time mentioned in the NTI y of the contractor/firm and wo ee roads, all Contractors having it he e-NTT No. Name of work ar ch contractors shall be consider	Id issue afresh tend the penalties viz, 1 NIT/agreement, fai ing. Failure on part f/Contract, then the rk put to fresh tend class A/B/C registr dd Source of procure ed as non-responsivi II of quantities (B.	ler forthwith. forfeiting performance illing which action shall t of Executive Engineer e allotted contract will fer without serving any ration cards other than ement of macadamisa- ve. QJQ, Set of terms and	Project Authority:- PW (R&B) Department The bidding documents, which would bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and mental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates Date of issue of Tender Notice 2 Period of downloading of bidding documents Bid submission Start Date 4 Bid Submission and Date 5 Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) 2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treas mission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the na	include qualifying i d conditions, and ot listed below: - 14.05.2023 14.05.2023 from 11 19.05.2023 grow 1 20.05.2023 gtr 10. Division No.2 ^{md} , Sri ury Challan (dated	ther details 0.00 AM 0.00 AM 00 A.M in the inagar l between t	office of Exec the bid subm	utive Engineer F	ded fror R&B Cons late and	n the depart-	My Name & DOB has been wronlgy written in my Aadh as Soliya Jan & DOB 14/10/2016 while my correct name Saliha Jan & DOB 14/10/2017 which needs to be corre anybody having any objection in this regard he/she m his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Lolopora Kunzer within a period of seven days from th of publication of this notice. After that no objection s entertained. Saliha Jan D/o Mohammad Iqbal Lone R/o Burala Karhuma Baramulla	e & DOB ected. If may file t Officer he date
conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website http://jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule:- 1 Date of Issue of Tender Notice 12-05-2023 2 Period of downloading of bilding documents 15-05-2023 (10:30 AM) 3 Date of Pre-Bid Meeting 16-05-2023 (10:30 AM) 4 Bid submission Start Date 17-05-2023 (10:30 AM) 5 Bid Submission Fload Date 23-05-2023 (10:20 AM) 6 Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 7 Bid Submission End Date 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 8 Bid Submission End Date 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 9 Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 10 Bid submission End Date 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 2 Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online) 23-05-2023 (10:20 CM) 11 Bid submission for downloaded with cost of Fender document in shape of DD/e-challan through Treasury indicating TreasuryVoucher No.& 2 The of SUB Magam The CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer, PMGSY Div Budgam The CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer, PMGSY Div Budgam at the time o				 inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document. 3.At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% of the total cost, which will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period. 4. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar (tender receiving authority). 5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids. 6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process. 6.1 Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.jktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process. 6.2 In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' under the 						PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform the general public the mother's name childs has been wrongly mentioned as Rozy instead of name Afroza .Now I want to apply for its correction.If a has any objection he/she may contact Al Noor Model Dana Mazar Safakadal Srinagar within seven days for date of publication of this notice.No objection shall be tained thereafter. Latief Ahmad Sofi F/o Mohammad Ruhaan Sofi and Ifra Latief P (a Gulsbaabad Noor Pagh Scinagar)	f correct anybody School rom the	
his sature of sature of the state of the sta				Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate. 6.3 Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted. 6.4 Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1. 6.5 Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.					R/o Gulshnabad Noor Bagh Srinagar' ازعدالت چیف جوڈ یشل مجسٹریٹ سب جج سرینگر			

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

7 The department will not be held responsible for any delays in online submission due to unanticipated circumstances. The original Treasury Challan (Cost of tender document) and other Uploaded bid documents shall have to be produced on demand by the successful bidder at the time of contract signing, and in the case of unsuccessful bidders, 2 percent EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Sri-nagar, will be released only after production of Original Treasury Challan of uploaded Scanned copy (Cost of tender document). بااجلاس راجامحمد

6.3. 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 on line as per time schedule mentioned above. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents mentioned in NIT with technical bid online.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads

6.4. 6.5. 6.6. All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the gualification criteria / gualifica-

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get' Digital Signature Certificate(DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000.

tion information, (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English): (a) All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registration, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address.

A valid Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act. side(Latest). with

Treasury Challan/Earnest money (c)

6.2. To participate in bidding process, bidders have Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

Site to acquaint bid submission process.

Valid GSTIN Registration & PAN Card Since the registered Civil Contractors of applicable Class are only eligible for participating in road macadamization. However first lowest responsive bidder is required to submit documents to establish access(MoU) to plant and machinery necessary for execution of items involving bituminous work that too within 40 Kms of work sites post opening of tender before issuance of allotment/signing of agreement, failing which L1 will be treated as non-responsive. The MoU should be attested by Judicial/Executive Magistrate (Notary shall not be accepted) clearly mentioning the NIT No. Serial No. of Item and Name of Work. The contractor is supposed to satisfy himself regarding the availability of key equipment and output capacity of the plant keeping in view the time of completion of work. Keeping in view the above condition, the MoU is on required to be uploaded with bid documents but only needs to be submitted by first lowest responsive bidder before issuance of allotment/signing of agreement.

Scanned copy of GSTIN registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B of the latest guarter/latest month (g) All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer / Superintending Engineer of Enlistment Registration Card.
 (h) If verification is not done then it is mandatory to upload affidavit from First Class Executive Magistrate regarding the Genuiness of

the Contractor Card. The Bidders are subject to be disgualified if they have made misleading or false representation in the forms, statements, affidavits duly attested by Magistrate and attachments submitted in proof of the qualification requirement and/or Record of poor performance such as abandoning the works, not properly completing the contract, inordinate delays in completion, litigation history, or financial failures etc.

All those Cards which stand renewed/generated through JKPWDOMS does not require any verification as the same is authenticated by the website itself created by JK PWD. No:-EE/PMGSY/B/DB/661-65 DIPK-1611/23

Dated:-15-05-2023

Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Budgam

Sd/-

BARAMULLA CENTRAL CO-OPRATIVE BANK LTD.

Head Office: Baramulla Kashmir

APPENDIX-IV POSSESSION NOTICE

[Rule-8(1)] (For immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Nodal Officer of Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Branch Dangiwacha, under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFEASID) Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 8 and 9 Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, had issued a Demand Notices dated: 09-12-2022, calling upon the Borrower Fayaz Ahmad Bhat S/O: Gh Mohammad Bhat R/O: Saripora Buddan Baramulla District

Baraamulla Kashmir, to repay the amount mentioned in the said notice being Rs. 23,50,000 (Rupees Twenty three lakhs fifty thousand only) as on 08-12-2022, and interest thereon within sixty days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The said borrower and Guarantor having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower/guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken physical/symbolic possession of the mortgaged property described herein below in exercise of the powers conferred on him/her under Section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the security interest enforcement) rule 2002 on dated --- . The said Borrower/Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Baramulla Central Cooperative

Bank Head Office Baramulla, for an amount Rs. 23,50,000 (Rupees Twenty-three lakhs fifty thousand only) as on 08-12-2022 and further interest thereon together with incidental expenses, costs, charges less repayment. Description of the mortgaged Immovable property Mortgage of land measuring 2 kanals & 11 marlas under survey 179/246/183min Khewat No:11 and Khata No:119/120 situated at Buddan Rafiabad Baramulla in the name of Fayaz Ahmad Bhat S/O:Gh Mohammad Bhat and Zameer Ahmad Bhat S/O: Gh Mohammad Bhat Both resident of Buddan Rafiabad Baramulla Kashmir. Dated:12/05/2023 Nodal Officer

Baramulla Central Cooperative Bank Ltd.

Bidders are advised not to change the contents of the BOQ (Bill of Quantities). They should never attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

10 Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contractor/bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/ Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited

10 Price escalation and Taxes: -The bidder's percentage shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to the completion of the work. Taxes shall be deducted from the contractor's bills on the gross amount of the bill at the time of recovery at the rates in effect at the time of recovery.

Bidders are advised to use the "My Documents" area in their R&B e-Tendering portal user account to store any required documents.

All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the qualification criteria / qualification information, (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English). 14 Bidders are advised to quote Rates without GST. GST @ 18% shall be added at the time of allotment by allotting authority.

15 All bidders must submit copies of original documents defining their constitution/legal status, place of registra-tion, and principal place of business, as well as their cell phone number and e-mail address

A valid Contractor/Firm Registration Certificate issued by a competent authority in accordance with the Contractor Registration Act. Treasury Challan & Earnest money

Valid PAN Card

Incase of civil contactor, they have to furnish an undertaking duly executed in the Hon'ble Court of 1st Class Magistrate stating therein the Name of the work with reference to e-NIT and the source of procurement of material failure of which the bid shall be rejected.

Scanned copy of GSTIN registration and most recent clearance certificate FORM GSTR-3B from the previous quarter i.e. (January-March-2023 or month i.e. March-2023).

16 Bidder shall upload a Self-Certified Performance declaration (Annexed format) in support of performance in respect of Bitumen Macadam Works executed by the agency during the year 2022-23.

17 Bidders are expected to submit technical bids along with scanned copies of all required documents. No document (s) that have not been uploaded will be accepted in hard copy for evaluation consideration. However, if need arises, Hard copies of any specific supporting documents, on the other hand, may be required on demand in support of documents posted online for clarification during technical evaluation.

The bidder should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submitting a bid, and no claim based on constrained site conditions will be entertained after the bid is accepted.

No. 2293-2302

DIPK-1569/23 Dated 15.05.2023

Sd/-Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division 2nd, Srinagar.

1" May, 2023

Direct

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF AYURVEDA (AIIA) (An Autonomous Organization under the Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India) Gautampuri, Sarita Vihar, Mathura Road, New Delhi - 110076 E-mail: director@aiia.gov.in

Advt. No. AIIA/Rectt/03/2023

The Institute invites applications for the following Faculty posts to be filled up on direct recruitment/ deputation basis at Satellite Centre of AIIA at Goa: -

Sl. No.	Posts	No. of Posts/ Category	Pay Level	Mode of Recruitment	
1.	PROFESSOR (For AIIA, Goa)	Level-14A	Direct/Deputation		
	Samhita Siddhant	1 (UR)]		
	Rachana Sharir	1 (OBC)			
	Kriya Sharir	1 (UR)			
2.	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (For AIIA,	Level-13A1	Direct/Deputation		
	Samhita Siddhant	1 (OBC)			
	Rachana Sharir	1 (UR)	() () () () () () () () () ()		
	Kriya Sharir	1 (UR)			

For details of qualification, experience, prescribed format of application, and terms & conditions, please visit AIIA's https://aiia.gov.in. Last date of receipt of applications is 31" May, 2023.

cbc 17219/12/0005/2324

رجسر اربرهس اینڈ ڈ سلطيف ڈاروالد ا_يامن اوليس قيونضي زهرا ساكينهكرماني آبادناره بل (مُسول) سوزيتھ گورى يورەبڈ گام(سائل) درخواست بمراداندراج کرنے تاریخ پیدائش ازاں يامن اوليس تاريخ پيدائش2016-06-06 قيونضي زہرا تاريخ پيدائش201-09-09 اشتهار بمرادآ گاہی ہرخاص وعام معامله مندجة عنوان الصدريين سأكل اساكله في عدالت بذاتين المي المي المحد المعرف المع ص اندارج کرنے تاریخ پیدائش دائر کی ہے۔لہذاعوام الناس کوبذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیاجا تا ہے کہ نسبت درخواست سائل اسائلہ منظور ہونے میں کوئی عذریا اعتراض ہونے کی سورت میں عدالت میںآ کر مورخہ2023-05-26 تک پیش کرے۔بعد گزرنے معیاد کوئی عذریااعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ تح ريالصدر 2023-15-15 چیف جوڈیشل محسٹریٹ سب جج میونیپل سرینگر nj اشتہارآ گاہی گلمر گلَنُه تصمیر ، پابهان پیژن ، ضلع بار ہمولہ، اپنے تصمیر گروپ کی از سرنور جسر میشن کروانا چاہات ہےداضع رہے کہ یتھیڑ گروپ برطرح سیاست سے بلاتر ہےاوراس تھیڑ گروپ کو کسی بھی سیاسی نظریہ پاکسی سیاسی تنظیم سے کوئی داسط ہیں ہے۔اس تصیر گروپ کا بنیادی مقصد تشمیرے لوك نائك (بھانڈ یاتھر) لوك ناچ اور سوفیاً نہ موسیقى كو فروغ دينا ہے۔ اس لئے بیٹھیٹر وادی میں متحرک ہے۔ اس سلسلے میں تھٹر کے لئے ایک باڈی تشکیل دی گئی ہے جو . ىثااللەبىڭ ولدغىبدالغنى بىڭ ساكىزىپلېالىن پىڭ صرر

اعجازاحمه بت ولدسناالله بٹ ساکنہ پلہالن پیٹن غلام محمربث ولدغلام احمربث ساكنه پاہالن پیٹن محمر يوسف بكت ولدغلام قادر بكت ساكنه پلهالن يدن

مدید سے بعضے ولد عدام دربیط سال مدیوبہ کی بنی علام محی الدین بکت ولد عبد الرحمان بکت ساکنہ پوری سو پور اعجاز احمد سوفی ولد محمد مضان سوفی ساکنہ پوری عبد می پورہ سو پور عبد الرحمان ولد عبد الفظار بکت ساکنہ پاہا کن پین لہذا ہر خاص وعام کو صطلح کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی کو اس کے بارتے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتر اض ہووہ

21 دن کےاندراندر رجر ارسوئیٹی ایند فرمزد بیار ٹمنٹ آف انڈسٹریز اینڈ کامرس سنت نگر

منہ سرینگر کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔،معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی اعتراض قابل قبول نہ ہوگا۔ سالتدبث پریذ ڈنٹ اصدر گلمرگ لکہ تھیٹر پلہالن پٹن شمیر(جاینڈ کے یوٹی)

سكريثري

خزانچي

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had got contracts to rule and ruin J&K. Their time is over now. The

present administration is committed to listen to every single

citizen of the UT and address their

issues. We are here to serve the

1.30 Cr people of J&K without any

discrimination," he said, adding

that "some people can't digest the

their stomachs after seeing

the peace and development in

Kashmir. I can't help them," he

said without naming any one. The LG said that Kashmiri prod-

ucts will reach national and in-

ternational markets soon. "Time

is not far when a farmer's son

would like to become a farmer

too similarly the way a govern-

ing that modern avenues will be

made available to | More on P10

"Some people feel pain in

peace and development in J&K.

G-20 Meeting In J&K Is Purely A Peoples' Event: LG 'It's An Opportunity To Push J&K's Handloom, Handicraft, Pashmina To International Markets'

Says Some 500 To 1000 Odd People Had Got Contracts To 'Rule And Ruin' J&K

Agencies

Anantnag: Stating that G-20 was purely a peoples' event, Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday said the event would provide a great opportunity to push J&K's handloom, handicraft, Pashmina and dry fruit to international markets.

Kissan Addressing the Samparak Abhiyan at Dooru in South Kashmir's Anantnag district, the LG said the G-20 which is scheduled to be held from May 22 to May 24 in Srinagar will provide an opportunity to push l&K's handloom, handicraft,

Pashmina, dry fruit, saffron and other products to international markets.

"It is not an administration's event but purely a people's one," the LG said.

He said that some 1000 odd

people had got a contract of the government only to ruin the erstwhile State but their time is over as the present administration is every single citizen of the UT.

ment officer's son dreams to become the officer," he said, addcommitted to serve and listen to "Some 500 to 1000 odd people

SOME 500 TO 1000 ODD PEOPLE HAD GOT CONTRACTS TO RULE AND RUIN J&K. THEIR TIME IS OVER NOW. The present administration is committed to listen to every single citizen of the UT and address their issues. We are here to serve the 1.30 Cr people of J&K without any discrimination."

2 Teachers **Suspended For** 'Molestation'

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Two teachers were suspended for allegedly molesting a girl student inside a school in Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district, officials said on Monday.

Police have also registered an FIR against the accused following a written complaint by the teen girl, the officials said.

In her complaint this morning, the girl accused two teachers of molesting her inside a school in a village in Kishtwar while she was appearing for her 11th class examination on Sunday, sparking protests by the angry villagers.

"We have registered an FIR based on the complaint of the minor who accused two teachers of molestation in the jurisdic tion of Chatroo police station. The district administration and the concerned department were intimated about the registration of the case against the accused (teachers) for the necessary action." Senior | More on P10

Enhanced Security, Night Patrolling To Ensure Peaceful G20 MEETING

Magistrates, Police Officers Instructed To Identify Rumour Mongers And Take Preventive Measures

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday ordered enhanced security measures at vulnerable locations to avoid any chance of militant attack during the G20 summit scheduled to be held next week in this capital city.

These directions were passed by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Kashmir Vijay Kumar and Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri while co-chairing a review meeting with field officers at Police Control Room PCR) Kashmir wherein the arrangements for G-20 summit were discussed in detail, a police spokesperson said Monday. The meeting, he said, was attended by police officials, including Deputy Inspector General of police (DIG) Central



Kashmir, SSP Srinagar besides by the concerned officers re

Tourism Dept To Hold 15 Day Cultural Event

international front.

"As you know J&K is host-

ing the 3rd G20 working

group meeting of tourism

delegates from G20 coun-

tries, a huge participation

of people has so far been

witnessed in every event.

Department of Tourism we

will be organizing a 15 days

cultural event in Srinagar

in this direction," Secretary

Tourism told reporters on the

He urged the youngsters

to immediately register

themselves with the J&K

cultural academy, if they

wish to perform during

the vent. He said the event

will not only portray the diverse culture of J&K but

also provides a platform

to youngsters to showcase

their talent. | More on P10

sidelines of a function here.

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: As Srinagar is all set to host 3rd working group meeting of tourism delegates from G20 nations, the department of tourism will be organizing a fifteen day cultural event 'Reflection of J&Ks Culture' as a prelude to the first major international event, scheduled to begin on May 22. The event according to

Secretary Tourism, Syed Abid Rashid Shah will be held in three phase's pre, post and in the midst of the G20 tourism track meeting. Shah, who recently Secretary assumed as Tourism said the event was aimed at portraying the rich cultural diversity of Jammu and Kashmir on the

to ensure that the deployment

of magistrates & police bando-

bast were put in place well be-

fore the summit and reiterated

the need to enhance the secu-

rity measures at vulnerable lo-

cations to avoid any chance of

terrorist attack during the G20

enhance joint patrolling espe-

cially during the night hours to

prevent any terrorist movement.

They further advised the officers

to display the highest level of

synergy on ground with the civil

The ADGP and Div Com, he

administration," he added.

"Besides, directed them to

summit," he said.

Article 370 Was **Meant To Be Temporary: HM**

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The now-scrapped Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, was meant to be a "temporary" provision since the beginning and the framers of the Constitution had put it there "intelligently", Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday.

Inaugurating a training programme on legislative drafting, Shah also said that if a legislation is drafted well, there is "no need for any court to give any explanation to any law".

If the drafting is simple and clear, it will also be easier to educate people about the law with minimal chances of errors by the executive, he said and added that if "grey areas" are left in the drafting, they will lead to "encroachment" in interpretation. Shah said if the drafting is complete and lucid, its interpretation will also be clear.

Referring to Article 370, which the BJP government at the Centre repealed in 2019, the home minister said the whole country wanted that the provision of the Constitution should not be in existence. He also highlighted that when the Article | More on P10

Protracted Trial No Ground For Reducing Sentence: HC

Upholds 7 Years Jail, Rs 1 Lakh Fine On Pulwama Man Regarding Students Death In 2011

M Ahmad

ing to murder".

bench

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Srinagar: Observing that mere protraction in trial or delay in decision of the appeal cannot be a ground for reducing the sentence, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh has upheld punishment of seven years and

fine of Rs one lakh awarded to a man from Pulwama for "culpable homicide not amount-

of

counsel court responded in negative to the only question that it said

Justice Sanjay Dhar made the observation while dismissing an appeal against verdict Principal Sessions Judge Pulwama on 9 May 2015, by virtue of which appellant, Nazir Ahmad Ganie, was convicted of offence under Section 304 Part-II of RPC (culpable homicide not amounting

ing hurt) in connection with the death of a student, Danish Farooq alias Umar Farooq, 16 August 2011, due to attack with clubs. Charge for offence under Section 302 RPC (murder) was not established against the accused.

to murder) while other two ac-

cused, namely, Ghulam Ganaie

victed of offence under Section

323 of RPC (voluntarily caus-

and Magbool Ganaie, were con-

After hearing the Nazir for Ahmad Ganie and government advocate, the

officials of civil administration including DC Srinagar, ADC Srinagar, SDM (W), Tehsildars & Naib Tehsildars of Srinagar.

At the onset of the meeting, the spokesperson said, the chairing officers were briefed

garding the necessary arrangements put in place for safe and peaceful conduct of the G-20 summit.

During the meeting, ADGP Kashmir & Div. Com Kashmir directed the participating officers

said, also directed the civil ministration to keep in close liaison with their concerned jurisdictional police officers to meet any exigency in their respective area of responsibilities (AÔR).

Moreover, he said, they also directed the | More on P10

was required to be determined in this appeal if there is any scope for interference in the quantum of sentence awarded by trial court against the appellant. | More on P10

India Will Be A Developed Nation By 2047: Rajnath Singh

Press Trust of India

Pune: India will be a developed nation by 2047, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Monday while laying emphasis on the advancement of technology amid a rise in cyberspace threats in the defence sector.

The country is now becoming self-reliant and as per economic experts, India will achieve third rank in the world economy by 2027, Singh said while speaking at the convocation ceremony of the Defence Institute of Advanced Technology (DIAT) in Maharashtra's Pune district. "The world is chang-

The defence sector is also



witnessing a change as we can see multiple technical changes in this sector. Many problems have arisen in the defence sector, especially the threats in cyberspace have increased," he said.

"However, with the changing situation we have to move towards advancement in technology. | More on P10

Work On Prioritized Projects To Be **Over By May 22: CEO Smart City**

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: As the countdown has begun for the working group meeting of tourism delegates from G20 countries in Srinagar, all prioritized projects under the Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL) will be completed before the mega international event, top officials said.

Most of the projects prioritized for the upcoming G20 tourism track meeting stands completed, while rest of the pending projects will be completed days ahead of the major international event, scheduled to take place at Sher-e- Kashmir International Convocation Centre (SKICC) on May 22 and 23.

It's worth mentioning that



the administration is sprucing up Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir. by illuminating electric poles with LED lights

and lighting up significant structures and shrines in the G20 motif. The move to beautify Srinagar city is aimed at | More on P10

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'The 'Kerala Story' **Row Over Film Leads To Scuffle** At GMC Jammu, 5 Hurt

Press Trust Of India

lammu: Five medical students suffered injuries after a scuffle ensued between two groups over 'The Kerala Story' movie at a hostel here, police said on Monday.

principal of the The Government Medical College has termed the incident as "unfortunate" and assured students that appropriate action will be taken against those responsible to maintain peace in the institute.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Jammu Chandan Kohli said an investigation into the matter is underway.

"There has been an incident of scuffle between some students and outsiders in GMC hostel Jammu. Cognisance of the matter has been taken and investigation is going on," the SSP said. The protesting students said the scuffle took place late Sunday night when a student shared a link of the controversial film in the official group of firstyear students, which was objected by one of his batchmates, stating that the group is meant for academic purposes only. The student, who had object-

ed to the sharing of the link, was later confronted and assaulted inside the hostel, leading to a scuffle as more and more students along with some outsiders joined the ruckus. Students alleged | More on P10

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Bengali Labourer Found Dead In Shopian

was found dead on Monday Lin main town Shopian in regard-(KNO)

8 Injured As Roof Of **Mud House Collapses**

ight people were injured when a roof of an under-construction house collapsed in Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district on Monday, official sources said. The roof of the house collapsed in Matlowa village of Latti tehsil.



The injured were rushed to a primary health centre (PHC) in Latti and two of the injured were shifted to the

district hospital in Udhampur for specialised treatment.

NIA Raids 13 Locations In Kashmir

he National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday conducted raids at several locations across the Kashmir Valley in a case related to militancy conspiracy. According to a statement, the raids were conducted in Anantnag, Srinagar, Pulwama, Shopian and Budgam districts, during which incriminating material and documents were also seized. The statement reads that the raids were conducted in the premises' of sympathizers, hybrid militants and OGWs linked with | More on P10

NIA Files Charges Against TRF Operative

he National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday filed a supplementary chargesheet against an accused in a case related to militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir. In a statement, a spokesperson said that the NIA has charged Faisal Muneer @ Ali Bhai, a resident of Talab Khatikan area under P.S Peer Mitha Jammu of conspiring with Pakistanbased operatives of LeT/TRF for transportation of firearms and explosives for carrying out militant acts in India. | More on P10

Window Grille Falls On Students, 5 Injured

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t least five students of a government school were injured when a window grille of their classroom fell on them in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, officials said. The incident occurred in Dandote village when 3rd standard students were attending their class, they said. A window grille suddenly got detached and fell, pulling down a chunk of concrete with it, the officials said. The five injured students have been hospitalised and their condition | More on P10

Drug Smuggler Booked, Shifted To Jail

A K

notorious drug smuggler from North Kashmir's Baramulla district was booked under the PIT-NDPS Act and shifted to Central Jail Jammu, a police spokesperson said Monday. Barkat Ali Mian @Raja of Mian Mohalla Pattan has been booked under PIT-NDPS Act after obtaining formal detention orders from the competent authority, he said. Mian, he said, has been detained and subsequently lodged in Central Jail Kot-Balwal Jammu. "It is pertinent to | More on P10

labourer from West Bengal South Kashmir. An official said that a non-local labourer was found dead in a rented room at Baba Mohalla Shopian. He said that the body of labourer identified as Tajamul Sheikh, son of Afsar Sheikh of West Bengal was taken to District Hospital Shopian for legal-medico formalities. Meanwhile, police have started investigation in this

NEWS

"London Plan Is Out": Imran **Khan Claims Army Plot To Jail Him For 10 Years**



Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Pakistan's former prime minister Imran Khan claimed on Monday that the country's powerful military establishment has planned to keep him in jail for the next 10 years under sedition charges.

In a series of tweets in the early hours of Monday, the Pak-istan Tehreek-i-Insaf chief said: "So now the complete London plan is out. Using pretext of violence while I was inside the jail, they have assumed the role of judge, jury and executioner. The plan now is to humiliate me by putting Bushra begum (Khan's wife) in jail, and using some sedition law to keep me inside for next ten years." The tweets came after Khan held a meeting of PTI leaders at his Lahore residence.

The 70-year-old leader, who has been on bail in more than 100 cases, further said: "To ensure that there is no public reaction, they have done two things -- first deliberate terror is unleashed not just on PTI workers but on common citizens as well. Second, the media is totally controlled and muzzled." He said never has the

sanctity of chadar and chaar dewaari been violated the way it is being done by these "criminals".

"This is a deliberate attempt to instill so much fear in people that when they come to arrest me tomorrow, people won't come out. And tomorrow they will again suspend internet services and ban social media (which is only partially open). Meanwhile, as we speak, houses are being broken in and shamelessly police are manhandling the women of the houses," he said.

Giving his message to the people of Pakistan, Khan said: "My message to the people of Pakistan; I will fight for Haqeeqi Azaadi till the last drop of my blood because for me death is preferable than to be enslaved by these assortments of crooks.

"I urge all my people to remember that we have pledged LA Illah ha illalah, that we bow to no one except the One (Allah). If we bow to the idol of fear there will only be humiliation and dismemberment for our future generations. Countries where there is injustice and law of jungle prevails, don't survive for long."

Karanataka Cm Decision: Congress Chief Shivakumar Cancels Delhi Visit, Sparks Off Speculations

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: Chief Minister aspirant and Karnataka state Congress president D K Shivakumar on Monday cancelled his Delhi trip, hours after confirming he would be flying to the national capital, fuelling speculations that all is not well in the ruling camp over the CM contender issue. He cited health reasons for

the change in his travel plans. The senior Congress leader is locked in an intense power struggle with Siddaramaiah over who will lead the party-led government, after Congress stormed to power by winning 135 seats in the May 10 elections to the 224-member Karnataka

Assembly. Siddaramaiah, a former CM, had left for Delhi by Monday afternoon to meet with AICC leaders.

"I have some problem in the stomach. Doctor is coming in ten minutes. It's burning. It looks like some infection and I have fever please let me be free...." Shivakumar told

reporters. Sources close to him confirmed he is not going to Delhi today.

Amid speculations about the number of MLAs supporting him and Siddaramaiah for the CM's post, Shivakumar



said earlier on Monday that his strength is 135, as under his presidency, the party won the said number of Assembly segments.

He said he and Siddaramaiah have been called to Delhi by the party high command and that he will be going there late due to personal commitments.

"Since today is my birthday, a lot of people have come to wish me. I have to go to my deity with my family, after going there, I will leave for Delhi. don't know what time I will be going to Delhi. I will take whichever flight is available,' he had said.

The Congress' central lead-

ership will be deciding on the new Chief Minister, after its observers submitted a report on the opinion of the MLAs which they collected in the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting in Bengaluru on Sunday.

The CLP had authorised party president M Mallikarjun Kharge to decide on the CM nominee, allowing the party chief to decide on an issue that was expected to take centrestage at some point of time post elections in the event of Congress emerging victorious in the hustings.

Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar have never hid their CM ambitions.

Mamata Banerjee Clears The Air **On Support To Congress For 2024 Elections; This Is What She Said**

Press Trust of India

Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress supremo day said her party will support the Congress where it is strong in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

This is the first time that Banerjee cleared the air on TMC's stand on a possible strategy for opposition unity in the electoral battle ahead. "Wherever the Congress is strong, let them fight. We will give them support, there is nothing wrong (in that). But they have to support other political parties also," Banerjee told reporters at the state secretariat. However, to get support,

Turkey Braces For Momentous Runoff After Election Drama Agencies

ANKARA: Turkey braced Monday for its first election runoff after a night of high drama showed President Recep Tayyip Erdogan edging ahead of his secular rival but failing to secure a first-round win.

Erdogan sounded triumphant as he emerged before a sea of supporters shortly after midnight to proclaim himself ready to lead the nation for another five years.

Almost complete results from Turkey's most important election of its post-Ottoman era showed Erdogan -- in power since 2003 and undefeated in more than a dozen national votes -- falling just short of the 50-percent threshold needed. "I wholeheartedly believe

that we will continue to serve

our people in the coming five

years," the 69-year-old leader

He also claimed his Islamic

ruling party and its ultrana-

tionalist allies had captured a

clear majority in parliament.

said to huge cheers.

Figures from the Anadolu state news agency showed Erdogan picking up 49.4 percent of the vote.

Opposition leader Kemal Kilicdaroglu was trailing with 45.0 percent -- a disappointing outcome after late pre-election polls showed him in the lead.

Turkey's first presidential runoff in the mostly Muslim but officially secular state's 100-year history is planned for May 28.

Kilicdaroglu's camp had initially contested the vote count and claimed to be in the lead. But the 74-year-old looked slightly despondent as he faced reporters early Monday and admitted that a runoff seemed

inevitable. "If our nation says second round, we will absolutely win in the second round," he said.



"The will for change in the society is higher than 50 percent.'

Turnout was expected to reach 90 percent in what has become a referendum on Turkey's longest-serving leader and his Islamic-rooted party.

SC To Hearing Against Release Of 'The Kerala Story' Today

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court said it will hear on Tuesday a plea challenging the Kerala High Court order refusing to stay the release of movie 'The Kerala Story' which hit theatres on May 5.

The appeal filed by journalist Qurban Ali was mentioned by senior advocate Kapil Sibal on Monday The bench comprising Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud and justices P S Narasimha and J B Pardiwala agreed to list it for hearing today but later said it will be taken up on May 16 due to the scheduled hearing of certain matters before a special

bench at 3 pm on Monday. The senior lawyer said it needed an urgent hearing as the high court has refused to grant an interim stay on the movie's release on May 5. The high court order was passed after the judges had watched the teaser of the movie. A bunch of petitions had sought a stay on the movie's release and even objected to the certification given by the Central Board of Film Certifica-

tion (CBFC). Ali, in his plea, said that the movie amounted to hate speech as it claimed that nearly 32,000 girls from Kerala were lured to join ISIS by their Muslim friends.

This tends to create enmity and hatred among different groups, Ali had argued in the high court seeking a stay on the movie's release.

The Supreme Court had on May 3 refused to entertain pleas related to the movie and had asked the petitioners to approach the jurisdictional high court.

The pleas, including the one which sought that a disclaimer should be added to the title of the film that it is a work of fiction, had been mentioned

80 Percent Of Palestinians Welcome Chinese Offer To Mediate With Israel, **US Seen As Least Favorite Option**

Agencies

LONDON: Majority of Palestinians view China and Russia as potentially effective mediators for their peace talks with the state of Israel, a recent survey revealed.

The survey, conducted by YouGov in May at the request of Arab News, showed that Palestinians' most preferred potential peace broker was Russia, followed closely by the European Union and China, while the US proved far from popular among the residents of the West Bank and Gaza.

Commenting on the results of the survey on the preferences of Palestinians, Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova concluded: "Because Russia has not betrayed those who pinned their hopes on it." The Information and Press Department (IPD) of the Russian Foreign Ministry said: "Moscow, as it stated in IPD's comment to Arab News, continues to believe that the existing international legal frame-

work, the Arab peace initiative in Al-Taif and the groundwork that has been achieved between Israelis and Palestinians throughout the negotiation process on the basis of (a) twostate solution can serve as a foundation for resuming direct negotiations between the parties to the conflict."

"Our position is clear, unchangeable and not subject to political conjuncture," the IPD added. "We are constantly talking about this to our Palestinian friends and the Israeli side as well.'

In October last year, the Palestinian Authority told Russian President Vladimir Putin people in Palestine may con US mediation only if it is part of the Quartet, a foursome of nations that includes Russia. Following Beijing's success in brokering the Saudi-Iranian diplomatic agreement in March, a sweeping 80 percent of the survey respondents, who expressed a clear opinion on the topic, supported a Chinese role in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.



KOLKATA: West Bengal Mamata Banerjee on Mon-



Congress also has to back other parties, she said. The TMC supremo also made it clear that she expected the seat-sharing formula to give priority to regional players in areas where they were strong. "Strong regional parties must

be given priority," she said. Banerjee had earlier saluted the people of Kar-

nataka after the BJP lost power there while avoiding mention of the grand old party with which TMC has had run-ins in the past. for urgent listing before a bench comprising Chief Justice Chandrachud and Justice P S Narasimha.

On Friday, the top court sought replies from the West Bengal and Tamil Nadu governments on a separate plea of the producers of "The Kerala Story" that the movie is not being shown in theatres in these two states.

NEWS MAKERS

Judge Chokes Up, Quotes From Raj Kapoor Song On Last Day In Supreme Court

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Fourth senior-most Supreme Court judge Justice MR Shah on Monday got emotional in the courtroom on his last day in office, saying he is not a person to retire and will start a new inning in life.

Sitting on the ceremonial bench presided over by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice Shah broke down at the end of his address and quoted lines from Raj Kapoor's iconic song "jeena yaha, marna yaha".

"I am not a person to retire and I am going to start a new inning of my life. I am praying to the almighty God to give me strength and courage and good health to play the new inning," said Justice Shah.

"Before parting, I would like to remember a song by Raj Kapoor 'kal khel me hum ho na ho, gardish me tare rahenge sada'," he said choking with emotions.

With the retirement of Justice Shah, who was appointed to the top court on November 2, 2018, the number of judges in the top court will now come down to 32, including the CJI. A day before, Justice Dinesh Maheshwari demitted the office.



The top court has the sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

Heading the ceremonial bench. set up to bid farewell to Justice Shah, the CJI fondly recalled his association with the retiring judge.

"My association with Justice Shah goes back to a long-long time when I was the Additional Solicitor General of India and we renewed our friendship when he came to the Supreme Court. We sat together during the most difficult times, that is during the Covid times.

"I will say some lighter things in the evening when I am liberated from presiding over this solemn occasion as the CJI. I will then speak to all of you as a friend of

Justice Shah in the evening," the CII said

He said it was a "true pleasure to sit with Justice M R Shah" and deal with all types of cases at the bench.

"He (Shah) is always ready for the challenge and even during Covid times, I found that when we were sitting in our respective homes and we were taking on some heavy matters, he was always ready for a challenge.

"He was never the one who shirks work. If I send him a judgement, the judgement will come back overnight with his annotations and be completely read. If I send him a judgement for him to draft as a senior colleague, likewise, the judgement will be on my table within 48 hours," Justice Chandrachud said.

Nothing was kept pending by Justice Shah, the CJI said, adding that he is "a true friend and an enabled ally and support in the collegium".

"In so many ways, I relied upon his very worldly knowledge of the legal professions, of our district judiciary and of our high courts because he served in Gujarat and in Patna as the Chief Justice," Justice Chandrachud said.

Man Molests Air Hostess On Dubai-Amritsar Flight, **Arrested: Report**

Press Trust of India

AMRITSAR: A male passenger was arrested for allegedly molesting an air hostess on board a Dubai-Amritsar flight in an inebriated state, police said on Monday.

Rajinder Singh, who hails from Kotli village of Jalandhar in Punjab, got into a heated argument with the air hostess and allegedly molested her on Saturday, police said.

"The air hostess brought the incident to the crew's notice. The accused was allegedly in a drunken state," police said.

The crew members then notified the Amritsar control room about the matter and the assistant security manager of the airline lodged a police complaint.

The accused was arrested upon his arrival at the Shri Guru Ramdas ji International Airport here, they said.

Singh was booked under Sections 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) and Section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of the Indian Penal Code, police said.

Man Assaulted For Walking With 2 Women In UP, 1 Arrested

Press Trust of India

MEERUT: A man was arrested today for allegedly assaulting a youth for walking with two Muslim women at a local market, police said. Police acted after a video surfaced online showing three or four men beating up the

youth.

Altogether 15 men were seen misbehaving with the three people, who work together at a factory.

Police registered an FIR under Sec-295A tion (acts intended to outrage religious feelings) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

Kotwali Inspector-in-Charge (SHO) Sanjay Verma said on the basis of the video, accused Mohammad Tanveer, who works at a shop in the area, has been arrested.

Police said action will be taken against the others as well after a thorough investigation.

In the video of the incident that took place at the Bhagat Singh Market here locals could be seen misbehaving with

two young women and a youth, who were walking together, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rohit Singh Sajwan said.

It has come to light that the three used to work together in the same factory and had gone to market to shop for

a mutual friend's birthday. The vouth was assaulted locals bv who knew the women, he said.

BJP Local leader Ankit Chowdhary said a Hindu vouth was beaten up by Muslim men in Bhagat

Singh Market and alleged that police tried to hush it up by registering a case under some minor sections.

Chowdhary sought registration of a case under Indian Penal Code (IPC) Section 295A (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and said if all the accused involved in the incident are not arrested soon, the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will be informed about the matter.



KASHMIR OBSERVER Srinagar | Tuesday | 16-05-2023 🜙

Woman Alleges Domestic Violence By Husband; Police Register FIR

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A woman married to a man on the outskirts of Srinagar accused her husband of domestic violence and has approached the police for her security. Following her complaint, police have registered a formal FIR against her husband under relevant sections of law.

According to the FIR lodged at Police Station Zakura, a woman, who hails from the Noor Bagh area of Srinagar city and is married to one Tariq Ahmed Bhat son of Ghulam Qadir, a resident of Burzahama locality of Srinagar outskirts.

The woman has also submitted photographs

of the assault by her husband to police.

The woman has stated that her husband

off my hair and clothes and thrashes me for no reason. He intimidates me and threatens to kill me. I was left with no option but to approach the police for my safety," the woman stated.

Taking cognizance of the complaint, police have registered a case under sections 498A and 506 against the accused for subjecting her wife to cruelty and criminal intimidation.

has been torturing her. finding new excuses every time and she feels insecure at her husband's home. "My husband tears

J&K Handicrafts Department imparts training of making copper utensils to women enterprenuers in Srinagar on Monday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Special Mini-Buses To Ply on 14 Srinagar Routes Chairman RTA Approves 189 Contract Carriage Permits

Observer News Service

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Srinagar: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, who also heads Regional Transport Authority (RTA) as Chairman, Monday accorded approval for Special Mini-Buses to ply on 14 new identified routes, after successful trial runs, in addition to routine services in the Srinagar City.

The decision was taken during the meeting of the Regional Transport Authority (RTA) at the DC Office Conference Hall here to discuss the matters related to public transport.

The meeting of Besides, Sr. Superintendent of Police, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah, Superintendent of Police, Arif Shah and Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir, Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, the meeting was attended by Chief Planning Officer, Secretary SDA, Joint Commissioner, SMC, DGM, SRTC, Executive Engineers of R&B and other concerned.

At the outset, a detailed discus-

sion took place on finalization of different agenda points including to give approval for Contract Carriage Fresh Permits, consideration of applications for fresh LA for regular Stage Carriage Vehicles, permission for 14 identified Routes for Operation of Mini-Buses in Srinagar City and Letter of Authority for purchase of Stage carriage minibuses and three wheeler autos, etc. The measures with regard to identification of black spots and action plans to address the same also came under discussion during the meeting.

On the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner after having a threadbare discussion accorded approval of 189 Contract Carriage Permits out of 266 applicants. Similarly, the meeting also approved 11 cases submitted by applicants through a Transport Company for issuing Letter of Authority for Stage Carriage permits to their vehicles.

The Chairman RTA also accorded approval for plying Special Mini-Buses on 14 new identified routes, after successful trial runs

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Office Of The Executive Engineer Right River Works Division

Regal lane Lal Chowk Srinagar Email:- eerrwdsmc@gmail.com

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E- TENDER No. 04 of 2023-2024

Dated: 12.05.2023

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Commissioner, e-tenders are invited on a percentage basis (as per the J&K PWD Engineering Manual 2020) from

on these routes, in addition to routine services in the Srinagar City. In this regard, the DC said the approval has been accorded in view of the public demand, in the interest of smooth public transport system and in the interest of availability of transport services for all important Educational and Health institutions in the city.

The DC also asked the RTO, Kashmir to bring the DC Office, Srinagar in one of the routes to facilitate the visiting public and the employees.

Likewise, to consider specific cases related to issue Letter of Authority for purchase of three wheeler autos, the RTA accorded approval for 55 Three Wheeler Auto Rickshaws subject to the condition that the applicants shall purchase the vehicle within a period of one month.

On the occasion, the DC asked the RTO, Kashmir to get a survey done to assess the route wise vehicle carrying capacity of the roads to enable it to frame a policy in future accordingly



This Day In History

1444

1204 - Baldwin IX, Count of Flanders, is crowned as the first Emperor of the Latin Empire of Constantinople 1527 - Florence becomes a republic

- 1571 Johannes Kepler, by his own calculations, is conceived at 4:37 AM
- 1606 2,000 foreigners murdered in Russia
- 1648 Battle of Zhovti Vody: Bohdan Chmielricki's cosacks defeat Polish King John Casimir after 18 days of battle
- 1771 The Battle of Alamance, a pre-American Revolutionary War battle between local
- militia and a group of rebels called "The Regulators". occurs in present-day Alamancecounty, North Carolina.
- 1795 Hedges Treaty: Bataafse Republic becomes French vassal state
- 1803 Peace of Amiens between French Republic and Great Britain ends
- 1811- Peninsular War: Allies defeat French at Albuera 1822 - Greek War of Independence: Turks capture the Greek town of Souli.

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- 1860 -Chicago: Republican convention selects Abraham Lincoln as candidate
- 1863 Battle of Champion's Hill, Mississippi-bloodiest action of Vicksburg Campaign
- 1875 Eathquake in Venezuela & Colombia kills 16,000 1907 - In the Pact of Cartagena, Great Britain, France,
 - and Spain agree to maintain the status guo in the Mediterranean and along the Atlantic coast of Europe and Africa

Poppy Cultivation Over 9 Kanals Destroyed In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A joint team of District Administration Srinagar compris-Revenue, Police ing and Excise Department today destroyed illegal poppy cultivation on approximately of 9 kanals at Khonmoh area in Pantha Chowk Tehsil of the District

In a continuous effort to eradicate drug menace from District, a special drive against illegal poppy cultivation was carried out in Khonmoh area by a joint team of District Administration Srinagar comprising Revenue, Police and Excise Department here today.

The drive was launched on the directions of the Deputy Com-Srinagar, missioner Mohammad Aijaz Asad under the supervision of Tehsildar Panthachowk, Rakib Ahmad dur-

ing which illegal poppy cultivation on approximately of 9 kanals was destroyed in Khonmoh area in Panthachowk Tehsil of the District.

istration Srinagar has warned illegal poppy cultivators of initiating strict action against them for carrying out poppy cultivation. It has also asked all those who have cultivated poppy or any other narcotic substances anywhere in the

District, to destroy the same on their own, failing which they will face strict action under law. Meanwhile, the Deputy Commissioner Srinagar has asked the special teams to continue the drive in other parts of the District in future with the motive to eradicate this menace from its roots. He has also appealed to the Public to extend cooperation to the Srinagar Admin-

The District Admin-

Indian Forest Officers From IGNFA Dehradun Visit Dal Lake

istration.

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Indian Forest Officers from IGNFA Dehradun today visited the world famous Dal Lake, here.

officer Project Gazalla Abdullah and Executive Engineer Khurshid Ahmad Lake Conservation and Management Authority Srinagar on the occasion imparted training to these IFS officers and made them acquainted about various management activities of Dal Lake and its catchment area as well.

The officers also visited the Char Chinari, where Project officers briefed them about the recently transplanted two tall chinars and the challenges which were faced during their transportation and transplantation. The officers gave

VC KU Inaugurates 4-Day Workshop On Academic Writing

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A four-day workshop on Academic Writing started at the University of Kashmir on Monday.

Organized by the Department of English in collaboration with the Centre for Writing and Communication (CWC), Ashoka University, the inaugural session was chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Nilofer Khan, while Registrar, Dr Nisar Ahmad Mir was the Guest of Honor.

In her presidential address, Prof Nilofer complimented the De-

feedback that it was a very fruitful session for them and all Forest Officers should come to visit this beautiful and well managed lake and should get acquainted with the activities that the concerned officers are taking here to maintain the health of the lake

partment of English for

holding the workshop,

while underlining the

need for organizing such

academic events in the

campus. She expressed

her satisfaction at the stu-

dent-centric nature of the

workshop and remarked

that academic writing is

a specialized linguistic

competence integral to all

casion, the Registrar

congratulated the depart-

ment for its contribution

in enriching the academ-

the administration.

Speaking on this oc-

formal degrees

S.	Name of the Work	Adv.	Cost of	Earnest	l ime of	Head of	Class of	AA order No	I.S. Order No.
No.		cost in	T/Doc.	Money (In	Completi on	Account	contractor		
		lacs	in Rs	Rs.)					
1.	Construction of bund from h/o Abdul Ahad Bhat to h/o	7.95	310	15900	4 weeks	MPLADS	CEE/DEE	Order No. 38-DDCS of	35 dated:
	Abdul Salam Mir at Tengpora Zoonimar ward No. 57							2023 dated: 15.04.2023	12.05.2023
	Gillikadal								
2.	Reconstruction of lane drain from h/o Ghulam Ahmad	5.47	300	10940	3 weeks	MPLADS	CEE/DEE	Order No. 38-DDCS of	36 dated:
	Ganaie to h/o Nazir Ahmad Sheikh at Bonamsar Son-							2023 dated: 15.04.2023	12.05.2023
	war(Jamia Masiid)								
3.	Renovation/facelifting of dog Kennel at Shuhama	2.10	200	4200	1 week	Internal	DEE	Order No. 286 of 2023	140 dated:
						Resources		dated: 25.02.2023	01.03.2023

Position of AAA: Accorded, Technical Sanction: Accorded

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

S. No.	Particulars	Date from to				
1.	Date of publication of e-portal	12.05.2023				
2.	Date of Downloading of bid documents for said NIeT	12.05.2023 from 01:00 PM				
3.	Date of uploading of bid document / bid submission starts	12.05.2023 from 02:00 PM				
4.	Date of uploading of bid document/ bid submission Ends	18.05.2023 at 06:00 PM				
5.	Date of Bid opening	19.05.2023 at 11:00 AM				
б.	Date of Submission of Uploaded documents (Hard Copies) by Successful Bidder including Bid Security	20.05.2023 up to 04:00 PM				
	(CDR/FDR) fresh dated and all other relevant documents (GST clearance, Bank Receipt/ Registration	-				
	duly renewed etc.					
	Note: Fresh Date means the Decuments Drawn after the issuance of said NIAT					

ments Drawn after the issuance of said NIe1

approved registered eligible Civil Contractors/ Self Help Groups for the below mentioned works.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The intending tenders should attach a call deposit receipt equivalent to 2% of the total cost of the work shown against each work pledged to the Executive Engineer Right River

WORS DIVISION, SWIC, UIAWITTION ANY SCHEUDIEU BANK WILHOUL WHICHTIO LEHUET WILLDE ENLELAINEU.							
2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Bank Receipt / challan as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No. 0216010200000007 payable at J&K							
Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (with NIT No and Serial No of work mentioned) and Earnest Money/bid security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date							
of Bank Receipt/ Challan and earned money/bid security should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date). The tender fees is non-refundable and can also be							
paid through online mode via NEFT/RTGS in favour of F./A/ Chief Accounts officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with Bank Details as given below:-							
Name of the Bank: - Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: - Balgarde	en, Srinagar						
Bank Account No: - 0216010200000007 IFSC code: - JAKA0GA	ARDEN						

MICR CODE: 190051008 The bids of the intending MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises) bidders shall be dealt strictly as per the Circular issued by the Chief Engineer, PW(R&B) Department Kashmir bearing No. CE/RBK/1003-39 dated: 15.04.2022. The eligible bidders registered as Micro and Small Enterprises shall be provided bid documents free of cost and shall be exempted from depositing Bid Security subject to furnishing of relevant valid certificate/documents for claiming such exemption. However, 5% performance security shall be obtained from successful bidders which shall be retained for the DLP period. • For one particular work, only one bank Receipt / challan (not more than one) of the exact amount of tender fees (neither lesser nor greater) as shown against that particular work

must be paid and uploaded with the tenders. The same tender fees paid and uploaded for a particular work should not be again used/uploaded for any other work in the NieT (i.e. one

Bank Receipt / Bank Challan for one work only) • Tender Fee and other relevant documents including Bid security (CDR/FDR) duly filled up, if found uploaded, with any ambiguity or un-attested correction/over writing for any work such tender /bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be out rightly rejected and action under rules shall be initiated. • Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S. No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided. • The participating agencies/ contractors are advised in their own interest not to resort to any cheating while submitting and uploading the tender document Fees or any other docu-

The bidders are requested to upload the coloured scanned copy of the following documents:

Tender fees.	0	EMD in the shape of CDR and FDR.
Registration card and its latest renewal.	o Verification	of Registration Card from competent Authority
Latest GST clearance.	0	PAN Card.
MSME Registration (if any).	0	Correspondence Address of the Agency with active Mobile No.
Bank Account details (16-digit Bank Account No, Branch office, IFSC code)		
Any other document required to be uploaded as per the NieT.		

3. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an E-mail message on their email address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on the same website in the office of the Executive Engineer, Right River Works Division, SMC (Regal Lane, Lal Chowk, Srinagar) or in the office of the Informatics officer, SMC (Karan Nagar Srinagar). In case of holidays/ offices happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, or there is any Net problem the same will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

5. The lower successful bidder has to furnish 5% of the advertised cost as performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR. The performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after DLP is successfully over. Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be released after performance security is received. The earnest money in favour of the unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Bank Receipts/challans.

6. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if: -

Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any Modifications to the terms and conditions of the bid.

Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process

ic capacities of the faculty and students, and also as-No: SMC/EERRWD/2448-2452 DIPK-NB-709/23 Dated: 15.05.2023 sured the department of continued support from

From KO Archives Clamour For Jobs Intensifies:

Govt Replies With Force, Jail

Observer News Service

RINAGAR- Overwrought by long years of unemployment, the jobless educated youth of the valley now feel increasingly compelled to take to the streets to give vent to their frustrations.

Contractual Rehbar-e--Taleem teachers, teachers of ICS centers, and jobless engineers, doctors and dentists have been holding demonstrations for the past several weeks to remind the government of its promises, but the government uses force asking the police to bundle them into vehicles and cart them off to jail.

Contractual teachSers dentists and electricians, all jobless, held a protest demonstration in the press enclave on Wednesday.

And when the police told them to end their agitation, they refused, determined as they were to air their grievances forcefully. Eventually scores of teachers were taken to the police lock-up. A large contingent of jobless dentists, too, was arrested when it made an unsuccessful bid to present a memorandum to the chief minister.

The police said that all arrested agitators were later released. But even the arrests did not stem the flood of protests. Jobless electricians assembled next to decry the policy of recruiting on the basis of crash courses, and asked the chief minister to "come to his senses.

Every protest features angry and indignant slogans against the chief minister, but the government appears to be unmoved.

Qualified electricians have been protesting against "crash course appointees" for the past year. Observers make various interpretations of the intensifying clamour for jobs.

Sources close to the government claim that the protests are a part of a conspiracy, while public circles feel that the administration promised by the chief minister, Ghulam Nabi Azad, has not become a reality. They fed that to save their skins, ministers and bureaucrats are misleading the unemployed youth by making irresponsible statements.

On the one hand, the government harps on the "insufficiency of funds" tune, and on the other hand favoured candidates are being given jobs by creating suspect categories such as crash-courses, the public feels. There is intense anger, among the public in general and the jobless youth in particular, about the callous and arbitrary approach of the government.

A citizen, who did not want to be named, said that he, had stopped believing in any claim or promise the government makes, and having seen the condition of the government, had advised his children to sell second-hand clothes on the pavements.

One of his sons is roaming around with an engineering diploma, while the other holding a master's degree in education, is earning the princely sum of Rs 1200 as teacher in a private school. (Kashmir Observer, 16 May, 2007)

SD/

Executive Engineer Right River Works Division

Srinagar Municipal Corporation

Think Opinion, Analysis, Essays

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KASHMIR OBSERVER® Srinagar | Tuesday | 16-05-2023

KASHMIR OBSERVER[™]

Tuesday | 16-05-2023

G20 Meeting in Kashmir

he upcoming third G20 tourism working group meeting in Srinagar, Kashmir, will host delegates from various countries. India, under its G20 presidency, is confident that the meeting will have a positive impact on tourism and trade in the region.

The hosting of the G20 meeting in Kashmir is seen as major event in the Valley since the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution in August 2019 and designed to send across a message to the world that the region has come a long way in the last over three years. During this period, efforts have been made by the union government to create a conducive atmosphere for industry to grow. These efforts include organising the J&K Global Investors' Summit in January 2020, where MoUs worth Rs 13,732 crore were signed. Furthermore, private investment in J&K has increased to Rs 38,000 crore from Rs 17,000 crore in the first seven decades after Independence, and investment projects worth Rs 50,000 crore are being processed.

There are other projects too: Developmental works worth Rs 1.3 lakh crore have been taken up by the road transport and highways ministry in J&K, and around 500 km of road network has been completed in the region since 2014. There have also been significant improvements in education, health, power, tourism, and agriculture. In fact, tourism has truly emerged as the mainstay of Kashmir's economy, something it has always been billed to be but somehow has stayed far short of its potential due to the prevailing troubled situation. The recently concluded tulip festival attracted over 3.75 lakh tourists, while Gulmarg saw over 2 lakh tourists during winters. Last year, J&K witnessed over 26.7 lakh tourist arrivals, the highest in the last three decades. The Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has now spoken about an ambitious plan to host two crore tourists this year. And to this end, the administration has been trying to build and upgrade the infrastructure.

On the economic front, Rs 28,400 crore will be spent till 2037 under a new central plan for industrial development of the union territory, which is expected to create 450,000 direct and indirect jobs in the primary sector. And by hosting G20 meeting in the Valley, the union government is putting this progress on display for the world to see. It hopes that this meeting will not only send out a positive message to the world, but it will also boost tourism and trade in the region. And with more countries signing up to participate in the meeting, the situation is turning out to be well according to the expectations of the central government.

Give Plastic, Take Gold!

The campaign on addressing solid waste issues has to be incentivized by the government

he Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Dr Syeed Fakhrudin Hamid and Former State Chief Information Commissioner/Ex Advisor to J&K Governor on Sunday presented gold coins to two public spirited citizens at Sadiwara village in South Kashmir's Anantnag district. Two people namely Showkat

Two people namely Showkat Ahmad Itoo and Shahid Hussain Bhat had collected a large amount of plastic waste around the village and on Sunday they were rewarded for this work. The gold coin giving ceremony was organised by the Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat Sadiwara Farooq Ahmad Ganai who also happens to be the senior advocate of Anantnag district. The programme was attended by District Officers, PRI members, media persons, civil society members and local residents.

Give Plastic, Take Gold

Sadiwara, a beautiful area, was marred with trash before Sarpanch Farooq Ahmad Ganai had taken charge. Only a few months back, heaps of waste could be seen in local water bodies, open plots ,agricultural land, springs and other public places. Around January, Ganai decided to tackle the issue robustly. He designed a campaign to clear waste through public participation (Awami Muhim/ Janbhagidari).

Around February, he launched a campaign called "Give Plastic Take Gold" to this end.

Under this campaign, it was decided that gold coins would be presented to those who would collect at least 20 quintals of plastic waste. Lots of locals participated in this campaign which continued from February till April.

The campaign led to sensitisation and awareness among local Auqaf Committee, religious leaders and even children.

The village bears a completely different look now that the streets, springs, fields and open lands are free from waste.

Gold Coin winners

No single individual could collect 20 quintals of waste even as a large number of people participated in sanitation work.Sarpanch Sadiwara Advocate Farooq Ganai didn't want to demoralise those who had collected large amounts of plastic waste.



played a great role to make Give Plastic Take Gold a successful public movement.

LG hails Sadiwara Sarpanch

During his monthly Awam ki Awaz radio broadcast, The Lt Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Manoj Sinha commended the "Give Plastic and Take Gold" campaign launched by Farooq Ahmad Ganai, Sarpanch of Sadiwara, Anantnag. He said that the campaign was like transforming the Swachh Abhiyan (cleanliness campaign) into Janbhagidari (Public Participation) which is fulfilling the dream of Swachh Bharat (Clean India).

LG Manoj Sinha recently invited Farooq Ahmad Ganai to Jammu Raj Bhavan and felicitated him along with some other PRI members from J&K for their public spirited work.

LG Sinha in his Awam ki Awaz programme called upon the PRI representatives to replicate the noble initiative taken by Sarpanch Sadiwara and ensure community participation in cleanliness drives. He added that Youth clubs also have an important role to play in promoting cleanliness and their involvement in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan was very impor-

Who provided Gold Coins to Sarpanch?

mad Ganai, he told me that he

didn't ask anyone to pay for the

Gold Coins. Infact, he purchased

these coins himself and some

amount was donated by his wife.

Sarpanch Farooq Ganai runs a

small trust namely Social Recon-

struction Centre Kashmir (SRCK)

and this organisation also pro-

vided some support to Gram Pan-

chayat Sadiwara during village

ised on Sunday May 14th at Sadi-

wara was also supported by Social

Reconstruction Centre Kashmir

Anantnag Dr Fakhrudin Hamid

who presided over the function

appreciated the work done by

The function that was organ-

Commissioner

cleanliness campaign.

(SRCK).Deputy

When I spoke to Farooq Ah-

Sarpanch Farooq Ganai. He said that work done in Sadiwara will be replicated in other villages of Anantnag.

Former Advisor to Governor and retired senior IAS officer Khurshid Ahmad Ganai who was guest of honour during the function said that Kashmir valley needed immediate solution for managing waste on scientific lines. He gave details about hazards of plastic pollution including the effects of macro and micro-plastic on human bodies. He appreciated the role played by Sarpanch Sadiwara for cleaning his village.

Conclusion

The model set up by Advocate Farooq Ganai is praiseworthy and should be replicated in other places by public spirited citizens, NGOs and local Panchayats. Now the biggest challenge before Farooq Ahmad Ganai is to make this work sustainable and long lasting. He has to ensure door to door waste collection.

The Rural Waste Management program under Swachh Bharat Mission Gramin (SBM-G) will be of sure help to him in the process. Additionally, logistical support must also be provided to him by District Administration Ananthag and local Block Development Officer (BDO) The Government needs to incentivize waste management and sanitation programmes. For instance, Municipal Committee Dooru Verinag in Anantnag district is going to felicitate those households in the town who have the most clean houses. President MC Dooru Veeinag Mohammad Iabal announced this during the function held at Sadiwara. Such initiatives must also be launched in cities, towns and villages so that we can prioritize waste management and sanitation.



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

The Government

needs to incentivize waste management and sanitation programmes. Such initiatives must also be launched in cities, towns and villages so that we can prioritize waste management and sanitation

OTHER OPINON

Falling Inflation

Inflation, which had edged above the Reserve Bank of India's inflation targeting framework in January and February, falling thereafter to 5.66 per cent in March, declined further to an 18-month low of 4.7 per cent in April. Some analysts are now projecting inflation to remain below 5 per cent over the coming few months as well, lower than the 5.1 per cent (for the April-June quarter) forecasted by the RBI in the last monetary policy committee meeting.

The latest data points towards a sequential easing of price pressures across most categories. The consumer food price index fell to 3.84 per cent in April, down from 4.79 per cent the month before. The decline was driven by vegetables, oils and fats, and meat and fish. However, cereals and milk inflation remain elevated. A decent rabi harvest, notwithstanding unseasonal March rains, has ensured enough procurement by the government to limit any further inflationary pressures. However, concerns over monsoon rainfall on account of El Nino persist. Alongside the steep fall in food inflation, core inflation, which has tended to be more sticky in nature, has also declined. Some analysts have estimated core inflation to have fallen to 5.1 per cent in April. However, in several categories such as personal care and effects, clothing and footwear, and some household goods and services, inflation continues to remain elevated.

In its last meeting, the monetary policy committee had voted unanimously to keep the benchmark repo rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent. The decision was driven by the then prevailing global financial uncertainty and the need for the committee to assess the impact of the policy tightening carried out so far. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had then said that the "decision to pause on the repo rate is for this meeting only". But, this latest data — it will also be the last data on retail inflation available to the committee when it meets next in June — will provide some comfort. Analysts have already begun to lower their inflation forecasts for the full year. This will create the space for an extended pause by the committee. But if inflation stays below expectations and growth comes under pressure, policy may take a different turn towards the end of the year.

Indian Express

Two people were thus selected as winners of Gold Coins. One is Showkat Ahmad Itoo a local resident of Sadiwara and another one Shaid Hussain Bhat who lives in a nearby village called Gawaas. Shahid is also Deputy Sarpanch of Gawaas. Two more persons who also collected a good amount of plastic waste namely Wani Shakeel and Bashir Ahmad Wani were given cash reward during the event organised on Sunday May 14th at Sadiwara.

Two children Hibba Zahoor and Maria Farooq were also awarded for their contribution. DC Anantnag Dr Fakhrudin and former Advisor to Govt Khurshid Ahmad Ganai gave away the gold coins to winners and they also felicitated several media persons and civil society members who

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is an Anant

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, spaceand 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*

Why Period Leave is Important

HE Supreme Court has recently rejected a plea, seeking State governments to implement nationwide menstrual leave for employed women, and observed that this being a policy matter, the Centre has to take a call on the same. "Period leave" for employed women has been a topic of debate in India for some time now,

especially after the Indian restaurant aggregator Zomato's decision to give up to 10 days of the same per year, which, however, stirred controversy on gender equality. Menstruation is no longer a taboo in our country, but people often judge you when you talk about it openly. Since ages, women have been a victim of misconceptions surrounding menstruation which has been an impediment in their growth at the workplace. They face discrimination and are contrived to suffer menstrual pain in silence at the beehives. The severity of periodrelated pain and cramps (dysmenorrhea) experienced by women add to their mental strain. While this leave policy is not widespread world over, it is gaining traction in some foreign countries like, Spain, Japan, Taiwan, etc., where legislations are already in vogue which entitle employees to paid menstrual leave. Providing "period leaves" for women can help companies promote gender equality and support the well-being of their women employees.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

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Appreciating the Advancements and Navigating the Hazards of Technology

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoon

Despite the potential hazards, it is crucial to appreciate the positive impact of technology. It is essential to use it wisely, knowing when to disconnect and when to connect. It is important to recognize that technology is a tool and not a replacement for human connection echnology is a double-edged sword, it can be a powerful tool for progress or a dangerous weapon in the wrong hands."

In today's world, technology has become an integral part of our lives, bringing with it numerous benefits and conveniences. However, as with anything, there are also downsides to this rapid advancement. As the great philosopher and poet Allama Iqbal warned us in his poem,

"Diyari Magrib ke rehne walo! Khuda ki basti dukan nahi hai. Khara jise tum samajh rahe ho, wo ab zar-ekam aiyar ho ga. Tumhari tehzeeb apne khanjar se aap khudkushi karegi, Jo shaakh-e-nazuk pe aashiyaana bane ga, napayedaar ho ga."

This powerful verse by Allama Iqbal warns us of the consequences of a culture of violence and aggression. The poet reminds us that the world is not a marketplace for power and domination, but a sacred abode of the divine. When we perceive it as a mere commodity to be exploited for our own benefit, we lose sight of its true worth and become blind to the fragile beauty of life.

The poet goes on to caution us that our civilization, which prides itself on its technological prowess and military might, may ultimately destroy itself with its own weapons. The use of the word "khanjar" (dagger) evokes a sense of danger and destruction, suggesting that our own tools of war may turn against us and lead to our own self-destruction.

This warning is especially relevant in light of historical events such as the devastating atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. As we continue to pursue technological advancement and military might, we must remember that our civilization's ultimate success or failure depends not on the power of our weapons, but on our ability to cultivate a culture of empathy, compassion, and respect for all life.

Technology has made our lives easier, faster, and more efficient. We can connect with anyone, anywhere, and anytime with just a click of a button. It has revolutionized the way we communicate, work, and live. Technology has brought people together and has made the world a bercrime and hacking have become rampant, and data breaches have become more frequent.

Despite the potential hazards, it is crucial to appreciate the positive impact of technology. It is essential to use it wisely, knowing when to disconnect and when to connect. It is important to recognize that technology is a tool and not a replacement for human connection.

"Technology is only as good as

• People are becoming more reliant on technology, and it is leading to a lack of face-to-face interactions and social skills. Furthermore, cybercrime and hacking have become rampant, and data breaches have become more frequent.

smaller place.

In terms of its uses, technology has played a vital role in various sectors such as healthcare, education, and business. It has helped improve the quality of healthcare, provided access to education, and has made businesses more productive and profitable. Additionally, technology has enabled us to explore space, understand our planet, and has facilitated scientific advancements.

However, with the merits come the issues of misuse and overuse. Technology addiction is becoming a growing concern, and it has become a source of distraction and disconnection in our daily lives.

People are becoming more reliant on technology, and it is leading to a lack of face-to-face interactions and social skills. Furthermore, cy-

the intentions behind it, let us use it for the greater good." It is essential to use technology with caution, understanding its potential benefits and drawbacks.

Certainly! There are many countries that are leading the way in technology and innovation. For example, Japan is known for its advanced robotics and AI, which has been used to improve healthcare, transportation, and manufacturing. South Korea has also made significant advancements in technology, particularly in the fields of electronics and telecommunications.

In the United States, Silicon Valley is known as a hub for technology and innovation, with companies like Google, Apple, and Facebook leading the charge. These companies have revolutionized the way we interact with technology and have made our lives more connected and convenient.

However, there are also concerns about the use of technology for military purposes. Countries like the United States, Russia, and China have been criticized for their investments in military technology, including drones, cyber warfare, and other advanced weapons.

Bottom line: Technology Day serves as a reminder to appreciate the benefits of technology while also recognizing the potential pitfalls that come with its misuse. We must also be mindful of the potential hazards and use technology responsibly to ensure that we strike a balance between the advantages and disadvantages.

Overall, Technology Day is a reminder that technology is a tool that can be used to make human life better. By continuing to innovate and improve technology, we can create a better future for ourselves and future generations.

As we celebrate Technology Day, let us reflect on how we can use technology for the greater good and how we can prevent its misuse. Let us strive to use technology responsibly and to promote a culture of empathy, compassion, and respect for all life. By doing so, we can create a brighter future for ourselves and for generations to come.

The future of technology is not predetermined, it is up to us to shape it for the betterment of society. Let us use technology to create a more just and equitable world, where everyone has access to the benefits of technological advancements, and where technology is used to uplift humanity, rather than to exploit or harm it.

The author is a columnist and educator

representation of the most part, the focus of contemporary emergency management has been on natural, technological and human-made hazards such as flooding, earthquakes, tornadoes, industrial accidents, extreme weather events and cyber attacks We Need To Prepare For The Public Safety Hazards Posed By AI

tions and Canadian society are reduced. According to this directive, risk assessments must be conducted by each department to make sure that appropriate safeguards are in place in accordance with the Policy on Government Security.

In 2021 the U.S. Congress tasked

weather events and eyber attachts.

However, with the increase in the availability and capabilities of artificial intelligence, we may soon see emerging public safety hazards related to these technologies that we will need to mitigate and prepare for.

Over the past 20 years, my colleagues and I along with many other researchers have been leveraging AI to develop models and applications that can identify, assess, predict, monitor and detect hazards to inform emergency response operations and decision-making.

We are now reaching a turning point where AI is becoming a potential source of risk at a scale that should be incorporated into risk and emergency management phases mitigation or prevention, preparedness, response and recovery.

AI and hazard classification

AI hazards can be classified into two types: intentional and unintentional. Unintentional hazards are those caused by human errors or technological failures.

As the use of AI increases, there will be more adverse events caused by human error in AI models or technological failures in AI based technologies. These events can occur in all kinds of industries including transportation (like drones, trains or self-driving cars), electricity, oil and gas, finance and banking, agriculture, health and mining.

Intentional AI hazards are potential threats that are caused by using AI to harm people and properties. AI can also be used to gain unlawful benefits by compromising security and safety systems.

In my view, this simple intentional and unintentional classification may not be sufficient in case of AI. Here, we need to add a new class of emerging threats the possibility of AI overtaking human control and decision-making. This may be triggered intentionally or unintentionally.

Many AI experts have already warned against such potential threats. A recent open letter by researchers, scientists and others involved in the development of AI called for a moratorium on its further development.

Public safety risks

Press Trust Of India



Public safety and emergency management experts use risk matrices to assess and compare risks. Using this method, hazards are qualitatively or quantitatively assessed based on their frequency and consequence, and their impacts are classified as low, medium or high.

Hazards that have low frequency and low consequence or impact are considered low risk and no additional actions are required to manage them. Hazards that have medium consequence and medium frequency are considered medium risk. These risks need to be closely monitored.

Hazards with high frequency or high consequence or high in both consequence and frequency are classified as high risks. These risks need to be reduced by taking additional risk reduction and mitigation measures. Failure to take immediate and proper action may result in sever human and property losses.

Up until now, AI hazards and risks have not been added into the risk assessment matrices much beyond organizational use of AI applications. The time has come when we should quickly start bringing the potential AI risks into local, national and global risk and emergency management.

AI risk assessment

AI technologies are becoming more widely used by institutions, organizations and companies in different sectors, and hazards associated with the AI are starting to emerge.

In 2018, the accounting firm KPMG developed an AI Risk and Controls Matrix. It highlights the risks of using AI by businesses and urges them to recognize

these new emerging risks. The report warned that AI technology is advancing very quickly and that risk control measures must be in place before they overwhelm the systems.

Governments have also started developing some risk assessment guidelines for the use of AI-based technologies and solutions. However, these guidelines are limited to risks such as algorithmic bias and violation of individual rights.

At the government level, the Canadian government issued the Directive on Automated Decision-Making to ensure that federal institutions minimize the risks associated with the AI systems and create appropriate governance mechanisms.

The main objective of the directive is to ensure that when AI systems are deployed, risks to clients, federal instituthe National Institute of Standards and Technology with developing an AI risk management framework for the Department of Defense. The proposed voluntary AI risk assessment framework recommends banning the use of AI systems that present unacceptable risks.

Threats and competition Much of the national level policy focus on AI has been from national security and global competition perspectives the national security and economic risks of falling behind in the AI technology.

The US National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence highlighted national security risks associated with AI. These were not from the public threats of the technology itself, but from losing out in the global competition for AI development in other countries, including China.

In its 2017 Global Risk Report, the World Economic Forum highlighted that AI is only one of emerging technologies that can exacerbate global risk. While assessing the risks posed by the AI, the report concluded that, at that time, super-intelligent AI systems remain a theoretical threat.

However, the latest Global Risk Report 2023 does not even mention the AI and AI associated risks which means that the leaders of the global companies that provide inputs to the global risk report had not viewed the AI as an immediate risk.

Faster than policy

AI development is progressing much faster than government and corporate policies in understanding, foreseeing and managing the risks. The current global conditions, combined with market competition for AI technologies, make it difficult to think of an opportunity for governments to pause and develop risk governance mechanisms.

While we should collectively and proactively try for such governance mechanisms, we all need to brace for major catastrophic AI's impacts on our systems and societies.

Gulf News

STATE

Oppn Parties Need To Come Together For Restoration Of Democracy In J&K: APUM

Press Trust Of India

IAMMU: Buoyed by the Congress' success in the Karnataka Assembly elections, a Jammubased umbrella organisation of several mainstream parties on Monday said the opposition parties need to come together for "restoration of democracy" in Jammu and Kashmir.

The All Parties United Morcha (APUM), which includes the Congress, National Conference and PDP, said the people of Jammu and Kashmir want early assembly elections but the BJP is deliberately delaying the polls, fearing "humiliating defeat".

The APUM expressed its gratitude to the people of Karnata-ka for rejecting the "communal and divisive" agenda of the BJP and said the southern state has given a verdict of change in the country ahead of the next year's general elections.

"The people are totally fed up with the policies and programmes of BJP which has left them at the mercy of an irresponsible and non-responsive bureaucratic regime with the resources of J&K opened for the loot of outsiders," the APUM said in a statement after a meeting here.

The meeting was chaired by former MP Sheikh Abdul Rehman and attended by chief spokesperson of Pradesh Congress Committee Ravinder Sharma, National Conference provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta, J-K unit chief of Shiv Sena (UBT) Manish Sawhney, APUM convener and International Democratic Party leader I D Khajuria, PDP's Virinder Singh Sonu, CPM's Hari Singh and Akali Dal (Amritsar) leader Sardar Narinder Singh Khalsa. Claiming that unemployment is at its peak in the J&K

and inflation rising, the APUM said the people of J&K want early assembly elections under statehood.

opposition parties "The should unite and struggle for restoration of democracy," the statement said, appealing to all other political parties, which are opposed to the "policies and opportunist politics" of the BJP, to unite and fight for the rights of the people of J&K.

The APUM said the meeting felt that the BJP is delaying assembly elections in the Union territory because the party sees the "writings on the wall as it will face a humiliating defeat". The leaders celebrated the victory of the Congress in Karnataka and decided to carry forward the message of unity in every nook and corner of J-K to defeat the "communal, divisive and opportunist forces".

Militancy Cases: SIA Conducts Raids In Jammu, Poonch

Agencies

JAMMU: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Monday conducted raids at multiple locations in Jammu region in connection with militancy cases, officials said.

at multiple locations in Bhatindi and Vidhata nagar in Jammu city and Mendhar border belt of Poonch district, they said. The searches, which were aided by police, were part of an ongoing probe into cases of supporting militancy activities, the officials said.

The searches were conducted

Youth Week Commences **At Ganderbal**

Event Witnessed Enthusiastic Participation Of Local Youth In Various Activities

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The District Administration Ganderbal Monday started Youth Week at Govt. Degree College Ganderbal here.

The pr

He further added that the objective of Youth entrepreneurship in the district is to gather all stakeholders at one platform so that entrepreneurship Development Cell could be established at GDC Ganderbal

which will be the central nodal



J&K LAKE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT Authority (LCMA) has paced up dredging of Dal Lake ahead of G20 meeting scheduled to be held in Srinagar next week. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

PM's Reply To Jammu Man's Letter On Northeast Trip

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said Indians' natural and instinctive love for diversity is the nation's real strength and has kept it united through centuries, noting that it is this aspect of the country which has drawn the world towards it.

"India is home to many cultures, cuisines, customs and lifestyles, where people belonging to different communities, practising different faiths, speaking different languages, observing different rituals not only coexist but also celebrate each other's diverse way of life," he said in a letter to Nazakat Choudhary, a resident of Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch.

Mr Choudhary had visited Assam as part of the government's 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' programme that envisages bringing people from different regions together to know each other's cultures and traditions.

trip inspired him and the visit

has become a memorable experience for lifetime for him.

In his reply to Mr Choudhary, PM Modi said such efforts bring states and cultures closer to each other, and strengthens

The northeast region is now "na dil se dur, na Dilli se dur" (neither far from the heart nor from Delhi) as the government has constantly strived for the development of all the states there, the Prime Minister said. Officials said he referred to the "unprecedented development" in these states in various sectors during the last few years. Be it agriculture, industry,

Creation Of Amenities In Border Villages Our Priority: CS

AAP Of Rs 50 Cr Approved Under SSY For Upliftment Of These Areas

Observer News Service there should have

Corporal Punishment To Students

Teachers May Face Stern Disciplinary Action, Incarceration

Agencies

SRINAGAR: School Education Department has said that the corporal punishment offense made by any teacher would have to face the warrant stern disciplinary action and can even be incarcerated for committing the crime.

Chief Education Officer (CEO) Anantnag said this following a meeting conducted by Deputy Commissioner Anantnag with the HOls, Zonal Education Officers of Education Department Anantnag

"Corporal punishment is banned in all educational institutions as enshrined in Right to Education Act 2009 and if any teacher would violate the norms shall warrant stern disciplinary action and can even be incarcerated for committing this crime," the CEO said.

It also said that in case of any misconduct shown by any student, the parent may be informed for proper counseling in a friendly atmosphere. The official also said that

the attendance of the students has to be a priority for all the schools and every school has to appoint a School Nodal Officer who can keep liaison with the parents to assess and overcome absenteeism. "The Nodal Officer shall share the details with the CEO office on a weekly basis through the HoIs and Zonal Education Officer concerned."

It also said that a monthly parent teacher meeting has to be a regular feature of every institution in the district. "Every school has to have

a schedule prepared for con-ducting activities like competi-

DC Kupwara Reviews Functioning Of Revenue Dept

Asks Officers, Field Functionaries To Be More Proactive To Resolve Public Issues

Observer News Service

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray on Monday convened a meeting of Revenue Officers at DC office complex here to review the functioning of the Revenue department in the district.

The meeting held threadbare discussion regarding the agen- enue officers and field funcda points including removal of encroachment from state land, kahcharie land, digitization/ geo-referencing of cadastral maps, Fard-e-Partal, pending mutations, agriculture census, change of land use, status of Revenue court cases, land acquisition, Issuance of ST certificates for FRA and other related

tions, debates, discussions etc embedded with Curricular, Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular activities for the development of 21st century skills among the children, so that they can have a holistic growth and can compete nationally/ internationally," the CEO said. In the meeting, CEO Anant-

nag also said that certain departments are conducting an inspection of schools to check if they are safe for the children or if any electric wire, transformer, open well, or anything that makes the school vulnerable and may cause harm to the students, shall have to be immediately reported for further course of action

'The school uniform and books have to be saturated in all the schools and any shortfalls be reported so that they can be arranged well in time. Students must always be in proper, clean and neat uniform," reads the official communique.

It also said that HoIs shall ensure that 'Learner Centered Approach' is adopted all over to avoid any rigid kind of row system that otherwise stigmatizes the back benchers.

"Every student should be given a chance on a rotation basis to express his thoughts in the Morning Assembly," the ofcial said.

According to the CEO Anantnag, the complex and cluster heads have been instructed to conduct some inter-school student exchange programmes, so as to improve and enhance the learning ecosystem in and around the cluster or complex level-(KNO)

and data updation of digitization, geo Referencing of Cadastral maps, agricultural census so that progress is reflected on

different portals. While reviewing perfor-mance appraisals of different tehsils and Nyabats, DC asked the concerned to speed up the service delivery mechanism.

He gave a deadline to Revtionaries up to Saturday, 20th May for completion of Digitization and Geo Referencing of Cadastral maps. Deadline of completion of uploading of the Agricultural census was fixed up to Thursday 18th May.

He said he wrote to the prime minister as to how the connectivity, the northeastern

the nation's unity.

states have emerged as the

(Assam) brings together two regions of the nation. His enthusiastic participa-tion in 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat' (one India, great India) programme and the change that has come about his perspective is heartening, PM

mally e-inaugurated by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shyambir.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation of local youth, students, media persons, district officers and faculty members of Govt. Degree College Ganderbal.

Chief Planning Officer Ganderbal, Irfan Giri was chief guest and Principal GDC, Fouzia Fatima was guest of honour on the occasion.

On day one of the event, various activities were carried out including expert sessions on Photography, Painting and Calligraphy besides painting and calligraphy competitions. The event also witnessed musical concerts presented by College students which enthralled the audience.

The DC while addressing the gathering highlighted the initiatives taken for providing entrepreneurship opportunities to the local youth in the district which is today at top position when compared to other districts in terms of population with respect to the entrepreneurship activities being carried out by the locals.

point where budding Youth can showcase their entrepreneur abilities and share their innovative ideas.

He urged the participating youth to participate actively in expert sessions which are planned with the objective to give right direction to their creativity abilities.

He also appealed to all the stakeholders to join hands with the district administration to make the event a grand success which is the foundation stone for creating entrepreneurship environment within the district so that more avenues of employment could be generated for local youth.

He said district administration is making all efforts to engage local youth in co-curricular activities which is the most effective tool to keep them away from social evils including drugs which is also the vision of Lt. Governor.

The event shall continue till 20 May, 2023 and during these days various activities shall be held like Innovation & Success Talks, Craft Challenge, Idea Pitching, Blue Chip Challenge, Idea Hunting and other activities.

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday remarked that the basic amenities in border areas should be as good as those found in other villages. He maintained that these areas have greater

priority as the people there constitute the first line of defense for the nation. Dr Mehta was speaking in a

meeting called to review the implementation of 'Samridh Seema Yojana' (SSY) launched by UT government under Capex Budget 2022-23 with its focus on filling the infrastructural gaps in border areas of the UT.

The meeting was attended by Secretary, PD&MD; Deputy Commissioners of Border Districts like Jammu, Baramulla, Kupwara, Bandipora, Rajouri, Poonch, Kathua, and Samba; DG, PD&MD; Director, Expenditure Division-I and many other concerned officers.

The Chief Secretary emphasized upon giving special focus to creation of all the facilities in these 1800 border villages located across 8 districts of the UT. He observed that people

no need to migrate to other places for availing such services and opportunities. He upon them to create a checklist of all the amenities like

enjoined presence of school,

health center, metalled road, quality power supply, street lights and other facilities. He further directed review of functioning of rural institutions like Panchayats, Patwars and Anganwadi Centres in these villages so that their performance is up to mark.

He asked them to take the feedback from public about the developmental works and facilities created for them. He also emphasised on creating assets like AmritSarovars, play fields in border panchayats as well for the overall benefit of people inhabiting these frontier areas.

The Secretary, PD&MD in his presentation informed that an Annual Action Plan (AAP) of Rs 50.00 Cr has been approved for the financial year 2023-24 under the scheme 'Samridh SeemaYojana' meant for development of such ar

growth engines of the nation,

Choudhary that his journey

from the land of Tawi (Jammu)

to the land of Brahmaputra

He also pointed out that As-sam is one of the most beauti-

ful places in terms of both na-

cultural splendour of Assam

during the festival of Bihu,

marvelling at the massive

Brahmaputra river, learning

about great personalities such

as Veer Lachit Borphukan and

Srimanta Sankaradeva, and

enjoying unique products like

Muga silk, Tezpur litchi, Joha

rice, Boka chaul and Kaji Nemu

is truly an incredible experi-

ence. I have a particularly spe-

cial liking for the Gamosa from

Assam," PM Modi said.

Witnessing the multi-hued

The Prime Minister told Mr

PM Modi said.

Modi said.

ture and culture.

He also said that the scheme aims

at promoting border tourism, developing tourism related infrastructure, skill development training and capacity building/ livelihood generation for people living in border areas.

Moreover its objectives includes development of agriculture/ horticulture & allied activities, decentralized renewal energy facilities such as solar dryers, solar mills, biomass-powered cold storage, solar pumps etc.

Similarly it envisages creation of modern infrastructure like smart classes & smart labs in its schools.

On the occasion the Chief Secretary highlighted the need for use of IT tools for geo-tagging & asset mapping, outcome monitoring & gapanalysis for improving results under the scheme.

issues. The DC reviewed all agenda points and received feedback from the concerned officers.

At the outset, it was apprised that out of total 52,698 kanals of encroached state land, 30,552 kanals of state land has been physically retrieved and out of total 53342 kanals of Kahchari, 30633 Kanals of Kahchari land has been physically retrieved from the illegal occupation upto 13/05/23.

The DC while stressing for better service delivery, appreciated the officers and field functionaries for improving their performance, however, he was quick to direct officers to be more proactive, improve the pace and ensure time -line

strictly. The DC asked concerned officers and field functionaries to speed up the data uploading other concerned officers.

DC asked NTs to entertain, Hear, and dispose- off court cases in respective Nayabats and upload court cases on RC-CMS (Revenue court Cases Monitoring System).

He said the people are directly or indirectly linked with the Revenue department and it is the prime responsibility of the Revenue functionaries to come up to the expectations of the public.

DC asked concerned to prioritise the compliance of reports and disposal of complaints and submit them within a time frame so that different grievances are redressed.

He asked Tehsildars to conduct special camps for issuance of ST certificates in FRA (Forest Rights Act) cases.

The meeting was attended by Assistant Commissioner Revenue, Irfan Bahadur, SDM Lolab, Tehsildars, Naib Tehsildars and

GMC Doctors Perform Maiden Coronary Calcium Modulation Therapy

Senior Cardiologist Dr. Syed Magbool Led Team Of Doctors Conduct Procedure

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The doctors at the cardiology department of Super Specialty Hospital, GMC Jammu have achieved a milestone by conducting first ever latest coronary calcium modulation therapy in Jammu and Kashmir.

The procedure called Orbital Atherectomy and Orbito-tripsy was conducted by a team of doctors, headed by senior cardiologist Dr. Syed Maqbool upon septuagenarian male from Naushehra area of Rajouri, days after he was shifted from a private center to GMC Jammu after suffering a heart attack

"His angiography done in the same peripheral center revealed massively calcified critical distal Left Main Coronary Artery (LMCA) disease, which can cause sudden death if not treated in time," Dr Maqbool told Kashmir Observer.

"Treatment of distal left main coronary artery disease with massive calcification usually warrants bypass surgery, but this patient was not willing and wanted an alternative therapy,' he added

The senior interventional cardiologist further said that the clinical profile and angiographic results of this patient were a goosebump feeling, but the patient had to be saved.

After careful analysis, he said, an IVUS (intravascular imaging modality to see coronary arteries from inside) guided PTCA / stenting with the help of orbital atherectomy and intravascular lithotripsy (IVL) was done successfully with quite a satisfactory result.

"In cases with severe calcification in coronary arteries, the



stents either do not cross or may not open properly, which can be detrimental. Hence, these patients require some form of calcium modulation therapy to achieve better short - and long-term results," Dr Maqbool added.

The oldest form of calcium modulation therapy is rotablation, which might fall short in vessels with larger diameter and calcium nodules.

The newer forms of therapy called shock wave lithotripsy and orbital atherectomy, which either alone or if required in combination, can be a game changer in such patients and save them from bypass surgery.

"This patient who had large diameter vessels and nodular calcium underwent orbital atherectomy and shock wave lithotripsy in combination followed by PTCA/ STENTING of left main coronary artery, with a result beyond imagination," Dr Maqbool said

Orbital Atherectomy, with the help of a diamond burr by rotating around its orbit, ablates both superficial and deeper calcium into fine particles and creates micro fractures, while as IVL sends shock waves and creatures bigger fractures in calcium. both therapies, at times, can be complimentary to each other and might be required in combination to achieve better results.

This is not only the first case of Orbital atherectomy in Jammu and Kashmir but the first case of orbito- tripsy (combination of orbital athetectomy and intravascular shock wave lithotripsy) in upper north India.

The procedure was done by a team of doctors, headed by Dr. Syed Maqbool, Dr. Dharminder Kumar, and Dr. Sanjeev Bhat. The patient was discharged on the 2nd day in good health.



BUSINESS

Exports Fall For 3rd Consecutive Month By 12.7% In April; Trade **Deficit At 20-Month Low**



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India's exports contracted by 12.7 per cent, third month in a row, to USD 34.66 billion in April even as the trade deficit reduced to a 20-month low of USD 15.24 billion, the government data showed on Monday.

The decline in exports is mainly on account of poor demand in India's key destinations -- the Europe and the US -- and it may take some more months for the situation to improve.

The demand scenario is "not looking very good as far as Europe is concerned, and the US also we have seen a decline in demand. For the next 2-3 months, I think the demand scenario does not look very optimistic," DGFT (Director General of Foreign Trade) Santosh Kumar Sarangi told reporters here.

However, he expressed hope that things would change from September onwards.

There is a possibility that opening up of Chinese economy combined with some boost

in demand in the Europe and the US economy from August-September onwards might give a boost to global exports," he said.

Imports too declined by about 14 per cent, fifth month in a row, to USD 49.9 billion as against USD 58.06 billion recorded in the same month last year, the data showed.

Trade deficit in April last year stood at USD 18.36 billion. The previous lowest level was recorded in August 2021, when the deficit stood at USD 13.81 billion

On imports, Sarangi said that the decline is because of cooling down of commodity prices and reduced demand for products which are considered as discre-tionary like gems and jewellery. He suggested to diversify into products which have higher export demand, such as electronic goods, oil meals, oil seeds, and agricultural goods.

He added that export sectors which may get impacted in the coming months include gems and jewellery, apparel and garments, and some engineering products.

WPI Inflation In April At (-) 0.92%, Lowest In 34-Months

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Wholesale prices in India fell for the first time in almost three years in April, as softening global commodity prices brought down food, fuel, and other input costs for producers.

WPI inflation has been on a declining trend for the last 11 months and came in at (-) 0.92 per cent in April.

This is the lowest level of wholesale price index (WPI) since June 2020, when inflation was at (-) 1.81 per cent.

A negative WPI inflation, technically termed as deflation, means that overall wholesale prices have been falling year-on-year.

The high base at 15.38 per cent in April 2022, also contributed to the decline in wholesale inflation in April this vear.

"Decline in the rate of infla-tion in April, 2023 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of basic metals, food products, mineral oils, textiles, non-food articles, chemical & chemical products, rubber & plastic products and paper & paper products," the commerce and industry ministry said on Monday. WPI inflation was at 1.34 per

cent in March. April also saw easing in pric-es across commodities -- food,

non-food, fuel and power, and manufactured items. Inflation in food articles eased to 3.54 per cent in April,



is also easing," Barclays said.

Last month, the RBI paused

its interest rate hike, holding

the benchmark rate at 6.50 per

cent. It projected retail infla-

tion to average 5.2 per cent in

of RBI's monetary policy com-

mittee is scheduled on June 6-8.

Economist Rajani Sinha said

the deflationary trend is ex-

pected to continue for the next

2-3 months with the full-year

WPI inflation averaging in the

range of 1-2 per cent. "A lower WPI print could

help in pulling retail inflation

down with its lagged impact

on the core CPI inflation,"

Sinha said.

CareEdge Ratings Chief

The next three-day meeting

current fiscal year.

against 5.48 per cent in March. in retail inflation (which we In the food articles category, expect to continue) suggests a prices of cereals, wheat, fruits, pause is likely in the next Monmilk and egg, meat and fish etary Policy Committee (MPC) declined over the previous meeting in August. Easing wholesale price pressures in-Inflation in vegetables was dicate that input price inflation

(-) 1.50 per cent, potato (-) 18.66 per cent, onion (-)18.41 per cent and wheat was at 7.27 per cent in April 2023.

month

Fuel and power basket in-flation eased to 0.93 per cent in April from 8.96 per cent in March. In manufactured products, inflation was (-) 2.42 per cent, as against 0.77 per cent in March.

The deceleration in WPI comes in line with the easing of April retail inflation which came in at an 18-month low of 4.70 per cent.

Barclays in a research note said it expects WPI inflation to continue to moderate as easing commodity prices drive input costs lower.

"We think the moderation

Sensex, Nifty Climb To **Five-Month Highs On FII Inflows, Gains In FMCG Shares**

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty gained around half a per cent to close at nearly five-month high levels on Monday following continuous foreign fund inflows and firm trends in Asian and European markets.

Rising for the second straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 317.81 points or 0.51 per cent to settle at 62,345.71, the highest closing level since December 14. During the day, it rallied 534.77 points or 0.86 per cent to 62,562.67.

The broader NSE Nifty gained 84.05 points or 0.46 per cent to end at 18,398.85 points, a level not seen since December 20, 2022.

Among the Sensex firms, Tata Motors jumped nearly 3 per cent after announcing its quarterly earnings. ITC, Tech Mahindra, Hindustan Unilever, Larsen & Toubro, Infosys, Tata Steel and Mahindra & Mahindra were the other biggest gainers.

Fuelled by rising domestic demand, pricing actions and easing supply chain issues, Tata Motors reported a consolidated net profit of Rs 5,408 crore for the March quarter and aims to improve the profit margins this fiscal despite headwinds.

Maruti, Tata Consultancy Services, Bajaj Finance, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finserv and Nestle were the laggards.

"Domestic benchmark indices are marching ahead driven by favourable developments such as declining inflation levels, steady foreign inflows, and in anticipation of robust earnings growth on a QoQ basis next quarter, due to drop in global commodity prices," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

The domestic CPI inflation came in better-than- expected at 4.7 per cent, and the WPI inflation decreased, reaffirming RBI's decision to hold rate hikes, Nair added.

"The rotational buying in



heavyweights from the key sectors viz. banking, financial, auto and FMCG is helping the indices maintain a positive tone despite mixed global cues. And, indications are in favour of the prevailing trend to continue," Ajit Mishra, VP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd said.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.49 per cent and midcap index

gained 0.47 per cent. Among the sectoral indices, realty jumped 4.32 per cent, FMCG climbed 1.09 per cent, telecommunication (0.91 per cent), capital goods (0.70 per cent), IT (0.63 per cent), auto (0.63 per cent) and bankex (0.56 per cent).

Power fell by 0.72 per cent, utilities declined by 0.57 per cent, commodities (0.07 per cent) and oil & gas (0.01 per cent)

Wholesale prices in India fell for the first time in almost three years in April, as softening global commodity prices brought down food, fuel, and other input costs for producers.

Go First Insolvency: NCLAT To Pass Order On Aircraft Lessors' Petitions On May 22



'Mumbai Ranks Sixth In Annual Housing Price Growth Among 46 Cities Globally'



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Mumbai ranks 6th among 46 cities globally in terms of annual price growth of high-end residential properties with appreciation of 5.5 per cent, according to Knight Frank. Real estate consultant Knight

"The rise in average prices in Mumbai was recorded at 5.5 per cent year-on-year (YoY), while it was 3 per cent YoY in Bengaluru, and 1.2 per cent YoY in New Delhi, compared to Q1 2022." it said.

Dubai clinched the top position globally with an increase of 44.2 per cent in prime residential properties values

Adani-Hindenburg Row: Not Investigating Adani Group Since 2016 As Claimed, SEBI To SC Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on Monday told the Supreme Court that it was not investigating the Adani group since 2016 and termed such claims "factually baseless". The investigation men-

tioned in its earlier affidavit pertained to the issuance of Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) by 51 Indian firms and no listed company of Adani group was among them, submitted the market regulator which is seeking an extension of six months to



city of time and on account of scheduled hearing of certain matters before a special bench at 3 pm.

e application for extension

report... "The matter referred to in paragraph 5 pertains to the issuance of Global Depository Receipts (GDRs) by 51 The fresh affidavit said that Indian listed companies in respect of which investiga-

Press Trust Of India

filed by SMBC Aviation Capita Ltd, GY Aviation and SFV Aircraft Holdings. All three lessors have leased out around 21 aircraft to Go First. So far this month, several lessors have approached aviation regulator DGCA for deregistration and repossession of Go First's 45 planes. Go First stopped flying from May 3. Last week the Delhi-based principal bench of the NCLT appointed an interim resolution professional to look after the affairs of Go First and also suspended its board as part of the insolvency resolution process.

Frank India in its report 'Prime Global Cities Index Q1 2023' said that Mumbai, Bengaluru and New Delhi have registered an increase in average annual prices in January-March 2023.

"Mumbai moved up from the 38th rank in Q1 2022 to the 06th rank in Q1 2023 based on the annual growth in high-end or prime properties," the consultant said in a statement.

Bengaluru and New Delhi also witnessed an upward movement in index ranking to 16th and 22nd ranks from their previous 37th and 39th ranks, respectively, in the first quarter of 2022 calendar year.

The Prime Global Cities Index is a valuation-based index tracking the movement of prime residential prices across 46 cities worldwide. The index tracks nominal prices in local currency

Mumbai's significant rise on the international index was largely due to the rise in demand in the city, the consultant attributed.

While the demand has been strong for all segments, the consultant said it has seen a rise in the sale of higher value products.

tions of stock price manipulation by the Gautam Adaniled group.

complete a probe into allega-

On May 12, lawyer Prashant Bhushan had opposed the plea for the extension of time, saying SEBI was seized of some kind of investigation in the matter since 2016. The fresh rejoinder affida-

vit was filed by the regulator before a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud that adjourned to Tuesday the hearing on PILs and a separate plea of the SEBI on the issue of extension of time. The hearing could not take of time filed by SEBI is meant to ensure "carriage of justice keeping in mind the interest of investors and the securities market" since any incorrect or premature conclusion of the case arrived at without full facts material on record would not serve the ends of

legally untenable. It said the 'investigation' referred to in its earlier reply affidavit has "no relation and/or connection to the issues referred to and/or arising out of the Hindenburg

tion was conducted. However, no listed company of the Adani group was part of the aforesaid 51 companies. Pursuant to the completion of the investigation, appropriate actions were taken in this matter.'

It termed as "factually justice and hence would be baseless" the allegation that the SEBI has been investigating the Adani group since 2016 and said, "I, therefore, sav and submit that reliance sought to be placed on the investigation pertaining to GDRs is wholly misplaced."

NEW DELHI: The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal will pass its order on May 22 on petitions filed by three aircraft lessors against Go First's voluntary insolvency resolution proceedings.

A two-member bench headed by Chairperson Justice Ashok Bhushan on Monday reserved its order after completing the hearing on the the three petitions.

The bench also asked the parties to submit additional documents, if any, in the next 48 hours.

The appellate tribunal was hearing a batch of petitions

IIM Jammu Organises Business Accelerator Program For SC-ST Entrepreneurs

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu, in collaboration with Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), National SC-ST Hub, Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce (DICCI) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), on Monday inaugurated the Business Accelerator Program for the SC-ST entrepreneurs and wards (aspiring entrepreneurs at the National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Noida.

The Chief Guest of the programme was Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary, MSME Govt of India, while Padma Shri Ravi Kumar Narra, President, DICCI was the Guest of Honor.

The event was presided over by Padmashri Dr. Milind. P. Kamble, Chairman, BoG, IIM Jammu, Prof. B.S. Sahay, Director, IIM Jammu. The event commenced with the lamp lighting ceremony followed by an ad-

dress by Dr. Mahesh Gadekar, Chairperson, Centre for Diversity and Inclusion, IIM Jammu. Chief Guest, Mercy Epao, Joint Secretary, MSME, Govt. of India lauded the initiative by IIM Jammu, National SC-ST Hub, MSME, DICCI and CII. She emphasized that formal training in management concepts by IIM Jammu with access to best industry mentors, and capacity building interventions is sure to play a pivotal role in the upliftment of marginalized sections of the society and thereby contributing to the nation building exercise. Padma Shri Dr. Milind P. Kam-

ble, Chairman, BoG, IIM Jammu

mentioned that the program is

designed to equip young SC-ST

entrepreneurs with the knowl-

edge, skills and support needed

to grow and scale their busi-

ness. This will in turn pave the

way for creation of a holistic

ecosystem for entrepreneur-

Prof. B. S. Sahay, Director, IIM

Jammu reiterated that the busi-

ship across the nation.

ness accelerator program intends to promote entrepreneurship and create more opportunities for small, and medium enterprises in the country. He stressed that this program would play a catalyst role in filling the skill gaps across the country & will contribute towards the development of "Job creators" in place of "Job seekers" Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu stated that this programme will act as an es-

sential resource for aspiring entrepreneurs from the SC-ST and their wards and thereby paving the path for a healthy ecosystem across the country. The inaugural ceremony also featured addresses by Shri K.K. Sharma, General Manager-SG (NSSH), National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), Rashmi Mansharamani, Chairperson, CII WUP HR & IR Focus Group and

CHRO, Wave Group and Shri Sanjiv Dangi, Vice-President, DICCI. The vote of thanks was proposed by Prof. Jabir Ali, Dean Academics, IIM Jammu.

'FPOs Are Big Leap **Towards Sustainable**, **Competitive Farming'**

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Basharat Qayoom Monday Chaired the meeting of District Level Monitoring Committee (DLMC) to review the formation, promotion and performance of Farmers Producer Organisations (FPOs) in the district.

The DC said that all Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs) are intended to provide a platform to small farmers to enable them to collectively meet their challenges such as access to agricultural inputs and reliable market linkages.

He also said that the government is trying to ensure that the capital cost of farmers is reduced, productivity is increased and farmers get fair prices for their produce. The DC said that the government efforts are made to bring agricultural markets closer to farming areas and in the next few years, rural haats (village markets) will become the new centers of the agricultural economy.

He asked the concerned departments to spread mass awareness among the farmers about the economic benefits of the FPO scheme. He also underlined the need for developing a database of area wise variety of fruits, vegetables and crops for inclusive and holistic planning.



DT: 15-05-2023

News

Elgar Parishad case: NIA opposes Gautam Navlakha's plea to be put in house arrest in Alibag area

New Delhi: The NIA on Monday opposed a plea by activist Gautam Navlakha, who is under house arrest in a public library in Mumbai in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case, that he be shifted to a house in Alibag area of Maharashtra's Raigad.

A bench of Justices K M Joseph and B V Nagarathna was told by Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for the National Investigation Agency and the Maharashtra government, that shifting Navlakha is not feasible as the house in Alibag is 110 kilometres from the trial court and it takes nearly three-and-ahalf-hours to reach.

"The second problem is that the house in Alibag area is located in a residential area where it is very difficult to cordon off. Hence, it is not feasible keeping in mind the security aspect in mind." he said.

Raju also said the petitioner had earlier sought being moved from a jail to house arrest on health grounds and saying they were not getting good health facilities, but the area they now

seek to be shifted to does not have any super speciality hospital.

"So the ground taken by them for house arrest was a farce," he said. Senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan, appearing for 70-year-old Navlakha, opposed the NIA submission and said they can negotiate with the probe agency the area where he can be put under house arrest. "The house at Alibag is in the same district as Taloja jail, where

he was lodged How does the distance matter?" Ramakrishnan said. The bench asked Raju to put the objection of the agency in writing and posted the matter for further hearing on August 18. While ordering his house arrest on November 10 last year, the apex court had initially directed Navlakha to deposit Rs 2.4 lakh as the expenses to be borne by the state for making available police personnel to effectively facilitate placing him under house arrest.

The direction was passed by the court after the NIA had submitted that a total bill of Rs 66 lakh was pending.

On April 28, the top court had directed Navlakha to deposit another Rs 8 lakh for making available police personnel for his security. Ramakrishnan said they are in the process of making the payment of the amount as directed by the court. On November 10, 2022, the

top court had allowed Navlakha, who was then lodged in Navi Mumbai's Taloja prison in connection with the case, to be placed under house arrest owing to his deteriorating health. Noting that the activist has been in custody since April 14, 2020, and prima facie there is no reason to reject his medical report, it had said Navlakha does not have any criminal background except for this case and even the government of India had appointed him as an interlocutor to hold talks with Maoists.

The top court has extended the activist's tenure of his house arrest several times. On February 17, Navlakha had withdrawn from the apex court his application seeking to be shifted to Delhi from Mumbai under house arrest. Navlakha has told the top court through his counsel that he will look for some other place to stay in Mumbai.

On January 9, the Supreme Court had said its interim order placing Navlakha under house arrest will continue till the next date of hearing.

The case relates to alleged inflammatory speeches made at the Elgar Parishad conclave held in Pune on December 31, 2017, which police claim triggered violence the next day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial on the outskirts of the city.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

G-20 Meeting In J&K

the farmers so that they too can dream big. The LG said that the unprecedented progress and growth in Agriculture & Allied sectors in the UT is a testimony to "our resolve that there should be prosperity in all the farming households and the steady, viable & profitable farming should inspire the young generations to take up farming." "Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are moving ahead with a vision to take the agriculture sector in J&K on a trajectory of high growth and prepare our farmers to meet new challenges and make farming accessible & profitable," he said. LG said that all the ambitious and innovative interventions, whether it is revival of Mushk Budji or Yellow Revolution, are bearing fruit because of the impressive partnership between farmers and the administration and HADP will help the farmers to scale new heights.

Tourism Dept

"Cultural events reflect our rich culture and also provide a platform to talented boys and girls. All these events will be held during the next two weeks," he added.

Article 370 Was

was framed, it was mentioned in the index as "Temporary Provision of Article 370". Even debates on the Article were missing from the records of constituent assembly debates, Shah said and added that they were not printed.

Shah said it could well be imagined that whoever had drafted it and those who were part of the constituent assembly, how intelligently they put it and how after lots of thought the "temporary" word was inserted.

"An article of the Constitution cannot be temporary, it can be amended. If you read it even today – the old Constitution, it is clearly written as Temporary Provision of Article 370,' he said.

"Article 370 is no longer in existence. It has been repealed now. But please read it. It was mentioned in the index as 'Temporary Provision of Article 370'. If this 'temporary' word was not written, what would have happened. Tell me, can a provision of the Constitution be 'temporary'," he asked.

The Article was scrapped on August 5, 2019, a few months after Shah took charge as the country's home minister, and the erstwhile state of Iammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into union territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The home minister said that a "legislation should reflect the political will of the Cabinet or Parliament".

"A law becomes undisputed if it is simple

government under Narendra Modi has made lots of changes in laws. "We have scrapped nearly 2,000 irrelevant laws. Also, we have not hesitated to frame new laws," Shah said.

2 Teachers Suspended

Superintendent of Police, Kishtwar Khalil Ahmad Poswal said.

The teachers have been booked under section 354 (assault or criminal force to woman with intent to outrage her modesty) of the IPC and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, Chatroo SHO Parvaiz Ahmed Khanday said.

He said police have started an investigation and want to assure the people that the culprits involved would be dealt with as per the law.

The SSP appealed to the people not to get swayed by the emotional factor or lend an ear to the rumours.

"There is a mechanism in place to deal with such kinds of incidents. There is no benefit in damaging a school building or taking the law into our own hands," he said, seeking the cooperation of the people.

Taking serious note of the incident, Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Devansh Yadav suspended the accused teachers -- Roshan Lal Shan and Sanjay Kumar Sharma -- with im-mediate effect and ordered an inquiry against them.

According to an order issued by Yadav, the Chief Education Officer, Kishtwar was appointed as the enquiry officer, who will conduct an in-depth enquiry and submit his report along with recommendations within 15 days posi-tively for further necessary action.

Enhanced Security.

officers to keep close cooperation with the police & security force officers for a successful G-20 event.

"The participating officers were advised by the chairing officers to meet the demands of the public and apply a public-centric approach. All magistrates and police officers were instructed to identify, if any, rumour mongers and take preventive measures," the spokesperson said.

All participating officers, he said, were instructed to ensure that there wouldn't be any harassment to the general public. Behaviour of field officers towards the general public should be courteous.'

Protracted Trial

"Coming to the facts of the instant case, the appellant has been convicted of causing death a young student who must have been the only hope of his parents. A bright future was waiting in wings for the deceased but his life was cut short due to the act committed by the appellant, thereby leaving the parents of the young boy weeping and wailing for the rest of their lives," the court said, adding, "Appellant is a mature person, therefore, even if there would have been strong reasons for him to attack the deceased, still then, having regard to the young age of the deceased, he should have desisted from giving a fatal blow to the deceased." The circumstances in which the crime has been committed by the appellant, the court said, do not warrant much leniency in the matter of imposing sentence upon him. "The learned trial court has been considerate enough in not awarding maximum punishment to the appellant and instead imprisonment of only seven years has been awarded against him," the court said as it rejected contention by Nazir's counsel that the occurrence has taken place more than 11 years back and the appellant has faced trial for about four years and the present appeal was pending for the last more than six years. The counsel had argued that these factors constitute good enough ground to reduce the sentence imposed upon the appellant.

appeal cannot be a ground for reducing the sentence, particularly when during the pendency of the appeal, the appellant has been admitted to interim bail in terms of order dated 08.11.2016 and he continues to be on bail as on today," the court said and directed the appellant to surrender before the trial court within a period of fifteen days for serving the balance sentence.

Work On Prioritized

welcoming the tourism track delegates from 19 G20 nations, who will be attending the first ever major international event in Srinagar under India's G20 presidency.

Lal Chowk's Ghanta Ghar or clock tower that undergoes a major facelift under the project will be completed in next 4 to 5 days, while Ihelum left RiverFront will be inaugurated in next few days.

Work on certain road stretches in Srinagar including M.A Road, and Residency Road will be completed before the G20 event in Srinagar, beginning on May 22.

Athar Amir Khan, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Srinagar Smart City Ltd, said that LED lights have been installed in major structures including the Press Enclave buildings and Arts Emporium at the Residency Road and SPS library at Lal Mandi.

Khan, who also heads SMC as commissioner, said the buildings featuring colourful LED lights would light up in G20 motif, while illumination process of electric poles in Srinagar has also been completed.

"Polo-View Market stands inaugurated, we had some stretches of M.A road to finish, which have also been completed. The Left RiverFront will be inaugurated before the G20 meeting and the work on Ghanta Ghar will also be completed before the event. All prioritized projects under G20 will be completed before May 22," Khan told Kashmir Observer.

Row Over Film

that members of a right-wing group were brought into the hostel from outside, who shouted religious slogans and attacked one of the students with a sharp-edged object, injuring him in the head besides roughing up several others.

The outsiders fled before police arrived at the scene. Students staged a sit-in on the main road after the incident.

A group of students even boycotted their classes and assembled outside GMC hospital this morning to press for an inquiry and demand appropriate action against the culprits.

"It was a deliberate attempt to disturb the peaceful atmosphere. The Kerala story movie is not some holy sculptures People have different opinions with regard to the controversial film and everyone is free whether to watch or not to watch the movie," a student said. He demanded that culprits be identified and appropriate actions be taken against them as a deterrent to ensure a peaceful atmosphere on the campus. "The CCTV footage is available to nail the culprits." Principal GMC Shashi Sudhan Sharma visited the protesting students and assured them that action will be taken as per the law of the land. "There was a scuffle in the boys hostel and five students suffered minor injuries. Four of them were discharged immediately, while one of them who had received stitches in the head, is being discharged within two hours," Sharma, who visited the emergency ward to enquire about the injured student's health, told reporters. "A WhatsApp message worked as instigation but the situation is well under control (now). The interference of some medicos who have left the institute and some others was recorded," she said, adding an FIR has already been lodged and the disciplinary committee is doing its job.

message that there is zero tolerance for such types of unfortunate activities in the premier institute where the students have come for professional courses and not to indulge in such types of things.

She said security has been stepped up and discipline will be ensured. "This institution has a lot of responsibility towards patient care and there is no scope for activities that promote regionalism or discrimination based on religion, caste, creed and colour."

Reacting to a post shared by a social media user showing one of the injured students undergoing treatment, the Peoples Democratic Party president attacked the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for allegedly dividing people on communal lines.

"Shocking that GOI (Government of India) promotes & encourages violence through movies stoking communal fires. The blood of innocents is being spilled to quench BJPs insatiable thirst for petty electoral dividends. Request @ OfficeOfLGJandK ji to take cognisance & punish the culprits," Mufti wrote on Twitter.

India Will Be

If there is a challenge, there is a solution. Now, efforts should be put forward to advance the technology," the minister said.

Stressing on self-reliance, Singh said it does not mean we should be different from other countries, "but the objective is that the basic requirements should be manufactured by us and we should be able to export them.

Manufacturing products in the country will also help to create employment. "Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we have seen a dream that India will become a developed nation in the world by 2047," he said.

Singh said, "We are witnessing a rise in the export of defence equipment. Back in 2014, the export in this sector was Rs 900 crore, but now it has gone up to Rs 16,000 crore. The import has reduced as India is now the biggest hub of start-ups and we are bringing innovative ideas.'

Rifles, missiles and aircraft are being made in India, he pointed out.

India is now becoming a self-reliant country. The possibility of India becoming the top economy in the world also cannot be ruled out, the minister said.

"Economic experts assert that by 2027, India will achieve the third rank in the world economy. To make our dream come true, we should work towards it." he said.

Addressing the gathering, Singh said he was proud to be at 12th convocation of DIAT

also being widely used by the operatives across the border to connect with OGWs and cadres in Kashmir.'

The statement reads that NIA had registered the case (RC-05/2022/NIA/IMU) suo motu on 21st June 2022.

"The matter related to conspiracy and plans, hatched physically as well in cyberspace, by these proscribed terrorist organisations. The conspirators aimed to unleash violent terrorist attacks in J&K with sticky bombs, IEDs and small arms etc, as part of a larger conspiracy to commit acts of terror and violence by radicalising local youth and mobilising and deploying overground workers."

It added in connection with the investigation of this case, since the beginning of this month, NIA has conducted more than 70 searches in Jammu and Kashmir.

NIA Files Charges

"He had entered into a conspiracy with his handlers based across-the-border to deliver the consignments of weapons and explosives to active terrorist commanders and operatives of these outfits for commission of terror acts in India, as per NIA investigations," reads the statement.

It reads that as part of the conspiracy hatched with other co-accused and handlers/operatives of LeT/TRF, Faisal had actively worked for LeT/ TRF and had received funds from operatives of LeT, with the intent to further its militant activities.

"Faizal is the fourth person to be chargesheeted in the case (RC-32/2021/NIA/DLI), registered suo moto by NIA on 18th November 2021. NIA had earlier filed a chargesheet against accused Arsalan Feroz @ Arsalan Soub, Muzamil Mushtaq Bhat @ Hamza and Mudasir Ahmed Dar respectively on 18th June, 9th November and 17th December, 2022.

It added that the three accused, found working at the behest of LeT/TRF operatives, as Overground Workers (OGWs), were charged under various sections of the law.

"During investigations, it emerged that Faisal Muneer was working as an active OGW of LeT/TRF, and was involved in receiving, collecting, and supplying weapons /explosives / funds. These materials were sent/dropped from Pakistan via drones in the areas situated near International Border area of Samba/Kathua, for carrying out terrorist activities in India.'

It further reads after receiving the consignments from his associates, accused Faisal Muneer used to store them at his residence for onward delivery to militant operatives and their OGWs, on the directions of the LeT/TRF operatives based across the border.

and clear. It (a law) should be framed in a way that the court does not need to make any explanation. When there is no need for any court to give any explanation to any law, that is a medal for you. Our aim has to be to draft a law as simple and clear as possible," Shah said.

When a law is made with ambiguities, it creates problems, the minister said and added that "if a law is made simple and clear, there is no need for the judiciary to intervene as grey areas leave scope for overstepping". He said drafting of "the spirit of the legisla-

ture" is very significant work as simple translation is not sufficient and there has to be a proper explanation for it.

The home minister said the drafting skill of those who work in the legislative wing of Parliament and of state legislatures should be improved because the world is changing very rapidly.

Appreciating Parliament authorities for holding the training session, he said capacity building is very necessary and it has to be a continuous process. "We have to take proper action in this changing world and the laws have to be made according to today's requirements. If we don't have that kind of openness, we will be irrelevant," Shah said.

The home minister also said the BJP

"From the analysis of law, it is clear that mere protraction in trial or delay in decision of the

Sharma said they want to send a strong

"Right from its establishment, the institute has done a remarkable work and today I can see the future of our country," he added.

NIA Raids 13

the newly-formed offshoots and affiliates of several proscribed Pak-backed militant organisations, including Laskhar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaishe-Mohammed (JeM), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Al-Badr, Al-Qaeda, etc.

"The raids were part of the ongoing investigations of NIA in the terror conspiracy case, involving the activities of OGWs and cadres in support of various newly-launched outfits, such as The Resistance Front (TRF), United Liberation Front Jammu & Kashmir (ULFJ&K), Mujahideen Gazwat-ul-Hind (MGH), Jammu & Kashmir Freedom Fighters (JKFF), Kashmir Tigers, PAAF, among others."

It added that besides militant and violent activities, these cadres and workers had been found involved in collection and distribution of sticky, magnetic bombs, IEDs, funds, narcotics and arms and ammunition.

"NIA investigations had further revealed that Pak-based operatives were involved in delivery of arms and ammunition, explosives, narcotics etc. to these cadres and workers in the Kashmir valley via drones. Social media platforms were

"In its supplementary chargesheet filed today in the NIA Special Court, Patiala House, NIA has charged Faisal under various sections of IPC, Arms Act and UA(P) Act, 1967." it reads.

Window Grille

is stated to be "out of danger", they said, adding two students suffered head injuries.

Chief Education Officer, Rajouri, Sultana Kouser said a three-member committee has been set up to inquire the matter and it will submit a detailed report in one day.

Villagers said the school building is in a dilapidated condition and needs urgent repairs for the safety of the students.

"We have raised the issue time and again with the authorities concerned but there is hardly any response," a villager said.

Drug Smuggler

mention here that many cases were registered against the said drug smuggler and was involved in promoting drug abuse by supplying drugs to local youth of Pattan and other areas of District Baramulla. Despite his involvement in many FIRs he did not mend his activities and was again involved in promoting drug abuse by supplying drugs to local youth," the spokesperson added.



SPORTS





Secretary YSS Meets Tennis Legend Vijay Amritraj

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Secretary to Government Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) J&K, Sarmad Hafeez hosted former tennis star, sports commentator, actor, and Padma Shree Vijay Amritraj in his office chambers at Srinagar on Monday.

The legendary sports icon discussed many ideas with the chair pertaining to the mass involvement of youth in games like Tennis and Golf. He desired to work with the YSS Department for setting up sports clinics for nurturing sports talent in J&K.

The Secretary YSS expressed his gratitude to the iconic sports

legend for showing his keen interest in the development of sports in the region. He hoped that the mentorship by the famous sports icon would immensely help in nurturing sporting talent in J&K.

Secretary Hafeez assured that every possible assistance would be provided to the sports icon in organising special camps and tournaments meant for nurturing young talents in golf and tennis. While praising J&K youth for their talent in sports, Amritraj said, "J&K is blessed with huge sporting talent with immense potential that needs to be nurtured, and setting up of sports clinics will be an endeavour towards achieving this goal."

International Cricketer and cap-

tain of J&K's Para Cricket team.

In the sessions conducted

at two different schools, near

about 60 students (both boys

and girls) participated actively

On the Conclusion of the in-

teraction sessions, both prin-

cipals of these institutions

thanked the DYSSO Anantnag,

ZPEO Bijbehara and Para Crick-

eter Aamir Hussain Lone for

holding the interaction sessions

with the para cricketer.

with their students

had fruitful interactions

DYSSO Anantnag Holds Interaction Session With Sports Icon



and

Observer News Service

BIJBEHARA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) Anantnag on Monday held an interaction session with a sports icon for students in Zone Bijbehara at Oxford High School and BHSS Bijbehara.

In the session J&K's Icon Armless Para International Cricketer Aamir Hussain Lone interacted with the students and shared his life as well as cricketing journey with them.

Aamir Hussain Lone is a Para

DYSS Organises Sports

IPL 2023: LSG Meet MI In Crucial Clash



Press Trust of India

LUCKNOW: Mumbai Indians are on a roll in the business end of the tournament and Lucknow Super Giants will be aiming to halt their momentum on a tricky pitch in the IPL here on Tuesday.

Mumbai Indians are third on the points table with 14 points and with a point less from same the number of games, LSG are holding on to the fourth spot. Both teams will be looking

to get out of the danger zone as eight teams remain in the play-off contention. Šuryakumar Yadav is back

to his breathtaking best and played a huge role in Mumbai's wins in the previous two games.

Short of runs in the tournament, Rohit Sharma too found some rhythm against Gujarat Titans and will be looking to

play a substantial knock at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Cricket Stadium.

In Tilka Varma's absence. Mumbai have found an able replacement in Nehal Wadehra, who seems to be getting better with every opportunity on the big stage.

On the bowling front, veteran spinner Piyush Chawla for the batters, while rookie Akash Badhwal has given the pace attack a much-needed boost. Death bowling remains a concern with Jofra Archer's replacement Chris Jordan leaking runs in the last two games.

It is expected to be another low-scoring game here and the spinners on either side could decide the fate of the game.

Leggie Ravi Bishnoi has been the leading wicket taker for LSG and stand-in captain Krunal Pandya too showed what he

could do with his left-arm spin against Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Veteran spinner Amit Mishra is also expected to come into play considering the conditions. The pacers have proved to be a tad expensive especially Avesh Khan, who has an economy rate of 9.75 after nine games.

The batting looks formidable despite the absence of injured K L Rahul. Quinton de Kock has made instant impact as Rahul's replacement at the top, while Kyle Mayers is LSG's leading run getter in the competition.

Then they have players who can win the game even from a hopeless situation, like Nicholas Pooran did against the Sunrisers.

Saurasthra batter Prerak Mankad showed what he is capable of at number three in the last game and will come out with additional confidence on Tuesday night.

Match starts at 7:30pm.

Protesting Wrestlers To Approach Olympians In Other Nations For Support

wrestlers on Monday decided to make their "agitation global" by approaching Olympic medallists and athletes from other countries and warned that if their demand for the arrest of former national federation (WFI) chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh is not heeded to, a "big call" will be taken after May 21.

medallists Bajrang Punia, Šakshi Malik and Asian Games gold



protest site (at the start of the ing restricted and pushed into a corner. So the more we agiagitation). "We are being stalked. People tate at other places and let the people elsewhere also know, the better.



Leão Likely To Return For **Milan's CL Semifinals**

Agencies

MILAN: AC Milan will likely have its top player back for the second leg of the Champions League semifinals on Tuesday. Winger Rafael Leão was out with a right thigh problem when Milan lost the opening leg 2-0 to city rival Inter Milan last

"If today's training goes OK, Leão will start," Milan coach Stefano Pioli said Monday.

Leão was named Serie A's most valuable player when Milan won the Italian league last year. He was also instrumental when Milan eliminated Napoli in the quarterfinals. (AP)

Man City 3 Points Away **From Premier League Title**



Agencies

LIVERPOOL: Manchester City is one win away from a third straight Premier League title and a fifth in six seasons under Pep Guardiola.

English soccer's dominant force was tested by a new rival in the form of Arsenal, but Mikel Arteta's team has buckled under the pressure of trying to keep pace with Guardiola's relentless trophy-winning machine. While the race is not over yet, it would take a remarkable collapse for City to throw it away now.

'We have to apologize to our people, especially for the second half," Arteta said after his team's 3-0 loss to Brighton at Emirates Stadium on Sunday.

It was the fifth time in seven games that Arsenal has dropped points in the closing weeks of the season.

By comparison, City's 3-0 win against Everton earlier in the day extended its unbeaten run to 21 games in all competitions, including 11 straight wins in the league. City has been near-perfect, while Arsenal's challenge has melted in the heat of the battle, with Brighton's secondhalf goals from Julio Enciso, Deniz Undav and Pervis Estupinan all but ending the Gunners' hopes of a first title in 19 years.

"We fought really hard to be in the position that we are in and today we were in a critical moment to keeping hoping and digging for that dream," Arteta said.

Nantes Fines Egyptian Striker For Refusing To Wear Rainbow



India's top wrestlers Olympic

continues to make life tough



Competitions For Senior Citizens

Observer News Service

VAILOO: The Department of Youth Services and Sports (YSS) Zone Vailoo on Monday organised sports competitions for senior citizens in different games.

On this occasion, District Development Council Member Haroon Choudary and Principal HSS Grudhman and I/C Activities Wajid Ah. Shah respectively were the chief guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Shah appreciated the Department of Youth Services & Sports for organizing such maiden events. He also congratulated participating senior citizens for taking part in sports and shared the benefits of the sports in common man's life. It is pertinent to mention that

Chess, Carom, and Volleyball were among the games which were played at the venue along with Tug of War. About 48 senior citizens participated in this event. The event was hosted at two different venues GMS Go-

han and HSS Grudhman.

medallist Vinesh Phogat among others are protesting at Jantar Mantar here for the last 23 days, demanding the arrest of Brij Bhushan for allegedly sexually harassing women grapplers, including a minor.

"We will make this protest global. We will approach Olympians and Olympic medallists in other countries. We will write to them asking them for their support," said 2018 Jakarta Asian Games gold medallist Vinesh. She alleged that some ele-

ments tried to tarnish their protest on Sunday night and also said that the wrestlers were being stalked at the protest site. "Some people tried to disrupt our protest. The last time

it happened was when we were

make recording and click photos... and when we tell them (to stop), they do not listen. Some unknown people (women) also tried to sleep here (inside the tent put up by wrestlers)," Vinesh said. "Women, whom we don't know are being sent inside at night... things are being done, which we do not want should happen at the protest site... which bring a bad name and tarnish our fight for truth and justice." She also said the wrestlers will not just confine themselves to the protest site but also try to make every citizen in the country aware of their plight.

"We are getting a feeling at

"Today we have decided to go to Connaught Place and speak to the people there and seek their support in our fight for justice. We have set May 21 as the deadline (for action against Brij Bhushan). If no decision is taken, then we will take a big call on our agitation after that date," Vinesh said.

But Vinesh did not shed light on the legal processes the wrestlers have initiated against Brij Bhushan. "They (legal processes) are ongoing. I will not shed light on them now. Once something concrete happens, we will let you know," she said.

Agencies NANTES: Nantes has fined striker Mostafa Mohamed for refusing to play against Toulouse on Sun-

Numbers On Jersey

day, when teams across France wore rainbow-colored numbers on their jerseys to support the fight against homophobia.

Nantes said in a statement on Monday that the Egypt striker was fined an undisclosed amount which will be donated to a French charity group called SOS HOMOPHOBIA

"First of all, Nantes would like to repeat its commitment in the fight against homophobia," the club said on its website. "Mostafa Mohamed, a striker for

Pakistan May Boycott WC If It Loses Asia

FC Nantes, refused to play in the match against Toulouse for personal reasons. To this end. the Nantes directors decided to punish him financially.

Nantes added it will continue to "fight against all forms of discrimination, as it always has done.'

Teams in the top two divisions wore rainbow-colored numbers on their jerseys over the weekend for the third consecutive season.

Toulouse forward Zakaria Aboukhlal was left out of his team for the same game after also refusing to wear the jersey. Aboukhlal gave his reasons in social media on Sunday. (AP)

ICC Cricket Committee Scraps 'Soft Signal' By On-Field Umpires

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The ICC has decided to do away with the contentious 'soft signal' by on-field officials, which had often been criticised by experts as it is believed to have created more confusion for TV umpires after a decision was referred upstairs.

The 'soft signal' was used to determine the validity of catches taken inches off the ground, which couldn't necessarily be confirmed through naked eye.

According to ICC rules, a "soft signal is the visual communication by the bowler's end umpire to the third umpire (accompanied by additional information via twoway radio where necessary) of his/her initial on-field decision prior to initiating an Umpire Review." Till now the on-field umpire would



cricket committee meetings

over the last couple of years.

The committee deliberated

this at length and concluded

that soft signals were unnec-

either signal 'out' or 'not out' with umpires no longer rebased on their gut feeling. quired to give a soft signal when referring decisions to And the third umpire was the TV umpire. The on-field compelled to go by 'soft signal' as most of the footages umpires will consult with the proved to be inconclusive. TV umpire before any deci-The ICC announced changes sions are taken," the ICC said. Former India captain Gan-

to the 'playing conditions' after the CEC approved the recommendations from the men's cricket committee led by Sourav Ganguly and the women's cricket committee. "The major change involved the soft signal being scrapped, essary and at times confusing since referrals of catches may seem inconclusive in replays." The other big announcement involved making helmets mandatory for high-risk positions. Compulsory use of helmets will be for the following: when batters are facing fast bowlers, when wicketkeepers are standing up to the stumps, when fielders are close to the batter in front of the wicket.

"We also discussed player safety, which is very important for us," Ganguly said. "The committee decided that it was best to make the use of helmets mandatory in certain positions to ensure guly said: "Soft signals have the safety of players." New been discussed at previous 'free hit rule' There was also a minor addition to the free hit rule with any runs scored off a free hit when the ball hits the stumps will be counted as runs scored from now.

Agencies There is a "very real possibility" that Pakistan

will boycott this year's World Cup in India if they lose hosting rights to the Asia Cup, the chairman of the country's cricket board Najam Sethi told Reuters.

a casualty of the soured political relations between India and Pakistan over the last decade and the neighbouring countries now play each other only in multiteam events in neutral venues. India, citing safety concerns, have ruled out travelling to Pakistan for the Asia Cup in September and the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has offered to let them play their matches in the United Arab Emirates in what has been dubbed a "hybrid model".

Cup Hosting Rights: PCB Chief

While the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has yet to deliver a formal response to the offer, Sethi said India wanted the entire tournament moved out of Pakistan. That could have serious ramifications for the 50-overs World Cup in India this year as well as the 2025 Champions Trophy in Pakistan, he added.

"They want all the matches in a neutral venue," he said in a Zoom interview. "BCCI should take a good, rational decision so that we

don't have any problems going forward.

"India should not be looking at a situation where we end up boycotting the Asia Cup and also the World Cup, and then India ends up boycotting the Champions Trophy. "That will be a huge mess.

Sri Lanka and Bangladesh have also come out against playing in the UAE, citing the heat and logistics issues, heightening speculation in local media that the Asian Cricket Council may look to move the entire tournament out of Pakistan. Sethi said that was "not acceptable" and reaffirmed that Pakistan may boycott the World Cup if that happened.

"That's a very real possibility, of course," he added. Should India agree to the hybrid model for the Asia Cup, Sethi said, Pakistan would

expect reciprocal terms for their team at the World Cup in October and November.

"We also have security concerns for our team in India," he said. "So let Pakistan play its matches in Dhaka or Mirpur, or UAE or in Sri Lanka. "This is the solution going forward, until such time that India agrees to play Pakistan, in Pakistan and outside Pakistan, bilaterally."

BCCI Secretary Jay Shah was not immediately available for comment but neither the Indian board nor the International Cricket Council (ICC) have said they are even considering staging any World Cup matches outside India. Sethi said Pakistan, World Cup champions in 1992, was a top cricketing nation which should not be ignored and that they would have to talk to the ICC about the Asia Cup problem.

Bilateral cricket has been

OUTPOST

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IGNOU Begins Fresh Admission Cycle For 2023-24, Last Date June 30



Agenceis

New Delhi: The Indira Gandhi National Open University on Monday began a fresh admission cycle for undergraduate, postgraduate and other programmes for the 2023-24 academic year.

The last date to apply for the various programmes at Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) is June 30.

"The July 2023 fresh admission cycle for all programmes commenced today. The last date to apply for fresh admissions for the session is June 30," a varsity official told PTI.

Established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, IGNOU offers certificates, diplomas, advanced

diplomas and postgraduate diplomas, and degrees. Most of these programmes have been developed after need-based surveys and comply with the National Education Policy - 2020.

"The teaching-learning ar-rangement at IGNOU is highly flexible. With this objective in mind, the university has followed a modular approach to programme development for many of its degree-level courses," the official said.

"According to the university's policy, programmes with a mod-ular approach are designed with the need of the learners in mind and offer flexibility in the combination of courses as well as methods," he added.

Gig Economy Workers Earn Below Minimum Wage, Says Study

new study from the University of Bristol reveals that Nover half of gig economy workers in the UK are earning below the minimum wage. The study, which surveyed 510 gig workers last year, found that 52% of respondents involved in various gig jobs, including data entry and food delivery, were earning less than the current UK minimum wage of £10.42 per hour. On average, gig workers earned £8.97 per hour, reflecting a 15% shortfall.

The research also highlighted significant concerns regarding work-related insecurity and anxiety, with 76% of respondents reporting such experiences. Furthermore, 28% felt that their health or safety was at risk while working in the gig economy, and 25% report-

ed experiencing pain on the job. Lead author Dr Alex Wood, Senior Lecturer in Human Resource Management and Future of Work at the University of Bristol Business School, said: "The findings highlight that working in the UK gig economy often entails low pay, anxiety, and stress. As food, fuel and housing costs keep rising, this group of workers are especially vulnerable and need to be more

adequately remunerated and bet-

ter protected.'

Senior UN officials and rep-

For First Time In Its History, **UN Commemorates Palestinian Nakba Day**



Agenceis

or the first time in its his-commemorating the 75th anniversary of Nakba Day or "Day of Catastrophe," when Is-rael was created at the expense of the forced expulsion of about 750,000 Palestinians from their homeland.

According to the official Palestinian news agency WAFA, the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People (CEIRPP) will organize a high-level special meeting on Monday from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (New York time). The event, to be held at the

UN's New York headquarter, is the first of its kind in the history of the world body pursuant to the General Assembly mandate of November 30, 2022.

It will be presided over by the chairman of the committee, Ambassador Cheikh Niang of Senegal, and will include a keynote address by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

resentatives of regional groups and civil societies will also

make statements to commemorate Nakba.

Moreover, a special commemorative event will be staged in the General Assembly Hall from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The event seeks to shed light on the systematic ethnic cleansing of two-thirds of the Palestinian population by Zionist paramilitaries between 1947-1949, through live music, pictures, videos and personal testimonies.

"This is an occasion to highlight that the noble goals of justice and peace require recogniz-ing the reality and history of the Palestinian people's plight and ensuring the fulfillment of their inalienable rights," CEIRPP said. Hamas: Israel has no legiti-

macy over any part of Palestine Meanwhile, the Hamas resistance movement says Palestinians are commemorating the 75th anniversary of Nakba Day in the wake of another round of hostilities by the occupying Israeli regime, which they fought off alongside resistance fighters in the besieged Gaza Strip.

"During the recent Free People's Revenge battle, our compatriots proved they were able

to defend their national rights, avenge martyrs' blood and make the Tel Aviv regime pay the price for its crimes against our people, land and holy sites," the group said in a statement on Monday.

It added that 75 years have passed since the occupation of the Palestinian territories started, during which Israel has perpetrated the most heinous crimes and massacres and escalated its aggressive strategies. "The Israeli regime has, how-

ever, failed to demoralize Palestinians, who continue to defend their land, uphold legitimate rights and refuse any attempt to undercut their valiant resistance," Hamas underlined.

The Gaza-based movement also held Israel responsible for the suffering of millions of Palestinian refugees at home and abroad, stressing that their return to their ancestral hometowns is a sacred and inalienable right.

It also urged the international community as well as Arab and Muslim nations to increase their solidarity with Palestinians, support their struggle and enable them to defend themselves and liberate their land and holy sites.

Flying Car A Step Closer To Airborne Reality After Successful Test In Brazil

Sao Paulo: A flying car is one step closer to airborne reality following successful wind tunnel testing for the futuristic vehicle being developed by Brazilian electric plane maker Eve Holding Inc, the firm announced on Monday.

Eve, controlled by aircraft manufacturer Embraer, said it expects to start commercial operations of its fully electric vehicle in 2026.

The concept, called an electric vertical take-off and landing vehicle, or eVTOL, has been dubbed a flying taxi.

The completed wind tunnel tests are seen as key for certification by regulators, as well as future production and sales to buyers worldwide.

"The information we obtained during this phase of develop-ment has helped us further refine the technical solutions of our eV-TOL, before committing to production tooling and conforming prototypes," said Luiz Valentini, Eve's top technology officer.

The company expects to conclude the selection of main equipment suppliers in the first half of this year and start building its first full-scale prototype

in the second half. Additional testing is planned for 2024. Eve holds a backlog of nearly 2,800 orders before starting production, with development

backed by investors such as United Airlines and Rolls-Royce. The wind tunnel tests were completed in Switzerland using an eVTOL scale model, which the company said helped it investigate how components such as its fuselage and wings will perform

in flight. Eve, which debuted last year on the New York Stock Exchange, has signaled that certification is one of its most pressing targets,

Reuters reported in February. Analysts see the firm on track to meet its lofty plans even if its not the first flying car to take off.

"The Eve eVTOL is unlikely to be first to market, although the order pipeline provides runway to capture market share of the emerging eVTOL market," according to Jefferies analysts.

Jefferies and JPMorgan last week increased their target prices for Eve, citing an industry-leading backlog and Embraer support.

Eve shares are up roughly 10% this year.





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