

3 Srinagar Residents Arrested In Gujarat

Police Claims Accused Were Part Of ISKP Module
Press Trust Of India

Ahmedabad: The Gujarat ATS has busted an Islamic State of Khorasan Province (ISKP) module and arrested three men and a woman, in operations carried out in Porbandar and Surat, police said Saturday.

The men hail from Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir.

Acting on a tip-off, the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) arrested three men from Porbandar and a woman from Surat city and seized from them "incriminating" materials that showed their association with the banned terrorist organisation, said Director General of Police (DGP) Vikas Sahay.

A first information report (FIR) has been registered against the four under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) and efforts are on to nab a wanted accused in this connection, Sahay said.

The ISKP is UN-designated terrorist organisation.

"The three men were planning to use a fishing boat from Porbandar to cross the International Maritime Boundary Line and reach Afghanistan via Iran and join ISKP," Sahay told reporters.

They were detained from Porbandar on Friday morning and were identified as Ubed Nasir Mir, Hanan Hayat Shol and Mohammad Hajim Shah, all residents of Srinagar, Shah said.

During preliminary interrogation, they revealed that they were trained and radicalised by a handler identified as Abu Hamza.

They also told the ATS that two more persons, identified as Zuber Ahmed Munshi from Srinagar and Sumerabanu Hanif Malek of Surat, were also members of the ISKP module and associated with them.

"Based on the information, Gujarat ATS and Surat crime branch raided the house of Sumera Malek and seized several radical publications such as Voice of Khorasan" from there.

Sumera revealed that she was in touch with her handler and in close relation with Zuber," the police officer said.

The DGP said that several documents related to their personal identities, and materials used for digital communication such as mobile phones, tablets and sharp weapons were recovered from trio detained from Porbandar.

When the cloud storage of the accused was **More on P6**



A farmer carries his fresh stock of vegetables in his boat to sell at the vegetable market in the middle of Srinagar's Dal Lake. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Holding 62-Day Yatra Shows Admin's Confidence: Singh

Observer News Service

Jammu: Union Minister Jitendra Singh on Saturday said the duration of 62 days for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra shows the confidence of Jammu and Kashmir administration as a large number of devotees are expected to join the annual pilgrimage in an improved security scenario.

The yatra to the 3,880-metre-high holy cave in south Kashmir Himalayas is scheduled to commence on July 1 from the twin tracks - traditional 48-km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag district and 14 km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal district.

"Unlike in the past, the administration has decided to undertake the yatra for 62 days which itself is a strong statement on its confidence level (after the improvement



in the security situation)," the minister told reporters in Udhampur his home constituency.

He claimed that over the past 20 to 30 years, the yatra was restricted to 10 or 15 days while the administration used to look for excuses

to stop the yatra.

"The administration is confident and ready for the 62 days of yatra. Given the enthusiasm of the people, we are expecting a huge rush of pilgrims," the minister said, adding that a record 1.75 crore tourists **More on P6**

Security Brass Discusses Smooth, Incident Free Yatra

The top brass security and the civil administration here on Saturday held a joint security conference for a smooth & incident free Amarnath Yatra, scheduled to start this month end. The 62 days long yatra to the 3,880 metre high Holy Cave shrine of ShriAmarnathji is scheduled to start on 1 July from two routes - the traditional 48-km Nunwan route in South Kashmir's Pahalgam and the 14-km Baltal route in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal.

"A joint security conference between Security Forces & Civil **More on P6**

Electricity Supply As Per Availability: KPDCL

'No Fresh Power Schedule Announced'

Agencies

Srinagar: Stating that no power curtailment schedule has been announced in the Valley, the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) on Saturday said that the electricity is being supplied as per the availability.

Chief Engineer, KPDCL, Javed Yousuf Dar said that there has been no circular with regard to the power curtailment in Kashmir. "The KPDCL has not announced any power curtailment," he said when asked about the reports regarding two-hour power curtailment in morning and evening.

However, he said that the KPDCL has been managing the electricity supply to the people according to the availability.

"The electricity is being made available by JKPC and we have been maintaining the electricity as per the availability and thus we have to go for the power

curtailments because of the power availability issue at present," he said.

He further said that there was no information about how long the issue will continue as it is the prerogative of JKPC.

Pertinently, the consumers across Kashmir complained of erratic power cuts across the Valley, saying that there is no power schedule as the electricity is being snatched frequently, forcing them to reel under darkness.

Jammu and Kashmir has recorded a 25 per cent sudden cut in the power supply, a move that has triggered a "temporary power deficit in the UT."

Officials' privy to the development had said that the J&K's power supply has been cut by 25 per cent without "any clear reasons."

Kashmir region, as per official sources will face the brunt of the power shortage given the soaring temperatures in Jammu, where the power department is resorting to minimum possible cuts—(KNO)



THE ELECTRICITY IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE BY JKPC AND WE HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING

the electricity as per the availability and thus we have to go for the power curtailments because of the power availability issue at present."

Dry Weather To Continue In J&K: MeT

Agencies

Srinagar: Mainly dry weather has been forecast in Jammu and Kashmir where night temperature increased and settled above normal at most places on Saturday.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS

reported that weather is mainly going to be "dry" in the next 24 hours and that no "large change" was expected either till June 12.

Regarding the temperature, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 16.0°C against 14.7°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 1.7°C **More on P6**

Govt 'Duty Bound' To Protect Evacuee Properties: HC

M Ahmad

Srinagar: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has said that the government was "duty bound" to protect property of evacuees and evict unauthorized occupants in Jammu and Kashmir.

"(Custodian) department is a statutory authority created under and in terms of (J&K State Evacuees' (Administration of Property) Act 2006 (1949 A.D.) and is, therefore, duty bound to preserve, protect and better utilize evacuee properties. It cannot act arbitrarily and deal with properties of evacuee as being owner thereof with rights of alienation," a bench of Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul said.

The Bench said that the Supreme Court on the subject of allotment of government properties has in plethora of judgments held that such

properties cannot be given, allotted or distributed otherwise than by following the procedure, which should be in consonance with provisions of Article 14 of the Constitution and there should be fairness in State action.

The court said evacuee property right from coming into being of the Act is under the custody of the department. "(It) is a government department as provided under and in terms of provisions of

Article 12 of the Constitution and as a result of which, any property being maintained and controlled by it since the year 1949 is also a government property and is to be taken care of strictly on the same lines on which other government properties are being taken care of and handled."

Dismissing a petition seeking court's direction regarding the matter dealing with transfer of land **More on P6**

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT!

Pellet Victim Insha Qualifies Class 12 Exams With Flying Colours

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Insha Mushtaq, who was blinded by pellet guns during the 2016 summer agitation has passed the class 12th board examination with flying colours.

The 22-year-old secured 319 marks out of 500 in the Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education, the results for which were declared on Friday.

A resident of the Sedow area of Shopian in south Kashmir, Insha had cleared the Class 10 examination two years after losing her vision.

While everything around her seemed dark, she never lost hope. Her indomitable spirit and unwavering support system



led her to achieve success, defying all odds.

She has credited her success to her family.

"After Class 10, I joined Delhi Public School, **More on P6**

Mother Dies Of Heart Attack After Son Fails

A woman died in Kokernag area of south Kashmir's Anantnag after she came to know that her son has failed to qualify class 12th exam, results of which were declared on Friday. Local news agencies reported that Jameela Akhtar, wife of Mohammad Rafiq Malik of Danwethpora Kokernag suffered massive cardiac arrest. "She was rushed to SDH Kokernag where she was declared dead on arrival," they said. They said that she suffered a heart attack after learning that her son has failed to qualify class 12th exam.

2024 LOK SABHA POLLS

Omar Unlikely To Be Part Of Alliance Against BJP

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: National Conference Vice President Omar Abdullah on Saturday hinted at his party staying away from the grand alliance against the BJP in next year's general elections, saying most such parties remained silent when the Article 370 was abrogated.

He also said the talks on a pre-poll alliance in Jammu and Kashmir would be premature before the sounding of bugle for the assembly elections in the Union Territory.

"What we have (to contribute) outside Jammu and Kashmir? We have a total of five (Lok Sabha) seats and what storm these seats can create?

We have to fight against the BJP on these seats and what is going outside J&K is a secondary question," Abdullah told reporters on reaching the border district of Rajouri.

The former chief minister was responding to a question on the possibility of the National Conference joining hands with other parties against the BJP in the run up to the 2024 Lok Sabha elections.

"Compulsions aside, I do not see any benefit from such an alliance for the party and Jammu and Kashmir. I am repeatedly saying that when they need us, they knock on our doors. When (Delhi Chief Minister Arvind) Kejriwal is in trouble, he needs **More on P6**

S H O R T T A K E S

Banihal Highway Reopens For Traffic

Vehicular movement on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway was restored on Saturday, after remaining suspended for nearly 12 hours due to repair and maintenance works on the stretch between the Nashri and Navyug tunnels, officials said. The works on the 270-km road were undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India following a landslide, they said. The road was closed **More on P6**

Minor Drowns In Kupwara Stream

In a heart-wrenching incident, a minor boy lost his life on Saturday after slipping and falling into a stream near his residence. The tragic incident unfolded within the jurisdiction of the Kralgund Police Station in Kupwara district. According to local sources, the victim was identified as Syed Mohd Azaan son of Syed Aijaz Ahmad, a resident of Hajin in Kralgund. The unfortunate incident, as per the **More on P6**

Pak Balloon Prompts Search Operation

Adding to the very frequent cases where Pakistani drones are hunted down across the International Border in Punjab by security forces, this time a mysterious aircraft-shaped balloon carrying the logo of PIA (Pakistan International Airlines), was found in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district on Saturday. The black and white in coloured mysterious balloon **More on P6**

Trucker Dead In Head-On Collision

A truck driver died after head-on collision between two vehicles in Ujroo area of Qazigund in South Kashmir's Kulgam district on Saturday. Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that a truck coming from Jammu towards Srinagar collided head-on with another vehicle near Navyuga Toll crossing. "In the accident driver identified as Trilochan Singh son **More on P6**

Anti-Tank Mine, Grenade Found In J&K

A rusted anti-tank mine and a grenade were found at different places in Samba and Poonch districts of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said. The mine, believed to have been planted over two decades ago as part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system, was noticed by a farmer in an agriculture field near Poolpur post near Basantar on the International Border in Samba district in the morning, they said. **More on P6**

Body Found Inside Train In Jammu

The body of a man was found inside a train here on Saturday, police said. According to a Government Railway Police Force official, the body was moved to the Government Medical College here for postmortem and identification. He said the train had reached Jammu railway station from Katra. The body was inside a coach for handicapped persons. Inquest proceedings **More on P6**



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KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Srinagar | Sunday | 11-06-2023

02

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

J&K SERVICES SELECTION BOARD

CPO Chowk, Panjthirthi, Jammu/ Zum Zum Building Ram Bagh Srinagar

www.jkssb.nic.in

Subject: Document Verification of candidates falling under consideration zone for the post of Motor Vehicle Inspector Advertised vide notification No. 05 of 2022 under item No. 198 (Transport Department, Divisional Cadre Kashmir) DMRRR-regarding

NOTIFICATION

Whereas, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB), vide Notification No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/06/2023-04 (7110979) Dated: 31.05.2023, issued the result/ scoresheet of the candidates who appeared in the Computer Based Test (CBT) conducted on 07.02.2023, for the post of Motor Vehicle Inspector Advertised vide notification No. 05 of 2022 under item No. 198; and

Whereas, the details of the candidates, who are falling under the consideration zone for the aforementioned posts, are given in Annexure-A.

Now therefore, the candidates are hereby called to appear in person for Document Verification before the designated Document Verification Committees of the Board on **15.06.2023, from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM**, as per the schedule indicated against each at **Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board, CPO Chowk, Panjthirthi, Jammu (Jammu based candidates) and JKSSB Central Office, Zum Zum Building, Rambagh, Srinagar (Kashmir based Candidates)**. The candidates who fail to appear before the respective Document Verification Committee(s) on the scheduled dates shall forfeit their right to selection.

The candidates are required to produce following original documents/certificates in original, along-with two self-attested copies, before the designated Document Verification Committees:

- Copy of Online Application Forms.
- Two passport size recent colour photographs.
- One original photo ID Proof i.e. Aadhar card/Voter Card/Pan Card/Passport etc.
- D.O.B Certificate (10th Diploma / Marks card).
- Valid Category Certificate, if any applicable.
- Domicile Certificate.
- 10+2 Marks Sheet / Diploma, if applicable.
- Bonafide certificate on the format prescribed by the Board duly issued by the Controller/Registrar of the concerned University in respect of candidates, who have obtained Degrees from the Universities / Colleges/ Institutes outside the UT of J&K and other than Central Universities.
- Migrant Certificate issued by Relief & Rehabilitation Department.
- Other documents and Certificates as prescribed in the Advertisement Notification and Qualification prescribed therein.
- Degree/Three years diploma in Automobile / Mechanical Engineering from a recognized University Institute.
- Driving License of Motor Cycle with Gear (MCWG) and Light Motor Vehicles (LMV).

ANNEXURE "A"

JAMMU BASED CANDIDATES											
D.V. S.No.	Sr. No.	Roll Number	Application No.	Post	Item No.	Name of the Candidate	Father's Name	Category	Shortlisted Category	Final Marks	COMMITTEE
1-JMU	1	4070110181	2524308	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	NITAN VERMA	VINOD VERMA	OM	OM	85	J
2-JMU	2	4070110293	2524163	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	MOHIT TICKOO	BANSI LAL TICKOO	OM	OM	78.75	J
3-JMU	3	4070110260	2524174	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SHUL BHAT	VINOD KUMAR BHAT	OM	OM	72	J
4-JMU	4	4070110086	2524114	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	KAMAL BHAT	SHADI LAL BHAT	OM	OM	71.25	J
5-JMU	5	4070110298	2524130	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SUSHANT KOUL	ASHOK KUMAR KOUL	OM	OM	70.25	J
6-JMU	6	4070110154	2523930	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	RAHUL KOUL	OPENDER KUMAR KOUL	OM	OM	69.5	J
7-JMU	7	4070110227	2524323	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SAWAN DHAR	RAVI KUMAR DHAR	OM	OM	69.5	J
8-JMU	8	4070110065	2523974	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ABHIMANYU ZUTSHI	C L ZUTSHI	RBA	OM/RBA	68.75	J
9-JMU	9	4070110116	2523964	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	NAVEEN RAINA	PRADAMAN KRISHEN RAINA	OM	OM	63.5	
10-JMU	10	4070110016	2524248	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AVINASH PANDITA	SHUBAN LAL PANDITA	OM	OM	61.75	J
11-JMU	11	4070110247	2524209	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ASHUTOSH RAINA	MOHAN LAL RAINA	OM	OM	61	J
12-JMU	12	4070110008	2524218	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ASHWANI KUMAR RESHI	MADSUDAN RESHI	RBA	OM/RBA	60.25	J
13-JMU	13	4070110257	2523972	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	UDYAT DEV SINGH JAMWAL	JOGINDER SINGH JAMWAL	OM	OM	60.25	J
14-JMU	14	4070110291	2524021	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SAHIL KATH	PUSHKAR KATH	OM	OM	60	J
15-JMU	15	4070110180	2524072	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	DIVEYA AMBARDAR	BANSI LAL AMBARDAR	OM	OM	58.5	J
16-JMU	16	4070110148	2523947	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ARUN KAW	BUSHAN LAL KAW	OM	OM	58.25	J
17-JMU	17	4070110157	2524029	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AMAN MATTOO	JEETAN JI MATTOO	OM	OM	58.25	J
18-JMU	18	4070110052	2523981	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	DEEPAK	AVTAR KRISHAN PANDITA	RBA	OM/RBA	58	J
19-JMU	19	4070110169	2524325	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SURAJ KUMAR RAINA	RAJ KUMAR RAINA	OM	OM	57.25	J
20-JMU	20	4070110102	2524052	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AKSHAY KOUL	CHAND JI KOUL	OM	OM	56.75	J
21-JMU	21	4070110262	2524363	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ADITYA RAINA	SANJAY RAINA	OM	OM	56.25	J
22-JMU	22	4070110038	2523986	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	PAVITAR BHAT	RAMESH KUMAR BHAT	OM	OM	56	J
23-JMU	23	4070110214	2524340	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	VINAY PANDITA	ROMESH PANDITA	OM	OM	55	J
24-JMU	24	4070110265	2524160	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AMAN CHAKOO	ANIL KUMAR CHAKOO	OM	OM	55	J
25-JMU	25	4070110234	2524214	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	NIKHIL BAKSHI	BRJ NATH BAKSHI	OM	OM	54.75	J
26-JMU	26	4070110005	2524259	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	CHAAHAT BHAT	GIRDHARI LAL BHAT	RBA	RBA	54.5	J
27-JMU	27	4070110187	2524313	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ROHAN RAINA	BIHARI LAL RAINA	RBA	RBA	51.25	J
28-JMU	28	4070110015	2524139	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AMIT PANDITA	MAKHAN LAL PANDITA	RBA	RBA	51	J
29-JMU	29	4070110012	2523957	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	ROBIN PANDITA	RATTAN LAL PANDITA	RBA	RBA	51	J
30-JMU	30	4070110069	2524060	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	JAGANDEEP SINGH RAINA	JAGJEET SINGH RAINA	RBA	RBA	50.5	J
31-JMU	31	4070110258	2524194	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SAKSHI BHAT	RAVI KUMAR BHAT	EWS	EWS	46	J
32-JMU	32	4070110223	2523993	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	MANISH BHAN	BIHARI LAL BHAN	EWS	EWS	42.5	J
33-JMU	33	4070110150	2524353	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	KARAN KUMAR	RAMESH KUMAR	EWS	EWS	28.25	J
KASHMIR BASED CANDIDATES											
D.V. S.No.	Sr. No.	Roll Number	Application No.	Post	Item No.	Name of the Candidate	Father's Name	Category	Shortlisted Category	Final Marks	COMMITTEE
1-Kmr	1	4170118137	2523933	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SUHAIB AHMED KHAN	NAYEEM AHMED KHAN	OM	OM	71.25	K
2-Kmr	2	4170118126	2524031	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	AMIT DHAR	OMKAR NATH DHAR	OM	OM	67.25	K
3-Kmr	3	4170118095	2524327	MOTOR VEHICLE INSPECTOR	198	SURAJ RAINA	VINOD KUMAR RAINA	RBA	RBA	53.5	K

JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/48/2023-03 (7207093)

Dated: 09.06.2023

DIPK-3200-23

DT: 10/06/2023

Sd/-

(Reyaz Ahmad Malik) JKAS

Controller of Examinations

J&K Services Selection Board

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Salaud Din S/o Shams Ud Din R/o Parntee Panikhar Distt Kargil, I have Purchased Plot No. 1269 measuring 80x40 situated at in Housing colony Ompora Housing Colony Budgam from Shamas Ud Din S/o Haji Abdul Razak R/o Parntee Panikhar Distt Kargil, The one documents 1. Letter of Allotment letter issued by the J&K Housing Board Stands misplaced and are not traceable. I have applied for transfer of leasehold rights of above said plot in my favour. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi nagar, Jammu within a period of 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice. However, no objection will be entertained after the expiry of the above said period.

Name: Salaud Din

D/o Shams Ud Din

R/O Parntee Panikhar Distt Kargil At Present Chinar Colony Mehjoor Nagar

CORRECTION IN FATHERS NAME/ CASTE.

I, Athar Masood Qadri S/O Shamass-Ud Din Qadri R/O Agrikalan Tehsil Pattan District Baramula wants to change the fathers name in the school records of my ward namely Haya Athar D/o Athar Masood Qadri who was studied in class 6th year 2022-23 in New Convent School Malmoh Tehsil Pattan. The fathers name has been wrongly mentioned in school records as Haya Athar D/o Athar Masood Shah Qadri: instead of my actual name "Haya Athar D/O Athar Masood Qadri".

Now I wants to rectify/modify the name of father of my ward in school records as Haya Athar D/O Athar Masood Qadri instead of Haya Athar D/o Athar Masood Shah Qadri .In this regard, if any person having objections, then submit the same to the office of the Principal New Convent School Malmoh Pattan within seven days from the publication of this notice.

Athar Masood Qadri

Father Of Haya Athar

S/O Shamass-Ud Din Qadri

R/O Agrikalan Tehsil Pattan District Baramula

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

KASHMIR GOLF CLUB, M.A. ROAD SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-NIT No. 02 of 2023-24 Dated 10.06.2023

For and on behalf of the Administrator Kashmir Golf Club, e-tenders are invited by Executive Engineer Kahmir Golf Club Srinagar by e-tendering mode on item wise Percentage basis from approved and eligible Registered Contractors /suppliers/ Firms with J&K State UTI, PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. for the following works:-

S No	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Eamed Money (in Rs)	Cost of T/Doc	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	Additional Facility to workshop (Reliability Maintenances/ Visual Inspections and Condi-tion Monitoring for Golf Course Machinery) for the year 2023-24 at KGC Srinagar	8.00 Lacs	16000/- in shape of CDR or FDR in favour of Executive Engineer KGC	800 /= Non Refundable in shape of Bank Challan CD-0005010100005998 J&K Bank Branch Res-idency Road Srinagar in favour Administrator KGC	Full financial year 2023-24	Firms Registered with GST in Mechanical Or Mechanical Suppliers Or Registered Heavy-duty work-shops Or Electro Mechanical Contractors/ Firms Or Author-ized Service Centres for Turf Machines and equipments	5452 Tour-ism

Position of AA: Accorded

Position of TS: Obtained

Special conditions:-

- No exemption is allowed and so all bidders must Upload Proof of EMD and Tender Processing Fee.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason at any stage.
- Intending bidders shall upload scanned copies of documents of valid registration card with renewal of 2023-24 /PAN/GST registration with latest renewal for the month of May 2023 OR 1st Quarter (i.e Jan to March 2023). However successful bidders shall produce the original copies of same before issuance of contract.
- The successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of Cost of Contract pledged to Executive Engineer KGC as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 02 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- The successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of Cost of Contract pledged to Executive Engineer KGC as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 03days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The typographical error in the BOQ like Unit of item Quantity of item etc , if any found during e- NIT or after end date of NIT shall be rectified in the allotment as per the estimate .

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10.06.2023 4:00 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 10.06.2023 to 20.06.2023 (4.00PM on wards)
3	Bid submission Start Date	10.06.2023 4:00 Pm on wards
4	Bid Submission End Date	20.06.2023 upto 03:00
5	Date & time of opening of Bids(Online)	21.06.2023 at 11:00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer KGC Srinagar

No: KGC/EE/2023-24/09-11

Dated: 10 / 06 /2023

DIPK-NB-1205-23

DT: 10/06/2023

Executive Engineer

Kashmir Golf Club

Srinagar

JAMMU AND KASHMIR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

SOLINA SRINAGAR, KASHMIR - 190001

website: <http://jkpsc.nic.in>

email: jkpscsecretary@gmail.com

Jammu: 0191-2566528 (f) 2566530

Srinagar: 0194-2312629 (f) 2312631

Subject: Interview Notice for the post of Scientific Officer, FSL, in Home Department, notified vide Notification No. 06-PSC (DR-P) of 2021 dated 07.07.2021.

NOTICE

DATED: 09-06-2023

The Interview of the following candidates for the post of Scientific Officer, FSL, in Home Department, notified vide Notification No. 06-PSC (DR-P) of 2021 dated 07.07.2021, shall be held on 26.06.2023 at 10.00 AM at the Office of Jammu and Kashmir Public Service Commission, Solina Srinagar:-

S. No	Roll No	Name of the Candidate	Post for which to be Interviewed
1	5000037/1000007/ 9000006/6000055	Khalid UI Islam Rather	Narcotics/Ballistics/Physics/ Chemistry & Toxicology
2	1200008/1000008/ 9000007	Diinawaz Ahmad Bhat	Cyber Forensic/Ballistics/Physics
3	1100001/5000001	Mir Tajamul Islam	Documents/Norcotics
4	1100005/6000018	Bashir Illahi Dar	Documents/Chemistry & Toxicology
5	1100021/1200017	Amit Koul	Documents/Cyber Forensic
6	1100023/6000085	Vishal Singh Kotwal	Documents/ Chemistry & Toxicology
7	5000025/6000035	Rafiq Ahmad Rather	Narcotics/ Chemistry & Toxicology
8	5000043/ 6000061	Aarif Hussain Shah	Narcotics/ Chemistry & Toxicology
9	5000006	Guizar Ahmad Bhat	Narcotics
10	1100020	Danesh Sharma	Documents
11	1200014	Nayeem Abbas Hamdani	Cyber Forensic
12	1200019	Aditya Bali	Cyber Forensic
13	1200021	Zameer Ahmad Wani	Cyber Forensic
14	1000002/9000004	Abdul Haris Rather	Ballistic/Physics
15	1000013	Rajan	Ballistic
16	9000003	Abdul Gaffar Lone	Physics
17	8000022/7000025	Nadeem Mubarak	Biology-Serology/DNA
18	8000053	Irshad Ullah sheikh	Biology-Serology
19	8000089	Sandeep Singh Pagoch	Biology-Serology
20	8000092	Sunny Sharma	Biology-Serology
21	8000065	Adfar Amin	Biology-Serology
22	7000011	Aehtisham Hussain	DNA
23	7000017	Zahid Yaqoob Bhat	DNA
24	7000055	Malik Gowharul Haq	DNA
25	7000065	Aanisa Nazir	DNA
26	6000010	Masrat Rashid	Chemistry & Toxicology
27	6000017	Rayees Ahmad Bhat	Chemistry & Toxicology
28	6000034	Shabir Ahmad Mir	Chemistry & Toxicology
29	6000044	Malik Gowharul Haq	Chemistry & Toxicology
30	6000065	Murtaza Gani	Chemistry & Toxicology
31	6000092	Ankush Mahajan	Chemistry & Toxicology
32	6000027	Farooq Ahmad Parray	Chemistry & Toxicology

- The candidature of all the candidates is purely provisional. The documents of the candidates will be verified at the time of interview. In case any discrepancy with regard to age and other eligibility conditions is noticed at the time of interview or, thereafter, the candidate(s) shall not be allowed to appear in the interview or where the candidate has already appeared in interview, the candidature shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio.
- The candidates shall produce their original certificates/testimonials along with hard copy of application forms on the date of interview.

No. PSC/DR-II/Scientific Officer/2021/06

Dated: 09-06-2023

DIPK-3217-23

DT: 10/06/2023

Sd/-

(Bashir Ahmad Dar) JKAS

Secretary

J&K Public Service Commission

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Maiden National Level NEOCON-2023 Conference Concludes At SKICC

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Annual North Zone NeoCon-2023 conference organized for the very first time in the history of Jammu and Kashmir has concluded in SKICC Srinagar on Saturday.

As per news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the conference was organized by NNF-Kashmir, a city/UT branch of NNF India.

Doctors said conducting such a conference is important development related to the academic world in Kashmir, the Department of Paediatrics GMC Anantnag is hosting “North Zone NEOCON-2023” a Zonal National level Conference of National Neonatology Forum of India.

They said that the conference has focused on several important areas related to neonatal health and medical practice. Topics that were covered included neonatal resuscitation, neonatal ventilation, Quality improvement, neonatal nursing and other common neonatal health issues and interventions.

“It also focused on providing participants with the latest advancements and updates in the field of neonatology,” they added.

Notably, the Department of Pediatrics, Government Medical College (GMC) Anantnag played a great role in conducting this “Annual North Zone Conference, Neo-Con-2023” at SKICC Srinagar, from June 9 to June

10, 2023 in Coordination with “National Neonatology Forum of India and its JK Chapter”.

On the last day during the prize distribution ceremony in the category of “Free Paper Presentation” Dr Chaitra Angadi won Gold medal, Dr Prachi Patwal Silver and Dr Andleeb Majeed Bronze Medal while as in the Category of “Poster Papers” Dr Risha Dev won Gold, Dr Prachi Patwal Silver and Dr Om Prakash Yadav and Dr Shaib Mohd Bhat won Bronze medal each.

In the category of “Award Papers” Dr Bhrajishna Pallapothu won Gold medal while as Dr Smitamayee Sahu had to settle with Silver medal.

Patron and Principal GMC Anantnag, Dr (Prof), Syed Tariq Qureshi while thanking the team of organisers including Dr Ravi Sachan, Dr Sunil Dutt Sharma, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Bhat and Dr Showkat Hussain Tali in particular for successfully conducting the national level conference and he further extended gratitude to all the dignitaries, delegates and participants for their participation, contribution and commitment in providing better child and neonatal care in particular to the society at large.

“The conference was to update healthcare professionals with the latest evidence-based practices and equip them with the necessary skills to improve neonatal care and outcomes,” said Patron and Principal GMC Anantnag, Dr (Prof) Syed Tariq Qureshi.

Comm Secy Inaugurates Stone Art Exhibition In Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce (I&C), Vikramjit Singh, today inaugurated the Stone Art Exhibition at the famed Kashmir Arts Emporium here.

This exhibition marks a significant milestone in promotion of local art and craftsmanship, bringing together the rich heritage of stone carving and the vibrant spirit of Kashmir region.

During the exhibition, famous Stone Artist of Kashmir Manzoor Ahmad Bhat from district Ganderbal displayed his exquisite collection of intricately carved stone artefacts and other masterpieces with a diverse range of sculptures, figurines, and decorative items.

After inaugurating the exhibition, the Commissioner Secretary empha-

sized on the importance of supporting and encouraging traditional craftsmanship. He commended the exceptional skills and dedication of Manzoor Ahmad in preserving and promoting this unique art form, which has been a part of Kashmir's artistic heritage for centuries.

Commissioner Secretary further said that organizing this Stone Art Exhibition at Kashmir Arts Emporium is a testament to the government's vision of revitalizing the traditional arts and crafts sector in the region. He added that the government is committed to provide every kind of assistance to local artists and these platforms are being provided to them so that they can showcase their skills and their exceptional talent is celebrated here.



Director Airport Srinagar, Javed Anjum flags off E-Cart services for passengers at Srinagar Airport on Saturday.

KO Photo Abid Bhat

Restoration, Preservation Of 11 Religious Places, Heritage Sites In Srinagar Approved

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Saturday accorded approval for carrying out restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of Architecture and Heritage of Religious Places, Heritage Sites of the summer capital.

Approval came during a meeting of the District Level Coordination-cum-Implementation Committee (DLIC) held under the Chairmanship of the DC at the Conference Hall of DC Office Complex to review the progress of works being executed on development and restoration of Religious Places/Assets in the District.

The sites includes KhanKhahi Moula of Mir Syed Ali Hamdani(RA), Shiv Temple at Vicharnag, Khankhahi Naqashband Sahib(RA), Bhairav Mandir Chattabal, Zeashta Devi at Zeathyar, Aali Masjid at Eidgah, Shrine of Baba Ghulam-ud-din (RA) at Brein Nishat, Narayan Mutt Temple in Tulsibagh, Shiv Temple Danapora, Basant Bagh, Pond and Masjid at Magdooom Mandal, and Restoration of Historical Kalai of Naagar Nagar Nowhatta.

The Deputy Commissioner was given a detailed overview about the DPRs regarding the all identified Religious Places/Heritage Sites under “Scheme for Revival, Restoration, Preservation and Maintenance of Architecture and Heritage in Jammu and Kashmir”.

On the occasion, the DC accorded approval for carrying the restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of Architecture and Heritage of Religious Places/Heritage Sites of Srinagar District including

With regard to Rs 1.36 crore proj-

ects approved for Development of Ziyarat of Hazrat Sheikh Dawood RA, Batamaloo, the DC was apprised that due to lack of cooperation from Management committee of the said



Shrine the proposed renovation restoration project has been withdrawn.

During the meeting the DC also took a detailed review about the progress of ongoing works being executed on Restoration of Temple at Ganpatyar, Restoration & Conservation of Shrine of Syed Mohammad Hussain Mazandarani, Khankahi Sokhta, Reconstruction of Mangleshwar Bhairav Asthapan at Brari Nambal, Babadam, Development & Restoration of Ram Mandir at Safakadal.

On the occasion, the Deputy Com-

missioner was apprised that on Rs 62.64 lakh project of Restoration of Temple at Ganpatyar work is going on in full swing and over 90 percent of work has been completed so far. He was also informed that Restoration & Conservation works on Shrine of Syed Mohammad Hussain Mazandarani at Khankahi Sokhta is being carried out at a cost of Rs 43.44 lakh and work is under progress.

Similarly, the DC was given appraisal about progress of Rs 1.62 crore project being carried out on Reconstruction of 700-year-old Mangleshwar Bhairav Asthapan at Brari Nambal, Babadam. He was informed that work is going in full swing on different components of the project including reconstruction of main Temple, Guard Room and fixing of four overhead informatory directional signage.

With regard to the Rs 2.16 crore projects for Development & Restoration of Ram Mandir Safakadal, the DC was informed that work has been started by the R&B Department.

Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy stressed on all concerned executing agencies to adopt a co-ordinated approach to ensure time bound completion of all historical and heritage religious places/assets of the District.

The DC said the aim of the projects is to revive and preserve the Religious Places/Heritage Sites that have historical, cultural, religious significance, besides reflecting the representation of every community and every section of our cultural society. The DC stressed that conservation efforts must retain the aesthetic, historic and social values of our great civilization and cultural legacy.

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HIGHWAY STATUS



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



PRAYERS

FAJR 3 :32
ZUHR 12:30
ASR 5: 31
Magrib 7:45
ISHA 9:26

This Day In History

- 1774 - Jews of Algiers escape attacking Spanish Army
- 1837 - The Broad Street Riot occurs in Boston, fueled by ethnic tensions between English-Americans and Irish-Americans
- 1864 - The Battle of Trevilian Station, the bloodiest and largest all-cavalry battle of the American Civil War, begins in Louisa County, Virginia
- 1864 - Battle at Cynthiana Kentucky: General Hobscons unit caught
- 1864 - Battle of Laurel Hill, West Virginia
- 1898 - 1st US Marines (600) land at Guantanamo Cuba during Spanish-American War
- 1901 - Cook Islands annexed and proclaimed part of New Zealand
- 1913 - Grand Vizir Mahmud Shevket Pasha is assassinated, resulting in continuing Young Turk terrorism until WWI
- 1917 - King Alexander assumes the throne of Greece after his father Constantine I abdicates under pressure by allied armies occupying Athens
- 1920 - Republicans nominate Warren G. Harding for US president
- 1934 - Disarmament conference in Geneva fails
- 1935 - Inventor Edwin Armstrong gives the first public demonstration of FM broadcasting in the United States, at Alpine, New Jersey
- 1940 - World War II: British forces bomb Genoa and Turin in Italy
- 1940 - World War II: First attack of the Italian Air force on the island of Malta
- 1942 - German army defeated at El-Alamein, North Africa
- 1942 - US and USSR sign Lend-Lease agreement during WW II
- 1943 - British invades Pantelleria (a tiny island south of Sicily)
- 1944 - 15 US aircraft carriers attack Japanese bases on Marianas
- 1951 - Mozambique becomes an oversea province of Portugal
- 1958 - UN Security council sends observers to Lebanon

From KO Archives

Pandits Feel At Home With Old Muslim Neighbours

Observer News Service

JAMMU: They have started visiting their land of birth as tourists. They stay the between 10 days and two months to escape from the scorching heat in the plains. Mohan Lal and his wife spent several days in Srinagar recently. On their return they were excited over the way their friends neighbours and other acquaintances, whom they met after over 17 years received them with love and warmth.

“We found as if we were part of the social fabric.” said Mohan Lal. His wife, Laxmi said that we visited our ancestral house in Rainawari.

It brought back the pictures of our childhood days playing with our Muslim neighbours and friends.” Mohan Lai said “We met scores of Pandits who had come to Srinagar not only from Jammu but from other parts of the country.” They said that scores of families, which had not sold their houses had been staying there for the last two months.

They have decided to spent the summer months and return to the plains sometimes in September.

Dwarika Nath, who belonged to Anantnag district, said. “I have been going to Kashmir for the last three years as a tourist. I do not stay in hotels or houseboats. I feel comfortable in the houses of my Muslim friends and neighbours.”

Mohan Lal, who has been living in Jammu and Delhi for the last 17 years, said that “though we crave for returning to Kashmir for many among us the situation has changed to the extent that we may not be able to resettle ourselves permanently.” He explained that children of a major section of Kashmiri Pandit community has, after coming out of various professional colleges are suitably settled and hence it will not be “feasible for them to return to Kashmir.” Others who have returned from the valley in recent days said besides these domestic issues, the security scenario in Kashmir is still not conducive for their return and rehabilitation.
(Kashmir Observer, 11 June, 2007)

IN THE COURT OF ADDITIONAL DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE, SRINAGAR

Coram: Ms. Sandeep Kour

J.O Code: JR-00111

In the case of Bilal Ahmad Rather

V/s

Zanoon Ahmad Cherway

Nature of the Case: Suit under order 37 of CPC for recovery of Rs 2100000

Date of Institution: 22/02/2021

Summon To: Zanoon Ahmad Cherway S/o Habib-ullah Cherway R/o Qazi Masjid Karfali Mohalla Near Mohd Ayoub (Kiryana Marchant)

Whereas, this court issue the instant summons for service upon you by advertisement through local daily news paper having largest circulation in your area of residence.

Whereas, the plaintiff/s has/have filed the aforesaid civil suit against you in this court. This court has posted it for your appearance and for hearing on in the forenoon at 10:30 am. You are hereby summoned to 12/07/2023 appear in this court on the date so fixed in the said civil suit, either in person or by your Ld. counsel or through your duly authorized agent to file your written response statement to the suit and to answer all the material questions relating to the case.

Taking notice that should you fail to so appear or attend in this court on the date so fixed for your appearance and hearing, it shall proceed to hear the matter in your absence and deal with it according to law.

This Notice/Summon is issued under my hand and seal of this court today, the 03rd day of June 2023 for service upon the defendant/s

I/C Addl. District Judge,
Srinagar.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION ANANTNAG HQ AWANTIPORA

GIST

GIST FOR E-NIT S. No. 18 /MIDA of 2023-24

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir e-tenders in single cover system are invited from reputed and experienced Registered Electrical/Mechanical contractors/ Workshop holders /Firms whose registration are valid in terms of standing rules with sufficient experience and financial resources dealing with

S. No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Cost of Tender Documents	Earnest Money @2% of Adv Cost	Time for completion	Major Head	Position of AAA/TS	Position of Funds
1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10
1.	Design, Manufacture, Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 10 cusec capacity horizontal pump with 12 Mtr dynamic head for LIS Chakoor Unit No.1	4.50 lacs	500/=	9000/=	60 days	M&E 2702	Available 4-MCO of 202324 Dt 01.06.2023	Budgetary Provision under M&E for F.Y 2023-24

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site (jktenders.gov.in) as per the dates shown below:-

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
1	Publishing date of NIT	10	06	2023	04:00 PM
2	Clarification start Date	10	06	2023	04:00 PM
3	Clarification End Date	12	06	2023	03:00 PM
4	Prebid Meeting	12	06	2023	03:00 PM
5	Download start date	12	06	2023	04:00 PM
6	Bid submission start date	12	06	2023	04:00 PM
7	Bid submission end date	03	07	2023	02:00 PM
5	Bid opening date	04	07	2023	11:00 AM or any date convenient to Deptt

All the terms and conditions will remain same as laid down in e -Nit & PWD form No.25-double.

No. MIDA/ 928-34

Dated:- 10.06.2023

DIPK-3177-23

DT: 10/06/2023

Sd /=

Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag
HQ Awantipora

DON'T FRET OVER RESULTS

Wasim Kakroo

“FLYING Colours”, that's what we term success in school exams. But what of students who haven't managed to score the perfect score? And What of those who have scored the perfect score?

Our grading system in examinations is extremely self-defeating. It not only puts pressure on students on account of competition but also overestimates the worth of a thousand students who have managed to score way too high.

Good performance of students in exams is important. Students who do well in school enjoy better health, make more money, and give more to society than students who do badly. However, our education system is becoming more and more unproductive and fruitless.

The trend of awarding 100% marks is senseless. If the evaluators find certain terms in the answers, they give the candidates full scores. The examiner does not assess the appropriateness or analytical skills even in the long-type essay-like answers. It promotes cramming tendencies that lead to flawless scores even in subjects such as English and History.

Schools, Colleges and Universities are setting up the highest cut-off to admit students in their institutes. However, there is a discrepancy in the percentages and marks awarded by school boards across the country. While the average ICSE score is 80 percent, few state boards would consider it an excellent performance.

The majority of students are unable to qualify for elite institutions as a result of this imbalance, resulting in increased mental stress and feelings of failure.

Personally, I believe we're setting a wrong example. We should put greater emphasis on learning. Learning and comprehending topics are more crucial than cramming for exams. The emphasis on good grades is systematically destroying critical thinking. Is it really possible to get a perfect score in English literature? I don't think so. But it is not an uncommon occurrence. How is it happening? This is only possible if each question has pre-determined model answers.

Also, it is possible if the child can memorise the answers and write them verbatim. This way the evaluators are destroying the originality in creative thinking that a language encourages.

In addition, in the pursuit of high grades, we often overlook emotional intelligence, social skills, and other factors. As discussed above, this tendency is affecting cut-off marks at different institutions as well.

days. This deluge of above 90% scores makes it difficult to judge the capability of students and thus it hurts those students who truly deserve to have an educational opportunity. Such a situation causes marks/grade inflation. much like

which can ultimately lead to fear of failure. One of the reasons for this is that a student with perfectionistic tendencies can tell him/herself that they could have accomplished more if they had worked harder or for longer and thus they continuously have a very negative attitude towards failures. Perfectionism can lead to a near-complete withdrawal from studies – and, in some cases, from all other activities. It can lead to procrastination until the deadline approaches. For such perfectionist students, the transition to higher education can be a watershed moment. A requirement of self-learning, independent living, a lack of predictability and structure, fewer and less evident goals, and more brilliant and competitive peers can all upset a student who has been excelling in school. Such students might spend their entire lives attempting to achieve unrealistic perfection and might feel a sense of discontentment about whatever they do in their lives and hence open the possibilities of mental health issues, such as anxiety, panic attacks, depression, OCD in their lives.

My sincere advice as a clinical psychologist to students is to keep in mind that you are not your scores in your exams. Having a degree isn't a reflection of your abilities or a guarantee of a wonderful life. If you don't perform well, that doesn't imply you won't be able to find work that is fascinating or gratifying. Focus more on deriving meaning from all the important areas of your life including your self-care, family relations, friendships, your contributions in community, your religion, your hobbies and obviously your education and profession



In my opinion, I feel the process of evaluation should be changed. There should not be excessive scoring in the marking scheme as is the trend in our valley currently. Questions should be more difficult and based on assertion and reasoning so that you have to think about them rather than cram them. I don't think an examiner would give full marks to a child who thinks and writes because the answer will differ from student to student. In the current exam pattern, students simply pick anything from the book and receive full marks. Learning by rote does not benefit a youngster in any manner. The educationists should go over the paper setting process again.

Current marking pattern is really percentage orientated. If a school's students scored more than 90% in exams, especially the board exams, it is regarded as very good. No one pays attention to students who earn less than 90% these

usual market inflation. In marks/grade inflation, high marks such as 90% become worthless because more students are awarded high scores.

Students who received average grades should not be concerned about their grades and should instead focus on their studies. My advice to those students who scored 90% or above: don't get too excited. It's simply that you do exceptionally well on occasion, but ultimately, learning is more essential than grades. My honest advice to parents is to not put pressure on their children to achieve high grades. We must nurture a child's inherent ability to innovate and be their natural self for which lateral thinking is more critical than cramming and parroting of content from prescribed books in order to become a top scorer.

Another aspect of marks/grade race is it might lead to the development of self criticism and perfectionism in students

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published on 28th February, 2022 and is being reproduced in the context of recently declared 12th class results

The author is a licensed clinical psychologist (alumni of Govt. Medical College Srinagar). He works at Kashmir Life Line, a free mental health counseling service. Author can be reached at wasimkakroo21@gmail.com

An Uncertain Future

Anup Sinha

The world is challenged by many existential threats. Some of them are old, some more recent, and some hanging over a not-so-distant future. If one considers all the threats together, the forecast indeed induces a sense of foreboding. All the cheers of good tidings cannot overcome the possibility of a grim future. All these threats are human-made – unintended consequences of our intense desire for material consumption and comfort.

The first threat is an old one, that of nuclear weapons being used in an arena of war, leading to mass destruction. More countries than ever before are armed with growing numbers of deadly weapons. In most of these nations, the political leadership does not signal the maturity and responsibility that the ownership of these weapons demands. There are many related worries. Rogue terrorists could make nuclear weapons themselves, a task that is possible and relatively cheap. What is even more terrifying is the knowledge that not all nuclear weapons manufactured are accurately accounted for. Although no mishap has occurred so far, this does not mean that a disaster is impossible. Geopolitical tensions between India and Pakistan, between Russia and Ukraine, between North Korea and the United States of America are all flashpoints that might ignite without much warning.

The potential of nuclear disaster is aggravated by the fact that nations are moving away from global collaborations and cooperation to more inward-looking ideologies where the fear of and hatred for the foreigner and the immigrant are deeply entrenched. Fanned by political hot air from authoritarian leaders, this crude brand of nationalism survives and flourishes. Tension about the backlash of retreat from the globalisation of the last decade of the 20th century and the first decade of this century does not

mean a return to the world of the 1980s. That is not possible anymore. Consumers have exhibited a huge appetite for goods and services from all over the world. New international supply chains had made that possible to a large extent. Now, with the growing political preference for protectionism, the supply chains are broken, while domestic production systems have not re-adjusted yet. Hence, costs of production have risen fast, as have inflationary pressures across the globe. Output growth is sluggish, with strong recessionary tendencies being witnessed even in some strong economies of the world. The global economic disorder, along with a disrupted financial system, is here to stay, at least for some time.

The magic of economic growth and material prosperity has accelerated the use of fossil fuels, resulting in ever-increasing carbon emissions. The unstoppable increase in emissions has brought the threat of climate change closer and closer. Now, most serious climate scientists believe that the average temperature rise is likely to be closer to 2° Celsius than 1.5° Celsius. At the moment, even a rise of 3° Celsius by the end of the century cannot be ruled out. The signs of climate change and the attendant unpredictable and unusual weather events have clearly shown that climate tipping points are much closer than we thought. Climate change is, arguably, the most important one of the long list of environmental threats looming on the horizon. The great growth story has resulted in a great acceleration in the use and depletion of critical natural resources such as fresh water, soil nutrients, forest cover, biodiversity, minerals and ocean ecosystems through acidification. Despite a long list of international meetings and agreements on the reduction of carbon emissions, there has been no success. As of now, the way the nations of the world are behaving, the targets of the Paris Agreement will remain unfulfilled. Economic de-



“The potential of nuclear disaster is aggravated by the fact that nations are moving away from global collaborations and cooperation to more inward-looking ideologies where the fear of and hatred for the foreigner and the immigrant are deeply entrenched

velopment is unsustainable.

Last, but not the least, is the threat that appears as a seductive solution to many of humanity's problems of health, education and effective governance – the threat from the new technologies of artificial intelligence and machine learning. It has often been claimed with the wisdom of hindsight that new technologies are initially always suspected of displacing human beings from their jobs. However, all new technology has ultimately resulted in creating more jobs and made human life a little less troublesome. This time, the emerging technology is qualitatively different from the older technologies, including the first wave of the information and communication technology revolution. These new technologies can make a device take its own decisions, not necessarily sticking to the set of instructions given to it at the time of training. In this way, it takes something away from human beings. Moreover, the new technologies can be creative and generate new ideas on their own. Unlike the entire gamut of machines that humans have known and used since the Stone Age, the new ones will have autonomy and agency. Hence, they will ultimately be able to learn and act on their own. They will dominate humans according to the laws of evolution and might ultimately displace us from being the most influential species on planet earth. The comparison of their intelligence and our own, according to some scientists, would be the difference between our brains and that of a frog's. And we do not show a great deal of respect for the cerebral ability of frogs.

As these threats keep growing in magnitude over time, the cocktail effect can be quite deadly. All these threats increase vulnerabilities. These vulnerabilities, in turn, create insecurities. First of all, there will be a steady rise in insecurities of all sorts that will become manifest in everyday life. Insecurity about the loss of economic stability, insecurity

ty about lethal diseases, about natural disasters like floods and fires, insecurity about displacement and, above all, insecurity about bodily suffering and death. Despite the staggering rise in global inequalities in income and wealth over the last 100 years, these insecurities will be felt by the rich and the poor alike. The rich might be able to defend themselves a little while longer than the poor, but ultimately the bell will toll for them too.

Human behaviour tends to be very defensive when faced with a variety of threats. Thinking tends to become short-term and self-centred with a focus on survival. An alternative behavioural response is to believe that the threats are overstated and not immediate in nature. Then people have a marked tendency to ignore them altogether or assign unusually low probabilities of their occurrence. In the political arena, such threats are used to exploit the vulnerabilities and insecurities that arise. People look for distraction or salvation from threats. A political saviour who can distract attention, in whatever fashion, from the perils of the here and now would be considered a messiah. A charismatic false prophet who can make people forget their real condition could swiftly rise to the helm of power. People also wilfully accept greater control and authoritarianism, thereby relegating the responsibility over their own lives. The whole culture of fear and anxiety discourages the need to think freely. The authoritarian repressions of dialogue and dissent are not objected to. Most refuse to believe the terrible news. Instead, in the brave new world of forgetfulness, they wear a smile on their faces, and a badge of their leader on their chests.

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

“

WITH THE HIJAB, A WOMAN IS NO LONGER BURDENED by an obscene society's expectations of what is considered desirable. She no longer feels compelled to rely on her physical appearance to gain recognition or acceptance from those around her. In fact she lives to make herself happy first, rather than to make others happy first.”



“

THE HIJAB REPRESENTS A WOMAN'S SUBMISSION to her Creator and her connection with her faith or culture. It elevates her position in the sight of Allah or in her society and endears her to her spouse.”

The HIJAB Is Much More Than Just A Marker of Muslim Identity

Sahil Sharifdin Bhat & Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

"I do not like what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it."
(Voltaire)

The controversy surrounding the Hijab, a religious head covering supposedly only worn by Muslim women, has been a contentious issue across the world over the past few years. Supporters argue that it is an essential expression of religious and cultural freedom and personal choice, allowing women to adhere to their faith and culture and maintain their modesty. Critics, on the other hand, view it as a symbol of oppression, arguing that it restricts women's autonomy and perpetuates gender inequality. The debate has intensified in various countries, leading to legal battles, social tensions, and discussions about cultural assimilation versus multiculturalism. The controversy reflects broader conversations about religious freedom, women's rights, and the intersection of religion and public life in diverse societies.

The valley of Kashmir is now embroiled in the same controversy. Recently, several female students from Vishwa Bharti Higher Secondary School in Srinagar alleged that their principal made a derogatory statement, telling them to "go to a Madrasa" if they wanted to wear the Hijab inside the school. The incident occurred on Thursday, 8th June 2023. This incident highlights the ongoing debate surrounding the Hijab, with different opinions prevailing. While some argue that women should wear the Hijab, others believe that they should not. It is crucial to recognize that women's voices too should be heard in this matter. I have heard some women saying, "the Hijab is our choice" and I reckon that nobody has a right to challenge anyone's choice.

Everyone should have the right to live and choose his/her dress code without imposition. Promoting tolerance and respecting individual choices is vital and intolerance towards others must be a punishable offense in all honorable nations. In schools, students are required to adhere to a uniform dress code and wear a simple Hijab on top of it, not a trendy and elaborately designed one that has become popular nowadays. The main

purpose of the Hijab is to promote modesty and simplicity, not to display glamour.

What is Hijab?

Different religious and cultural traditions have their own names for the head coverings worn by women. Jews refer to it as the 'Tichel', Christians as the 'Mantilla', Hindus as the 'Ghungat' or 'Pallu', Sikhs as the 'Chunni', and Muslims use terms like 'Khimar', 'Chador', 'Burqa', 'Hijab' etc. Regardless of the name or style, the Hijab is simply a piece of cloth worn by women of diverse faiths and races to shield their bodies from unwanted male gaze. It serves as a means for women to guard their modesty and preserve their dignity, protecting them from objectification and unwanted attention. It allows women to define their personal boundaries and assert their autonomy over their bodies. When Christian nuns wear the Hijab, there is no problem. When Hindu and Sikh women wear it, there is no problem. When Jewish women wear it, there is no problem. However, when Muslim women wear it, there is a big problem. The Hijab is not a sign or symbol of subjugation or suppression of women, but rather an expression of individual choice and individual freedom. When a woman walks around in a bikini or a skirt, nobody bothers her. When a woman wears male clothing, nobody bothers her either. However, when a Muslim woman chooses to adopt the Hijab, all official and unofficial forces come into action, leaving no stone unturned to harass and harm that Muslim woman. The fact remains that hate is short-lived, while love and truth are everlasting. No power on the earth can annihilate the culture, traditions, customs, and faith of Muslims. Islam is not the name of a tree that can be easily uprooted. Islam is a faith followed by two billion people residing in over fifty countries in the world. Many people have foolishly attempted in the past to erase Islam from the face of the earth, but they have failed miserably. It would be better for the enemies of Islam to cease such prejudices against Muslim women, as they will not succeed in this nefarious mission.

"Aahun se soz-e-ishq mitaya nah jayega.
Phonkun se yeh chiraagh bujhaya nah jayega."
[The fire of love cannot be extinguished

through sighs;

This lamp cannot be put out with blows and puffs.]

History and Importance of the Hijab

It may come as a surprise to many that Islam was not the inventor of modesty or the Hijab. These concepts existed in the laws of religions that were revealed before Islam, and traces of them can still be found in the modified books of those faiths.

"But every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is the same as having her head shaved. For if a woman does not cover her head, she might as well have her hair cut off; but if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, then she should cover her head." [The Bible, 1 Corinthians 11:5-6]

"God made you women, so that you shall lower your gaze, do not look at men, keep your feet close, cover your head and do not disclose the garment, which should be concealed with the veil." (Rig Veda Book 8 Hymn 33 Mantra 19-20)

The Hijab represents a woman's submission to her Creator and her connection with her faith or culture. It elevates her position in the sight of Allah or in her society and endears her to her spouse. No man with a sense of gayrah (honour) would like any stranger to gaze at her female folk lustfully. In Islam, the Hijab is a test for the Muslim woman. It is clear from the Qur'an and the Hadiths that the Hijab is a religious obligation, which a woman has to undertake. There is no scholarly difference on this point and the whole Muslim Ummah has applied it for over 14 centuries. When a Muslim woman wears the Hijab, she is obeying and submitting to Allah. The following texts from the authentic Islamic books refer to the obligatory nature of the Hijab:

"O Prophet! Ask your wives, daughters, and believing women to draw their cloaks over their bodies. In this way, it is more likely that they will be recognized as virtuous and not be harassed. And Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful." [Quran : 33 : 59]

"There are two categories of people of Hell whom I have not yet seen: a group having whips like the tails of oxen with which they will beat

people. And women who will be dressed but appear to be naked they will incline to evil and make others incline to it. Their heads will be like the humps of a two-humped camel inclined to one side. They will not enter Paradise and they will not smell its fragrance even though its fragrance can be smelled from such-and-such a far distance." (Sahih Muslim, Hadith no. 2128)

Dear women, the choice is yours: Do you want to wear clothes approved by politicians, actors and actresses, but not approved by the Prophet of Islam (PBUH), thus potentially leaving Islam and entering Hellfire? Or do you want to live this earthly life in a disciplined manner, following the guidelines laid down by the Prophet of Islam (PBUH), the greatest genius ever born? Politicians, actors, and actresses are like candles that burn out quickly but the holy prophet Mohammad (PBUH) is the dazzling sun that has been shining on the world for fourteen long centuries. It is important to note that the Prophet of Islam (PBUH) was not an ordinary man; he was praised by truly intelligent and unbiased people worldwide. Read below what Michael H. Hart, a non-Muslim genius writes about your beloved prophet:

"My choice of Muhammad to lead the list of the world's most influential persons may surprise some readers and may be questioned by others, but he was the only man in history who was supremely successful on both the religious and secular level."

Wearing the Hijab allows a woman to free herself from the superficial and self-centered desire to showcase her beauty and engage in competition with other women. This innate desire, which is intensified by extravagant displays, can be tempered through modesty and covering. With the Hijab, a woman is no longer burdened by an obscene society's expectations of what is considered desirable. She no longer feels compelled to rely on her physical appearance to gain recognition or acceptance from those around her. In fact she lives to make herself happy first, rather than to make others happy first.

I humbly request those who harbor intentions to harm and harass Muslims to redirect their time and efforts towards more constructive endeavours. Instead of worrying about the Hijab and the freedom of Muslim women, focus on building your career, contributing to the progress and prosperity of your own families, or addressing pressing issues in your respective areas such as hunger, poverty, and lack of education. Respect the autonomy of Muslims, particularly Muslim women, and let them live the life of their choice, not of your choice. It is crucial to recognize that forsaking the Hijab by Muslim women will not resolve global challenges like climate change, poverty, growing inflation or unemployment. Refuse to be deviated by your corrupt leaders who attempt to divert your attention from matters of utmost importance to trivial concerns like the Hijab. Kindly live and let live peacefully.

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

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Railways orders double-locking of all signalling assets

AGENCEIS

New Delhi: The Railway Board Saturday ordered a double-locking arrangement for all relay rooms with train controlling mechanisms, relay huts housing signalling and telecommunications equipment of level-crossings, and point and track circuit signals, officials said.

The missive to the railway zones is the latest in a series of directions issued since the June 2 accident involving three trains in Odisha's Balasore which killed more than 280 people.

The order indicates that the "access to the relay room" was key to the "signalling interference" that caused the Coromandel Express to take the loop line at Balasore and crash into a stationary goods train.

With enough evidence to show that some kind of tampering was done with the interlocking system, the job now is to make it "tamper-proof", senior officials said.

"This double locking will ensure that no one can access these locations in isolation," said an officer.

The order said that level crossing gate (goomty/cabin), housing signalling and telecommunications equipment in station yard, should be treated as a relay hut and till double-locking arrangement is provided, the key of the present single lock would be with the Station Master (SM).

"The relevant entries regarding issue and deposit of the key should be maintained by SM in the same manner as being done for station relay room. The proforma for handing over/taking back of the key by the ASM (assistant station manager) on duty

shall have a column specifying that the location for which key had been taken by maintenance staff has been properly closed and locked, by the maintenance staff who is returning the key," the order stated.

Officials said one of the aspects that emerged from the preliminary probe is some work was going on near the location of the accident.

A disconnection memo (to shut down interlocking system and start work) and a reconnection memo (reconnection of the system indicating the end of work) was received by the station manager, they said.

However in reality, the technician bypassed the system because the work was not complete and he rigged the location box to get a "green signal" for the Coromandel Express, they said.

The present order, thus, laid down proper disconnection-reconnection protocols which are to be followed for signal maintenance, repairs, alteration works.

It said that after completion of any work, once the reconnection is accepted by the SM, for the first train, the reception signal (signals control the reception of trains into a station) should not be taken off and it shall be brought to a stop at the first stop signal.

Similarly, the departure signal (the signal provided to dispatch the train from the station) for run-through trains should be taken off only after the first train has occupied berthing portion (when berths are all lined up at their set locations).

This is the third such orders on signalling issued by the Railway Board since the accident which is now being probed by the CBI.

Court Acquits Man Of Rioting Charges, Says Prosecution Falsely Cited Complainant As Witness

AGENCEIS

New Delhi: A court here acquitted a man of the charges of rioting as it criticised the prosecution for "falsely" citing the complainant as a witness who could identify the accused.

The court, which was hearing a case pertaining to the 2020 northeast Delhi riots, also observed that the eyewitness testimony of a head constable was "procured and prepared falsely and belatedly to solve this case".

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Shirish Aggarwal was hearing the case against Noor Mohammad, who was accused of being part of a riotous mob that looted and vandalised the complainant's shop in Khajuri Khas on February 24, 2020, during riots.

The court in a recent judgment said if the complainant had seen the offenders and could have identified them, he would have mentioned this in his complaint.

"The fact that the state falsely cited the complainant as a witness who can identify the accused as the offender indicates that the prosecution's case that the offence was committed by the accused Noor Mohammad is false," it said.

The court said it was unsafe to rely on the uncorroborated testimony of the single purported eyewitness, Head Constable Sangram Singh, as his testimony was in contradiction with the other evidence on record, besides "other deficiencies, drawbacks and infirmities" in his testimony.

"It is the tendency of police witnesses to speak in line with the police case. Delhi Police being a disciplined force, a head constable is under the influence of the station house officer (SHO) and the supervisory police officers and it appears that his statement was procured and



prepared falsely and belatedly to solve this case," the court said.

Regarding Singh's claim of being an eyewitness, the court said it was hard to believe that a police officer who had witnessed an offence being committed in his area of posting did not make any complaint.

Singh claimed that he tried to stop the mob, but could not control it.

"It is hard to fathom that a police officer who is courageous enough to make efforts for stopping the mob just stood there as a mute spectator when the rioting and plundering was taking place," the court said.

Noting that Singh was not prompt in reporting the matter, nor did he make a video of the incident, the court said, "It is hard to believe that such a person would risk his life to stall the attempts of a mob of rioters. As such, it appears that the testimony of HC Sangram Singh is false."

The court also noted the absence of test identification proceedings (TIP) for the accused's identification by the complainant and said, "It can be inferred that TIP was not carried out

since the police was already aware that its case is fabricated and the accused has been shown as the offender only for solving of this case."

It further said the burden of proof on the prosecution is to prove the case by leading convincing evidence, to prove the guilt of accused persons beyond reasonable doubt and an accused person cannot be convicted on the basis of mere probabilities or presumptions.

Suspicion, howsoever grave may be, cannot take the place of proof and every benefit of the doubt goes in favour of the accused persons, the court said.

"Since the prosecution has failed to prove its case beyond a reasonable doubt, the accused stands acquitted of the offences..." the court said.

The Khajuri Khas police station had registered an FIR against the accused under various IPC provisions, including rioting, unlawful assembly, causing hurt while committing robbery and punishment for committing mischief and thereby causing loss or damage to the amount of Rs fifty or upwards.

Cong claims India's debt under Modi govt risen to Rs 155 lakh crore, demands white paper on economy

New Delhi: The Congress on Saturday alleged that India's debt has nearly "tripled" to Rs 155 lakh crore in the nine years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and demanded a white paper on the state of the economy.

Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate alleged the Modi government's "economic mismanagement" is responsible for the present state of the economy and claimed that Rs 100 lakh crore of debt has been added since the present dispensation assumed charge in 2014.

"As chief minister of Gujarat, Mr Modi used to blame those on the other side of the political spectrum as inefficient, incompetent and corrupt -- adjectives that today suit him and his government more than anyone else because economic mismanagement of this government has led to a ruined Indian economy. It resulted in high prices, inflation, and high unemployment and has now resulted in a massive debt burden that the country is facing.

"After ruining India's economic growth story, creating huge unemployment, raging inflation, Mr Modi has done the unthinkable, which is an addition of over Rs 100 lakh crore to India's debt, which is at an alarming level," she said at a press conference.

The Congress leader further said India's debt in 2014 was at Rs 55 lakh crore, which has now gone past Rs 155 lakh crore.

She claimed that India's debt under 14 prime ministers in 67 years was Rs 55 lakh crore while Modi alone has increased it by over Rs 100 lakh crore.

"Economic management is not the same thing as headline management. The Indian economy cannot be managed by managing headlines. It cannot be done through teleprompters and definitely not through WhatsApp forwards.

The Indian economy will have to be managed by sound economic managers who don't want to hog the limelight. Who wants to do the work and fix the Indian economy and ensure that prosperity reaches every part of India?

"We demand a white paper on the Indian economy because the fault lines are only getting deeper," she said.

Shrinate also claimed that the bottom 50 per cent of Indians who own three per cent of the country's wealth paid 64 per cent of the GST collected. The richest 10 per cent, on the other hand, own 80 per cent of the country's wealth but pay only three per cent of the GST collected.

India has the costliest LPG cylinder, the third costliest petrol and the eighth costliest diesel in the world, Shrinate claimed.

The Congress leader said a debt of Rs 155 lakh crore means every Indian is reeling under a burden of Rs 1.20 lakh.

"The Modi government in its tenure has bought debt of Rs 4 lakh rupees every second," she claimed.

The Congress spokesperson also added that the government has to pay an annual interest of Rs 11 lakh crore on this debt.

India's debt-to-GDP ratio has risen to 84 per cent, Shrinate claimed, and said it is alarming when compared to other developing and emerging market economies where the average debt-to-GDP ratio is at 64.5 per cent.

"India is bearing an annual cost of Rs 11 lakh crore to service this mounting debt. Questions are now being raised on India's debt servicing capacity. According to the CAG report, government debt was 52.5 per cent of GDP in 2019-20 and the debt sustainability had turned negative that year. With debt at 84 per cent of the GDP, debt sustainability is suspect," she asserted.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

3 Srinagar Residents

accessed, their photographs with ISKP banner, videos of a leader giving them the pledge of allegiance, audio clips of their leader and other incriminating files were recovered, the ATS said in a release.

The three had been directed by their handler Abu Hamza to reach Porbandar and join a fishing boat as fishermen and use the boat captain to reach the given GPS coordinates, it said.

From there, they were to be taken to Iran on a dhow and provided with fake passports for Afghanistan and reach Khorasan via Herat, police said.

Efforts are on to nab accused Zuber Ahmed Munshi, police said.

Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi praised the ATS and Surat crime branch for the operation and said that the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah was committed to the "policy of zero tolerance against terrorism".

"It is a huge success for the Gujarat police. The entire matter will be investigated thoroughly," he said.

Holding 62-Day

visited Jammu and Kashmir last season which explains the improvement in the security situation.

He said the development works have recorded massive push, both in scale and speed, in the past nine years in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The hopelessness among the youth vanished after Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government took over in 2014. Earlier, our youths were looking for opportunities to move out of the country but today the biggest achievement of our nine years is that every Indian is feeling proud whether he is living in the country or outside and it is because of the policies of the Modi government," said Singh, who is the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.

Singh earlier inaugurated a two-day 'Young Start-up Conclave' in Udhampur and also chaired a review meeting with Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members and district administration to review the progress of ongoing development works.

"The Modi-led government is steadfast and committed to providing the best services at the doorsteps of people. The development must reach the last man in the last queue as envisioned by Modi," he said, chairing the meeting.

He asked the district administration to work in tandem and close coordination with the public representatives so

as to ensure effective implementation of the welfare schemes on ground for benefit of the general public.

The minister directed the officers to remain in touch with the people, pay regular visits and organise camps in all the remote and far-flung areas so that the people are made aware about the benefits of welfare schemes of the government. (PTI)

Security Brass

Administration officers were held with an aim to increase synergy, interaction and coordination between the civil and security agencies for the success of the upcoming Amarnath Yatra," a Defence spokesperson said Saturday.

He said that detailed briefing & discussions provided an opportunity for deliberations on important issues of mutual interest impacting the security of the Yatra.

All officials, the spokesperson said, stressed the need for harmonious functioning of the government agencies to make the event successful.

"In view of the prevailing internal security situation, an overview of the security was also undertaken to ensure complete synergy between all security agencies and the civil administration for a coordinated effort towards the achievement of the laid down goals for a smooth & incident free Yatra," he added.

Dry Weather

for the summer capital. Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 13.6°C against 12.8°C on the previous night while the tourist resort of Pahalgam recorded a low of 7.6°C against 7.2°C on the previous night.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 13.9°C against 11.8°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C above normal for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 10.8°C against 9.9°C on the previous night and it was 1.3°C below normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 11.6°C against 10.4°C on previous night and it was above normal by 2.8°C for the popular skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 27.9°C against 26.0°C on the previous night and it was 2.2°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 14.1°C (normal), Batote 15.4°C (0.5°C above normal), Katra 24.6°C (2.5°C above normal) and Bhaderwah 11.3°C (below normal by 2.2°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 10.2°C and 15.0°C respectively, he said.

Pellet Victim

Srinagar and took a three-year course in computers and English speaking. I qualified Class 11 in 2021 and have now qualified class 12," Insha told PTL.

"My family was adamant that I study. They told me not to lose hope and courage, study and become independent," she said.

Insha, who had become the face of pellet victims to lose their vision, also expressed gratitude to Jammu and Kashmir Centre For Peace And Justice (JKCPJ) – a non-governmental organisation (NGO) for their support.

"JKCPJ director Nadir Ali supported me. They rehabilitated me from 2018, providing me education," she added.

Now Insha wants to pursue her bachelor's degree and take coaching classes for the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) exam.

"I want to become an IAS officer so that I can become an example for all the visually impaired persons. I want each one of them to become independent and move ahead in life," she said.

She also highlighted the need for a school for the visually impaired in different parts of the country, adding that there is little awareness in the Kashmir valley on the subject due to which the visually impaired are falling behind.

Insha was hit by pellets on July 11, 2016, three days after Wani – the commander of a militant outfit – was killed in an encounter with the security forces. She was at her home and had opened a window to look outside when the tragedy struck.

Many other people, too, had become the victims of the pellet guns during the agitation that lasted a few months.

Omar Unlikely

our support but where were these leaders in 2019 when we faced a big deceit," he said, referring to the abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh by the central government.

Abdullah asked who among them stood with the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Where were those who are raising hue and cry today for safeguarding the Constitution and democracy when we faced the murder of democracy. They did not speak against it and the fact of the matter is that they supported the move (in Parliament)," the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said.

However, he said there are only four parties DMK, Mamata Banerjee-led TMC and two Left parties - which always stood with the people of Jammu

and Kashmir.

"Leave these parties aside, show me someone among other parties who wholeheartedly supported us. We will fight against the BJP on our five seats, let them do whatever they want," Abdullah said.

On the possibility of a pre-poll alliance ahead of assembly elections in J&K, he said the question is premature as elections are nowhere visible.

"Let the election bugle be sounded, we will sit together to take a call on this. The opinion or decision of one person is not acceptable, all the leaders of the party (NC) will discuss the issue, weigh its pros and cons and reach a consensus," he said.

The National Conference leader said the bugle has yet to reach the person who is going to sound it and so such type of questions serve nothing.

Abdullah said he is tired of answering questions about the delay in holding of assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. "It is evident that the BJP is not ready and had it been ready, elections would have taken place," he claimed.

"The Election Commissioner had himself said that after getting information from the home ministry on the (security) situation, they can announce the poll dates. Maybe they have not got the information so far, which is not understandable," he said, adding that the chief election commissioner admitted that there is a vacuum in Jammu and Kashmir. "Why is it not being filled up?"

Abdullah, who used the Mughal Road to reach Rajouri to express condolences to the family of a party colleague who breathed his last at Nowshera sometime back, said the efforts of the administration should be to minimize the suffering of the public and control growing militancy in the region.

"Unfortunately, there is a gap between the administration and the people under the governor rule. An elected government is always better than a nominated government," he said. "People suffer because the administration is least bothered whether their issues are addressed or not," the NC leader alleged.

To a question on commuters facing inconvenience due to long queues at security check points on the Mughal Road, he said the recent terror incidents in the twin border districts of Rajouri and Poonch indicate growing militancy in the region.

"If the commuters are facing difficulty, it is proof that the administration has failed and the security situation has worsened instead of improving.

The people are faced with problems which were not there before," he said.

On the BJP's claim of unprecedented development in Jammu and Kashmir during the past nine years of the Narendra Modi government, he said "everything will be known" once the elections take place.

Govt 'Duty

here on lease, the court underlined that Act makes it clear that all evacuee properties situated in Jammu and Kashmir shall be deemed to have vested in the Custodian.

Referring to Section 7 of the Act, the court said that if any person in possession of any evacuee property refuses or fails on demand to surrender possession to the Custodian or to any person duly authorized by him in this behalf, the Custodian can use such force as is necessary for taking possession of such property and can after giving reasonable warning remove or break open any lock, bolt or any door or do any other act necessary for the purpose.

"Section 8 says the Custodian can take such measures which he considers necessary or expedient for administering, imposing, preserving and managing any evacuee property and generally for enabling him satisfactorily to discharge any of duties imposed on him by or under the Act and can do all acts."

The court said that when Section 10 of the Act and Rule 14 of J&K State Evacuees (Administration of Property) Rules, Samvat 2008 are read conjointly, they provide prohibition for transfer of evacuee property.

"Evacuee Department is, thus, required to protect property of evacuees and evict unauthorized occupants."

Banihal Highway

around 10 pm on Friday at Dalwas and several other locations in Ramban district for carrying out the repair and maintenance works, Senior Superintendent of Police, National Highway, Rohit Baskotra said.

"Debris from the landslide was cleared, the slide prone area stabilised and potholes were filled up during the overnight operation," Baskotra, who along with senior NHA officers inspected the works, told PTL.

He said the highway was opened for traffic from both sides after nearly 12 hours. "Commuters have been advised to follow lane discipline," Baskotra said.

On traffic jams on the highway and complaints by commuters about it, officials said authorities have recognised the need for immediate measures to control congestion in the

Ramban-Banihal sector, particularly in view of the annual Amarnath pilgrimage that starts on July 1.

Minor Drowns

news agency KNT, occurred earlier this afternoon when Azaan accidentally fell into the stream located near his house.

Upon discovering the minor was missing, the family and local residents immediately started searches in hopes of finding the boy. However, after concerted efforts, the body of Azaan was recovered from the stream by local residents.

Confirming the incident, a police officer stated that the minor boy's body was subsequently handed over to the family for the funeral rites. The police have taken cognizance of the tragic incident and are investigating the circumstances surrounding the unfortunate mishap.

The untimely demise of the young boy has left the community in deep mourning, with neighbours and friends expressing their condolences to the grieving family. The tragic incident serves as a stark reminder of the potential dangers associated with water bodies, especially during the monsoon season. (KNT)

Pak Balloon

was found lying on the ground in Hiranagar in Kathua district.

After seizing the balloon, the security forces launched a search operation in the area to investigate where the balloon came from.

A similar case was reported in February this year in which an aircraft-shaped green and white balloon, with the logo of PIA imprinted on it, was spotted in an apple orchard in Shimla.

Trucker Dead In

of Himmat Singh of RS Pura Jammu died on the spot," he said.

He said that his body has been shifted to emergency hospital Qazigund for medical formalities while police have taken cognizance of the accident.

Anti-Tank Mine,

The army was informed and the mine was destroyed in a controlled explosion by the experts of the bomb disposal squad, they said.

A rusted hand grenade was found near Dakhri bridge in Mendhar sector of Poonch district, officials said, adding a bomb disposal squad neutralised the device.

Body Found

have been initiated to ascertain the cause of death, he added.

J&K Fire, Emergency Services Recruitment

Job Aspirants Allege Irregularities, Stage Protest

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Scores of youngsters who had applied for various posts in the Jammu and Kashmir fire and emergency services on Saturday held a demonstration here demanding that authorities make public a report of a committee probing alleged irregularities in the recruitment process.

They assembled at the Press Enclave here with banners and placards, which read "we want justice".

Several political parties, including the BJP, the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party, have also been demanding the cancellation of the selection process and handing over the case to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

It is unfortunate that even after six months, the Jammu and Kashmir administration has not made public the report of the three-member panel headed by Additional Chief Secretary (Home) R K Goyal probing the alleged irregularities, Ajaz Ahmad, one of the demonstrators said.

The committee was formed in December last year.

"We have been deliberately pushed out from the selection list," he said and added that "we demand that the report be made public".

"Why is the government hesitating to make the report public? We want the culprits to be punished and the (recruitment) list to be scrapped," Ah-

mad said.

About 60,000 aspirants had applied for 870 posts of firemen and firemen drivers following a 2013 advertisement. As many as 14,000 were short-listed after a physical standard test followed by a written examination by the recruitment board.

However, interviews could not be held in 2014 due to floods and the recruitment process was cancelled in 2017 on the directions of the then chief minister. The candidates approached the high court which directed the government to hold the recruitment process afresh.

In 2018, a physical test of the 14,000 aspirants was conducted and 7,000 of them passed and appeared for the written examination. It was again cancelled on court directions amid allegations of irregularities and mass cheating which was substantiated by an official inquiry panel.

A fresh examination was conducted again on September 20, 2020, and the selection list was issued. The recruitment process was completed the next month despite protests by unsuccessful candidates, alleging irregularities and paper leak.

The demand for cancellation of the selection list of the fire and emergency services department gained momentum after the Jammu and Kashmir administration cancelled the police sub-inspector recruitment process in July and handed over the case to the CBI.

Chief Justice Visits Court Complex Char-E-Shreef

Pays Obeisance At Ziyarat Of Sheikh Ul Aalam, Inaugurates Legal Services; Awareness Camp For Tribals At Yusmarg

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: Chief Justice, High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, N. Kotiwar Singh on Saturday visited the Court Complex, Char-e-Shreef.

He was received by Principal District and Sessions Judge, Budgam, Khalil Ahmad Choudhary and Fakrun Nisa, Munsif/ Judicial Magistrate Char-e-Shreef and members of bar.

On the occasion, Chief Justice was accorded ceremonial guard of honour from the contingent of J & K Police.

Chief Justice inspected the Court Complex and also interacted with members of the bar. The purpose of the inspection was to ensure smooth functioning of the judicial infrastructure, identify areas for improvement and address any concerns raised by the legal community.

Chief Justice gave patient hearing to the members of bar and emphasized the commitment of judiciary to provide fair and efficient justice to the people, ensuring the rule of law.

Chief Justice also paid obeisance at the sacred Ziyarat-e-Shreef Sheikh Ul Aalam (RA). This revered shrine holds immense historical and religious significance and symbolizes the unity and harmon-

ny among people of Jammu and Kashmir.

Later, Chief Justice inaugurated Legal Services and Awareness Camp on "Welfare Schemes for Tribals" organized by The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) Budgam, in collaboration with district administration Budgam and the Tribal Affairs Department. He also serves as the Patron-in-chief of the JK Legal Services Authority.

Justice Tashi Rabstan, Judge of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Executive Chairman of JK Legal Services Authority and Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Secretary, Tribal Affairs, attended the event as guests of honour.

The event was also attended by Shahzad Azeem, Registrar General, High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh, M.K. Sharma, Principal Secretary to Chief Justice, Khalil Ahmad Choudhary Principal District & Session's Judge, Budgam (Chairman DLSA Budgam), Akshay Labru, District Development Commissioner, Budgam, Tahir Geelani SSP Budgam, Ikramullah Tak ADDC Budgam, Chief Medical Officer Budgam, District Social Welfare Officer Budgam, Assistant Labour Commissioner Budgam and Executive Engineer R & B division Budgam, Executive Engineer R & B division Chadoora and District Officers of other departments.



AIRPORT AUTHORITY OF INDIA has introduced e-carts to provide "drop and go" facility at the entry to the Srinagar international airport to address "long standing" grievances from passengers about delays and hassles at the Airport..

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Girl Denied Admission For 'Refusing' Capitation Fee In Baramulla

Fee Fixation Committee Seeks Personal Appearance Of School Higher-Ups

Majid Nabi

SRINAGAR: In what could be described as a sorry state of affairs, a three year-old-girl was denied admission by a private school in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, after her parents refused to pay capitation fee, citing repeated orders and warnings by the department of education.

3-years old Umaimah Siraj daughter of Siraj-ud-Din Salam of Kanispora Baramulla, according to her parents, successfully qualified the interview on 15th of last month and was asked to purchase books and uniform from a particular shop in Baramulla.

Salam said after purchasing a uniform and books, he was asked to send her daughter to the school, however was shocked when asked to deposit Rs 35,000 as capitation fee to enroll his daughter in Auqaf Islamia and Muslim Educational Foundation administered Baramulla Public School.

"I was astonished, rather shocked after the school administration asked me to de-

posit a capitation fee of Rs 35,000 to enroll my daughter in the school. But when I refused to pay the capitation fee, my daughter was not allowed to sit in the classroom the next day, forcing me to approach the CEO of the district," Salam told Kashmir Observer.

"The cashier wanted me to pay Rs 35000 Capitation fees. I would have not hesitated to pay it as all schools charge the same. I got agitated when they asked to pay the amount in cash and were not giving receipt of this fees," he added.

Salam said the CEO concerned instantly called the Vice Principal of the school and rebuked her for forcing parents to pay capitation fee and denying them from attending classes for refusing their illegal demand.

The aggrieved parent said the Vice Principal of the school under immense pressure from the concerned, called him next day and insisted him to send her daughter to the school.

"Unfortunately, my 3-years-old daughter was again denied

entry to the classroom for failing to deposit the capitation fee. I then approached the concerned police and other higher-ups of the district administration for redressal of my grievances," he added.

He said the matter has been taken up with the police and district administration; however the school administration has failed to clear its position before the Committee for Fixation and Regulation of Fee of Private Schools, J&K.

FRCS in its order has asked Baramulla Public School administration to clear its position before the committee, failing which action warranted under law will be initiated against the school.

"In the interest of justice, another chance is granted to the school authorities to appear before this committee. In case you fail to appear before this committee, it will be presumed that the school authorities have nothing to say in their defense and orders in accordance with law will be passed," reads FRCS order.

Migrant Workers Feel Heat As Kashmir Faces Unemployment

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jobs are drying up in Kashmir with CMIE reporting 23 per cent unemployment for April, even as the data was disputed by the government officials.

A large number of workers -- mostly from Bihar, Punjab, West Bengal, and Jharkhand -- flocking to the valley to earn a good livelihood for decades are reporting finding little to now work as compared to pre-COVID levels.

Naba Paswan, a daily wage labourer from Bihar, has been coming to Hawal Chowk every morning in the hope of getting some work.

"Before COVID, work was good but now there is no work, I have been sitting idle for 10 days. There is no work and now the wages are also low," Paswan told PTI. Bikhari Ram, another labourer from Bihar, said the number of working days has dropped drastically.

"We travelled thousands of kms to earn something but there is no work here. I have a family to feed. What can we do? I am not earning enough for my own survival. What can I do for the family?"

"There is no work. We only get 15 days of work in one month and sometimes just 10 days or even only five days," he added.

Faika Javid, a graduate, said educated youth are falling into depression due to unemployment.

"Youth are completing degrees and sitting at home. This leads to depression and increase in suicidal cases. It's not only about Kashmir, there are other states of India also where unemployment is a big issue," she said.



Director Information Reviews Functioning Of DICs

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Director Information, Department of Information Public Relations (DIPR) J&K, Minga Sherpa on Saturday reviewed the functioning of all the District Information Centres, here at a meeting held in the Media Complex Bahu Plaza, Jammu.

The Director, while reviewing the functioning of various District Information Centres of Jammu and Kashmir divisions, stressed upon the officers to carry out their duties with professional acumen by projecting the people friendly policies.

Referring to the upcoming Annual Shri Amarnathji Yatra-2023, he directed the District Information Officers who are on Yatra route of SANJY-2023 viz DIOs of Kathua, Samba,

Jammu, Udhampur, Ramban, Anantnag and Ganderbal to put in place all the arrangements for said Yatra, especially related to awareness of the pilgrims.

Joint Director, HQ DIPR, Nareesh Kumar; Joint Director Jammu, Atul Gupta; Deputy Director (AV), Deepak Dubey; Deputy Director (PR), Jammu, Dr Vikas Sharma; Administrative Officer, Renu Sharma; Account Officer Hitesh Choudhary; Field Publicity Officer, Jammu, Mukesh Sharma, Information Officer, Sachin Bali and the District Information Officers of Jammu division were present in the meeting in person. The Joint Director Information Kashmir, Mohammad Aslam and District Information Officers of Kashmir Division attended the meeting virtually.

300 Fold Increase In Startups In 9 Yrs Under PM Modi: Singh

Press Trust Of India

UDHAMPUR: The number of startups grew 300 times in the last nine years under Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government in the country, Union Minister Jitendra Singh said on Saturday.

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) was speaking at a two-day 'Young Start-up Conclave' which commenced in Udhampur, the home constituency of Singh.

"The startups in India grew 300 times in the last 9 years as from just around 350 startups before 2014, there has been a quantum jump in startups to more than 90,000 with more than 100 unicorns," Singh said.

He said the startup movement promoted by Modi is now reaching every part of the country.

Asserting that the conclave at Udhampur offers an opportunity to explore new avenues for industry as well as entrepreneurs in the region, he said, under Modi, Jammu and Kashmir is given the top most priority in everything which is the reason J&K is competing in terms of development with other states and Union Territories in the country.

"The year 2023 is important for many reasons as this is the year India has been able to attain G20 Presidency. This year

is being celebrated as International year of Millets by UN due to the efforts of Modi which shows how the stature of India has grown in the world under the present government," the minister said.

Singh said India had no dearth of talent, capability, innovation and creativity among the youth, but they were lacking a favourable milieu and proper patronage from the political leadership which was provided by the prime minister.

"Focus of the Modi-led government in the last 9 years has not been just to create employment but also to build entrepreneurship," he said.

He said the mantra of the prime minister's 'StartUp India, StandUp India' is creating millions of job opportunities for the youth who are gradually coming out of the government job mindset and are ready to take the plunge and create new opportunities in niche sectors, in turn creating scores of job opportunities.

Director CSIR-IIIM Jammu, Zabeer Ahmad termed this day as historic for Udhampur which has been chosen for this two-day event.

People of Udhampur and other districts must visit this 'Start-up Conclave' so that they can be "informed, counselled about the benefits of startups which are the engines of economic growth", he added.

Encouraging Active Participation Of People; Central Focus Of India's G20 Presidency: Alok Kumar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In run up to forthcoming G20 4th Education Working Group (EdWG) meeting at Pune, the Directorate of Samagra Shiksha, J&K, under the aegis of School Education Department, organised a series of events across all districts of the Union Territory witnessing overwhelming public participation.

One of such mega events was held at Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Kothli Bagh, Srinagar, as a sequel towards making 'NIPUN' Bharat Mission a grand success.

Principal Secretary Education, Alok Kumar, was the chief guest on the occasion.

The programme was organised amid forthcoming G20 4th Educational Working Group (EdWG) meet scheduled to be held at Pune, from 19th to 21st of June, 2023, in which J&K School Education Department is also taking part.


The event was attended by Project Director, Samagra Shiksha, J&K, Engineer Deep Raj, Director School Education, Kashmir, Tasaadqu Hussain and other senior officers and officials of the department.

During the event, a series of activities were organized including an exhibition depicting teaching and learning material under NIPUN Bharat, besides an orientation session on foundational literacy and numeracy and pledge taking ceremony.

Project Director Samagra Shiksha, in his address, shared the activities being organized under the Janbhagidari programme across all districts of the UT amid G20 4th EdWG meet. He said that School Edu-

cation Department is making all efforts for effective implementation of NIPUN Bharat Mission. Under the Mission, many activities are being organized to sensitize the general public, PRIs, Local leaders and NGOs across the UT. He extended accolades to all stakeholders including PRI members, teachers, parents and students for their participation and making the Janbhagidari events a grand success in J&K. He said that Chief Education Officers, Principal DITs and officials of SCERT-JK are the key stakeholders for successful implementation and monitoring of ongoing activities, where people are actually involved and being sensitized.

Alok Kumar, while addressing on the occasion, said that as per NEP 2020, "the highest priority of the education system will be to achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary schools by 2025. The rest of NEP-2020 will become relevant for our students only if this most basic learning requirement (i.e., reading, writing and arithmetic at the foundational level) is achieved first. He said that, for attaining universal foundational literacy and numeracy in all primary schools, identifying stage wise targets and goals has to be achieved by 2025. Besides, all stakeholders of the Education Department and members of Panchayati Raj Institutions, civil society, students, parents, Non-Governmental Organizations have to play their role in close tracking and monitoring of the same, he added." He said that, Janbhagidari events throughout the UT are being organized to create awareness and generate a sense of pride among all stakeholders as a whole, about G-20, National Education Policy and FLN.



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ADMISSION NOTICE-2023
B.TECH. COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PROG
Online applications are invited from the eligible candidates for admission to the B.Tech CS&E programme of the University for the academic session 2023-24:
ELIGIBILITY:

- 10+2 with at least 50% marks in aggregate or its equivalent on the grading scale of respective Boards/Universities (45% for SC/ST/OBC/PWD candidates) with Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry/Biology as main subjects.
- Positive score of JEE (Mains) 2023.

Selection criteria: Selection shall be based on merit secured in JEE.
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- Reservation of SC, ST, OBC and EWS as per GOI norms (SC category means schedule caste only and OBC category candidates shall not belong to the creamy layer and are requested to submit the OBC certificate in GOI prescribed format.
- One supernumerary seat is reserved each for PWD candidates and residents of District Ganderbal.

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- Candidates can fill the form online with the direct link given below: <https://cukashmiradm.samarth.edu.in/>
- Application Fee:**
 - General applicants: Rs. 900/-
 - SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PWD Applicants: Rs. 450/-
- Fee to be paid only through SAMARTH online Application Portal (<https://cukashmiradm.samarth.edu.in/>)
Start date/Availability of Online Application forms is **26/05/2023**
Last date for submission of Online Application forms is **25/06/2023**
For further details, students can check the University website www.cukashmir.ac.in or contact on mobile numbers available on the University website.

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Srinagar Premier League: Two Games Scheduled Today



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two matches of the 2023 Srinagar Premier League will take place today, Sunday, May 11. First match of the day will kick off at 3:00 PM and will

witness Star Kashmir FC take on Novelty FC. The second match will take place between Kashmir Panthers FC and ARCO FC, with kick off at 7:00 PM.

Both matches will be played at Synthetic Turf TRC.

Khelo India Football Open Selection Trials On June 12

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council is set to hold open selection trials for Khelo India Center Football on Monday, June 12.

The trials will be held at Polo Ground, Srinagar at 4:00 PM. A similar trial for the center will be

held in Jammu as well.

Interested footballers can call 7006461981.

The Sports Council will also hold open selection trials in Kabaddi on June 13. The venue for the trials will be the Play Field, Devsar, Kulgam. The trials begin at 4:00 PM. Interested athletes can contact 9682128328.

YSS Anantnag Holds Trekking Program For Girls



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Bidder in collaboration with Zone Vailoo conducted a day-long trekking program for girls of all age groups at Vailoo on Saturday.

The program was flagged off by ZPEO Bidder Mohd. Manzoor

Naikoo and Incharge Zone Vailoo Peer Wajid with senior PEM's/PET's/REK's/NYC's.

The trekking route started from Vailoo Bridge via Halpora Road to Upper Chertanji. The trekking distance was approximately 22 kms. The expedition consisted of 22 Girls from Bidder and 22 from Vailoo.

WTC FINAL

Australia Set 444 Target For India



Press Trust of India

LONDON: Australia set India a record 444-run target on a tricky pitch after Alex Carey propped up their second innings total to 270 for eight before declaring midway into the afternoon session. India kept things tight in the morning but Carey (66 not off 105) and Mitchell Starc (51 off 47) showed aggressive intent to share a 93-run stand off 120 balls for the seventh wicket. They collected 69 valuable runs off 87 balls before Pat Cummins declared the innings after his own dismissal.

The time of the declaration was questionable considering the 263 is the highest fourth innings chase at The Oval and 418 in overall Test history.

Skipper Rohit Sharma (22 batting) and Shubman Gill (18) looked comfortable against Cummins and Scott Boland.

However, at the stroke of tea, Boland got one to bounce little extra from length and it flew from ball the shoulder of Gill's bat only to be lapped up by a diving Cameron Green at

gully. It was the second time in the game that Green took a screamer though replay suggested it was a close call with the ball very close to the ground. Rohit began with pull shot off Cummins before hitting him past the mid-on fielder in the following over. A crowd full of Indians really got going when Rohit pulled Mitchell Starc's second ball of the opening for a six over fine leg.

In the first session, India picked up a couple of wickets but Australia chugged away to take extend their overall lead to 374 runs after reaching 201 for 6 at lunch on day four of the World Test Championship final here.

Australia had to battle hard to get 78 runs in 26 overs from the morning session. On the hot-test morning of the game, the pitch continued to play plenty of tricks with both seamers and spinners being in business.

Australia, who resumed the day at 123 for four, lost Marnus Labuschagne (41 off 126) in the third over of the day. The Aussie batter was not able to add to his overnight score as he edged

a beauty from Umesh Yadav (2/32 in 12 overs) that pitched around off-stump and nipped away. Considering the ball was 44 overs old, Umesh and Shami started the proceedings for India looking for reverse swing in dry and hot conditions. The ball has been taking off or skidding through from a particular spot on length from the pavilion end and that kept the batters guessing on Saturday.

Mohammed Siraj, who has troubled the Aussie batters the most in the game, got one to kick off the from the spot and hit Green's right shoulder.

Ravindra Jadeja (3/45 in 18 overs) was brought into the attack after eight overs and his tactics were pretty clear: get the ball to turn sharply from outside the leg stump. The play worked as Green, offered a big stride in order to play a forward defensive stroke but the ball bounced a tad more and hit the glove before bouncing on to hit the stumps.

Ajinkya Rahane, who was hit on the finger while batting, did not take the field as a precautionary measure.

PSG President Distances Himself From Man United Bid

Agencies

ISTANBUL: Paris Saint-Germain president Nasser Al-Khelaifi said Saturday that he is not part of a potential Qatari-based bid to buy Manchester United.

Speaking in Istanbul ahead of the Champions League final, Al-Khelaifi distanced himself from countryman Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad Al Thani's proposed takeover of the storied Premier League club.

"Paris Saint-Germain is my club, my heart and nothing to do with Man United," he said of his Qatari-backed French club.

On Friday it was reported Al-Khelaifi, who is also the chairman of the European Club Association, had played a "significant" role in talks over Sheikh Jassim's attempt to buy out United owners,

the Glazer family.

Al-Khelaifi said potential investors frequently seek his advice and that he would offer his opinion about United or any other club. He said he was approached at Formula One's Miami Grand Prix by an investor considering bids for two unnamed English teams.

"I'm not working for anyone. I want the best for football," he said. "When this guy asked me, I tell him my opinion. So if they ask me my opinion I will answer them for sure and that's what they do. Anyone, not just Man United. I will give them my experience that I have. That's it."

Qatari banker Sheikh Jassim is competing with British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe for ownership of United, which was estimated to reach a sale price of as much as \$6 billion.

Djokovic Eyes History At French Open Final



Agencies

PARIS: Novak Djokovic pursued Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal for quite some time. They were the guys he measured himself against. The players who established the standards he sought to surpass.

Sure, when Djokovic looks across the net in Court Philippe Chatrier during the French Open final on Sunday, he will see Casper Ruud trying to prevent him from earning a men's-record 23rd championship at a Grand Slam tournament.

Neither Federer (who announced his retirement last

year) nor Nadal (who is out since January with a hip injury and recently had arthroscopic surgery) will be at Roland Garros, racket in hand and ready to present a challenge, of course.

Still, it's important to remember that the milestone Djokovic is chasing now is in many ways defined by his two great rivals. Entering the 2011 season, Federer owned 16 major championships, Nadal nine and Djokovic one. Just five years ago, Federer was at 20, Nadal 17 and Djokovic at 12.

Since then? Djokovic has collected 10 of the last 19 Slam titles and made clear his intention to keep adding to his total.

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