

KASHMIR OBSERVER EXCLUSIVE

I Am a Student of Languages & Culture: HM Amit Shah

Nazir Ganaie

Srinagar: Union Minister for Home Affairs Amit Shah said on Saturday that Kashmir has been the highest seat of learning for scholars for centuries — saying that he himself was a student of languages and culture. “I am so thrilled to learn and to understand the languages and cultures of any place,” Amit Shah, said in a brief chat with Kashmir Observer on the sidelines of an

event here on Saturday. “Understanding cultures has its own importance. Now see, Kashmir has been witnessing a peaceful environment and events like Vitasta and musical evenings are possible now,” Shah said, adding “I am overwhelmed to see my name written in seven languages including Persian from artists in Kashmir. This happens in just 10 minutes. This is the most important gift that I



KO File Photo | Abid Bhat

6 KASHMIR BECOMES AN ALL-ENCOMPASSING IDEOLOGY AND CULTURE. It is this place only where music and knowledge developed and reached their peaks, that’s why Adi Shankar called it Sharda Kshetra and established Sharda Peeth here.”

abrogation of Article-370 has given a new lease of life to the developmental process in Jammu and Kashmir. Shah, who also holds Corporate Affairs

ministry portfolio, said that after the removal of Article 370 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, peace was established in Jammu and Kashmir. **More on P10**

PM Modi In Egypt On Two-Day State Visit



Press Trust Of India

Cairo: Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived here on Saturday for a two-day state visit during which he will hold talks with the Egyptian leadership, including President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, as the two nations seek to enhance their strategic partnership.

Modi is visiting Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian President El-Sisi. This is the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Egypt in 26 years.

In a special gesture, Modi was welcomed at the airport here by Egypt’s Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly with a warm embrace.

He was accorded a ceremonial welcome and a Guard of Honour upon his arrival.

“I am confident this visit will strengthen India’s ties with Egypt. I look forward to talks with President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and attending other programmes,” Prime Minister Modi tweeted after landing in Cairo.

“I thank Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly for the special gesture of welcoming me at the airport. May India-Egypt ties flourish and benefit the people of our nations,” he said.

Waving the Indian tricolour, members of the Indian community welcomed the Prime Minister to chants of ‘Modi, Modi’ and ‘Vande Mataram’ **More on P10**

HM Lays Foundation Stone Of 'Balidaan Stambh' In Srinagar



Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Union Home Minister Amit Shah Saturday laid the foundation stone of Balidaan Stambh (martyr’s memorial) at Pratap Park in the heart of the city here.

Shah, along with J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, laid the foundation stone at the park adjacent to historic Lal Chowk, the business and political hub of the Srinagar city. The memorial, a project

under the Srinagar Smart City, is a tribute to the martyrs’ who sacrificed their lives for the nation, the officials said.

Immediately after laying the foundation stone, Shah went to Raj Bhavan, the LC’s official residence. **More on P10**

Meets Kin Of Slain Police Personnel

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday distributed appointment letters to the next of kin of eight Jammu and Kashmir Police personnel who lost their lives in the line of duty, officials said here. Shah met with the family members of slain police personnel on the second day of his two-day visit to the Union territory at the Police Golf Course, overlooking the famous Dal Lake here, they said. “The martyrdom of numerous Jawans of the @JmuKmrPolice who laid down their lives battling terrorists and securing innocent fellow citizens is a testament to what Kashmir and its people stand for,” he said on Twitter. “Today, met the family members of such **More on P10**

Sat Next To Mehbooba Mufti On Purpose, Says Uddhav



Press Trust Of India

Mumbai: Under attack from the Bharatiya Janata Party for sitting next to People’s Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti at the Opposition meeting in Patna, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said he did so purposely and waved photos of her with top BJP leaders.

Addressing party workers, Thackeray claimed Mufti told him that the BJP’s alliance with the PDP was on the condition that Article 370, which

provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir, won’t be abolished.

Thackeray slammed Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis for dubbing Friday’s Opposition meeting as an attempt by the parties to save their political families and dynasties and said the senior BJP leader should not stoop so low. “I sat next to her purpose-ly,” Thackeray said.

Targeting BJP’s rivals, Fadnis said on Friday that the Opposition meeting was for Modi Hatao **More on P10**

Court Trashes Defamation Suit Against Journo

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here referred to eminent jurist, late Nani A. Palkiwala’s article, underscoring need for freedom of press, while as it junked a defamation suit filed against a scribe.

“Freedom is to the press what oxygen is to the human being; it is the essential condition of its survival. To talk of a democracy without a free press is a contradiction in terms. A free press is not an optional extra in a democracy,” the court of 1st Additional District Judge Srinagar said while reproducing a few lines from Palkiwala’s article, ‘The Fourth Estate’ in his book. The court made the reference while dismissing a defamation suit filed against a Kashmir based journalist.

“Since the defendant (journalist) has substantiated his claim by placing on record the certified copies of various cases pending against the plaintiff in different courts, and the article has a reference of these cases and prima facie it cannot be said that the article has been published with the sole purpose of maligning and defaming the plaintiff,” the court said, adding, “The application of the plaintiff if

NEP Empowers Students To Succeed In Machine-Dominated World: LG

Observer News Service

Awantipora: Making a strong pitch for the National Education Policy (NEP), Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Saturday that the policy empowers students to succeed in machine-dominated world and it has blended with the value system to ensure perfect balance in inner and outer growth of every student.

“Education should awaken the inner curiosity, critical thinking, it should trigger more questions in classrooms and provide the courage to walk on an unknown path. Through NEP 2020 efforts are being made to ensure that our classrooms reflect the real world instead of four walls,” Sinha said. He was addressing the 2nd Convocation of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) here on Saturday.

Exhorting youth to focus on innovation, new ideas, new technologies that will shape the future, Sinha said that the education is the birth of new consciousness. “It is the energy of society,



Education is ecstasy, education is elation, education is elegance, education is empowerment, education is enrichment, education enables students to attain the highest peak in life,” he said.

“Being truly educated requires courage to break the artificial barriers between subjects, which prefer independent thinking, creativity, research and new inventions instead of becoming another memory hard disk in the world, he added. The LG further said that

education must draw out all that is unique in students and individuality must be promoted so that students stepping out of campus and entering professional world will not be a hard disk of memories or storehouse of information, but the powerhouse of infinite creativity/

He also impressed on the Universities, educational institutions and the teaching community to adapt to a future-oriented learning approach that goes beyond the classrooms and prepares the students for the future **More on P10**

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Kashmir Observer Presents

The Other Side

KO STEPS OUT TO EXPLORE THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE OF THE PEOPLE WHO MATTER

SUNDAY 7 PM <https://youtube.com/shorts/j3jdnZYPIRM?feature=share>

SHORT TAKES

Summer Break In Kashmir Schools From July 1

Press Trust Of India

In view of the prevailing hot weather, the Directorate of School Education in Kashmir on Saturday announced summer vacations in all the schools of the Valley for ten days starting from July 1. In an order, the director of school education said all the government **More on P10**

CRPF DG Reviews Yatra Security

Press Trust Of India

CRPF Director General Sujoy Lal Thaosan Saturday reviewed the security preparedness of the force for the upcoming annual Amarnath Yatra which begins next month. Thaosan reviewed the preparedness of the paramilitary force during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir. “During his J&K **More on P10**

3 More Shot Along LoC: Army

Press Trust Of India

Three armed Pakistani intruders were shot by security forces when they attempted to sneak into the Indian side from across the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, Army said on Saturday. Officials said the fate of the intruders was not clear as the encounter site is **More on P10**

Rajnath To Visit Jammu Tomorrow

Agencies

Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh would visit Jammu on June 26 to address a ‘security conclave’ besides reviewing Jammu and Kashmir’s political scenario. Sources said that the Union Defence Minister will arrive in the winter capital in the morning and address a ‘Security Conclave’ **More on P10**



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327
 Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)
 No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR OBSERVER™ 2
 Srinagar | Sunday | 25-06-2023

Public Notice

I have applied for the issuance of fertilizer license under Name & Style "Tantray Fertilizers Ranipora Khasipora Shopian" If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agricultural Officer Shopian within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mehraj Ahmad Tantray
 S/o Abdul Rehman Tantray
 R/o Ranipora Khasipora Shopian

bmg

Public Notice

This is to inform the general public that I intend to transfer the power electricity connection bearing consumer ID no.0202020003244 presently in the name of late Ghulam Rasool Mir s/o Gh Mohd Mir to Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Mir. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact concerned department within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

nj

PUBLIC NOTICE

The DOB of daughter Rukhsana Hussain has been wrongly mentioned in her Aadhaar as 27-10-2012 while her correct DOB as per school records is 05-2-2017 which need to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned office within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Gh Hussain Dar
 F/o Rukhsana Hussain
 R/o Tantraypora Pattan

fko

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to information of General public that my Daughter's name has been wrongly entered in the school records as Saaliha Showkat D/o Showkat Ahmad Dar mother's name Nazima Jan instead of Soliha Showkat D/o Showkat Ahmad Dar mother's name Sweeti Rasool, now I want to correct same from concerned School authority if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact the Principal Banat Institute of Education, Gopalpora, Chadoora within four days from the date of publication after that no object shall be entertained.

Showkat Ahmad Dar
 F/o Soliha Showkat
 Mother's name. Sweeti Rasool Class. 3rd

arinf

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T)

Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Vailoo

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Email:- executiveengineermbdiv.vailoo@gmail.com

NIT No. 20/2131-40 of R&B/Vailoo /2023-2024/e-tendering/ DATED:- 24 / 06 / 2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of document (Rs in lacs.) in shape of Treasury Receipt/ Chelan	Time of completion	Project Intending Department	Earnest Money(2% of Adv. Cost (Rs in lacs.))	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Macadamisation of Brakpora Kanganhall Chittirgul Road (Deethu Market I/c Sumo Stand)	15.972	800	12 days	PWD (R&B)	31944	Cities & Towns	BEE/CEE with HMPD, BEE/CEE having MoJ with HMPD and MSME Only

AA Accorded
 TS Accorded

1. The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	24 / 06 / 2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	24 / 06 / 2023 (04:00 PM)
3.	Bid submission Start Date	24 / 06 / 2023 (04:00 PM)
4.	Bid Submission End Date	03 / 07 / 2023 (04:00 PM)
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	04 / 07 / 2023 (11:00 AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Vailoo.

2. Bids must be accompanied by a Treasury Challan (dated between the bid start date and the Bid Submission End date) deposited in M.H. 0059 in the name of Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo (tender inviting authority) as the cost of the tender document.

3. The Advertized cost is inclusive of GST @18% and Contract Price is exclusive of GST.

4. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertized Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/ only pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @5% (in the form of CDR/FDR/BG (BG should be Valid for a period of 03years from the date of completion of the work)) at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of @5% in the form of CDR/FDR/BG ((BG should be Valid for a period of 03years from the date of completion of the work) of the allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

4. The date and time of bid opening shall be notified on the Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and automatically communicated to bidders via an e-mail message sent to their e-mail address. Responsive bidders' bids will be opened online on the same Web Site in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo (tender receiving authority).

5. Bids for the work shall be valid for 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.

6. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

1.1 Bidders are advised to download the bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as the "Bidders Manual Kit" option on the website www.jktenders.gov to familiarize themselves with the bid submission process.

1.2 In order to participate in the bidding process, bidders must obtain a 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' under the Information Technology Act of 2000. Any approved Vendor can provide bidders with a digital certificate.

1.3 Bidders must submit their bids in electronic format with a digital signature online. No physical bids will be accepted.

1.4 Bids will be opened online in accordance with the time schedule specified in Para-1.

1.5 Bidders must upload online scanned copy of all required documents (within the document upload limits) with their technical bid.

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

9 The department will not be held responsible for any delays in online submission due to unanticipated circumstances.

8 The original Treasury Challan (Cost of tender documents) and other Uploaded bid documents shall have to be produced on demand by the successful bidder at the time of contract signing, and in the case of unsuccessful bidders, 2 percent EMD in the form of CDR/FDR only pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo, will be released only after production of Original Treasury Challan of uploaded Scanned copy (Cost of tender document).

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

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

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

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

12 All bidders must UPLOAD the following information and documents with their bids, in addition to the qualification criteria / qualification information, (All documents pertaining to the bid must be in English):

No. 20/2131-40
 DIPK-4084/23

DATED: 24 / 06 / 2023

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer
 PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer Department Of Floriculture Kashmir Srinagar

e-NIT No: 04 of 2022-23 Dated: 23.06.2023.

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

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major A/c Head
01.	A) Up-gradation of path from Entry Gate to Pleasure Garden and office side in NMBG Cheshmahashi Srinagar. B) Providing of accessibility to special abled persons by way of construction of Ramps in Gardens and Parks of Kashmir (Phase Ist.)	21.76 15.22	43520/- 30440/-	750/- 750/-	45- days 30-days	BEE/CEE (Civil) BEE/CEE (Civil)	Capex Budget Plan

Position of AAA : Accorded
 Position of funds : Available (50% of outlay)

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

1.	Period of downloading of bidding Document	23/06/2023 from 05:15 PM to 11/07/2023 up to 04:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	23/06/2023 from 05:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	11/07/2023 up to 04:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of tenders (Online)	12/07/2023 at 02:00 PM

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-Challan/copy of receipt from Treasury favouring of Executive Engineer, Floriculture Department Kashmir (Tender inviting authority) indicating name of work by crediting the requisite charges to the MH: 0406-02-112-Public Gardens (Floriculture Department Kashmir) in favour of Executive Engineer (Tender inviting authority)

2. Intending bidders must upload earnest money (EMD @ 2% of the Advertized Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer Floriculture Department Kashmir.

3. The 1st. Lowest (Successful bidder) has to produce amount equal to 5% of cost of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Floriculture Department Kashmir (Tender receiving authority) within three (03) days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work. However, the earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the work/DLP.

4. 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.

5. No exemption is allowed and so all bidders must upload proof of EMD and Tender processing Fee.

No: EE/FDK/669-74
 DIPK-4083/23

Dated: 24.06.2023

Sd/-
 (Er. Syed Hilal Ahmad)
 Executive Engineer
 Department of Floriculture,
 KASHMIR

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Municipal Council Ganderbal

Fax /Ph: 0194-2416090

e-mail: eomcganderbal@gmail.com

Subject: Auction of one shop (shop No. 4) of Municipal Council Ganderbal.

AUCTION NOTICE

E-NIT No: MC/Gbl/2023/10.
 Dated:21-06-2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory and e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons parties firms/ Companies for the auction of One Shop (Shop No 4) situated at Beeharna near Dream Land School of Municipal Council Ganderbal The Minimum reserved bid is fixed Rs. 1.00 lakh (Rupees One Lakh Only).

Terms and conditions:

- The aspiring interested bidder must be bonafide person/party with sound financial back ground holding PAN and other Income Tax related documents.
- Copy of PAN with last one year Income Tax returns.
- An Affidavit duly registered before the Court Public Notary certifying that there is nothing outstanding on account of the rent of any Municipal Body of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir.
- While operating the bids the Auction Committee will in the first step open the cover of qualifying criteria bid. Once the qualifying criteria cover is found upto level then the financial bid will be opened.
- The Contract for auction of Shop No 4 shall be handing over of possession of the shop after completion of all the requisite formalities and deposition of premium.
- The minimum reserve bid of the above auction period has been fixed Rs. 1.00 lakh/- (Rupees One Lakh Only).
- The Intending Bidder Shall be bound to Deposit fee of Rs:-500 (Rupees Five Hundred Only) as Document fees.
- The intending bidder shall be bound to accompany Call Deposit Receipt for an amount a Rs. 3000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) from any (CDR) Nationalized/ Scheduled Bank pledged to Executive Officer Municipal Council Ganderbal without which no bid document can be issued.
- After finalization of auction proceedings the highest bidder shall have to deposit the premium amount on spot in one go.
- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the premium amount on spot the CDR of the earnest money deposited by the aspirant shall be forfeited.
- The interested bidder shall have to present earnest money in the shape of Call Deposit Receipt.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to execute an agreement duly registered in the Court of Law with the undersigned after receipt of the allotment and before taking over the possession of the shop.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to pay the rent per sft as per the Government rates.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen / downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in, as per the schedule of dates given

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	26.06.2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 26.06.2023 to 05.07.2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	26.06.2023 from 10.00 AM
4.	Bid submission End Date	05.07.2023 upto 3.00 PM
5.	Date & Time of opening of Bids (Online)	08.07.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the office of the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Ganderbal.
6.	Submission of CDR.	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offers with Call Deposit Receipt (CDR) of Rs. 3,000/- (Rupees Three Thousand only) from any Nationalized bank, pledged to the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Ganderbal, (without which offers shall be liable for rejection)
7.	Mode of Payment	Full payment of premium in advance

14. The bids offered by the bidders shall be inclusive of all applicable taxes.

Instructions to the Bidders regarding E -Tendering process:

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

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

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

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.

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

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

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

g. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Bank Receipt/challan in favour of Executive Officer, Municipal Council Ganderbal and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.

h. The Bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal).

i. Valid original Bank Challan /Receipt

j. Call Deposit Receipt (CDR).

k. BID Securing Declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.

l. Valid GST/ PAN Card No.

m. The Bidder should upload the Tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).

n. Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including.

o. BID Securing Declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid No document (s) which has have not been uploaded shall not be entertained in the form of hard copy However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

p. The Highest Bidder will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded on e-tendering portal before issuance of Allotment

Further details can be had from the office of undersigned on any working day during office hours.

No: MC/Gbl/2023/379-85
 DIPK-NB-1510/23

Dated: 24-06-2023

Chief Executive Officer,
 Municipal Council,
 Ganderbal.

GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office Of The Executive Engineer PCD(PHQ) J&K Jammu/ Srinagar

INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/31/2023-24 Dated:- 23-06-2023

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ&K JAMMU/SRINAGAR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on Percentage rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	Improvement of basic facilities for various blocks at DPL Handwara.	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Jammu/ Srinagar	88.38lacs	4000/-	176760/-	120days	04-07-2023	"A"

1. Date of Publishing 24-06-2023 at 1600 hours.

2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1630 hours on 24-06-2023

3. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 26-06-2023 to 03-07-2023 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 04-07-2023 on line.

4. The complete bidding process will be on line.

5. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 04-07-2023 at 1100 Hrs.

6. The lowest bidder i.e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within five days from opening of financial bids.

7. In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651 dated:- 07-06-2018, the bidder must upload the copy of challan / receipt on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the treasury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned regarding remittance of amount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0055/ Revenue (others).

8. The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.

9. Earnest Money:- The earnest money deposit (EMD @ 2% of advertised cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar of the successful bidder (L1) shall be released, only after defect liability period, the DLP shall be calculated from the date of successful completion of the work to the satisfaction report of Engineer in-charge.

10. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

11. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.

12. Financial bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

13. The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

14. No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.

15. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

16. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

17. The interested bidder can download the NIT/bidding document from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

18. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get (DSC) "Digital Signature Certificate" as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding. This certificate will be required for digitally signing the bid. Bidders can get above mentioned digital certificate from any approved vendors. The Bidders, who already possess valid (DSC) Digital Signature Certificates, need not to procure new Digital Signature Certificate.

19. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. The bids cannot be uploaded without Digital Signature. No Proposal will be accepted in physical form.

20. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para 2(III).

21. Before submission of online bids, bidders must ensure that scanned copies of all the necessary documents have been attached with bid.

22. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission of bids whatsoever reasons may be.

23. All the required information for bid must be filled and submitted online.

24. Bidders can contact the undersigned for any guidance for getting DSC or any other relevant details in respect of e-tendering process.

25. Original Registration certificate of GST No. shall be uploaded on line.

26. The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

27. No construction material shall be supplied by Police Construction Division, PHQ. However, the brands of the material will be approved by Engineer In-charge of the concerned site in consultation with Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K.

28. In case of any typographical error, if found in the rates or units etc. the same shall be corrected and paid as per sanctioned schedule of rates 2020/2022 in vogue with contractor's Tender appreciation/depreciation.

29. Any item of work not advertised in the rate list but found necessary during execution of work should be got approved by the competent authority before proceeding further under the allotment and payment for the same shall be made on sanctioned schedule of rates 2020/2022 and LMR with contractor's overall appreciation/depreciation.

No:-e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2023-24/3692-99
 DIPK-4070/23

Dated: 24-06-2023

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer
 PCD(PHQ) J&K Jmu/Sgr.

Firefighter Among Two Injured In Srinagar Shopping Mall Blaze

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: A firefighter and a civilian were injured after fire broke out in a shopping complex at Regal Lane in Lal Chowk area of the city here this morning, officials said.

Officials and witnesses told Kashmir Observer that fire broke out in a two-storey shopping complex around 10:30 this morning creating total chaos and confusion among the shoppers and shopkeepers at Regal Lane in Lal Chowk.

They said the Fire and emergency Department squad reached the spot and doused off the flames with the help of police and locals.

Fire, officials said, broke out in a shop and intensified quickly, engulfing another one adjacent to it in a jiffy. However, the cause of fire could not be immediately ascertained.

A firefighter identified as Gulzar Ahmad and a civilian working as a salesman at a local shop, suffered minor injuries in the incident and were immediately evacuated to the hospital for treatment.

"We alerted the fire and emergency department as soon as we noticed thick smolders emanating out of the shop which had caught fire. Police and locals assisted firefighters in dousing off the flames, but before the inferno could be contained, property worth lakhs of rupees was destroyed," a shopkeeper told Kashmir Observer.

Confirming the incident, a senior official from the Fire and Emergency Department said that a civilian and a firefighter were injured during the firefighting operation. He said a case was registered in this regard and investigation to ascertain the actual cause of fire is on.



Union Home Minister, Amit Shah laid foundation stone of Balidan Stambh at historic Pratap Park in Srinagar amid heightened security arrangements on Saturday, KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Woman Held For Murdering Husband In Srinagar

Incident Sparks Massive Protests, Police Assures Action

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: In a shocking incident, a woman allegedly killed her husband at Rawatpora Bhagat locality in uptown Srinagar here this evening, following a family feud, witnesses said.

The incident triggered massive protests in the locality, with protesters demanding stern punishment to the accused woman and her two daughters, who they alleged were torturing the victim day in and day out.

A fifty-year old man identified as Abdul Rashid Dar of Rawatpora Bhagat was allegedly killed by her wife inside their residence this evening, triggering protests in the entire locality. The accused woman, locals alleged, fled from the scene soon after murdering her husband. She has been identified as Shaheena Begum.

However, the police arrested the accused hours after killing her husband and registered a formal case FIR

No. 54 of 2023 under section 302 IPC at police station Saddar.

Confirming the incident, Srinagar police in a tweet said "one accused namely Shaheena Begum w/o Abdul Rashid Dar victim r/o Rawatpora Bhagat arrested for killing her husband. FIR No. 54 us 302 ipc registered at PS Saddar. Prima facie Facie it appears the crime was done in a fit of rage, investigation on"

They alleged that the accused and her two daughters were torturing the deceased, a labor by profession, even as he was paying hefty monthly maintenance in their favor.

"The accused lady had filed a case against the deceased, which was pending adjudication before the court. The court had directed the victim to pay monthly maintenance to the accused and her two daughters, which he was paying without any delay," said one of the neighbors, protesting against what was termed as 'cold blooded' murder.

He alleged that the accused was of-

ten telling her husband that she doesn't care for the judiciary or the police as the constitution favors women only.

"Litigation was pending between the couple in the court, however the deceased was paying monthly maintenance to the accused as directed by the court well on time, but despite that he was being tortured and threatened with dire consequences in case he informs his relatives about the atrocities he was suffering at the hand of the accused" he added.

Locals said the deceased was critically injured and was evacuated to the hospital for treatment, where doctors declared him as brought dead.

Meanwhile a police team from police station Saddar reached the spot and assured protesters that action warranted under law will be taken against the accused.

Station House Officer (SHO) Saddar police station, Mudansir Nazir said investigation is on in the case.

Vitasta Cultural Festival Enters Second Day

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The "Vitasta Cultural Festival" continued its vibrant celebration for the second consecutive day at the Sheri Kashmir International Convention Centre in Srinagar.

The festival showcased a diverse array of cultural programs featuring fascinating performances by talented folk artists including singers and dancers, which left the audience enthralled and captivated.

In addition, a thought provoking seminar titled "Kashmir and Buddhism" was also organized at the venue.

The highlight of today's program was the

mesmerizing performance by the esteemed veteran folk singer Gulzar Gannai, leaving attendees filled with delight and excitement. His captivating presence on stage enthralled the audience, leaving them in awe of his singing talent.

To elevate the spirit of the event, the renowned Kalakshetra Foundation from Chennai presented a graceful Bharatanatyam performance of Sarada Stotram. The enchanting performance added a touch of grace and artistry to the festival, captivating the audience with the beauty of Bharatanatyam and the divine verses of Sarada Stotram.

TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
PDD: 0194-2450213
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
CAPD: 18001807011
SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS

FAJR	3:36
ZUHR	12:33
ASR	5:33
Magrib	7:50
ISHA	9:31

HIJRI CALENDAR
06 Zil-Hajj
1444

This Day In History

- 253 - St Lucius I begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 524 - Battle of Vézeronce, the Franks defeat the Burgundians
- 841 - Battle at Fontenay: Louis & Charles beat their brother Lotharius I
- 1080 - Wibbert of Ravenna chosen as anti-pope Clements III
- 1096 -1st Crusade slaughter Jews of Werelinghofen Germany
- 1139 Battle of Ourique: Afonso I defeats Moors 1139- Battle of Ourique: Afonso I defeats Moors
- 1183- Peace of Konstanz signed between Hohenstaufen Emperor Frederick Barbarossa and Italian Lombard League
- 1638- Lunar eclipse is 1st astronomical event recorded in the American Colonies
- 1667-1st blood transfusion performed by French Doctor Jean-Baptiste Denys
- 1672- 1st recorded monthly Quaker meeting in US held, Sandwich, Mass
- 1678-Elena Cornaro Piscopia, a Venetian, is awarded a doctorate of philosophy - first woman to receive a university doctoral decree
- 1900- Russia mobilizes its army in eastern Siberia preparatory to acting against the Chinese, but also in an attempt to diminish the influence of Japan on the Asian mainland
- 1905-Warsaw & Lodz revolt against Russian occupation 1919- 1st advanced monoplane airliner flight (Junkers F13)
- 1940- Adolf Hitler views Eiffel tower & grave of Napoleon in Paris, France
- 1941-Finland declares war on Soviet Union
- 1945-Imperial General Headquarters in Tokyo announce fall of Okinawa
- 1948- Harry Truman signs Displaced Persons Bill (205,000 Europeans to US)
- 1949- Presidential election in Syria (some women allowed to vote)
- 1950- Korean conflict begins; North Korea invades South Korea

PUBLIC NOTICE for NOC

That I Smt/ Shri MOHD AMIN BHAT S/o, W/o Shri GHULAM MOHD BHAT intend to Sell Plot No 1211 in Housing Colony, Ompora, Budgam to Smt/Shri Ghulam Mohammad Mir S/o, W/o Khazir Mohammad Mir R/o. Fair Banks Colony, Rawalpura, Srinagar, 190005. I have applied for NOC for Conveyance Deed for transfer of lease hold rights of above said plot. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu or Habitat Centre, Bemina, Srinagar 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.

abko

PUBLIC NOTICE for NOC

That I Smt/ Shri NAZIR AHMAD BHAT S/o, W/o Shri GHULAM MOHD BHAT intend to Sell Plot No 856 in Housing Colony, Ompora, Budgam to Smt/Shri SALIMA AKHTAR S/o, W/o Sh WALI MOHAMMAD MIR R/o C4, LANE 2 SECTOR- A, PINE AVENUE COLONY, RAWALPORA, SRINAGAR, 190005. I have applied for NOC for Conveyance Deed for transfer of lease hold rights of above said plot. Objection, if any, may be conveyed to the Managing Director, J&K Housing Board, Green Belt Park, Gandhi Nagar, Jammu or Habitat Centre, Bemina, Srinagar 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.

abko

Fax/Phone 0194-2310283
Government of Jammu & Kashmir
email.xen2nd@gmail.com

Office of the Executive Engineer (R&B) Construction Division No. 2nd Srinagar.
Lal Mandi, Near J. D. Hospital Srinagar.

Subject:-
1. Renovation by way of Construction of Wooden Cabins/ Cubicals and other items for housing clerical staff at available spaces of ground floor/ First floor, main office building DIQC Department Gogibagh Srinagar.
2. P/F of vitrified tiles in staircase, providing and fixing of MS Iron Collapsible Gate and raising Grill work of Main Office building, DIQC Department, Gogibagh Srinagar.
3. Balance work for Chowkidar Quarter by way of painting, Installation of Stair, Handrail & grill work and allied works, DIQC Department Gogibagh Srinagar.

Reference:- This office 45/R&B/CD11/4834-44 of 2023-24 Dated: 16.06.2023.

CANCELLATION

The above noted works floated for tenders vide this office NIT No. 45/R&B/CD11/4834-44 of 2023-24 Dated: 16.06.2023, is hereby cancelled in view of Administrative reasons.

No: 5427-34
DIPK-4117/23
Dated: 24-06-2023

Executive Engineer
R&B Contr. Division No 2nd
Srinagar.

Office Of The Executive Engineer, Generation Division -1st Sumbal (Kangan)
(Email id: xenesumbal@gmail.com)

Extension-1
Sub: Extension of dates for submission of tenders.

Reference: 1. This office e-NIT No: GDS/ 01 of 2023-24, dated 01-06-2023 for "Update, assessment of Generator Protection System, Transformer Protection System, 132kv Line Protection System installed in C&R panels of power house. It also includes Update, assessment and replacement of different faulty indicator/controllers Gauge Panels and UCB Panels of USHP-I Sumbal"

Due to poor response, the dates for above referred e- NIT are hereby extended as under.

Sr No	Critical dates	Date
01	Bid Document Submission end date	29-06-2023
02	Date of opening of techno commercial bids	01-07-2023

All other terms and conditions will remain same as laid down in the original NIT.

No: GDS/302-307
DIPK-NB-1518/23
Date:24/06/2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Generation Division USHP-1
Sumbal

از سرشت چنار ڈیولا پمٹنٹ آفیسر
فلور کلچر آفیسر گاندربل ابا نڈی پورہ

اشتہار نیلای

ہر خاص عام کو بڑیہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ محکمہ ہرا کو مندرجہ ذیل باغ میں اخروٹ باغیت سال 2023 کی بولی دستی
مطلوب ہے۔ خواہشمند اصحاب مقررہ تاریخ سے پہلے مز کو رہ باغ / پارک میں جا کر ان بیوہ جات کا خود مشاہدہ کر کے بولی میں
شرکت کر سکتے ہے۔

نمبر شمار	بیٹا غور بلک کا نام	تعداد درخت	تاریخ وقت	بیٹا غور بلک
1 -	دلروپ پارک ہانڈی پورہ	3 عدد	4 جولائی 11:30 بجے	دلروپ پارک ہانڈی پورہ

شرائط بولی مندرجہ ذیل ہیں۔

1. شرکاء بولی کو بولی شروع ہونے سے پہلے زیر ضمانت رقم رکھنا لازمی ہے جو موقع پر ہی طے کی جائے گی۔
2. بولی میں وہی اشخاص شرکت کر سکتے ہیں جو مز کو رہ پارک / پارک میں جا کر ان بیوہ جات کے خواہشمند ہوں۔
3. کامیاب بولی دہندہ کو مز کو رہ بولی نیکسٹ موقع پر ہی ادا کرنی ہوگی۔
4. بیوہ جات اٹھانے کے دوران باغ / پارک میں اگر کسی بھی قسم کا نقصان سرزد ہو تو اس کی تمام تر ذمہ داری کامیاب بولی دہندہ پر عاید ہوگی۔
5. باغ میں ریزہ گاڑی بجائے کی بیٹل اجازت نہیں ہوگی۔
6. آئشن کینٹی کو یہ حق حاصل ہے کہ وہ بیوہ جات سے بیوہ بولی منظور یا منظور کر سکتے ہیں۔

باقی شرائط موقع پر ہی سامنے جائیں گی۔

اشتہار

فلور کلچر آفیسر گاندربل ابا نڈی پورہ
No: CDO/FO/GBL/438-43
DIPK-4101/23 Dated: 24-06-2023

From KO Archives

3 Ikhwanis Taste Their Own Medicine

S RINAGAR: People of Kupwara today witnessed an unusual sight when the senior superintendent of police, Ashkoor Wani, administered a severe beating to three ikhwanis publicly for allegedly kidnapping one Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Mir of Drugmulla.

About 500 people of the area witnessed the 'summary punishment' as the trio was being beaten.

Reports said that three surrendered militants identified as Muhammad Sadiq Dar of Awoora who calls himself as a commander of Ikhwan Noor Muhammad Wani of Chowkibal and Riyaz Ahmad Mir of Chakbasti Awoora had kidnapped Ghulam Mohi-ud-Din Mir from his home. They worked with Awoora camp of the security forces. Later talking to Kashmir Observer, Ashkoor Wani said the three had let loose reign of terror in the area and were wanted by the police.

He also asserted that beating of a surrendered Ikhwanis would send the right signal to others involved in extortions, kidnappings and other such acts. He said such acts won't be tolerated in future; ONS adds from Baramulla

According to reports surrendered trio, working with the security forces, had picked up Rather from his residence and taken him to a security camp where he was given a thrashing. They demanded money from him which he promised to get from his home.

On being let off to get the promised money, Rather straightaway went to Kupwara to lodge a complaint with SSP who got the surrendering arrested immediately. A case has been registered against them at the police station. Sources said the trio had relieved one Mahda Wani of Chowkibal of Rs 6,000 a few days ago.

(Kashmir Observer, June 25, 2000)



Eu Border Agency Says Greece Did Not Respond To Offer To Send Plane To Monitor Capsized Migrant Boat

Agencies

BEIRUT: Having faced widespread criticism over its dealings with a migrant boat that capsized earlier this month, Greece has now been accused of not responding to an offer to send a plane to monitor the vessel.

Eighty-two people were officially confirmed dead in the incident last week, but the UN said it is likely as many as 500 may have drowned.

On Saturday, the BBC quoted the EU border agency Frontex as saying the migrant boat had been spotted by one of its planes "hardly moving in the hours before it capsized," which contradicts Greece's claim that the vessel was on a "safe and steady course."

According to the report, Frontex offered to send a plane to monitor the vessel, but received no reply from Greek authorities.

The overcrowded boat is believed to have set sail from Libya. It was detected for the first

time in the early hours of June 13 heading toward Greece.

The Greek authorities said that the boat's crew told coast guards that the vessel was heading to Italy, and asked to be left alone. The authorities deny not acting swiftly enough to avoid the tragedy, but have not commented on Frontex's claim about its offer of aerial assistance.

Having analyzed the passage of other vessels on that day, the BBC claimed in its report that the migrants' boat had barely moved for almost seven hours before capsizing around 80 kilometers away from Pylos, a coastal town in Greece.

More than 100 people are said to have been rescued, but according to survivors there were more than 700 on board, including around 100 children.

Pakistan's interior minister has said that more than 350 Pakistanis were onboard. Media reports have claimed that there were Egyptian and Syrian passengers as well.

"Internal Treason" In Russia: Timeline Of Events That Unfolded In 24 Hours



Agencies

Mutinous Russian mercenary fighters barreled towards Moscow on Saturday after seizing a southern city overnight, with Russia's military firing on them from the air but seemingly incapable of slowing their lightning advance. Here is a timeline of events as they have unfolded over the last 24 hours.

FRIDAY
Yevgeny Prigozhin, the boss of the private army called Wagner, releases a video stepping up his feud with Russia's military top brass and for the first time rejects President Vladimir Putin's core justifications for invading Ukraine.

In a series of subsequent audio recordings posted on Telegram, Prigozhin says the "evil" of Russia's military leadership "must be stopped" and his Wagner mercenary force will lead a "march for justice" against the Russian military.

Russia's FSB security service responds by opening a criminal case against Prigozhin, saying he has called for armed mutiny.

The deputy commander of Russia's Ukraine campaign, General Sergei Surovnikov, urges the Wagner militia to give up their opposition to the military leadership and return to their bases.

SATURDAY
Prigozhin says his men have crossed the border from Ukraine into Russia and are ready to go "all the way" against the Russian military. Wagner fighters have entered the southern Russian city of Rostov, Prigozhin says in an audio recording posted on Telegram.

The White House says it is monitoring the situation involving Russia and the Wagner force, and will be consulting with allies and partners on developments.

The governor of southern Russia's Rostov region adjoining Ukraine tells residents to remain calm and stay indoors as it becomes clear that Wagner forces have taken control of the city of Rostov.

Russian's Defence Ministry issues a statement appealing to Wagner fighters to abandon

Prigozhin, saying they have been "deceived and dragged into a criminal adventure".

A Russian security source tells Reuters Wagner fighters have taken control of all military facilities in the city of Voronezh, about 500 km (300 miles) south of Moscow.

Putin makes a televised address vowing to crush what he calls an armed mutiny. He accuses Prigozhin of "treason" and a "stab in the back".

Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, a Putin ally, says his forces are ready to help put down the revolt by Prigozhin and to use harsh methods if necessary.

European governments including Britain, France, Germany and Italy issue statements saying they are closely watching developments in Russia. During the day, numerous other governments around the world issue similar statements.

Russian military helicopters open fire on a convoy of rebel mercenaries already more than half way towards Moscow in a lightning advance after seizing Rostov overnight.

What Is Russia's Wagner Group And Why Is It Accused Of Mutiny?

Agencies

Tension between Yevgeny Prigozhin, head of Russia's Wagner private militia group, and the nation's defense establishment exploded in dramatic fashion on Friday. The mercenary chief vowed to punish Russian military leaders, saying Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu had orchestrated a missile attack that killed "huge" numbers of his fighters. The Kremlin responded swiftly, denying the attack and accusing Prigozhin of mutiny.

The internal conflict is the biggest test of President Vladimir Putin's authority since he sent troops into Ukraine 16 months ago. In a short televised address to the nation on Saturday, Putin denounced the rebellion by Wagner forces and its leader as "treason" and promised harsh punishment.

Here's what you need to know about the Wagner

Group, its role in Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and why its leader is accused of mutiny.

What is the Wagner Group?

Founded by Prigozhin in 2014, Wagner at its peak had about 50,000 mercenary recruits - many of them ex-prisoners - fighting in Ukraine. The US designated the group as a transnational criminal organization earlier this year, and Wagner has been sanctioned by Australia, Canada, Japan, the UK and the European Union. The group has operated for years on battlefields in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America, where it's been accused of committing widespread human rights abuses.

Wagner has murky legal status, and mercenaries are technically illegal in Russia.

The group operates independently of the nation's official armed forces, and recently rebuffed Moscow's demands that it recruits sign formal contracts with the military.

Who is Prigozhin and what's his relationship to Putin?

Yevgeny Prigozhin, 62, is a Russian businessman and ex-convict who's been called "Putin's chef" due to his catering company's contracts with Kremlin and longstanding ties with the president. American authorities have said he controlled a troll farm known as the Internet Research Agency to interfere in 2016 US presidential election. In 2022, Prigozhin confirmed he created Wagner after years of denying any connection to the group.



Mob Torches Manipur Minister's Godown, Tries To Burn Down Residence

Press Trust of India

IMPHAL: A group of people set on fire a private godown of Manipur minister L Susindro at Chingarel in Imphal East district, reducing it to ashes, police said on Saturday.

An attempt was also made to torch another property of the consumer and food affairs

minister and his residence at Khurai in the same district on Friday night but timely intervention prevented it.

Security forces fired several rounds of teargas shells till midnight to prevent the mob from gheraoing his Khurai residence, police said.

No casualty was reported in the incident.

Centre's Pan-India Move To Help Citizens Save 20% On Electricity Bill

Agencies

NEW DELHI: The Government of India has introduced two changes to the prevailing power tariff system and now across the country consumers can save up to 20 per cent in power bills by planning usage during solar hours or daytime as the government is set to implement a 'time of the day' tariff.

The Government of India has introduced two changes to the prevailing power tariff system, through an amendment to the Electricity (Rights of Consumers) Rules, 2020.

The changes are the introduction of the Time of Day (ToD) Tariff, and the rationalization of smart metering provisions, the Ministry of Power said.

"Under the ToD Tariff system, the Tariff during solar hours (duration of eight hours in a day as specified by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission) of the day shall be 10 per cent-20 per cent less than the normal tariff, while the tariff during peak hours will be 10 to 20 per cent higher, the release stated.

ToD tariff would be applicable for Commercial and Industrial consumers having Maximum demand of 10 KW and above, from April 1, 2024, and for all other consumers except agricultural consumers, latest from April 1 2025. Time of Day tariff shall be made effective immediately after installation of smart meters, for the consumers with smart meters, it further said.

Union Power and New and Renewable Energy Minister RK Singh said that the ToD is a win-win for consumers as well as the power system.

"The ToD tariffs comprising separate tariffs for peak hours, Solar hours and normal hours, send price signals to consumers to manage their load according

to the Tariff. With awareness and effective utilization of the ToD tariff mechanism, consumers can reduce their electricity bills," he said.

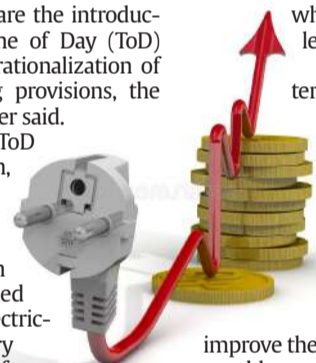
"Since solar power is cheaper, the tariff during the solar hours will be less, so the consumer benefits. During non-solar hours thermal and hydropower as well as gas-based capacity is used - their costs are higher than that of solar power - this will be reflected in the Time of Day Tariff. Now consumers can plan their consumption in order to reduce their power costs - planning more activities during solar hours when power costs are less," he added.

The Union Minister said that the ToD mechanism will also ensure better grid integration of Renewable Energy sources thereby facilitating faster energy transition for India.

"The ToD tariff will improve the management of renewable generation fluctuations, incentivize demand increase during the periods of high RE generation hours and thereby increase grid integration of larger quantity of renewable power," RK Singh said.

Most of the State Electricity Regulatory Commissions (SERCs) have already implemented ToD tariffs, for large Commercial and Industrial (C-I) categories of consumers in the country. With the installation of smart meters, ToD metering at the domestic consumer level will be introduced as per Tariff Policy mandate.

Time of Day (ToD) tariff, is recognized globally across electricity industries, as an important Demand Side Management (DSM) measure which is used as a means of incentivizing consumers to shift a portion of their loads from peak times to off-peak times, thereby improving the system load factor by reducing the demand on the system during peak period.



S Jaishankar Makes Huge Announcement On Passport Seva 2.0, e-Passports

Agencies

NEW DELHI: India will soon embark on the second phase of the Passport Seva Programme (PSP-Version 2.0), which includes new and upgraded e-passports, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar



announced on the occasion of Passport Seva Divas.

Mr Jaishankar called on passport-issuing authorities in India and abroad to join him in renewing the pledge to provide passport and related services to people in a "timely, reliable, accessible, transparent and efficient manner."

"We will soon be embarking on Passport Seva Programme (PSP) Version 2.0, including new and upgraded e-passports," Mr Jaishankar said in his message on Passport Seva Kendra.

He further stated, "In line with the Prime Minister's vision of enhancing the 'Ease of Living' for citizens, these initiatives will usher in a new paradigm of

"EASE": E: Enhanced passport services to citizens, using a digital eco-system A: Artificial Intelligence-powered service delivery S: Smoother overseas travel using chip-enabled e-passports E: Enhanced data security."

Mr Jaishankar in his message stated, "I would like to call on all our passport issuing authorities in India and abroad to join me in renewing our pledge to provide passport and related services to citizens in a timely, reliable, accessible, transparent and efficient manner."

While sharing Mr Jaishankar's message on Twitter, the Ministry of External Affairs stated, "Here is a message from EAM @DrSJaisankar, as we observe the Passport Seva Divas today. #TeamMEA reaffirms its commitment to provide passport and related services to citizens in a timely, reliable, accessible, transparent and efficient manner."

Mr Jaishankar said it was a matter of pleasure to felicitate all passport-issuing authorities in India and abroad and their colleagues from the Central Passport Organization on the occasion of the Passport Seva Divas 2023. He noted that this day is an occasion to take stock of what has been achieved and to reaffirm India's resolve to strive to attain the highest standards in the delivery of passport services.

NEWS MAKERS

Gujarat Man Arrested For Posing As PMO Official, Conning Private School

Press Trust of India

VADODARA: A man from Gujarat's Vadodara city has been arrested for posing as a PMO official to secure the admission of two children in a private school here and trying to dupe it of huge sums with his fake identity, an official said on Saturday.

The arrest of Mayank Tiwari on Friday comes months after an Ahmedabad resident, Kiran Patel, was held from a five-star hotel in Jammu and Kashmir for posing as a senior official from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). Hospitality apart, Patel had also enjoyed security cover by tricking officials in the Valley.

Identifying himself as a director (strategic advisory) at the PMO in New Delhi, Tiwari first got in touch with the school and its trustee in March 2022, during the admission season, said the official from Waghodia po-

lice station in the city.

Tiwari, a middle-aged man, sought the school's help with the admission of two sons of his "family friend", whom he described as Indian Army official Mirza Baig and said he was being transferred to Vadodara from Pune, the official said.

The school's director asked Tiwari, whose WhatsApp status said he was a "PMO official", to meet the trustee, who is also associated with a private university in Vadodara.

To impress upon the trustee, Tiwari told her that he could use his clout as a "PMO official" and get the school involved in the field of education research and get them various projects if they took care of the expenses, the official said.

The smooth-talker took the trustee and the school's director into confidence with the intention of cheating them of huge sums, said the first informant report (FIR). He also

secured the admission of the two children as special cases, the official said.

A few months later, the trustee had doubts about Tiwari's claims of being a PMO official and the education research projects mentioned by him. She then started talking to people in her circle and made a discrete inquiry about Tiwari, the official said.

The trustee later found out that Tiwari was not a PMO official and had conned them by spinning a tale about his "immense influence". Also, his profession was not clear, said the FIR. The trustee then alerted the school last month.

On a complaint by the school administration, the Waghodia police on Friday registered a case against Tiwari under Indian Penal Code sections 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), and 170 (personating a public servant) and arrested him.

Man Beaten To Death For Stealing Chicken From Poultry Farm In Bengal

Press Trust of India

JHARGRAM: A man was allegedly beaten to death in West Bengal's Jhargram district after he was caught stealing chickens from a poultry farm in the dead of the night, police said on Saturday.

The incident happened in Dalkathi village in Jhargram police station area when Nuku Mallik allegedly entered a poultry farm to steal chickens, they said.

The owner of the farm, Bhupen Mahato, woke up and caught Mallik red-handed. He then allegedly tied him to a lamppost outside the farm, and thrashed him, they said. On seeing villagers gathering at the spot, he left Mallik there and went back to the farm. The villagers then informed the police, who sent the body to the district hospital for post-mortem examination.

Police said they have detained the farm owner and were interrogating him.

Qaddafi's Detained Son Briefly Taken To Hospital Due To Hunger Strike In Lebanon

Agencies

BEIRUT: A son of late Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi was briefly taken to hospital this week after his health deteriorated nearly three weeks into a hunger strike to protest his detention without trial in Beirut, a person familiar with the case has said.

The health of Hannibal Qaddafi, who has been only drinking small amounts of water, deteriorated on Wednesday the person said, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the case.

Qaddafi, who started his hunger strike on June 3, was taken to Beirut's Hotel-Dieu de France hospital on Wednesday after suffering a drop in blood pressure and inflammation in the spine.

Qaddafi was given se-



rum, antibiotics and food supplements and after his health stabilized he was taken back to the jail where he is held in Beirut, the person said.

A doctor checked on Qaddafi in his cell on Thursday and he is in stable condition, the person said.

He had been suffering back pain due to being held in a small room where he cannot move freely or exercise.

Hannibal Qaddafi has been detained in Lebanon

since 2015 after he was briefly kidnapped from neighboring Syria, where he had been living as a political refugee.

He was abducted by Lebanese militants demanding information on the whereabouts of prominent Lebanese Shiite cleric Moussa Al-Sadr, who went missing in Libya 45 years ago.

Lebanese police later announced it had collected Hannibal from the northeastern city of Baalbek where he was being held. He has been detained in a Beirut jail without trial since then.

The disappearance of Al-Sadr in 1978 has been a long-standing sore point in Lebanon. The cleric's family believes he may still be alive in a Libyan prison, though most Lebanese presume Al-Sadr is dead. He would be 94 years old.

Tourism Biggest Path Towards Change, Dev In Kashmir: Lekhi

Agencies

KUPWARA: Stating that there is a need to explore the tourism potential of frontier district Kupwara, Union Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Cultural Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi Saturday said tourist arrival is a path of change and development in the region.

Union Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Cultural Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi Saturday arrived on a surprise visit to north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

She was earlier accompanying the Union Home Minister of India Amit Shah who was on a visit to Jammu and Kashmir. She was part of the two major events at Jammu and Srinagar chaired by the Home Minister on Friday.

Talking to reporters at Dak Bungalow Kupwara, the Union Minister said that there is a need to explore the tourism potential of the Kupwara district.

She said that her surprise visit aims to further open up the tourism potential and opportunities in the Kupwara district. "Tourism potential and beauty of Kupwara district are yet to be explored. It is still untouched. In Kashmir Valley tourism is the biggest path toward change and develop-

ment," the MoS said.

The Union Minister also said that tourism can provide ample opportunities to the people of the valley. "With more tourists arriving, people of the valley will be able to get opportunities to make a better livelihood. It will help people to head towards prosperity," she said.

The MoS also said that Meadows, Border tourism, Aspirational districts, and border villages have a great potential to be developed as tourism destinations. "They have a great potential to be the source of change. This visit is aimed at exploring that potential," the MoS added.

Meanwhile, a senior administration official privy to the visit said that the MoS visited several places. During the visit, he said the MoS interacted with the officials and visited forward areas.

The official said that the MoS interacted with the district officials of Kupwara at the DC office. "She reviewed the progress of various Central Govt. schemes," the official said.

The official also said that the Union Minister in connection with border tourism visited forward areas as well.

"The MoS visited the Sadhna Pass Army Post," the official said—(KNO)



A FARMER PLANTS RICE SEEDLINGS on a hot and humid Saturday in Mirhama area of South Kashmir's Anantnag district. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

IMD Declares Onset Of Monsoon In J&K



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Indian Meteorological Department on Saturday declared the onset of monsoon over Jammu and Kashmir.

A meteorological department official here said that from June 25-28, generally cloudy weather with intermittent light to moderate thundershowers was expected at many places. "Few places over Jammu Division may receive heavy rainfall with intense showers for brief period," he said.

He said there is possibility of moderate to severe thunder and lightning with strong surface winds at few places during the period.

He predicted respite from the current heatwave over many parts of J&K.

"Expect significant increase in water discharges in rivers, local Nallahs, flood channels due to melting glaciers/snow and rain during 25-28th which may generate localized flash flood, Mudslide and Land-

slides," the IMD said.

He said there are chances of torrential rains at few middle and higher reaches of Jammu division during above period.

"It may cause temporary disruption of surface transportation, especially over passes and higher reaches."

Meanwhile, rains lashed parts of J&K on Saturday, bringing respite from scorching heat conditions. On Saturday, Kashmir Valley recorded another day of scorching day with Srinagar recording maximum of 34.8° against 35.0° which was highest June day recorded in a decade.

Also, Srinagar recorded a low of 22.4°C against 21.0°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 6.6°C for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 20.0°C against 19.0°C on the previous night while the tourist resort of Pahalgam recorded a low of 13.3°C against 10.6°C on the previous night.

In Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 19.6°C against 17.8°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 5.5°C for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 20.0°C against 19.3°C on the previous night and it was 5.9°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 14.4°C against 15.4°C on previous night and it was above normal by 4.2°C for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, he said.

Jammu recorded a low of 28.5°C against 31.2°C on the previous night and it was 2.4°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 21.3°C (6.2°C above normal), Batote 22.9°C (5.7°C above normal), Katra 25.4°C (3.4°C below normal) and Bhandarwah 21.8°C (above normal by 6.9°C). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 12.0°C and 15.8°C respectively, he said. (GNS)

Congress Dubs Shah's Visit To J&K 'Cosmetic'

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Saturday termed as "cosmetic" the two-day visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to the Union Territory and said people want "restoration of their honour" and holding of the much-delayed assembly polls.

J-K Congress working president Raman Bhalla said the frequent visits of central ministers to the region is a "futile exercise" and claimed that not a single public demand has been fulfilled even as the Jammu and Kashmir administration is directly working on the directions of the BJP.

"The home minister's visit (to Jammu and Kashmir) is cosmetic as he refuses to acknowledge the ground realities. These visits are an eyewash and a strategy to divert public attention from the government's failure," he said while address-

ing a function to welcome new entrants into the party fold at Bishna near here.

"The central government should send its ministers with some funds in hand so that they can redress the public issues in a real sense. This public outreach campaign since the last couple of years has remained a flop show. High expectations of the public from these visits have also fallen flat," Bhalla, a former minister, said.

He also alleged that the civil administration has completely collapsed in Jammu and Kashmir.

"It is the right time to restore the confidence of the people who are feeling sidelined with no elected representative or government in place," he said.

Demanding holding of the much-delayed assembly elections for empowerment of people, he said Jammu and Kashmir residents want the restoration of their "honour and dignity".

NEXT Exam Not In The Interest Of Medical Students: DAK

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: With National Exit Test (NEXT) set to replace MBBS final examination, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Saturday said that NEXT exam is not in the interest of medical students.

"The students are awarded MBBS degrees in medical colleges/universities only after rigorous training and examinations. There are so many exams which medical students have to write during their MBBS course, and the additional exit exam will put undue burden on students," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said while medical students focus on both theoretical and clinical aspects of medical science under the existing system, the introduction

of NEXT exam will force them to focus on the theoretical part of medicine during their course.

"This is bound to hamper the development of their clinical skills," he said. The DAK President said the attendance of students in clinical postings and ward trainings will decrease as they will be solely focussing on this decisive exit exam.

"This will affect their clinical judgement and communication skills which are so essential for patient care," he said adding "we need doctors for patient care not MCQ-cracking robots who have never seen clinics."

Dr Nisar said NEXT exam is also intended to replace NEET-PG and it will not assess the students on basic subjects. It will only assess the clinical subjects and the applied aspects of non-clinical subjects.

J&K Was A Laboratory For BJP: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

PATNA: Former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday said the state she had ruled, now stripped of its special status and divided into two Union territories, was a "laboratory" for the ruling BJP at the Centre.

Talking to reporters here a day after the opposition meeting, Mufti voiced fear of "Kashmirisation" of the entire country if the party returned to power.

"There is, indeed, an attack on the idea of India. It was most evident when they abrogated Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir and put its leaders, including three former chief ministers, in jail," said Mufti, who was the last CM of the state.

"J-K was a laboratory. What we see in Delhi today, by way of the central ordinance, started much earlier in our state. Unfortunately, few people un-



derstood it back then", alleged Mufti, who heads the People's Democratic Party.

"The BJP, if it returns to power in 2024, will trample upon the Constitution and undertake Kashmirisation of the whole country", said the vice-chairperson of the Gupkar Declaration, who had run a coalition government with the saffron party, before resigning.

On Aam Aadmi Party's allegation that Congress "refused" to oppose the ordinance that curtails the powers of Arvind Kejriwal government, despite many parties asking it to do so at

the meeting, she replied, "That was never the central issue of the meeting. We all were focused on issues of the idea of India and the assaults on the Constitution".

When reminded that AAP had voted in favour of the bill brought in Parliament that stripped Jammu and Kashmir of its statehood and special status, Mufti said, "it is true that many parties opposed to the BJP then did not realise the implications of what was taking place. But I did not come holding grudges".

To a query whether there was any consensus on restoration of Article 370 if the opposition parties together succeeded in defeating the BJP, Mufti said, "The fight is to save the Constitution. And Article 370 is a part of the Constitution. The special status enjoyed by Jammu and Kashmir was granted by the Indian Constitution. It was not a largesse offered by China or Pakistan".



Amarnath Yatra

Top Police Officer Reviews Security Along Banihal Highway

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Additional Director General of Police of Jammu zone Mukesh Singh on Saturday visited several towns along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and took stock of the security arrangements for the upcoming Amarnath Yatra.

Singh, accompanied by senior police officers, visited Lambar-Banihal, Ramsoo, Ramban and Chanderkot to take stock of the security measures.

The first batch of pilgrims will leave for Kashmir from the base camp in Bhagwati Nagar in Jammu on June 30, one day before the scheduled commencement of the yatra to the 3,880-metre-high cave shrine in the Himalayas.

The ADGP also interacted with CRPF and Army officers and enquired about the logistics provided to the personnel deployed en route.

He asked the officers who are to be deployed at vantage positions to discharge their assigned duties with utmost care so that the pilgrims feel com-

fortable and secure, the police said.

He also instructed the J&K State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) personnel to remain extra vigilant, alert and to come forward in the shortest possible time to take up rescue operations in case of any unexpected mishap to any pilgrim due to any natural or man-made calamity.

Deputy Inspector General of Police (Doda-Kishtwar-Ramban) Sunil Gupta and Senior Superintendent of Police of Ramban district Mohita Sharma accompanied the ADGP during his visit.

Meanwhile, Senior Superintendent of Police of Samba district Benam Tosh chaired a meeting of all security agencies to review arrangements for the yatra.

All the officers were directed to ensure alertness, work with exemplary synergy and to share intelligence inputs with sensitivity to foil the nefarious designs of anti-national elements and their mentors across the International Border, the police said.

CAUSE, KEI Organise Drug De-Addiction, Career Awareness Program At GDC Tral

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Non-government organisations 'CAUSE' and Kashmir Education Initiative (KEI) organized a one-day drug de-addiction and career counselling program in Tral, Pulwama on Saturday.

The event was organized in collaboration with Government Degree College, Tral. The event was attended by several dignitaries from the valley. Around 200 students from the college attended and benefitted from the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Sajad Yehaya Naqash, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Tral, while appreciating the initiative highlighted the need for such programmes in current times when Drug addiction in the valley is reaching sky-high. "Such events where the emphasis is laid on the burning menace called drug abuse need of the hour," said Naqash.

He further lauded KEI for

throwing light on better career opportunities for students in colleges and universities across the country.

Dr Sajid Mohammad, a renowned consultant psychiatrist, also talked about the growing drug abuse menace in the valley. He stressed that people should know that substance abuse can direly ruin the lives of the people who fall into its trap.

Khursheed Islam, Professor IMPA, and one of the founding members of KEI, while interacting with the students gave a brief introduction about his organization and gave thorough information about several career options a student embark on to get plum job opportunities in future.

Tajamul Hussain, President KEI, also gave a presentation about several courses in several top-notch institutes in India and explained how studying there would benefit the students in their careers.

SPO Among Two Held For Beating Their Wives

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Two men, including a special police officer (SPO), were arrested for allegedly beating their wives under the influence of liquor in separate incidents in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, police said.

SPO Ravi Kumar was arrested for causing severe blunt injuries to his wife at their house in Swankha village of Ramgarh, a police spokesman said. Ajmeer Singh, an auto-rick-

shaw driver, was arrested for assaulting his wife at Budhwani village, he said.

Singh's wife was admitted to the Government Medical College Hospital in Jammu with fractured right arm and other injuries.

He said Senior Superintendent of Police of Samba district Benam Tosh has issued directions to all officers to ensure zero tolerance against crime against women and to take stringent action against perpetrators of domestic violence.

SHORT TAKES

Student On Picnic Drowns To Death

SRINAGAR: A teenage student, who was on a picnic with his school, drowned to death in a Sindh River in Sonamarg area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Saturday.

An official said that the boy, a student of Public School Baramulla, was on picnic when the incident took place.

He said that the boy was immediately taken to PHC Sonamarg, where doctor pronounced him dead.

The boy has been identified as Shoab Farooq Chachi (14) son of Farooq Ahmad Chachi of Baramulla.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the incident—(KNO)

PSA Slapped On 3 Militant Associates

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday booked three alleged militant associates under Public Safety Act (PSA) in South Kashmir's Pulwama district.

Umer Ahmad Ganaie of Setthergund Kakapora, Aftab Hussain Dar of Avangund Rajpora and Hilal Ahmad Khan of Hakhripora, were booked under PSA owing to their involvement in supporting militancy, a police spokesperson said. The trio, he said, have been identified as an active OGWs and facilitator of different militant organizations of LeT/TRF/JeM etc.

"They were also involved in facilitating the movement of militants, providing them transport facilities, engaging in anti-national activities that poses a threat to the region's security," the spokesperson said.

He further said that stringent action shall be taken against all those involved in any militant activity.

Rs 3.50 Lac Fine Slapped On Traffic Violators

SAMBA: The enforcement team of the Motor Vehicle Department (MVD) on Saturday recovered Rs 3.50 lakh fine from traffic violators during an early morning checking on National Highway Way in Samba District.

The team comprising ARTO, Samba Shammi Kumar, C.S. Baloria, MVI and other staff conducted checking of around 300 vehicles challaned/com-pounded 101 vehicles for different traffic violations and recovered Rs. 3, 50, 500 fine on the spot.

Besides conducting checking, the drivers of vehicles were also made aware about the road safety rules and following the same for safe driving on the road. The owners and drivers were advised to ply vehicles with valid documents and avoid over speeding and avoid use of mobile phones while driving which often becomes the cause of accidents.

The ARTO Samba also appealed to the people to wear Crash Helmets and Seat Belts while driving two and four wheelers. He further requested drivers of commercial vehicles to ply vehicles on road by obeying traffic rules to reduce road accidents and save precious human lives.

DM Bans Bovine Transportation From Jammu

JAMMU: District Magistrate Jammu, Avny Lavasa, in exercise of the powers vested under Section 144 Cr. P.C has directed that no bovine animals such as Cow, Buffalo, Oxen, Bulls, Calves etc be transported from District Jammu to other Districts, except with written permission from undersigned or Addl. District Magistrate, Jammu under certain conditions imposed by this office, from time to time.

This order shall come into force with an immediate effect and shall remain in force for a period of two months from date of its issue or till the order is rescinded whichever be earlier.

Pakistan's Political Chaos Echoes Its Cricket

Similar to the fluctuations in its cricket team's performance, Pakistan exhibits a volatile, unstable, and unpredictable nature

RIYAZ WANI

“There are two solutions to the current crisis in the country: one, the establishment rules directly than behind a democratic facade. Another is that a true democracy is allowed to take root and a free and fair election is held at the appointed time. But as of now, the country seems working towards neither

The first thought that springs to mind when thinking about the Pakistani cricket team is its unpredictability. This is a squad that is turbulent, aggressive, hard-charging and yet gives up occasionally without much fight. That is why, on its day the team can defeat the strongest opponent in the game but lose to a minnow the following day. And it is a familiar fact. The point of repeating it is to wonder aloud whether sports behaviour of a national team somehow also echoes the character of a nation. The question becomes particularly relevant in view of the ongoing turmoil in Pakistan. The country is going through a deeply uncertain and vulnerable phase. And incidentally, the nation's most legendary cricketer Imran Khan is at the centre of it.

We are witness to an unremitting war of attrition between Khan on one hand and the combined might of the Pakistani establishment - read Army - and its coalition government on the other. However, it is the establishment which is believed to be the power behind the throne, so essentially the fight is between Khan and the Army chief. Khan himself framed it as one upon his release from the prison earlier in June. The fight has now become a zero sum game, as is apparent from the way Khan framed it and from the way it has developed over the past year. One party's survival means the decimation of the other; either Khan or the Army Chief General Asim Munir will win. As things stand, it is the latter who seems to have come out trumps.

Past few weeks have witnessed Khan's party Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) disintegrate. Senior leaders have left Khan in what is said to be under duress. He was also arrested, but only to be let off by Supreme Court a few days later. During the three days that Khan was in custody, protesters



The prevailing groundswell of support in Pakistan for the PTI is exclusively commanded by Khan and the other party leaders are only basking in his glory. Source: Getty Images

in Pakistan went on a rampage and some of them even attacked defence installations, something unheard of in Pakistan. Scores of cases have been filed against the PTI chief ostensibly to keep him busy with court appearances.

Going forward, the situation doesn't look promising for the PTI, more so, with the entire might of the establishment and Pakistani government aligned against Khan. With leaders also deserting him and the structure of the PTI being dismantled, Khan's ability to contest future national elections is being undermined.

That said, it is necessary to draw a distinction between Khan and the other senior leaders of his party: The prevailing groundswell of support in Pakistan for the PTI is exclusively commanded by Khan and the other party leaders are only basking in his glory. It is, in a sense, similar to the following for the prime minister Narendra Modi in India: votes are largely cast in his favour than the candidates

contesting the election on behalf of the BJP. So, Khan would still have a clear advantage if fair elections were held.

But as the last one year and the years before this make it amply clear, this is not how things play out in Pakistan. Democracy for all its trappings isn't organic. The establishment is widely believed to have a role in who rules Pakistan. Khan himself was accused of being propped by the Army and now the current rulers are also facing the same accusation.

That said, this is not the concern that is at the heart of the current turmoil in Pakistan. The question is a larger one: What constitutes a nation and who does it essentially belong to? A no-brainer answer to this is that people make up a nation. And by that definition, the legitimacy or otherwise of any action can be gauged by how many of its decisions are taken with reference to its people. To put it in another, what should matter in a nation? Is it the will of a large majority of its people or just that of a power-

ful elite who act largely to perpetuate themselves? In Pakistan it is this contest that is currently playing out, a tug of war between its people and its elite. Truth is Imran Khan is arguably the most popular leader of Pakistan now in the country, something that is also borne out by an overwhelming public groundswell in his favour and also by the recent by-polls.

It is true that elites rule everywhere. Every ruling arrangement begets its own network of elites who, in turn, act in their self-interest. But in Pakistan we have a variation on this power mantra: The elites are not entirely responsible for electing and replacing themselves. The establishment, more often than not, is an influential factor.

There are two solutions to the current crisis in the country: one, the establishment rules directly than behind a democratic facade. Another is that a true democracy is allowed to take root and a free and fair election is held at the appointed time. But as of now, the country seems working towards neither. As a result, the current turmoil looks set to continue for some more time. Like its cricket team, Pakistan will remain volatile, unstable and unpredictable. But this may not necessarily mean down and out. Things may eventually fall into place as happens in many of the matches of the country's cricket team. At the same time, they might even unravel further if the people at the helm continue to pursue a zero sum game than work for a win-win solution.

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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The disparities in coverage and global interest are unmistakably stark. In the last week, the unquiet seas have folded two vessels into their depths. One is an unnamed fishing trawler carrying as many as 750 people desperate to reach safety, most of whom are still missing, unlikely to have survived, about 92.6km (50 nautical miles) off the coast of Greece. The other is the Titan, a small submersible with five men on board that has still not been found 685km (370 nautical miles) off the Atlantic coast of Canada at the time of writing. A massive hunt for the submersible is ongoing involving the US and Canadian coast guards, a French rescue team, the Pentagon, private vessels, and top-notch equipment, including Remote Underwater Vehicles and aerial support.

The missing submersible has elicited round-the-clock coverage with many media websites hosting "live" updates and news programmes leading with the story. There are even question-and-answer forums hosted by the BBC to address all possible details.

The sinking of the fishing vessel last Wednesday has been covered, of course, but with an air of weary repetition. Here was another boat full of "illegal" brown people making a risky bid to enter Fortress Europe which has repeatedly warned them not to attempt the journey. The Greek coastguard is now embroiled in controversy about whether, when and how it responded to the vessel's clear distress over a period of several hours. In stark contrast to the heavy multinational rescue efforts for the OceanGate submersible, the trawler, like other refugee vessels, had little help. Human Rights Watch notes: "No EU ships actively patrol anywhere near where most boats enter into distress. Frontex, the EU's border and coast guard, conducts aerial surveillance in service of interceptions and returns, not rescues."

Some of the five men on board the privately-owned adventure submers-

ible, including British billionaire Hamish Harding, may have paid a quarter of a million dollars each for a seat on the Titan. We have been told the others in the vessel were wealthy British-Pakistani businessman Shahzada Dawood and his son Suleman, Stockton Rush, chief executive of OceanGate, the expedition firm behind the dive, and a French explorer, Paul-Henry Nargeolet.

Of those on the doomed fishing vessel en route from Libya to Italy we know nothing other than over half are Pakistani, likely poor, and that there were probably Syrians, Libyans and other North Africans on board as well. Facelessness and anonymity are the buffer between those of us ensconced in our homes and those who risk everything after leaving theirs. Without that buffer, we would have to acknowledge the singularity and worth of the 25,000 human beings, more than 1,200 in 2022 alone, who have drowned in the Mediterranean trying to get to Europe since 2014 and who have become, in our minds, little other than numbers with brown faces. They too would be worthy of full-blown high-tech rescue efforts instead of being criminalised as "illegal" with rescuers also risking being charged with "facilitating" asylum seekers.

Why this disparity? The crude, if dismaying, answer is that ours is a world in which the lives of a few matter significantly more than the lives of the many, a disparity that intensifies along geopolitical, class, race and caste lines. The poor, the vulnerable and the victims of war clinging to

Titan And The Trawler Whose Lives Matter?

Priyamvada Gopal



Why this disparity? The crude, if dismaying, answer is that ours is a world in which the lives of a few matter significantly more than the lives of the many, a disparity that intensifies along geopolitical, class, race and caste lines. The poor, the vulnerable and the victims of war clinging to the sides of a rubber dinghy are not "mournable" in the same way as the wealthy white man figured as an "explorer" or "adventurer" who goes to sea in an expensive bespoke vessel

the sides of a rubber dinghy are not "mournable" in the same way as the wealthy white man figured as an "explorer" or "adventurer" who goes to sea in an expensive bespoke vessel.

This disparity is built into the stories we, and the media, tell ourselves and who gets to figure as a hero in them. Accounts of refugees and asy-

lum seekers in the European media repeatedly play down the dangers they face in their places of departure, usually their homes, painting them collectively as "economic migrants" (read "greedy") or making fraudulent claims in order to access Europe's welfare systems. They are also portrayed as gullible and foolhardy, giving their money to criminals in exchange for passage and risking their safety in craft that are patently not seaworthy. By flouting deterrents, it is implied, refugees bring catastrophe upon themselves.

Contrast this with the air of tragic heroism and bravery already invested upon the five men in the Titan, its classical Greek name invoking not just the Titanic, the doomed object of its underwater tourism, but the might of the Greek pantheon. The men have been referred to as "explorers" and "adventurers", a category familiar to us from colonial lore, courageous men in pith helmets ready to venture where no one has dared go before (even if what they "discovered" was already inhabited). Today's context for such expensive and generally superfluous expeditions is not so much the hope of finding new horizons as it is personal gratification, manifest in space travel for fun touted by billionaires like Richard Branson and Elon Musk. OceanGate's website offers its clients a "thrilling and unique travel experience" with a "chance to step outside of everyday life and discover something truly extraordinary".

If refugees knowingly risk their lives by coming aboard unseaworthy

craft, there are also questions to be asked of OceanGate's "experimental submersible" which is apparently not certified by an outside body. The company has explicitly alluded to SpaceX and Virgin Galactic in indicating that inside experts are sufficient and that the time taken for outside bodies to certify experimental vehicles is "anathema to rapid innovation". Its well-heeled clients must sign a waiver accepting the risk of death during an expedition.

Death is a reality that many refugees and asylum seekers also accept, though arguably they have far less luxury of choice in the matter. "If I die right now, I'll die with no regrets... It was hell. Nothing less than hell," said one refugee who left Libya in 2020 after being rescued from an overcrowded rubber boat in distress in the Mediterranean. Yet the courage of refugees in seeking to leave hellish situations and make new lives in strange new places is rarely lauded. As the poet Warsan Shire famously declared, "No one leaves home until home is a sweaty voice in your ear saying: leave... anywhere is safer than here."

No tragedy, at sea or elsewhere, requires us to forfeit grief. We are obliged, however, to ask ourselves whose lives we are inclined to mourn and whose lives we consign to our collective equanimity. Who gets to be the hero of an epic or the protagonist of a tragedy, and who is relegated to the margins of human history? Unlike Homer who believed that only a few could survive an Odyssey, perhaps we can hope that all who brave the dangers of the unkind seas may emerge "alive through a big surf to crawl, clotted with brine, on kindly beaches in joy, in joy, knowing the abyss behind."

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 Al Jazeera

READING THE SILENCE OF OUR MOTHERS

Nilanjana Bhowmick

The feeling of being unwanted and unloved is the biggest of all burdens. Being unwanted leaves you with a debilitating sense of loneliness and can then feed into a pattern of being an outsider in adulthood. If the family you are born into makes you feel unwanted, you grow up believing that you will be unwanted your whole life. Then, you diminish yourself – you measure your words or self-censor, you feel compelled to make every moment of your existence productive to make it count, you work hard to be more likeable and, loveable. Then when a semblance of something akin to love or respect comes your way you are hooked. This is how most women end up in bad marriages and this is why they stay.

'I have never felt good enough. When I met my husband, suddenly! was important to someone, someone cared about me. It brought me so much confidence. My grades in college improved. I cleared competitive exams with flying colours. For the first time, I began to like myself. For the first time I didn't stand in front of the mirror and cry. I knew he was aggressive by nature but the fact that he liked me for what I am and that he gave me attention was like a feel good drug that I couldn't let go of. I was in absolute denial about the red flags in his personality because my need to be appreciated was so much stronger,' Suchi told me.

'And then he went against his family to marry me, I was so grateful that he chose me over his family'

She was so grateful that she normalised abusive behaviour, which began right after they got married. Suchi now teaches psychology in a reputed institution in eastern India. But the little girl who wanted to be no trouble, and who waited for hours every day for her father to pick her up from school, is still trapped inside her somewhere.

Meanwhile, Anima, who had fought with her father to continue her education, found out that the patriarchy she fought at home extended to institutions too. When she began her engineering degree at the university, she was shocked at the hostility of her male classmates.

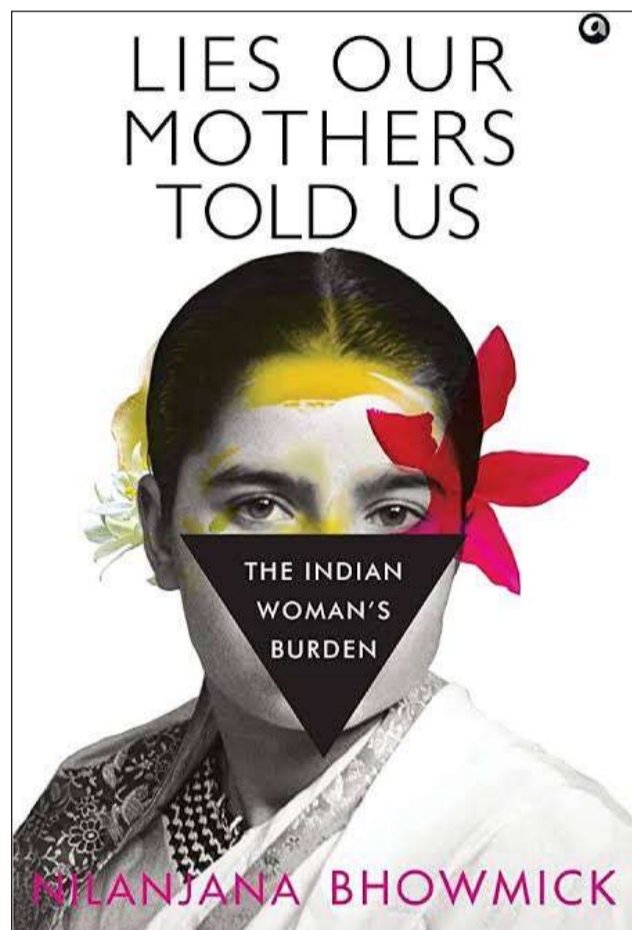
They openly told the girls in the class that we were wasting the seats that could have gone to a deserving male candidate because we were going to do nothing with our degrees. We would get married and ultimately leave everything and be a homemaker.

Anima, who had bet on her education to change her life, found that her classmates had shown great precience – she worked as a chemical engineer for a while after marriage but was forced to quit.

'Women get married for all the wrong reasons in this country,' she tells me. 'I was determined not to marry because I grew up seeing my mother being abused and humiliated by my father and his family.'

And yes, I fell in love, but mostly I married because my parents had died by then, I had no guardian and everyone, including my elder sister, thought marriage would bring me some security.

In India, however, many men take on the role of the 'master' soon after marriage, falling back on established power dynamics to make sure that their wives fall in line. Soon, both Suchi and Anima realized the mistake they had made.



Suchi told me, 'He would ask me to massage his feet every day and that went against everything that I thought I was – the educated, empowered woman who was not less than her husband. And then he wanted me to become pregnant immediately. I didn't but I gave in because I, too, wanted a child, though maybe not so soon in our marriage. But he did, and that was the end of the discussion. He started hitting me when I was pregnant. I was a bad homemaker, I couldn't cook properly- he complained endlessly.'

While for Suchi the abuse was a gradual progression from the emotional to the physical, for Anima, the physical abuse started right after her marriage. He would fly off the handle at the smallest thing. And then my mother-in-law would ask me to apologize. She would tell me this is how women have to be, Anima recalls. 'I was made to understand the verbal abuses and a slap here and there were okay. It went against everything that I believed in, the person I had wanted to be. He began to clip my wings and I let him because I wanted the security of a family. I put up with the abuse because I wanted my children to live in a happy family. It was also then that I truly began to understand my mother, her desperation, her silences.'

Excerpted from *Lies Our Mothers Told Us: The Indian Woman's Burden* by Nilanjana Bhowmick published by Aleph Book Company

“

HE BEGAN TO CLIP MY WINGS AND I LET HIM BECAUSE I WANTED THE SECURITY OF A FAMILY. I put up with the abuse because I wanted my children to live in a happy family. It was also then that I truly began to understand my mother, her desperation, her silences.”



Qurbani All Your Questions Answered

KO Web Desk

In this comprehensive guide, we will address common questions related to Qurbani, the religious sacrifice performed by Muslims during the Islamic month of Zil Hiji. By providing clear and concise answers, we aim to help individuals gain a deeper understanding of this important religious practice.

1. What is Qurbani?

Qurbani refers to the ritualistic sacrifice of an animal during the days of Eid al-Adha. It is an act of worship that commemorates the willingness of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) to sacrifice his son, as an expression of his devotion and obedience to Allah (God).

2. When is Qurbani performed?

Qurbani is performed specifically during the Islamic month of Zil Hajj, on the days of Eid al-Adha, which fall on the 10th, 11th, and 12th days of the month. This period is considered sacred and is associated with the Hajj pilgrimage.

3. Who is required to perform Qurbani?

Qurbani is compulsory or highly recommended for Muslim individuals who meet certain criteria according to four schools of Islamic jurisprudence.

Those who possess the financial means to do so, maintain the minimum threshold of wealth (Nisab), are required to perform Qurbani.

4. Which animals are suitable for Qurbani?

The animals suitable for Qurbani include sheep, goats, cows, and camels. The choice of animal depends on various factors such as personal preference, regional availability, and adherence to specific traditions or recommendations of the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

5. How is Qurbani performed?

Qurbani is conducted by slaughtering the chosen animal in the prescribed Islamic manner. The slaughter must be carried out by a qualified Muslim who adheres to specific guidelines, ensuring the animal's well-being and the fulfillment of religious requirements.

6. What happens to the meat after Qurbani?

After the Qurbani sacrifice, the meat is divided into three portions: one-third is retained for personal consumption, one-third is shared with friends and family, and one-third is distributed among the less fortunate members of the community, particularly those in need.

7. Can Qurbani be performed on behalf of someone else?

Yes, it is permissible to perform Qurbani on behalf of someone else, including deceased family members or individuals who are unable to carry out the sacrifice themselves. This act of charity and devotion is considered a virtuous deed. However, there are specific views of different schools as to who constitutes family and whether or not the sacrifice is done on behalf with permission.

Qurbani is a significant religious practice that holds deep meaning for Muslims worldwide. By understanding its purpose, significance, and the proper method of performing it, individuals can engage in this act of worship with sincerity and devotion.

Prayer, Henna, Charity Eid Al-Azha Traditions Around The World

There are many shared traditions, but Muslims in different countries also have Eid customs that are distinctly their own.



flock to Saudi Arabia each year to visit Islam's holiest site in Mecca.

Eid al-Adha is the commemoration of the Quranic tale of Prophet Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his son Ismail as an act of obedience to God.

Muslims believe that before he could carry out the sacrifice, God provided a ram as an offering instead. In the Christian and Jewish telling, Ibrahim is ordered to kill another son, Isaac.

As such, the holiday is celebrated with the slaughter of goats, cows, sheep, and other livestock, which is shared with family, friends, and the poor.

Over time, despite many shared traditions, Muslims in different countries have developed Eid customs that are distinctly their own, combining regional cultural practices with the celebration of the religious holiday.

Here are some Eid traditions around the world:

Middle East

From Yemen to Syria, traditional sweets are prepared, with food an integral part of all Eid celebrations. Many communities have traditional snacks and dishes that are prepared solely for the holiday.

From jalabia hanging from storefronts in the streets of Manama to Libyan horsemen garbed in turbans and robes, people pull out their very best clothes for Eid.

Asia

From lighting incense to torches, celebrations in East and Southeast Asia are a sensory experience.

From Pakistan to Afghanistan, and beyond, hands adorned with henna are a common sight beginning the night before Eid. Everyone from young girls to elderly women decorates their hands for the occasion.

Africa

From the Ivory Coast to Kenya, and elsewhere in many Muslim countries, livestock is slaughtered in public, and the practice is sometimes a spectacle for crowds.

Opulence is on display but so are acts of charity during Eid, from a ceremony welcoming the emir of Kano in Nigeria, to an NGO in South Africa preparing meals for the less fortunate.

Latin America

According to the Pew Research Center, there are roughly six million Muslims in Latin America, although they warn the figure could be inflated. A minority religion in the region, it is celebrated by both immigrants and people indigenous to the country. In Mexico, for example, while Muslims are less than 0.2 percent of the population, immigrants and Mexicans converting to Islam make up the Muslim community there. Eid celebrations revolve around food, prayer, and family time.

North America

According to the Pew Research Center, there are nearly four million Muslims in the United States. Canadian government

data from 2022 puts the number at more than 1.7 million in Canada. The two nations are host to vibrant immigrant communities who bring Eid traditions from their home countries, with mosques drawing multicultural gatherings on Eid mornings.

Europe

Minority communities, including refugees and immigrants, celebrate Eid across the continent. Those fleeing violence or persecution from parts of Africa, Asia, and the Middle East will celebrate the occasion thanks to provisions from aid groups.

In Ukraine, Muslim soldiers have managed, in the past year, to take a respite from fighting in their battle with Russia, celebrating Eid by sharing a meal with their compatriots.

Australia

According to 2021 government figures, more than 800,000 people in Australia are Muslim, many part of immigrant communities. Shops selling clothes and decorations pop up in Sydney, while guests and new converts are welcomed to partake by local Muslim groups.

Agencies



Scholarships This Week

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

Scholarship Name 1: National Disaster Management Authority Internship Scheme 2023

Description: National Disaster Management Authority Internship Scheme 2023 is an opportunity offered by the National Disaster Management Authority, Government of India to students enrolled in postgraduate degree in Disaster Management courses and equivalent.

Eligibility: Open for candidates who are enrolled in a postgraduate degree programme in Disaster Management or in an equivalent postgraduate degree program such as Development Studies/Economics/Humanities/Sciences/Management/Engineering/Health Studies etc. The applicants must have recently graduated from a university in the concerned subject (Note: If the student pursues a different academic discipline, there should be a clear linkage of that particular degree with disaster management).

Prizes & Rewards: A monthly remuneration of INR 12,000
Last Date to Apply: Round The Year

Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/NDMS

Scholarship Name 2: Anjum Chopra Sports Scholarship 2023

Description: Anjum Chopra Sports Scholarship 2023 is an opportunity offered by PUSH Sports* to women cricketers between the age of 14 and 25 years who are playing for state teams. A total number of 10 athletes will be selected on an annual basis.

Eligibility: Open for Indian women cricketers between the age of 14 and 25 years who are playing for state teams.

Prizes & Rewards: INR 1 lakh per annum and other benefits
Last Date to Apply: Round The Year

Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/ACS08

Scholarship Name 3: Keep India Smiling Foundational Scholarship and Mentorship Programme for Sportsperson and Individuals

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

Eligibility: For individuals helping others, the applicants must be graduates and involved in activities like teaching a group of underprivileged children or providing sports training to them.

For sportspersons, applicants must have represented the state/country at the state/national/international level in the last 2/3 years. They must be ranked within 500 in the national ranking/ within 100 in the state ranking. They must be aged between 9 and 20 years. The annual family income of all applicants must be less than INR 5 Lakhs per annum.

Prizes & Rewards: Selected scholars can avail scholarship award of INR 75,000 per year for up to 3 years
Last Date to Apply: 30-06-2023
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/KSS12

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

Engineering Complex, Budgam-191111
Email id xenrmbdivbud@gmail.com

FRESH NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NIT No:- 48/MDb/2023-24/3761-76 DATED: 23.06.2023

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are being invited on an item rate basis / percentage basis (as applicable) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with the J&K Government, CPWD, Railways, and other State/Central Governments for the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money CDR/ FDR (Rs)	Time of Completion (days)	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1.	Repair/Renovation of Farashgund Allahpora road (RD 0-785 Mt) by way of Providing and Laying of 75mm thick compacted wet mix, 50mm thick compacted bituminous macadam and 25mm thick compacted semidense with 6mm thick seal coat. (BUD-BUD-902375)	29.75	1100.00	59500/-	17	AAY/ BEE	Revet Budget 2023-24

Project Authority: Chief Engineer, PWD (R&B) Kashmir
Position of AAA: Accorded Position of TS: Accorded

The bidding documents, which would include qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications/drawings, a bill of quantities (B.O.Q), a set of contract terms and conditions, and other details, can be viewed/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in on the dates listed below:-

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	23/06/2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	23/06/2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	23/06/2023
4.	Bid Submission End Date	3/07/2023 upto 4.00 PM.
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) (Tech. Bids)	4/07/2023 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Budgam

No: EE/MDb/NIT/3761-76
DIPK-4079/23 DATED: 24-06-2023

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

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer
Mechanical Hospital And Central Heating Division Srinagar

-----Telefax:- 0194-2496089, Email ID:- xenmhchdk@yahoo.in-----

Gist of e-tender
NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2023-24/33/e-tendering
Dated: 23.06.2023
(Short Term)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, e-tenders, valid for 180 days, are invited from the OEM or Registered, reputed & experienced firms as detailed in the NIT for below mentioned works:

Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In rupees)	AAA No.	TS No.	Earnest Money (in Rupees)
Repairs and Comprehensive Maintenance of 02 No. (G+5) 13 Passenger and 6 Passenger Lifts (OTIS Make) at SPS Library	4.69	200	196-DL of 2023, Dt: 13-06-2023 (By Deputy Director Libraries & Research Kashmir)	SEM/TS-14/06, Dt:- 22-06-2023	9,400/-

1. Downloading of Bids- The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 23.06.2023 (17.00 hrs) and can be downloaded from 23.06.2023 (17.00 hrs).
2. Uploading: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above web site from 23.06.2023 (18.00 hrs) to 04.07.2023 (12.00hrs) in two (02) covers.
3. Opening of Bids- The bids received upto due date and time shall be opened on 04.07.2023 at 14.00 hrs or any date convenient to the department in the office of Executive Engineer, MHCHD, Srinagar.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
MHCHD, Srinagar

No: MHCHD/TS/ 2369-74, DIPK-4093/23 Date: 24-06-2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer
Department Of Floriculture Kashmir Srinagar

e-NIT No: 06 of 2022-23 Dated: 23.06.2023.

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money (In Rs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major A/c Head
01.	A) Construction of store cum mail shed at Ashmuji Park Kulgam.	15.72	31440/-	750/-	30- days	BEE/CEE (Civil)	Capex Budget 2023-24 Plan
	B) Construction of store cum mail shed at Kanir Park Budgam.	15.72	31440/-	750/-	30-days	BEE/CEE (Civil)	
	C) Upgradation of Path at Owaisabad Bemina Srinagar.	09.11	18220/-	500/-	30-days	CEE/DEE (Civil)	

Position of AAA : Accorded
Position of funds : Available (50% of outlay)

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

1.	Period of downloading of bidding Document	24/06/2023 from 04:00 PM to 13/07/2023 up to 04:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date.	24/06/2023 from 04:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	13/07/2023 up to 04:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	14/07/2023 at 02:00 PM

1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-Challan/copy of receipt from Treasury favouring of Executive Engineer, Floriculture Department Kashmir (Tender inviting authority) indicating name of work by crediting the requisite charges to the MH: 0406-02-112-Public Gardens (Floriculture Department Kashmir) in favour of Executive Engineer (Tender inviting authority)
2. Intending bidders must upload earnest money (EMD @ 2% of the Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer Floriculture Department Kashmir.
3. The 1st. Lowest (Successful bidder) has to produce an amount equal to 5% of cost of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer Floriculture Department Kashmir (Tender receiving authority) within three (03) days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work. However, the earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the work/DLP.
4. 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.
5. No exemption is allowed and so all bidders must upload proof of EMD and Tender processing Fee.

No: EE/FDK/691-96
DIPK-4127/23 Dated: 24.06.2023

Sd/-
(Er. Syed Hilal Ahmad)
Executive Engineer
Department of Floriculture,
KASHMIR

All Ten Adani Group Stocks Fall; Adani Ent Tumbles Nearly 7%. Here's The Reason

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Adani Group stocks ended in the negative territory on Friday, with Adani Enterprises falling nearly 7 per cent, in-line with weak trend in the broader market, amid reports that the United States authorities are looking into the representations that the conglomerate made to its American investors in the wake of allegations of stock manipu-

at 62,979.37.

"Adani group stocks came under selling pressure on Friday when the broader market was anyway under profit-taking mode. An additional reason for the group stocks to fall was the news of Adani Group drawing regulatory scrutiny in the US after a short seller report.

"The US Attorney's Office in Brooklyn, New York, has reportedly sent inquiries in recent months to institutional



lation levelled by Hindenburg Research.

Shares of Adani Enterprises tumbled 6.79 per cent, Adani Transmission plunged 6.38 per cent, Adani Power declined 5.61 per cent and Ambuja Cements tanked 4.19 per cent on the BSE.

Adani Ports fell by 4.16 per cent, NDTV slumped 3.46 per cent, ACC declined 3.46 per cent, Adani Wilmar skidded 3.42 per cent, Adani Total Gas went lower by 3.21 per cent and Adani Green Energy dipped 1.50 per cent.

In the equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 259.52 points or 0.41 per cent to settle

investors with large holdings in Adani Group. The requests for information were focused on what Adani Group told those investors," said Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

Adani Group stocks have in the past taken a beating on the bourses after Hindenburg made a litany of allegations, including those about fraudulent transactions and share-price manipulation, against the business conglomerate.

Adani Group has dismissed the charges as lies, saying it complies with all laws and disclosure requirements.

Syed Fazal Illahi Re-elected President Of KSSIA

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Syed Fazal Illahi who headed Kashmir Small Scale Industries Association (KSSIA) in the last term, was on Saturday re-elected as President of the association while Shabir Ahmad Najar and Haamid Hassan Chashoo got elected as Senior Vice President and Vice President. Syed Omer Rasool, Daanish Manzoor Mattu and Mehraj-ud-Din Posh were declared elected as the General Secretary, Joint General Secretary and Secretary of the organisation respectively. While Lateef Ahmad Shah was declared elected as Secretary Finance, Shah Asif Zahoore will be KSSIA's new Publicity Secretary.

KSSIA is one of the oldest industrial associations of the valley which happened to be one of the important constituents of FCIK. The elections were conducted by 5-member Election Commission appointed by General Body of the association under the chairmanship of Altaf Hussain Malik.

The Chief Election Commissioner, while thanking the general members of KSSIA hoped that the new team in the governing body will work with more zeal and enthusiasm to address the issues of estate and units established in it. He regretted the delay in completion of election process for the reason that some members wanted their relatives to file nomi-



nation papers for various posts and the case had to be referred to the General Body for clarification. It was in the extra ordinary Annual General Meeting held on 15th June that the General body declined to entertain any relative or representative of the owner and resolved that only the owners of industrial units could contest the elections. The elections were accordingly rescheduled, extended and opened up for affording opportunity to any owner for standing in the contest.

Congratulatory messages for Syed Fazal Illahi and his team are pouring in from the members of industrial fraternity from across the valley. FCIK President Shahid Kamili while congratulated Syed Fazal Illahi and his entire team expressed his gladness over the results. The Presidents of industrial estates of Lassipora, Ganderbal, Zakura, Rangreth and others are among many to congratulate the new team.

Silicon Valley CEOs Get Biden, PM Modi Pitch To Invest In India

Bloomberg

WASHINGTON: US President Joe Biden and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with some of the most powerful executives in Silicon Valley at the White House on Friday, as the two leaders sought to boost economic cooperation on artificial intelligence and advanced manufacturing.

The gathering in the East Room of the White House included Alphabet Inc. Chief Executive Officer Sundar Pichai, Microsoft Corp. Chief Executive Officer Satya Nadella, and Apple Inc. Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook — who is assembling more units of his company's iPhone on the subcontinent as part of a shift from manufacturing in China. Cook was seated next to PM Modi in the meeting.

The Biden administration is increasingly courting India as a key ballast against China, particularly amid Covid-19-related supply chain disruptions, intellectual property theft, and concerns that Beijing may push forward with efforts to reunify with tech and semiconductor hub Taiwan.

India is also eager to become a key partner on critical technologies, with PM Modi announcing this week he was working to remove regulatory constraints, particularly for tech companies, in a bid to make it easier for US firms to invest there.



"Our countries are taking innovation and cooperation to a new level," Biden said. "Thanks in large part to the folks around this table."

He encouraged the executives to take an active role in strengthening economic ties between the two nations, including by speaking to other corporate leaders and alerting the administration to regulatory obstacles.

"We need your help, and I'm talking to CEOs around this table, Indian and American, we need your help to seize the moment, to help manage the risks to our societies, our economies, and to our nation's national security," he said. "Innovation and collaboration are rarely without obstacles, and so you raise our ambitions and I want you to let us know what stands in the way of our ambitions."

On Thursday, the president and prime minister capped

a state dinner for India with a slew of economic deals, including plans for Micron Technology Inc. to invest more than \$800 million toward a \$2.75 billion semiconductor assembly and testing facility in India. Applied Materials Inc. announced a new semiconductor center for commercialization and innovation, while chip manufacturer Lam Research is announcing a training program in India for up to 60,000 engineers.

Other attendees at the meeting included Advanced Micro Devices Inc. Chief Executive Officer Lisa Su and Revathi Advaiti, the chief executive of multinational manufacturing giant Flex Ltd.

The discussion Friday also touched on emerging concerns over the use of artificial intelligence, as the Biden administration is readying regulatory safeguards related to the emerging technology.

Google Investing USD 10 Billion In India's Digitisation Fund: Pichai Tells PM Modi

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: Internet giant Google is investing USD 10 billion in India's digitisation fund, its CEO Sundar Pichai has told Prime Minister Narendra Modi, a step that will recognise India's leadership on fintech and will support small and large businesses in India, the US and around the world.

Pichai met Prime Minister Modi here on Friday and also announced the opening of Google's global fintech operation centre in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar.

"It was an honour to meet Prime Minister Modi during the historic visit to the US. We shared with the Prime Minister that Google is investing USD 10 billion in India's digitisation fund," Pichai said.

"We are announcing the opening of our global fintech operation centre in GIFT City, Gujarat. PM's vi-

sion for Digital India was way ahead of his time I now see it as a blueprint that other countries are looking to do," he added.

"Google today announced that it will open a Google Fintech Global Operations Center in GIFT City, Gujarat, with teams working on specialised operations supporting GPay and other product operations at Google," a Google spokesperson told PTI.

"This recognises India's leadership on fintech and will support small and large businesses in India, the US and around the world," the spokesperson said after the meeting between Pichai and the Prime Minister.

Google has been operating in India since 2004, with offices in five key cities across the country with thousands of talented employees. We currently have offices in Bangalore (Bangalore), Hyderabad, Gurgaon - Delhi NCR, Mumbai and Pune, the spokesper-

son said.

In 2020, deepening its commitment to India and a reflection of its confidence in India's growing role in the global technology arena, Google announced the Google for India Digitisation fund, a commitment to invest USD 10 billion (approximately Rs 75,000 crores) focussing on four areas.

First, enabling affordable access and information for every Indian in their own language. Second, building new services that are relevant to India's unique needs. Third, empowering businesses as they embark on digital transformation. Fourth, leveraging technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) for social good.

Towards the end of last year, Google also announced support for Early Stage Startups with a particular focus on women-led startups under the India Digitisation fund.



AGNII, H&H Deptt Hold Immersion Program To Foster Growth, Innovation Among Start Ups

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a remarkable collaboration between Accelerating Growth of New India's Innovations (AGNII) and the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, a three-day immersion program was organized to foster growth and innovation among start ups in the handicraft industry of Kashmir.

In the culminating event, participating startups showcased their groundbreak Augmented Reality (AR) products and various technological interventions possible in the Handicraft and Handloom sector.

The start ups and research Institutes presented their ideas in an event chaired by Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, Vikramjeet Singh and Mahmood Ahmad Shah, Director of Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir, along with industry experts and stakeholders.

The immersive program, spanning over three days from was specifically designed to provide a platform for start ups to explore and develop innovative solutions within the traditional handicraft sector. The collaboration between AGNII and the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom aimed to catalyze the growth of startups and promote the integration of advanced technologies in the region's rich handicraft heritage.

Throughout the three-day program, participating start ups and research Institutes were exposed to the processes involved in creating handicrafts and handloom through visits to various artisans and

handicraft units in Kashmir. The startups had the opportunity to interact closely with skilled artisans, gaining invaluable insights into traditional craftsmanship techniques and discovering avenues to infuse technology into their products.

The start up products captivated the audience by seamlessly integrating traditional craftsmanship and cutting-edge technology. The products showcased virtual reality tours of iconic handicraft workshops, interactive digital catalogues featuring exquisite handwoven textiles, and AR-enhanced jewellery designs, allowing customers to visualize and personalize their pieces before purchase.

The event was also attended by esteemed industry experts, who provided valuable feedback and guidance to the start ups. Their expertise and insights further enriched the start ups' understanding of market trends, technology implementation and business strategies, paving the way for their future success in handicraft industry.

Speaking at the event, Commissioner Secretary Industries and Commerce expressed admiration for the start ups' ingenuity and emphasized the government's commitment towards supporting innovation and entrepreneurship in the region.

Director Handicrafts and Handloom Kashmir, praised the collaborative effort and highlighted the immense potential of incorporating AR technology to promote Kashmir's rich artistic heritage on a global scale.

Amazon Intends To Invest USD 15 Billion More In India, Says CEO Andy Jassy

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON: E-commerce giant Amazon plans to invest USD 15 billion more in India, taking its total investment in the country to USD 26 billion, a top official of the company has said.

After meeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the US, Amazon CEO Andy Jassy said the company has already invested USD 11 billion in India till date.

"I had a very good and productive conversation with Prime Minister Modi. I think we share a number of goals. Amazon is one of the biggest investors in India. We have invested USD 11 billion till date and intend to invest another USD 15 billion, which will bring



the total to USD 26 billion. So we are very much looking forward to future of partnering," Jassy said on Friday.

The India's External Affairs Ministry in a tweet said the prime minister held a productive meeting with the president and CEO of Amazon.

"Discussions focused on the area of e-commerce and the potential of further collaboration with @amazon in the logistics sector in India," it said.

Modi welcomed Amazon's initiative of promoting digitisation of MSMEs in India.

'Agri Deptt Trying To Attract More Educated Youth Towards Diverse Agriculture Activities'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhury Mohammad Iqbal Saturday visited Apiarists at Ajas Bandipora and held an interactive session with concerned bee keepers.

He took stock of various related activities and received feedback regarding various interventions by the department.

Addressing, Director Agriculture highlighted the importance of small scale agriculture cottage industries like Bee Keeping/ Apiculture and mushroom cultivation for small and marginal farmers.

He asked the farmers to go for diversification in agriculture activities. He said that diversification contributes to the economic security of the farming community against changes in Climate and Soil resources.

Director Agriculture said Multi-crore projects have been approved by the government under Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP) for the promotion of apiculture in the UT

of J&K. He said the promotion of apiculture and mushroom are among the 29 projects recently approved after being recommended by the UT level apex Committee for HADP.

Chowdhury Iqbal assured the concerned farmers of every possible technical support from the department. He asked the concerned officers to put in all the efforts for the successful implementation of different programme aimed to promote the agriculture activities like apiculture and mushroom among the small and marginal farmers of the region.

He also marked the importance of raising the awareness among the farmers regarding the Apiculture/ Mushroom Centric Schemes & programmes so that more and more educated youth could be attracted towards these enterprises.

Director Agriculture assured bee keepers of different facilities including marketing facilities so that they could fetch maximum returns for their produce. He said that their genuine issues would be addressed on priority basis.

India's Forex Reserves Jump USD 2.35 Bn To USD 596 Bn

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: India's forex reserves increased by USD 2.35 billion to USD 596.098 billion for the week ended June 16, the Reserve Bank said on Friday.

The overall reserves had dropped by USD 1.318 billion to USD 593.749 billion in the previous reporting week.

It can be noted that in October 2021, the country's forex kitty had reached an all-time high of USD 645 billion. The reserves have been declining as the central bank deploys the kitty to defend the rupee amid pressures caused majorly by global developments.

For the week ended June 16, the foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, increased by USD 2.578 billion to USD 527.651 billion, according to the Weekly Statistical Supplement released by the RBI on Friday.

Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.

Gold reserves dropped by USD 324 million to USD 45.049 billion, the RBI said.

The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were up by USD 62 million to USD 18.249 billion, the central bank said.

The country's reserve position with the IMF was up by USD 34 million to USD 5.149 billion in the reporting week, the apex bank data showed.

'First Made-in-India Semiconductor Chips To Come By Dec 2024'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: First Made-in-India chips are expected to be rolled out by December 2024, Union Minister for Communications and IT Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Friday.

The minister said 4-5 semiconductor plants are expected to be set up in the country within a year.

"First Made-in-India chip will be out by December 2024," Vaishnaw said while briefing media following a joint statement issued by US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the US.

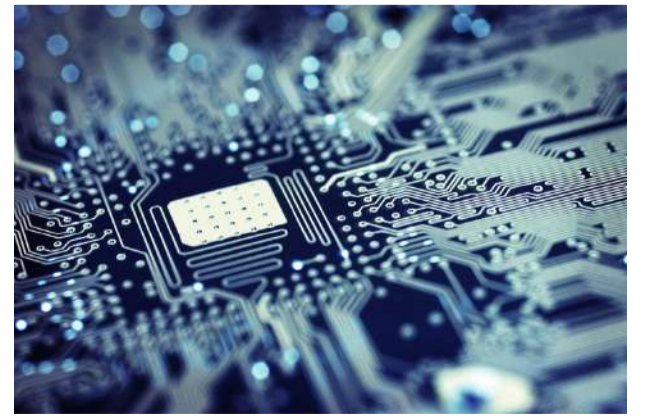
He said that land allocation, factory design work and tax compliance related agreement for the Micron semiconductor plant to be set up in Gujarat has been completed.

"First Made-in India chip from Micron is expected to

come out in about six quarters from now," Vaishnaw said.

Computer storage chip

the government in two phases. Phased construction of the facility is expected to begin in 2023. Phase 1, which



maker Micron will set up its semiconductor assembly and test plant in Gujarat entailing a total investment of USD 2.75 billion (around Rs 22,540 crore).

The total cost of the plant comprises USD 825 million from Micron and rest from

will include 500,000 square feet of planned clean room space, will be operational in late 2024.

Micron has said the plant will create up to 5,000 new direct jobs and 15,000 community jobs over the next several years.

Ruckus At JMC Meet As Oppn Protests Dropping Of 'Public-Interest' Resolutions



Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A general house meeting of the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Saturday witnessed noisy scenes as some opposition members objected to the dropping of a few "public interest" resolutions.

The opposition also staged a walk-out after Mayor Rajinder Sharma called marshals in to escort a protesting corporator. The mayor's decision came after he and his BJP colleagues took strong exception to purported remarks of the opposition against Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"We are proud of our prime minister who has taken the country to new heights on the global stage. No remark against him will be tolerated," Sharma told reporters after adjourning the house in the afternoon amid the ruckus.

He said Modi was working day and night for the betterment of the country and its people. "He was the one who saved the people during the Covid pandemic, provided food to everyone and ensured vaccination of every individual," the mayor said.

He said the member he called the marshals on was asked to stay away from the proceedings of the House for

his purported remarks against Modi.

However, opposition corporators, who were on their toes throughout the session, accused the BJP members of "twisting the facts" and undermining the sanctity of the House.

"Nobody spoke against Modi who is the prime minister of all citizens of India. One of the (independent) members questioned the rejection of public interest resolutions like property tax, installation of smart electricity meters, whopping electricity bills, frequent power cuts and inadequate water supply in the city.

"He was of the view that the failure of the BJP-run JMC to mitigate the sufferings of the public is harming the image of the prime minister. The BJP members started shouting 'Modi, Modi' slogans," Congress corporator Bhanu Mahajan said.

She said the JMC was nearing the completion of its five-year term and this was the 20th General House Meeting of the urban local body which took place after five months due to the "failure of the BJP to follow the JMC Act and convene one such meeting in every month".

"The members were agitated over the rejection of the public-interest resolutions by the mayor-led advisory committee but marshals were called in.

Monsoon Likely To Cover Delhi And Mumbai Around Same Time: IMD

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: In a rare event, the monsoon is likely to cover both Delhi and Mumbai around the same time within the next two days, the India Meteorological Department said on Saturday.

The monsoon, which had a slow start, has now made swift progress, covering numerous regions including some parts of Maharashtra, entire Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, northeast India, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, east Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, most parts of Himachal Pradesh, and some parts of Haryana, according to an IMD official.

Normally, the rain-bearing system reaches Kerala by June 1, Mumbai by June 11, and the national capital by June 27.

Although the monsoon has covered a significant portion of north India, including Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and a large part of Jammu and Kashmir, on schedule or slightly ahead, it is currently running 10-12 days behind schedule for a considerable part of central India, where a significant number of farmers heavily rely on it.

D S Pai, a senior scientist at the IMD, explained that Cyclone Biparjoy had impacted the monsoon's progress over southern India and the adjoining western and central parts of the country.

He said, "Since the system absorbed most of the moisture, the monsoon's progress along the west coast was slow."

However, the Bay of Bengal branch of the monsoon, responsible for bringing rains to northeast and east India, remained stronger between June 11 and June 23.

Pai attributed this to a low-pressure system that formed over the Bay of Bengal in mid-June and



the remnants of cyclone Biparjoy, which aided the monsoon's advancement over east India.

Pai noted that the Arabian Sea branch of the monsoon is now gaining strength with a low-pressure system developing over the Bay of Bengal.

"The monsoon may cover entire Maharashtra and some parts of Gujarat and Rajasthan by tomorrow (Sunday)," added the senior meteorologist.

He said that it represents a new pulse of the monsoon, and rapid progress is expected.

"Conditions are favourable for the further advance of the monsoon over most parts of Maharashtra, including Mumbai, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, more parts of Haryana, including Chandigarh, Delhi, some parts of Gujarat, east Rajasthan and Punjab, during the next two days," the IMD said in a statement.

According to IMD data, the monsoon

reached the capital on June 30 last year, July 13 in 2021, June 25 in 2020, July 5 in 2019, and June 28 in 2018.

It hit Mumbai on June 11 last year, June 9 in 2021, June 14 in 2020 and June 25 in 2019.

This year, the monsoon arrived in Kerala on June 8, a week after its usual date of June 1. In comparison, it reached the southern state on May 29 last year, June 3 in 2021, June 1 in 2020, June 8 in 2019, and May 29 in 2018.

Research indicates that a delay in the monsoon onset over Kerala does not necessarily result in a delay in the monsoon onset over northwest India, nor does it impact the total rainfall over the country during the season.

The IMD previously stated that India is expected to receive normal rainfall during the southwest monsoon season despite the evolving El Nino conditions.

Northwest India is predicted to experience normal to below-normal

rainfall, while the east, northeast, central, and south peninsula regions are expected to receive normal rainfall at 94-106 percent of the long-period average.

According to the IMD, rainfall between 96 and 104 percent of the 50-year average of 87 cm is considered 'normal'. Rainfall below 90 percent is categorised as 'deficient', between 90 and 95 percent is 'below normal', between 105 and 110 percent is 'above normal', and anything above 100 percent is classified as 'excess' precipitation. Normal rainfall is critical for India's agricultural landscape, with 52 percent of the net cultivated area relying on it. Additionally, it plays a crucial role in replenishing reservoirs essential for drinking water and power generation throughout the country.

Rainfed agriculture accounts for approximately 40 percent of the country's total food production, making it a vital contributor to India's food security and economic stability.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

I Am a Student

He said that new dimensions of development are being created, institutions of higher education are being built, industries are being set up, Panchayati Raj has been established and many types of administrative reforms have taken place at the grassroots level without any opposition and now Kashmir has to look ahead.

"Kashmir is witnessing a boom in arts and cultural activities and more and more developmental projects are being taken up," he said. "Kashmir is moving forward today by assimilating arts through Vitasta Mahotsav," Shah said.

Youth Power

The Union Home Minister said that youth of Kashmir can act as agents of change and must be encouraged at all levels to realise their potential.

"Those, who misguided the youth in Kashmir during all these years have done a great disservice to them and this society," Shah said. "This place (Kashmir) has been the worst hit by the terrorism. Times have come to change everything for good."

Pertinently, according to organizers, the 3-day long Vitasta festival focuses on the folk beliefs associated with the Vitasta (Jhelum) river, which has been considered very sacred since Vedic times.

"Culture is not made in a year or by one art and genre, culture is made by assimilation of many aspects of human life. Our India is one of the very few countries where such a stream of culture continuously flows and we should be proud of this," Shah said.

"Kashmir becomes an all-encompassing ideology and culture. It is this place only where music and knowledge developed and reached their peaks, that's why Adi Shankar called it Sharda Kshetra and established Sharda Peeth here."

PM Modi In Egypt

when he reached the hotel here. An Egyptian woman dressed in a saree greeted Modi with the popular song 'Yeh Dosti Hum Nahi Chhodenge' from the movie 'Sholay'.

The Prime Minister was seen listening to the song appreciatively and expressed surprise when the lady said she knew very little Hindi and had never visited India.

"Kisi ko pata bhi nahi chalega ki aap Misir ki beti ho ya Hindustan ki beti ho (Nobody will be able to tell whether you are an Egyptian or Indian woman)," Prime Minister Modi said.

Modi will meet Egyptian President El-Sisi on Sunday.

The Prime Minister will join a roundtable discussion with the India Unit of the Egyptian Cabinet led by his counterpart Madbouly.

Modi will call on Egypt's grand mufti Dr Shawki Ibrahim Abdel-Karim

Allam and later hold discussions with prominent Egyptian intellectuals.

On Sunday, Modi will visit the 11th Century Al-Hakim mosque, which was renovated with assistance from the Dawoodi Bohra community.

The Bohra community in India actually originated from the Fatima dynasty and they have renovated the mosque from the 1970s onwards.

He will visit the Heliopolis War Cemetery to pay respects to the Indian troops who gave their lives in the ultimate act of valour for Egypt during World War-1.

This memorial was built by the Commonwealth, although it is dedicated to the 3,799 Indian troops who lost their lives in different First World War conflicts in Egypt.

The Prime Minister's "very quick reciprocal visit" to Egypt was taking place within six months of President El-Sisi's visit to India as the chief guest of the Republic Day celebrations this year.

El-Sisi is also scheduled to travel to India in September for the G-20 Summit where Egypt has been invited as a special guest.

HM Lays Foundation

While stringent security arrangements had been put in place for the function, shops in and around the venue were open and traffic remained normal, except when it was briefly stopped at the stretch between Regal Crossing and Lal Chowk till Shah left the venue, officials said. The Union minister also visited the Karan Mahal, the residence of the last Yuvraj of Jammu and Kashmir, Karan Singh.

Shah also met some select people at the Police Golf Course overlooking the Dal Lake here, before returning to Delhi.

Meets Kin Of Slain

martyrs in Srinagar and distributed appointment letters on behalf of the J&K govt to the closest kins of the martyrs," Shah added.

Earlier, the Union minister, along with Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, laid the foundation stone of a martyr's memorial at Pratap Park in the heart of the city here.

Sat Next To

(remove Modi) but the leaders were working to protect their dynasties.

Uddhav Thackeray used to criticise us (BJP) for going with Mehbooba Mufti in Kashmir. Now he (Thackeray) is sitting next to Mehbooba Mufti and talking about forming an alliance, Fadnavis said.

This drew a counter from Thackeray. Those who align with you are clean. You (BJP) left Hindutva when you went with Mehbooba. We will tear the burqa of your fake Hindutva, he said.

Thackeray waved pictures of Mufti with BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, asserting that his party has not abandoned

Hindutva.

Continuing his attack on Fadnavis, Thackeray said, I am very sensitive about my family. Do not stoop so low. You also have a family and WhatsApp chats about your family are out. We have not started talking about it because if his (Fadnavis) family has to be talked about, then he has to do shav-asana' (corpse pose in yoga).

Thackeray was apparently referring to chats between Fadnavis's wife Amruta and suspected bookie Anil Jaishingani and his daughter Aniksha. The chats are part of the chargesheet against Jaishingani, Aniksha and his cousin Nirmal in a case related to demanding bribes and trying to extort money from Amruta Fadnavis.

The chargesheet includes multiple screenshots of WhatsApp chats and messages exchanged between Amruta and the father-daughter duo.

Hitting back at Thackeray, Fadnavis said he, his family and the BJP are like an open book. He said the chats are in the chargesheet with a purpose.

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde also targeted Thackeray.

Shinde said the revolt by Shiv Sena MLAs against Thackeray stands vindicated after the Patna meet. The rebellion, spearheaded by Shinde, toppled the Thackeray-led three-party Maha Vikas Aghadi government of Shiv Sena (UBT), Congress and NCP last year.

Accusing Thackeray of abandoning Hindutva, Shinde said he sat in the league of Congress, Rashtriya Janta Dal, PDP, and Janata Dal (United) that were bitterly criticised by Sena founder Bal Thackeray. The same people opposed the construction of Ayodhya Ram temple, abrogation of Article 370 and Hindutva, he said.

The Opposition parties coming together is a victory of PM Modi's leadership, Shinde added.

Court Trashes

allowed will amount to placing restrictions on the freedom of speech and expression."

The journalist, the court said, has a right to express himself, to make fair comments which are based on facts. "In case the defendant (journalist) is restrained from publishing the article that will amount to placing restrictions on the freedom of speech and expression," the court said, adding, "In view of what has been stated above I do not find that the plaintiff has a prima facie case in his favour."

NEP Empowers

challenges and opportunities. "In this era of acceleration, teachers' role has expanded. They are not just information providers or a medium to complete the syllabus. Teachers are artisans and they need to shape minds and consciousness of new generation," Sinha said.

"Under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, National Education Policy is empowering our

students to succeed in a machine-dominated world and it is blended with the value system to ensure perfect balance in inner and outer growth of every student," he added.

Speaking on the recent technological advancements, the LG said it will have a transformative impact on society.

"Technology is moving faster than ever before and it is increasingly transforming the way we live, socialize, travel and work. Our human capital is facing a completely different future and it is time that our classrooms and campus recognize the radical shift and create a new ecosystem," he said.

He added that the classrooms and labs need to reinvent itself on the lines of NEP, not only to maintain the competitive edge but also to remain relevant.

"The change is also affecting the field of Humanities. The biggest challenge is to make the resolution of inclusive society and empowered individual a reality in the midst of rapid changes and bridge the digital divide in the society," he said.

"Challenge before us is to work on skills that will remain relevant in the future. We cannot imagine the world to 2050, but core skills like analytical, critical thinking, creativity, curiosity, individuality, originality, uniqueness, resilience and leadership will remain relevant," he added.

Earlier Sinha, who is also the Chancellor of the University, congratulated the graduating students and gold medalists for their achievements and wished them the very best.

"Convocation is also an opportunity to celebrate eternal values, humility, creativity, righteousness, individuality and compassion, nurtured by the institution. These values are invisible gold medals that empower students to create a better future of the country," he said.

He also appreciated the Vice Chancellor and faculty members of IUST for providing a conducive learning environment to the students and empowering them to contribute to nation building.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. K Kasturirangan, Chairman, Drafting Committee of the NEP-2020, congratulated the graduating students and lauded their spirit, enthusiasm and curiosity.

"Your mission of Higher learning with great passion should not end here. Never give up on your dreams and aspirations," he said.

Kasturirangan, who was the chief guest on the occasion, also commended the LG led administration for taking unprecedented measures to bring reforms in the education system and implementing the NEP. He also highlighted the key role of universities and teachers in the effective implementation of NEP 2020.

Prof Shakil Ahmad Romshoo, Vice Chancellor IUST, presented the

University report and highlighted the achievements of the University.

During the convocation, 72 students were conferred with Gold Medals, while 147 students were awarded with merit certificates.

A total of 3000 students have been awarded with degrees for the academic year 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Summer Break

educational institutions and recognised private schools up to higher secondary level functioning in Kashmir division will remain closed from July 1 to 10.

The Valley has been witnessing above-normal day temperatures over the last few days.

The maximum temperature in Srinagar city has been hovering around 35 degrees.

CRPF DG Reviews

visit, @sthaosen, DG @crpfndia, held a meeting with officials, scrutinizing the security preparedness of the force vis-à-vis the forthcoming SANJY 2023. He instructed the officials to ardently ensure every measure, facilitating a harmonious and seamless yatra," the CRPF said on Twitter.

The 62-day yatra is set to begin on July 1. During the visit, the DG CRPF also assessed the operational preparedness of the Valley Quick Action Team of the CRPF.

"He lauded the unwavering resolve and dedication of the Valley QAT, urging them to incessantly strive towards ascending unprecedented pinnacles of excellence," the force added.

3 More Shot

ahead of the border fence and the three were seen falling down before they were evacuated to the other side.

However, the Pakistan Army claimed that two "civilians" were killed and one was injured in the firing by Indian troops.

The Indian Army said an intelligence-based counter-infiltration operation Resham' was jointly launched by the army and police.

A soldier was also injured in the exchange of fire with the intruders in the Krishna Ghati sector, where a massive search operation is on after the successful foiling of the infiltration bid during the intervening night of June 23 and 24.

In a tweet on its official handle, Army's Jammu-based White Knight Corps said, "Infiltration bid eliminated in Krishna Ghati Sector on 23/24 Jun, in which 1 soldier suffered gunshot wound & evacuated, 3 infiltrators running towards LC (Line of Control) engaged by own troops & seen falling down near LC."

The officials said the encounter took place in the forward Ranger Nallah area late on Friday night when the Indian troops noticed at least three heavily armed terrorists trying to infiltrate into India under the cover of

thick foliage and darkness.

In two statements, Pakistan Army claimed that "civilians" - 22-year Obaid Qayyum and 55-year Muhammad Qasim - were killed while one was injured in the firing on a "group of shepherds" in Sattwal Sector.

Four terrorists were killed on Friday as Indian security forces foiled an infiltration bid along the LoC in Machil sector.

On June 16, security forces killed five heavily armed foreign terrorists belonging to an outfit commanded by an Afghan war veteran along the LoC in Kupwara district.

Last month, two terrorists were killed in an encounter during an infiltration bid along the LoC in Kupwara district.

Rajnath To Visit

organized by the J&K unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party at Zorawar Singh Auditorium.

He will also visit the BJP office at Trikuta Nagar and interact with senior party leaders to discuss prevailing political security in Jammu and Kashmir.

Official sources confirmed that a visit to the BJP office to assess political situation in Jammu and Kashmir and party's preparedness for the future elections has been added to Rajnath Singh's one-day visit to Jammu on June 26.

Rajnath will interact with UT unit office bearers and senior leaders at Trikuta Nagar headquarters of the BJP after addressing Security Conclave and discuss with them prevailing security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir.

Though no elections are scheduled to be held immediately yet the Defence Minister will assess party's preparedness if the Assembly elections, which are due and for which the BJP UT unit has made a demand, are held.

Prior to the BJP meeting, Rajnath Singh will address decorated ex-servicemen, writers, journalists and other senior security experts at the first-ever Security Conclave Later, he will interact with them and is also likely to take some questions.

Earlier, J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina stated that 'security conclave', would be "totally a non-political event" was taken by the party.

He also affirmed that the party was finalising a list of dignitaries to be invited and they would include 'defence experts, retired senior army officers, intellectuals, writers, media persons and think tanks from different parts of the Union Territory.'

Notably, the BJP is organising many programmes as a part of its month-long "Maha Jan Sampark Abhiyan" to mark completion of nine years of Modi-government at the Centre.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will also address the booth-level workers of the BJP across the country including Jammu and Kashmir on June 27—(KNO)

Srinagar Premier League: Round 4 Match Abandoned



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing 2023 Srinagar Premier Football League, a scheduled Round 4 match was abandoned on Saturday at Synthetic Turf TRC.

In the match, Arco FC took on Star Kashmir FC in a 7:00 PM kick-off under the floodlights.

Arco boys took the lead in the 15th minute of the match, but Star Kashmir managed to equalize in the 34th minute. The two

teams maintained the scoreline till the end of the first half. However, heavy rains forced the officials to abandon the match.

According to the official communication, the JKFA committee will take a decision about the remainder of the match today.

Sunday will see two scheduled matchups, according to the fixtures list. Kashmir Avengers FC play Kashmir Panthers FC at 4:30 PM, while Ali Jana FC will face Iqbal Sports FC at 7:30 PM.



BLIND ATHLETES COMPETE during a cricket match at Bakshi Stadium, Srinagar, on Saturday.

KO PHOTO / ABID BHAT

Gavaskar Slams Selectors For Dropping Pujara, Ignoring Sarfaraz



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar has lashed out at the national selectors for making Cheteshwar Pujara the "scapegoat" and ignoring prolific domestic scorer Sarfaraz Khan for the two Tests in the West Indies next month.

Referring to Sarfaraz's non-selection, Gavaskar questioned the logic behind having the Ranji Trophy if performance in the country's premier domestic tournament is not looked into while picking the Indian red-ball teams instead of taking into account the players' record in the IPL.

"Sarfaraz Khan has been scoring at an average of 100 in all past three seasons. What does he have to do to be picked in the squad? He might not be in the XI, but you pick him in the team," Gavaskar said of the Mumbai batter to Sports Today.

"Tell him that his performances are being recognized. Otherwise, stop playing Ranji Trophy. Say, it's of no use, you just play IPL and think you are good enough for the red-ball game as well." With the help of three centuries, Sarfaraz

amassed 556 runs in six games at an average of 92.66 in the 2022-23 Ranji Trophy.

The 25-year-old right-handed batter had scored 982 runs at an average of 122.75 in the 2021-22 Ranji season, including four hundred.

In all, Sarfaraz has scored 3,505 runs in 37 first-class matches at an average of 79.65, including 13 centuries.

As far as Pujara is concerned, his absence from the Indian Test team for the Windies tour has been one of the talking points.

He said not having millions of followers on social media platforms, like some of the other India stars such as Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, is no reason to drop anyone.

"Why has he been made the scapegoat for our batting failures? He has been a loyal servant of Indian cricket, a quiet and able achiever. But because he doesn't have millions of followers on whatever platforms who would make a noise in case he gets dropped, you drop him? That is something beyond understanding," said Gavaskar.

"What are the criteria for dropping him and keeping

the others who failed. I don't know because nowadays there is no media interaction with the selection committee chairman or whoever where you could actually ask these questions," he added.

The highly promising and in-form Yashasvi Jaiswal could be taking up the No.3 spot that Pujara made his own over the last decade.

Continuing, the batting great said that age should not be a criteria for selecting players.

"Yes he has been playing County cricket, he knows what the red ball is all about," said Gavaskar about Pujara.

"Nowadays players can play till they are 39 or 40, there is nothing wrong with that. They are all very fit and as long as you are producing runs or taking wickets, I don't think age should be a factor.

"Clearly, only one man has been singled out while the others also failed. To me, the batting failed (in the WTC final). Apart from Ajinkya Rahane, there was nobody who got any runs. So why Pujara has been made the fall guy is something the selectors need to explain," he said.

We Did Not Ask For Exemption From Trials: Wrestlers

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Facing opposition from fellow wrestlers for receiving exemption from Asian Games trials, the protesting wrestlers on Saturday denied demanding such a favour from IOA and said they will quit wrestling if it is proved.

London Olympic bronze med-

said. "We are ready to quit wrestling if it is proved that we asked for exemption. We never wrote any letter for exemption."

It was first reported by PTI on Thursday that six protesting wrestlers -- the trio, Bajrang's wife Sangeeta Phogat, Sakshi's husband Satywart Kadian and Jitender Kinha -- will have to win



alist Yogeshwar Dutt on Friday questioned if these grapplers were agitating to get such favours and exhorted the junior wrestlers, their coaches and parents to raise voice against this injustice.

"We did not ask for exemption from trials, just asked for time to prepare," said Sakshi after going live on social media.

"If you had problems with one-bout trial, you should have gone to the sports minister. But you chose to spread poison through social media," Bajrang

just one bout against the winner of stage-one trials to be on the Indian team for the Asian Games and World Championships.

The wrestlers also vowed to continue their fight.

"We will continue our fight till Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh is punished, we are waiting for chargesheet," Vinesh said.

Sakshi, Bajrang and Vinesh Phogat have been demanding arrest of former WFI chief Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh for allegedly sexually harassing women wrestlers.



Canoe Slalom Trials For Asian Games Held In Sonmarg

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association, in collaboration with the J&K Water Sports Kayaking & Canoeing Association, organised the first-ever Canoe Slalom trials for the Asian Games at River Sindh in Sonmarg.

The event showcased the exceptional talents of approximately 90 water sports athletes hailing from various states of the country, including Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Delhi, etc.

The trials held immense importance as the top five athletes who would score a coveted spot would represent India at the

prestigious Asian Games, scheduled to be held in China this September.

The collaboration between the Indian Kayaking & Canoeing Association and the J&K Water Sports Kayaking & Canoeing Association underscores their unwavering commitment to providing a robust platform for athletes to demonstrate their extraordinary abilities and drive the growth of Canoe Slalom nationwide.

The success of this momentous event was made possible with the invaluable support of J&K Tourism, the District Administration of Gandarbal, J&K Sports Council and the Colour Curve International Foundation.

Inter-District Football C'ship Concludes At Baramulla

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: The Inter-District Provincial Level Sabroto Mukherji Football Championship organised by the Youth Services & Sports department for under-14 boys concluded on Saturday at Baramulla.

District Youth Service & Sports Officer Jatinder Singh was the chief guest at the event.

The championship that commenced on June 20 was aimed to promote the game of football at the grass-roots level. The tournament witnessed overwhelming participation from all districts of Kashmir province, with teams competing fiercely for the prestigious title.

The tournament witnessed an

electrifying opening ceremony that set the stage for an intense battle on the field. The matches were held at the Showkat Ali Stadium GDC ground Baramulla.

The final match of the championship was held today at Showkat Ali stadium, with the teams representing Baramulla and Anantnag locking horns in a thrilling encounter. Both sides displayed remarkable talent and fought tooth and nail for the coveted trophy.

In the contested battle, Baramulla emerged victorious, defeating Anantnag 4-1.

The closing ceremony was held after the final match, where the winning team was awarded the championship trophy amidst thunderous applause.

FIFA Delays Campaign And Vote To Pick Men's 2030 World Cup Hosts

Agencies

GENEVA: FIFA's search for the men's 2030 World Cup hosts was postponed on Friday after failing to agree on rules for bid campaigns and a date for the final vote.

The vote by about 200 FIFA member federations was moved to the last quarter of 2024 instead of a previously expected meeting in September next year.

Bid rules will aim to be settled on at a FIFA council meeting before the end of October, soccer's governing body said, "with the bidding process to be officially launched thereafter."

FIFA did detail basic needs for the 48-team, 104-game tournament: 14 stadiums, of which only seven can be new construction projects; "explicit public commitments" to human rights and climate action; worker protections; and "non-interference with journalists and human rights defenders" involved in work related to the World Cup.

One speculated project



for2030 appeared to drop out this week when media in Greece reported a Saudi Arabia-led co-host bid that included Egypt will not go ahead. Saudi Arabian soccer officials had not publicly confirmed what would have been an unprecedented three-continent hosting plan in line with the kingdom's aggressive big-spending ambitions in global soccer. A bid for the 2034 World Cup has been seen as a more likely target.

Still, Saudi involvement could yet be revived even if it would mean bringing the World Cup back to Asia just eight years after Qatar hosted in 2022,

and likely again in November-December in the middle of the European club season.

Europe has long committed to bidding for the 2030 World Cup with Spain and Portugal, and that project has added near-neighbor Morocco from Africa. Ukraine also is involved in that bid.

South America also wants to host the centenary World Cup, with original 1930 host Uruguay in a four-nation bid with Argentina, Chile and Paraguay.

Even if the South American bid loses, Uruguay could still be honored as the inaugural host by being given some of the 104 games to stage at the same Estadio Centenario in Montevideo.

FIFA said on Friday it wanted "additional consultation with all key stakeholders (for the 2030 World Cup) which will mark the centenary of men's football's showpiece tournament."

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

The 2027 Women's World Cup vote is scheduled on May 17 next year and FIFA said its annual meeting to decide the

host will be held in Bangkok.

The four candidates are Brazil; South Africa; a European co-hosting bid from Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands; and a United States-Mexico bid.

The U.S., Mexico and Canada will host the first 48-team men's World Cup in 2026, and FIFA also decided on Friday to award the 2025 Club World Cup to the U.S. as a test event.

The recently expanded 32-team club tournament could also share some games with Canada and Mexico.

INDONESIA

FIFA awarded another men's age-group tournament to Indonesia as host just three months after it was stripped of the men's Under-20 World Cup because the Muslim-majority country objected to Israel playing.

Indonesia will host the men's Under-17 World Cup in November for which Israel did not qualify. That tournament was taken from Peru in April because its preparations fell behind schedule.

CWC 2023 Qualifiers: Netherlands Beat Nepal, Storm Into Super 6

Agencies

An explosive half-century from Max O'Dowd helped the Netherlands storm into the Super Six of the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 qualifiers with a seven-wicket win over Nepal in Harare on Saturday. After their bowlers had bowled out Nepal for 167, Max O'Dowd & co. ensured that there were no slip-ups in the Dutch batting effort. With this Netherlands has qualified for the Super Six, while Nepal's World Cup qualification hopes have ended. With this win, the Netherlands are in third position in Group A with two wins and a loss, a total of four points. On the other hand, Nepal is in fourth place with one win and three losses, a total of two points.

In the chase of 168, after scoring merely one run in the first three overs of their chase, Netherlands openers took off. Max O'Dowd and Vikramjit Singh blasted 86 runs off the first 13 overs before the latter fell the Sandeep Lamichhane (2/60). While Vikramjit (30) had three fours and one six to his name, O'Dowd was even more aggressive, striking four fours and sixes during their partnership. He brought up his fifty in merely 30



balls. This blistering start had already helped the Dutch to 97 in the first 15 overs. Despite losing Wesley Barresi in the 15th over, the batting side looked in complete control of the chase. Along with Bas de Leede, O'Dowd added 62 for the third wicket to get Dutch near the finishing line. Unfortunately, O'Dowd was bowled by Gulsan Jha in the 27th over and could not be around when his side finished the game. O'Dowd finished with 90 in 75 balls, consisting of eight fours and four sixes. Leede scored

41* in 39 balls, consisting of six fours. Nepal reached the target in 27.1 overs.

The Nepal innings never got going as the Dutch bowlers struck regularly and restricted the sub-continental side to a sub-par total. Nepal batters had to contend against a high-quality new-ball spell from the Logan van Beek (4/24) and Ryan Klein. Jha in the 27th over and could not be around when his side finished the game. O'Dowd finished with 90 in 75 balls, consisting of eight fours and four sixes. Leede scored



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