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# After Its Recent Revival, Hokersar Is Now Swamped With Solid Waste

**Parvaiz Bhat** 

ONTHS after the wildlife department had ■ managed to restore Hokersar Wetland to its earlier status following its degradation during the implementation of flood management project for the Srinagar city, the wetland is now swamped with heavy solid waste

The solid waste pollution problem in the wetland started after the trash guard (a wire mesh gate), which was installed at the spot where water from flood spill channel flows into Hokersar for stopping trash entering into the wetland, was destroyed by flooding as a result of incessant rains a few

Solid waste, which includes household trash, wrapping materials, plastic containers and fast-food wrappers, can be seen floating everywhere in the wetland which not only bodes ill for ecological health of the wetland, but also presents an ugly scene. Even carcasses of animals have also found their way into the wetland.

Locals said that they had

noted the restoration of the wetland with great satisfaction following its almost complete degradation until last year as its ecosystem integrity and functioning had got huge-

ly compromised. "In recent months, Hokersar has got a new lease of life. We were happy to see a lot of birds and their chicks in Hokersar in recent

months, something which we had missed for many years. But, the waste which is now floating in it, poses a threat to the wetland," said Arif Ahmad, a milkman.

He said that the trash gate which was installed for stopping solid waste entering into the wetland, was not allowing any trash into the wetland.

the gate was functioning, the wetland was clean. But, the wetland has got much polluted now," Ahmad said adding that those responsible for fixing this problem should act swiftly so that the wetland is not damaged again. According to Ahmad, villagers around Hokersar are worried about the new threat More on P10

#### **MULTI-CRORE** I-T REFUND SCAM

#### **Crime Branch Raids Multiple Places In Kashmir**

**Observer News Service** 

**Srinagar:** The crime branch of police on Monday carried out a series of raids in its ongoing probe into the multi-crore income tax scam, involving hundreds of people, including Jammu and Kashmir government employees.

The searches were carried by CB's Economic Offences Wing (EOW) into the bogus incometax refund claims made by hundreds of people in the Union

Territory over the past few years. Multiple teams of the EOW carried out search of numerous houses, offices of accused and suspects in the presence of Executive Duty Magistrates allegedly involved in case FIR No's. 27/2023 and 28/2023, an official spokesperson said.

The cases had been registered on May 25 this year on the basis of a complaint from the office of the Principal Commissioner of Income Tax, Srinagar.

Reportedly, over 400 people, including government employees, besides a chartered accountant are facing criminal charges of conspiring and defrauding the government exchequer for a sum of Rs.16.72 crores between financial years 2017-18 to 2019-20

Giving further details, the spokesperson said that the cases pertain to the criminal manipulation/ tampering of electronic and other data, which enabled the "perpetrators of the crime" to fraudulently claim refund of Income Tax shown to have been earlier deducted at source etc.

'The said criminal acts have resulted in wrongful pecuniary gain running into crores of Rupees to the accused individuals while causing a corresponding financial loss to the Income Tax Department, Government of India," he said

Monday's searches, he said, were carried out as part of the ongoing investigation of the cases during which due diligence and all procedures mandated by law were followed

"No arrests were made during the search operation. However, some incriminating documents, desktop & laptop computers etc. have been recovered and seized.

These have More on P10

# **SC Lists Pleas Challenging Art-370 Abrogation On July 11**

5-Judge Bench To Hear Batch Of **Petitions After Four Years** 



**Press Trust Of India** 

**New Delhi:** Nearly four years after the government abrogated Article 370 that bestowed special status on the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir, a five-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud will take up for hearing on July 11 a batch of pleas challenging the contentious decision.

According to a not on the apex court website on Monday, the five-judge bench, also comprising Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Sanjiv Khanna, BR Gavai and Surya Kant will take up the pleas, including the one filed by IAS officer Shah Faesal and others, for passing directions.

Faesal, a 2010 batch IAS officer, the first Kashmiri to have topped the all-India civil services examination, was detained for over a year after Article 370 of the Constitution was scrapped. He had resigned from service

and launched Jammu Kashmir People's Movement, a political entity in January 2019. The government didn't accept his resignation and Faesal, a doctor by profession, was later posted to

the Union Culture Ministry. He had also moved a petition in the Supreme Court against government's decision on Article 370.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre decided to strip the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir of special status and bifurcate it into two Union Territories.

Several petitions challenging the Centre's decision to abrogate the provisions of Article 370 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, which split J-K into two Union Territories Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh were referred to a constitution bench in 2019.

By abrogating Article 370, the Central government had revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir. More on P10

# **J&K Govt Approves 5 Marla Land Each to Landless Families**

A Historic Day For J&K, A New Beginning For Thousands Of Landless Families: LG

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: In a landmark decision, the government of Jammu Kashmir has approved a proposal for allotment of 5 marla land each to landless families for construction of houses under the Prime Minister Awas Yojna (PMAY)

"It is a historic day for Jammu Kashmir and a new beginning for thousands of landless families," Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Monday.

The 'historic decision', he said, will prove to be a golden chapter in his administration's effort for social justice, equality, respect, and equal opportunities to all citizens.

This path-breaking decision will not only entitle the landless poor to own a piece of land and have a house but it will also provide them means of livelihood, raise



their living standards and realize their dreams and aspirations," Sinha added.

Pertinently, the decision to provide land to poor families in J&K was taken by the Administrative Council in its

meeting last month on June 21. The LG said that the poor section of the society is at the

centre of government policies and a substantial population that was devoid of basic facilities and rights even after seven decades of Independence is being brought to the main-

stream of development. "Jammu Kashmir government is committed to Inclusive development. This move will to the poor and downtrodden and with this landmark decision the administration is acknowledging their immense contribution in the task of nation building," he said.

open up endless opportunities

"A few years ago the Prime Minister decided that every poor person should have a roof over their head. The main obstacle here was that there was no provision for giving land to landless families. We made a provision and approved it in the administrative council to provide land to landless construction of houses under the PMAY," Sinha told reporters here.

"We have given plots to 2,711 landless families across Jammu and Kashmir. We will be providing land as per the list we have and hope to complete the existing backlog by March 2024," he added.

Sinha said the More on P10

**'Foreign Tourist Arrival Rose After** G-20 Meet'

he Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday said that foreign tourist arrivals have shown a significant increase in the Union Territory after successful conduct of G-20 Tourism Working Group (TWG) meeting in this capital city. Addressing a press conference at Raj Bhavan here, the LG said that the successful G-20 meeting in Srinagar held on May 22 to May 25 this year is proving to be a game changer for the tourism sector in J&K. "The participants of the G-20 meeting have gone back to their respective countries with a good message. Post G-20 meeting, we have seen a significant increase in the foreign tourist More on P10

# **Teacher Accused Of 'Sexually Harassing' Minor Denied Bail**

**M** Ahmad

Srinagar: A court here has denied bail to a private tuition teacher accused of sexually harassing a 10-year-old girl at a suburb here in March this year.

According to police, on 14 March this year, a complaint came to be lodged by the father of the minor girl that his daughter, who is studying in class 3rd, is being sexually harassed by a tuition teacher identified as Abdul Wahid Bhat of Chanapora Srinagar.

Accordingly, police said, a case (FIR No 14/2023) under sections 12 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act was registered and during investigation the statement of the



victim was also got recorded and her medical examination was also got conducted.

"..the heinousness of the offence the accused is charged increases since the victim is a small child of 10 vears while the accused is a mature man and also a teacher to whom the parents of the minor victim and the victim herself had reposed trust," said Aarti Mohan, Presiding Officer Fast Track Court For

POCSO cases Srinagar. "The tender age of the victim also makes her vulnerable to any threat or intimidation which she may be subjected

to in case the accused is admitted to bail, moreso, when her evidence is yet to be recorded," the court said while rejecting bail application of the accused teacher Abdul Wahid Bhat of Chanapora, Srinagar.

Earlier the accused had submitted that he is a private teacher by profession and has been falsely implicated in a frivolous case. His counsel said that the arrest Bhat has adversely affected his personal, familial and social life, as the "arrest tantamount to attaching a stigma to the good will of the alleged accused."

## **Govt Orders Age Extension** For University Professors

**Agencies** 

Srinagar: Higher Education Department Monday approved Conditional' enhancement of age superannuation for University Professors from 62 to 65 years.

Secretary, Under Education Department, Rubia Afroz Inqalabi said that the government in this regard has directed the Higher Education to convey that the administrative Council under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, J&K has 'enhanced the age of superannuation of university professors from 62 to 65 years'.

"However, committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary of J&K shall examine each case separately and take a decision regarding enhancement of age

on case to case basis," reads the official notification.

The department said that the performance of university professors shall be reviewed and evaluated based on the parameter set by the government before attaining the age of 62 years:

It said that the authorities will check on the overall performance of the professor, physical and mental health suitable for teaching and research assignments in the university and general conduct standards as per Civil Service Regulations of JK government.

According to the notification, the government will also check the teaching contribution of the professors like the students feedback and new pedagogical approaches adopted in the teaching and workload. About the academic More on P10

## former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti tweeted. More on P10

ajor political parties in Jammu and Kashmir, including

National Conference (NC) and the Peoples Democratic

Party (PDP) on Monday welcomed Supreme Court

decision to hear petitions challenging the abrogation of Article 370.

"Welcome Hon'ble SC's decision to finally hear petitions pending

since 2019 challenging the illegal abrogation of Article 370. I hope

justice is upheld & delivered for the people of J&K. The SC ruling

on Article 370 maintained that the provision can be abrogated

only on the recommendation of the J&K constituent assembly,"

**J&K Parties Welcome Move** 

I look forward to the hearings beginning in right earnest now."

"FINALLY THE BENCH IS CONSTITUTED.

#### **Policeman Shoots Self Dead**

Officer (SPO) of the Jammu Kashmir Police allegedly shot himself dead with his service rifle in Kathua district on Monday, an official said. SPO Avinash Sharma was on sentry duty at border police post Sanyal in the Hiranagar sector when he shot himself in the neck around 1.45 pm, the official said. A resident of Sanyal village, Sharma died on the spot and later his body was removed for postmortem, the official said. He said the motive behind Sharma's More on P10

23-year-old Special Police

#### **Landslide Disrupts Highway Traffic**

landslide hit the Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Ramban district on Monday, disrupting traffic movement in one lane of the strategic road, officials said. The landslide occurred in the Kunfer area of Chanderkote, they said. The 270-km Jammu-Srinagar national highway is the only allweather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country. Traffic in one lane of the highway was affected due to the landside. The movement of traffic in the other lane remains unaffected, the officials said. More on P10

#### **Woman Drowns** To Death

S H

woman died on Monday after slipping into a stream in South Kashmir's Pulwama district.

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35-year-old Sakeena Begam, wife of Mohammad Altaf Khan slipped into Romshi Nallah in Chewa khurud village of the district on Monday afternoon, reports said. The woman was retrieved by the locals in an unconscious state and removed to the district hospital, Pulwama for treatment.

However, reports said, that the doctors there declared her dead.

#### **LG Prays At Mata Roop Bhawani Temple**

K E S

he Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday paid obeisance at Mata Roop Bhawani temple, Cheshmashahi, here Inside the temple premises, the LG offered his prayers and participated in the Yagya organised on the auspicious occasion of Guru Purnima, an official spokesperson said. Sinha, he said, also interacted with the devotees and extended his hearty greetings on the auspicious occasion.

#### **Man Injured In Leopard Attack**

man was attacked and injured on Monday by a leopard in Central Kashmir Budgam district.

Mohammad Sadiq Kumar was in an orchard in his native Banderpora village of Khansahib when a leopard appeared there and attacked him, reports said. Kumar, raised an alarm following which other villagers came

to his rescue. Kumar, reports said, sustained injuries in the surprise beat attack. He was removed to Srinagar's SMHS hospital for treatment.

#### **Tanker Falls Into** Gorge, Driver Dead

driver of an oil tanker died after his vehicle fell into a deep gorge near Shaitani Nallah in Banihal area of Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday morning, officials said.

Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that oil tanker rolled down and fell into a deep gorge near Shaitani Nallah.

He said that soon after a rescue operation was launched, however, driver had died by then. The deceased has been identified as

Ajay Kumar son of More on P10



The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department Zonal Office Anantnag Bakshiabad, Anantnag-192101

email: amid.zoksou@jkbmail.com

#### **E-AUCTION/SALE NOTICE**

AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST (SARFAESI) ACT 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Whereas, Mohammad Shafi Bhat ,being one of the Authorized Officer of The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltc (hereinafter referred to as the Bank), in exercise of powers conferred under Securitization & Reconstruc tion of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (the Act) Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the Rules), issued a Demand Notice dated 09.12.2021 thereby calling upon Mr. Rafi Ahmad Wani Son of Ab. Gani Wani Resident of Sallar Tehsil Pahalgam District Anantnag Sole Prop. M/S Wani Enterprises at Sallar Pahalgam etal for payment of its dues aggregating to Rs.1,65,66,876.12 (Rupees One Core Sixty five Lacs Sixty Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy six and Paisa twelve only) outstanding as on 30-09-2021 together with future interest and other cost and charges within a period of 60 days.

Whereas, Consequent upon failure inter alia by the borrower to repay the Bank's dues within stipulated time, Mr Nisar Ahmad Najar being one of the Authorized Officers of the Bank in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(4) of the Act read with rule 8 and 9 of the Rules took over the physical possession of the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinafter under section 13(4) of SARFAESI Act

2002 on **06-06-2023**. Whereas the undersigned as Authorized Officer of the Bank and in exercise of the powers conferred under the Act and the Rules hereby notifies the sale of the Secured Asset detailed herein for realization

of the dues on "as is where is, as is what is, whatever is there is and without recourse

Name of the Borrowers/ Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)

(i) Rafi Ahmad Wani Son of Ab. Gani Wani Resident of Sallar Tehsil Pahalgam District Anantnag Sole Prop. M/S Wani Enter prises at Sallar Pahalgam (Borrower/Mortgagor);

(ii) Muzaffar Ahmad Wani Son of Ghulam Qadir wani Resident of Sallar Tehsil Pahalgam District Anantnag (Guarantor); (iii) Aijaz Ahmad Wani Son of Noor Mohammad Wani Resident of

Sallar Tehsil Pahalgam District Anantnag (Guarantor); Rs.1.65.66.876.12 (Rupees One Core Sixty five Lacs Sixty Six Amount in Demand Notice Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy six and Paisa twelve only)

other expenses from 01-10-2021) Amount Due on 31-05-2023

(excluding interest and

(Excluding interest from 01-06-2023 upto date. Legal and other Charges

mortgaged property (Put

Rs. 19790084.12 (Rupees One Crore Ninety Seven Lac Ninety Thousand Eighty Four and Paisa Twelve Only Rs. 458109.87 (Rupees Four Lac Fifty Eight Thousand One Hundred

Nine and Paisa Eighty Seven Only)

Due as on 22-06-2023 Description of the

44 kanals 11 Marias under Khasra no. 1339/3min ( 07 k 16 Marlas) Khewa no. 240 Khata no. 561, Khasra no. 1444/4 (03 K 08 M), Khewat no, 240 Khata no. 561, Khasra no. 06 (3K 6M) and Khewat no. 240, Khata no. 561 Khasra no. 09 (01K 07M), Khewat no.240, khata no. 561, Khasra no. 10 (2 K 9M) and Khewat no. 240, Khata no. 561, Khasra no. 11 (04K 07M), Khewat no.240, khata no. 561, Khasra no.12 (03K 13M), Khewat no. 241, Khata no. 563, Khasra no. 1449/13(06K 05M), Khewat no. 241, Khata no. 563, Khasra no. 1454/14 (05K), Khewat no. 241, Khata no. 563 and Khasra no. 1458/16 (07K), Khewat no. 241, Khata no. 563 situated at Hardu Kuthal Sofipora Tehsil Sallar, District Anantnag.

Rs.2,53,60,087.50/- (Rupees Two Crore Fifty three Lacs Reserve Price Sixty Thousand Eighty Seven and Paisa Fifty Only) Earnest Money Rs.25,36,008.75 (Rupees Twenty Five Lacs Thirty Six Thousand Eight and paisa Seventy Five Only) Deposit (EMD) **Bid Increase Amount** Rs 25000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only) Name of the Branch Branch Office Zablipora Shaista Manzoor Authorized Designation Assistant General Manager Officer/Designation Authorized officer Contact No.9582466603 Last Date & Time of 01-08-2023 up to 04.00 P.M submission of EMD and Documents 02-08-2023 between 02.00 P.M to 04.00 P.M Date and Time of e-Auction

**Account Number TERMS AND CONDITIONS** 

(EMD) & Other Remittance/s detail/s by RTGS to

Earnest Money Deposit

1) The Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS and NO COMPLAINT BASIS". To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there are no encumbrances on the properties, except specifically disclosed herein. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the description, condition or accuracy of the details regarding the property/ies giver

Account No. 0243070700000003

Account Name: E Auction Account (Sundry Pointing)
IFSC CODE: JAKAOZABLIP

2) ) It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specifica tion before submitting the bid. The physical inspection of supra property/ies put on auction will be permitted to interested bidders on Bank's working days between 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM up to 01-08-2023 with prior permission of the Authorized officer. Inspection of the documents relating to the properties will be permitted to the interested bidders or their authorized representatives at Branch Zablipora between 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM upto 01-08-2023.The bid price shall be absolute in terms and should not be linked to any reference. Conditional bids shall be rejected.

3) The interested bidders shall submit their offer through website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net(the user ID and password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with "https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net") through their login ID and Password. The EMD 10% of RESERVE PRICE shall be payable through NEFT/RTGS/DD (EMD remittance details given above) on or before **04:00 PM on 01-08-2023.** Please note that Cheques shall not be accepted as EMD amount.

4) After Registration by the bidders in the web-site, the intending purchaser/ bidder is required to get the copies of following documents uploaded in the web-portal before last date of submission of the bid(s) viz. i Copy of the NEFT/RTGS/challan. ii) Copy of PAN card/Aadhar Card iii) Proof of identification (KYC) viz. copy o Voter ID Card/Driving License/ Passport etc. iv) Copy of proof of address, v) Duly Filled up & Signed Copy of Annexure II & III attached to the Tender form, without which the bid is liable to be rejected.

5) The Interested bidders who require assistance in creating login ID and password, uploading data, submitting

bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may avail online training on E-Auction from M/s e-procurement Technologies Ltd. (Auction Tiger), Ahmadabad: Contact Person; Mr. Ram Sharma ,Mobile No. 9978591888/9265562818/9265562821/9374519754, Contact No. 079-68136837/68136880. E-Mail ID: ramprasad@auc-

tiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net during office hours on working days. 6) Only buyers holding valid User ID/Password and confirmed payment of EMD through NEFT/RTGS shall be eligible for participating in the online auction process.

7) The interested bidders who may have submitted their EMD not below the 10% of reserve price through online mode/DD before 04:00 PM on 1-08-2023 shall be eligible for participating in the e-auction. The e-auction of above properties would be conducted exactly on the scheduled date and time as mentioned above by way of inter-se bidding amongst the bidders. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid increase Amount" against the Property. In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the e-auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes (subject to unlimited). extensions of 5 minutes each). The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the reserve price) on closure of online auction shall be declared as successful bidder and a communication to that effect will be issued through electronic mode which shall be subject to approval by the Authorized Officer and Secured Creditor.

8) The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price, adjusting the EMD already paid, within next working day of the acceptance of bid price by the Authorized Officer and the balance 75% of the sale price of or before 15th day of the sale or within such extended period as agreed upon in writing by and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer which may not exceed 90 days from the date of auction. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder, the amount already deposited by the Bidder shall be liable to be forfeited and the property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/right in respect of

9) The prospective qualified bidders may avail online training on e-auction from M/S E-Procurement Technolo gies Ltd. prior to the date of e-auction. Neither the Authorized Officer/Bank nor M/s. e-procurement technologies Ltd shall be liable for any network problem and the interested bidders to ensure that they are technically

well equipped for participating in the e-Auction event. 10) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/additional stamp duty/transfer charges, fees etc. and also all the statutory/non statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc. owing to anybody. The successful bidder shall have to bear taxes on account of the sale over and above the bid amount. The successful

bidder shall be solely responsible for transfer of supra Secured Asset in his/her/their/its name.

11) The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest offer and the Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. NOC or any requisite document from any concerned authority for registration of Conveyance Deed has to be obtained by the purchaser only.

12) The bidders are advised to go through the detailed terms and conditions of e-auction available on the website of M/S E-Procurement Téchnologies Ltd. https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net before submitting their bids

13) The publication is subject to the force majeure clause. 14) The sale certificate shall be issued after receipt of entire sale consideration and confirmation of sale by secured creditor. The sale certificate shall be issued in the name of the successful bidder. No request for change of name in the sale certificate other than the person who submitted the bid / participated in the e-Auction wil

(15) The bid once submitted by the bidder, cannot be cancelled/ withdrawn and the bidder shall be bound to buy the property at the final bid price. The failure on the part of bidder to comply with any of the terms and conditions of e-Auction, mentioned therein will result in forfeiture of the amount paid by the defaulting bidder. (16) Decision of the Authorised Officer regarding declaration of successful bidder shall be final and binding on all the bidders. The Authorised Officer shall be at liberty to cancel the e-Auction process / tender at any time before declaring the successful bidder, without assigning any reason. The conditional bids may be treated as invalid. Please note that after submission of the bid/s, no correspondence regarding any change in the bid shall be entertained. The payment of all statutory / non- statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc., owing to anybody shall be the sole responsibility of successful bidder only. In case of any dispute arises as to the validity of the bid (s), amount of bid, EMD once to the eligibility of the bidder, authority of the person representing the bidder, interpretation and the decision of the Authorised Officer shall be final in such ar eventuality, the Bank shall in its sole discretion be entitled to call off the sale and put the property to sale once again on any date and at such time as may be decided by the Bank. For any kind of dispute, bidders are required

to contact the concerned authorised officer of the concerned bank branch only. (17) Special Instructions Bidding in the last moment should be avoided in the bidders own interest. Neither The Jammu & Kashmir Ltd. nor Service provider will be responsible for any lapse/failure (Internet failure/power failure etc.). In order to ward-off such contingent situations bidders are requested to make all necessary arrangements / alternatives such as power supply back-up etc, so that they are able to circumvent such situation & are able to participate in the auction successfully.

(For detailed term & conditions please refer to website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net of M/s E-procuremen

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) READ WITH RULE 9 OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002 The borrower, guarantor(s) and mortgagor is/are hereby notified to pay the outstanding sum as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction and get the property redeemed, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and costs.

Date: 22.06.2023 Place: ANANTNAG

Shaista Manzoor **AUTHORIZED OFFICER** 

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

DIPK-NB-1605/23 DATED: 03-07-2023

# KASHMIR OBSERVER 1 Srinagar | Tuesday | 04-07-2023

# **Twitter Imposes Daily Limits On Reading Posts**

Press Trust Of India

Twitter owner Elon Musk has limited the amount of tweets that most users can view each day, restrictions he described as an attempt to prevent unauthorized scraping of potentially valuable data from the social media platform.

The site is now requiring people to log on to view tweets and profiles- a change in its longtime practice to allow everyone to peruse the chatter on what Musk has frequently touted as the world's digital town square since buying it for \$44 billion last year.

The restrictions could result in users being locked out of Twitter for the day after scrolling through several hundred tweets. Thousands of users complained Saturday of not being able to access the site.

In a Friday tweet, Musk described the new restrictions as a temporary measure that was taken because we were getting data pillaged so much that it was degrading service for normal users!

Musk has pushed back on what he calls misuse of Twitter data to train popular artificial intelligence systems like ChatGPT. They scour reams of information online to generate human-like text, photos, video and other content.

Musk elaborated on the limits Saturday, saying unverified accounts will temporarily be restricted to reading 600 posts per day, while verified accounts will be able to scroll through up to 6,000.

After facing backlash, he tweeted that the thresholds would be raised to 800 posts for unverified accounts and 8,000 for verified accounts before later settling on 1,000 and 10,000 tweets, respectively.

The crackdown began to have ripple effects, causing more than 7,500 people at one point Saturday to report problems using the social media service, based on complaints registered on Downdetector, a website that tracks online outages.

#### Government of Union Territory Jammu Kashmir Office Of The Chief Executive Officer Tosamaidan Development Authority

#### NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

E-NIT No:02 of 2023 Dated:- 27 /6/2023 For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT E-Tenders ( in single Cover system ) are invited on

percentage basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with JK UT Govt. CPWD, Railways

S	Name of Work	Estimated	Cost of	Earnest	Time of	Class of
No.		Cost (Amount in Lacs)	Tender Document (Amount in Rs.)	Money(Amount in Rs.)	Completion ( Working Days )	Contract
1.	Construction of shelter shed on Sitharan Tosamaidan Road(2nos.)	32.00	1100	64000/=	60	AAY,BEE
2	Providing water supply to various Assets/Facilities at Tosamaidan and Sitharan	15.00	600	30,000/=	30	BEE,CEE,DEE

Position of Funds:- Partly Available 2. Head Of Account: UT Capex

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility, criteria, specifications,, Drawings, 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

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	27-06-2023
2.	Date of Publication of Tender Notice (Online)	28-06-2023(11:00am)
3.	Downloading of Bids	28-06-2023(11:15 am) to 08-07-2023(4:15pm)
4.	Uploading of Bids	28-06-2023(11:30am) to 08-07-2023(4:30pm)
5.	Date & Time of Opening of Bids (Online)	10-07-2023(11:00Am)

**Executive Engineer** Tosamaidan Development Authority

NO:-e-Tendering EST/19/TDA/167 -75

DIPK-NB-1588/23 dated: 03-07-2023

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

My name in school records of my daughter Haya Athar wrongty ten as Athar Masood Shah Qadri while my correct name is Athar Masood Qadri which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard may file the same in the office of the Principal Alnoor Model School Dhobivan Tehsil Kunzer within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Athar Masood Oadri F/o Haya Athar bmg R/o Agrikalan Tehsil pattan Baramulla

**Public Notice** 

my name has been wrongly

written in my J&K Bank ac-

count as Rukhsana Bano

while my corrected name is

Parveena Ahad D/o Abdul

Ahad Ganaie which needs

to be corrected. If anybody

having any objection in this

regard he/she may file his/

her objection in the office

of the concerned office

within a period of seven

days from the date of pub-

lication of this notice. After

that no objection shall be

D/o Abdul Ahad Ganaie

entertained.

Parveena Ahad

R/o Bonimakhama

#### Before the hon'ble J&K Special Tribunal At Srinagar

Mst Haseena D/o Aziz Bhat ADN Mst Maali W/o Ghulam onammad Haji K/o Bagnwanpora Noorbagn. Srir

**VERSUS** 

(Caveator)

(Non-Caveators)

Public at Large

In the matter of: - Caveat Application May it please your HONOUR.

The Caveator most humbly submits as under: -That the Caveator is the resident of UT of Jammu and Kashmir and has every right to invoke the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble

That the caveator by virtue of building permission Order No. SMC/2022/347 dated 03.06.2022 had started construction. but due to intervention of noncaveators the construction got halted. The non-caveators after failing on all fronts sought \*abeyance of the said building permission, wheih after due enquiry was disallowed and the caveator by virtue of letter No , SMC/PS/JCP/3631-30 dated 26 12.2022 issued by the office of the Joint Commissioner, Planning, Srinagar Municipal Corporation, Sringgar has been allowed to proceed with the construction Copies of building permission and letter supra are enclosed herewith as Annexure - A and B respectively.

That the Caveator prays to this Hon'ble Court, that the Caveator or her counsel may kindly be put on notice before any order of any kind is passed in favour of the non-caveators, in case they may file any suit / case / petition/application/appeal/revision or any other proceedings with respect to above said permission or against the Caveator in this Hon'ble Court.

#### **Public Notice**

I have applied for the issuance of Death Certificate of my wife namely Sakina Bano who died on 17-06-2023. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may fiel his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Sharabad Khore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Nisar Ahmad Dar Husband of Late Sakina Bano R/o Nooripora Pattan Baramulla

### **Public Notice**

I have applied for the renewal of of passport bearing No; K5588293 . in my previous passport my name has been wrongly written as Hameeda while correct name is Hameeda Musrat which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Hameeda Musrat

Father's Name: Sunallah Alie Mother's Name: Sajda Begum Spouse Name Bashir Ahmad Ganaie

bmg

bmg

#### Qazi Ayaz & Associates In the case of: Mohammad Iqbal Sofi

From the Office of Advocate

S/o. Ghulam Qasir Sofi R/o Kral Khud Habba Kadal, Srinagar and Ors Applicant/Caveator

Public at Large

Non applicant/Caveator In the matter of. Caveat Petition in terms of Section 148-A of

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

#### From the Office of Advocate Qazi Ayaz & Associates

I have applied for the issuance of Fertilizer Licence under name & style Danish Agro Chemicals Nowgam 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. **Danish Bashir** 

S/o Bashir Ahmad Check R/o Nowgam Shopian

fko

#### In The Court Of Chief Judicial Magistrate Shopian In the case of:

Gh Nabi Lone F/o Aabiroo Jan R/o Naseerpora Shopian

Ut of J&K through Registrar Bireths & Deaths

Notice to public at large

Whereas the above titled petition ahs bene filled by the applicant in this court for seeking directions to the non applicants for registration of Birth particulars of the Applicant's daughter namely: Aabiroo Jan D/o Gh Nabi Lone R/o Naseerpora who born on 10/10/2010 at home

Whereas through the medium of this proclaimation, the public at large is informed that in case, any one has any objection issuance of direction with respect to the registration of Brith Particulars of the applicants Daughter namely Aabiroo Jan D/o Gh Nabi R/oNaseerpora by the non applicant, they / he /she shall file the same before this court in person or through counse within 15 days from the date of publication. If the date fixed is declared holiday, the matter will be taken up on the next working day. Given under may hand and sela of this office on 03-07-

Chief Judicial Magistrate Shopian fko

#### In The Court Of Chief Judicial **Magistrate Shopian** In the case of:

Haseena Akhter W/o Reyaz Ahmad Bhat R/o Hergam Shopian

Ut of J&K through Registrar Bireths & Deaths

Notice to public at large

Whereas the above titled petition has been filled by the applicant in this court for seeking directions to the non applicants for registration of Date of Death particulars of the Applicant's father namely: Abdul Aziz Dalal S/o Ghulam Oadir Dalal R/o Bongam Shopian who born on 07/3/1997 at home Whereas through the medium of this proclamation, the public

at large is informed that in case, any one has any objection issuance of direction with respect to the registration of Brith Particulars of the applicants shall file the same before this court in person or through counsel within 15 days from the date of publication. If the date fixed is declared holiday, the matter will be taken up on the next working day. Given under may hand and sela of this office on 03-07-2023 fko

Chief Judicial Magistrate Shopian

منوان: ـ درخواست منجانب معراج الدين كماروعادل احمدومزمل كمار پسران عبدالاحد كمارساكنة موجع سلطان يوره تخصيل پين بمرادا جرائي OBC سرنفيكيث بذمره كمار

اشتهار هرخاص وعام

معامله مندرجي عنوان الصدر مين سائل نے ايك درخواست بغرض OBC سرفيكيك بذمره كمار پیش کی ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی ہے جس ہے عیاں ہے کہ سائل واقعی کمار ذات ہے تعلق رکھتا ہے اور سائل سلطان پور مخصیل پٹن میں رہائش پذریے اور بھی بھی ترک سکونت نہیں کی ہے سائل مذکور OBC سڑھکیٹ حاصل کرنے کا خواں ہے اور کنبہ کی مہوارہ آمدنی 6800رویے تک ہے ۔ سرٹفیکیٹ زیر بحث جراءکرنے میں اگر کہ اگر کشخص کو کوئی عزریاا عتراض ہوتو وہ بعد مشتہرا خبارسات دن کے ندراندرآ پیزعذر یاعتراض و دالت هذا کو دفتری ادقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔بعد گزرے میعاد کو بی مذرياعتراض قابل قبول نہيں ہوگا۔

نائب تخصيلدا

**AIRPORTS** 

**RAILWAYS** 

**HIGHWAY STATUS** 

HIJRI

**CALENDAR** 

15 Zil-Haji

1444

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

**PRAYERS** 

3:40

12:35

5:35

7:50

9:30

**FAJR** 

**ZUHR** 

**ASR** 

Magrib

ISHA

PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259

ANANTNAG: 01932-228243

BARAMULLA: 0194-102029

BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

PAMPORE: 01933-294132

PATTAN: 01954-293507

QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

Mughal Road - (Open)

Srinagar-Leh-(Open)

Sgr-Jammu highway - ( Open )

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES: 2479488,2452222,2452155 CAPD: 18001807011

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

## **Srinagar Admin Conducts Surprise Inspection Of Patwar Khanas**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: On the directions of District Magistrate (DM) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, the special teams of District Administration Srinagar on Monday conducted surprise inspection of various Patwar Khanas of Srinagar and checked the attendance of employees in order to ensure prompt delivery of Revenue service's punctuality in Government Offices.

The surprise inspection teams headed by Assistant Revenue, Commissioner SDM, East, SDM West and Assistant Commissioner Nazool undertook surprise inspections of as many as 50 Patwar Khanas of total 76 Patwar Khanas functioning in Srinagar District.

During the inspection, 10(Ten) Patwaries found either unauthorized

absent from their duties or reporting late in the Office.

Taking serious note of their unauthorized absence and late office reporting, the District Magistrate (DM), who is also the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar has ordered withholding salary of all 10 employees. Further explanation was also sought from the all absentee employees as to why disciplinary proceedings should not be initiated against them.

Meanwhile, the District Magistrate/DC Srinagar reiterated that such inspections will continue further and dereliction of duties including unauthorized absence and late office reporting will not be tolerated at all.

He also asked the employees to strictly adhere to the Office timings to avoid inconvenience to the general public.

# **Record 2.18L People** Visits Parks, Gardens On Eid; 1.20L In Srinagar

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Valley's public parks and gardens, especially in Srinagar, witnessed a ten-fold increase of visitors - over two lakh people - during the four days of the Eidul-Adha festival.

A senior official at the Floriculture Department said during the Eid festival, the valley's parks and gardens recorded a rush of 2.18 lakh visitors, which is ten times higher than the normal footfall.

"During the Eid festival, especially Eid-ul-Adha, people visiting parks and gardens is normal, but this year, the footfall is much higher,"

he said. According to the department's officials, the paid parks and gardens in south Kashmir recorded a footfall of over 94,000 people during the Eid days, while last year,

it was around 74,000. Of the approximate footfall of visitors in south Kashmir, 85,000 were locals while over 9,600 were from other states of the country, an official said. "In South Kashmir, Kokernag recorded a footfall of around 16,000 followed by 15,000 visitors at nine parks and gardens of Pahalgam. Achabal and Verinag recorded over 9,000

and 8,000 respectively."

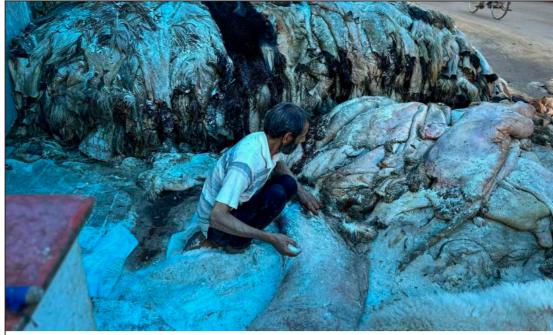
As per the officials, Srinagar's paid parks and gardens recorded a footfall of over 1.20 lakh people, including both locals and tourists. They said 30,000 people visited Nishat, Shalimar, Harwan, Chesmashahi, and Pari Mahal on Sunday.

Among the paid gardens and parks in Srinagar, Nishat recorded around 39,000 visitors during the Eid holidays, the highest number among all the gardens in Srinagar, with 13,000 people visiting the park on Sunday.

The famous Badamwari garden in the heart of Srinagar city's downtown area, as per the officials, recorded over 8,000 visitors with a majority of them from the valley only, while Iqbal Park and Children's Park also recorded a sizable footfall of local visitors on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha.

The officials said they had placed all arrangements for visitors including the convenience facility, drinking water facility, availability of dustbins, wheelchairs for the specially-abled, etc.

There are many parks and gardens in the valley under the supervision of the Floriculture Department where public entry is free.



A worker applies salt on the hides of scarificial animals to inhibit the growth of becteria on it at Jamalatta area in the old city on Monday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

# **Set Deadlines For Smart City Projects: CS Direct Officers**

**Observer News Service** 

Srinagar: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta today impressed upon the officers of the Srinagar Smart City Ltd (SSCL) and Jammu Smart City Limited (JSCL) including the concerned Divisional Administration to speed up the pace of works so that all the ongoing projects are completed within the shortest possible time frame.

He passed on these directions during a meeting at Civil Secretariat here to review the progress of smart cities in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, H&UDD; Principal Secretary, Education; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir/Jammu: Commissioner Secretary, I&C; Commissioner Secretary, Floriculture, CEO, SSCL; CEO, JSCL, Chief Engineer, PWD, Kashmir/Jammu

besides other concerned officers. During the meeting the Chief Secretary took a detailed review of the ongoing projects in the twin cities under the Smart City Mission and set

deadlines for each project. He expressed that any undue delay in the execution of the projects is unacceptable. While reviewing the different works in Srinagar City, Dr Mehta directed the officers to pace

up the work on Nishat precinct, Shalimar Canal, Foreshore Road. Lal Chowk and other areas to expedite the execution of projects under the Smart City Mission by endeavoring to finish the works within the set timelines. He said that some of these works should be completed within the next 20 days positively

He asked the concerned officers to enhance necessary resources on all the sites where work is going on to ensure fast pace of development.

He said that Lal Chowk is the center of the City and the ongoing projects ought to be completed within the shortest possible time through multiple shifts. He underlined that due to the huge footfall of tourists at Lal Chowk, it warrants upgradation immediately

He also reviewed the work on Apsara road Jammu among other projects under Smart City Mission and directed the concerned to complete the project fully by August 15. He said that it is a vital project and will enhance the aesthetics of the area besides improving the social as well as the economic condition of the people.

He also reviewed various projects related to the floriculture department and asked the officers to complete the projects on time as their completion would enhance the beauty of both the cities and other tourist places of J&K.

This Day In History

1927 - Sukarno and friends form the pro-Indonesian independence party, the PNI (Perserikatan Nasional Indonesia) in Batavia, Dutch East Indies

1942 - 1st American bombing mission over enemyoccupied Europe (WW II)

1942 - US air offensive against nazi-Germany begins

1946 - President Manuel Roxas was inaugurated as the 5th President of the Philippines and the first president of the Third Republic at the Independence Grandstand in Manila

1950 - Harry Truman signs public law 600 (Puerto Ricans write own constitution)

1950 - The first broadcast by Radio Free Europe.

1968 - Radio astronomy satellite Explorer 38 launched

1982 - 4th Space Shuttle Mission-Columbia 4 lands at Edwards AFB

1987 - Discovery moves to Launch Pad 39B for STS-26

1987 - Imran Khan takes 300th Test Cricket wicket,

only Pakistani to do so 1988 - US Navy shoots down Iranian civilian jetliner

over Gulf, kills 290

1989 - Unmanned Russian Mig-23 crashes in Bellegem-Kooigem, Belgium (1 dies)

1994 - Russian manned space craft TM-18 lands

1997 - US space probe Pathfinder lands on Ares Vallis

2006 - Space Shuttle program: STS-121 Mission -Space Shuttle Discovery launches at 18:37:55 UTC.

# From KO Archives

#### 3 Kashmiri Women Among 1,000 Nominated For Nobel Prize

**Observer News Service** 

RINAGAR - Three prominent Kashmiri women are among 91 nominated from India for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. They figure in the list of 1000 women from all over the world for the coveted nomination. According to reports, the three Kashmiris who had made to lie crucial stage are Parveena Ahanger, Nighat Shafi Pandit and Dilafroza Qazi. They have made a mark in various fields of social service and empowerment of women and children.

Parveena Ahanger,48 is an extraordinary women who has been living with the trauma of the custodial disappearance of her son. Over the past over a decade, she has become rally ing force for similarly circumstanced women and eventually formed an organization by the name of Association of Parents of Displaced Persons to fight the pernicious human rights abuse. In her relentless crusade against injustice, she braves physical danger to her own life and remains undeterred by the perils that go with it.

Ahanger has been instrumental in building up social pres-

sure against the government which was initially clueless as the exact number of those disappearing from custody. As a result of untiring efforts of APDP, the authorities finally acknowledged more than 3000 custodial disappearances and held out an assurance to call a halt to these. Having risen above her personal trauma, Ahanger is now a prominent human rights activist in Kashmir. Born in 1951, Nighat Shafi Pandit is the chairperson of

leading non-governmental organization. Human Effort for Love and Peace (HELP) Foundation, established in 1997 with the primary objective of organizing a social response to the growing destitution with particular emphasis on the education and healthcare of orphans, it prefers to call special children' and rehabilitation of widows and other indigent members of the society irrespective of their creed, colour, community or region. Wife of a senior IAS officer and the chairman of Public

Service Commission. Muhammad Shaft Pandit, she preferred to step out of the comfortable home to move about extensively in the rural communities in both Kashmir and Jammu regions with a view to making a difference in the lives of its targeted segments. Nighat Shafi is more, focused on the education of orphans and rehabilitation of widows and leaves no occasion to share their pain and distress. She is actively involved in the promotion of peace and harmony in the insurgency-hit region.

Dilafroz Qazi is yet another Kashmiri woman who is engaged in promotion of literacy among rural folks. Born in 1972, she runs an engineering college known as SSM College of engineering near the highway town of Pattan. She is also running several primary schools

(Kashmir Observer, 04 July, 2005)

**GST Week Celebrations** 

# **State Taxes Department J&K Organizes Interaction With Stakeholders**

Week celebrations, the State Taxes Department today organized an interaction session with various stakeholders at Excise and Taxation Complex Solina.

The session was presided over by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Kashmir, Shakeel Maqbool.

DC Enforcement (Central)

Parveez Raina, DC IT, Analytics Alliance, Joint Traders Associa-& Economic Intelligence, Farooq tion, Kashmir Economic Forum, Assistant Commissioners, State Taxes Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and other officials of the department attended the session.

The stakeholders were represented by various trade and manufacturing associations like Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation, Kashmir Economic

Industry, Shehr-e-Khas Traders and Manufacturers Coordination Committee and Federation, J&K Economic Federation, KCCL Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (Rather Group), Kashmir CPE Chapter of ICAI, Federation Chamber of Industries Kashmir among others.

# 2 Firefighters Hospitalized During Late-Night Blaze In Batmaloo

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two firefighters were hospitalized on the intervening night of Sunday-Monday when they were dousing flames in Moominabad area of Batamaloo here, officials said.

They said the fire once again broke out in Mominabad Batamaloo area on Sunday late night during which two firefighters suffocated.

An official from the Fire and Emergency Services said two officers, namely Noor Alam Jatla, sub-officer F&ES, and Altaf Ahmad Rather, leading fireman F&ES got suffocated and were shifted to hospital.

"Both of them expebreathing

rienced suffocation and difficulties while extinguishing the flames and were subsequently shifted to the hospital late at night, when one was discharged Noor Alam is said to be at hospital, for precautionary measures," he said.

LIBRARIAN

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.

#### **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR EMPANELMENT AS BOOK** SUPPLIERS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023-24 (No: 1 of 2023)

Expression of interest on prescribed format is invited from reputed Book Suppliers/ Vendors/ Publishers for Empanelment with the University for the supply of books to the University library and its constituent department/colleges during FY 2023-24. Interested book Suppliers can obtain the document from the office of the University Librarian or can be downloaded from the University Website www.iust.ac.in The documents must be submitted along with DD of Rs. 1000/- (Non-Refundable) as cost of document and FDR of Rs. 50,000/- (Fifty thousand) as security deposit from any Nationalized /scheduled Bank pledged to Islamic University of Science & Technology Awantipora Kashmir with a validity of more than three years. The application form complete in all respects properly signed by the proprietor of the firm kept in a sealed envelope should reach the office of the University Librarian, Islamic University of Science & Technology, Awantipora Kashmir- 192122 by or before 24th July 2023 by 3:00 PM to be opened on 26th July 2023 at 2:00 PM.

No. IUST/LIB/ACQ-1/23/ 416 Date: 27/06/2023.

DIPK-NB-1603/23 dated: 03-07-2023

# Government of Jammu & Kashmir

#### Office Of The Executive Engineer Department Of Floriculture Kashmir Srinagar

e-NIT No: 11 of 2023-24 Dated: 28.06.2023.

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&KState Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No		Est. Cost (Rs.		Cost of T/Doc.	Time of		Major A/c
		In lacs)	Rs)	(In Rs.)	completion	Contractor	Head
	Restoration/Con- servation of water Channel /water bodies of Mughal Garden Nishat by way of Lime plastering.		28220/-	500/-	30- days	BEE/CEE/ DEE (Civil)	Capex Budget 2023-24 Plan

Position of AAA/TS : Accorded : Available (50% of outlav) Position of funds

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:-

Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	20/07/2023 at 02:00 PM	

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)

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.

The lst. Lowest(Successful bidder)has to producean 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 comple tion 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

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

No: EE/FDK/742-47 DIPK-4367/23 Dated:03.07.2023

(Er. Syed Hilal Ahmad) **Executive Engineer** Department of Floriculture,

KASHMIR

## Fund For French Police Officer Who Killed Nahel M Tops \$1m



Agencies

collection for the French policeman who sparked nationwide riots by killing a teenager during a traffic stop has been growing, prompting outrage among politicians and activists.

Set up by Jean Messiha, a former adviser to the French farright politician Marine Le Pen, the appeal on GoFundMe had raised 963,000 euros (\$1.05m) at the time of writing on Monday.

On June 27, the accused officer was filmed shooting into a car being driven by Nahel M, a 17-year-old of North African descent. The shot killed the teenager and has led to days of unrest across France, as anger rages over the incident.

Nahel's grandmother, Nadia, was recently asked about the crowdfunding campaign, and she replied: "My heart aches."

The boy's death has renewed debates on France's long and troubled history with its ethnic minority populations, and allegations of police brutality.

Centrist and left-wing politicians condemned Messiha's collection drive.

Eric Bothorel, from the En Marche party of President Emmanuel Macron, wrote on Twitter: "Jean Messiha blows on the embers. It is a generator of riots. The pot of several hundred thousand euros for the police officer indicted in the homicide of young Nahel is indecent and scandalous."

indecent and scandalous."
Olivier Faure, head of the

SUICIDE BY MARRIED MEN

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme

Court today refused to entertain

a PIL seeking framing of guide-

lines to deal with incidents of

suicide committed by married

men subjected to domestic vio-

lence and the constitution of a

'National Commission for Men'

Surya Kant and Dipankar Datta

expressed disinclination to

a one-sided picture. Can you

give us the data of young girls

dying soon after marriage?...

Nobody wants to commit sui-

cide, it depends on the facts of

an individual case," the bench

a plea filed by advocate Ma-

hesh Kumar Tiwari, citing the

National Crime Records Bu-

reau (NCRB) data published

in 2021 on accidental deaths

in India, which said 1,64,033

people died by suicide across

the country that year. Of them.

81.063 were married men.

while 28,680 were married

ended their lives because of

family problems and 4.8 per

cent due to marriage-related

issues in the year 2021. In this

year, total 1,18,979 men com-

mitted suicide, which are about

"Around 33.2 per cent men

women, the petition said.

The top court was hearing

A bench comprising Justices

"You just want to portray

to safeguard their interests.

consider the matter.

observed.

**SC Trashes PIL Demanding** 

'National Commission for Men'

Socialist Party, called on Go-FundMe to close the fundraiser, accusing the platform of "host-

ing a pot of shame".

"You maintain an already gaping fracture by participating in support of a police officer indicted for intentional

homicide. Close!"
Some called out the hypocrisy
of the pot still taking donations.
In 2019, the fund for a for-

In 2019, the fund for a former boxer who had punched several police officers during "yellow vest" anti-government demonstrations in 2019 was quickly closed down.

Left-wing politician David Guiraud wrote on Twitter: "The assumed message is kill Arabs, and you will become millionaires, and the government watches this horror pass without saying anything when it had closed the yellow vest pot in 2 days who hit a policeman. Repugnant."

The French activist group Sleeping Giants tweeted the "sheer existence" of the fund "inflames the sentiment of injustice and furthers tensions".

Amid the riots, which often feature vandalism and see protesters clash with police, France has been deploying 45,000 officers onto the streets each night to quell unrest in cities including Paris, Strasbourg, Marseille and Nice.

On Monday, demonstrations began at French town halls opposing the riots, during which violence and looting has also been reported.

72 per cent, and total 45,026

women committed suicide,

which are about 27 per cent,"

the plea said while referring to

The petition had also sought

directions to the National

Human Rights Commission

(NHRC) to deal with the issue

of suicide by married men and

accept the complaints of men

spondent no.1 (Union of In-

dia) to issue proper guidelines

through the Ministry of Home

Affairs to the police authority/

station house officer of every

police station to accept/receive

the complaint of victims of do-

mestic violence or those under

stress due to family problems

and marriage-related issues,

and refer the same to the State

Human Rights Commission for

its proper disposal till the prop-

er legislation is enacted by the

mendation to the Law Com-

mission of India to carry out

research on the issue of sui-

cides of married men who are

suffering from domestic vio-

lence or under family problem

and marriage-related issues

and make necessary report in

order to constitute a forum like

National Commission for Men,"

The petition was dismissed

the plea had said.

"Issue a direction/recom-

Government of India," it said.

"Issue direction to the re-

suffering domestic violence.

the NCRB data.

# Sharad Pawar Denies Blessing Ajit Revolt, Sacks Praful Patel, Tatkare; Displays Show Of Strength Post-Split

**Press Trust of India** 

SATARA: Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) president Sharad Pawar on Monday rejected suggestions the rebellion by his nephew Ajit Pawar, now a deputy chief minister in Maharashtra's Shinde-led government, had his blessings as he displayed a show of strength to assert authority over the party that is battling its worst crisis.

In a related development, Sharad Pawar sacked party's working president Praful Patel and Lok Sabha MP Sunil Tatkare, who have sided with Ajit Pawar in his rebellion, for engaging in "anti-party" activities.

The former Union minister, in a tweet, said, "I, as the National President, of Nationalist Congress Party hereby order the removal of the names of Shri Sunil Tatkare and Shri Praful Patel from the Register of Members of NCP Party for anti-party activities." Addressing a press conference in western Maharashtra's Satara district. Sharad Pawar said he has launched a statewide tour to strengthen the NCP and boost the confidence of its workers, unfazed by actions of a few leaders.

On Sunday, Ajit Pawar led a vertical split in the NCP to become deputy chief minister. Eight other NCP legislators, some of them considered very close to the party patriarch, were also sworn in as minis-



ters in the Eknath Shinde-BJP government.

Asked whether Ajit Pawar's rebellion had his blessings, the NCP chief said, "It is a mean thing to say. Only those with a mean and low intellect can say this. I have set out on a tour of the state and galvanize the cadre. They should not feel disillusioned with what some leaders have done." Separately addressing NCP workers and supporters at Karad in Satara district, the 82-year-old politician maintained there was a need to fight forces creating communal divide in Maharashtra and

The former Union minister, who co-founded the NCP in 1999 after leaving the Congress, rued defections in his outfit, saying "some of our people fell prey to BJP's tactics to break other parties." "Attempts are being made to create communal divide in Maharashtra

and the country. We need to fight forces that create fear among peace-loving citizens. We need to protect democracy in the country," he added.

The NCP chief said a "wrong kind of tendency" was rearing its head and the same tendency attempted to break the party in the state which was working on democratic principles.

"The objective behind this is to take the country's affairs ahead with the help of these communal ideologies, and the same tendency took the same approach to turn things upside down in the state. Unfortunately, some of our colleagues fell prey to these tactics," he said.

Common citizens of Maharashtra, the land of social reformers like Shahu Maharaj, Jyotiba Phule and BR Ambedkar, will show the tendencies, which are instrumental in breaking the other parties, their right place, he said.



## Next Opposition Meeting To Take Place In Bengaluru On July 17, 18: Congress

**Press Trust of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** The next meeting of opposition parties will be held in Bengaluru on July 17 and 18, the Congress announced on Monday, and asserted their resolve to defeat the BJP has been strengthened by the "Mumbai operations" of the "BJP washing machine".

Congress general secretary (organisation) K C Venugopal made the announcement of Opposition meeting dates on Twitter and said "we are steadfast in our unwavering resolve to defeat the fascist and undemocratic forces".

"After a hugely successful allopposition meeting in Patna, we will be holding the next meeting in Bengaluru on 17 and 18 July, 2023. We are steadfast in our unwavering resolve to defeat the fascist and undemocratic forces and present a bold vision to take the country forward," Venugopal said.

Congress general secretary (Communications) Jairam Ramesh took a dig at the BJP over the NCP's Ajit Pawar and eight other leaders being inducted into the Eknath Shinde-led Maharashtra government.

"Yesterday when the BJP Washing Machine restarted in Mumbai with its ICE (Income tax, CBI, ED) detergent, BJP-inspired obituaries on Opposition unity were being planted. The obit writers will be disappointed. The next meeting of the parties that met at Patna on June 23rd will be held in Bengaluru on July 17th & 18th," he said.

"If anything the Mumbai operations have strengthened Opposition resolve," Mr Ramesh said on Twitter.

TMC's leader in Rajya Sabha Derek O'Brien also tagged Venugopal's tweet and said, "Bengaluru Summit. All For One. One For All."

Earlier, Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) chief Sharad Pawar had said the next opposition meeting will be held in Bengaluru on July 13-14. Those dates were said to be clashing with the Assembly sessions in a few states.

The first meeting of opposition parties was held in Bihar's Patna on June 23.

## Supreme Court Notice To JNU On Defamation Case Against 'The Wire' Editor

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Monday directed the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) administration to verify whether any dossier was submitted by a professor, allegedly depicting the university as a "den of organised sex racket".

The top court was hearing a plea filed by Amita Singh, Professor and Chairperson of the Centre for Study of Law and Governance at the JNU, against a Delhi High Court order that had set aside a summons issued to the editor and deputy edi-

and deputy editor of news portal "The Wire" in a criminal defamation case over the publication of the dossier.

A bench comprising Justice SK Kaul and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia issued notices to the JNU vice-chancellor and the editor and deputy editor of the portal.

"Issue notice. We would also like JNU, through vice-chancellor, to verify if any dossier was submitted at all, to what effect and by whom? Notice be issued to JNU in this limited aspect," the bench said.

The high court had, on March 29, set aside the summons issued to the editor and deputy editor of "The Wire" in the criminal defamation case.

The high court had said it was unable to discern how the article could be said to have defamed the complainant when it "nowhere says that the respondent (Ms Singh) is involved in the wrongful activities, nor

does it make any other derogatory reference to her in connection therewith".

The controversial dossier exposed wrongful activities that were stated to be going on in the JNU campus and that Ms Singh was leading a team of people who compiled the document, the high court had said.

It had also said the subject publication itself was not before the magisterial court in accordance with section 65B of the Evidence Act.

"On a plain reading of the extract of the subject publication, which is all

lication, which is all that was contained in the complaint, there appears to

famatory' in it, as understood in law, since all it says is that the dossier calls out certain wrongdoing in the university. Since, on the nt of law, there can be no

be nothing 'de-

point of law, there can be no oral evidence in substitution of a certificate under section 65B of the Evidence Act, there was no material before the learned magistrate based on which the summoning order could have been passed," the court had said.

The complainant had argued before the lower court that the accused persons had launched a hate campaign against her to malign her reputation.

The editor and deputy editor

The editor and deputy editor of "The Wire" had challenged the summoning order before the high court on the ground that there was no material on record on the basis of which the magistrate could have summoned them.

# Palestinians Killed As Israel Stages Large-Scale Raid In West Bank City Of Jenin

Agencie

JERUSALEM: Israeli drones struck targets in a militant stronghold in the occupied West Bank early Monday and hundreds of troops were deployed in the area, an incursion that resembled the wide-scale military operations carried out during the second Palestinian uprising two decades ago. Palestinian health officials said at least four Palestinians were killed.

Troops remained inside the Jenin refugee camp early Monday, pushing ahead with the largest operation in the area during more than a year of fighting. It came at a time of growing domestic pressure for a tough response to a series of attacks on Israeli settlers – including a shooting attack last week that killed four people.

Black smoke rose from the crowded streets of the camp as the military pressed on. According to Palestinian media reports, the operation disrupted life for local residents, with electricity cut off in some parts and a military bull-dozer seen driving through narrow streets - another reminder of Israel's incursions during the last uprising. The Palestinians condemned the violence.

Lt. Col. Richard Hecht, an army spokesman, said the



operation began just after 1 a.m. with an airstrike on a building used by militants for planning attacks. He said the goal of the operation was to destroy and confiscate weapons.

"We're not planning

"We're not planning to hold ground," he said. "We're acting against specific targets."

He said that a brigadesize force – roughly 2,000 soldiers – was taking part in the operation, and that military drones had carried out a series of strikes to clear the way for the ground forces. Although Israel has carried out isolated airstrikes in the West Bank in recent weeks, Hecht said Monday's series of strikes marked an escalation unseen since 2006 – the end of the Palestinian uprising.

While Israel described the attack as a pinpoint operation, videos on Palestinian social media showed a large tuft of white smoke billowing from a crowded area, with a mosque minaret nearby. Other videos showed a wounded man was brought into a hospital on a stretcher, while another was carried in by a group of men.

According to the official Palestinian news agency Wafa, the military blocked roads within the camp, took over houses and buildings and set up snipers on rooftops. The agency also said the military cut off electricity in large areas of the camp and that army bulldozers caused damage to property.

to property.

The Palestinian Health
Ministry said at least three
Palestinians were killed and
13 injured early Monday,
three of them critically. Hecht
said as many as seven militants were believed dead.

### **NEWS MAKERS**

# Pak Woman Meets Noida Man While Playing PUBG, Comes To India With 4 Kids

Press Trust of India

NOIDA: Police have detained a Pakistani woman and her four children who were illegally staying in Greater Noida, where they were allegedly sheltered by a local man who met her through online game PUBG, officials said on Monday.

The police have also detained the man, a Greater Noida resident, who allegedly housed them in his rented



accommodation, they said. "The Pakistani woman and the local man have been de-

tained. The woman's four children are also in police custody," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Greater Noi-

da) Saad Miya Khan told PTI.
The Pakistani woman, who
is in her late 20s, and the local man had got in touch over
online game PUBG, which
led to a friendship between
them the police officer said

them, the police officer said.
"The man and the woman
are being questioned right
now. Further details and
facts would be shared once

the questioning is over," Mr Khan said.

According to a local police official, the woman had allegedly entered India with her children via Nepal last month before entering Uttar Pradesh and reaching Greater Noida by a bus.

The woman and her children were staying in the rented accommodation of the man, who lives in the Rabupura area of Greater Noida, the official claimed.

# Electric Mattress Explodes In Meghalaya; 1 Killed

Press Trust of India

**SHILLONG:** A 38-year-old person was killed on Monday when an electric mattress stated to have exploded at his home in Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills

district, a police officer said.

The person who had been unwell for the past three months was sleeping in his room at the time of the blast, the police officer said.

The incident took place at the house of Pynsuklang Khongwir in



Smit town in the morning hours.
Glass panes of the house
were smashed due to the im-

pact of the explosion, a resident of the area said. A senior police officer who

A senior police officer who rushed to the spot said preliminary investigation revealed that the cause of the explosion was overcharging of the electric mattress that the victim was sleeping upon.

East Khasi Hills district SP Sylvester Nongtynger said, the family members mentioned that the deceased person had earlier attempted suicide

## **Light To Moderate Rain** Predicted In J&K From July 5

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Weatherman on Tuesday forecast intermittent light to moderate rain/thunderstorm towards evening on July 5.

From July 6-8, a meteorological department official here said that intermittent light to moderate rain/shower was at many places of Jammu & Kashmir. "Some places in plains of Jammu region may receive moderate to heavy spells during morning hours," he said.

Meanwhile, J&K recorded another hot and humid day with Srinagar and Jammu recording maximum of 32.3° and 37.4° respectively.

the minimum Regarding temperature today, he said, Srinagar recorded a low of 19.0°C against 18.3°C on the previous night and it was 1.9°C above normal for the summer capital.

Qazigund, he said, recorded a low of 17.0°C against 16.4°C on the previous night and it was 1.5°C above normal for the gateway town of the Kashmir

Pahalgam, he said, recorded a low of 11.5°C against 10.2°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 0.7°C for the famous tourist resort in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Kupwara town, he said, the mercury settled at 16.7°C against 15.5°C on the previous night and it was above normal by 1.2°C for the north Kashmir area.

Kokernag recorded a low of 16.7°C against 16.1°C on the previous night and it was 1.8°C above normal for the place, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a low of 13.4°C against 11.2°C on previous night and it was 2.5°C above normal for the world famous skiing resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district,

Jammu recorded a low of 28.1°C against 26.8°C on the previous night and it was 2.5°C above normal for J&K's winter capital, he said.

Banihal recorded a low of 19.1°C (2.8°C above normal), Batote 20.2°C (2.7°C above normal), Katra 24.2°C(above normal by 2.2°C) and Bhaderwah 19.5° (3.5°C above normal). Ladakh's Leh and Kargil recorded a low of 9.8°C and 13.3°C respectively, the official added. (GNS)

#### 'Outside Investment Not Acceptable'

## **Ladakh Tourist Trade Body Announces Non-Cooperation Movement**

Majid Nabi

SRINAGAR: The Ladakh Travel Trade Alliance (LTTA), an umbrella body of several trade unions in Ladakh, together with religious and political organizations, resolved on Monday to begin a non-cooperation movement after July 15 against outside business tycoons, intending to establish business in the Union Territory.

The LTTA further cautioned what was termed 'outsiders' to cease funding projects in Ladakh after July 15 as no partnerships or construction will be allowed after the stipulated time.

Addressing a press conference, LTTA president said ninety percent of people in Ladakh depend on the tourism industry and that no outsider, be it anyone will be allowed to set up business in the federally governed territory.

"We held several press conferences earlier, while our religious bodies set a two month deadline for the outsiders to cease funding projects in Ladakh. Those who have leased out their properties or intend to run any sort of business in partnership will not be allowed to ruin our only source of income," he said.

LTTA president also said that a non-cooperation movement will be launched after July 15 and all those intending to set

businesses in Ladakh will be opposed tooth and nail.

We have luxurious hotels in Ladakh with all modern facilities, so why do we allow outsiders to invest in our territory? It's not local vs nonlocal but we cannot allow anyone to snatch our bread and butter. Tourism is the only source of income for the whole of Ladakh," he claimed.

He also said that three local youth, who were running Indus River Camp in collaboration with an NRI, broke their partnership with him in view of the impending dangers.

"Not only these three, but several others broke their partnership with outsiders and we welcome them for realizing the situation," he added.

LTTA also warned a prominent hotelier Kapil Chopra to stop construction of Post Card in Ladakh, saying only locals of Ladakh will be allowed to establish business in the UT.

"Kapil Chopra is a big name in the hotel industry having hotels in four major international cities, but we would like to warn him to stop construction forthwith. We would also like to warn all those having leased out their land to Chopra or intend to be his partners to cease their plans as LTTA will not allow any construction in Ladakh," he said.

#### Maha Political Quake

## Mehbooba Says Maharashtra **Political Development Will Only Unify Oppn**

JAMMU: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday slammed the BIP, accusing it of "breaking" the Nationalist Congress Party in Maharashtra as it feared Opposition unity.

Her statement came a day after NCP leader Ajit Pawar along with eight other party members joined the Eknath Shindeled Maharashtra government.

"The sabotage/breaking (jodtod) of parties is taking place due to the fear of opposition unity. Whatever is happening (in Maharashtra) is a testament to this fact," she told reporters in Iammu.

The BJP's actions are damaging India's reputation as a vibrant democracy and a soft power, she said. "India is famous across the world as a vibrant democracy and a soft power. You are damaging and destroying it. It will not break the unity of opposition but further strengthen it."

She accused the ruling party of misusing agencies like CBI and ED to threaten and dis-

mantle the opposition. The fight is not between the opposition and the BJP, but between the Opposition and the BJP plus agencies like NIA, ED, and CBI, she alleged.

The Opposition will win this fight, she said. "If you look at the vote percentage of Opposition, it is between 63 to 64, whereas the NDA has only 36 or 37," she said, accusing the ruling party of using money power and threatening to manipulate and break other parties.

One of the BJP leaders had termed the NCP the most cor-

rupt party, but now they have welcomed NCP leaders into their own government, she claimed.

"You are not only destroying the constitution but also democracy as well," she said.

On the issue of Uniform Civil Code, Mufti questioned the BJP's notion of uniformity.

"What uniformity are they taking about? We have already uniform criminal code. It is perfectly working well," she said.

She also raised the issue of price rise and unemployment. 'If the proposed uniformity results in lower tomato prices, the creation of two crore jobs, and the punishment of rapists, then the Opposition would

welcome it." She said the Centre should focus on implementing laws that protect and empower women.



TOURISTS IN LARGE NUMBERS on Monday offered prayers at 130-year-old Shiv Temple in Gulmarg on the occasion of Guru Purnima. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

#### Amarnath Yatra

# **A Perfect Opportunity To** Showcase J&K's Priceless Culture, **Historic Transformation: LG**

**Observer News Service** 

PAHALGAM: Stating that Amarnath yatra has contributed immensely to the composite culture over several centuries, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Monday that the annual pilgrimage provides a perfect opportunity to showcase Jammu and Kashmir's priceless culture and historic transformation

"The annual pilgrimage brings people from different walks of life and states together at one place. It is not only a symbol of brotherhood of humankind but also shows the path to spiritual salvation and inspires all to embrace equality, compassion and humanism," Sinha said.

He made these remarks during his visit to the Nunwan and Chandanwari base camps on Monday. During his visit, the LG interacted with the pilgrims, service providers, and the administrative and security officials deputed for the yatra.

"World's eyes are on J&K, as we celebrate the annual yatra. All the concerned authorities should work together to give a warm welcome and memo-



rable experience to the pil-

grims," the LG said. He directed all the stakeholders to liaise closely with the team on the ground to ensure effective coordination on cutoff timings to enable the smooth conduct of pilgrimage and to also facilitate locals and tourists.

"Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra has contributed immensely to our composite culture in the last several centuries. The annual pilgrimage provides a perfect opportunity to showcase J&K's priceless culture and historic transformation," he added.

During his visit, Sinha instructed the concerned officers to explore all the possibilities to further improve the traffic management and to ensure smooth movement of pilgrims through the checkpoints.

He also discussed the deployment of trained manpower for the Yatra, who had contributed in the recently held G20 summit at Srinagar.

At the DRDO hospital, the LG interacted with the doctors and medical team. He directed the officials to ensure round the clock healthcare facilities during the yatra. He also took appraisal of various services like lodging, Langar, power and water supply, sanitation, health and other facilities to

# **Fourth Batch Of Pilgrims Leave For Amarnath Shrine**

**JAMMU:** A fresh batch of 4,758 pilgrims left the base camp here on Monday for the Amarnath shrine in south Kashmir Himalayas, officials said.

Over 20,000 pilgrims have paid their obeisance at the 3,880-metre high cave shrine till early Monday.

The fourth batch of pilgrims left in two back-to-back convoys and were escorted by eight security vehicles and an ambulance between 3.40 am and 4.10 am, the officials said. While 3,030 pilgrims took

the 48-km traditional Pahalgam route for their yatra, 1,728 pilgrims took the shorter but steep 14-km Baltal route, they said.

With this, a total of 17,565 pilgrims have left the Jammu base camp for the valley since June 30 when Lt Governor Manoj Sinha flagged off the first batch.

Additional Director General of Police (ADGP), Jammu, Mukesh Singh on Sunday visited Ramban district along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and took stock of security

at the transit camp in Banihal and en route the shrine, a police spokesman said.

During the security review. the spokesman said threadbare discussions were held on various elements of security at different places of deployment to secure community kitchens and lodgment centres.

The ADGP asked the officers of police, Army, CAPF, intelligence agencies and civil administration to work in close coordination to ensure a smooth yatra.

#### AMARNATH YATRA

## **Unregistered Pilgrims Flock Tatkal Counters In Jammu**

Seek LG Manoj Sinha's Intervention

**Press Trust Of India** 

IAMMU: Unregistered Amarnath pilgrims from various parts of the country on Monday flooded Tatkal counters in Jammu for on-spot registrations, standing in long queues for their permits to visit the holy cave shrine. Five Tatkal counters have been set up for on-spot registrations.

The annual Amarnath pilgrimage has attracted a large number of unregistered pilgrims and seers since Thursday, officials said.

The 62-day annual pilgrimage to the cave shrine of Amarnath in Jammu and Kashmir began on July 1. The pilgrims undertake a journey to the shrine located at an altitude of about 13,000 feet.

The pilgrims expressed their concern over the lengthy wait times for their yatra dates. Many have limited resources, making it challenging to accommodate them.

"We have been enduring the scorching heat, waiting patiently for hours. It would be a great relief if the administration considers our circumstances," Santosh Ahoja, a devotee from Madhya Pradesh,

to consider their time and resources and make their pil-

grimage feasible. "We humbly request the Lt Governor to facilitate our pilgrimage, understanding our constraints of time and resources," said Maneesh Kumar Mehta, who has come with a group of pilgrims from Meerut.

The administration has issued 4,000 permits for registration and over 900 pilgrims have registered for the pilgrimage at counters in Jammu.

However, several groups are facing difficulties due to the mismatched registration dates for their members.

"Our group is facing challenges as our members have been assigned different dates for registration. It would be helpful if the administration could address this issue," Meh-

Anshuman Singh from Pune, who has visited the cave shrine thrice before, praised the facilities for the yatra.

"This year, it has become more convenient with Aadhaar authentication-based generation," he said.

Thirty-three accommodation centres have been set up across Jammu while Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags will The devotees also appealed be issued at the regist to Lt Governor Manoj Sinha centres, the officials said. be issued at the registration

# 1.08-Km Ramban **Viaduct Completed**

**Press Trust Of India** 

**JAMMU:** The 1.08-km twolane Ramban viaduct along the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway has been completed and opened for restricted traffic movement on a trial basis, officials said on Monday. Work on the viaduct was approved in December 2015 but it was delayed by more than a year due

and steel girders.

"It serves a dual purpose: firstly, it relieves congestion in Ramban Bazar, ensuring smoother movement of vehicles. Secondly, it facilitates the seamless passage of vehicles and pilgrim traffic during the annual 'Shri Amarnath Yatra' on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway 44," the minister said. He said under the visionary



the one in April because of inclement weather.

"In Jammu and Kashmir, we have completed the construction of the 1.08-km two-lane Ramban viaduct. This viaduct, built at a cost of Rs 140 crore, is situated on the Udhampur-Ramban section of the NH-44. In addition, another two-lane viaduct, running parallel to this structure, is nearing completion and will be opened soon," Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said in a tweet.

He said the construction of this 26-span viaduct incorporates various structural arrangements utilising concrete

to technical issues. It missed leadership of Prime Minister several deadlines, including Narendra Modi, the government remains unwavering in its commitment to providing Jammu and Kashmir with exceptional highway infrastructure.

"This transformative development not only contributes to the region's economic growth but also enhances its appeal as a premier tourist destination," he said.

An official of the construction company said restricted traffic, mostly carrying Amarnath pilgrims, was allowed on a trial basis over the past couple "The viaduct will be opened

for normal traffic within the next few days after a fresh inspection," the official said.

### **BJP's Actions Undermined Principles Of Democratic Governance In I&K: NC**

**Press Trust Of India** 

JAMMU: Demanding the immediate restoration of democracy in Jammu and Kashmir, a senior National Conference leader on Monday claimed that the BJP's actions have undermined the principles of democratic governance in the Union Territory.

Rattan Lal Gupta, the party's provincial chief in Jammu, also criticised the BJP's mass connect programme -- launched to highlight the Narendra Modi government's achievements during its nineyear tenure -- and labelled it as "nothing more than a farce and a mockery of the government".

In an apparent reference to the August 2019 bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories and the revocation of the erstwhile state's special status under Article 370, Gupta said the central government has demonstrated a "disregard and disrespect" for

the sentiments and aspirations of the people. "The erosion of trust between the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the ruling party has created an atmosphere of frustration and apprehension," Gupta said and demanded the immediate restoration of democracy in the Union Territory.

Stating that the BJP's actions have undermined the principles of democratic governance, "The people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve to have their voices heard, their concerns addressed, and their rights protected in line with the constitution."



Government of Jammu and Kashmir

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGE BARAMULLA



CORRIGENDUM

Corrigendum for the e tender "Supply/Installation/Commissioning of Blood Gas Analyzer on Reagent Rental Basis for GMC Barmulla", issued vide this office tender reference no, 15 GMCB OF 2023, dated:-16-06-2023.

accepted by Faculty Incharge Central Diagnostic Laboratory.					
Point No.	Tender specification	Request for amendment	Response to query (Recommendation)		
1.	Integration with automated sample insertion (optional).	May please be deleted	Accepted		
2.	Compatible software: Providing access to any networked analyzer to view results, monitor performance and deploy standard configurations.		Accepted Compatible software: providing access to any networked analyzer to view results, monitor performance and deploy standard configurations. Compatible software Should have a provision to transfer the data to lab computer		
3.	Independent printout for results on low noise graphic thermalpaper. Demo- graphic look- up and patient verification options including date and time.	Independent printout for results on low	Accepted		
4.	Certification: The equipment should be US-FDA certified. User base in India and official confirmation of good performance will be given definite consideration	certified. Declaration of conformity to	Accepted (The equipment should be US-FDA / European CE certified)		
5.	Instrument must be quoted considering 3 level quality control twice per day or it should have quality management software to sense, record and rectify errors on real-time basis.	control twice daily with leavy Jennings plot and software to sense, record control	Accepted		

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as already advertised.

No: GMCB/P0/2023-24/957/1648-53 DIPK-4345-23 DT: 03/07/2023

Dr. (Prof.) Ruby Reshi Govt. Medical College

# KASHMIR OBSERVER®

Tuesday | 04-07-2023

# **Address Economic Inequality**

ndia, one of the world's fastest-growing economies, is marred by extreme income inequality. Estimates by the senior economic analyst Aunindyo Chakravarty based on a study by the economist Thomas Piketty and his colleagues at the World Inequality Lab reveal a staggering reality: the top 0.5 percent of Indians, about 70 lakh individuals, earn as much as the poorest 80 crore people, accounting for 57 percent of the country's population. The figures underscore the truth that India is an immensely unequal country.

Earlier in 2021, the World Inequality Lab in its report termed India as one of the most unequal countries in the world. At the time, the report said that the top 1 percent of India's population earned more than one-fifth of the country's total national income, while the bottom 50 percent made just

The disparity, according to Chakravarty, becomes more pronounced when we consider how India's richest individuals fare compared to the wealthiest in developed capitalist nations. Strikingly, the richest 0.5 percent of Indians, earning the equivalent of \$30,000 PPP per month, match the affluence of the top 10 percent in the world's largest economy. In contrast, if we apply the same threshold to the UK and Germany, the combined top 4 percent of adults in these countries fall within the super-rich category.

To further grasp the extent of India's income inequality, people in Burundi, the world's poorest country, are as poorest as 58 crore Indians and once we expand the income threshold to the average level of Madagascar, 73 crore Indians fall below it

This should be a source of deep concern for the policy-makers. We remain a poor country despite being the fifth largest economy in the world with a \$3.7 trillion economy. The government needs to ensure that this growth is equitable and percolates to the ground level. Eradicating poverty in India requires concerted efforts from all stakeholders. It necessitates a multipronged approach encompassing education. skill development, rural development, inclusive economic growth and social welfare. True, liberalization and privatization in early nineties played a critical role in unleashing India's economy. But it is also true that the growth has become increasingly unequal as evidenced by the new estimates. This should jolt the union government to reform the economy. With millions of people mired in poverty, the fastest economic growth counts for little.

#### OTHER OPINON

# Spiralling food prices

nd while the rise in onion and potato prices over the same one-month period is a seemingly far more benign 7.5% and  $4.5\overline{\%}$ , respectively, the overall trajectory in price gains across the wider food basket is symptomatic of the unsettling build-up of underlying inflation pressures in the economy. For instance, the price of tur dal, a key protein source in the diets of vegetarian households, continues to keep rising; it had climbed 7.8% monthon-month to 130.75 a kilogram on June 29, as per the government's data. Official retail inflation data for May, released earlier this month, had shown that prices of pulses, which includes tur dal, had quickened by 128 basis points year-onyear to a 31-month high of 6.56%. The government's imposition of stock limits on urad and tur on June 2 seems to have so far done little to cool price gains in lentils.

To be sure there is a seasonality component to the prices of farm produce and their supply is largely determined by factors including timing of the harvest and the prices prevailing at the mandis when the farmers transport their crop to the markets. Just last month, tomato growers in rural Maharashtra had dumped sizeable quantities of their produce on the roads after being offered unremunerative prices. However, prices of several of these food items, including tomatoes, are still substantially higher than even the same time last year with the modal daily weighted average arrival prices at the mandis as per the government's agmarket website revealing tomato prices almost tripled year-on-year to 5,579 a quintal as on June 29. The same arrival price data show a 35% jump in tur dal and a 19% increase in common paddy (rice). With the monsoon rains 13% in deficit so far this year, and the outlook for spatial and temporal distribution in the coming months clouded with uncertainty by the El Niño, there is a real risk that food prices could cause retail inflation to accelerate again. Policymakers need to walk the talk and retain laser focus on taming inflation. After all as the Reserve Bank of India's economists noted in the latest bulletin, "the path to high but sustainable inclusive growth has to be paved by price stability".

The Hindu

# Why We Need to Refocus Human **Wisdom Towards Sustainable Choices**

he Holy Quran says that human beings are special, we can recognise, comprehend and identify things. This is the reason we are known as the Noblest of all the Creatures -Ashraf ul Makhlooqat.

Humans used this wisdom and skill to progress. Now, new technologies have been introduced that are beneficial to all but at the same time man has been a cause of exploitation as well. One of the disasters that humans have created is Plastic. In nature, there is no waste that does not decompose but humans created an unnatural thing because of its properties. It used to be called the blessed invention from the 1960s but now it has become a curse for nature and humanity at large

According to a 2019-2020 report by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), which collates data from 60 major cities in India, the country generates around 26,000 tonnes of plastic waste a day out of which 40% plastic gets landfilled and is not recycled at all.



Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Human

**beings** have

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by modifying their

environment to fit

their needs and by

modification, they

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have turned their

carrying out this

shown their

The UN Secretary General António Guterres in his speech during COVID 19 pandemic said that humanity was facing a new war as wildfires, hurricanes and powerful storms have scarred the globe.

Guterres said: "Humanity is waging war on nature. This is suicidal. Nature always strikes back and it is already doing so with growing force and fury. Biodiversity is collapsing. One million species are at risk of extinction. Ecosystems are disappearing before our eyes ... Human activities are at the root of our descent toward chaos. But that means human action can help to

When we compare the ancient way of life in the Stone Age, we see that man has always been after development and improvement. The change of the mode of life can be studied in context with that particular age of man. However, this is not the case with the animals. All animals have followed the same pattern of survival for centuries. The environment may have modelled their pattern of survival but they have never been the masters of the environment. Many animal species have become extinct due to environmental changes

Human beings have shown their capability to survive by modifying their environment to fit their needs and by doing this modification they have turned their own planet into hell. The plastic has entered into our water bodies, mountains and forests and has penetrated as deep as 7 miles deep into oceans. This is not. development but disaster.

Whenever we have to curse or criticise someone for littering, throwing waste at public places or tourist destinations we simply call them "animals" but this is far from true. These creatures are better than us.

We see lots of animals in the mountains like sheep, goats , horses and dogs. Do they throw waste in parks, gardens or streams? Do they make our environment dirty?

Tons of plastic are dumped by human beings on a daily basis in tourist destinations of Kashmir. Infact used diapers are thrown into rivers and streams and the same water is supplied to people downstream.

Some days back I got a call from

Gurwait village in Budgam wherein locals told me that used diapers and sanitary pads are dumped into Shali Ganga stream at Doodh Pathri and same raw water is then supplied to a mega water tank on the way, which is further supplied to villagers of Gurwait. He told me that PHE Jal Shakti employees daily take out diapers from the drinking water sources, especially the small water tanks that have been constructed near the banks of Shali Ganga

The animals at least show tokens of goodness. They are peaceful, self-contained and happy. Animals do not grumble about their lives or have worldly lust.

#### Plastic a disaster for humanity

Man never knew that plastic which he invented 70 to 80 years back would one day affect his own life. This material is deeply intertwined with our modern lives. Plastic exists in nearly every industry, from food to cars to footwear to space equipment but we talk about it as both being incredibly useful and dangerous for species worldwide, as it contributes to plastic waste, plastic pollution, plastic debris, plastic packaging waste, and plastic waste generation.

The plastics industry is notorious for

Extraction of fossil fuels

PREVENT

**PLASTIC** 

**CHOOSE** 

REUSABLE

**POLLUTION** 

- Production of plastics Distribution and use of plas-
- Disposal: recycling, incin-

eration, litter.

Plastic, coming in many shapes and sizes, can end up polluting nearly every corner of our world. It impacts our water bodies, natural ecosystems and atmosphere. As I have explained in this piece and in my previous articles also, the plastic ends up in and around our oceans, which harms marine life, our natural environment, and contributes to ocean pollution. Some part of Plastic waste dumped in Jhelum river in Srinagar reaches Indus river in Pakistan as Jhelum enters into Indus (Sindh) and this waste then enters into Arabian Sea and finally goes into Indian Ocean as well. Have we ever thought about it?

July 3rd is celebrated as International Plastic Bag Free Day. This is a global initiative that aims to eliminate the use of plastic bags. Plastic bags may seem to be a shopping convenience but we can use alternative

Biodiversity is collapsing. One million species are at risk of extinction. Ecosystems are disappearing before our eyes ... Human activities are at the root of our descent toward chaos. But that means human action can help to solve it

being bad for the environment. Plastic can be made in a variety of ways with a variety of materials. These materials can come from natural sources like latex from tree sap, tar, and amber. However, it is much cheaper and easier to make plastic from fossil fuels like crude oil and natural gas, partly because our industrial system

is based on these fuels. Intense heat or pressure is required to shape the plastic into something functional. For example, crude oil is heated in a furnace in the refining process before it is distilled into lighter compounds. Through a process called polymerization, the light compounds are connected into polymers either with the addition of a catalyst or the removal of water. Every part of the "plastics life cycle' is harmful for the environment and creates pollution. That includes:

materials like cotton or jute bags as well. If we spend so much money shopping for ourselves, why can't we buy a dozen cotton or jute bags and keep them handy?

The International Plastic Bag Free day is a unique opportunity to spread the word that a plastic bag free world is very much possible and we can achieve this goal provided we understand the gravity of the problem. Let us start carrying cotton and jute bags with us and get our groceries in these bags like our fathers mothers or grandparents would do

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



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

#### MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GPO, Srinagar-190 001 email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

# s Writing a Fame-Building Tool?

HE past few years have witnessed a huge number of people, pouring from all directions, donning their thinking caps, and putting their thoughts to paper, seemingly trying to bring change in the society and system. It's true writing has the power to act as a catalyst for change. But, before attempting to change anything, there needs to be a lot to be changed.

Coming straight to the point, checking newsfeed on Facebook a

couple of days back, my eyes struck on an article that a young lad had written. It was a nice article, but the distressing part of it was the mentioning of so many things that one had a feeling of the writer praising himself beyond limits. This piece of writing was made to attract the eyes of the people, and not to change anything whatsoever.

"Here I am..." that's what was written at the top of the Facebookpost. Not only this, in the comments' section, 'thanks' 'thanks' followed by love emoticons in torrents as replies to the compliments had one bury head in shame.

There's nothing wrong with emoticons and Facebook-sharing, but when a serious issue is being shared on a social media platform, such acts reveal the other side of the story: showcasing

Put differently, those who are worried about issues work for solving it, their minds most of the time

trying to discover solutions. Writing aside, they work at grassroots, are pure by heart, mind, and actions.

It's high time that we mended ourselves. Nothing is going to change unless our words carry some holiness, unless we care less for ourselves and more for those that we often write about.

Peer Faizan Bashir

# Quran Burning Is it a Hate Crime or Not?

The recent incident of burning a copy of the Holy Quran in Sweden has led to wider questions, whether such an act could be described as Hate Crime or not and what are the limits of Freedom of Expression, apart from why the culprit a Muslim, committed such an act?

Asad Mirza

Salwan Momika, 37, an Iraqi national living in Sweden for the last two years,

burned pages of the Holy Quran outside a Stockholm mosque on Wednesday 27th June, after placing a piece of bacon, considered impure by Muslims, and stomping on it.

Apparently, he had posted a video online earlier, declaring his intention to burn the Holy Quran on the day of Eidal Adha festival, and had even asked for donations and support from his family and friends in the video. Further justifying his act he said that he had received permission from the Stockholm Police to burn a copy of the Holy Quran and as reported by Al Arabiya, he intended to burn another copy of the Holy Quran within 10 days.

After being granted a permit to protest by Swedish police, Salwan stomped on the Islamic holy book and set several pages alight in front of the capital's largest mosque.

Obviously, the act sparked anger across and beyond the Middle East. On its part the United States condemned the incident but added that issuing the permit for the demonstration supported freedom of expression but it was not an endorsement of the action, thus tacitly supporting the Swedish authorities.

Meanwhile, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has stated that the incident was offensive and objectionable, but not illegal. The NATO chief, however, pushed for a deal on Sweden's NATO membership despite the event, adding another dimension to the incident.

Turkey condemned Swedish authorities' decision to approve the Quranburning demonstration, a move that may risk Sweden's bid to join NATO before the bloc's key summit in July. Turkey's foreign minister has termed the protest a "heinous act."

Meanwhile, in its defence the Swedish Police said though it had granted Salwan a permit in line with freespeech protections, but now it has opened an investigation over "agitation against an ethnic group," noting that he



HOWEVER, A MORE IMPORTANT QUESTION here emerges whether this act can be construed as an act of Hate Crime or not? In absence of any universally agreed definition of Hate Crime and Hate Speech, there are opinions on both side of the spectrum."

had performed the burning so close to the mosque.

The police authorisation for the protest came two weeks after a Swedish appeals court rejected the police's decision to deny permits for two demonstrations in Stockholm, which were to include Quran burnings.

Police had at the time cited security concerns, following a burning of the Muslim holy book outside Turkey's embassy in January which led to weeks of protests, calls for a boycott of Swedish goods and further stalled Sweden's NATO membership bid - which is being

blocked by Ankara.

The appeals court however in mid-June ruled that police were wrong to ban such demonstrations, saying the security concerns cited by the police were not sufficient to ban the events.

Apparently Sweden rarely condemns protests and public opinion. And, reportedly, a court there gave permission for Salwan's demonstration on Wednesday. Though the police claim that it refused to authorise the Quran burnings in Stockholm.

On his part, Salwan says his idea was to highlight the importance of freedom

of speech as he was quoted in reports as saying, "This is democracy. It is in danger if they tell us we can't do this."

However, a more important question here emerges whether this act can be construed as an act of Hate Crime or not? In absence of any universally agreed definition of Hate Crime and Hate Speech, there are opinions on both side of the spectrum debating whether or not this act qualifies as a Hate Crime or not.

Salwan, speaking to Swedish newspaper Expressen, denied that his actions constituted a "hate crime" or

"agitation towards any group." "The police have the right to investigate whether the burning is a hate crime. They could be right and they can be wrong," he told the newspaper, adding that it would be up to a court to decide in the end.

Thus, the whole episode leads us to the basic question whether the act was Hate Crime or not. In absence of any universally accepted definition of Hate Crime, and the manner in which crimes against the Muslim community in Europe and elsewhere are not dubbed Hate Crime, there is an urgent need to give a universally accepted definition of a Hate Crime.

Just like condemning Xenophobia in any form or shape, the western world needs to act unitedly against acts or words against the Islamic community. Otherwise the chasm between the western and the eastern world may increase further, and the so-called Islamic countries will continue to express only a muted response to such incidents, keeping their financial interests and ties with west, in mind.

At its level the UN had proclaimed 18 June as the International Day for Countering Hate Speech, building on the UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech launched on 18 June 2019.

But as articulated by the UN Secretary-General António Guterres, at the launch on 18 June, "But we are far from powerless in the face of hate speech. We can and must raise awareness about its dangers, and work to prevent and end it in all its forms." We, by which, I mean the western nations first and other nations too, must act swiftly to put in place a universally accepted definition of Hate Crimes, encompassing all forms of Hate Speech and other acts inimical to the Muslim community, additionally also deciding what are the limits to Freedom of Expression, otherwise incidents like the Sweden one will continue to happen, agonising a vast global

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

-ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

# On Superfluous People

Dean Rickles

s if to purposely provoke like a novel kind of adversary, author Yu-Val Noah Harari has said that "The most important question in 21st-century economics may well be: What should we do with all the superfluous people once we have highly intelligent, non-conscious algorithms that can do almost everything better than humans?" The implication is immediate: if humans aren't economically viable, they are, ipso facto, superfluous. Harari brings two elements into play here: (1) we are homo economicus (and nothing more), (2) algorithms rule. The two are interleaved for Harari: the better the algorithmic performance, the greater the economic value.

economic value.

The idea that this might not be the only way to think about value seems to pass Harari by. We must ask, for example, to what end are we aiming with this improved performance? Who is it for if not humanity? The problem here is not with humans, but with a purely economically driven take on the world. This is, unfortunately, a rather natural consequence of a purely materialist view of the world. It we are nothing but matter in motion, then

Harari's logic is perhaps tenable. If we are simply the proletariat with nothing but our labour to sell, then we are seemingly doomed by Al's impressive advances.

Harari does consider some non-economic values, but finds that humans might well be just as superfluous there:

might well be just as superfluous there:
"Art is often said to provide us with our ultimate (and uniquely human) sanctuary. In a world where computers have replaced doctors, drivers, teachers and even landlords, would everyone become an artist? Yet it is hard to see why artistic creation would be safe from the algorithms. According to the life sciences, art is not the product of some enchanted spirit or metaphysical soul, but rather of organic algorithms recognizing mathematical patterns. If so, there is no reason why nonorganic algorithms couldn't master it."

We see many problems here, which now come from (2): algorithms rule. Oh, Noah.

Oh, Noah.
Firstly, the programs we have thus far are little more than "stochastic parrots". They work from preexisting materials only. They do not create new things—they re-arrange and make guesses from prompts or seeds provided from real human creations. We might get a fugue that

mimics Bach, but we will not get a Bach. The result would be a quick stagnation of looping through the old masters. Here, as Salomon once said, there would be no new thing on the Earth, only here all novelty is but permutation.

Secondly, I know of no life scientist (I know many) that would tread so far as to say art is nothing but "organic algorithms recognizing mathematical patterns"—I'm not sure I've heard a more absurd claim about art. Some art might well be along these lines, but to say art as a whole is of this form bespeaks an impoverished standpoint.

Thirdly, Harari, even here, is focused on the need to produce things in order to have value. It is still an economic criterion, only switched to the production of artistic creations. This is the most worrying element of his viewpoint, which we might laugh off if he did not have such a seemingly influential role in guiding the minds of others of very significant influence on the global stage.

This much would be bad enough, but Harari goes further down the line of what is beginning to look like good old fashioned eugenics:

"In the 21st century, we might witness

the creation of a massive new unworking class: people devoid of any economic, political or even artistic value, who contribute nothing to the prosperity, power and glory of society. This 'useless class' will not merely be unemployed—it will be unemployable"

Oh, Noah. Surely this is where he stops? Surely he could go no lower than this remark, which removes all inherent dignity from human beings, ignoring human emotions, and converting them into human doings or human nothings? Nope, he goes on:

"The crucial problem isn't creating new jobs. The crucial problem is creating new jobs that humans perform better than algorithms."
Oh, Noah!

The crucial problem is recognising the divine in any human. Maybe, who knows, AI systems will pick up some of that divine spark, in which case they will deserve the same kind of respect as humans and other life-forms do. Even if they have very limited consciousness, then they will, in my opinion, still deserve respect as animals and plants do. Part of this respect would

be to not demand that they better be pro-

ducers lest they not be allowed to exist.

This is the road to a dangerous form of eugenics. It is promoting conditional love and respect in an era when the opposite is sorely needed.

sorely needed. But, being more charitable, what can we take away from this? I think it is that it can be useful to view AI as a kind of modern parable designed to show what it is like to have your creations trying to overthrow you through problematic programming and a lack of deeper understanding. This is simply Goethe's poem The Sorcerer's Apprentice, or could be if we continue down Harari's path. If we start to build algorithms that encode Harari's productive definition of value, then we are, indeed, doomed if they get out of our control. If we also communicate this idea of produce or perish to the public, and to future generations, then humanity will collapse. When that happens, the only beings in the cosmos, so far as we know, that are capable of generating meaning will be gone. We must consider what, if anything, will remain of the cosmos at that point. Bits of data only mean what we make them mean.

> The article was originally published by Psychology Today

# **Exposure To Tobacco Smoke Linked With Increase In Heavy Metals In Kids' Saliva**

Press Trust Of India

Exposure to tobacco smoke has been linked with an increase in the presence of nonessential heavy metals such as lead in children's saliva, which could cause biological malfunctioning, leading to health and behavioural problems. Researchers at the

Pennsylvania State University, US, measured cotinine levels, along with metals, in children's saliva. Cotinine, a nicotine metabolite present in children's blood or saliva, is measured to assess their exposure to tobacco smoke, or their environmental tobacco smoke (ETS).

238 (7.5 years of age and under) out of

1,300 children born in 2003 and 2004 and growing up in the rural areas of Pennsylvania and North Carolina in the US, originally recruited for childhood developmental studies, were investigated for this study published in the Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology.

Lead researcher Lisa Gatzke-Kopp and

her team found significant associations between salivary cotinine and salivary levels of essential trace metals such as copper and zinc and of non-essential metals such as lead. Metals such as copper and zinc in trace amounts are necessary for healthy bone development and general metabolism

Children with higher levels of cotinine were also found to have higher levels of heavy metals in their saliva.

"We were surprised by the levels of heavy metals in children at this age," said Gatzke-Kopp, professor of human development and family studies.

# Human Embryo Model Could Help Explain Why Some Pregnancies Fail

Press Trust Of India

model of the human embryo derived from stem cells has been created in the lab, a breakthrough that scientists say could help understand early human development and why and how some pregnancies fail.

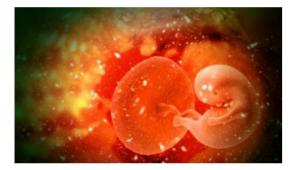
Derived from pluripotent stem cells, or stem cells able to develop into various different cell types, this embryo model is an organised threedimensional structure replicating some of the early human embryonal developmental processes, the research from

sor in the Department of Physiology, Development and Neuroscience at Cambridge, who led the work.

Understanding these early developmental processes holds the potential to reveal some of the causes of human birth defects and diseases, and to develop tests for these in pregnant women, the study said.

Until now, the processes could only be observed in animal models, using cells from zebrafish and mice, for example.

"This exciting development allows us to manipulate genes to understand their developmental roles in a



Cambridge University, UK, said.

Such models, alexperimental lowing modelling of embryonic development during the second week of pregnancy, could also help researchers understand the developmental origins of organs and specialised cells such as sperm and eggs, the study published in the iournal Nature said.

The second week of pregnancy in humans is when the embryo implants into the uterus. However, this is also the time when many pregnancies are lost.

"Our human embryo-like model, created entirely from human stem cells, gives us access to the developing structure at a stage that is normally hidden from us due to the implantation of the tiny embryo into the mother's womb," said Magdalena Zernicka-Goetz, profesmodel system. This will let us test the function of specific factors, which is difficult to do in the natural embryo," said Zernicka-Goetz.

Scientists so far have only been able to study the period of early human development using donated human embryos. This advance could reduce the need for donated human em-

Zernicka-Goetz said the while these models can mimic aspects of the development of human embryos, they cannot and will not develop to the equivalent of postna-

tal stage humans. The new models derived from human stem cells do not have a brain or beating heart, but they include cells that would typically go on to form the embryo, placenta and yolk sac, and develop to form the precursors of germ cells, that will form sperm and eggs.

#### From the office of Advocate Wali Mohammad Shah

In the case of:

Abdul Hamid Malik

PUBLIC AT LARGE In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveators may file any Application, Petition, Appeal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hob'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrpresentation and cooked story and may seed in obtaining some relief/order at their back /in exparte against the caveators and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irreparable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

My name has been wrongly written in my JK bank Account as Parveena while my correct name is Shahida Parveen which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the J&K Bank branch Alamgari Bazaar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Shahida Parveen W/o Shabir Ahmad Dar R/o Shushhal Sar Zadibal

#### Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Agrostologist Kashmir Forest **Department Srinagar**

TENDER NOTICE

e-NIT NO: - 05 of 2023-24 DATED: 28/06/2023

Name of the Work:- Fixing of Barbed wire in 04 strands with wooden fence posts (Robinia) and Pasture and Fodder Development work in Forests by carrying out formation and sowing of superior varieties of grass/legume seeds in patches, Bush clearance, dibbling of H.C.nuts and all other associated operations as per site conditions involving carriage etc.

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible Contractors/Firms register with Union Territory of J&K/Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:

S.NO	PARTICULARS OF WORK	ADV. COST (Rs. In lacs)	Earnest money (Rs. in lakhs)	CLASS OF CONTRACTOR PWD/CPWD/ Forest/ JKFDC/	Cost of Tender Document	TIME OF COMPLETION
1	(A) Fixing of Barbed Wire Fencing in O4 strands with Wooden Fence Posts (Robinia).  (B) 1. Formation and sowing of superior varieties of grass/legume seeds in patches of size 135cmx45cmx15cm along the contours in staggered fashion.  2. Collection of superior variety of grass seeds from nearby Agrostology units for sowing in patches.  3. Bush clearance of site in which sowing operations are to be carried out.  4. Dibbling of H.C. nuts a) Fencing=3300 Rft b) Patch sowing= 11500 No. c) Seed Collection = 34.50 Kg d) Bush Clearance= 01 Ha. e) Dibbing = 3500 No.  Note:  Fence posts, barbed wire and U-nails shall be supplied departmentally.  Area to be treated: 10 Ha.  Location: Comptt.No. Ri-31 Duba Yousmarg. Agrostology Division Kashmir.	3.58	0.0716	"D"	Rs.200/=	190 Calendar Days
2.	(A) Fixing of Barbed Wire Fencing in 04 strands with Wooden Fence Posts (Robinia).  (B) 1. Formation and sowing of superior varieties of grass/legume seeds in patches of size 135cmx45cmx15cm along the contours in staggered fashion.  2. Collection of superior variety of grass seeds from nearby Agrostology units for sowing in patches.  3. Bush clearance of site in which sowing operations are to be carried out.  4. Dibbling of H.C. nuts a) Fencing=3300 Rft b) Patch sowing= 11500 No. c) Seed Collection = 34.50 Kg d) Bush Clearance= 01 Ha. e) Dibbing = 3500 No. Note:  Fence posts, barbed wire and U-nails shall be supplied departmentally. Area to be treated: 10 Ha. Location: Comptt.No. Rb-27 Nagabal	3.58	0.0716	"D"	Rs.200/=	190 Calendar Days
	Kathhalan Shopian. Agrostology Division Kashmir.					

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:- https://jktenders.gov.in

#### osition of AA/TS: (Accorded)

Receiving/ Opening Authority.:Tender Opening Committee

Publishing Date:-	28/06/2023
Download Start Date :	28/06/2023
Bid submission Start Date:	06/07/2023 from 10:00 AM
Bid submission End Date:	19/07/2023 upto 06:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:	20/07/2023 at 2:30 PM In the office of the Agrostologist
	Kashmir Forest Department, at Forest Complex, Sheikh Bagh,
	Srinagar, J&K

- 1. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website: https://iktenders.gov.in
- The date for opening of Technical & Financial bids online shall be opened as per time schedule mentioned above. 3. Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and earnest money in shape of CDR/FDR pledged in fayour of Agrostologist Kashmir Forest Complex at Sheikh Bagh Srinagar. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- 4. The successful bidder shall furnish a performance security in the form of CDR or Bank Guarantee from any scheduled Bank for an amount not less than 3% of the original contract value. No formal allotment orders shall be issued till requisite performance security is submitted. Failure of the successful bidder to furnish the required performance security shall be a ground for the annulment of the award of the contract and his debarme participation in future departmental tendering. Performance security has to be submitted within 07 days of issue of the letter of intent from the competent authority.
- 5. In case the bid of lowest/successful bidder is found unbalanced then he has to produce additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR /Bank Guarantee from scheduled bank valid till completion of work before issuance of contract allotment as per details given below:
  i) Upto and including 15% below rate over advertised cost-Nil
- ii) Greater than 15% up to and including 20% below rate over advertised cost -05% of advertised cost in shape of
- CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee. iii) Greater than 20% upto and including 25% below rate over advertised cost 10% of advertised cost in shape of
- iv) Greater than 25% upto and including 30% below rate over advertised cost 15% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee
- v) Greater than 30% below rate over advertised cost 20% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank
- 6. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website jktenders.gov.in
  To participate in bidding process bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information
- Technology Act Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.

  The bidders have to submit their Technical & financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No
- Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e, CDR, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD duly renewed for the current year 2023-24, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt/Challan
- 11. The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after
- 12. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical
- 13. The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of nformation regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation. 14. The successful bidder have to produce hard copies of original CDR/FDR and Govt. Treasury receipt on next day
- 15. The tender accepting Authority however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any
- 16. If any Tenderer faces any difficulty in uploading the Tender, he can contact the Office of Agrostologist Kashmir Forest Complex, at Sheikh Bagh Srinagar during Office hours as he can be facilitated.
- 17. All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed

No:-Agros/Kmr/2023/E-Nit/188-92

DIPK-4350/23 dated: 03-07-2023

Sd/ologist Kashmi Forest Department.



The Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department **Zonal Office Anantnag** Bakshiabad, Anantnag-192101 email: amid.zoksou@jkbmail.com

#### Sale Notice for Sale of Movable Properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Movable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002read with

proviso to Rule 6(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower that the below described movable property hypothecated/charged to the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd, within its Branch Office Waltengoo Kulgam/Secured Creditor(Hereinafter referred to as the Bank), the physical possession of which has been taken by Mr. Suhaib Abrar Mattoo Designation Chief Manager, being one of the Authorised Officer of the Bank (Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" and "NO COMPLAINT BASIS" on 02-08-2023, for recovery of Rs. 20,71,040.00\_/-(Rupees Twenty Lacs Seventy One Thousand & Forty Only)/- outstanding as on 31.05.2023, along with interest and other charge thereof, due to the Bank(Secured Creditor) from Mr. Javaid Ahmad Bhat son of Mohammad Hussain Bhat Resident of Batingoo Kund (Borrower). The reserve price will be Rs 13,95,000/- (Rupees thirteen Lacs nine five thousand only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 1,39,500/- (Rupees one Lac thirty nine thousand five Hundred Only).

(Description of the movable property intended to be Sold/Auctioned)

TATA Dumper LPK 1618 CRE BS IV Registration no. JK03H-7401 Date of registration 09.07.2019.
STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 6 (2) READ WITH RULE 7 OF THE

SARFAESI ACT, 2002

The borrower(s)/guarantor(s) are hereby notified to pay the outstanding loan amount as mentioned above along with upto date interest and ancillary expenses before the date of e-auction and get the property redeemed, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered from them alongwith interest and costs. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the Bank's website i.e. www.jk-

bank.com or https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net. TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN RESPECT OF AUCTION NOTICE DATED 22-06-2023 IN RESPECT OF TATA Dumper LPK 1618 CRE BS IV Registration no. JK03H-7401 Date of registration 09.07.2019 (Secured Asset) hypothecated to Jammu and Kashmir Bank Branch Waltengoo Kulgam in loan account of Mr.

Javaid Ahmad Bhat son of Mohammad Hussain Bhat Resident of Batingoo Kund (Borrower) 1) The Auction for sale of TATA Dumper LPK 1618 CRE BS IV Registration no. JK03H-7401 Date of registration 09.07.2019 (Secured Asset) is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATSOEVER THERE IS BASIS and NO COMPLAINT BASIS". To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there are no encumbrances on the said Secured Asset, except charge of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd, within its Branch Office Waltengoo Kulgam. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ies put on auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. The bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the description, condition or accuracy of

the details regarding the property/ies given hereinabove. 2) It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The physical inspection of property/ies put on auction will be permitted to interested bidders upto 01-08-2023 & between 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM with prior permission of the Authorised officer. Inspection of the documents relating to the Secured Asset will be permitted to the interested bidders or their authorized representatives at Branch Waltengoo Kulgam of the Jammu and Kashmir Bank (Bank), between 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM up to 01-08-2023. The bid price shall be absolute in terms and should not be linked to any reference. Conditional bids shall be rejected.

3) The interested bidders shall submit their offer through website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net (the user ID and password can be obtained free of cost by registering name with "https://sarfaesi.auctionti-ger.net") through their login ID and Password. The EMD 10% of RESERVE PRICE shall be payable through NEFT/RTGS/DD on or before 01-08-2023 up to 04.00 PM. Please note that Cheques shall not be accepted as EMD amount. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) & other Remittance/s by NEFT/ RTGS shall be made to Account Number 0733070700000003; Account Name: SUNDRY DEPOSITS ACCOUNT, IFSC CODE:

4) After Registration by the bidders in the web-site, the intending purchaser/ bidder is required to get the copies of following documents uploaded in the web-portal before last date of submission of the bid(s) viz. i) Copy of the NEFT/RTGS/ challan. ii) Copy of PAN card/Aadhar Card iii) Proof of identification (KYC) viz. copy of Voter ID Card/Driving License/ Passport etc. iv) Copy of proof of address, v) Duly Filled up & Signed Copy of Annexure II & III attached to the Tender form, without which the bid is liable to be

5) The Interested bidders who require assistance in creating login ID and password, uploading data submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc., may avail online training on E-Auction from M/s e-procurement Technologies Ltd. (Auction Tiger), Ahmadabad: Contact Person; Mr. Ram Sharma ,Mobile No. 9978591888/ 9265562818/ 9265562821/ 9374519754, Contact No. 079-68136837/68136880. E-Mail ID: ramprasad@auctiontiger.net , support@auctiontiger.net during office hours on working days. 6) Only buyers holding valid User ID/Password and confirmed payment of EMD through NEFT/RTGS shall be eligible for participating in the online auction process.

7) The interested bidders who may have submitted their EMD not below the 10% of reserve price through nline mode/DD before 04.00 P.M. of 01-08-2023 shall be eligible for participating in the e-auction. Th e-auction of above property/ies would be conducted exactly on 02.08.2023 from 01.00 P.M to 03.00 P.M by way of inter-se bidding amongst the bidders. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only). In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the e-auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes (subject to unlimited extensions of O5 minutes each). The bidder who submits the highest bid (not below the reserve price) on closure of online auction shall be declared as successful bidder and a communication to that effect will be issued through electronic mode which shall be subject to approval by the Authorized Officer and Secured Creditor.

8) The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price, adjusting the EMD already paid, within next working day of the acceptance of bid price by the Authorized Officer and the balance 75% of the sale price on or before 15th day of the sale or within such extended period as agreed upon in writing by and solely at the discretion of the Authorized Officer. In case of default in payment by the successful bidder, the amount already deposited by the Bidder shall be liable to be forfeited and the property shall be put to re-auction and the defaulting bidder shall have no claim/right in respect of property/amount

9) The prospective qualified bidders may avail online training on e-auction from M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. prior to the date of e-auction. Neither the Authorized Officer/Bank nor M/s. e-procurement technologies Ltdshall be liable for any network problem and the interested bidders to ensure that they are technically well equipped for participating in the e-Auction event.

10) The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/additional stamp duty/transfer charges, fees etc. and also all the statutory/non statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc. owing to anybody. The successful bidder shall have to bear any tax on account of the sale over and above the bid

11) The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest offer and the Authorized Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof. NOC or any requisite document from any concerned authority for registration of Conveyance Deed has to be obtained by the purchaser only. The successful bidder shall be solely responsible for transfer of supra Secured Asset in his/her/their/its name.

12) The bidders are advised to go through the detailed terms and conditions of e-auction available on the website of M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net before submitting their bids and taking part in e-auction.

13) The publication is subject to the force majeure clause.

14) The sale certificate shall be issued after receipt of entire sale consideration and confirmation of sale by secured creditor. The sale certificate shall be issued in the name of the successful bidder. No request for change of name in the sale certificate other than the person who submitted the bid / participated ir the e-Auction will be entertained.

(15) The bid once submitted by the bidder, cannot be cancelled/ withdrawn and the bidder shall be bound to buy the property at the final bid price. The failure on the part of bidder to comply with any of the terms and conditions of e-Auction, mentioned therein will result in forfeiture of the amount paid by the default-(16) Decision of the Authorised Officer regarding declaration of successful bidder shall be final and

binding on all the bidders. The Authorised Officer shall be at liberty to cancel the e-Auction process / tender at any time, before declaring the successful bidder, without assigning any reason. The conditional bids may be treated as invalid. Please note that after submission of the bid/s, no correspondence regarding any change in the bid shall be entertained. The payment of all statutory / non- statutory dues, taxes, rates, assessments, charges, fees etc., owing to anybody shall be the sole responsibility of successful bidder only. In case of any dispute arises as to the validity of the bid (s), amount of bid, EMD once to the eligibility of the bidder, authority of the person representing the bidder, interpretation and the decision of the Authorised Officer shall be final in such an eventuality, the Bank shall in its sole discretion be entitled to call off the sale and put the property to sale once again on any date and at such time as may be decided by the Bank. For any kind of dispute, bidders are required to contact the concerned authorised officer of the concerned bank branch only.

(17) Special Instructions, Bidding in the last moment should be avoided in the bidders own interest Neither The Jammu & Kashmir Ltd. nor Service provider will be responsible for any lapse/failure (Internet failure/power failure etc.). In order to ward-off such contingent situations bidders are requested to make all necessary arrangements / alternatives such as power supply back-up etc, so that they are able to circumvent such situation & are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Date: 22-06-2023 Place: Anantnag

**AUTHORIZED OFFICER** 

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

DIPK-NB-1606/23 Dated: 03-07-2023

## **Kashmiri Women Entrepreneurs Raise ₹75 Lakhs Funding From** The India Network At JKEDI **Startup Event**



**Observer News Service** 

SRINAGAR: Two talented women entrepreneurs, Nuzhat Qazi and Insha Mir, have secured funding of Rs. 50 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs, respectively, through the Jammu and Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (JKEDI) and Startup India.

This milestone serves as a testament to the exceptional potential and entrepreneurial spirit of women in the region.

The "Women for Startups" workshop held under the overall leadership of Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce, J&K on 19th and 20th of June in collaboration with Startup India, DPIIT, Government of India witnessed a vibrant atmosphere, with a display of tremendous energy and passion from aspiring women entrepreneurs and startups.

Ajaz Ahmad Bhat, Director JKEDI, shared his heartfelt enthusiasm for the extraordinary accomplishments of Nuzhat Qazi and Insha Mir. "We take immense pride in their exceptional achievements, which not only highlight their unwavering dedication and innovative ideas but also serve as a tremendous

source of inspiration for aspiring entrepreneurs in Jammu and Kashmir," he expressed.

He also acknowledged the significant impact their success will have on motivating and empowering future entrepreneurs within the region."These achievements reinforce our belief in the untapped potential and talent that exists within J&K. JKEDI will continue to provide a conducive environment and resources to empower more aspiring entrepreneurs and drive economic growth in the UT," he added.

Ashtha Grover, Head Startup India also interacted with the aspiring women entrepreneurs. "The Women for Startups workshops have so far been conducted across 16 states and 18 districts across the country. We are delighted to have received such a tremendous response from Jammu and Kashmir. On behalf of Startup India, I express our gratitude to the JKEDI team for their support in making the initiative a resounding success and wish the entrepreneurs the very best in their journey ahead. We are committed to cultivating an inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem that empowers women,"

#### **GST WEEK CELEBRATIONS**

### **State Taxes Deptt J&K Organises Interaction With Stakeholders**



**Observer News Service** 

**SRINAGAR:** As part of ongoing GST Week celebrations, the State Taxes Department Monday organized an interaction session with various stakeholders at Excise and Taxation Complex Solina.

session w over by Additional Commissioner State Taxes Kashmir, Shakeel Maqbool.

DC Enforcement (Central) Parveez Raina, DC IT, Analytics & Economic Intelligence, Farooq Ahmad Baba, DC Appeals I & II, Assistant Commissioners, State Taxes Officers, Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and other officials of the department attended the session.

The stakeholders were represented by various trade and manufacturing associations like Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation, Kashmir Economic Alliance, Joint Traders Association. Kashmir Economic Forum. PHD Chamber of Commerce and

Industry, Shehr-e-Khas Traders and Manufacturers Coordination Committee and Federation, J&K Economic Federation, KCCI, Kashmir Traders and Manufacturers Federation (Rather Group), Kashmir CPE Chapter of ICAI, Federation Chamber of Industries Kashmir among others.

Commissioner J&K, Dr. Rashmi Singh while presenting the keynote address expressed her gratitude to all the stakeholders present for their contribution in the GST growth story in I&K and for braving all the challenges since the inception of GST in 2017.

She emphasized the need for more collaboration and cooperation between the Department and stakeholders in order to encourage professional and ethical business practices, curb novel tax evasion techniques, ensure better awareness of GST laws, enhance efficiency of the tax system and resolve compliance issues towards overall economic growth.

# **Delhi HC Dismisses PIL Against** Withdrawal Of ₹2000 Notes

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Monday dismissed a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging the RBI's decision to withdraw Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes from circu-

A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Subramonium Prasad, which had reserved its order on the PIL on May 30, rejected the plea.

Petitioner Rajneesh Bhaskar Gupta has contended that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has no power to withdraw Rs 2,000 currency notes from circulation and only the Centre could have taken a decision in this regard.

In his plea, the petitioner submitted that the RBI has independent power to direct the nonissue or discontinuance of issue of banknotes of any denomi-

national values a n d this power is vested only with the Centre under section 24 (2) of the RBI Act, 1934.

Regarding the high court's May 29 judgment on a PIL which had challenged the notifications by the RBI and SBI enabling exchange of Rs 2,000 banknotes without requisition slip and identity proof, the petitioner's counsel had said that was a completely different issue.

The plea was opposed by the RBI which said it was only withdrawing Rs 2,000 notes from circulation which was a currency management exercise and a matter of economic

Earlier, the high court had dismissed the plea by lawyer Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, which claimed notifications by the RBI and SBI enabling exchange of Rs 2,000 banknotes without proof were arbitrary and against the laws enacted to curb corruption, saying it has been done to avoid inconvenience to citizens and the court cannot sit as an appellate authority on a policy decision.

The high court has maintained it cannot be said that the government's de-

nounced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 currency notes from circulation, and said existing notes in circulation can either be deposited in bank accounts or exchanged by September 30. The bank notes in Rs 2,000

denomination will continue to be a legal tender, the RBI said in a statement.

In order to ensure operational convenience and to avoid disruption of regular activities of bank branches, the RBI has said exchange of Rs 2,000 bank notes into bank notes of other denominations can be made up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time at any bank starting from May 23.

In a communication to chief general manager of all its local head of-



abets corruption The instant petition stated that the RBI notification gave no other reason except clean note policy for the big arbitrary decision of withdrawing the Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes from circulation

pected problems of the public at large. On May 19, the RBI had an-

without analysis of the ex-

formed that the facility of exchange of Rs 2,000 notes by public up to a limit of Rs 20,000 at a time will be allowed without obtaining any requisition slip. "Further, no identity proof

is required to be submitted by the tenderer at the time of exchange," the communication dated May 20 said.

# RBI Says 76% Of ₹2,000 Notes Valued At Rs 2.72 Lakh Crore Returned To Banks

**Press Trust Of India** 

**MUMBAI:** As much as 76 per cent of the Rs 2,000 currency notes in circulation have either been deposited or exchanged at banks, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said on Monday and asked the public to turn in the remaining notes before September 30.

In value terms, Rs 2,000 notes in circulation has to Rs 84,000 crore as on June 30 from Rs 3.56 lakh crore on the day of announcement of withdrawal on May 19.

In a statement, RBI said 87 per cent of the notes returned have been deposited in bank accounts by public while the remaining 13 per cent were exchanged by them in other denominations.

The central bank, in a surprise move, on May 19 announced withdrawal of Rs 2.000 notes from circulation but gave public time till Sep-

tember 30 to either deposit such notes in accounts or exchange them at banks.

Unlike the November 2016 shock demonetisation when old Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes were invalidated overnight, the Rs 2,000 notes will continue to be a legal tender till September 30. The total value of Rs

> 2,000 banknotes in circulation, which amounted to Rs .62 lakh crore on March 2023, had declined to Rs 3.56 lakh crore as at the close of business on May 19, 2023.

"According to the received from the banks, the total value of Rs 2,000 bank notes received back from circulation after the announcement on May 19 is Rs 2.72 lakh crore up to June 30, 2023.

Consequently, Rs 2,000 bank notes in circulation as at the close of business on June 30 stood at Rs 0.84 lakh crore. Thus, 76 per cent of the Rs 2,000 bank notes in circulation as on May 19, 2023 have since been returned," the central bank said in a statement.

Further, RBI said that data collected from major banks indicates that out of the total bank notes in Rs 2,000 denomination received back from circulation, about 87 per cent is in the form of deposits and the remaining around 13 per cent has been exchanged into other denomination bank

"Members of the public are requested to utilise the next three months to deposit and/ or exchange the Rs 2,000 bank notes held with them to avoid any rush in the last few days before September 30, 2023, it added.

It may be noted that RBI has not yet clarified what would be the status of Rs 2,000 notes in private hands after September 30.

After announcing demonetisation in 2016, the government had made it an offence to hold the withdrawn Rs 500 and 1,000 notes (beyond a specified limit) after expiry of the deposit deadlines.

## Saudi Arabia And Russia Are **Cutting Oil Supply Again In** Bid To Boost Prices



**Associated Press** 

LONDON: Saudi Arabia and Russia are extending cuts to the amount of oil they pump to the world in a bid to prop up prices, showing how two of the world's largest oil producers are scrambling to boost income from the fossil fuel even as demand has weakened with the

The decision gave a slight boost to oil prices on Monday and comes after the Saudis announced a large cut in output for July at the latest meeting of the OPEC+ coalition of oil producers raising concerns that gasoline prices for US drivers could start ticking up.

The Saudi Energy Ministry said it would extend July's cut of 1 million barrels per day through August to support "the stability and balance of oil markets.'

That will keep the Gulf nation's output at 9 million barrels per day.

Meanwhile, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said his country will cut production by an additional 500,000 barrels a day in August, according to Russian news reports.

The voluntary reductions come on top of earlier cuts that the OPEC oil cartel, led by Saudi Arabia, and allied producers, led by Russia, agreed to extend through next year.

But they have given little lasting boost to oil prices, helping US drivers filling their tanks more affordably during the busy summer travel season and providing consumers worldwide some relief from inflation.

The average price for a gallon of gasoline in the US is less than USD 3.50 this year, down USD 1.30 per gallon from last year after falling another nickel in the past week.

Benchmark US crude picked up 77 cents Monday to USD 71.41 a barrel, while international benchmark Brent crude gained 70 cents to USD 76.11. Both later erased some of those gains.

US crude has been depressed for some time and rose above USD 70 per barrel for the first time in five weeks Friday.

That the Saudis felt another cut was necessary underlines the uncertain outlook for fuel demand in the months ahead even as travel picks up.

## Pak To Become 4th Largest **IMF Borrower After Receiving USD 3 Billion Loan**

**Press Trust Of India** 

ISLAMABAD: Debt-trapped Pakistan will become the fourth largest IMF borrower in the world after receiving a fresh loan of USD 3 billion in the next nine months under the standby arrangement reached with the global lender.

Pakistan, which is facing its worst economic crisis since independence from Britain in 1947, was on March 31, 2023, ranked fifth in the list of countries with the highest horrowing from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), The Express Tribune newspaper reported, citing the global lender's data.

However, Pakistan will move to the fourth place in this list when it receives another USD 3 billion in the next nine months under the Stand-By Arrangement made with the Washington-based global lender on Thursday.

The deal, which still needs to be approved by the IMF'S board, comes after an eightmonth delay.

Earlier, in terms of loans from the IMF, Argentina ranked first with USD 46 billion, Egypt stood in second place with USD 18 billion. Ukraine came

Ecuador took the fourth spot with USD 8.2 billion, and Pakistan was at fifth position with USD 7.4 billion. With loans from the global lender worth USD 10.4 billion,

in third with USD 12.2 billion,

Pakistan will overtake Ecuador to become the world's fourthlargest IMF borrower. Cash-strapped Pakistan faces

an acute balance of payments crisis because of the spillovers from the war in Ukraine and domestic challenges Despite a total of 93 coun-

tries owing it money, the IMF's top 10 debtors, including Pakistan, still account for the lion's share of 71.7 per cent of the outstanding balance of USD Pakistan also holds the "title"

of being the largest IMF borrower in the Asian region, according to the report.

## **ED Questions Anil Ambani In** Fresh FEMA Case

**Press Trust Of India** 

MUMBAI: Reliance ADA Group Chairman Anil Ambani on Monday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) here and recorded his statement in connection with an investigation linked to the alleged contravention of the foreign exchange law, official sources said. The industrialist and his wife Tina Ambani have been summoned again for a similar

round of questioning later this week. Ambani, 64, deposed at the office of the federal agency in south Mumbai, where he arrived at around 10 am and left at 6 pm. Ambani's statement was recorded as part of a fresh case filed under various sections of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), the sources said.

The investigation against the couple pertains to the possession of certain alleged undisclosed assets abroad and linked movement of funds, they said

without elaborating.
Anil Ambani had appeared before the ED in 2020 in a money laundering case against Yes Bank promoter Rana Kapoor and others.

# **Tomato Prices Surge Up To** ₹140/Kg In Delhi-NCR

**Press Trust Of India** 

**NEW DELHI:** Retail tomato prices have surged up to Rs 140 per kg in the Delhi-NCR region due to the supply disruption from the producing centres owing to rains.

Wholesale prices of tomato at Azadpur Mandi here, Asia's largest wholesale fruits and vegetables market, were ruling in the range of Rs 60-120 per kg, depending on the quality on Monday.

Mother Dairy's Safal was selling tomato at Rs 99 per kg on Sunday. Online retailer Otipy was quoting tomato hybrid at Rs 140 per kg and BigBasket Rs 105-110 per kg on Monday.

"The increase in prices of tomato is due to tight supply from the key producing centres. Because of rainfall, the supply is disrupted," Azadpur Tomato Association President Ashok Kaushik told PTI.

The supply from neighbouring Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan got exhausted quickly due to rains. Now, Himachal Pradesh is the sole supplier for the Delhi-NCR region. The hilly state is also receiving heavy rains, impacting picking and transportation, he added.

Traders are unable to get supply from the producing centres of Maharashtra and Karnataka, as prices out there are ruling high due to rains, he noted.

Kaushik said, "A crate of 25 kg is quoted somewhere between Rs 2,400 to 3,000. The rate per kg of tomato at producing centres is Rs 100-120 per kg. Traders cannot afford to bring the commodity to Delhi at such high rates".

Once the rainfall situation improves in southern states in the next 15 days, the supply of tomato is expected to improve in the Delhi-NCR region, he said, adding that till then, the price will remain firm.

Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee (APMC) Azadpur. Tomato prices have shot up not only in Delhi-NCR but also in other

Kaushik is also a member of the

parts of the country.
The government has maintained that the price rise in tomato is a "seasonal" phenomenon. At this time, generally, the prices are high, and they will cool down in the next 15 days.

#### **GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR** OFFICE OF THE SR. AQUACULTURE ENGINEER (XEN) FISHERIES DEPTT SULEIMAN COMPLEX DALGATE SRINAGAR (J&K)

Telephone No 0194-3513051 e-mail:- sraquaengineer@gmail.com

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS** Abbridged E-NIT No 16 OF 2023-24

For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir State, e-tenders are invited by Sr. Aquaculture Engineer (XEN), Fisheries Department J&K Srinagar by e-tendering mode on percentage basis from approved and the eligible registered Contractors registered with J&K Government, CPWD, Railways& other Central/State Governments of the classes mentioned here under in strict accordance with conditions noted below

S No	Name of work	Approx. Cost	Earnest	Class of	Cost of Tender	Time of opening	Time of
3. NO	INAMILE OF WORK	(Rs. in lacs)	Money	Contract	Document	of bid	completion
01	Upgradation of Watcher hut & Inspection Hut at TRU Gatha at TRU Gatha Doda	10.72 lacs	Rs 21440/=	D & C	1000/=	12-07-2023 at 12.00 PM	30 days
02	Completion of Fencing and Allied work at Survey Hut Champa Batote	3.21 lacs	Rs 6420/=	D	300/=	12-07-2023 at 12.00 PM	25 days
03	Upgradation of Office Complex / watch and ward by way of face lifting wood work and change of sanitary items with allied works of public convenience at Aquarium cum Awarness centre at Bahi Fort Jammu	21 97 lars	Rs 43940/=	B & C	1500/=	12-07-2023 at 12.00 PM	60 days

Position of AA= Accorded

Position of Funds = Available

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), set of terms & conditions of

cont	contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from www.jktenders.gov.in under ASH/Director Fisheries						
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	27-06-2023					
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	27-06-2023 from 4.00 pm to 11-07-2023 upto 4:00 pm					
3	Bid submission Start Date	27-06-2023 from 4:00 pm					
4	Bid submission End Date	11-07-2023 upto 4:00 pm					
5	Date & Time of opening Bids (Online)	12-07-2023 at 12:00 pm In the Office of the Sr. Aquaculture Engineer (XEN) Fisheries Deptt Sulei-					
		man Complex Dalgate -Srinagar					

All other terms & conditions shall remain same as per the PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed documents

Camp Clerk No:SAE/D/2023/491-95 Dated:- 27-06-2023

DIPK-4389-23 DT: 03/07/2023 Sr. Aquaculture Engineer (XEN) Fisheries Department Srinagar

# Israel Targets A West Bank Militant Stronghold With Drones And Troops, Killing 8 Palestinians

Jenin (West Bank), Jul 3 (AP) Israel struck targets in a militant stronghold in the occupied West Bank with drones early on Monday and deployed hundreds of troops in the area, in an incursion that resembled the wide-scale military operations carried out during the second Palestinian uprising two decades ago. Palestinian health officials said at least eight Palestinians were killed and dozens wounded.

Troops remained inside the Jenin refugee camp at midday on Monday, pushing ahead with the largest operation in the area during more than a year of fighting.

It came at a time of growing domestic pressure for a tough response to a series of attacks on Israeli settlers, including a shooting attack last month that killed four Israelis.

Black smoke rose from the crowded streets of the camp, exchanges of fire rang out and the buzzing of drones could be heard overhead as the military pressed on.

Residents said electricity was cut off in some parts and military bulldozers plowed through narrow streets, damaging buildings as they cleared the way for Israeli forces. The Palestinians and neighbouring Jordan and Egypt and the 57-nation Organisation of Islamic Cooperation condemned the violence.

Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said the operation was "proceeding as planned", but gave no indication when the incursion would end.

Lt. Col. Richard Hecht, an army spokesman, said a brigade-size force roughly 2,000 soldiers was taking part in the operation, and that military drones had carried out a series of strikes to clear the way for the ground forces.

Although Israel has carried out isolated airstrikes in the West Bank in recent weeks, Hecht said Monday's series of strikes was an escalation unseen since 2006 the end of the Palestinian unrising.

Palestinian uprising.
Smoke billowed from within the crowded camp, with mosque minarets nearby. Ambulances raced toward a hospital where the wounded were brought in on stretchers.

Lynn Hastings, the UN humanitarian coordinator in the Palestinian areas, said on Twitter that she was "alarmed by scale of Israeli forces operation", noting the airstrikes in a densely populated refugee camp. She said the UN was mobilising humanitarian aid.

According to the official Palestinian news agency Wafa, the military blocked roads within the camp, took over houses and buildings and set up snipers on rooftops. The tactics signalled the operation could drag on for some time.

"There are bulldozers destroying the streets, snipers are inside and on roofs of houses, drones are hitting houses and Palestinians are killed in the streets," said Jamal Huweil, a political activist in the camp, predicting the operation would fail

"They can destroy the refugee camp but will fail again because the only solution is the political solution in which a Palestinian state is established and the occupation ends," he said.

the Palestinian Health

Ministry said at least eight Palestinians were killed and 50 people were wounded 10 critically.

In a separate incident, a 21-year-old Palestinian was killed by Israeli fire near the West Bank city of Ramallah, the ministry said.

"Our Palestinian people will not kneel, will not surrender, will not raise the white flag, and will remain steadfast on their land in the face of this brutal aggression," said Palestinian presidential spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh.

The Jenin camp and an adjacent town of the same name have been a flashpoint as Israeli-Palestinian violence escalated since spring 2022.

Israel's foreign minister, Eli Cohen, accused archenemy Iran of being behind the violence by funding Palestinian militant groups.

"Due to the funds they receive from Iran, the Jenin camp has become a centre for terrorist activity," he told foreign journalists, adding that the operation would be conducted in a "targeted manner" to avoid civilian casualties.

Palestinians reject such

Palestinians reject such claims, saying the violence is a natural response to 56 years of occupation since Israel captured the West Bank in the 1967 Mideast war. Jenin has long been a bastion

for armed struggle against Israel and was a major friction point in the last Palestinian uprising. In 2002, days after a Palestinian suicide bombing

during a large Passover gath-

ering killed 30 people, Israeli

troops launched a massive

operation in the Jenin camp. For eight days and nights they fought militants street by street, using armoured bulldozers to destroy rows of homes, many of which had been booby-trapped.

Monday's raid came two weeks after another violent confrontation in Jenin and after the military said a pair of rockets were fired from the area last week. The rockets exploded shortly after launch, causing no damage in Israel, but marked an escalation that has raised concerns in Israel.

But there also may have been political considerations at play. Leading members of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's far-right government, which is dominated by West Bank settlers and their supporters, have been calling for a broader military response to the ongoing violence in the area.

"Proud of our heroes on all fronts and this morning especially of our soldiers operating in Jenin," tweeted National Security Minister Itamar BenGvir, an ultranationalist who recently called for Israel to kill "thousands" of militants if necessary. "Praying for their success."

Israeli military experts said they expected the operation to wrap up quickly within hours or a day or two. Prolongued violence and heavy casualties would risk attracting increased international criticism and drawing militants from the Gaza Strip or even Lebanon into the fighting.

"From the Israeli point of view, the intent and interest are to end this very limited operation ASAP and to make sure it does not become a regional event," said Giora Eiland, a retired Israeli general and former national security adviser.

Islamic Jihad, a militant group with a large presence in Jenin, threatened to launch attacks from its Gaza Strip stronghold if the fighting dragged on.

"If the Israeli aggression against Jenin does not stop, the Palestinian resistance will do what it has to do in a short time," said Dawood Shehab, a spokesman for the group.

More than 130 Palestinians have been killed this year in the West Bank, part of more than a yearlong spike in violence that has seen some of the worst bloodshed in the area in nearly two decades.

The outburst of violence escalated last year after a spate of Palestinian attacks prompted Israel to step up its raids in the West Bank.

Israel says the raids are meant to beat back militants. The Palestinians say such violence is inevitable in the absence of any political process with Israel and increased West Bank settlement construction and violence by extremist settlers.

Israel says most of those killed have been militants, but stone-throwing youths protesting the incursions and people uninvolved in confrontations have also been killed.

Palestinian attacks against Israelis since the start of this year have killed 24 people.

Israel captured the West Bank, east Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip in the 1967 Mideast war. The Palestinians seek those territories for their hoped-for independent state. (AP)

## Delhi LG sacks 400 'specialists' appointed by AAP govt, cites irregularities in recruitment



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

New Delhi: Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena has terminated the services of around 400 'specialists' appointed by the Arvind Kejriwal government in different departments citing alleged irregularities in recruitment, a decision dubbed as "unconstitutional" by the AAP dispensation which plans to challenge it in court.

The terminated persons were engaged in a "non-transparent manner" and without the mandatory approvals of the competent authority. Several of them did not even fulfil the educational and work eligibility criteria as laid down in the advertisements issued for the recruitment on the posts, the LG office said in a statement.

The move triggered a fresh round of confrontation between the ruling party and the lieutenant governor. In a statement, the Aam Aadmi Party said that the LG has no power to take such action and accused him of trying to paralyse the Delhi government.

The LG office said the appointments also did not follow the mandatory reservation policy for SC, ST and OBC candidates

prescribed by the Department of Personnel and Training.

"Delhi LG, VK Saxena has agreed to the proposal of the Services department to immediately terminate the services of about 400 private persons engaged as Fellows/Associate Fellows/Advisors / Dy Advisors/ Specialists/Senior Research Officers/Consultants, etc by Delhi government in its various departments and agencies," the LG office statement said.

The AAP government, however, claimed that due process was followed in the recruitment.

"No principles of natural justice were followed when the LG took this decision. Not even a single show cause notice was issued, no explanation or clarification was sought at any stage. This unconstitutional decision will be challenged before the court of law," it said.

The hired fellows were from top colleges and universities such as IIM Ahmedabad, Delhi School of Economics, NALSAR, JNU, NIT, London School of Economics, Cambridge etc. and were doing excellent work in various departments, it said.

"They were all hired following due process and administrative norms," it claimed.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT **PAGE**

#### **After Its Recent Revival**

facing the wetland. Villagers, especially dairy farmers who entirely depend on the wetland for the fodder for their cattle, said that the wetland is not only a bird sanctuary, but an important resource supporting their livelihoods.

People's Environment Council (PEC), a Srinagar based environmental watchdog has taken a serious note of the situation and has written a letter to the concerned department urging it to get the new trash gate installed as quickly as possible.

"Last week our local partners informed us that the trash gate for stopping solid waste inflow into the wetland that was installed at the spot where water inflows into Hokersar has been damaged and (has) become totally dysfunctional. Attached photographs show the extent of damage, and seem to reflect a tell-tale precursor of, God forbid, another ecological disaster in the making," the letter reads.

"I am sure you share our concern and the need for early action given that Hokersar is of great local, national, and global ecological, cultural and historical importance. As well known to you, this wetland is not only a significant node of the Central Asian Flyway (CAF), but has been declared as a Wildlife Conservation Reserve by the Government of India (GoI) and Ramsar Bureau. GoI has also shown a renewed commitment to wetland protection in its recent official pronouncements," the letter further reads.

Urging the department to act promptly, the department head has been requested for initiating remedial measures urgently, especially the restoration of the trash gate so that solid waste doesn't find its way into the wetland.

Zaffar Mustafa, executive engineer of Flood and Irrigation department told Kashmir Observer that he and his colleagues in the department are trying their best to install the new trash gate as soon as possible. "Hopefully, we will be able to install the gate within the next three days. We couldn't do it so far because the water level is still high," Mustafa said.

Hokersar is a winter migratory route for 68 waterfowl species like large egret, great crested grebe, little cormorant, common shelduck, tufted duck and the endangered white-eyed pochard visiting from Siberia, China, Central Asia, and Northern Europe.

Pertinently, the wetland has only started recovering since November last month after suffering extensive degradation. Started in 2018, a government project to deepen a flood channel through Hokersar had drained out its moisture and had turned almost the entire wetland into a land mass. The dredging was aimed at providing a solution to flooding in Srinagar city.

An important precondition for the dredging was setting up a sluice gate so that the wetland could retain 3-4 feet water throughout the year. But this important precondition was overlooked for four years and the work for sluice gates was started only late last year. Locals say the wetland had dried up so much that they were able to drive mini trucks on it to collect cattle fodder.

The Ramsar convention cautions against the mismanagement of delicate wetland ecosystems, stating that the "wise use of wetlands is the maintenance of their ecological character, achieved through the implementation of ecosystem approaches, within the context of sustainable development."

# tainable development." Crime Branch Raids

been taken on record for examination and further analysis as probable evidence in the cases," the spokesperson said.

He further said that investigation of the cases is progressing satisfactorily and further updates would be shared at an opportune time in the future.

#### **SC Lists Pleas**

People's Union of Civil Liberties (PUCL), a prominent NGO, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court Bar Association, and an intervenor had earlier sought that the matter be referred to a larger bench on grounds that two judgements of the apex court -- Prem Nath Kaul versus Jammu

sus Jammu and Kashmir in 1970 -- which dealt with the issue of Article 370 conflicted with each other and therefore, the current bench of five judges could not hear the issue.

and Kashmir in 1959 and Sampat Prakash ver-

Disagreeing with the petitioners, the top court had ruled in 2020 it was of the opinion that "there is no conflict between the judgements" and the issue will be heard by the five-judge bench.

Faesal, who had floated his political party, the Jammu and Kashmir People's Movement (JKPM), had filed the petition in the top court in 2019.

In April 2022, the government had accepted Faesal's application for withdrawing his resignation from service and reinstated him.

Faesal had in April last year filed an application seeking deletion of his name from the list of seven petitioners who have challenged the scrapping of Article 370 of the Constitution.

Other petitioners in the matter are Javid Ahmad Bhat, Shehla Rashid Shora, Ilyas Laway, Saif Ali Khan and Rohit Sharma and Mohammad Hussain Padder.

Advocate-on-Record Aakarsh Kamra, who has filed the plea on behalf of Faesal and others, said besides the IAS officer, Rashid has also filed an application seeking deletion of her name from the list of petitioners.

#### **J&K Parties**

Former Chief Minister and National Conference vice-president Omar Abdullah said that he is looking forward to the Supreme Court hearings on Article 370.

"Finally the bench is constituted. I look forward to the hearings beginning in right earnest now," Omar tweeted.

Fiching similar views, senior leader of CPI

Echoing similar views, senior leader of CPI (M) and spokesperson of Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami said that August 5 decisions were taken without consent of the people of J&K.

"Welcoming the decision of the constitutional bench, albeit delayed, to hear a clutch of 370 & division of historic state. The move was an assault on the constitutional order & was taken without the consent of the people," he added.

petitions, challenging the abrogation of article

#### **J&K Govt Approves**

move will transform the lives of the poor and landless people in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The rural development department has identified 1.83 lakh families who do not have their own houses. We are working on it. It is a step that will not only provide a house to them but transform their lives," he said.

"With housing needs taken care of, these

families will start thinking of earning a better livelihood and education for their children. This puts them on the path to development," Sinha said.

The LG said the Union Territory administration is duty-bound to provide land to remaining landless families.

"In the last 3-4 years, we have had success in providing social justice to people. There is no contradiction in our interactions and actions," he added.

Sinha refused to give any details of the beneficiaries under the new scheme saying "We do not discriminate on the basis of religion or region. We have provided land to those who were deserving as per the law".

Asked about the government's demolition drive for retrieval of state land earlier this year, Sinha said the administration has "not touched the poor people".

"We have not touched the poor. There were some aberrations but those were also corrected. The poor should have the first right to government resources. The land will be given as per laws. Wherever a sympathetic view is needed, it will be done," he said.

Responding to questions on Amarnath Yatra, Sinha said the annual pilgrimage was progressing smoothly and the pilgrims have given very positive feedback.

"We have above 95 per cent satisfaction feedback from the pilgrims. We are lacking in

traffic management but we have taken steps to improve that as well," he said.

"Efforts are being made to make the yatris aware of the ROP and associated drills. Media is requested to give wide publicity to these advisories," the LG added. (With PTI inputs)

#### 'Foreign Tourist

arrivals in J&K. The number is set to go up further in the coming months," he said.

The LG further said that Srinagar is fast emerging as the hub of international activities. "For the first time, the Indian System of Medicines, Engineer's Association, Chartered Accountant Association and 18 Supreme Court

# judges participated in different meetings in Srinagar recently," he added. **Govt Orders Age**Contribution the Higher Education

contribution, the Higher Education Department said that it will also check the number of publications, books, chapter in books, seminar, conference and workshops attended, MOOCs, development of new syllabus and courses, patents and consultancy assignments, awards and fellowships, positions held etc.

The parameters further include the research contribution of the professor like number of research publications in reputed journals, number of Ph.D candidates enrolled, number of PhD awarded and research projects or research fellowships—(KNO)

# Landslide Disrupts

Deputy Superintendent of Police, Traffic Highway, Ramban, Iftiqar Ahmad said work to clear the affected road in Kunfer is underway and it will be completed in the next few hours.

#### **Policeman Shoots**

extreme step was not known immediately.

### Tanker Falls Into

Thoru Ram of Akhnoor. Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident.





# JD Hanjura Wins Soipathri **Cricket League Tourney**

**BUDGAM:** JD Hanjura lifted the Soipathri Cricket League tournament trophy on Sunday at picturesque Soipathri Sports Ground in Nilnag Chadoora, Budgam.

In total 16 teams participated in Soipathri Cricket League which included JD Hanjura, Sunshine Pethyar, Gogjipathri Star's, UMER XI Lolipora, RCC Hafroo, NCC Buzgoo, Gayle XI Dalipora, Junior XI Nagam, FCC Surasyar, Hafroo Knights, Dragon XI Bonen, Bonen Titan's, SBCC Dadompora, SCC Chaudrigund, Kutbal Knight Riders and Brenjan Express.

The final match was played between ID Hanjura and Sunshine Pethyar.

Sunshine Pethyar won the toss and opted to bat first. They managed to score 156 runs in 20 overs. Gowhar was the top scorer of Sunshine Pethyar and he made crucial 54 runs for his team.

While chasing the target of 156, JD Hanjura completed the target in the 18th over and lifted this trophy for the first time. They won the match by 3 wickets.

Raju, the hard hitting batsman of JC Janjura, scored 73 runs and was not out. Raju was declared as player of the match for his outstanding performance. In the final match he hit 6 sixes and 4 boundaries.

SDM Chadoora P N Hamid, Chairman RTI Movement and Social Activist Dr. Raja Muzaffar, Mushtaq Ahmad social activist, Rayees Wathoori theater artist, Mohammad Shafi and local senior citizens gave away prizes and trophies among the winning and runner up teams.

# J&K Judo Team Leaves For **Cadet National Championship**



**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: A 19-member Judo team comprising eight boys, eight girls, two coaches and one manager left for the national championship scheduled to be held at IIS, Karnataka from 5th to 10th July, 2023.

The Judo team left for national championship in presence of Ashok Singh, Divisional Sports Officer, Suraj Bhan Singh, Manager, Vikas Gupta, Senior Vice-President and Suraj Sharma, General Secretary Judo Association Jammu and Kashmir.

Judokas selected for the national championship include Sumit Lal, Adnan Fayaz Bhat, Atul Sharma, Arihaant Mahajan, Vipul Yashovardhan, M Hadi, Mohsin Hamid Malla, Abdul Hannan Shagoo, Fiza Akhter, Manvi Devi, Adn Arshad, Nandini Chib, Zainab Binti Ajaz, Hidaya Shahid, Anshika Sharma and Tanvi Thakur.

Arshi Nad, Jugal Kishore and Manish Chatwal will accompany the team as Coaches and Manager respectively.

Vice-President J&K Judo Association Abdul Hamid Khan, Joint Secretary J&K Judo Association Gowher Khan, Shafkat Shafi NIS Senior Judo coach and other office bearers of the association congratulated all the players

# **J&K Taekwondo Team For Junior National Flagged Off**



**Observer News Service** 

JAMMU: J&K's Taekwondo team for 40th Junior National Taekwondo Championship 2023 to be held at Karnataka, was on Monday flagged off from Jammu.

Singh (Divisional Sport's Officer, JKSC) presided over the screening of the J&K Junior team at Wushu Hall, MA Stadium Jammu.

Ramesh Chander Sharma (Gen. Secretary, JKTA), Atul Pangotra (Coach, JKSC), Achutam Dev Singh (Outstanding Sports Person), Kushagra Sharma (Outstanding Sports Person) attended the screening of the selected team. Atul Pangotra will take the

overall charge as Chief Coach followed by Burhan Khan and Rajinder Singh as Coaches. Roohi Gupta will be the manager for female team, while as Mukesh Okheda as manager for the male team.

Boys Team: Soham Sharma, Danish Baghat, Akarshi T Sudan, Kashif Iqbal, Azad Ah Beigh, Vishvas Sudan, Musadiq Qayoom, Suryansh Victor Sharma. Aryan Singh Chib, Sharwan Kotwal, Tahir Mushtaq, Moomin Malik and Vishnu Raina.

Female Team: Laxmi Salaria. Khadija UL Qubra, Khalida Jabeen, Radha Sharma, Manpreet Kour, Sania Mumtaz, Madhvi Chib, Supriya Dogra and Bhavya Rajput.

# **ASHES: MCC Suspends Three Members After Incident With Aussies**



**Press Trust of India** 

**LONDON:** The Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) has suspended three members over altercations with the Australian team in Lord's Long Room following Jonny Bairstow's controversial stumping on the final day of the second Ashes Test.

The MCC had earlier "unreservedly apologised" to the Australian team for the behaviour of some of its members. who allegedly verbally abused several visiting players as they made way to the dressing room at lunch on Sunday. Television footage showed

openers Usman Khawaja and David Warner involved in a heated exchange with spectators in the Long Room, which is an area reserved only for MCC members and their guests. Khawaja was pulled back by security guards. Warner was also seen making a comment to some of the members, with security forced to step in.

**Press Trust of India** 

champions India would look to preserve a proud record and

add a ninth title to their shelf

when they face a tough Kuwait

in the SAFF Championship fi-

India were stretched to a

penalty shootout by Lebanon

in the semifinals before win-

ning 4-2, while Kuwait had to

wait till extra time to eke out

a 1-0 victory over Bangladesh.

In fact, this will be the second

time India will face Kuwait

in the tournament. They had

played out a 1-1 draw in an

acrimonious Group A match

India might just appear

to have a slight upper hand

in front of a hugely partisan

home crowd at the Kanteerava

Stadium. But there is a worry-

ing aspect. Will India be able to

give their best in the final after

they were made to toil for two

In the final, India will also

be boosted by the return of

key defender Sandesh Jhin-

gan. He had missed the semi-

final against Lebanon owing to

two accumulated yellow cards

matches in succession?

last week.

nal here on Tuesday

Defending

**BANGALORE:** 

ment. MCC can confirm it has suspended three Members identified from earlier today. They will not be permitted back to Lord's whilst the investigation takes place and were informed of this by MCC Chief Executive, Guy Lavender, this evening," the MCC said in a statement late on Sunday.

The unpleasant exchange came after Bairstow's dismissal, which took place half an hour before lunch. Bairstow had ducked a slow bouncer and immediately left his crease to meet skipper Ben Stokes at the other end, thinking the ball was already "dead".

However, wicketkeeper Alex Carey underarmed the ball into his stumps and the Australians celebrated. Bairstow was given out for 10 after a brief review. While there is no doubt that Bairstow was out under the laws of the game, many including England coach Brendon McCullum and Stokes believe the dismissal was not "Further to the earlier state- in the spirit of the game.

**SAFF Championship: India Eye** 

Ninth Title, Plays Kuwait In Final

against Pakistan and Kuwait.

Anwar Ali had replaced Jhin-

gan in the line-up against Leb-

anon in the semifinals, and he

did an excellent job in thwart-

be absent from the India dug

out in this match as well af-

ter he was slapped with two-

match ban by the SAFF disci-

plinary committee. Stimac had

received his second red card

of the tournament during the

match against Kuwait. Earlier,

he was slapped with a red card

in India's tournament opener

against Pakistan. However, In-

dia, under the talismanic Sunil

Chhetri, had shown a streak of

determination to rise above

Head coach Igor Stimac will

ing Lebanese advances.

After the dismissal, Australian team was booed and jeered with chants of "same old Aussies, always cheating" reverberating at the Lord's.

"We maintain that the behaviour of a small number of Members was completely unacceptable and whilst there was no suggestion by Pat Cummins in the post-match press conference that there was any physical altercation, it remains wholly unacceptable to behave in such a way, which goes against the values of the Club." "MCC condemns the behaviour witnessed and once again we re-iterate our apology to Cricket Australia," the statement read.

Bairstow's dismissal left Stokes as the lone recognised batter. The skipper played a knock for the ages, slamming an anger-fuelled 155 off 214 balls that was laced with nine sixes and as many fours.

However once he was out, England slumped to a 43-run loss. The hosts now trail the

obstacles

After scoring in three suc-

cessive matches in the group

stage, Chhetri was not able to

find the back of the net in the

semifinals against Lebanon. Of

course, he converted a penalty

in the shootout, but the striker

would like to make a heftier

contribution in the summit

India would also hope that

Sahal Abdul Samad, Mahesh

Singh and Udanta Singh will

continue to be energetic on

the field, feeding Chhetri with

those dreaded crosses. But the

Indians know that Kuwait are

a battle-hardened side, and

nothing less than their best

## Inter's Marcelo Brozovic **Moves To Saudi Club Al-Nassr**

Agencies

MILAN: Croatia midfielder Marcelo Brozovic is the latest elite player taking advantage of the Saudi Arabian league's riches by joining Cristiano Ronaldo at Al-Nassr.

The move means Brozovic will go from having played in the Champions League final in his last match with Inter Milan as team captain — to a league that is just starting to emerge on the international stage.

"Everyone wanted him. He wanted only us," Al-Nassr said in a tweet announcing Brozovic's arrival Monday.

Media reports said the transfer fee was 18 million euros (\$20 million) and that Brozovic has agreed to a three-year deal worth more than 25 million euros (nearly \$30 million) per season. Inter could use the money from

the sale to help it re-purchase Romelu Lukaku from Chelsea. Ronaldo joined Al-Nassr in

December with a deal reportedly worth up to \$200 million a year. More recently, Karim Benze-

ma, N'Golo Kante, Ruben Neves, Kalidou Koulibali and Edouard Mendy have also moved to the Saudi Arabian league.

Al-Nassr also announced Nike as its new uniform sponsor for next season, with the club to start wearing the swoosh during a tour of Japan at the end of the month. The 30-year-old Brozovic is a versatile midfielder who spent the last nine seasons at Inter.

## **GERRARD AGREES TO MANAGE**

Saudi Arabia has landed another soccer icon after Liverpool

great Steven Gerrard was hired as manager of Al-Ettifaq on Monday.

The former England captain is the latest star name to be lured to the oil-rich kingdom as it embarks on an ever-expanding recruitment drive.

Gerrard, who has managed Scottish club Rangers and Premier League side Aston Villa since retiring as a player, follows another former Liverpool star, Robbie Fowler, who was hired by Al-Qadisiyah last week.

"Here is the source of the legends," Al-Ettifaq tweeted. "We're thrilled to announce Steven Gerrard is our new head coach."

Gerrard hasn't managed a team since being fired by Villa last season when the club was just one place above the Premier League relegation zone.

Al-Ettifaq, which plays in the lucrative Saudi Pro League, is yet to sign a major player in an offseason. (AP)

# **Newcastle Signs AC Milan Midfielder Sandro Tonali**

**Agencies** 

MANCHESTER: Saudi-backed Newcastle spent big to sign Sandro Tonali from AC Milan on Monday and take the midfielder away from the club he supported as a child.

The Italy international joined for an undisclosed fee and has signed a contract until 2028, the club said. The fee is reportedly up to 60 million pounds (\$76.3 million).

"He is an exceptional talent and has the mentality, physicality and technical attributes to be a great fit for us," Newcastle manager Eddie Howe said. "At 23, Sandro already has important experience as a key player in one of Europe's top leagues and in the Champions League, as well as

"But he also has the opportunity and potential to grow and evolve with us, and I'm excited to add him to our squad as we approach the exciting season

Newcastle is preparing for life back in the Champions League after qualifying for European club soccer's elite competition for first time since 2003 last season.

Tonali was part of Milan's Italian league title-winning team of 2022. The former Brescia player has made 14 appearances for his

"First of all, I want to thank Newcastle United because they are giving me a huge opportunity for my career," Tonali said. I want to repay the trust on the pitch, giving it my all, as I always have. I'm really excited about playing at St. James' Park, I can't wait to feel the warmth of the fans."

Tonali also sent a message to



"I understand that this goodtions and that's normal when you leave behind a big piece of your heart," he wrote. "But it's important to remember that in soccer, as well as in life, changes sometimes result in growth for everyone.

Tonali added that he hopes 'this isn't a goodbye but an 'arrivederci' (see you again)."

Tonali is Newcastle's first major signing this off-season as Howe aims to build a squad capable of competing in the Premier League and Europe.

Newcastle has also been linked with a move for Southampton fullback Tino Livramento and potential loans for midfielders Kalvin Phillips from Manchester City and Conor Gallagher from Chelsea.

Eighteen-year-old Gambia forward Yankuba Minteh has joined from Danish team Odense, but will spend a year on loan at Dutch club Feyenoord. (AP)

# Russians & Belarusians Back At Wimbledon As War In Ukraine Continues

LONDON: When Victoria Azarenka walked into Court 15 on Monday morning for her first Wimbledon match in two years, she was greeted by polite clapping. When the two-time Grand Slam champion from Belarus finished off a threeset victory more than 2 1/2 hours later, Azarenka shook her racket with her right hand and pumped her left fist, then offered a wave to the spectators

who were applauding warmly. Unlike her opponent, Yuan Yue, whose nationality was noted on the scoreboard alongside her name, Azarenka had no country listed there. That's because players from Russia and Belarus are back competing at Wimbledon a year after they were barred by the All England Club because of the invasion of Ukraine - and, in a sort of

half-measure adopted by some other sports, are deemed "neutral" athletes who officially do not represent any nation.

The war that began in February 2022 when Russia invaded Ukraine with help from Belarus continues, but Wimbledon's organizers announced in March they would lift their ban – about which Azarenka said in an interview that, in the big picture, "I'm not sure that it made any difference." While other players have flags to the left of their names on the oversized, manually-operated brackets on the outside wall of Centre Court, the Russians and Belarusians do not. Nor are the countries noted on official schedules or results issued by the All England Club, nor as part of graphics on TV broadcasts of matches. The Club did not allow Wimbledon to be aired on television in Russia or Belarus.



Azarenka and all other entrants from those two countries needed to - and did - sign a declaration agreeing to three stipulations: They wouldn't be representing Russia or Belarus; they wouldn't accept funding from those governments or companies operated by them; they wouldn't express support for the invasion of Ukraine or the leaders of Russia or Belarus.

"It was a difficult decision, as we said when we made it earlier in the year," All England Club CEO Sally Bolton said Monday

about the reversal in policy. "We took a lot of time to

think carefully about the decision we made and the impact that would have in the same way as we did last year. We think it's the right decision for The Championships this year."

Liudmila Samsonova, a Russian who was seeded 15th in the women's field, said after being eliminated by Ana Bogdan of Romania 7-6 (1), 7-6 (4) on Monday: "Last year was tough to accept. But this year, when they said that we were able to play, it was amazing."

If there were questions about how Russians and Belarusians might be received upon their return, the earliest indications on Day 1 were that there was nothing out of the ordinary.

No protests. No boos. No shouts in support of Ukraine or against the returning players. (Russian and Belarusian flags were not allowed to be brought into the tournament grounds.

"Just like I never left, honestly. It feels good to be playing here," Azarenka said after beating Yuan 6-4, 5-7, 6-4. "For me, personally, I experienced very

good treatment. ... Today, to hear people say, Let's go, Vika!' and cheering me on was also why I play, to play in front of the crowd, to put on a good show."

Russians who won Monday included No. 7 seed Andrey Rublev and unseeded Aslan Karatsev among the men, and No. 12 Veronika Kudermetova among the women.

Like Azarenka, they heard standard amounts of backing from folks in the stands, both during the matches and at their conclusions

"The crowd was very good for me. They (showed) support," Kudermetova said after clapping toward the spectators when she finished off her 7-6 (4), 6-4 win against Kaia Kanepi at Court 18. "I think it doesn't matter from which country you are. We are here just (as) a tennis player. We are here to compete and try to show our best." (AP)

# 'Boil in the Bag': UK Introduces Eco-friendly 'Water Cremation'

Agenceis

Co-op Funeralcare Has announced that it will introduce the water cremation practice, called resomation, later this year. The practice consists of the deceased being enclosed in a biodegradable pouch then placed in a container filled with pressurised water and a small amount of potassium hydroxide.

This process then rapidly converts tissue and cells into a watery solution, with one cycle taking approximately four hours to complete. Remaining bones will then be dried and reduced to a white powder, which can be returned to relatives in an urn.

Research suggests that water cremation is a more environmentally sustainable option as it does not release toxic gases, air pollutants or polluting fluids. Cremating a body leads to the release of carbon dioxide and

potentially toxic gases while burials can lead to the risk of groundwater contamination.

Gill Stewart, managing director of Co-op Funeralcare, the UK's largest funeral provider, said: "Up until now choice has been limited to burial or cremation. We've seen from the rapid uptake of newer funeral options such as direct cremation that when choice in the funeral market is broadened, this is only a positive thing both for the bereaved and for those planning ahead for their own farewell."

Co-op funeralcare added pilot locations to be announced later this year with the intention to expand the service to all Co-op clients. It also said it has updated the government on its plans to make the process available in the UK and that questions on new burial methods were raised at the Synod of the Church of England earlier this year.



# Woman Hides Heroin With Rs 14 Crore In Handbag, Buttons Of Dresses And Soaps; Caught At Hyderabad Airport



**Press Trust of India** 

Hyderabad: Over two kilograms of heroin valued at Rs 14.2 crore in the international market was seized from a woman passenger, a national of Republic of Burundi, at the international airport here and she was arrested, Customs officials said on Monday.

Based on passenger profiling, the officers of Hyderabad Customs identified and intercepted the woman passenger from the African nation, aged about 43, who arrived by a flight from Kenya's capital Nairobi here on July 2, they

On examination of the passenger's baggage, it was observed that eight traditional African dresses, one handbag and three soaps contained in the baggage appeared to be heavier than the normal weight, a release from Customs said.

After opening the side walls/ layers of the dresses, handbag and the soaps, black/clear plastic packets concealed in each of the walls/layers of the handbag, buttons of dresses and soaps were found, it said.

Opening of these packets contained brownish-white powder which upon testing appeared to be heroin, the release stated.

A total of 2,027 grams of heroin valued at approximately Rs 14.2 crore in the international market was seized, it said.

The passenger was arrested under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and remanded in judicial custody by a city court. Further investigation was under progress, the release added.

# Twitter Imposes Daily Limits On Reading Posts

Agencei

Twitter owner Elon Musk has limited the amount of tweets that most users can view each day, restrictions he described as an attempt to prevent unauthorized scraping of potentially valuable data from the social media platform. The site is now requiring people to log on to view tweets and profiles- a change in its longtime practice to allow everyone to peruse the chatter on what Musk has frequently touted as the world's digital town square since buying it for \$44 billion last year.

The restrictions could result in users being locked out of Twitter for the day after scrolling through several hundred tweets. Thousands of users complained Saturday of not being able to access the site.

In a Friday tweet, Musk described the new restrictions as a temporary measure that was taken because we were getting data pillaged so much that it was degrading service for normal users!

Musk has pushed back on what he calls misuse of Twitter data to train popular artificial intelligence systems like ChatGPT. They scour reams of information online to generate human-like text, photos, video and other content.

Musk elaborated on the limits Saturday, saying unverified accounts will temporarily be restricted to reading 600 posts per day, while verified accounts will be able to scroll through up to 6,000.

After facing backlash, he tweet

ed that the thresholds would be raised to 800 posts for unverified accounts and 8,000 for verified accounts before later settling on 1,000 and 10,000 tweets, respectively. The crackdown began to have ripple effects, causing more than 7,500 people at one point Saturday to report problems using the social media service, based on complaints registered on Downdetector, a website that tracks online outages.

Although that's a relatively small number of Twitter's more than 200 million worldwide users, the trouble was widespread enough to cause the #TwitterDown hashtag to trend in some parts of the world. The higher threshold allowed on verified accounts is part of an \$8-per-month subscription service that Musk rolled out earlier this year in an effort to boost Twitter revenue. It has fallen sharply since the billionaire Tesla CEO took over the company and laid off roughly three-fourths of the workforce to cut costs and stave off bankruptcy.

Advertisers have since curbed their spending on Twitter, partly because of changes that have allowed more sometimes-hateful and prickly content that offends a wider part of the service's audience.

Musk recently hired longtime NBC Universal executive Linda Yaccarino as Twitter's CEO to try to win back advertisers. An Associated Press inquiry about Saturday's access problems triggered a crude automated reply that Twitter sends to most media queries without addressing the question.

