

## Street Violence Has Fully Ended In J&K: LG Says Assembly Polls 'For EC To Decide'

Press Trust Of India

**Srinagar:** Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said on Sunday that the era of separatist and terror organisations disrupting normal life in the Valley of Pakistan's prodding has been relegated to pages of history, and development and peace is the buzzword here four years after the abrogation of Article 370.

In interaction with a group of journalists, Sinha said it is now entirely up to the Election Commission to take a call on holding assembly elections in the Union territory after the completion of the delimitation exercise and revision of electoral rolls.

"J-K administration will follow what the Election Commission of India decides," he said while noting that over 32,000 elected representatives of various local bodies are very much part of the decision-making process in the UT.

Home Minister Amit Shah had given assurance in Parliament that assembly elections will follow the delimitation exercise



KO Photo | Abid Bhat

and that Jammu and Kashmir will also get its statehood at an appropriate time, he noted.

If those who have served in constitutional positions and have been members of Parliament don't understand the constitutional process, then there is no cure to their problems, he said in an apparent swipe at opposition parties that have been pushing for elections

and the restoration of statehood. To a question about incidents of 'targeted killings', at times aimed at Kashmiri Pandits and migrant workers, Sinha emphasised on the overall decline in such terror attacks.

While people had earlier reconciled themselves to frequent terror incidents, now the expectation is that there should be no such act under

## Kashmir To Kanyakumari Rail By This FY End'

**Jammu and Kashmir** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday said the redevelopment of three railway stations in the region under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme will give a fillip to connectivity and make travel easy for people. "I believe railway connectivity is the lifeline of a society. A railway line not only strengthens connectivity with different regions but it also brings economic prosperity and transforms standard of living and creates a new destiny of the concerned region," Sinha said. Sinha was addressing a function at Budgam Railway Station after Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday laid the foundation stone for the redevelopment of 508 railway stations across the country at a cost of Rs 24,470 crores. **More on P6**

## Searches Intensified In Rajouri

Forces Widen Ops To Neutralise Terrorists

Press Trust Of India

**Jammu:** A massive search operation by security forces to track down terrorists continued for the second day in a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district on Sunday, officials said, as there was no report of fresh firing between the two sides.

A suspected Pakistani terrorist in combat dress was killed in the initial firing during a cordon and search operation at Gundah-Khawwas village of Budhal on Saturday evening, leading to



the recovery of a huge cache of arms and ammunition including an AK assault and two pistols, the officials said. They said the exchange of firing stopped during the day but the search operation was further intensified and

extended to nearby forest and adjoining areas to neutralise the terrorists.

Earlier, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Mukesh Singh and General Officer Commanding **More on P6**

## Terrorist Killed Along LoC In Kupwara: Police

The Army on Sunday foiled an infiltration bid along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, killing one terrorist, police said. According to a police spokesperson, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by the police and Army in the Dakhen-Amrohi area of Tangdhar Sector in Kupwara based on information about possible infiltration attempts. **"During the More on P6**

## Slain Soldier Laid To Rest With Full Military Honors In Bandipora

Agencies

**Srinagar:** With moist eyes Army soldier Waseem Ahmad Bhat who lost his life in the line of duty in an encounter with terrorists was laid to rest in his ancestral graveyard with full military honor in Jammu Kashmir Bandipora district.

31-year-old Waseem, hailing from Dachigam area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district lost his life alongwith two other soldiers while fighting with terrorists in the woods of Halan in south Kashmir's



Kulgam district on Friday. The mortal remains of Waseem were taken to his

native village Dachigam Bandipora from the military base hospital **More on P6**

KO Photo | Abid Bhat

## LG Interacts With Army Officers

**Srinagar:** Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha interacted with the officers of the ongoing Higher Command Course-52 at Raj Bhawan, today.

The Lt Governor addressed the officers and faculty members of Army War College and highlighted the transformation of UT of Jammu Kashmir.

He also shared the policy interventions, institutional reforms new institutional arrangements to address the needs of common man and accelerate industrial and infrastructure development.

Lt Gen DP Pandey, Commandant, **More on P6**







Meri Maati Mera Desh  
09<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> August 2023



## Beginning of an industrial era in J&K - the new age economy

### Highlights

#### Industrialization of J&K

- Land allotted to **1767** units with proposed investment of **Rs.24,729 cr** and employment of **1,09,570** persons
- **127** industrial units commencing production with investment of **Rs. 5951** crores
- Average investment increased by over **9x** from **Rs. 0.24 cr/kanal** in pre 2019 period to **Rs. 2.24/ cr kanal** investment currently
- NCSS launched by GoI with a corpus of **28,400 cr** of incentives for industrial units
- Best incentives across India for industrial units with RoI of **400%** (in P&M)

#### Exports

- **No. 1** UT of India in 2022 export ranking published by NITI Aayog
- **2x** Increase in exports from Rs. 563 cr in 2021-22 to Rs. 1116.37 cr in 2022-23

#### Entrepreneurship

- **No. 1** in India in 2021-22 for establishment of highest number of **21680** manufacturing and service units under the PMEGP programme
- Employment generated for **3,15,227** persons since 2019 under PMEGP

#### Ease of Doing Business

- **175+** services online through JK Single Window Portal.
- Business Reform implementation score (BRAP) increased from 32.76% in 2018 to **78%** in 2022
- First UT to integrate with National Single Window Portal
- J&K likely to be among **Top Achiever** category in 2023

#### Handicraft & MSME sector

- 10 crafts and Agri products GI tagged, 16 more in pipeline
- Over **20,000 Pashmina** products and over **9000 carpets** GI tagged
- **Srinagar** declared as a **UNESCO Creative City** in 2021
- 7000+business leads worth **200+crores** generated in trade fairs & exhibitions

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# Faulty Genes Linked To Obesity In Women, Had No Effect In Men

Press Trust Of India

Faulty variants of three genes have been linked to obesity-related conditions, while having no effect on men, shedding light on new biological pathways underlying obesity, according to a new study.

"There are a million and one reasons why we should be thinking about sex, age, and other specific mechanisms rather than just lumping everyone together and assuming that disease mechanism works the same way for everyone," said senior author John Perry, a geneticist and professor at the University of Cambridge, UK.

The research team sequenced the exome - protein-coding part of the genome - of more than 4,14,000 adults from the UK Biobank study and looked at variants, or mutations, within genes associated with body mass index (BMI) in men and women, respectively. They have published their findings in the journal Cell Genomics.

Defective variants of three genes - DDO1, PTPRG, and SLC12A5 - were linked to higher BMI in women, while having no effect on men.



More than 80 per cent of women with DDO1 and SLC12A5 variants had obesity, their BMI values revealed.

While women carrying DDO1 variants had stronger associations with higher testosterone levels and increased waist-to-hip ratio, both being risk indicators for obesity-related complications like diabetes and heart disease, those with SLC12A5

variants were found to have higher odds of having type 2 diabetes.

Perry and team then repeated the process looking for age-specific factors influencing obesity. They searched for gene variants associated with childhood body size based on participants' recollections.

They identified two genes, OBSCN and MADD, previously not linked

to childhood body size and fat.

While carriers of OBSCN variants had higher odds of having higher weight as a child, MADD variant carriers were associated with smaller body sizes, the researchers said.

Further, the genetic variants acting on MADD were found to have no association with adult obesity risk, highlighting age-specific effects on body size.

"What's quite surprising is that if you look at the function of some of these genes that we identified, several are clearly involved in DNA damage response and cell death," said Perry.

"There's currently no well-understood biological paradigm for how DNA damage response would influence body size. These findings have given us a signpost to suggest variation in this important biological process may play a role in the etiology of obesity," said Perry.

Next, the research team hopes to replicate the study in a larger and more diverse population.

"We hope the study can reveal new biological pathways that may one day pave the way to new drug discovery for obesity," said Perry.

# 'A Mother's Healthy Diet Can Ensure Good Brain Health Of Her Grandchildren, Genetic Model'

Press Trust Of India

Mothers who eat apples and herbs during their early pregnancy could be protecting the brain health of their children and grandchildren, a Monash University study using genetic models has found.

The discovery is part of a project that found a mother's diet can affect not just her child's brain but also those of her grandchildren.

Published in Nature Cell Biology, the Monash Biomedicine Discovery Institute study found that certain foods could help prevent the deterioration of brain function.

This study used roundworms (Caenorhabditis elegans) as the genetic model because many of their genes are also found in humans, allowing insights into human cells.

The researchers found that a certain molecule present in apples and herbs such as basil, rosemary, thyme, oregano, and sage helped in reducing the breakdown of communication cables needed for the brain to work properly.

Senior professor Roger Pocock, with his team, investigated nerve cells in the brain that connect with each other through about 8,50,000 kilometres of cables called axons. For axons to function and survive, essential materials need to be transported along an internal structure that contains microtubules.

Pocock explained that a malfunction that caused the axons to become fragile can lead to brain dysfunction and neurodegeneration.

He said his team used a genetic model with fragile axons that break as animals age. "We tried to find whether natural products found in the diet can stabilise

these axons and prevent breakage," he explained.

"We identified a molecule found in apples and herbs that reduces axon fragility -- ursolic acid. How? We found that ursolic acid causes a gene to turn on that makes a specific type of fat. This particular fat also prevented axon fragility as animals age by improving axon transport and therefore its overall health."

Pocock said this type of fat, known as a sphingolipid, had to travel from the mother's intestine, where food is digested, to eggs in the uterus for it to protect axons in



the next generation. He said while the results were promising, they still need to be confirmed in humans.

"This is the first time that a lipid/fat has been shown to be inherited," he said. "Further, feeding the mother the sphingolipid protects the axons of two subsequent generations. This means a mother's diet can affect not just their offspring's brain but potentially subsequent generations. Our work supports a healthy diet during pregnancy for optimal brain development and health," Pocock said.

Read the full paper published in Nature Cell Biology, titled 'An Intestinal Sphingolipid Confers Intergenerational Neuroprotection'.

# Study Gives New Insight Into Cause Of Inner-Ear Bone Loss

ANI

A person's hearing and balance may be impacted by a number of issues and difficulties brought on by persistent middle ear inflammation.

A common issue is the development of cholesteatomas, which are aberrant ear collections of cells that, if addressed, can lead to bone erosion. Consequently, this may result in symptoms including vertigo, facial paralysis, hearing loss, and even brain infection.

In a study published recently in Nature Communications, researchers from Osaka University have revealed the cause of cholesteatomas, which may help in developing new therapies for pa-

tients who are suffering from this disease.

Cholesteatomas are made up of cysts or bumps in the ear that consist of skin, collagen fibers, skin cells, fibroblasts, keratin, and dead tissue. There are many theories on how these cholesteatomas can cause bone erosion, including the activation of cells responsible for the breakdown of the minerals and matrix of the bone, the presence of inflammatory markers and enzymes, and the accumulation and pressure from dead cells and tissues in the ear; however, the exact mechanism for the creation of cholesteatomas remains unknown.

A cholesteatoma can still return or happen again even after its surgical removal, so it is important to know what is actually causing, says

lead author Kotaro Shimizu.

To investigate this, researchers looked at human cholesteatoma tissues that were surgically removed from patients. A process called single-cell RNA sequencing analysis was employed to identify cells responsible for triggering bone erosion; these were called osteoclastogenic fibroblasts. This study demonstrated how these fibroblasts expressed an abundant amount of activin A, a molecule that regulates different physiologic functions of the body. The presence of activin A is said to cause bone erosion through a process in which specialized cells initiate bone resorption through a process wherein the minerals and matrix of the bones are broken down and absorbed by the body.

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## 2 Houses, Mosque Guttled In Kani Kadal Blaze

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two residential houses and a mosque suffered damage in a fire incident that broke out in Gurubazar area of Kani Kadal in the old city on Sunday, officials said.

Officials said that two residential houses belonging to Nowshad Hussain Bhat and Muzaffar Hussain Bhat and Fatima-ul-Zehra Masjid were damaged in a fire in-

cident in Gurubazar Kani Kadal this afternoon.

They said that timely action by firefighters along with police and locals doused off the flames to avoid any further damages, adding no loss of life or injury was reported to any in the incident.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident, and cause of fire could not be immediately known.

## DIG CKR Reviews Security; Discusses UAPA, NDPS Cases Ahead Of I-Day

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Central Kashmir Range, Sujit Singh chaired a high level meeting to take stock of cases under Unlawful Activities Prevention Act and NDPS act in District Police Office Srinagar.

Superintendent of Police North Raja Zuhair, Superintendent of Police (SP) Hazratbal Mashkoor Ahmad, Superintendent of Police West, Amit Verma, all SDPOs of district police Srinagar, Incharge Pairvi Cell Central Kashmir Range.

The DIG on the occasion, took stock of the



The meeting was attended by Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar Rakesh Balwal, Superintendent of Police South Gaurav Sirwarkar, Superintendent of Police East Shree Ram, SO to DIG Sajad Bhat,

progress of the cases registered under these Acts. He issued on the spot directions regarding ensuring the quality of investigation and for ensuring that the cases are rigorously followed at the trial level.

## Pedestrian Dies In Accident On M.A Road

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A pedestrian lost his life in a tragic road accident at Maulana Azad Road here Sunday, officials said.

Officials said that a pedestrian, who has been identified as Ghulam Ahmad Ganaie, a resident of Tangmarg village in north Kashmir's Baramulla district,

was critically injured after being hit by a Honda city vehicle on M.A Road near Mechanized Car Parking this afternoon.

They said the injured was immediately rushed to SMHS hospital for treatment. However, he was declared dead on arrival. Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident and set the investigation into motion.



A young boy rolls a gas cylinder over a wooden walkway in Dal interiors in Srinagar. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Brother Stabs Brother Over Property Dispute In Srinagar

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Police have arrested a man for stabbing and grievously injuring his brother following some property dispute at Lal Bazar area in Srinagar on Sunday.

Officials said one Bilal Ahmad Geelani son of Noor Mohammad Geelani was stabbed by his brother with some sharp object following some property dispute. They said the injured was shifted to the hospital for treatment where his condition is stated to be critical.

A police team from the concerned police station upon receiving information about the incident immediately rushed to the spot and arrested the accused. Officials attributed the incident as the outcome of a property dispute between the siblings.

The accused, presently lodged at Nowhatta police station has been identified as Hilal Ahmad Geelani son of Noor Mohammad Geelani.

A formal case FIR No. 29 of 2023 under sections 307, 326, 341 of Indian Penal Code (IPC) has been

registered at the concerned police station and investigation taken up.

Confirming the incident, Srinagar police in a tweet said "Accused namely Hilal Ahmad Geelani S/o Noor Mohammad Geelani R/o Lal Bazar, Srinagar arrested for stabbing his brother Bilal Ahmad Geelani with sharp edged object. The brothers have a familial property dispute. Victim is grievously injured and shifted to hospital. FIR no 29/2023 u/s 307, 326, 341 of IPC registered in Nowhatta police station"

## Teenager Drowns To Death In Dal Lake

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A teenage boy drowned to death in Dal Lake here on Sunday, officials said.

They said that a teenage boy

identified as Wahid Fayaz, a resident of Bemina, drowned in Dal Lake while he was having a bath.

They said his body was retrieved by locals along with the help of River Police Srinagar from

Dal Lake near Ghat no. 16.

The body will be handed over to family after completing medico-legal formalities, they said. Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident.



### WHY TO USE CRITICAL CARE AMBULANCE

#### Early Intervention

- Critical care ambulances are equipped with advanced medical equipment and trained medical professionals who can provide early intervention to patients during transit. This early intervention can help to stabilize patients and prevent their condition from deteriorating, thereby reducing the risk of mortality and morbidity.

#### Timely Transportation

- Critical care ambulances can transport patients to hospitals more quickly and safely than private transport, reducing the time between the onset of the medical emergency and the start of treatment. This can be critical in cases of heart attacks, strokes, or traumatic injuries, where every minute counts.

#### Reduced Complications

- Patients who receive critical care ambulance services are less likely to experience complications during transit or upon arrival at the hospital. This can result in shorter hospital stays, reduced healthcare costs, and improved patient outcomes.

#### Better Coordination

- Critical care ambulance services often work closely with local hospitals and emergency medical services (EMS) to ensure that patients receive the appropriate care and treatment. This coordination can help to reduce the risk of medical errors and ensure that patients receive the best possible care.

#### Improved Accessibility:

Critical care ambulance services can help to improve the accessibility of healthcare services in remote or underserved areas. This can help to reduce health disparities and improve the overall health of the population.



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- Mughal Road - (Open)
- Srinagar-Leh - (Open)

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FAJR	4 :12
ZUHR	12:37
ASR	5: 28
Magrib	7:30
ISHA	9: 01

### This Day In History

- 626 - Battle at Constantinople: Slavic/Persians/Avarevlood defeated
- 936 - Otto I the Great becomes King of Germany
- 1420- Construction begins on the dome of Florence Cathedral, designed by Renaissance architect Filippo Brunelleschi
- 1479- Battle of Guinegate: Emperor Maximilian I vs King Louis XI
- 1575- Spanish troops conquer Oudewater, almost all inhabitants died
- 1606- Possible first performance of Shakespeare's tragedy Macbeth, performed in the Great Hall at Hampton Court Palace for King James I
- 1620- Battle at Ponts-the-Ce, Poitou: French king Louis XIII defeats his mother Marie de Medici
- 1714- The Battle of Gangut: the first important victory of the Russian Navy during the Great Northern War against Sweden
- 1782- Commander of the Continental Army, George Washington, creates two Honorary Badges of Distinction and a Badge of Military Merit (now the Purple Heart). First time military awards are presented to common soldiers.
- 1789- US Congress creates the Department of War and the United States Lighthouse Establishment
- 1802- Napoleon orders re-instatement of slavery on St Domingue (Haiti)
- 1819- Battle of Boyacá; Bolívar defeats Spanish in Colombia
- 1864- Battle of Moorefield, West Virginia
- 1882- Hatfields of south West Virginia and McCoys of east Kentucky feud, 100 wounded or die
- 1884- Germany annexes Angra Pequena / German South West-Africa (modern Namibia)
- 1885- Five German warships anchor off Zanzibar
- 1904- Train derailed on bridge in Eden, Colorado, during a flash flood, kills 96
- 1908- The first train to travel the length of New Zealand's North Island 'main trunk line', leaves Wellington
- 1912- Progressive (Bull Moose) Party nominates Theodore Roosevelt for US President
- 1914 - Russia invades East Prussia
- 1925 - League of Nation advises against Turk/Iraqi division of Mosulgebied
- 1927 - Peace Bridge between US and Canada dedicated
- 1933 - The Iraqi Government slaughters over 3,000 Assyrians in the village of Sumail. The day becomes known as Assyrian Martyrs Day.
- 1944 - US 3rd Army reaches suburbs of Brest, Brittany
- 1944 - IBM dedicates the first program-controlled calculator, the Automatic Sequence Controlled Calculator (known best as the Harvard Mark I)
- 1956 - British government sends 3 aircraft carriers to Egypt
- 1956 - Dynamite transport explodes in Colombia; about 1200 die
- 1956 - 51-year-old Satchel Paige (Miami Marlins) wins a game before the largest crowd in minor league history, 57,000 at Miami's Orange Bowl; International League: Marlins 6-2 v Columbus Jets
- 1959 - Explorer 6 transmits 1st TV photo of Earth from space
- 1961 - Cosmonaut Gherman Titov circles Earth for a full day in Vostok 2
- 1961 - Soviet premier Khrushchev predicts USSR economy will surpass US
- 1962 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalinsk USSR
- 1964 - Turkey begins air attack on Greek Cypriots
- 1965 - Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore signs a separation agreement with Malaysia, after 2 years of political union

**انجمن بہت چاہاں**  
عنوان :- درخواست اجرائی لیکن ہیر سرٹیکٹ۔ بچہ وارثان جائزہ بیوقوف شدہ والد کو نظام رسول شاہ ساکنہ پوچھو تحصیل پن

**اشہار ہر صالح و عام**  
معاظمدینہ عنوان الصدور مسائل نے ایک درخواست بڑھ حصول لیکن ہیر سرٹیکٹ پیش کی ہے جو کہ بڑھ کر روٹی ہے اس بارے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے سال کا والد کو 08-03-2023 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے متوفی کسمر کی کفالت خود کرتا تھا اور محض لیر جموں و کشمیر بلڈنگ دفتر میں مزدور تھا متوفی کے بہنہ گار بنیل ہے

عبدالقیوم شاہ 32 سال مزدوری پڑھتی  
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ایجاز احمد شاہ 26 سال  
شارہ بیگم 57 سال گھریلا کام زبید متوفی

اس کے علاوہ کوئی اور کوئی نہیں ہے سرٹیکٹ ذریعہ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کس کوئی شخص کو کوئی غریب یا محتاج ہو تو وہ مستحق اجراء ہے کہ اندر اندر آئے پٹواری حلقہ سے درخواستیں جمع کروائیں اور ان کے درمیان میں کوئی غریب یا محتاج نہ ہو۔

فکو نامی محمد عبدالرشید

**اقبال مرزا**  
یہ انجمنی ذمہ کے ساتھ رہتی ہیں یہ کسمر کے تھیل ملد مرحوم ہمارے ساتھی صوفی ساکن تھیل ملد مرحوم ہمارے ساتھی 06 مارچ 2023ء بروز اتوار شام 6 بجے طویل علالت کے بعد دارفانی سے رحلت کر گئے۔ ان کے خاندان و اقارب و اولاد کے ساتھ تعزیت و عزیمت کے لیے ہر ایک کو اپنا حصہ ڈالنے کی گزارش ہے۔

اس سلسلے میں مرحوم کی انجمنی ذمہ داری کے تحت 08 مارچ 2023ء بروز منگل بوقت 10 بجے ان کے آبی مقبرہ واقع شری جنت نزدیکی ہزار پتہ کھنڈری سکول میں انجمنی ذمہ داری کے تحت تعزیت کے ارادے کی دعوت ہے۔

محمد یونس، محمد امجد، محمد امجد، محمد امجد  
فون: 7006997561, 6005189227  
(ذمت مستورات کے ارادے کی دعوت ہے کہ وہ کسی گھریلا کو دعوت دے کر شری جنت ہزار پتہ کھنڈری سکول میں انجمنی ذمہ داری کے تحت تعزیت کے ارادے کی دعوت دے۔)

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Twitter Talks



"RBI raising repo rate by 50 bps is good move. But with wholesale price inflation 15.18% & consumer inflation 7.01% small businesses in India are making losses & closing. This may be good for big businesses but not good for the nation. We need fiscal policy to correct this"

@kaushikcbasu

"A man asked a Muslim man: Why do your women cover their bodies and their hair? The muslim man smiled and took two pieces of candy out form his pocket. He opened one and ate it quickly, then he opened and ate the other one. "I love candy" he said"

@btwitsmir

ADVENTURES IN ARCHIVES

## The globe is shifting towards superheated climate

James Hansen, the visionary scientist who famously warned the US Congress about global warming in 1988, has recently given a candid and urgent interview to The Guardian.

In his alarming statements, he paints a grim picture of our planet hurtling towards a superheated climate unseen for a million years. Frustrated by the lack of action taken to address the climate crisis, Hansen didn't mince words, referring to humanity as "we damned fools" for ignoring the impending catastrophe. The gravity of his warning is further corroborated by the latest data from NOAA's Global Monitoring Laboratory, revealing that the global average carbon dioxide concentration in May 2022 reached 421 ppm. This is the highest level observed since the mid-Pliocene, a staggering 2 to 4 million years ago.

The concentration has surged by 50% since the Industrial Revolution, when it hovered around 280 ppm. Unsurprisingly, the primary culprits responsible for this surge are the burning of fossil fuels and land use changes.

Efforts to transition towards renewable electricity aim to curb carbon emissions, but experts question whether they will be sufficient. The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that from 2021 to 2026, the world will add 305GW of renewable electricity capacity annually.

This increase could potentially save about 683 million tons of carbon emissions each year, assuming that renewable energy maintains a 30% capacity factor, typical for wind and solar power.

### Total energy consumption

However, this progress could be overshadowed by the rising carbon emissions from wildfires, a consequence of worsening climate conditions. While measuring wildfires' carbon emissions proves challenging, they can release millions of tons of carbon in a single season.

Disturbingly, Canada's 2023 wildfire season alone emitted an estimated 12 gigatons of carbon, negating almost a year's worth of carbon savings from renewable electricity.

To assess the progress of renewable energy, it's essential to evaluate both its generation and output. Generation refers to the total electricity produced from renewable sources, while output pertains to the portion of renewable electricity in the overall electricity mix, including fossil fuels and nuclear power.

According to the IEA projections, renewable electricity generation is projected to grow by a commendable 60% from 2021 to 2026, reaching over 10,000 TWh per year. Nonetheless, the output of renewable electricity is expected to increase only from 29% in 2020 to 34% in 2026, as fossil fuels and nuclear power will continue to dominate the energy mix.

However, it's crucial to remember that electricity constitutes only a fraction of total energy consumption, which also encompasses transportation, heating and cooling, and industrial uses.

Calculating the ratio of electricity generated to total energy produced depends on the method used — either the direct method or the substitution method. The direct method accounts for primary energy sources without correcting for the inefficiencies in converting fossil fuels and biomass.

In contrast, the substitution method adjusts for these inefficiencies by converting nuclear and modern renewable sources to their equivalent amount of primary energy if derived from fossil fuels.

Using the direct method, the global ratio of electricity generated to total energy produced was 18.4% in 2019, rising to 22.8% when using the substitution method. This indicates that electricity accounts for less than a quarter of the world's total energy production.

Shockingly, the latest data reveals that global energy demand stands at approximately 418 exajoules, with a mere 60 exajoules sourced from renewables.

What's even more disconcerting is that the growth of renewables in the past decade has been a paltry 3%, woefully inadequate to meet the escalating energy needs, which have surged by more than 18% in the same period.

To tackle the ominous threat of greenhouse gases, the world requires far more than empty promises; concrete actions are urgently needed.

Gulf News

# Is the "Moral Fabric" of Kashmir Really in Danger?

As against the common perception of moral deflection and corruption, a deeper analysis reveals that we are on the path of enlightenment and progress

Amir Suhail Wani

Time and again we have been told that our generation is on the verge of a moral and ethical catastrophe. An Edenic picture of the past is presented before us where virtue is shown permeating the society and piety defining individual lives. Is this a truer picture of reality or does it merely reflect our nostalgia rooted in the idealisation of the past? Have we really turned into "lesser" humans in comparison with our ancestors? Are we walking on the ramp of a descending moral slope just to discover ourselves at the bottom of the pit?

I plead that this is not the case. As against the common perception of moral deflection and corruption, a deeper analysis reveals that we are on the path of enlightenment and progress.

Let's start our case from the larger context of humanity taken in its global whole till we finally zoom into our locale and indigenous society. There can be innumerable points of comparison but let's start with the human tendency for war and violence and the evolution of war ethics across ages. We tend to imagine our ancestors as peace loving or at least less violent than we ourselves are. But this is simply to gloss over the fact that the ancient world has seen much more destruction and devastation than the cumulative destruction of all modern wars. We only need to take a cursory look at the regimes of Nebuchadnezzar, the much celebrated pacifist Ashoka, Caligula, Ivan the Terrible and others. Any of them and their war histories, their tryst with violence will make Hitler seem a mediocre or pygmy in comparative ability to cause violence. And do we lament the rape and loot that accompanied the partition of subcontinent in 1947? We direct serious readers to any standard text on Indian and global history to discover for themselves the difference between the savages that we were and the humans that we are.

Well, the world is too large and history too vast, so we better focus on Kashmir and the moral paradigms it has gone through. All of us are thrown into moral anxiety and shaken to roots whenever an incident of moral "indecent" erupts in our society. The most infamous, if not the only instance of its sort was the scandal that was exposed in Habba Kadal many years ago. This simply comes at the cost of collective amnesia that we still have



While we condemn these habits of drinking and substance abuse, ancients almost invariably sanctified them, by assigning them a mystical character. Not only this, poets universally celebrated drinking in their poetry and employed it as a symbol of paradisiacal and ecstatic experiences. This is quite contrary to the modern consciousness where these habits are invariably condemned as immoral

a place in the heart of Kashmir – Tashwan, which has become a symbol of prostitution and a historical allusion to moral laxity. Sex work or the likes of it used to be quite a norm in our society, run under the aegis of state protection till recent past in Kashmir. It took the efforts of conscientious men, Subhan Hajam being the most celebrated among them, to fight this institution of flesh trade in Kashmir.

Today, we revel at the mere thought of such episodes and that reflects our heightened moral sense that the knowledge and information has brought with it.

The case against marital violence has picked up some pace in the wake of women's liberation movements and awareness about women rights. Yet the demonisation of in-laws (whether genuine or groundless) continues unabated. Domestic and marital violence is characterised as the problem of the present era so much, as though women were enjoying the heavenly bliss in marital life in ancient days. We tend to forget that much of the domestic and marital violence committed against women stays lost in history and was rarely documented. Do we not remember the pithy remarks of saintly women Lal Ded

about her in-laws? Do we not read in books the trauma and terror Meera Bhai had to suffer at the hands of her in-laws and husband? For the fact that these were the women who somehow rose to prominence, history preserved their words and experiences. What about hundreds of those women whose voices were muffled and therefore buried in history forever? Today, women are empowered, educated and better equipped to report domestic and marital abuse and to register their grievances with various NGOs and government run institutions. This wasn't the case earlier.

When crimes and ethical degradation of the present era are enumerated, the menace of drug addiction and substance abuse is often presented as one without a historical precedent. But we overlook the fact that scriptures like Vedas celebrated the intoxicating drinks like Soma. Nor is it hidden from anybody that drinking was a norm both in ancient Greek and pre-Islamic Arabia, where the occasions of drinking used to be accompanied by all sorts of vulgarity and ethical debasement – a raw version of modern day pubs, as these places used to be. While we condemn these habits of drinking and substance

abuse, ancients almost invariably sanctified them, by assigning them a mystical character. Not only this, poets universally celebrated drinking in their poetry and employed it as a symbol of paradisiacal and ecstatic experiences. Though it is also known that few poets used wine and drinking merely as a symbol and a literary device, most of them physically indulged in drinking and later praised the same. This is quite contrary to the modern consciousness where these habits are invariably condemned as immoral.

Now, the problem of drug abuse may seem to be a recent one, but it is recent only in as much as the discovery or manufacturing of more lethal drugs is concerned, otherwise men used to indulge in substance abuse across geographies and the consumption of weed and other psychoactive substances in antiquity is an open secret. Carlos Castadena's quasi mystical books like "Journey to Ixtalan" are certain raisers in this direction. Even a pack of cigarettes in our times carries a cautionary warning but till recent times liquor and drinking used to be a norm and people felt no shame or moral guilt while indulging in these activities. Mrinal Pande's article is a vivid testimony to what has been stated here.

While we have drawn out a comparison between the past and the present and our comparison has titled the bob in the direction of the past when it comes to the gravity of crimes and their impacts, it shall not make us complacent and give us the pedestal of moral superiority. True, we have come a long way down the path of enlightenment but the pervasive presence of crimes in our societies and world shall awaken us to the larger fact that the path to moral excellence is an unending one and if the present times fare relatively well that shall be a stimulus to make the coming times even better. Past shall not be judged from the parameters of the present nor shall the present be evaluated against the past. The yardstick is the timeless criterion of being good to ourselves and good to others in whatever we do. In these two dimensions lie all the secrets and characteristics of better individuals, better world and better civilizations.

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

The author is a Srinagar based columnist

## Better Late Than Never

Financial Express

The successful conclusion of the 5G auctions on Monday has an important lesson for the government, which has long treated spectrum sales as a revenue-generating machine. Such an approach was fine in 2010 or even 2012, when spectrum was scarce and the number of operators quite high—as many as 10-12 in each circle. However, with the number of operators shrinking to just three post 2016, and the quantum of spectrum rising, there should have been a change in approach both by the government and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai), which sets the reserve price for the auctions. It took the near bankruptcy of Vodafone Idea for the government to realise that sickness in the telecom sector could have a cascading effect. Not only foreign investors or banks, even significant government revenues were at stake—80% of Vodafone Idea's dues are to the exchequer. The government's move to come out with a relief package for the telcos in September 2021 was thus merited, and the auction results are proof of this. Apart from the Rs 1.5-trillion-plus that it was able to mop up, the fact that the premium 700 Mhz band



spectrum, which did not find any takers in the previous two auctions, also got sold this time, is quite noteworthy. This shows that industry would respond favourably if the policies are realistic.

Two measures by the government deserve special mention here. The first was to provide a four-year moratorium to the operators on paying their large adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues, which came about through the 2019 ruling of the Supreme Court. To this was added a moratorium running into equal number of years on the payment of annual instalments for spectrum

bought in the past auctions. The second measure was the decision not to levy spectrum usage charge on airwaves bought in future auctions. While the first provided cash flow relief to the industry, the second lowered their expenses. The government's move was aptly supplemented by the Trai, which not only lowered the reserve price by around 39% across bands, but also changed the methodology of arriving at the base price. No more were past auction prices used as the benchmark if the entire spectrum on sale in a given band didn't get sold.

That 71% of all spectrum on of

fer got sold this time (against only 40% in the past two auctions in 2016 and 2021) certainly shows that the government does not lose out if policy measures are aimed at bringing a balance between the interests of exchequer, industry, and consumers. Despite two rounds of tariff-hikes by the operators, mobile voice and data rates continue to be low and have not adversely impacted the goals of Digital India. The minutes of voice usage and data consumption per user continues to grow. The government should now take two more steps to put the sector on the track to even higher growth. The first is to reduce the licence fee from the current 8% of the AGR. A move in this direction can be made by abolishing the 5% universal service obligation levy. The second measure should be that the current reserve price for spectrum bands is maintained for future auctions. Such a move would ensure that an annual auction calendar is maintained without any delays, and operators can plan their purchases without any surprises thrown in.

Views expressed in the article do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. The article was originally published by Financial Express

# Are You Ready For A DIGITAL DEATH?

Who Gets Your Whatsapp Messages, Passwords And Crypto Assets When You Pass? It's Getting More Complicated To Die.

Belén Fernández

In mid-June, after I had been in Italy for two weeks, I got around to reading the June 4 edition of the Italian newspaper *La Repubblica*, which I had bought – on June 4, of course – in accordance with my never-fulfilled vision of being one of those people who buys and reads a physical newspaper every day.

Prominently featured was coverage of the murder of 29-year-old Giulia Tramontano, who had been stabbed to death outside Milan in May by her boyfriend Alessandro Impagnatiello. She was seven months pregnant.

Page 12 of *La Repubblica* was devoted to the WhatsApp correspondence between Tramontano and Impagnatiello, helpfully colour-coded and divided into categories like “the quarrel about the lipstick”; “the separation announcement”; “the future of the baby”; and “the messages after he killed Giulia”.

To be sure, humans have always exhibited a certain fascination with murder. But the digital era has created novel opportunities for morbid voyeurism – while also raising obvious issues of privacy.

I had already heard all about the Tramontano case since arriving back to Puglia, the southern Italian region where, prior to the pandemic, I used to spend a portion of every summer with the mother of an Italian friend in her humble seaside abode.

My Puglian acquaintances, almost exclusively persons over the age of 70, had quickly filled me in on the details of the murder in Milan – or their own version of the details, rather. These often veered significantly from the reported facts but commanded such impassioned vehemence as to suggest intimate knowledge of all aspects of the crime in addition to the psychologies of both victim and perpetrator.

It was the same scene I had witnessed over so many summers of being subjected to nightly Italian homicide TV shows, which had



also occasioned much shouting and exaggerated Italo-gesticulation in the direction of the television set and had often caused me to wonder what came first: Italian homicide TV shows or the Italian homicide fetish.

This year, a television glitch at my friend's mother's house meant that the homicide shows had been reduced to intermittent bursts of sound and light, but advances in mobile phone competence among the local population meant that everyone could still keep up-to-date on Italy's killings of interest.

Naturally, these killings did not

comprise the refugees who regularly drown off the Italian coast as a result of the state's anti-migrant militance. After all, the comprehensive dehumanisation of refugees largely precludes the potential for sensationalising their demise – whether or not they send any pre-death WhatsApp messages that could be made available for public scrutiny.

Deaths of interest did include the 26-year-old killed by a bear in April in the northern province of Trentino, and my companions in Puglia waved their mobile phones in my face such that I might view

pre-death photos of the victim and his girlfriend with superimposed bear maw looming in the background.

Then there was the 33-year-old nearly killed by a bear in Abruzzo National Park in December, whose frantic near-pre-death audio message to his wife has been preserved online courtesy of *Corriere della Sera*, another main Italian newspaper.

Of course, this sort of digital voyeurism is hardly Italian-specific. I myself am guilty of having perused the Tramontano-Impagnatiello transcripts, despite the fact that I

certainly would not want my own WhatsApp communications on posthumous display – if only to avoid being immortalised as frivolous and neurotic. (I can at least take comfort that my notebooks of handwritten musings are almost entirely illegible, often even to me.)

Indeed, gone are the days when folks just had to concern themselves with the fate of their physical possessions when they died; now, there's the digital footprint to worry about, to boot. As if all that were not tiresome enough, the field of “digital inheritance”

has arisen to regulate the passing down of everything from passwords to crypto assets.

Meanwhile, a glance at recent international headlines confirms that the morbid trampling of privacy remains highly marketable across the board. Take this example from the UK media: “Woman said, ‘next time you'll kill me,’ in secret clip before partner stabbed her to death.” Or this one from India: “Tunisha Sharma ended her life within 15 minutes of chat with Sheezan Khan; here are shocking details of their WhatsApp messages.”

Perhaps more broadly disturbing, though, is the trivialisation of death that has inevitably occurred with social media's conversion into a primary forum for death announcements and condolences. A twist on that old phrase comes to mind: “If you can't say anything without emojis, don't say anything at all.”

One recalls the days when sympathy was not reduced to a series of yellow crying faces – when people had more time to be human and condolences were not something to be fired off before scrolling on to the next Facebook post.

I personally will never forget an occasion some years ago when, in response to a Facebook friend's post about a death in the family, another Facebook friend – a filmmaker for whom I normally have the utmost esteem – commented: “sorry for ur loss.” Modern communications have so warped our sense of propriety, it seems, that the commenter failed to consider the inherent disrespect, in such circumstances, of only typing half of an already very short word.

But as life itself has become irreparably digitised, it's probably only natural that death has, too.

*Belén Fernández is author of numerous books and is a contributing editor at Jacobin Magazine, and has written for the New York Times, the London Review of Books blog, Current Affairs, and Middle East Eye, among other publications.*

## AI Improves Breast Cancer Detection, But Will That Save Lives

Lisa Jarvis

A large, rigorous study in Sweden of artificial intelligence in breast cancer screenings suggests AI can help doctors detect cancers more efficiently. We need more such studies to determine when the technology has real value – and when it might have risks. And although the findings are incredibly promising, because Europe uses different processes and technologies for cancer screening, the US needs to commit to running its own similar studies to guide doctors.

Previous large studies all looked back at old medical records to gauge whether AI was capable of detecting cancers as accurately as doctors. This study is the first trial of its size to test AI in real time on real patients – and will one day tell the field whether it actually improves the health of women. All of this is critical information as the technology increasingly becomes integrated into health care.

In the study, some 80,000 women in Sweden were randomly assigned to either receive a double reading, where two independent radiologists look at the mammogram, or an AI-supported screening, which was performed by one radiologist and a computer.

### Is it safe to use AI to detect cancer?

The first stage of the study, the results of which were reported in the *Lancet Oncology*, was designed to ask whether it was safe to integrate AI into practice. The answer is a resounding yes. Overall, the computer helped humans flag more cancers, detecting about 20 per cent more cancers than the two radiologists. Impressively, it did so with about the same rate as false positives (e.g. screens that looked like cancer but didn't turn out to be).

Moreover, the researchers clearly showed that AI can reduce the workload



for radiologists. Although the team didn't directly measure the number of hours saved by using a computer to analyse mammograms, they estimate that the technology reduced screen reading time by about 44 per cent.

“In a situation where the medical workforce is strained, that's a significant improvement,” says Larry Norton, medical director of the Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Center of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. Even if the technology doesn't turn out to be more accurate than doctors at picking up cancers, being just as accurate but faster would still be a major advance, he says.

Radiologists haven't gone anywhere. And their jobs shouldn't be at risk – at least not until someone actually proves that AI isn't just faster, but actually makes us healthier.

Now comes the hard work of showing that this improves cancer care. “The holy grail is really understanding whether this kind of technology improves health,” says Yale School of Medicine's Ilana Richman, whose research focuses on evaluating new breast cancer screening technologies. “We won't know that for some time.”

The researchers in Sweden will continue to study the women in their trial to try to answer that question. In addition to confirming AI's performance in detecting cancers, they will probe whether those additional cancers being detected are meaningful – that is, are the additional early lesions caught by the computer ones that would eventually cause a woman harm? They will also ask whether the method can reduce the number of “interval cancers,” or ones that are found between screenings and tend to be more

aggressive and deadlier.

The need for this type of careful evaluation of AI is clear. So-called computer-aided detection that used more rudimentary versions of AI was widely adopted, but it led to an increase in false positives and biopsies for precancerous cells that are not typically dangerous. All of that came at a cost to the health-care system – when someone was flagged by a computer, they typically would go on to other types of tests and procedures that weren't always needed.

For now, any efficiencies that come out of the study will mostly benefit people in Europe and Australia, where breast cancer is typically screened by a team of two radiologists that might be safely reduced to one plus a computer. Translating the results to the US is complicated by the different standard of care – mammograms

are reviewed by just one radiologist and are typically a 3-D scan rather than the 2-D ones used in the Sweden study.

But there are still some lessons for the US. For example, the algorithm used in the study was remarkably good at stratifying women by cancer risk – low, intermediate or high. And it turned out that the small number of women filtered into the high-risk group had a large portion of the cancers in the study. That points to the potential to use AI to triage the sea of exams passing before a radiologist each day, helping them prioritise the high-risk ones. That could lead to patients getting treated as quickly as possible, says Laura Heacock, a radiologist at NYU Langone Health.

### Will cancer be diagnosed solely by a computer?

Patients might be wondering where all of this is leading: One day, will their cancer be diagnosed solely by a computer? That's a prediction that Geoffrey Hinton, one of the so-called godfathers of AI, made back in 2016. “If you work as a radiologist, you're like the coyote that's already over the edge of the cliff but hasn't yet looked down so doesn't realise there's no ground underneath him,” he said, suggesting they would be obsolete in five to 10 years. “People should stop training radiologists now.”

Seven years later, Hinton himself has warned of the potential dangers of AI and urged the field to proceed with more caution. Radiologists, meanwhile, haven't gone anywhere. And their jobs shouldn't be at risk – at least not until someone actually proves that AI isn't just faster, but actually makes us healthier. Until a study finds that in the US, technology will always be an addition to, rather than a replacement for, the deep expertise of a doctor.

– Bloomberg



## Devika Rejuvenation Project Nearing Completion: Minister

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** North India's first river rejuvenation project 'Devika' carried out at a cost of over Rs 190 crore is nearing completion, Union minister Jitendra Singh said on Sunday.

The Minister of State for Science and Technology was chairing a meeting in Udhampur to review the project.

Considered the sister of the sacred Ganga river, the Devika river originates from the hilly Suddha Mahadev temple in the Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir and flows down towards western Punjab (now in Pakistan) where it merges with the Ravi river.

"The Devika project is nearing completion. Built at a cost of over Rs 190 crore on the lines of Namami Gange', the project was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi," Singh said. This project has been included in the Government of India's National River Conservation Directorate Project (NCRD). The work to rejuvenate the Devika river started in March 2019 and was scheduled to be completed in two years but missed the deadline due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the rejuvenation project, liquid waste management work is being carried out by the Urban Environmental Engineering Department (UEED) by building a network of pipes and manholes, he added.

"The Rs 190 crore fund allotted for the project is being shared in the ratio of 90:10 by the Centre and the Union Territory respectively," Singh, who represents the Udhampur parliamentary constituency in the parliament, said.

The project, inter alia, includes the construction of three sewage treatment plants of 8 MLD, 4 MLD and 1.6 MLD capacity, a sewerage network of 129.27 km, development of two cremation ghats, protection fencing and landscaping, small hydropower plants and three solar power plants.

During the review meeting, the minister said a solid waste management project will also be carried out on the Devika river, which is vital in protecting the sanctity of the river.

Singh asserted that the role of Panchayati Raj Institutions is vital for the success of major developmental projects being the representatives of the grassroots level of society.

## Fresh Batch Of Pilgrims Leave For Amarnath Yatra

Briefly Halted En Route After Landslide Blocks Highway



Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Pilgrims on way to the Amarnath cave shrine were stopped briefly in Ramban district on Sunday after a landslide blocked the Jammu-Srinagar national highway near Keela Morh, the officials said.

After a day-long suspension, the Amarnath Yatra had resumed from Jammu early Sunday, with a fresh batch of 1,626 pilgrims leaving the base camp here to join the annual pilgrimage in the south Kashmir Himalayas.

However, the pilgrims were stopped for a couple of hours at the Chankerkote Yatri Niwas in Ramban district at 6:15 am.

The agency concerned pressed its men and machinery and managed to clear the road of the debris to ensure its reopening by 9 am, the officials said.

They said the pilgrim convoy was allowed to move towards its destination and have crossed the landslide-hit area. Earlier in the day, the 34th batch of 1,626 pilgrims left the Bhagwati Nagar base camp in a convoy of 64 vehicles between 3.30 am and 3.45 am.

While 1,092 of them are heading for the Pahalgam base camp in Anantnag district, the remaining 534 devotees are on their way to the Baltal base camp in Ganderbal district, they said.

## Dir. Information Condolences Demise Of Khalid Suhail's Father

DIPR Employees Also Expressed Solidarity With Colleague

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Director Information, Minga Sherpa has condoled the sad demise of father of Abdul Gani Sofi, father of Khalid Suhail, Senior Scale Stenographer (PA to Director Information), who passed away Sunday evening after brief illness.

In his condolence message,

Minga Sherpa expressed his deepest condolences with the bereaved official and his family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul.

Meanwhile, the employees of Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) also condoled the sad demise of father of Khalid Suhail. The officers and employees of the department offered their deepest condolences with the bereaved family and prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

## Tiranga Rallies Held At Teetwal Close To Dividing Line

Attracts Attention Of People Moving On Other Side Of LOC



Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** Under 'Meri Mera Desh' campaign as a culminating event of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', Tiranga Rallies from different schools of Tangdhar and Chamkoh Zones of Sub Division Karnah were held Sunday to commemorate 75 Year's of India's Independence.

Scintillating scenes of National brotherhood and patriotism were witnessed when students hoisting the National flag

and singing the Rashtragaan marched towards Teetwal located on the bank of Kishanganga River (close to the Line of Control).

At Teetwal Students presented short speeches regarding India's freedom struggle.

The Tiranga rally at Teetwal also attracted the attention of people moving to the other side of LOC (POK) who witnessed the enthusiasm and patriotism of students and residents of Tangdhar and Teetwal.



**RELATIVES AND NEIGHBOURS WAIL** as the body of soldier Waseem Ahmad Bhat, who was killed in a gunfight with terrorists in Kulgam on Friday, is being taken for last rites in his native Dachigam village of Bandipora on Sunday.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

ART ON THE STREET

## Artists On A Mission To Give Srinagar A Mural Makeover

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** In a bustling street here, artists are busy painting bright pink flowers on an abandoned building with effortless brush strokes as awestruck passersby stop and admire their work.

These artists are part of an initiative by Fearless Collective, a group of South Asian women artists, to paint beautiful murals, engage with local communities and depict the work of artisans, especially women.

"The mural being painted here is our 56th mural. Our idea is not only to make beautiful murals but we also engage with these (local) communities," Zoia Khan, an architect and urban planner who is part of the collective, told PTI.

The idea behind this initiative is to become a medium through which the artists can portray themselves the way they want to be shown, she said.

"We act as a creative medium. The purpose is to activate a public space, creativity and talk about these communities and to encourage people with these artworks," she added.

Zoia said she fails to understand why murals were not painted before in Kashmir. "We have the perfect environment for this as we see so much beauty around us all the time, including unique architecture. So, I think this is something that the cityscape was missing," she said.

The project is being executed with the help of the director



of the Handicrafts Department of Jammu and Kashmir, who facilitated various permissions for it.

Zoia's mural in the midst of the busy Jehangir Chowk intersection here depicts three hijab-clad women.

The mural shows a woman who is a 'taleem (design)' writer for carpets and another is busy with 'namda' making or weaving a woollen carpet, she said.

"We have also talked to women who make copper utensils. There is a lot of beauty in what these people do. It is a generational practice that is about carrying something forward and not about making money. This belongs to all of us and is a common heritage," she said.

"In our eyes, they are the true stars of the city and deserve recognition," she said.

Though incomplete, Zoia's work is already a hit. Muzaffar Ahmad Malik, a

passerby, said beautiful murals like this should be painted across the city.

"This mural is extremely beautiful. I congratulate the artist who is painting it. The artist has made a dilapidated building so attractive," Malik said.

There are many such buildings in the city that need attention and should be made part of this project, he said.

Rizwan Khan of Jammu, a volunteer part of Zoia's team, is proud of their work so far.

"This mural is one of its kind in Kashmir. As an artist, I am very proud of this art and it is our responsibility to decorate and renovate every corner of the city," he said.

This is very significant. Women mostly remain in the background but this initiative seeks to bring them to the front, he said.

Srinagar has been designated as a creative city by UNESCO and it should look like that, Rizwan said.

## 3 Groups Of Terrorists Active In Rajouri, Poonch: ADGP

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** About three groups of terrorists, each comprising two to three ultras, are operating in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri and Poonch districts, a senior police officer said on Sunday, asserting that security forces are determined to wipe out terrorism from the region.

Additional Director General of Police Mukesh Singh also said security agencies are making twice the effort to thwart the attempts to push terrorists from across the border.

"Two or three groups of terrorists are believed to be present in the (Pir Panjal) region. Each group comprises two to three terrorists but divulging their exact number is difficult," Singh, flanked by the Army's Romeo Force Major General Mohit Trivedi, told reporters in Rajouri.

Singh reached Rajouri where an encounter between terrorists and security forces is going on since Saturday. A suspected Pakistani terrorist in combat uniform was killed and a huge cache of arms and ammunition, including an AK assault rifle and two pistols, were recovered from him.

"Some terrorists were noticed in the Gundah-Khawas

village of Budhal and, accordingly, a police party rushed to the village, besides informing the Army. When a cordon-and-search operation was launched, the terrorists opened fire, which was retaliated by the joint troops of the police, Army and the CRPF, resulting in the killing of a terrorist," Singh said.

He added the slain terrorist is believed to be from Pakistan and that it was evident from the material, including medicines and shoes, recovered from him.

"One more terrorist is present in the village and an encounter is on," he said, adding the seizure from the encounter scene, including raincoats and food items, indicated that they were trained to survive in jungle conditions.

He referred to the killing of six terrorists in recent encounters, including four in the Surankote area of Poonch on July 18, and said attempts to disturb the peaceful atmosphere by pushing terrorists into the Indian side is going on unabated from across the border.

"We are making double efforts to thwart their attempts

and wipe out terrorism from the region," Singh said.

Asked about the plan of the terrorists, he said it is a matter of investigation. "A thorough investigation and analysis will be carried out after the encounter."

On the possible involvement of the slain terrorist in the Dhangri attack where seven civilians were killed in January, the officer said, "It is also part of the investigation. We will call the eyewitnesses for identification of the slain terrorist."

Singh said strict action is being taken against overground workers of the terror groups. "Several of them have already been booked under the Public Safety Act while we are also keeping a constant vigil on suspected persons."

He added, "Action will be taken against any overground worker whose linkage will be established during the investigation of the latest encounter," he said.

Major General Trivedi credited the success against the terrorists to the synergy among the Army, police and other sister agencies and the cooperation of the people.

## People Supporting Art-370 Abrogation Unaware Of Ground Situation, History Of J&K: Azad

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Democratic Progressive Azad Party chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday said some people supporting the abrogation of Article 370 in the Supreme Court are unaware of the ground situation and history of Jammu and Kashmir.

He expressed firm belief in the Supreme Court, hearing a bunch of petitions challenging the abrogation of the constitutional provision, and said Article 370 was scrapped in an "un-constitutional" manner.

"Those who are opposing (Article 370 in the Supreme Court) do not know the ground situation, history, geography, advantages and disadvantages of the constitutional provision. It was not meant for any particular area, province or religion but was equally beneficial to all people living in cities and villages," Azad told reporters on the sidelines of a public rally in Doda district.

He was responding to a question about some parties filing petitions in support of the abrogation of Article 370 in the Supreme Court.

The Centre abrogated Article 370 granting special status to Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019, and bifurcated the erstwhile state into two Union Territories Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

"I have full faith in the Supreme Court, being the guardian of the Indian Constitution, which will look into all legal aspects of

abrogation of Article 370. The Apex court will delve into constitutional procedures adopted to abrogate it," Azad said, adding Article 370 was taken away from Jammu and Kashmir "forcibly and unconstitutionally".

Azad also expressed grief over the recent killing of three soldiers in south Kashmir's Anantnag district and frequent militancy-related incidents in the border district of Rajouri in the Jammu region.

"The militancy was almost finished (in Rajouri) but over the past six months, several militancy-related incidents claimed the lives of our jawans and the civilians, indicating a revival of militancy which is a matter of grave concern for all of us," the DPAP leader said, urging people and security forces to keep vigil against anti-national elements in border areas.

On some of his party colleagues returning to the Congress fold, Azad said only slackers will leave his party and those who know how to work will stay back.

"They are going to Congress because they do not have to work in the party... They know a lacklustre attitude is not going to work in DPAP which has more accountability of leadership than its rivals," he said.

Azad said the party has no place for non-performing leaders. "I check the progress of each party leader by making him or her accountable. We seek details from leaders on outreach at the block or village level."

## MVD Hired Vehicles To Strengthen Enforcement Activities Across UT

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Motor vehicle department hired 10 L.M.V (Boloro / Scorpio) and handed over the same to A.R.T.O of Jammu Province in a bid to strengthening its enforcement activities in Jammu and Kashmir.

The aim of the move is to intensify action against various visible traffic violations and to ensure regular checking drives across the UT. These vehicles were hired through State Motor Garages department for both Jammu and Srinagar province.

Addressing media person on the occasion, Transport Commissioner J&K Rahul Sharma said that these vehicles are being provided under Road Safety and addition of these vehicles will enhance the abilities of M.V.D. officials to enforce traffic rules and regulations and ensure public safety on roads.

These vehicles will be helpful in checking of all sort of violation viz Permit conditions, overloading, Over speeding, Pollution under control levels other related violations and also enable field staff to carry out their duties effectively by regular monitoring of road checking to reduce road accidents and fatalities.

Stressing on D.L./R.C suspension of habitual and regular traffic violators he said that by establishing clear goals by holding drivers accountable for their action some deterrent steps should be taken, as the ultimate goal is to provide safer road to all road users.

Joint Transport Commissioner, Director State Motor Garages, Regional Transport Officer, Jammu and Kathua districts, All ARTOs from all district of Jammu province were present on the occasion.

## PMGSY Road Makes Machail Mata Yatra Comfortable For Pilgrims

Observer News Service

**KISHTWAR:** The ongoing Shree Machail Mata Ji Yatra 2023 has been transformed into a more comfortable, enjoyable and safe journey for on-foot pilgrims, thanks to the recent opening of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) Road by the District Administration Kishtwar on 5th August 2023.

Significantly, this achievement marks a major milestone for the PMGSY Division Kishtwar, as it successfully cleared the challenging rocky stretch on Machail Road in an impressively short span of time.

The instrumental role of recently retired Executive Engineer of PMGSY Division Kishtwar, Mohinder Kumar Sen, cannot be overlooked. With dedicated efforts, he mobilized extra manpower and machinery, working in double shifts to ensure the timely completion of the project.

Mohinder Sen's leadership has significantly contributed in facilitating this year's Yatra, providing a major boost to the development of the road leading to the Bhawan of Shree Machail Mata.

Road cutting in crucial rocky stretch has resulted in achieving the significant progress on this road, which is now being used by pilgrims up to Hamouri Village for on foot journey.

With the partially constructed PMGSY Road now accessible, Yatries can trek on foot to the Bhawan, cutting travel time by 1.5 - 2 hours and making the journey less fatiguing compared to the steep and challenging terrains, pilgrims had to endure previously.

Additionally, the installation of railings by 17 RR of the Indian Army on the Mov bridge has significantly enhanced the safety of pilgrims during their journey.

Furthermore, under the overall supervision of Divisional Commissioner Jammu and under the close supervision of Deputy Commissioner Kishtwar, Dr. Devansh Yadav, the district and local administration has been tirelessly working to extend all possible support, ensuring the Yatries' spiritual journey remains easy and memorable.

The public and pilgrims currently undertaking the Shree Machail Mata Yatra express their heartfelt appreciation to the PMGSY authorities and District Administration Kishtwar for their swift and dedicated efforts regarding the PMGSY road and other necessary facilities. The leadership of Ex-Executive Engineer Mohinder Sen, in cutting through the tough rocky stretch within a short span of time, has been commended for significantly improving the travel experience for the Yatries.

## Pakistan Gets Clearance For World Cup Participation In India

Press Trust of India

**KARACHI:** The Pakistan government on Sunday gave clearance to the country's senior men's side to travel to India for the 2023 World Cup but said it has some concerns about the security of its team and would convey them to the ICC and BCCI.

The 50-over World Cup will be held in India from October 5 to November 19, with the highly-anticipated clash between the two arch rivals set to be played on October 14 and not on October 15 in Ahmedabad, with the International Cricket Council (ICC) yet to officially confirm it.

A press release from the foreign ministry informed that Pakistan has consistently maintained that sports should not be mixed with politics. It has, therefore, decided to send its team to India to compete in the upcoming World Cup.

"Pakistan believes that the state of bilateral relations with India should not stand in the way of fulfilling its international sports-related obligations," the release said. The ministry said that Pakistan, however, has



deep concerns about the security of its team and it would convey them to the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the Indian authorities.

"Pakistan, however, has deep concerns about the security of its cricket team. We are conveying these concerns to the International Cricket Council and the Indian authorities.

"We expect that the full safety and security of the Pakistan cricket team will be ensured during its visit to India," the release said.

It also said that Pakistan's de-

cision shows its "constructive and responsible approach vis-à-vis India's intransigent attitude, as the latter had refused to send its cricket team to Pakistan for the Asia Cup." The approval brings to an end the long period of uncertainty that has lingered over the national team's participation in the 50-over event.

It all began when its former player and PCB chief Ramiz Raja said they will not send their team for the World Cup in retaliation to India not travelling to Pakistan for the Asia Cup 2023.

India had refused to travel to

Pakistan for the Asia Cup in October 2022 with BCCI secretary Jay Shah — also the president of the Asian Cricket Council — saying the tournament would be held in a hybrid model, which was eventually agreed upon.

The Asia Cup — a prelude to the 50-over World Cup for the Asian teams — will start in Pakistan on August 30 with four matches to be played in the country, while Sri Lanka hosting the remaining nine, including the final.

A few days ago, the PCB had written to Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif seeking official clearance for travelling to India for the 50-over showpiece. The letter was also addressed to the interior and the foreign ministry.

Sharif had formed a high-level committee headed by foreign minister Bilawal Bhutto to decide on Pakistan's participation in the mega event. But there were also reports of a security delegation being sent to India, to the venues where Pakistan will play, before the approval was given. The last time the Pakistan team travelled to India was in 2016 for the ICC World T20.

## India Score 152/7 Against West Indies In Second T20I

Press Trust of India

**PROVIDENCE:** Negotiating disciplined bowlers, Tilak Varma produced a well-calculated half-century, his first in T20Is, to take India to 152 for seven against West Indies in the second match here on Sunday.

The fearless Varma continued his good run in the shortest format as the 20-year-old scooped, swept and heaved the ball all around the ground to score 51 off 41 balls, becoming the youngest Indian to score a fifty in T20 Internationals.

Coming out to bat with India in a spot of bother at 18/2, Varma put up a crucial 42-run partnership with Ishan Kishan (27) before joining forces with skipper Hardik Pandya to stitch a 38-run stand.

Hardik (24) tried to inflate India's total by hitting two sixes but Alzarri Joseph (2/28) produced a cracking yorker to get rid of the Indian skipper.

Opting to bat, the script didn't go as per plan for the visitors as they lost wickets at regular intervals.

West Indies skipper Rovman Powell kept shuffling his bowlers, a move that paid dividends.

Kishan (27) played a few shots in his 23-ball stay in-



cluding a six off Akeal Hosen (2/29) over deep square leg but couldn't convert his start into a meaningful innings as he was bowled by Romario Shepherd.

Shubman Gill's (7) stay in the middle was once again a brief one. With pressure building on him after successive dot balls, he showed his class by sending the ball for a maximum in the third over but perished in the very next ball off Joseph.

Suryakumar Yadav (1) didn't last long either as Kyle Mayers

at square leg effected the Indian vice-captain's run-out with a brilliant direct hit.

Sanju Samson (7) moved way to early down the track in search of a big shot and was stumped by an attentive Nicholas Pooran.

Hosein, Joseph and Romario Shepherd (2/28) picked two wickets each.

Brief scores: India: 152/7 in 20 overs (Tilak Varma 51; Romario Shepherd 2/28, Akeal Hosen 2/29, Alzarri Joseph 2/28).

## J&K First In India With 4 AFC Pro License Coaches: JKFA



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Jammu & Kashmir Football Association (JKFA) on Sunday said that J&K has become the first state in India to "boast" four AFC Pro License coaches.

"Congratulations to Mr. Sajid Yousuf Dar on his participation in the AFC Pro License Coaching course (Module-1) currently underway in Chandigarh. This achievement fills us with immense pride as J&K UT is set to become the first in

India to have four AFC Pro license coaches upon his completion," the FA said in a statement.

"With less than 25 Pro License holders in India, including respected figures like Hilal Rasool Parray of J&K, Mr. Sajid's inclusion will definitely add significant value to our football community.

"Notably, 12 more Pro license holders including our very own Ishfaq Ahmad and Mehrajuddin Wadoo completed the course last month as well, further

enhancing our football coaching expertise.

"We extend our heartfelt best wishes to Mr. Sajid Yousuf Dar and commend his dedication. Our coaches are invaluable assets and play a vital role in enhancing the sport's overall growth.

"On behalf of the Chairman JKFA, we once again congratulate Mr. Sajid, and we eagerly anticipate witnessing the positive impact of his coaching expertise on the football landscape in J&K and beyond," the statement added.

## JKSC Organises Sports Events To Mark I-Day Celebrations

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The J&K Sports Council (JKSC) organised various sporting competitions to mark the celebrations of the 77th Independence Day in both provinces.

Many prominent government officials, coaches, and athletes along with their parents attended the events. The events were held under the banners of Azadi Ka Khel Utsav, Nasha Muqt Bharat Abhiyaan, and My Youth My Pride.

Sports competitions in the disciplines of Judo, Gymnastics, Chess, Football, Cricket, Softball, Fencing, Kabaddi, Pencak Silat, and Taekwondo, etc., were held in the districts of Samba, Reasi, Jammu, Srinagar, Ganderbal, Poonch, Rajouri, Kathua, Baramulla, Budgam and Anantnag.

One of the prominent features of the day was the inauguration of Seer Hamdan Premium League in district Anantnag of South Kashmir under the banner of Azadi Ka Khel Utsav.

The event was inaugurated by the Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull. She presided over the function as Chief Guest while Rayees Ahmad Bhat, DIG South Kashmir, and international cricketer Parvaiz Rasool presided over the



function as Guest of Honour. The league is being organized by the Cricket Association Seer in collaboration with J&K Sports Council.

The twenty teams drawn from various blocks of South Kashmir are participating in the league which shall compete for the title in forty-seven matches.

The other prominent attraction of the day was the final match of the Ramhal Cricket League being organized in district Kupwara in North Kashmir. The Secretary Sports Council reached

the venue and presided over the function as Chief Guest while DC Kupwara, SP Kupwara, and Tehsildar Kupwara along with SDPO Kupwara were also present on the occasion. Friends XI Lolab beat Sultan Warriors Baramulla in the final.

A UT level Handball championship was also organized in the district Baramulla, while special sports events were organised in GHSS Palmar in district Kishtwar. A Badminton event was in progress in Nilandrusu, Anantnag.

## e-Invoice Doing Business with Ease



Are you generating e-Invoices for your B2B Supplies?

From 01<sup>st</sup> August, 2023 generating e-Invoice has been made mandatory for all B2B supply of Goods or Services or both, or for exports, for taxpayers\* whose Aggregate Annual Turnover exceeds Rs. 5 Cr in any of the preceding financial year.

e-Invoices bear Unique Invoice Reference Number generated through Invoice Registration Portal

### Advantages of e-Invoicing

- Uniform & Standardized Invoice
- Lesser compliance burden
- Auto populated GST Return
- Auto reporting to GST portal
- Reduction in transcriptional errors
- Auto sharing with buyers for reconciliation
- Auto generation of e-Way Bill
- Seamless transmission of invoice
- Lesser paperwork



\*Except certain notified categories of taxpayers (Please scan for details)

For more details, please refer to the Notification No. 10/2023-Central Tax dated 10.05.2023 read with Principal Notification No. 13/2020-Central Tax dated 21.03.2020



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