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Terrorism In J&K Reduced **To 2-Digit Figure: DGP**

"I Am Happy To Say That Many Beautiful Places Around Border Areas Are Receiving A Huge Number Of Tourists."

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Claiming that terrorism in Kashmir was in its last stage as the number of active terrorists in the Union Territory has been reduced to just two-figure, the Director General of Police (DGP) Dilbag Singh on Friday said that Pakistan sponsored drug menace remains a challenge for the men in uniform.

"A significant progress has been made in curbing terrorism. So far, the number of active terrorists has been brought down to just two-digit. These remaining terrorists will also be neutralized soon" Singh said.

He made these remarks during his visit to the frontier district of Kupwara, where he chaired a joint security review meeting, and also inaugurated the newly constructed police establishments dedicated in the name of police martyrs, a police spokesperson said.

Chairing the security review meeting, the DGP complimented Police, Army and other security agencies for their commitment



in making Jammu and Kashmir a "terror free destination".

Stressing for continuous efforts on strengthening synergy among all forces to thwart any nefarious design of anti- national elements, Singh, he said, remarked that the synergy among the forces has yielded good dividends in the maintenance of peace and order.

"He emphasized upon keepvigil on anti-national and anti-social activities by

increasing area domination and Naka check points and directed the officers to be more vigilant and keep constant pressure on the anti national elements and their supporters," he added

Stating that Pakistan and its agencies will continue to hatch conspiracies to foment trouble in J&K, the DGP, the spokesperson said, stressed upon officers to update databases of anti national elements and OGWs who provide any sort of | More on P10

Preparations On For Smooth I-Day Celebrations

reparations were being finalised to put in place the arrangements for the smooth conduct of the Independence Day celebrations across Jammu and Kashmir, Director General of Police Dilbag Singh said on Friday. "Preparations are on for August 15 celebrations. Meetings have taken place at every level. All officers are engaged in finalising the arrangements," Singh told reporters in Kupwara district in north Kashmir. He said as part of the celebrations, Tiranga rallies have been taken out in many places across the UT even as the Meri Maati Mera Desh' programme is going on. "Many new buildings have been dedicated | More on P10

Medical Body's New Rules Ban Doctors From Getting Gifts From Pharma Firms

New Delhi: Doctors and their families must not receive any gifts, travel facilities, hospitality, cash or access to recreation from pharma companies or their representatives, commercial healthcare establishments and medical device firms under any pretext, the NMC has said in its new regulations.

The 'Regulations relating to Professional Conduct Registered Practitioners", issued on August 2, also bar doctors from endorsing any drug brands, medicine and equipment or advertise them.

According to the regulations, any request for medical records to a registered medical practitioner (RMP) responsible for patient records in a hospital either by the patients or authorised attendant has to be duly acknowledged and docu-

ments have be supplied within

working days instead of the existing provision of 72 days. In case of medical emergencies, efforts should be made to make the medical re-

cords available at the earliest.

Efforts shall be made to computerise patient's medical records for quick retrieval and security. Within three years the date of publica-

regulations, the registered medical practitioner shall ensure fully digitized records, abiding by the provisions of the IT Act, data protection and privacy laws, or any other applicable laws, rules, and regulations notified from time to time for protecting the privacy of the patient, the regulations stated.

Every self-employed registered medical practitioner shall maintain medical records of patients (inpatients) for 3 years from the date of the last contact with the patient for | More on P10

Heat Wave In J&K To Continue Till Aug 20

Agencies

Srinagar: As Jammu & Kashmir continues to witness hot weather conditions, the weatherman here has predicted dry weather till August 20, saying that there is no forecast of any major wet spell during the period.

Deputy Director Meteorological department (MeT), Mukhtar Ahmad said that there is no forecast of a wet spell till August 20, 2023.

He added that the weather conditions would remain mostly dry during the next 9 days as there is no possibility of any precipitation during the period | More on P10

No One Can Be Deprived Of Property Unlawfully: HC

Nawa Kadal Trader **Gets Relief From Court After 34 Years**

M Ahmad

Srinagar: A person cannot be deprived of his property without the authority of law, the High Court of J&K and Ladakh has said.

"Derivation of property of a person can only be in accordance with law when it is for public welfare and is just, fair and reasonable," a bench of Justice Sanjay Dhar said.

"Prior to abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution of India, the right to property was a fundamental right in the erstwhile State of Jammu and Kashmir. Even after application of all the provisions of the Constitution of India to this part of the Country, in view of the provisions

tion of these

of Article 300A of Constitution, the person cannot be deprived of his property without the authority of law," the court said, adding, "Derivation of prop-

erty of a person can only be in accordance with law when it is for public welfare and is just, fair and reasonable. It would be reasonable only if the person concerned is | More on P10

400-Feet Tiranga At Ananthag Rally

Srinagar: A massive 400-fit tricolour was carried by people at a rally in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district as part of the Independence Day celebrations.

The rally was organised under the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' campaign.

The Tiranga Rally taken out in the Sadiwara village of Verinag in the south Kashmir district saw a massive participation of the people including students. The rally was organised with the help of the army and the police.

Panchayat Sarpanch Farooq Ahmad Ganie led the rally which carried a 400-feet | More on P10



Launch of

- **Digi-dost (Doorstep delivery of services)**
- CSC-Aadhaar Seva Kendras at Block level
- e-compendium of transformational Digital Initiatives
- On boarding of 300 services on auto appeal system

Facial Recognition attendance application

Multi-lingual chatbot

Launch of

Digital Initiatives

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT, J&K

PRESENTED BY

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION & PUBLIC RELATIONS

IN COLLABORATION WITH **ACADEMY OF ART, CULTURE & LANGUAGES, J&K**

12 AUGUST 2023 | SKICC SRINAGAR





or visit https://webcast.gov.in/ jammukashmir/it







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No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir



NORTHERN RAILWAY

Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites applications for setting up stall/ kiosk at all Railway Stations over Firozpur Division under One Station One Product scheme. This scheme was started from April, 2022 in this Division. The terms and conditions are as under:

1. The period for setting up of the stall/kiosk will be 45 days. Ir such cases, registration fee and electricity charges shall increase proportionately. It is a contineous process.

2. Details of token fee to be deposited by the applicants is as under:

S.	Category	Total Registration/Token fee for
No.		45 days (in Rs.)
1	For NSG-1 to NSG-4 Stations	3,000/-
2	For NSG-5 to NSG-6 Stations	1,500/-

All above charges are inclusive of GST.

Product to be displayed/sold as under:

- (i) Handicrafts/Artefacts
- (ii) Textiles and Handlooms
- (iii) Traditional Garments
- (iv) Local agricultural produce/processed/semi processed foods.
- The selection of participants in the OSOP may be done considering that the benefit of this scheme must reach the marginalized sections, i.e. those individuals at the bottom of the pyramid. Priority shall be given to the following:
- (a) Holder of Artisan/Weaver ID card issued by Development Commissioner Handicrafts, Development Commissioner Handloom, or by the requisite State/Central Government Authority.
- artisans/weavers/craftsmen enrolled/registered (b) Individual with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED)/National Handloom Development Corporation (NHDC)/Khadi and Village Industries Commission
- (c) Self Help Groups registered with PMEGP (Prime Minister's Empolyment Generation Programme)
- (d) Marginalized or weaker sections of society
- The applicant will have to submit an undertaking to the Station Superintendent indicating that no activity would be undertaken to adversely affect the train operations, passenger safety and image of the Railways.
- Application should be addressed and can be submitted to Station Superintendent at Station by the applicant.
- 7. A maximum of 20 units of electricity per OSOP outlet shall be permitted for one spell of 15 days as basic facilitation subsumed in the registration charges. For additional units of electricity over and above the limit of 20 units, the applicable charges shall apply on
- 8. Station Superintendent will make priority roster of all approved participants and priority will be established through a draw of lots conducted at the Station in the presence of all approved applicants by the Station Manager/Sectional CMI.
- Space and infrastructure at the station for this scheme will be provided by Railways.
- 10. For any queries applicant may contact Station Superintendent Sectional CMI of the respective stations.

For Sr. Divisional Commercial Manage Northern Railway, Firozpur

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal

NOTICE INVITING TENDER CIVIL WORKS

SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs.2.50 Crores)

EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/ e-Tender NIT No.71 of 2023-24 issued under endorsement No.7394-99

Dated:11.08.2023

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

Cost of T/Earnest

Rs.2.00 Rs.200/= Rs.4000/= 15-Days Normal

Position of funds:-Available.
The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, billofquantit

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.

Note: The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.: Any deviation

1. The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of tendering pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbaland 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.The Performance Security ie.5% shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work.The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security/after award of the Contract for the Work is issued.

Tealure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified timelimit Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6(A). Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
6.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as wellas from "Bidders Manual Kit" on web-

6.2 To participate in bidding process, biddershavetoget 'Digital SignatureCertificate{DSC}'asperinformationTechnologyAct-2000.Bid-derscan get digital certificatefromanyapprovedVendor. 6.3 Thebiddershaveto submit their bidsonlineinelectronicformatwithdigitalSignature.Nobidwillbeacceptedinphysicalform. 6.4 Bids will be openedonline as per time schedulementionedinPara-1.

6.4 Bids will be openedonline as per time schedulementionedinPara-1.
6.5 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, originalphotocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically I by registered post /throughcourierbeforethe datespecifiedinPara-1.
6.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessarydocumentsincluding tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which sha/have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy. However in case of any clarification the bidders all have to produce original documents in unpart of roof tracing it penet arise.

6.6(B) Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are forged/fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bilder shall be recommended for blacklisting and debarred from taking part in tendering which the PWD/Other Departments for a period of one year in the first instance, besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

7. Thedepartmentwill notbe responsible fordelay inonline submission due to any reasons.

9. The %age rate method requires the bidderto quote a percentage above/below/atparat the bottom of the BOQ percent age template for the work. Deductiononaccountoftaxesshallbemadefromthebillsofthecontractorongrossamountofthebillasperther

are found fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor /bidder shall be blacklisted for participation in this division for a period of five years besides the Performance Security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

12. Biddersareadvisedtouse"My Documents" areaintheiruseronR&Be-Tenderingportaltostoresuchdo

For item rate method the unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of

Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. Innocase they should attempt to creates-

Price escalation on and Taxes:-deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor of the gross

In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines standard bidding document shall be followed Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded /submitted on the basis of which the Contract has been awarded

The bids for the work shallremainvalidforaperiodof120daysfromthedateofopeningofTechnical

Anybidder/tendererwithdrawshisbid/tenderduringtheperiodofbidvalidityormakesanymodificationsinthetermsand-

ies (B.O.O). Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www

Period of downloading of bidding documents 11/08/2023 from 4:00 PM.

Cost (Rs. Doc. (In Money (In comple- Account Authority Contac-

11-08-2023

11/08/2023 from 4:00PM

16/08/2023 upto 4.00PM.

2493/2023

Name of the Work

trict Court Complex

Ganderbal under

Normal Grants.

Position of AAA:-Accorded,

Washroooms at Dis- Lacs

rs.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below-

Date of Issue of Tender Notice

Theearnestmonevshallbeforfeitedlf:-

site www.iktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submissionprocess.

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

Dated:11-08-23

documents in support of soft copies if need arises.

atesprevailingatthetimeofrecovery.

imilar BOO manually

No.7394-99

DIPK-6954/23

Bid submission Start Date

Bid Submission End Date Date &time of opening of Technical

Rids(Online)

Construction of

Government of UT Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Superintendent Industrial Training Institute, Shopian.

Email:itishopian@gmail.com www.itishopian.org

Phone no: 01933 260818

Subject:- Engagement of guest Instructor(s) for the academic session, 2023-24-25 in ITI Shopian.

Advertisement Notice

Applications are invited from the permanent residents of J&K (UT) for engagement of Guest Instructor(s) in the following trades for the academic session 2023-24. The period of engagement will cease automatically at the end of current academic session or in case the Institute has no further requirement of the services of the guest Instructor

No. Of Posts	Trade/ Subject	Eligibility	Remunera- tion
One	COPA(NCVT) Normal	B.Voc/Degree in Computer Science/IT from AITCE/UGC Recognized University with one year experience in the relevant field. OR Post Graduate in Computer Science /Computer Application / IT from UGC Recognized University or NIELIT B Level with one year experience in the relevant field. OR Bachelor in Computer Science / Computer Application / IT OR PGDCA from UGC recognized University or NIELIT A Level with two year experience in the relevant field. OR 03 years Diploma in Computer Science / IT from recognized Board/ Institute or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) (ADIT) from DGT with two year experience in the relevant field. OR NTC/NAC in COPA or any trade in IT-ITeS sector trade with three year experience in the relevant field.	Rs.20000/= Per month.
One	Stenographer & secretarial Assistant (NCVT) (Self Finance)	B.Voc/ Degree In Commerce / Arts (with Short-hand & Typing) from a UGC recognized university with one year experience In the relevant field. OR Diploma (Minimum 2 years) in Commercial Practice from recognised board or relevant Advanced Diploma (Vocational) with two years' experience in the relevant field. OR NTC/ NAC passed in the trade of Stenographer Secretarial Assistant (English) with three years' experience in the relevant field.	Rs.7000/= Per month.

The eligible candidates are informed to obtain the application form(s) from the office of the undersigned or download from our official website (www.itishopian.org) & submit the filled forms by or before 25-08-2023 along with selfattested photo copies of below documents:

- 1. Permanent Residence Certificate/Domicile Certificate
- 2. Date of Birth certificate

Time of M.H of Project Class Of

Grants

16/08/2023 at 4:05 P.M in the office of

Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

Municipal DEE

Executive Engineer R&BDivision Ganderbal

Council

Gander-

bal

- 3. Academic / Technical qualification certificate
- 4. Relevant experience certificate, if any.

Note: Preference will be given to a candidate with Craft Instructor Certificate (CIC) in the relevant trade.

Superintendent Industrial Training Institute Shopian

No: ITI/SPN/ESTT/2023/437-39 DIPK-6923/23 DATED: 11-08-2023

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir,

Office of the Executive Engineer

R&B Division Handwara

NIT No. 22-Handwara/4664-69 of 2023-24 e-tendering DATED: - 09-08-2023

For & on behalf of Lieutenant Governor of J&K Union Territory, e-tenders (in single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory J&K Govt. CPWD , Railways and other state/Central Governments for the followings works:-

S. No	name of work	(Rs. In Lacs)			Completion In days	Date of Opening of Bid	 Major Head of Account
1	Repair/ Renovation of SDO Office Com- plex Handwara	22.67		45340/-	45days	19-08-2023	 Sheep Husbandry
2	Construction of 4 Roomed School Building at Boys Higher Secondary School Warpora	38.16	1100/-	76320/-	60days	19-08-2023	Elemen- tary Edu- cation
3	Completion of Old Rest House at Suderpora Kandi B along with other allied works	24.83	800/-	49660/-	30days	19-08-2023	 Samridh Seema Yojana

Position of AAA Accorded Position of funds **Available**

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:-

(01.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	09-08-2022
)1.)2.	Period of downloading of bidding	From 09-08-2023 to 18-08-2023 (4.00P.M)
ΙL		documents	
(03.	Bid submission start date	09-08-2023 from (10.00A.M)
()3.)4.)5.	Bid submission end date	18-08-2023 upto (04.00P.M)
(05.	Date & time of opening Bids (on line)	19-08-2023 at (10:00AM) in the Office of the Executive
			Engineer RnB Division Handwara

Terms and Conditions: The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape Treasury Challan (Under Account Head 0059) (Treasury Challan) must be wirten boldly the Name of Work, Name of Contractor alongwith Cell No, NIT No. & Sr. No of NIT) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Handwara (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Handwara.

The Successful Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% additional performance security deposit of the allotted cost. The same shall be released after successful completion of the defect liability Period of the work. The EMD of 2% successful bidders shall be released after erformance Security The GST-3B for last Quarter (Quarterly return) and Previous month for (Monthly return) Should be uploaded, irrespective of date of

No hid shall be accented if enlistment card is not found in JKPWDOMS online of those departments which have been serving the said

No bid shall be accepted if enlistment card is not found in JKPWDOMS online of those departments which have been serving the said ircular instruction issued by development Commissioner works vide No.PW/DCW/DB/568-72 DT.10-06-2022 Is to loves to wish the CDR/FDR within two days after opening of Tender falling which 2nd lowest will be approached. lest will be debarred from participating in tendering process for one year in this division.

Manual offers delivered by post/fax or in person, or offers sent by e-mail or telex shall not be accepted against electronic tenders, fers are received in time. All such offers shall be considered as invalid offers and shall be rejected summarily, without any consideration in case the L-1 fails deposit the requisite document, the action against the L-1 as per PWD rules leading to blacklisting of contractor On Opening of financial bid the L1 has to produce the Original CDR/FDR pledge to the opening Authority before allotting the work to of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan

of tender document in the shape of Treasury Challan Upload Valid Registration CARD /Renewal, PAN Card , GST Certificate and latest GST clearance ending previous Monti It is mandatory for all bidders participating to submit all documents in terms of soft copies in etendering website and no documents in terms of Hard Copies shall be entertained. However, lowest bidder will be called for submission of CDB/FDR as well as Treasury Challan and CDB/FDR of the other participating tenderers/ bidders will be released only after surrender of Treasury Challan.

Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with .The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons m. The bidders are advised to get the genuineness of their enlistment cards from the issuing authorities. This is mandatory and bids are liable to be rejected in absence of the genuineness of enlistment card

The contractor may purchase required material of quality and specifications prescribed, to be certified by Engineer in-charge Additional security shall be released only after completion of work

The steel/Key construction material shall be alloweded only of approved brand by the government.

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

The tenderers are directed to submit their tender online; in case the last date of opening of tenders happens to be a holiday/hartal

the same shall be opened on the next working day.

Qualinication or the bioder In order to qualify all bidders shall upload following documents as defined below:-I. Registration Card duly renewed for the current financial year 2023-24. PAN Card, GST Certificate and latest GST clearance ending

In light of Govt. Notification issued by Finance Department Civil Secretariat Vide No. A/24(2017)-651Dt. 07-06-2018, the bidder must bload the copy of Challan / receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Handwara on account of cost of tender documents remitted in the easury concerned for that the bidders must write an application to be addressed to treasury officer concerned requesting therein for remittance of mount as cost of tender documents towards M. H. 0059.

The tenderers shall quote their rates legibly both in words, and figures. In case of any confusion resulting on account of rates not being ritten neatly and legibly decision of department shall be final and binding upon the tenderers.

R&B Division Handwara. DIPK-6967/23 DT: 11-08-2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for the registration of my adventure tour operator under the name & style of Kashmir Ski Academy situated at Dhobiwan Kunzar. Anybody having any objection may file the same to Assisrant Director Toursim Gulmarg, within fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after that.

Mohammad Saleem Hajam S/O Abdul Gaffar Hajam R/O Bandi Payeen Baramulla

bmg

Before The Hon'ble Court Of Principal And District Judge Budgam

Taja Begum wife of Ghulam Qadir Tilwani R/o Wadwan Jagir Budgam

(Caveator)

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

The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap-peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation 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 irrepa- rable 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 Aadil Hassan Malik

Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff **Judicial Magistrate 1st Class At Srinagar**

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC CNR: JKSG03-022910-2023 Date of filing: 27-07-2023 Gh. Mohi-Ud-Din Kohli S/O Kaloo Kohli

R/O Fagir Guiri Harwan, Srinagar Versus

Registrar, Births and Deaths, BDO Harwan

Non-Applicant

Applicant

WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Gh. Mohi-Ud-Din Kohli S/O Kaloo Kohli R/O Faqir Gujri Harwan, Srinagar has born on 02-12-1976 & the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the birthparticulars. Gh Mohi-ud-din Kohli, in the concerned register of births and deaths.

Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this publication.

Dated, this 27th day of January 2023.

(AHTZAZ AHMED)

2nd Additional (JMIC), Srinagar

Court Of The 2Nd Additional Munsiff **Judicial Magistrate 1st Class At Srinagar**

(PROCLAMATION REQUIRING OBJECTION FROM GENERAL PUBLIC CNR: JKSG03-024723-2023 Date of filing: 05-08-2023

Gul Mohammad Bhat S/o Late Abdul Khaliq Bhat R/o New Theed Harwan Srinagar

Applicant

Block Development Officer Harwan

Non-Applicant WHEREAS an application has been made before me that Mughli D/o AliMohammad Akhoon W/o Late Abdul Khaliq Bha R/O New Theed Harwan Srinagar has died on 30-06-2020 & the applicant has sought a direction from this court for registration of the death particulars of Mughli, in the concerned register of births and deaths.

Proclamation is hereby made that the any person having any objection(s) to this application may appear before this Court (or before me) to file objections within 07 days of this

Dated, this 5th day of January 2023.

(AHTZAZ AHMED) 2nd Additional (JMIC), Srinagar

From the office of the Advocate Irfan Ahmed

Aijaz Ahmad Wagay Son Of Abdul Rahman Wagay 2) Abdul Rahman Wagay Son Of Late Abdul Razzaq Wagay Both Residents Of Maloora Gulshan Pora Srinagar Versus

Public at large

(NON-CAVEATOS)

In the Petition in terms of Section 48-A The Caveator has 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 caveator be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order. Sd/advocate

Correction in Names

It is for the information of the general public that I, Gh. Mohd. Shergojree S/o Gh. Hassan Shergojree R/o Arigam Tral, Pulwama, am currently working as Head Constable in IRP-23rd Battalion Lethpora, Pulwama under PID No. ARP-871516. Inadvertently my and my father's name have been reflected wrongly as Ghulam Mohd. S/o Ghulam Hussain Sherjogree, in the Service Records (Service Book), however my and my father's actual name is Gh. Mohd. Sherjogree S/o Gh. Hassan Shergojree. Now, I want to get the same corrected from the concerned competent authority. If anybody has any objection(s) in this regard, please, submit the same in the office of the commandant, IRP-23rd Battalion, Lethpora, Pulwama, J&K, within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice, after that, no objection(s) shall be entertained.

Conference On 'Azmat-i-Imam Hussain' (AS) **Organized At Gandhi College**

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar in collaboration with Anwar-ul-Islam foundation today organized a one-day conference on the theme 'Azmat-i-Imam Hussain' (AS).

The conference was attended by a galaxy of scholars besides students and faculty members of Gandhi Memorial College, Srinagar.

Khurshid Ahmad Qanungo, Showkat Hussain Keing, Shakeel Qalandar, Syed Humayun Qaisar and Haneef Balkhi were the guests on this occasion.

The conference opened

with recitation of the verses of the Quran. This was followed by a welcome address delivered by Chairman Anwar-ul-Islam foundation.

In his presidential speech, the college Principal, Prof (Dr) G M Lone exhorted the audience to embrace the message of patience, steadfastness and courage exhibited by Imam Hussain in the battlefield of Karbala.

Khurshid Ahmad Qanungo, Showkat Hussain Keing and Afaq Chisti were among the speakers who spoke on various dimensions of the personality of Imam Hussain (AS).

The book titled "Sargazasht" was also released during the proceedings of this conference.

Grand Painting Competition Organized On 76th Independence Day In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As a radiant tribute to the magnificent 76 years of India's Independence, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority and in collaboration with the Govt. Hr. Secondary School Mujgund, Srinagar orchestrated a vibrant Painting Competition that epitomized the spirit of artistic expression and patriotism. The event was organized under the guidance and supervision of Chairman DLSA, Srinagar, Jawad Ahmed.

The captivating event un-

folded at the Legal Literacy Club, Govt. Hr. Secondary School, Mujgund, where a spectacular array of colors and creativity came to life. Young artists from the school mesmerized the audience with their splendid artworks, each painting eloquently portraying the journey of India through the lens of their

young, imaginative minds. The atmosphere was brimming with enthusiasm and the vibrancy of our nation's history. The event not only celebrated the artistic brilliance of these young minds but also fostered a deeper connection with the country's rich heritage and the ongoing pursuit of progress and freedom.



Silk reeling process is done with special machines by reeling cocoon baves together to form a single thread at Govt Silk Factory Rajbagh. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Now Magistrates To 'Oversee' Smart Meter Installation In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To ensure smooth installation of smart meters and maintain public order, district administration Srinagar has issued an order directing all Tehsildar's of District Srinagar to provide magisterial support during the installation of smart electricity meters within their respective jurisdictions.

This directive builds upon a previous order dated December 15, 2022, which is aimed to foster cooperation between administrative and police authorities.

The specified Tehsildar's for this task across various tehsils include Maeen Kakroo for South, Kaisar Mehmood for North, and Aliya Tabasum for Khanyar, Saqib Saleem for Chanapora, Kaisar Ahmad for Shaltang, Ishfaq Ahmad Khan for Eidgah, and Rakib Ahmad Ganai for Panthachowk

These Tehsildars will collaborate closely with the respective Superintendent of Police in their zones, ensuring seamless magisterial assistance during the installation process.

In the face of ongoing protests by local residents expressing concerns about the introduction of smart electricity meters, the deployment of magistrates, working in tandem with the police, is intended to address these concerns and facilitate the orderly installation of the new meters.

TRAFFIC POLICE: 9419993745, 01998-266686 PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883 PDD: 0194-2450213

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

SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

Ambulance: Kashmer EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259 ANANTNAG: 01932-228243 BARAMULLA: 0194-102029 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

PAMPORE: 01933-294132 PATTAN: 01954-293507 QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



24 Muharram 1445

FAJR 4:17 **ZUHR** 12:36 ASR 5:25 7:25 Magrib **ISHA** 8:54

PRAYERS

This Day In History

- 1099 Battle at Ascalon: Godfried of Broth leading the Crusaders beats Egyptians Fatimid army
- 1121 Battle of Didgori: the Georgian army under King David the Builder wins a decisive victory over the famous Seljuk commander Ilghazi
- 1164 Battle of Harim: Nur ad-Din defeats the Crusader armies of the County of Tripoli and the Principality of Antioch.
- Novgorod (Russia) regulates the border for the first 1492- Christopher Columbus arrives in the Canary

1323- Treaty of Nöteborg between Sweden and

- Islands on his first voyage to the New World 1499- First engagement of the Battle of Zonchio
- between Venetian and Ottoman fleets
- 1549- French troops conquer Ambleteuse, in the Pasde-Calais, and kill all the English prisoners.
- 1588- Commander of the English fleet Lord Howard of Effingham calls off chase of the Spanish Armada off coast of Scotland
- 1588- Medemblik surrenders to Spanish army
- 1676-1st war between American colonists & Indians ends in New England
- 1687- Charles of Lotharingen defeats Turkish leaders
- 1687- Battle of Mohacs: Ottoman invaders of Hungary routed by forces of Holy Roman Emperor under Charles of Lorraine
- 1759- Battle of Kunersdorf Russian-Austrian army overpowers Prussians
- 1831- Netherlands & Belgium sign peace treaty
- 1865- Joseph Lister performs 1st antiseptic surgery 1877- Thomas Edison invents Edisonphone, a sound
- recording device 1898- Peace protocol ends Spanish-American War,
- signed
- 1908- Henry Ford's company builds the first Model T
- 1914- France and Great Britian declare war on Austria-
- 1914- Russian troops take East-Prussia & occupy
- Marggrabowa 1918- WW I: Allies defeat Germans at the Battle of
- Amiens the last great battle on the Western Front
- 1920- Battle of Warsaw between Poland and Russia begins

From KO Archives

'Meri Zaban Khuli To Toofan Aayega'

RINAGAR- The chief minister Farooq Abdullah today lashed out at successive governments in New Delhi for ignoring the state of Jammu and Kashmir, while assuring the opposition parties of free and fair polls

The government of India did not allow J&K to develop as an industrial state," the chief minister said, "for the reasons better known to them." Even our power projects are not being funded. We do not intend to begall the time," he said in a defi-

ant tone at a press conference here today. "Hum zaher pey rahay ham. Agar hum zuban kholein gay to toofan aaye go' (We are swallowing poison. If we open our mouths it will spark commotion). Dr. Abdullah said after a reporter asked why the state was spending huge sums

on a golf course when the state was pissing through worst The chief minister claimed that he would seek cooperation of Arab and other developed countries for "funding my pending projects."

(Kashmir Observer, August 12, 1999)

Meri Maati Mera Desh

Dir Tourism Plants Tree Saplings At TRC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Directorate of Tourism Kashmir organized a plantation drive and took pledge under the banner of the "Meri Maati Mera Desh" campaign.

Director Tourism Kashmir, Raja Yaqoob Farooq, led the endeavor by planting tree saplings.

by senior officers and officials, who collectively stood united in their pledge of commitment towards safeguarding the values of the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Tourism Kashmir said that the Tourism Department continues to spearhead initiatives that combine environmental consciousness with patriotic fervour.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited **Estates Department J&K** Bank Zonal Office Srinagar Website: www.jkbank.com

PREMISES REQUIRED

The Jammu & Kashmir Bank invites offers from owners of premises for outright purchase/ on lease basis for housing its ATM at Zafran Colony, Sempora, Panthachowk, Srinagar.

Carpet Area of Premises	Location
Upto 120 Sft (Ground Floor)	Zaffron Colony, Sempora, Panthachowk, Srinagar (Preferably Main Market)

having a clear title over the property should submit their offers at Estates Deptt Zonal Office Srinagar, M.A Road Srinagar by or before 06-09-2023. The tender documents and the terms and conditions relating

to same can be obtained in person from Zonal Office mentioned above during working hours and also can be downloaded from Bank's website www.jkbank.com from 14-08-2023

of the offered premises need to apply.

Dated: 14-08-2023

The interested parties/persons owning the premises and

The Bank reserves the right to cancel/reject any/all offer(s)

without assigning any reason thereof. Note: Only those parties having valid commercial permission

Ref: jkb/zo sgr/Est/22-

Zonal Head

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.com

DIPK-NB-2554/23 dated: 11-08-2023

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Bid submission Start Date: 11-08-2023.

E-NIT No: - IUST/EW/ELE/TEND/SS/23/07. Dated: - 11-08-2023. For and on behalf of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora, J&K UT, E-Tenders (in Two cover system) are invited on percentage basis, from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt. / CPWD / Railways or other State / Central Govt. Department for the following work.

Name of work: Creation of 250KVA. 11/0.433 KV Substation for Residential Quarter at IUST Awantipora.

Date of Submission of DD (Hard Copy): 28-08-2023 Bid submission End Date: 25-08-2023 Up to 6:00 PM. (during office hours) Bids shall be opened at IUST on 29-08-2023 at 10.00 AM. Availability of Tender document: Tender document can be downloaded from website (https://jktenders.gov.in.)

Detailed Tender Notice is available on university website: www.iust.ac.in DIPK-NB-2540/23 dated: 11-08-2023

Class of Contract: Class "A"

Advertised Cost of Construction: Rs. 20,65,722.00.

Executive Engineer, IUST Awantipora.

C20	NORT	HERN	RAIL	WAY		7/
OZ3	E-TENDER NOTICE					
	CR acting for and on behalf of the Preers will be able to submit their original/					against below titled
Tender No.	Name of work	Approx. Cost (₹)	Earnest money (₹)	Completion period	Opening of Tender	Website Particulars
251-Elect- T-18/2023- 24	Electrical work in c/w Augmentation of water supply & storage arrangements & allied works in connection with fire fighting system upgradation in Tunnel T-80 between BAHL-QG.	50,58,372.49	1,01,200/-	04 Months	01.09.2023 after 15:00 hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
251-Elect- T-19/2023- 24	Electrical Work for lighting and illumination for Pir Panjal Tunnel in c/w reliable operation of Pir Panjal Tannel in BAHL-QG section.	46,62,122.28	93,300/-	04 Months	01.09.2023 after 15:00 hrs.	www.ireps.gov.in
No.: 251-Elec	ct/T.Notice No. 12-Elect/2023-24 Da	ted: 11.08.202	3			2496/2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Mehbooba Visits Sagar's Residence, **Offers Condolence On Brothers Demise** visited the residence of late

Observer News Service

Srinagar: People's Democratic Party (PDP), president and former chief minister Mehbooba mufti

Nazir Ahmed Charloo.

The deceased was the younger brother of NC general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar and uncle of NC youth provi-

sional president Salam Ali Sagar.

Mehbooba Mufti accompanied by PDP leader and constituency incharge Gabba Kadal Arif Laigroo.

The J&K Board Of Professional **Entrance Examinations (BOPEE)**

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar): 0191-2479371, 2470102 (January) Website: www.jkbopee.gov.in E-mail: coejakbopee@gmail.com/helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com

Conduct of Counselling (Physical) for Admission to B. Pharmacy Course, 2023: notifying of the Counselling Schedule thereof

Notification No. 054-BOPEE of 2023

Reference: Notification No. 047-BOPEE of 2023 dated 31.07.2023 of the J&K BOPEE.

Dated 10-08-2023 The Board vide Notification No.047-BOPEE of 2023 dated. 31.07.2023 had declared the result of Common Entrance Test conducted by the Board on 06.08.2023 and notified the Provisional Merit List of the candidates who had appeared in the said test for admission to Bachelor of Pharmacy Course, 2023 in the

representations against his/her result, if any, within three days from the date of issuance of the said Notification physically at the respective BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar In response one representation was received from the candidate bearing Rank 70 for retotaling. After examination of the records it has been found that the representation made by the candidate had no merit for

Government/Private Institutions of the UT of J&K and the candidates were asked to submit their

It is hereby notified for information of all the concerned candidates that the Board shall conduct the physical round of counselling of only those candidates who have secured upto 20 marks out of 120 marks in the Common Entrance Test i.e. upto Rank 431 in the Provisional Merit List. The candidates upto the Rank 431 are hereby advised to participate in the counselling as per the following schedule

13-08-2023 (Sunday) 01 to 431 Candidates of all categories including open merit All the eligible/interested candidates are advised to report physically at BOPEE Office Jammu/Srinagar

on the above date between 08.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. for attendance and registration along with the following

(i) Domicile Certificate

consideration and accordingly disposed off.

Date

(ii) 12th Class Marks Card;

(iii) Valid Category Certificate, if applicable (iv) Date of Birth Certificate (Diploma/10th Marks Card);

Rank

All the participating candidates shall deposit the Counseling fee of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) through the POS Machines available at the BOPEE office Jammu/Srinagar through Debit/Credit cards. Any candidate who fails to deposit the counselling fee shall not be allowed to participate in the counselling

Further, if any, candidate is not able to participate personally in the counselling on 13-08-2023 due to unavoidable circumstances, he/she can authorize his/her close family member who falls in his/her blood

relation on the devised format of the Board to participate in the counselling on behalf of the concerned candidate. The said authorized person had to submit the authorization letter along with his Identity Card and Aadhar Card during the process of counseling otherwise he/she shall not be allowed to participate in the counselling on their own risk and responsibility.

The Board shall stop the counselling process immediately as and when the seats are fully exhausted.

The other terms and conditions shall remain the same as notified by the Board through the various Notifications/Notices issued from time to time in this regard. E&OE Sd/-

No. BOPEE/Exam-23/2023. DIPK-NB-2552/23 Dated 11-08-2023

Controller of Examinations, J&K BOPEE



Nuh Violence: Farmer Unions, Khaps Demand Fair Probe

Agencies

The farmer unions and khap panchayats in Haryana have demanded a fair probe into the violence that rocked Nuh and Gurugam districts on July 31, and have asked people to avoid misleading videos.

They also urged people to avoid misleading communal-based videos, and should intimate the police about such videos and not to take law into their own hands. Various farmer unions, Khap panchayats, and religious leaders have appealed for peace. They have also urged the police to arrest Mohit Yadav aka Monu Manesar, a cow vigilante, who is the prime suspect in the killing of Nasir and Junaid earlier this year.

A Mahapanchayat was called in Hisar to condemn the Nuh riots on Wednesday. The gathering was attended by 2,000 people, including Khap panchayats, farmers unions and religious leaders of different communities.

"We demand a fair investigation into the matter and we also urge people of Nuh not to act over misleading communal videos and if they receive such videos from any channel they should first report to the law agencies to avoid any incident," Suresh Koth, President Bhartiya Kisan Union told IANS.

He further said after the completion of the investigation

Haryana Khap, farmer unions and religious leaders will visit Nuh and will talk to people.

Violence erupted when a procession organised by the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) was stopped by groups of people. The clashes resulted in the loss of six lives, including two

home guards and a cleric. In Nuh 59 FIRs have been registered and 218 individuals have been apprehended.

Manesar reportedly posted a video on social media claiming his participation in the Nuh religious procession and encouraged his followers to gather in Nuh.

However, he did not attend the procession after the Vishva Hindu Parishad asked him not to, fearing that his presence could escalate tensions.

As the situation is getting normal, schools and banks have been opened in Nuh after 11 days. However, Internet services still remain suspended in the district.

Authorities have also encouraged Muslim clerics to conduct Friday prayers at home.

Nuh administration released a statement stating, "In view of the normal situation in the area, it has been decided to open all educational institutions from August 11. Bus services of Haryana State Transport are also being fully restored from August 11. Curfew was relaxed on Friday for five hours in Nuh.

Petition To Restrain Opposition Alliance From Using Word INDIA Rejected

Agencies

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday rejected a petition seeking to restrain the alliance of 26 political parties from using the word "I.N.D.I.A." (Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance) as the name of their Opnosition alliance

A bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul refused to entertain the plea saying the plea was filed to seek

publicity.
The bench said,
"Who are you? What
is your interest?
If there is a violation of election
norms, go to the
Election Commission. You
want publicity, complete
publicity."
Justice
Kaul said, "We

are not going

to determine morality in politics. It is sad that people waste time on this."

As the petitioner sought direction to withdraw the case, the bench allowed the request of the advocate and dismissed the petition as withdrawn.

The plea had sought directions to the Press Council of India to pass a regulation so that all media agencies refrain from using the name "I.N.D.I.A." as the name of the Opposition alliance.

The petition stated that party workers of this alliance are using slogans only to create a false narrative in the minds of the general public that BJP will be fighting against the nation "I.N.D.I.A." in the upcoming

The 3 Bills That Will Soon Replace British-Era Criminal Laws. Their Aim Explained



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah today introduced three bills in the Lok Sabha to replace the Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, which are Britishera laws.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, and the Bharatiya Sakshya Bill, 2023 will be sent to a parliamentary panel for further scrutiny, Mr Shah said.

He also explained the reason for these bills and what they aim to achieve.

"The laws that will be repealed, the focus of those law

"The laws that will be repealed... the focus of those law was to protect and strengthen the British administration, the idea was to punish and not to give justice. By replacing them, the new three laws will bring the spirit to protect the rights of the Indian citizen," he explained in the Lower House of Parliament.

"The aim will not be to punish, it will be to provide justice. Punishment will be given to create a sentiment of stopping crime," Mr Shah added.

India Seeks G20 Consensus For Quick Extradition Of Economic Offenders

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: India is seeking consensus among G20 nations against fugitive economic offenders to ensure their faster extradition and recovery of assets, both domestically as well as abroad.

This was stated here today by Union Minister for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Jitendra Singh, in an interview with public broadcaster Doordarshan News before leaving for Kolkata for the G20 Ministerial meet and the final meeting of G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) to be held tomorrow.

The third and final meeting of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) under India's Presidency is being held from August 9-11, 2023 in Kolkata. Over 154 delegates from G20 Members, 10 invitee countries, and various international organizations are attending the meeting. It will be followed by the

It will be followed by the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministerial Meeting tomorrow, which will be chaired by the minister.

Minister Jitendra Singh recalled that it was Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who had presented a ninepoint programme to take action against fugitive eco-



nomic offenders during his address at the G20 Summit in Buenos, Argentina.

Mr Singh added that PM Modi highlighted the importance of cooperation in legal processes such as effective freezing of the proceeds of crime, early return of the offenders and efficient repatriation of the proceeds of crime.

"Economic offences have been a problem faced by many, especially when the offenders flee from the jurisdiction of the country and all countries are on the same page as far extradition of fugitive economic offenders and recovery of assets is concerned, but different laws of the member states pose a problem in this regard."

He said a consensus is already in the offing for collective and joint action to deal with this menace and the deployment of sophisticated technologies was also being explored to tackle the problem.

Referring to a series of G20 meetings in various parts of the country including Jammu and Kashmir, North-East, Union Territories and tourist hotspots, Jitendra Singh said, it gave India the opportunity to showcase not only its prowess in various sectors but also demonstrated the varied culture and diversity of India.

Iran, US Agree On Prisoner Swap, Release Of Billions In Seized Funds

Agenci

The US and Iran have agreed to a prisoner exchange, which will also see Washington release at least \$6 billion of Iranian assets seized in South Korea, Reuters reported on 11 August.

Sources speaking with Reuters said that in the first step of the agreement, Iran had moved four US-Iranian citizens from prison and is now holding them on house arrest in preparation for their eventual release. A fifth US citizen set to be released was already under house arrest.

The number of Iranian citizens imprisoned in the US, which will be released, was not announced.

A statement from the Iranian foreign ministry announced that the release of "a number of innocent Iranian prisoners who have been illegally arrested and imprisoned in this country over the past years under false accusations of circumventing the cruel American sanctions" will take place soon.

The ministry stated further that "The process of releasing billions of dollars from the assets of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which were illegally seized in South Korea by the United States for several years, has begun. Iran has received the necessary guarantee for America's adherence to its obligations in this regard."

The US-Iranian citizens allowed to leave the prison include businessmen Siamak Namazi, 51, Emad Shargi, 58,



and Morad Tahbaz, 67. Iran arrested all three on espionage-related charges. The identity of the two remaining US citizens was not announced.

The five Americans will be allowed to leave Iran after \$6 billion of Iranian funds in South Korea are unfrozen, a source told Reuters. However, state-run outlet IRNA on Friday reported that Tehran had secured the release of \$10 billion illegally held by Seoul.

The semi-official Tasnim news agency said the funds were first to be converted from South Korean currency into Euros and then sent to an account in Qatar that Iran could access.

According to another source speaking with Reuters, the funds would remain in accounts restricted by US sanctions and could only be used for humanitarian purposes such as buying food or medicine.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the deal does not involve sanctions relief. "We will continue to enforce all of our sanctions. We will continue to push back resolutely against Iran's destabilizing activities in the region and beyond ... None of these efforts take away from that," Blinken said.

Isis Ambush Kills 23 Syrian Soldiers In US-Occupied Region

Agencies

At least 23 Syrian soldiers were killed during an ISIS attack on a military bus near the eastern city of Deir Ezzor on 11 August, Syrian media reported.

"A number of soldiers were killed, and others were injured, as a result of the terrorist attack targeting their bus southeast of Deir Ezzor," state-run news outlet SANA reported.

According to the oppositionlinked Syrian Observatory for Human Rights (SOHR), more Syria by the Syrian army in alliance with Iran and Russia, the extremist group continues to operate in small pockets across the Badia desert region and other areas.

Thursday's attack is the latest following a surge in militant activity recently.

On 9 August, Syrian TV reporter Firas al-Ahmad and three members of the Syrian army were killed when an explosive device planted by militants detonated as the group's convoy traveled in Al-Shayyah in the Deraa countryside south



than 10 soldiers were injured during the attack. The death toll is likely to increase, SOHR said, adding that the fate of many is unknown following the attack.

Syrian troops were deployed heavily across Deir Ezzor following the attack.

Despite the defeat of ISIS in

Deraa has witnessed ongoing chaos since the demobilization of opposition groups and the signing of Russian-sponsored reconciliation agreements two years ago, with numerous bombings, armed clashes, ambushes, and targeted assassinations taking place across the region.

NEWS MAKERS

Nawaz Sharif will return to Pakistan in September: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's outgoing Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has said that his brother and former premier Nawaz Sharif will return to Pakistan next month to face his pending court cases and lead the party's campaign for the general election.

Nawaz Sharif, 73, has been living in self-imposed exile in the UK since November 2019. He was convicted in the Al-Azizia Mills and Avenfield corruption cases in 2018.

He was serving a seven-year imprisonment at Lahore's Kot Lakhpat jail in the Al-Azizia Mills case before he was allowed to proceed to London in 2019 on "medical grounds".

In an interview with Geo News on Thursday, Shehbaz



Sharif, 71, said he would travel to London to meet his elder brother Nawaz Sharif as soon as the caretaker government took charge in the country.

Shehbaz Sharif reiterated that his elder brother would be Pakistan's prime minister for the fourth time if the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) won the next election to be held later this year.

His statement came as the process to appoint caretaker setup formally kicked off with the dissolution of the National Assembly on Wednesday, three days ahead of the mandated period. "Nawaz Sharif will come back to Pakistan next month and will face the law and lead the election campaign," the incumbent prime minister said without giving the exact date of Nawaz Sharif's return.

In 2016, Nawaz Sharif stepped down as the prime minister after the Supreme Court disqualified him for life for concealing assets.

His appeals against the conviction are currently pending in the relevant courts.

"He (Nawaz Sharif) will neither wear a hat nor a bucket," Shehbaz Sharif said while taking a thinly veiled jibe at Pakistan Tehreek-elnsaf (PTI) chief Imran Khan who dons a bulletproof helmet while appearing for court hearings.

Railway Cop Who Shot Dead 4 Sent To Jail, Narco Test Denied

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: A Mumbai court on Friday remanded Railway Protection Force (RPF) constable Chetan Singh in 14-day judicial custody for allegedly shooting dead his senior colleague and three passengers on a moving train in Maharashtra recently.

Singh was produced before



a magistrate court in suburban
Borivali on Friday at the end of his previous remand.
The court remanded him judicial custody as no further remand was sought by the Government Railway Police (GRP), which is probing the case.

In a related development, the court denied permission to the probe agency to perform brain mapping, polygraph and narco analysis tests on Singh.

The GRP had sought consent for the tests, saying the matter was very serious and a thorough investigation was needed. The incident took place on July 31 on board the moving Jaipur-Mumbai Central Express near Palghar railway station in Maharashtra. Singh (34) allegedly shot dead his senior - RPF Assistant Sub-Inspector Tikaram Meena - and three passengers on board the train, officials said.

Rajasthan Congress MLA Forces Dalit Man To Lick His Shoe; FIR Filed

Press Trust of India

JAIPUR: An FIR has been registered against Congress MLA Gopal Meena and five police officers after the politician allegedly forced a Dalit man to lick his shoe and an officer urinated on him, police said on Friday.

The FIR was lodged on a court's direction after the victim accused the police of ignoring his complaint, added.

The Jamwa Ramgarh MLA, however, refuted the charges and said that fake allegations have been made against him due to a property-related dispute.

"It is a tactic to mount pressure on me. Some people want me to help them with illegal land encroachment. I do not know the man who registered this case," Meena said.

The complainant has alleged that Circle Officer Shivkumar



Bhardwaj urinated on him post the incident, which occurred on June 30 when the police picked him up while he was working on a farm and took him to a place where the MLA forced him to lick his shoe.

Jamwa Ramgarh SHO Sitaram Saini said the case was registered on July 27 and the matter was sent to CID (CB) for investigation.

He said that apart from the Circle Officer, the SHOs of four police stations have been named in the FIR

Walking 4,000 Steps A Day **Lowers Your Risk Of Dying: DAK**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said walking fewer steps a day significantly reduces a person's risk of early death.

"If you walk just 4, 0000 steps a day, you can substantially lower your risk of dying," said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

Dr Hassan said according to a large study published in European Journal of Preventive Cardiology on Wednesday walking 3,967 steps a day reduces the risk of death from any cause, while taking 2,337 steps a day can significantly decrease the risk of dying from cardiovascular disease.

For every additional 1000 steps a day, the risk of dying from any cause falls by 15%, while a 500 extra steps leads to a 7 per cent drop in the risk of death from cardiovascular disease.

That shows the more you walk, the greater the health benefits," he said.

Dr Hassan said researchers of the study found that adults 60 and older who walked between 6,000 and 10,000 steps a day saw a 42% reduction in risk of early death, while people under 60 who walked between 7,000 and 13,000 steps a day had a 49% reduction in risk.

"This gives us to understand that health benefits are more if we start early," he said.

The DAK President said for years, it has been unclear how many minimum steps we should thrive for to start seeing health benefits.

"Studies on walking are many, but this one for the first time sets a prescription dose for lifestyle correction," he said.

Dr Nisar said the study recommendation suits our population. Most Kashmiris are not up to extreme physical exercises. These fewer steps are doable for all.

He said the message of the study is loud and clear. Walk more and sit less.

Physical activity is good for health and sedentary lifestyle invites huge lot of health issues.

"As per World Health Organization (WHO) data, insufficient physical activity is the fourth most frequent cause of death in the world, with 3.2 million deaths a year related to physical inactivity," he added.

24 Soldiers Died In Ceasefire Violations By Pak In 2020: GoI



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: There were 24 "fatal casualties of soldiers" in 2020 due to ceasefire violations from the Pakistan side, the government informed the Parliament on Friday.

Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt said this in response to a query in the Lok Sabha.

Ever since the Director General of Military Operations understanding came into existence in February 2021, there have been "just three incidents of ceasefire violations and no incident of shelling along the Line of Control". However, our troops remain prepared for all such eventualities, he said.

Bhatt was asked about the number of civilians and soldiers killed due to shelling from the Pakistan side in border areas of the country till date during the last three years.

In his response, he also shared a tabulated data, mentioning two columns "fatal casualties of soldiers" and "casualties of civilians"

"There were 24 fatal casualties of soldiers in 2020 due to ceasefire violations, while there were 22 casualties of civilians," according to the data shared. In 2021, there were four "fatal casualties of soldiers", as

per the data.

"Appropriate retaliation to the ceasefire violations, as required, has been carried out by security forces. In addition, all violations of ceasefire are taken up with Pakistan authorities at the appropriate level through the established mechanism of hotlines, flag meetings as well as weekly talks between the Directorate Generals of Military Operations of the two countries," Bhatt said

in his response. "Diplomatically, India has repeatedly emphasised at the highest level, the need for Pakistan to uphold the sanctity of the Line of Control (LC) and the International Border as its obligations emanating from the understand-

ing in vogue," the minister said. In a separate response to another query, the MoS said Indian troops are sent to other countries to maintain peace under the United Nations Plan, and "159 soldiers have been killed in various countries while performing duty under the UN

Peacekeeping Missions". Sixty-eight soldiers killed in the United Nations Operation in the Congo & United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (ONUC & MONUSCO) Mission, according to the data shared by him.

National Highway Engine Of Economic Growth In J&K: CS



Asks Admin To Ensure No Unnecessary Halts On Valley Highways **During Convoy** Movement

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta, while reviewing the progress of different highways taken up under Prime Minister Development Program (PMDP) today remarked that the traffic authorities should make preparations well ahead of the fruit season to ensure smooth flow of trucks on Jmu-Sgr National Highway, particularly those carrying perishable fruit consignments.

In addition to the Principal Secretary, PWD, the meeting was attended by Principal Secretary, Forest; Principal Secretary, PDD; Divisional Commissioners; concerned Deputy Commissioners; representatives from NHAI, NHIDCL, BRO, and

many other concerned officers. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Secretary stressed upon the executing agencies to complete all these road projects providing interconnectivity to different regions in the

stipulated timeframe. He enjoined upon them that the significance of these roads is very high as the UT, due to its hilly terrain, has hardly any alternative roads to link various parts.

He directed the concerned authorities to strictly stick to the timeline of completing these road projects. He made out that these projects make significant contribution towards the economic upliftment of various parts. All the officers including the Deputy Commissioners should take keen interest in seeing them completed on time.

Regarding the Jammu Ring Road project he asked the concerned Divisional Administration to take early measures for dedicating to public the completed portion of the road from Raya Morh (Samba) to Nagrota (Jammu). He also asked them to renovate the significant Tarnah Bridge at Kathua in shortest timeframe.

Regarding the Ring Road Srinagar the Chief Secretary asked the authorities to ensure that the 20 kms stretch under phase-I is dedicated to public by November this year. He told the concerned Deputy Commissioners of Pulwama and Budgam to look into the aspect of Ribbon development of this road in their areas for generating economic activities optimally.

As far as the Jammu-Akhnoor Road is concerned the Chief Secretary asked for completing it in all aspects and dedicating it for the use of general public. He made out that this road is going to play a vital role in bringing this circuit on the tourism map of J&K and increase the footfall to this location.

Dr Mehta while taking review of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway stressed on the executing agencies to work for completing all the tunnels especially T3, T5 and other viaducts on time. He observed that the travel time has got considerably reduced on this road yet the remaining projects between the Ramban-Banihal stretch needs to be made more reliable.

The Chief Secretary reviewed the progress of the construction of four-lanning of Ramban flyover and completion of Banihal Bypass. He also took stock of the underconstruction bridge at Qazigund, Railway Over-Bridge at Anantnag and Lasjan flyover. He fixed the timelines for completion of each of these Road projects and directed for not to extend these beyond the agreed timelines.

Visually Impaired Girl From Pulwama Teaches Computers

Press Trust Of India

LETHPORA : A visually impaired girl from Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district is teaching people how to use mobile phones, computers and laptops after learning it herself from social media and using talking software.

Tehzeeba Hilal, a class 12th student at a school in Awantipora area of Pulwama district, claims that she has trained 88 persons through Zoom and Google Meet platforms on how to use electronic gadgets but her own quest for knowledge was a tough one.
"When I went to a school to

get enrolled, I was told that I cannot study there. They said have trained 88 students. The students are not only locals but also from other parts of the country and abroad, including Pakistan as well," she added.

The girl further said that she had to face a lot of challenges in terms of studies as well as mobility.

"Although my family is against me using the cane for moving around, I am trying to convince them that I will have to use it so that others who do not have the same support system like mine will be able to take up the cane in the pursuit of their goals. The cane is our identity which can warn the able bodied people about us." she added.

Tehzeeba's aim is to become an IAS officer and serve the



the facilities were not there for me as I was a child with special needs. Then my father took me to a school for special children and I studied there till 4th class," Tehzeeba said.

"From there I went to another school for special children in Anantnag where I took the exams of 4th, 5th and 6th class in one month. I studied there till 7th and also took training in abacus, tailor frame and Braille," she added.

The burqa-clad girl, who was recently felicitated by the education department, gave a demonstration for the students on how visually impaired people can use the gadgets.

"I learned to operate mobiles, laptops and computers on my own by accessing information on YouTube or using the talking software. Then I started teaching other students how to use these things through Zoom and Google Meet platforms. These days, the classes are not being held as I am preparing for 12th class board examination," Tehzeeba said.

"In the two sessions which I have conducted till last year, I people of the country.

"Especially the disabled community, be it orthopedic, deaf and mute or visually impaired like me," she said.

Abdul Qayoom, the Chief Education Officer of Pulwama district, said Tehzeeba is very gifted and the society needs to encourage such children.

"She is not just marvelous but miraculous the way she has honed her talent. She not only uses a computer but even delivered a complete lesson to the students in front of us. These kind students need to be identified and deserve to be given special attention. There might be more such students," he said.

Qayoom said the girl has highlighted the problems she faced in pursuit of her education.

"As we know, society generally remains negative towards such kids. She mentioned that she did not get the cooperation from the school or the Board of School Education to the level she had expected. I regret that we could not provide them the necessary care and her talent has only underlined the need for care of these students." he added.

Ahead Of I-Day, Police Review Security For Vaishno Devi Shrine

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Ahead of Independence Day, the security arrangements were reviewed for the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine atop Trikuta hills in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Friday, a police spokesman said.

Deputy Inspector General of Police, Udhampur-Reasi range, Mohd Suleman Choudhary conducted the security review meeting in Reasi, and also discussed the Independence Day celebrations and the upcoming Kausar Nag Yatra, the spokesman said.

He also called for a "pro-active approach and the highest level of alertness" to contain any attempt to revive militancy in the district.

The meeting was attended by Reasi Senior Superintendent of Police Amit Gupta and other senior officers of police, CRPF and intelligence agencies, the spokesman said. It re-



Vaishno Devi shrine and safety and security of pilgrims.

The DIG directed the police to conduct joint security drills with Central Armed Police Forces for security of the shrine besides stressing upon verification of migrants in and around Katra town – the base camp for the pilgrims visiting the shrine.

He also asked for verification of pony porters, checking of the hotels and residential

viewed the security drill of vi- accommodations to check the ment in the area, the spokesman said.

The SSP also spoke about various security arrangements in place for the peaceful conduct of Independence Day events, upcoming Kausar Nag Yatra and the famous shrine at the meeting.

Security has been further strengthened across Jammu and Kashmir to thwart any attempt by terrorists to disrupt programmes on August 15.

ازعدالت ایدیشل سیش موبائیل مجستریت (فسٹ کلاس)چھوسہ بااجلاس تو قیل احدمبر اسائل اسائلہ :عرفان احرمیار مالیکی توبارسائلہ داروفرسٹواری تعمیل دا کوروضلع بارجولہ

م الكه مرا فالن الرفاق والمداكر فالن المدانيا ا

08-06-2013/N₂₅ 5/h

معالمه تدبيع نوان الصدر شيءاكن سائل في مدالت بذائين أنيه ورفواست بشمول طقي الغرش العرارين الأربغ يهيدانش المحدفرة لايعرفاني ولدعرفان احمذ ببارساكندوا وقرسقواري فلنعيل فأكوره مورة 2023-08-08 فيڭ كى بے البيذ الوام الناس كوية رابعه التي رمطلع كياجاتا ہے كہ نبست ورخواست کوئی عذر بااحتراض ہوئے کی صورت بھی اینے عذرات اشعاعت افتہار کے اندروی بهمهدالت بين "كرويل كريد وبعدًلا ويت مسياد كاني عذر بااعتراض قالمي قول أيس ولايه حارجً آجدہ عدالت بدائی 2023-10-18 کو قررے۔ (رالسند2023-08-03

IUST Commissions STP Facility In The Campus

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Professor Shakil Ahmad Romshoo. Vice Chancellor of the Islamic University of Science and Technology, inaugurated the campus sewage treatment facility Friday in the presence of various university officers.

The state-of-the-art sewage treatment facility has a ed water meets drinking

treatment capacity of 100 KLD and has been constructed at a cost of about 75 lakhs to address wastewater treatment across the campus, including hostels accommodating students and scholars.

This facility will safe-

guard local water resources, including the Jhelum River, from pollution.

The quality of the treat-

be utilized for irrigation of university gardens and parks, general cleaning, and other purposes.

As a result, this will help reduce the demand for freshwater sources on campus. This significant pollution control measure underscores the university's commitment to sanitation and the sustainable utiliza-

water standards and will tion of dwindling water resources. Notably, IUST has implemented rooftop water harvesting mechanisms for all campus buildings.

Professor Shakil Ahmad Romshoo praised the Engineering Wing for completing the project on time and reaffirmed IUST's dedication to environmental protection, cleanliness, and water conservation.

GOVT, OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL HOSPITAL AND CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR

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

1. Repairing of washing machine and replacement of damaged parts of different washing machine of Subject: Laundry at Govt LD Hospital Srinagar

2. Hydrostatic testing of old steam boiler in laundry section at Govt LD Hospital Srinagar

3. Repairs cum upgradation of nitrous oxide panel at Govt LD Hospital Srinagar

4. Repairs to electrical panel of AHU (Modular OT) at Govt LD Hospital Srinagar This office e-NIT No: MHCHD/TS /2023-24/36/e-tendering, Dated: 28.06.2023

CANCELLATION

In view of minimum number of bidders not qualifying for opening of Cover 2nd, the above referred e-NIT(s) stands cancelled and shall be invited afresh shortly.

No: MHCHD/TS/ 4085-88, Dated: 11-08-2023

Ref:-

DIPK-6897-23 DT: 11/08/2023

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** MHCHD, Srinagar

DIPK-6878-23 DT: 11/08/2023

J&K's Transformative Journey

Arvind Bhat

The curtains rise on a new era as Jammu and Kashmir fully embraces e-governance, bidding adieu to the cumbersome practice of the costly Darbar Move that annually drained around Rs 400 crore from the exchequer"

'N the wake of momentous changes that followed the reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir into a Union Territory, a dynamic transformation has unfolded across various spheres of development. This metamorphosis, aptly depicted in the Nritya Natika titled "Yug Parivartan-Badalta Jammu Kashmir," orchestrated by the Information Technology Department, J&K, and the Jammu and Kashmir Academy of Art, Culture, and Languages, sheds light on the monumental shifts that have transpired over the past four years.

The curtains rise on a new era as Jammu and Kashmir fully embraces e-governance, bidding adieu to the cumbersome practice of the costly Darbar Move that annually drained around Rs 400 crore from the exchequer. This transition is emblematic of the UT's commitment to streamlining administrative processes and harnessing technological advancements for greater efficiency.

A pivotal milestone is marked by the establishment of a dedicated Registration Department, overseeing the digitized process of land and property registration. With the advent of digitalization, the UT has ushered in an era of convenience, rendering over 600 services accessible online and obviating the need for cumbersome paperwork.

Unveiling a true embodiment of grassroots democracy, the Block Development Council elections have breathed new life into local governance, empowering communities and fostering a deeper sense of participation and representation.

The visionary "Back To Village" program has carried the administration's presence to the doorsteps of the people, creating an invaluable bridge between policymakers and the realities of the ground. This pioneering initiative has paved the way for more tailored and impactful development strategies.

Addressing historical injustices, Jammu and Kashmir has extended



The ambitious Prime Minister's Development Package has expedited developmental projects, with an impressive tally of 32 completed projects by May 2023, a stark contrast to the 7 achieved by June 2018.

domicile status to marginalized communities, including displaced persons, Valmikis, and children of women married outside the region, effectively dismanling decades of

discrimination and exclusion.

The ambitious Prime Minister's
Development Package has expedited developmental projects, with
an impressive tally of 32 completed
projects by May 2023, a stark contrast to the 7 achieved by June 2018.

The thrust towards enhancing hydroelectric power generation is underscored by the augmentation of capacity, set to reach a formidable 3050 MW by 2025-26.

In tandem, the UT has achieved a substantial surge in power transmission capacity, bolstered by the addition of 4020 MVA capacity between April 2019 and March 2023.

Infrastructure development has forged ahead with the connection of

2096 habitations and the construction of 244 bridges, reaffirming Jammu and Kashmir's commitment to spurring economic growth.

Travel dynamics have been redefined, as the travel time between Srinagar and Jammu for Light Motor Vehicles has been significantly reduced from 7-12 hours to a mere 5.5 hours, enhancing regional connectivity and accessibility.

A testament to the commitment towards equitable access to essential services, the current fiscal year (2023-24) promises functional household tap connections for all 18.67 lakh rural households.

The economic horizon of Jammu and Kashmir has been invigorated by a surge in industrial growth, substantiated by an impressive influx of investment proposals totaling a staggering 73,376 Crores.

As a trailblazer in social welfare, the UT unveiled the groundbreaking Universal Health Insurance Scheme, bestowing families with up to Rs 5 lakh health coverage, making Jammu and Kashmir the vanguard of inclusive healthcare.

In the backdrop of these transformative accomplishments, Jammu and Kashmir stands poised on the cusp of a new dawn, propelled by visionary leadership, strategic policy shifts, and an unwavering commitment to progress. The Nritya Natika "Yug Parivartan-Badalta Jammu Kashmir" serves as an evocative testament to this evolution, weaving a narrative of hope, resilience, and a brighter future for the people of the region.

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

Rupee And The Cost Of Capital

Akhilesh Tilotia

n important component of the cost of capital for any domestic project which relies on external financing, whether debt or equity, is the change in exchange rate. To a foreign investor investing in a domestic project, the significant return is what they can repatriate in their currency. The exchange rate, expected in the future when repatriation is planned, plays a very crucial role in determining the expected rate of return. A foreign investor will want to cover the expected depreciation in the value of the local currency when formulating their cost of capital.

Understanding the average depreciation...

Knowing what the future exchange rate will be is difficult, especially when the hedge market is broken. For emerging market economies, exchange rate hedges are liquid and competitive largely in short tenures, like a year or so. For investors with a long-term horizon, the ability to hedge currency rate risks over a long period of time may simply not exist. Long-term investors may invariably end up taking unhedged currency risks on an emerging market investment. It is possible to roll over short-term hedges over multiple periods but typically, that is uneconomic.

Since the future is unknown, one typically looks at the past for guidance. Investors assess the realised depreciation of a currency over rolling, long periods of time. Understanding these changes in exchange rates over multiple cycles offers a reasonable estimate of the annual rate of change between them (appreciation or depreciation).

The realised annual rate of change between currencies offers a good starting point for investors to consider what premium to associate with the currency when calculating the cost of capital. For example, if a currency has reasonably consistently seen say, a 4% depreciation every year, and if the past is assumed to be a reasonable representation of the future, an investor would add 4% premium to the cost of capital in that currency.

...and the volatility of the change
While the realised depreciation represents the
outcome that we see on a particular date, it should
rightly be seen as one of the many outcomes that
were possible. Since the future is suffused with
uncertainty, investors typically do not like to take
a single point estimate of the future. A range of



Since the future is unknown, one typically looks at the past for guidance. Investors assess the realised depreciation of a currency over rolling, long periods of time. Understanding these changes in exchange rates over multiple cycles offers a reasonable estimate of the annual rate of change between them (appreciation or depreciation).

outcomes is considered. The best way to estimate what the range of outcomes can be is to understand the volatility in the movement of the currency. The more volatile the currency, the more is possible that the realised outcome in the future can be significantly different from the average assumed. As an investor, the expected return needs to consider the close-to-worst possible outcome.

Currency volatility is measured by the standard deviation (also called sigma) of the changes in the exchange rates. Knowing the sigma, a range of outcomes can be forecast. Without being too technical, it is sufficient to say that a three-sigma range is expected to cover 99.7% of the possible fu-

ture outcomes (assuming a normal distribution). A currency with an average 4% depreciation per year coupled with 10% volatility has a three-sigma range of outcomes represented by 2.8-5.2% of annual depreciation every year. (The maths is: $4\%\pm3\times[10\%$ of 4%]).

The foreign investor would hence add a premium of 5.2% to the cost of capital for that currency, instead of the 4% average expected depreciation, an increase in cost of capital of 120 bps.

The investor is now more confident of having protected the close-to-worst outcome possible, even though it raises the cost of capital for the recipient. The foreign exchange risk (premium)

component is hence composed of two parts—the expected depreciation and the volatility of the expected depreciation. If a currency is more volatile, its cost of capital rises and vice versa.

Structural factors can change the relative trajectory of exchange rates, impacting both average depreciation and volatility. In a recent article in this paper ("Decoupled from the US", bit. ly/3DcuN5D), it was noted that the relative inflation differential between India and the US has narrowed, leading to lower yield differentials between the two countries. This is largely attributed to a significantly better inflation management in India compared to the US, especially post India's implementation of the flexible inflation targeting regime of 4%±2%. The yield difference between the 10-year sovereign bonds of India and the US is now at all-time lows of ~3.2%.

Seeing lower depreciation and volatility India's relatively better performance on inflation management has meant that its rate of depreciation against the dollar has been low and falling. More pertinent, the realised volatility of the rupee vis-à-vis the dollar is now at decadal lows.

The rupee structurally moved from a 4.0% depreciation with a sigma of 7.6% (as observed in the three-year period between July 2013 and June 2016) to a 2.8% depreciation with a sigma of 5% (as observed between July 2016 and now). This change means that the third standard deviation from the mean moved from 4.9% to 3.2% over these time periods, a reduction of \sim 170 bps on an annualised basis.

Lower depreciation coupled with lower volatility, if sustained, can bring down the required risk premium that foreign investors charge on Indian investments. Savings on the lower cost of capital can be material. Such reduced costs of capital can be attributed to the deft management of the external value of the rupee. The central bank, through the course of the last couple of years, has managed its large stockpile of foreign reserves counter-cyclically to dampen the volatility. The RBI has consistently maintained its mantra on foreign exchange: to "not target a level but manage volatility".

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



Education in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Preparing Students for a Changing World

Shahid Qureshi

The rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) have sparked a transformative shift in various sectors, including education. As AI technologies continue to evolve, it is crucial to explore the implications and opportunities they bring to the realm of education, examine the challenges and possibilities of education in the age of AI and highlight the need to prepare students for a changing world.

Al has the potential to revolutionize education by enhancing personalized learning, automating administrative tasks, and providing intelligent tutoring systems. Adaptive learning platforms powered by Al algorithms can analyze individual student data and tailor instructional content to their unique needs and learning styles. This personalized approach can significantly improve student engagement, achievement, and overall educational outcomes.

As AI technology continues to advance, there is a growing concern about the potential impact on the job market. Automation may lead to the displacement of certain jobs, while simultaneously creating new opportunities. It has become all the more easier to develop robots that specialise in narrower neche replacing thousands of human workers. These special purpose robotic devices will find application in almost every field conceivable. Some proportion of human abilities may become redundant in the face of automation outperforming humans in speed, accuracy and reliability. To address this, education must adapt to



equip students with the skills and competencies necessary for the evolving job landscape.

This includes fostering critical thinking, creativity, problem-solving, collaboration, and adaptability - skills that are less likely to be automated.

Incorporating AI into education also raises ethical considerations. Privacy, data security, and algorithmic bias are important aspects that need to be addressed to ensure responsible AI use. Educators and policymakers must estab-

lish guidelines and regulations to protect student data, promote transparency in Al algorithms, and prevent discriminatory practices

Additionally, teaching students about ethical AI use and the potential social impact of AI is crucial in developing responsible AI users and creators.

Contrary to the fear of AI replacing teachers, its integration in education can actually enhance the teacher-student relationship. By automating routine administrative tasks, teachers can devote

more time to individualized instruction, mentoring, and providing emotional support to students.

AI can assist teachers in identifying areas where students may struggle, providing real-time feedback, and recommending appropriate learning resources. This collaboration between teachers and AI can create a more personalized and effective learning experience.

To fully harness the potential of AI in education, it is essential to prioritize digital literacy and AI education. Students

need to develop a solid understanding of AI concepts, its capabilities, limitations, and ethical considerations. Integrating AI-related topics into the curriculum can help students become informed consumers and critical thinkers in a technology-driven society. Additionally, providing opportunities for hands-on experiences with AI technologies can inspire students to pursue careers in AI and contribute to its development.

In the age of AI, the ability to adapt, learn continuously, and acquire new skills becomes paramount. Education should emphasize the cultivation of a growth mindset and a passion for lifelong learning. Students need to be equipped with the skills to learn independently, critically evaluate information, and adapt to technological advancements throughout their lives. This includes promoting self-directed learning, problem-solving, and fostering a curiosity-driven mindset.

The integration of AI in education presents both challenges and opportunities. By harnessing the potential of AI, education can become more personalized, adaptive, and effective. However, it is crucial to address ethical considerations, prioritize digital literacy, and ensure that education prepares students for the changing job landscape. By embracing a forward-thinking approach, educators can empower students to thrive in an AI-driven world, fostering a generation of lifelong learners, critical thinkers, and responsible users of AI.

The author is an educator by profession. shahidlangate@gmail.com

"Five Times? A Day?!": How to Encourage Kids to Pray Salah

<u>Amaliah</u>

As one of the five pillars of Islam, Salah is an essential component to the daily lives of Muslims across the globe. Praying five times a day grants us the tranquillity of worship and a quiet time between ourselves and Allah.

Introducing Salah to young children in Muslim households is proving to be more complex than expected for many families. Educating children on the importance of praying consistently can be challenging because well... they're kids. Perhaps they would prefer watching another episode of their favourite show or believe they'll simply do it later, only to forget eventually. This is a relatable experience for all Muslims, as we ourselves have been through it in our own childhoods. So how can we help young children begin their Salah journey in a joyful manner?

Below is a list of five top tips from Muslim women in the UK offering valuable advice on introducing Salah to children of all ages. These tips are tried and tested and can be incredibly helpful for your child(ren), younger siblings, nieces, nephews, or any mini Muslims in your life.

TIP #1: Lead by example

Mariam B. from London has five children under the age of 13 who are at varying stages of learning how to pray. Her number one tip on encouraging children to pray is, "Before you expect your children to begin to pray independently, it is vital they see with their own eyes how you begin Salah. Showing them how you perform wudhu and letting them watch you pray is a great way to familiarise them with Salah." Let them see in practice what you are preaching

TIP #2: Establish a pattern before and after Salah

Ayaan R. aged 22 has three younger siblings and likes to step in when they have questions about Islam which includes Salah. "One thing I've learned is that children tend to like routine even if they don't admit it. My little brother and sisters aren't old enough to pray yet but they're already so fascinated Masha'Allah, bombarding me with



questions right after I finish reciting Tasleem."

Ayaan shares how she has developed a routine before and after Salah which she demonstrates to her siblings. "Before Salah, I wear the exact same abaya and hijab to pray in. Then after Salah, I tune in to British Muslim TV or Islam Channel to watch an episode of whatever is on which is something we can do as a family. This way, it establishes a routine which we can then stick to. Now my siblings know my routine better than I do which will help them when they begin to pray, insha'Allah."

TIP #3: Pray together

Sumera Ali, who hails from a big family all living under one roof in Birmingham, discloses her favourite tip on introducing Salah to young children. "In our loud chaotic house, we can barely hear ourselves speak. We raise the Adhan to full volume so the sound travels and everyone knows exactly when it's time to pray. One thing that has been instilled in our family is praying together in one room at the same time. Not a lot of families do this but

it's a great way to introduce the concept of Salah. The kids are at the back so they can just watch and copy what the adults are doing even if they don't fully understand yet. Praying together brings unity and is Sunnah so children get to learn as they get older."

Families that pray together, stay to-

TIP #4: Let them lead

Faduma I. aged 30 has a four year old daughter and has adopted a trick to educate her on Salah. "During Salah,

my daughter loves the call to prayer and immediately stops what she is doing when she hears it, Masha'Allah. One thing we love doing is that sometimes we let her lead our Salah even though she doesn't actually know how to pray yet. Giving a child a significant responsibility like leading the prayer makes them feel important and reinforces the notion that Salah is for everyone, not just the grownups."

TIP #5: Use visual aids

Last but not the least, Helena M. a 41-year-old entrepreneur from Manchester reveals her favourite tip on introducing the concept of praying to young children. "I'm not going to lie, learning how to pray when I was a kid was hard. There were times I didn't feel like doing it which is something everyone goes through but the guilt of missing a Salah would cripple me. One thing I've learnt from being the auntie of a sea of nieces and nephews is that children are visual learners. Telling them when it's time to pray doesn't do much to help them learn. My advice is to make a visual chart with the five prayers listed: Fajr, Dhudhr, Asr, Maghrib and Isha. Whenever a prayer is completed, the children can mark it off like a calendar. This way, they can physically see their progress and feel the motivation to keep going. It also teaches them the name of each prayer, which one comes first, and how many Rakats each one has."

These days, there are a variety of salah trackers available from Muslim businesses that aim to do just that, providing a convenient tool to track and encourage consistent prayer. Alternatively, you can engage the children by asking them to design and create their own personalised Salah charts, cultivating a sense of ownership and excitement about their prayer routine.

Introducing Salah to young children may be a challenge at first because it is something new that requires discipline and consistency. However, the use of visual learning, teaching by example, helping them establish a routine, praying side-byside and giving them the chance to lead the prayer are all great ways to teach the basics until they are ready to pray independently.



NORTHERN RAILWAY



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Open		Works	Works Single Bid System		22.08.2023	05.09.2023/15:00 Hrs			
S.N.	Tender N	No.		Details of Ten	der				
1	155-202 24-ADE II -ASF	N- from Km 509.00	to Km 511.00 UP & losed 60 Kg 90 UTS	DN lines of existing track	k laid with 52 Kg rails on I	rack Renewal (P) 4.00 Km PSC-5 sleepers with M+7 M+8 density on JUC-ASR			
		Advertise	ed Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion			
		3,10	04,054.49/-	3,05,000/-	60 Days	06 Months			
						distressing of track, pre & Regulating Machines and			
2	156-202 24-ADE II -ASE	N- rails on PSC-5	Complete Track Renewal(P) by PQRS 12.65 Km from Km 480.60 to 493.25 (UP) of existing track laid with 52 Kg rails on PSC-5 sleepers with M+7 density with proposed 60 Kg 90 UTS new rails on PSC-6 new wider sea sleepers with M+8 density on JUC-ASR section under Sr.DEN-III/FZR.						
		Advertise	ed Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money	Validity of Offer	Period of Completion			
		3,16	,97,713.42/-	3,08,500/-	60 Days	06 Months			
			Similar nature of work: - "CTR/TRR/TFR/TTR including raising of Track screening distressing of track, pre & Post work for track maintenance machine like Tamping Machines/Ballast Screening/Regulating Machines and						

Note1. Before bidding bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender

2502/2023

Tender Notice No: 155 & 156-2023-24-ADEN-II/ASR Date: 11.08.2023 Serving Customers With A Smile

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the Executive Engineer, Trans. Line Maintt. Division -7, JKPTCL Bemina, Srinagar-190010

Ph. No. 0194-3516481 e-mail: tlmd7.jkptcl@gmail.com

EXTENSION NOTICE-I

Due to poor response, the last date for submission of bids in respect of e-NIT No. TLMD-7/11 of 2023 dated: 31-07-2023 for Soil Investigation at different Tower Locations of ZAMTL (Sec-II) i.e 220kV D/C Alusteng- Mir Bazar Transmission line by way of Drilling of Bore hole in Rock/ Boulder Substrata using Diamond Machine, Collection of Disturbed/Undisturbed Samples, their complete laboratory analysis, Preparation of Bore Hole Logs and evaluation of Safe Bearing Capacity, Conducting Stranded Penetration Tests (SPT) at desired interval .Collection of Samples (Rock Core Samples) in Core Boxes 0-20 Meters including Shifting of men and machinery for the purpose. Preparation and submission of Detailed Technical Report (Complete Job) is hereby extended with revised critical dates as under.

1	E-bids submission end date and time	17-08-2023 (14:00 Hrs)
2	Online techno commercial e-bid opening date and time	18-08-2023 (16:00 Hrs)

All other terms and conditions of e-NIT will remain same.

Executive Engineer TLMD-7 Srinagai

No. TLMD-7/TS/1392-94 DIPK-NB-2549/23 Dated: 11: 08: 2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer Mechanical **Hospital And Central Heating Division Srinagar**

(Tele-fax No: 019-2496089, e-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in)

Subject: - I. Servicing of Air Compressor (Kaeser make Sigma Control Basis) at out Feed Mill, Manasbal Safapora Ganderbal II. Repairs/ Replacement / Fitting & Testing of Compressor (CPC40) of Medical Air at Govt. L.D Hospital Srinagar Ref: This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2023-24/67/e-tendering Dated 02.08.2023

EXTENSION

In view of poor/no response, the critical dates of above subject above referred e-NIT(s) are extended as follows:

S.No	Description	Date and Time		
1. Last Date of Bid Submission		16.08.2023 (12:00 hrs)		
2.	Date of Bid Opening	16.08.2023 (15:00 hrs)		

All other Terms and Conditions of the NIT shall remain the same.

Sd/ **Executive Engineer** MHCH Division Srinagar

11.

23 24

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No. MHCHD/TS/ 4092-95

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIPK-6964/23 Dt: - 11-08-2023

Office Of The Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Pulwama

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No: 120 / EEP/RNB of 2023-24/7181-91 Dated:11 / 08/2023

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

Tottowing works.									
S.No Name of Work Adv. Cost (Rs.		Cost of T/Doc.	EMD in shape	Time of	M.H of	Class of Con-	AAA No:		
			In Lacs)	(In Rupees)	of CDR/FDR/	completion	Account	tractor	
			,		BG				
	1.	Macadamisa-	175.83	2600/-	2% of Adv	30 (Working	C&T	Aay Class	25-SE/PS of
		tion of Pampore			cost	Days)			2023-24 Dat-
		Dulwama road				' '			od 10 00 2022

Position of AAA: Accorded Position of funds Available

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

	-	<u>-</u>	
ı	1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	11 /08/2023
ı	2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	11 /08/2023 from 10.00 AM.
ı	3	Bid submission Start Date	11/08/2023 from 10.00 AM.
ı	4	Bid Submission End Date	17 /08/2023 upto 4.00 PM.
ı	5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	18 /08/2023 at 11:00 AM in the office of
١			Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Pul/Spn

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

At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Pul/Spn. The successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the total cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.

All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Head Draftsman DIPK-6938/23 dated: 11-08-2023 Technical Officer

Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama

People With Low Levels Of Vitamin K Have Less Healthy Lungs: Study

Press Trust Of India

ccording to a study publishedin ERJ Open Research, people low levels of vitamin K in their blood are more likely to have impaired lung function and to suffer from asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

and wheezing.

Vitamin K is found in leafy green vegetables, vegetable oils and cereal grains. It plays a role in blood clotting, and so helps the body to heal wounds, but researchers know very little about its role in lung health.

Researchers say their new findings do not alter the current advice on vitamin K intake, but they do support further research to see if some people could benefit from taking vitamin K supplements.

The study was by team of Danish researchers at Copenhagen University Hospital and the University of Copenhagen. It involved a group of 4,092 people aged between 24 and 77 years living in Copenhagen.

Study participants took part in lung function testing, called spirometry, gave blood samples and answered questionnaires on their health and lifestyle. The blood tests included a marker of low levels of vitamin K in the body called dpucMGP. Spirometry measures the amount of air a person can breathe out in one second (forced expiratory volume or FEV1) and the total volume of air they can breathe in one forced breath (forced vital ca-



pacity or FVC).

The researchers found that people with markers of low levels of vitamin K had lower FEV1and lower FVC on average. People with lower levels of vitamin K were also more likely to say they had COPD, asthma or wheezing.

Researcher, Dr Torkil Jespersen said: "We already know that vitamin K has an important role in the blood and research is beginning to show that it's also important in heart and bone health, but there's been very little research looking at vitamin K and the lungs. To our knowledge, this is the first study on vitamin K and lung function in a large general population. Our results suggest that vitamin K could play a part in keeping our lungs healthy.

On their own, our findings do not alter current recommendations for vitamin K intake, but they do suggest that we need more research on whether some people,

such as those with lung disease, could benefit from vitamin K supplementation." The research team are already working on a large clinical trial comparing vitamin K supplementation with a placebo (dummy pill) to look at any effects on heart and bone health in the general population (the InterVitaminK trial). Based on their new results, they will now include analvses of lung function in this trial.

Dr Apostolos Bossios from Karolinska Institutet in Sweden is Secretary of the European Respiratory Society's assembly on Airway diseases, asthma, COPD, and chronic cough, and was not involved in the research. He said: "This study suggests that people with low levels of vitamin K in their blood may have poorer lung function. Further research will help us understand more about this link and see whether increasing vitamin K can improve lung function or not."

Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir (U.T) Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No.36/3471-80 of R&B/Vailoo /2023-2024/e-tendering/ DATED:10/08/2023

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

S.		Est. Cost (Rs. In	Cost of T/Doc.in	Earne st Mone y	Time of	Project Intend-	Class of	Major
No	Name of Work	Lacs)	form of Treasury	(2% of Adv.	completion	ing Department	Contractor	Headof
			challen / Receipt (in Rs)	Cost)(in Rs.)				account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of Dome shaped Gate of	3.713	200	7426	20 days	MC Kokernag	DEE Class	14th FC
	Town Hall Kokernag							
2	Development of Lawn for town hall	9.194	600	18388	30 days	MC Kokernag	CEE/DEE Class	Budgetary
	Kokernag							Support
3	Construction of tiled path from shop of	5.010	300	10020	20 days	MC Kokernag	CEE/DEE Class	14th FC
	Javid Ahmad Bhat to gate of Municipal							
	Committee Kokernag							
4	Construction of tiled path from Manzoor	1.060	200	2120	20 days	MC Kokernag	DEE Class	14th FC
	Ahmad Wagay to Fayaz Ahmad Bhat at							
l .	MC Kokornag							

Position of AA-Accorded Position of TS-Accorded

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.iktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

	1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice		10.08.2023	
	2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents.	From	10.08.2023	4.00 pm
	3.	Bid submission Start Date	From	10.08.2023	4.00 pm
[4.	Bid Submission End Date	То	19.08. 2023	4.00 pm
[5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	21.08.2023 at 10.30 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo		

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/ challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division vailoo (Head-0059) (tender inviting authority) and Earnest Money for 2% of Advertised Cost in shape of CDR/FDR only. Pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division vailoo (tender receiving authority) (Name of work to be mentioned on the Treasury receipt/ challan) (Refer Govt. order No. A/24(2017)-65 DT: 07.06.2018 & Superintending Engineer R&B Circle Ang/Kul 's No. 3867-70 dated: 04.08.2018 (The date of Treasury receipt / Challan should be between the date of start of bid end Bid submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo (Tendering Inviting Authority) . 5% Performance Security of the allotted cost in the shape of CDR/FDR by the Successful bidder. Minimum of Two bids are necessary to decide L-1 bidder in case of Contractors.

The Ist Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of allotted cost as performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR within 07 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of defective liability period of the work which is 12 months. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be released after receipt of 5% Performance Security.

Only those contractors are eligible for taking part in the bidding process whose contractor registration card is enrolled online on the JKPWDOMS portal.

The Advertized cost is inclusive of GST @18% and Contract Price is exclusive of GST. ecurity Deposit shall be deposited by the contractor within 10 days of issuance of LOI, failing which the concerned tender issuing authority shall forfeit the EMD and recommend contractor for blacklisting and issue a fresh tender forthwith.

The contractor shall initiate the work within 10 days of entering into the agreement, failing which the undersigned shall terminate the contract and issue a fresh tender after imposing penalties viz forfeit security/LD as per T&C of the Bid document and recommend contractor for blacklisting. 8. The work shall be completed by the concerned contractor as per the timeline stipulated in the bid document/agreement, failing which action shall be initiated against contractor by forfeiting EMD and shall be recommended for blacklisting.

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division vailoo (tender receiving authority).

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:-Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

12. 1.1 Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www into acquaint bid submission process

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

1.3 The bidders because it bidders bec

The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including earnest Money and tender document fee in terms of soft

copies with technical bid

The Earnest money in favour of unsuccessful / Non-responsive bidders shall be released only after ensuring submission of Tender document Fee in original, Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/ Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Vailoo and Earnest

Money for 2% of Advertised Cost in shape of CDR/ FDR only. Pledged to Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division vailoo (tender receiving authority) must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains. Price escalation and Taxes:- The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of

the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

17. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such

documents as are required. 18.

In case of CRF and any other specified project, the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed Instructions to Bidder (ITB)

All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-All Bidders shall upload Treasury Receipt /Challan and Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDF

a) b) All Bidders shall upload Valid PAN Card, GSTIN Registartion No. with latest GST Return (GSTR 3B). c) Registration Card with current Renewal side. The Registration card issued by the PWD (R&B) department shall only be renewed by the issuing department. 22

The intending bidders should write the name of work / serial No. of NIT and item No. on the Treasury receipt / challan while uploading their bids. All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer/ Superintending Engineer of Enlistment Registration card. ALL the Bidders should upload the latest Renewal side of Registration cards. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

-Sd/-DIPK-6888/23 **Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) DATED: 11-08-2023 Division Vailoo**

Industrial Production Growth Dips To 3-Month Low Of 3.7% In June



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India's industrial production growth declined to a three-month low of 3.7 per cent in June mainly due to poor showing by the manufacturing sector, according to the official data released on Friday.

The factory output growth measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) stood at 12.6 per cent in June 2022 on account of a lower

The previous low of IIP was at 1.9 per cent in March 2023. Thereafter, it rose to 4.5 per cent in April and further to 5.3 per cent in May.

During the first quarter (April-June) of 2023-24, the IIP growth works out to be 4.5 per cent, down from 12.9 per cent in the corresponding period a

year ago. "The growth rates over corresponding period of previous year are to be interpreted considering the unusual circumstances on account of CO-VID 19 pandemic since March 2020," an official statement

As per the IIP data released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the manufacturing sector's output grew 3.1 per cent in June 2023 against a 12.9

per cent a year ago. Power generation rose 4.2 per cent in June 2023 compared to 16.4 per cent a year ago. Mining output rose by 7.6 per cent during the month un-der review against 7.8 per cent

As per use-based classification, the capital goods segment grew 2.2 per cent in June this year compared to 28.6 per cent a year ago.

in the year-ago period.

Consumer durables output during the month declined by 6.9 per cent against a 25.2 per cent growth in the year-ago period

Consumer non-durable goods output increased by 1.2 per cent compared to a growth of 2.9 per cent a year earlier. Infrastructure/construction goods posted a growth of 11.3 per cent over a 9.4 per cent expansion in the same period a

The data also showed that the output of primary goods logged 5.2 per cent growth in the month against 13.8 per cent in the year-ago period.

The intermediate goods output in June rose 4.5 per cent compared to a 10.5 per cent growth during the corresponding month last year.

Parliament Passes Bills To Levy 28% GST On E-Gaming, Making Registration Mandatory For Offshore Platforms

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Parliament on Friday approved amendments to the Central and Integrated GST laws to levy 28 per cent tax on the full face value of bets in online gaming, casinos and horse race clubs.

The Central GST (Amendment) Bill, 2023, and the Integrated GST (Amendment) Bill, 2023, piloted by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, also make registration mandatory for offshore e-gaming companies operating in India. It also provides for blocking of access in case offshore platforms fail to comply with GST registration and tax payment norms.

The CGST amendment bill defines 'online gaming' as a game on the internet or an electronic network.

'Online money gaming' means online gaming in which players pay or deposit money, including virtual digital assets (VDAs), in the expectation of winning money or VDAs, in any event including game, scheme, competition or any other activity, whether or not its outcome or performance is based on skill, chance or both.

With the amendment to GST law, horse racing, casinos, online money gaming will be treated as actionable claim similar to lottery, betting, and gambling.

Sources said casual online gaming, which does not involve money or any consid-



under GST.

The amendments will aid in combating money laundering, illegal income, black money and other illegal activities associated with online gaming and curb evasion, they added.

The bill was approved by both Houses of Parliament without any discussion. With the passage of CGST

and IGST amendments, states will now have to effect similar changes in their state GST laws in their respective assemblies.

The amendments were approved by the GST Council, chaired by Sitharaman and comprising state ministers, last week.

Sitharaman had then said that the amended provisions will be effective from October 1 by that time all state assemblies would be passing the changes to their SGST laws.

The Council's decision will be reviewed after six months

or April 2024 by the GST Council to see if any change in rule is required, she had said.

The amendments pertain to the insertion of a provision in the Schedule III of the CGST Act, 2017 to provide clarity on the taxation of supplies in casinos, horse racing and online gaming.

The amendment in IGST Act relates to inserting a provision to impose GST liability on online money gaming provided by offshore entities. Such entities would be required to get GST registration in India.

In its meeting on July 11, the Council approved a levy of 28 per cent GST on full face value of bets in online gaming, casinos and horse racing. Following that in its August 2 meet, the Council met and decided that GST will be levied at face value of entry level bets placed in gaming platforms and casinos, even though three states -- Delhi, Goa and Sikkim -- expressed dissent.

Govt To Release Buffer Onion In Open Market Immediately To Keep Prices Under Check

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Friday announced it will release onion from its buffer stock in the targeted regions with immediate effect to ensure prices remain under check till the new crop arrives from October onwards.

The government is exploring multiple options for disposal of onion: e-auction, e-commerce as well as through states at discounted rates via retail outlets of their consumer cooperatives

The ministry, in a statement, said it will release the onion stocks by targeting key markets in states or regions where retail prices are ruling above the all-India average and also where the increase in prices over previous month and year are above the threshold level.

Disposal through e-auction and retail sales on e-commerce platforms are also being explored. The quantity and pace of disposal will also be calibrated with the prices and availability situations with



and corporations, it said.

The government has currently maintained 3 lakh tonnes of onion under the Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) to meet any exigencies, if rates go up significantly during the lean supply season.

As per the government data, onion prices have started inching up slightly as all-India retail price of the key kitchen staple was available at Rs 27.90 per kilogramme on August 10, higher by a little over Rs 2 per kg in the year-ago period.

"We will release onion from the buffer stock immediately," Consumer Affairs Secretary Rohit Kumar Singh told PTI.

The modalities for the disposal of onion has been finalised after discussions with the officials of cooperative NAFED and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (NCCF) on August 10, he said.

the objective of making onion available to consumers at affordable prices, it said.

Apart from market disposal, it has also decided to offer state governments at discounted rates for sale through retail outlets of their consumer cooperatives and corporations.

In current year, a total of three lakh metric tonnes of onion has been procured for the buffer, which could be enhanced further, if situation demands, it added.

NAFED and NCCF had procured 1.50 lakh tonnes each of rabi onion during June and July from Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. This year, irradiation of onion had also been taken up on pilot basis in collaboration with Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) with the objective of minimizing storage loss. About 1,000 tonnes had been irradiated and stored in controlled atmosphere storage.

Net Direct Tax Mop-Up Grows 17 Pc To Rs 5.84 Lakh Crore So Far This Fiscal, 32 Pc Of Full **Year Target**



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Net direct tax collections swelled 17.33 per cent to Rs 5.84 lakh crore so far this fiscal, reaching 32 per cent of the full-year budget estimates (BE).

The Income Tax department in a statement said the collections from direct taxes, which include personal income tax and corporate tax, up to August 10, 2023, continue to register "steady growth"

On a gross basis, direct tax collection grew 15.73 per cent to Rs 6.53 lakh crore till August 10 in the current fiscal. Rs 69,000 crore worth of refunds

have been issued so far, 3.73 per cent higher than last year. Net direct tax collection, after adjusting refunds, stands at Rs 5.84 lakh crore, which is 17.33 per cent higher than the net collections for the corresponding period of last year, it

The net collection is 32.03 per cent of the total budget estimates of direct taxes for the current fiscal of Rs 18.23 lakh

2023-24 budget has pegged direct tax collection at a little over Rs 18.23 lakh crore, a 9.75 per cent higher than Rs 16.61 lakh crore mopped up last fiscal.

Overseas Players Too Will Have To Pay 28% GST On Bets Placed On **Domestic E-Gaming Platforms** EY Tax Partner Saurabh

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI- Domestic online gaming companies will be required to deduct 28 per cent GST on bets placed from overseas locations, including by foreign players, as such bets will also be treated as actionable claims.

The amendment to this effect has been approved by Parliament in the Integrated GST (IGST) Act on

The GST Council had last week cleared changes in Central GST (IGST) and IGST laws to levy 28 per cent tax on full face value of bets in online gaming, casinos, and horse race clubs. The amendment in

IGST Act gives powers to the Government to notify such goods, so that in case of import of such goods IGST can be levied and collected as regular inter-State supply under provisions

Tax experts said this amendment is aimed at plugging the loophole with regard to the collection of IGST from bets coming from overseas locations.

Currently, in case of import of intangible goods such as actionable claims involved in or by

way of online money gaming, which do not physically cross customs frontier, IGST cannot be collected through Customs.

AMRG & Associates Senior Partner Rajat Mohan said the Government has amended the tax law to provide that interna-



betting, gambling, horse racing, lottery or online money gaming from outside India would be treated at par with domestic players for payment of taxes.

Thereby online gaming companies would need to pay tax full tax on 'buy-ins', irrespective of the payor and his source of payment. This IGST Act amendment results in a new provision of law, that will arrest any future litigation on technical grounds." Mohan added

Agarwal said by defining what constitutes online gaming, who is liable to pay GST, and how the GST is to be calculated, the amendments would help to eliminate uncertainty and ambiguity.

"The amendments would also help to defend past litigations. However, one issue that remains unresolved is whether the deposit of money in an online gaming wallet constitutes supply. This issue is likely to be subject to interpretation

in time to come," Agarwal said. Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co Partner Rajat Bose, the coverage

to include virtual digital assets ensures that any form of consideration (real, crypto, digital) will now be covered under the ambit of tax, and transactions in cryptocurrency etc. cannot be a loophole to es-

cape GST. The provision to tax offshore gaming companies through a simplified registration in India, and the stringent provisions to curb tax evasion by such players show the seriousness of the government to enforce the regulation and collect the intended revenue from the industry.

Prices Of Toned, Full Cream Milk Rose 9-10% In June 2023 Compared To 2022: Govt



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prices of toned and full-cream milk rose by 9 per cent and 10 per cent, respectively, in June this year compared to the same month last year, according to the government data.

In a written reply to Rajya Sabha, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister Parshottam Rupala said, "As per information received from National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), the price of milk in the country has not increased drastically during the last three years".

Platform To Help Indebted Nations

In June 2023, the price of toned milk was Rs 51.6 per litre, up 8.86 per cent from Rs 47.4 per litre in June 2022.

The rate of full cream milk has increased 9.86 per cent in June 2023 to Rs 64.6 per litre from Rs 58.8 per litre in the year-ago period.

"Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Government of India does not regulate procurement and sale prices of milk in the country. Prices are decided by the cooperative and private dairies based on their cost of production and market forces." Rupala

Stock Markets Decline For 2nd Day On Losses In Pvt Banks, Weak Global Trends

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty declined for a second straight day on Friday due to selling in banking, FMCG, and pharma shares amid a negative trend in Asian and European markets. The domestic markets traded weak post the RBI monetary policy and the unexpected announcement of reducing cash in the banking system.

The 30-share BSE Sensex fell by 365.53 points or 0.56 per cent to settle at 65,322.65. During the day, it tanked 413.57 points or 0.62 per cent to 65,274.61.

The NSE Nifty declined by 114.80 points or 0.59 per cent to end at 19.428.30.

From the Sensex pack, IndusInd Bank, NTPC, Asian Paints, Hindustan Unilever, ISW Steel, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, Infosys, Wipro, ICICI Bank, Bajaj Finserv, HDFC Bank and Tata Motors were among the major laggards.

HCL Technologies, Power Grid, Titan, Reliance Industries, UltraTech Cement, Tata Steel, State Bank of India and Mahindra & Mahindra were the gainers.

"The domestic market continued to experience selling pressure, with banking stocks extending their decline in reaction to the RBI's liquidity absorption measures," said Vinod Nair. Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

"The escalating concerns inflation further weighed on domestic market sentiments. Despite the US CPI coming in lower-thanexpected and the UK GDP beating estimates, global sentiment remained unfa-

vourable," Nair added. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Thursday left its key interest rates unchanged for a third straight meeting but signalled tighter policy if food prices continue to drive inflation higher.

The hawkish stance was also reinforced by the unexpected announcement of reducing the cash in the banking system by raising the incremental cash reserve ratio (I-CRR) to 10 per cent on the incremental NDTL (net demand and time liabilities) over the last three months.

This will help in absorbing a large part of the excess liquidity created through the return of the Rs 2,000 notes and the large dividend to the government from RBI.

"Markets traded under pressure and lost over half a per cent, in continuation to the prevailing corrective tone," said Ajit Mishra, SVP - Technical Research, Religare Broking Ltd.

World Bank Mulling Local Currency Lending In Countries Like India: Official

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The World Bank is mulling local currency lending in countries like India to help borrowers save on costs, a senior official said on Friday.

"How do we do local currency lending for a country like India is also something we are trying to think of at a price which is advantageous to this country," Anshula Kant, the Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of the World Bank, said.

Speaking at the event on global economy organised by the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as part of India's G-20 presidency, Kant said the Indian government has a "huge advantage" in local currency borrowing as compared to the World Bank, even though the Washington DC-based multilateral bank is rated AAA.

do not possess market infrastructure from where the bank can borrow, the bank may not adopt the local currency lending strategy, Kant said. At the event, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India V Anantha Nageswaran said global inflationary pressures are easing more than

In some countries like the ones in Africa, which

Press Trust Of India MUMBAI: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Friday

called for a global debt data-sharing platform to help countries needing multilateral assistance get relief on a timely basis.

Addressing a G20 seminar on the global economy, organised by the Finance Ministry and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) here, Das said there is a need for realistic assessment of debt sustainability of countries seeking assistance.

However, such assessment should be based on realistic growth and fiscal projections which are fully founded on accurate and comprehensive debt data, he noted.

Given this, the best way forward is setting up a global debt data-sharing

platform that can help in this regard, Das said and added that establishing such a platform could be very challenging and may take several years.

RBI Chief Pitches For Global Debt-Sharing

In the interim, "we may examine the possibility of constructing suitable proxies for debt flows", he said.

Such proxies may be derived from data on capital flows and locational banking statistics from sources such as the Institute of International Finance and the Bank for International Settlements, the Governor added.

On a priority basis, Das pitched for having a system in place for a multilateral debt relief programme providing targeted assistance to low-income countries with high debt levels.

This initiative can be designed with a clear focus on utilisation of debt relief ment projects and poverty reduction efforts. To this end, instruments such as debt-for-development swaps and green debt relief programmes can be employed, Das suggested.

for sustainable develop-

He also called for increased public and private investments in Global Public Goods (GPGs), which play a crucial role in shaping developmental strategies and securing human welfare across borders and generations.

According to him, providing finance in this segment has become a critical issue in the wake of the pandemic, the unsettled geopolitical environment, climate change, fractures in international supply chains, and tectonic shifts in financial market conditions and global liquidity.

Manipur Violence: SC Says Mobs Use Sexual Violence To Send Message Of Subordination, State Bound To Stop This

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Expressing anguish over the manner in which women were subjected to grave atrocities in Manipur, the Supreme Court has said that mobs use sexual violence to send a message of subordination to the other community and the state is bound to stop this.

The court also asked the three-member committee of retired judges constituted by it to inquire into the nature of violence against women that occurred in Manipur from May 4.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said subjecting women to sexual crimes and violence is completely unacceptable and constitutes a grave violation of the constitutional values of dignity, personal liberty and autonomy.

"Mobs commonly resort to violence against women for multiple reasons, including the fact that they may escape punishment for their crimes if they are a member of a larger group.

"In time of sectarian violence, mobs use sexual violence to send a message of subordination to the community that the victims or survivors hail from.

visceral violence against women during conflict is nothing but an atrocity. It is the bounden duty of the state its foremost duty, even to prevent people from committing such reprehensible violence and to protect those whom the

also comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said in its August 7 order, which was uploaded on Thursday night.

More than 160 people have been killed and several hundred injured since ethnic violence first broke out in the state on May 3 when a 'Tribal Solidarity March' was organised in the hill districts to protest against the majority Meitei community's demand for Scheduled Tribe status.

The top court also said that it crucial for the police to identify and arrest the accused person expeditiously because they may be required for the completion of investigation.

"Further, the accused may attempt to tamper with or destroy the evidence, intimidate witnesses, and flee from the place of the crime," the bench said, adding significant delay in the identification and arrest of the accused for no reason at all cannot be countenanced by it.

Observing that sectarian strife has also led to large scale destruction of residential property and places of worship, the apex court said it is duty bound to step in while performing its plain constitutional obligation.

This court is also of the opinion that its intervention will be a step towards the guarantee of nonrepetition that victims of such crimes are entitled to, it said.

"The remedies which have been granted are those which the court feels will be even handed across all communities and do justice to all those who have been injured (in any manner) by the sectarian violence.

"The victims of violence must receive remedial measures irrespective of their community. Likewise, the perpetrators of violence must be held accountable irrespective of the source of violence," it said.

The top court said there are serious allegations, including witness statements, indicating that the law-enforcing machinery has been inept in controlling the violence and, in certain situations, colluded with the perpetrators.

'Absent a proper investigation, this court will not enter a finding of fact on these allegations. But, at the very least, such allegations require an objective fact-finding to be conducted.

"Those who are responsible for a breach of public duty must equally be brought to account, regardless of their rank, position, or post," it said.

The apex court said every officer or employee of the state who is guilty not only of dereliction of constitutional and official duties but of colluding with perpetrators to become offenders themselves, must be held accountable without fail.

"This is the promise of justice that the Constitution demands from this court and from all branches of the state," it said. In order to ensure that the violence ceases, the perpetrators of violence are punished and the faith and confidence of the community in the justice system is restored, the top court constituted a committee of three former high court judges, including Justice Gita Mittal, former Chief Justice of Jammu and Kashmir High Court, Justice Shalini Phansalkar Joshi, former Judge of the Bombay High Court and Justice Asha Menon, former

Judge of the Delhi High Court.

The apex court said the mandate of the three-member committee would be to enquire into the nature of violence against women that occurred in Manipur from May 4 from all available sources, including personal meetings with survivors, members of families of survivors, local/community representatives, authorities in charge of relief camps and the FIRs lodged as well as media reports.

The committee will also submit a report to it on the steps required to meet the needs of the survivors, including measures for dealing with rape trauma, providing social, economic, and psychological support, relief and rehabilitation in a time bound manner, the bench said.

Directing that the process of investigation shall be monitored by the apex court, the bench also appointed former Maharashtra DGP Dattatray Padsalgikar to supervise the investigation by the CBI into the FIRs transferred to it and the investigation by the investigative machinery of the state into the remaining FIRs.

"For the purpose of ensuring proper investigation of the FIRs which are transferred to the CBI, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs shall place at the disposal of the CBI five officers drawn from the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha and NCT of Delhi at least of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of

"At least one of these five officers shall be a woman. For this purpose, the Directors General of Police of the above States shall nominate an officer at least of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police for deputation to the CBI," it said.

On deputation, the officers shall perform their functions under the overall structure of the CBI and submit periodical information and reports as may be required Padsalgikar, it said.

"Dattatray Padsalgikar is also requested to investigate the allegations that certain police officers colluded with perpetrators of violence (including sexual violence) during the conflict in Manipur.

"The Union Government and the State Government shall provide any assistance required in order to carry out this investigation. The findings shall be submitted to this Court in the form of a report," the bench

Over 250 eminent citizens write to President, CJI for strong action against NewsClick

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Over 250 eminent citizens, including former judges and ambassadors, have written to the President and Chief Justice of India calling for strong action against online news portal, NewsClick, which is alleged to have received dubious funds from American billionaire Neville Roy Singham to spread Chinese propaganda.

Alleging that Indian taxpayers are being manipulated by fake news and subterfuge manufactured in China, the signatories to the letter said "free press" covertly funded by China has had a field day challenging our democracy.

We request you to direct the Union government to initiate an enquiry forthwith, at the highest levels, to ascertain the full extent of this anti-India conspiracy and thereby bring these enemy agents to justice... Now it is clear that it was no coincidence but by design that there was complete congruence on the coverage of the Rafale fighter jets deal in NewsClick and the agenda picked up by the opposition parties," the letter said.

The question that inevitably arises is should we not check such forces which are spreading misinformation and trying to interfere with our democratic processes at the behest of foreign powers? Can we allow such forces to let the voice of reason, of patriotism, of integrity be muffled for petty agendas?

The news media portal, NewsClick, notorious for

peddling fake narratives, has been found guilty of questionable links to a country openly inimical to India's interest, China," it added.

NewsClick is again in the spotlight after a recent New York Times report claimed that the news portal was part of a global network that received funding from Singham, who allegedly works closely with the Chinese government media machine.

The premises of NewsClick and its editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha were raided by the Enforcement Directorate in September, 2021. It, last year, attached a flat worth Rs 4.52 crore, located in south Delhi's Saket area, linked to Purkayastha apart from fixed deposits worth Rs 41 lakh as part of the investigation.

The signatories to the letter include K Sreedhar Rao, former Chief Justice Telangana High Court; 13 former High Court judges, former home secretary L C Goyal; former RAW chief Sanjeev Tripathi; former NIA director Yogesh Chander Modi; 12 former ambassadors: 20 former DGPs; among others.

In the statement jointly put out by the group, they said, The e-mail exchanges that are in public domain establish beyond doubt that these people are not leaders but dealers. They are not columnists but actually fifth-columnists. It is high time that this manufactured consensus of antinational, anti-democratic, and ironically anti-free press agenda is set to rest.'

AAP MP Raghav Chadha suspended from Rajya Sabha; Opposition decries move

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: AAP MP Raghav Chadha was on Friday suspended from Rajya Sabha for "gross violation of rules, misconduct, defiant attitude and contemptuous conduct", pending a report by the privileges committee.

His suspension followed a motion moved by Leader of the House Piyush Goyal who sought action against the AAP leader for including names of some members of the Upper House without their consent in a proposed select committee for the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023.

The motion was passed by a voice vote in the Upper House.

The House also approved the continuation of suspension of senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh from the House, pending the

privileges committee report. Singh was suspended on July 24. four days after the Monsoon session of Parliament began.

Earlier this week, a Rajya Sabha bulletin said Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar received complaints from MPs Sasmit Patra, S Phangnon Konyak, M Thambidurai and Narhari Amin alleging breach of privilege by Chadha "for interalia including their names without their consent, in violation of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business, in a motion on August 7".

Chadha had proposed the constitution of a select committee to consider the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and had included the names of the four MPs.

Goyal said it is with a deep sense of anguish that he has to raise a very pertinent issue related to member Raghay Chadha who has repeatedly indulged himself in "gross impropriety and misconduct" that is unexpected and unbecoming of a Member of Parliament.

"His conduct is far distant from the ethical standards expected of a member of this august house," he said.

He said on August 7, he moved an amendment under relevant rules for the referring the Government of National Capital Territory Amendment Bill 2023 to a select committee consisting of 19 members, including honourable members Narhari Amin, S Phangnon Konyak, Sasmit Patra, M Thambidurai and Sudhanshu Trivedi.

It also included S Niranjan Reddy, who did not realise his name has been included and therefore at that point of time did not raise an objection, but subsequently confirmed that he has also not given his consent.

When the motion came for conderation before the Council on August 7, some members whose names figured in the list took severe exception for being included for the proposed select committee moved by Chadha, Goyal said.

He said Chadha's action has severe consequences and "it

could go as far as losing the membership of the House".

"Unfortunately, rather than remorsefully accepting regret for his unethical conduct, he, in an interaction with the press outside the House, ridiculed the objections raised by his fellow colleagues for including their names in the proposed select committee without their consent," Goyal also said.

He said earlier too Chadha made misleading statements before the press by stating that his fellow colleague Sanjay Singh was suspended from the Council for raising questions.

"By his conduct, he has brought the institution of Parliament in severe disrepute. His latest misconduct is also to be viewed in the context of two breach of privileges that are pending before the committee of privileges.

"To overlook such repeated acts of misdemeanour, specially viewed in the context of the prestige of Parliament of the largest democracy and the status of members of such an august Parliament could certainly be very inappropriate," Goyal said.

In a statement issued Friday night, Chadha said, "My suspension serves as a stark message from the BJP to today's youth: If you dare to ask questions, we will crush your voice. I was suspended for asking tough questions that left the BJP, the world's largest party, without answers through my speech in Parliament on Delhi Service Bill.

"My crime was exposing BJP's double standards on Delhi's statehood and asking them to follow 'Advani-vaad' and 'Vajpayee-vad'. The fact that a 34-year-old MP showed them a able, left them scarred.

"The way in which the BJP orchestrated the suspension of Rahul Gandhi from Parliament indicates their willingness to employ similar tactics to suspend and subsequently expel any AAP MP without hesitation," he said. Opposition members opposed the suspension of the AAP MPs Chadha and Singh.

After the House was adjourned, Congress deputy leader in Rajya Sabha Pramod Tiwari said it is wrong to suspend members like this.

"Why has Raghav Chadha been suspended? Those members who had objections to their names (being included in the proposed select committee) could have gone to the chairman to say that they do not want to be part of the parliamentary panel.

"It is wrong to suspend Chadha in this manner. He will not enjoy several privileges available to an MP and neither will be be able to attend meetings of parliamentary committees," he said.

Tiwari said the entire opposition will raise the issue and Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge will write to the Chairman against Chadha's suspension. On Singh's suspension, Tiwari

said one session has gone and the AAP MP continues to be suspended. Shiv Sena MP Priyanka

Chaturvedi said it is absolutely unfortunate the way the BJP-led government continues to suspend opposition members for asking questions. "It is for the first time in the

history of parliamentary democracy that a leader of opposition in Lok Sabha has been suspended. It is unfortunate and uncalled for," she said.

JMM MP Mahua Maji also decried Chadha's suspension, saying it is unfortunate as he is a very active MP of the opposition.

Congress MP Raieey Shukla said the manner in which opposition leaders are being suspended one after the other is not proper. The entire opposition is against the way opposition MPs are being suspended like this over small issues, he said.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

Terrorism In J&K

support for anti national activities and to help

sustain the terror ecosystem. Reiterating that without the cooperation and support of people especially youth of J&K maintaining peace & order was a tough challenge, the DGP, he said, emphasized upon the officers that while dealing with any anti-militancy activities and law and order scenario, civilian convenience and security should always

be kept in mind. Referring to narco-trade terror, the DGP said that Police along with other security forces have faced many challenges of militancy and

were successful in bringing normalcy in the UT. "Pakistan is hatching new conspiracies to ruin the lives of people and youth of J&K by supplying drugs. Together with strong hands we have to fight the new conspiracy of Pakistan and uproot the evil from our soil as we did fighting militan-

cy," Singh said. Stating that restoring peace in the UT was a tough task, the DGP, according to the spokesperson said that maintaining peace is a tougher task and the need of the hour is to keep a vigilant watch on the anti-national elements.

Referring to the improving Border tourism, the DGP said that Pakistani conspiracies have affected many areas earlier which were not getting the appropriate attention of the tourists.

"I am happy to say that now many beautiful places around the border areas are receiving a huge number of tourists," Singh said, adding that the efforts of Police, Army, BSF & CRPF are providing a safe atmosphere to facilitate the tourists.

He said that it feels good when people are enjoying social as well as religious functions in

The DGP also expressed gratitude to the Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his praises for Jammu and Kashmir Police works and added that it was a moment of pride.

Preparations On For

to martyrs under the Shaheedo ko naman'

programme. A massive Tiranga rally will take place in Srinagar on August 13," Singh said.

He said the security situation has improved and the Valley has witnessed many important events taking place including a G20 meeting, and the conduct of Muharram procession after 34 years.

"It is a very happy thing for us that people can celebrate their religious and social functions without any disturbance. Muharram was observed in a good manner, it was mentioned in the Parliament by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah." the DGP said.

"Our police team has worked round-theclock at every level along with the civil officers to make a fresh start and I am happy that the programme concluded peacefully. I congratulate all, especially the Shia community who helped us in conducting it in a peaceful manner," he said. (PTI)

Medical Body's

treatment, in a standard proforma laid down by the NMC.

As per the regulations issued by NMC in a gazette notification, a registered medical practitioner should attend continuing professional development programs regularly each year, totalling at least 30 credit hours every five years.

Only recognised medical colleges and health institutions or medical societies accredited or authorised by EMRB/state medical councils can offer trainings and credit hours for this purpose. Credit hours awarded shall be updated online against the unique registration number of registered medical practitioner on the EMRB-NMC website.

According to the regulations, "RMPs and their families must not receive any gifts, travel facilities, hospitality, cash or monetary grants, consultancy fee or honorariums, or access to entertainment or recreation from pharmaceutical companies or their representatives, commercial healthcare establishments, medical device companies, or corporate hospitals under any pretext." However, this does not include salaries and benefits that registered medical

practitioners may receive as employees of these organisations, the regulations stated.

Also, registered medical practitioners should not be involved in any third-party educational activity like CPD, seminar, workshop, symposia, conference, etc., which involves direct or indirect sponsorships from pharmaceutical companies or the allied health sector.

"RMP individually or as part of an organization/association shall not give to any person or to any companies or to any products or to software/platforms, whether for compensation or otherwise, any approval, recommendation, endorsement... concerning any drug brand, medicine, nostrum remedy, surgical, or therapeutic article, apparatus or appliance or any commercial product or article with respect of any property, quality or use thereof or any test, demonstration or trial thereof, for use in connection with his name, signature, or photograph in any form or manner of advertising through any mode nor shall he boast of cases, operations, cures or remedies..." the regulations said.

The registered medical practitioner who attends to the patient will be fully accountable for his actions and entitled to the appropriate

"In case of abusive, unruly, and violent patients or relatives, the registered medical practitioner can document and report the behaviour and refuse to treat the patient. Such patients should be referred for further treat-

ment elsewhere," the regulations said. The NMC also specified that use of alcohol or other intoxicants during duty or off duty which can affect professional practice will be considered as misconduct.

Also, for the first time, the term emergency has been defined as 'life and limb saving procedure. Previously, the term emergency was not clearly defined.

The registered medical practitioner shall display as suffix to his/her name only NMC recognised and accredited medical degrees/diplomas as provided in the nomenclature of the regulations and listed on the NMC website. List of such degrees and diplomas will be on the website and updated regularly.

The registered medical practitioners qualified abroad and seeking registration to practice after clearing FMGE/NEXT must use NMC-

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approved equivalent medical prefixes and suffixes to provide clarity to patients and the public at large.

Heat Wave In

as per the forecast.

Deputy Director, MeT said that the maximum temperature would settle in between 31 and 32 degree Celsius during the period, however, thunder showers at a few places during the period cannot be ruled out.

Pertinently, J&K witnessed hot and dry weather conditions since the beginning of

Nonetheless, during the ongoing season from June 01-2023 to August 09, 2023, J&K has recorded a precipitation of 336.6 mm against the average rainfall of 337.3 mm. Srinagar, the summer capital of J&K has re-

corded a large excess rainfall of 268.4 mm

against an average precipitation of 148.9 mm,

which is 80 percent above normal. Kishtwar is the only station where large deficient rainfall has been recorded in the ongoing season as against the normal precipitation of 265.5 mm, it has received 90.7 mm rainfall,

which is 66 per cent deficient than normal. Moreover, Shopian in Kashmir and Reasi & Poonch in Jammu division have recorded deficient rainfall of 39 per cent and 22 per cent each respectively in the ongoing season—(KNO)

No One Can Be

awarded just compensation."

The court was hearing a case in which petitioner had stated that he was running the business of sale of furnishing and allied items in a shop owned by Srinagar Development Authority at Nallamar Road, near Nawakadal Chowk here. However, he said, the shop was occupied by the Security Forces in the month of January, 1990, as a result of which he was unable to carry on any business activity. Till the year 2002, he said, the shop remained under the occupation of different security agencies like CRPF, BSF etc and in March, 2003, the petitioner took over possession of the shop.

He said that the authorities did not compensate him for the losses which he suffered to his business on account of closure of his shop.

"The respondents (authorities) are directed to assess the losses that were suffered by the petitioner because of occupation of his shop by the Security Forces," the court said, adding, "After undertaking the exercise, the respondents shall pay the amount of assessed compensation to the petitioner." The court ordered that the exercise shall be completed by the authorities within a period of two months. "In case ...the amount is not paid to the petitioner, the assessed compensation shall carry interest @6% per annum from the date of this judgment."

400-Feet Tiranga

long national flag.

"This Tiranga rally does not belong to a person or an ideology. It is a collective ideology of Sadiwara village," Ganie told PTI.

He said the rally was also a tribute to the sacrifices of the soldiers.

"I think there cannot be a bigger tribute than this for the jawans because of whom we are living freely. We should give the 'title of proud mother' to those mothers whose children sac-

rificed their lives for the security of the nation. "We are paying homage to those jawans by holding the tiranga, picking up maati (soil) and

lighting up diyas. We salute them," he said. The sarpanch said he feels proud that many people and ideologies have come together to hold the tricolour and it is a reply to those who had said there will be no one to hold the na-

tional flag in Kashmir. "India lives in the hearts of everyone old and young, and it will continue to be so. God willing, the country's flag will keep flying always high," he added. (PTI)



Srinagar Premier League: Lonestar, Novelty Win

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two Round 9 matches of the 2023 Srinagar Premier League were played on Friday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

The first match saw Lonestar Kashmir FC take on Galaxy FC. Galaxy FC took the lead early in the first half, but Lonestar Kashmir managed to equalise soon enough. At half time, the scores read 1-1. The second half saw Lonestar Kashmir come flying and take a 2-1 lead. The team made it 3-1 to pile the pressure on Galaxy, who couldn't reduce the deficit. At full time, Lonestar Kashmir FC defeated Galaxy FC 3-1.

The second game of the day saw Iqbal Sports FC take on Novelty FC. The late evening matchup saw a fierce contest between two equally-matched teams. Novelty scored the first goal of the match in the first half and managed to retain the 1-0 advantage going into the second half.

Novelty's persistence paid off as they doubled their lead.

Inter-Department Volleyball Tournament Starts At IUST



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Registrar IUST, Prof. Naseer Iqbal, on Friday inaugurated the Inter-Departmental Volleyball tournament at the university's grounds.

The IUST Registrar witnessed the proceedings in presence of other officers of the university, including Finance Officer Sameer Wazir, Controller examination, Dr. Waseem Bari.

Prof. Naseer Iqbal encouraged the students to take active part in the sports and said that sports teach us discipline, camaraderie and teamwork. The tournament's opening match was played between Mechanical Engineering and the Department of Food Technology, in which the former emerged the winner.

Earlier Dr. Hilal Ahmad Rather Assistant Director Physical Education & Sports welcomed the guest. He said that the students at IUST are actively participating in the sports events and IUST has a rich talent pool.

Inter-School Sports Finals & Ceremony Held At Sopore



Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Zone Dangerpora of Sub Division Sopore on Friday organised Inter-School Sports finals and prize distribution ceremony at Government High School Brat

The event showcased remarkable talent and sportsmanship as students from various schools competed in Kabbadi, Kho Kho and Volleyball tourna-

The response to the event was overwhelming, with hundreds of enthusiastic students participating in the inter-school

The Zonal Physical Education Officer expressed his heartfelt gratitude to all the participating schools and the diligent field staff who contributed to the success of the event.

Distinguished guests, including the Principal of HSS Dangerpora, Principal of HSS Botingoo, ZEO Dangerpora, and the Headmaster of HS Brat Kalan attended the ceremony. They took the opportunity to motivate and inspire the participants, commending their dedication and passion for sports.

The efforts of the Youth Services and Sports Department Baramulla were lauded for fostering a culture of sports and healthy competition.

4th T201: India Seek To Level Series Vs. WI



Press Trust of India

LAUDERHILL: India will hope that batsmen will helm their march towards a series-levelling victory over the West Indies with another impact effort in the fourth T20 International here on Saturday.
India might have stayed

afloat with a win in the third T20I but Windies still lead the series 2-1, a quick reminder to the fact that the visitors still have concerns surrounding the batting unit.

It was a comforting sight indeed to see Suryakumar Yadav flicking on his beast mode and Tilak Varma chipping in with crucial runs. But India's opening combination continued to

India had handed T20I debut to Yashasvi Jaiswal, resting Ishan Kishan. But for the third successive match, the pair at the totem pole position failed to impress, making just six runs. Jaiswal got out to pacer Obed McCoy in the first over

In the previous two matches, Kishan and Shubman Gill had managed to score just five and 16 for the first wicket to place some amount of pressure on the middle-order.

Whether India will bring back Kishan for this match remains to be seen, but the management will hope for a more potent outing from the openers in a must-win match.

That India do not have a handy bat lower down the order, makes it mandatory for batsmen at the top to deliver. India have deployed Axar Patel at No. 7 to maintain the balance and they might continue to adopt the five-bowler policy.

Having said that, the way Tilak carried the burden on his young shoulders has been re-

The sequence of 39 (22 balls), 51 (41 balls) and 49 (37 balls) might be a presage that the Hyderabad left-hander is ready for bigger stages in his

He is currently the leading run-scorer in the series with 139 runs while averaging

Suryakumar hinted at a possible broadening of role for Tilak, his teammate at Mumbai Indians.

Kuldeep Yadav returned to the side for the third T20I and his performance will certainly add to India's confidence. He had missed the second T20I with a sore thumb.

The left-arm wrist spinner bagged three wickets, conceding 28 runs from four overs.

West Indies batsman Nicholas Pooran has been a thorn in India's flesh the whole series, but Kuldeep snaffled him before the left-hander blossomed.

As for the West Indies, they will not want to miss a chance to score their first series win over India after 2016 and will look for a far more cohesive

Match starts at 8 PM IST.

Indian Team On Path Of Self-Destruction: Former Pacer Nawaz

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Former Pakistan pacer Sarfaraz Nawaz finds the Babar Azam-led side a more stable unit than India as the arch-rivals have not been able to "work out" their combinations going into the Asia Cup and subsequent ODI World Cup. India will go into the Asia Cup, starting August 31, without fi-

"Pakistan has a much more settled and stable outfit for the Asia Cup and World Cup when compared to India. The Indians have still not been able to work out their final combination for these major events." Nawaz told the media in Lahore on Friday.

"Captains are changing, many new players are being tried out, there are no proper combinations. I feel instead of developing the Indian side it is being destroyed," he added.

He also pointed out that India will be under a lot of pressure with the World Cup in their own backyard and not winning an ICC title for 10 years will also weigh on the minds of the players.



'They are always high expectations when you play at home and it creates more pressure. India's plus point is they have some good senior performers." The last time an ODI World Cup was staged at home, India overcame the pressure to lift the trophy.

Nawaz, who is often regarded as the pioneer of reverse swing bowling and once took seven wickets for one run in a spell against Australia in Melbourne, also felt that left-arm fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi was Pakistan's x-factor in

"He is an extraordinary

his first two three overs. I have rarely seen a bowler with such control over swing, seam and pace and yorkers with the new ball," said Nawaz, who played 55 Tests for his 177 wickets.

He said that Shaheen would play a big role for his team in the upcoming 50-over events.

"I am confident that Pakistan can do really well in both these events because we have a settled side and Babar Azam is leading them well. I think the selection committee has also picked a very balanced squad for the series against Afghanistan and the Asia Cup."

PCB Cautions Dahani Over Tweets After Asia Cup Exclusion Press Trust of India

KARACHI: Pakistan's young fast bowler Shahnawaz Dahani was verbally cautioned by the Pakistan Cricket Board for his tweet after he was not considered for the one-day series against Afghanistan and the Asia Cup.

Dahani somehow sarcastically tweeted soon after the Pakistan squads were announced that it seems like chief selector Inzamam ul Haq and the media do not know that he is also a Pakistani bowler.

"Seems they don't know I am a Pakistani bowler and no one in the press conference even asked him (Inzamam) about my selection," Dahani wrote.

The young bowler soon got a call from the PCB high-ups and was rapped for going public with such controversial com-

Dahani, one of the few players to make the international level from the interior of the southern Sindh province, apparently quickly realised his blunder and has now deleted the tweet.

PCB Retains Pakistan Team's **Coaching & Management Staff**

The Pakistan Cricket Board on Friday retained the coaching and management staff for the men's team ahead of the three-match ODI series against Afghanistan, followed by the Asia Cup.

The decision implies that Pakistan team director Mickey Arthur, head coach Grant Brad-



burn and team manager Rehan Ul Haq will continue in their respective roles. Morne Morkel (bowling coach), Andrew Puttick (batting coach) and Aftab Khan (fielding coach) have also been retained.

After Zaka Ashraf took over as chairman of the PCB's Cricket Management Committee and appointed a Cricket Technical Committee, speculations were rife that the foreign coaches could be shown the door.

All members of the team management were appointed by the former CMC and its head Najam Sethi.

Ashraf, meanwhile, has made two major changes. Former captain Inzamam-ul-Haq is now the chief selector but Mark Coles, the Pakistan Women's coach, has been released from his duties. Cole, who was appointed by Sethi for a second such stint, has resigned due to personal reasons.

Harry Kane Close To Sealing Transfer To Bayern Munich

Agencies

LONDON: England captain Harry Kane's transfer from Tottenham to Bayern Munich is "imminent," Spurs manager Ange Postecoglou said Friday, in a deal that will reportedly be worth more than 100 million pounds (\$110 million).

After spending 19 years at Tottenham without winning a trophy, a move to Bayern would allow Kane to fight for titles in the German league and in Europe.

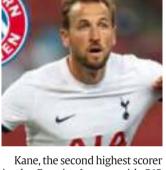
"My understanding is it has progressed to the point where it looks like it's going to happen," Postecoglou said of what would be a record transfer for the Bundesliga and one of the biggest deals of the summer

The 30-year-old Kane is expected to undergo medical tests in Germany on Friday and could potentially make his debut Saturday, when Bayern hosts Leipzig in the German Super Cup. However, British broadcaster

Sky Sports reported he had not yet flown to Germany and still wanted some reassurances. Bayern coach Thomas Tuchel

said his club is still "working hard" to sign Kane.

"We are working with the highest pressure and highest focus and highest priority to sign Harry Kane," Tuchel said. "And this shows the importance. I mean, we are trying to get the captain of the English national team out of England, out of the Premier League. That says it all."



in the Premier League with 213 goals — 47 behind Alan Shearer's record — would give a central focus in attack to a Bayern team which has struggled to adapt since selling Robert Lewandowski

As for Tottenham, Kane's departure would leave a hole in the squad ahead of its first game of the new Premier League season, against Brentford on Sunday. It would require a deep rebuild in a team which is already reeling from the failure to qualify for any European competition this season, but Postecoglou said he had been preparing for that and that Kane's imminent departure 'at least gives us some clarity."

Kane scored 30 Premier League goals for Tottenham last season. No other player in the team scored more than 10. Kane, who has been at Tot-

tenham since 2004, is in the last year of his contract at the club and could have moved for free

PSG Coach Enrique Hopes Mbappé Stays, **But No Comment On Neymar**

Agencies

PARIS: Paris Saint-Germain coach Luis Enrique still hopes Kylian Mbappé will stay at the club despite an ongoing transfer standoff, but wouldn't comment on Neymar's future as the Brazil forward moves closer to a possible departure.

Neither Mbappé nor Neymar took part in PSG's training session on Friday, parts of which were open to the media. The club said Neymar trained alone indoors away from his teammates because of a viral infection.

Mbappé has trained apart from PSG's first-team regulars all week after making it clear he wants to play out the final season of his contract and leave as a free agent next year. PSG said it wants to sell him now if he will not extend his contract. Enrique was naming his



been heavily linked with a move to Real Madrid, which twice failed with bids to sign him before, but Enrique hopes a solution can be found again.

"This situation has existed before, a positive solution was found with the club. I hope an agreement is reached, which is something I would like," Enrique said at a news conference, through a translator. "But the club is above everything, the coach, the players."

swer a follow-up question on Mbappé's future.

But Neymar is headed for an exit from PSG.

Enrique would not an-

"I am not going to say anything else, the first answer expressed my opinion clearly," he said.

A person familiar with the situation told The Associated Press on Thursday that talks are moving toward Neymar leaving the club this month.

The 31-year-old Brazil international was widely reported to have told PSG this week he wants to leave. He has been linked with a return to Barcelona, which sold him to PSG for a world-record fee of 222 million euros (\$244 million) in 2017.

Enrique said he has spoken with both Neymar and midfielder Marco Verratti, who has been linked with a move to the lucrative Saudi Arabian league. "Regarding Marco and

Neymar, I'm used to keeping conversations private. I will not talk about what I said to them and what they said to me," Enrique said. (But) I ask you to pay attention to my actions. My decisions will clearly express my views.'

Liverpool, Brighton Agree Moises Caicedo Transfer, But Deal Not Done It would surpass the

LONDON: Liverpool has reached an agreement with Brighton to buy Ecuador midfielder Moises Caicedo, Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said Friday, although it remains to be seen whether the club can also convince the player to join.

The deal between the clubs is worth a reported 110 million pounds (\$140 million), which would be a record fee for a transfer in Britain.

"The deal with the club (Brighton) is agreed," Klopp said at a news conference ahead of Liverpool's opening Premier League game at Chelsea on Sunday. The 21-year-old Caicedo

has yet to agree personal terms or undertake a medical examination. And some reports in the British media say Caicedo would prefer to move to Chelsea, which



has shown an interest in the midfielder throughout the offseason.

Chelsea manager Mauricio Pochettino wouldn't confirm if his club was still interested in Caicedo, saying only Friday that he still wanted to add a midfielder to his squad. Brighton manager Roberto De Zerbi said he has "already forgotten about Moises."

"I'm really proud of the players we have in the squad," De Zerbi said. "We want to keep improving. The credit goes to the club. Bigger clubs can buy our players but they can't buy our soul or spirit." If Caicedo was to move

to Liverpool, it would complete a huge offseason overhaul of its midfield, following the arrival of Alexis Mac Allister also from Brighton - and Dominik Szoboszlai from Leipzig. Five midfielders, notably Fabinho and Jordan Henderson, have left Anfield this summer.

initial fee of 100 million pounds, plus add-ons, that Arsenal paid West Ham for Declan Rice last month. That initial fee was the same as the British-record sum that Manchester City paid Aston Villa for Jack Grealish in 2021. Whether it's Liverpool or

Chelsea, it continues an extraordinary and rapid rise for Caicedo, who has only played one full season for Brighton after joining from Ecuadorian club Independiente del Valle in 2021. He spent the first half of the 2021-22 season on loan at Beerschot in Belgium.

He quickly became one of the most sought-after midfielders in English soccer. with Chelsea retaining a long-time interest and making multiple offers over the summer — only to be outbid by Liverpool.

Medical Exam NExT Exam Likely To Be Held In August 2025: Report

New Delhi: Discussions between the Health Ministry and NMC officials indicate that the National Exit Test (NExT) is likely to be held in August 2025 for the final year MBBS students of the 2020 batch, official sources said.

The National Medical Commission (NMC) in its NExT Regulations 2023 issued in June had stated the exam will be held in two phases - NExT Step 1 and NExT Step 2 - within 12 months.

NExT shall serve as a licentiate examination for medical graduates in India and determine the eligibility and ranking for of admission to postgraduate medical education in the country. It will also be a screening exam for foreign medical graduates who want to practise in India.

Last month, the National Medical Commission deferred the exam for the final year MBBS students of the 2019 batch.

"Going by the deliberations being held between the health ministry and NMC officials, the NExT Step 1 is likely to be held in August 2025 for the final year MBBS students of the 2020 batch," an official source told Press Trust of India.

Around 65,000 students took admission in MBBS courses across the country in 2020. According to a data analysis by the

health ministry, of these, 62,000 students will be eligible to appear for the August exam in 2025.

Presently, there is no uniformity in the MBBS course completion period in the country because of which around 3,000 students will not be able to appear for the NExT part 1.

Sources said that NExT Step 2 will be held in February. Those who won't be able to appear in the August 2025 exam can appear in the February exam. Those who fail to clear NExT exam Step 1 or are not satisfied with their ranks can also appear in the February exam.

There will be just one counselling for admission to PG courses in a year. However, students can appear for medical PG counselling for the next session based on their NExt February exam.

According to the National Exit Test Regulations-2023, the NExT Step 2 results shall be declared as only "pass or fail" based on the acquisition of appropriate competence that is being evaluated.

The marks from NExT Step 2 will be considered to prepare a merit list for admission into broad speciality PG seats. The NExT Step 1 shall be a theory examination and the questions shall be one or more than one type of multiple-choice type with the examinations being conducted online.



Kahului: Tourists fleeing Hawaii's deadly wildfire told Thursday how they had been trapped without food and power for days, but felt lucky to be escaping somewhere that "looks like a warzone."

SRINAGAR | SATURDAY | 12.08.2023

Dozens of people perished when a fast-moving fire tore through the historic settlement of Lahaina, destroying hundred of buildings on Maui island.

Thousands of locals have been left homeless, and tourists have been urged to leave to free up resources and allow authorities to help those in desperate need.

Lorraina Peterson, 46, was honeymooning on the paradise island when the wildfire trapped her and hundreds of others in their hotel. "We were stuck in our rooms for three days," she told AFP as she waited for a flight from the

airport in Kahului. "It was very scary because there was no light. We couldn't use our

phones. We couldn't call family." Peterson, from California, said the hotel had been using a backup generator, but then that failed. The elevator stopped running

and some people were stuck in-



side the elevator," she said. Guests were finally evacuated to the airport when the hotel ran

out of food, she said. But she was not sure when she would be able to get home, with her flight booked for Saturday, and her husband in a long queue to try to change the tickets.

"I don't know if we'll be able to get a hotel room, or we'll have to

sleep here on the floor," she said. Tourists were taken to the airport in school buses, where they were met by volunteers distributing sandwiches and water. Canadian Brandon Wilson had trav-

elled to Hawaii with his wife to celebrate their 25th anniversary.

But two days after they arrived, the fires cut the power to their AirBnB. By Thursday morning they were running low on food and had no cash to buy groceries, so they decided to try to leave.

"As we drove through Lahaina it looked like a warzone," he told AFP. "It really looks like somebody came along just bombed the whole

town. It's completely devastated." "It was really hard to see," he said, sobbing. "You feel so bad for people. They lost their homes, their lives, their livelihoods.

UT Introduces New School Uniform

Lakshadweep MP Alleges Ban on Hijab

The Lakshadweep administration has introduced a new pattern of stitched school uniforms, including belts, ties, shoes, socks, etc., for children studying in its schools but its directive is silent on hijabs or scarves for girl students in the Muslim-majority Union Territory.

This has prompted Mohammed Faizal, who represents the islands in the Lok Sabha, to allege that there was a complete ban on scarves or hijabs for girls studying in schools under the Education department.

"There is no mention of scarf or hijab. This is a violation of a person's constitutional right. We will fight it politically and legally," Faizal told PTI over phone on

In a circular dated August 10 issued to the principals and headmasters of the schools under the Lakshadweep administration, the Education department said school children wearing uniform will ensure uniformity and also inculcate the spirit of discipline among students.

"Wearing items other than prescribed uniform pattern will affect the concept of uniformity among school children. To maintain discipline and uniform dress code in schools are responsibility of principals and head of schools," the circular said.

Faizal claimed a protest has erupted in the islands against the "autocratic decision" of the UT administration, and the students will boycott their classes till their rights are granted.



Virgin Galactic Launches Inaugural Space Tourism Flight, Fulfilling Long-Awaited Dreams

Tirgin Galactic is taking its first space tourists on a longdelayed rocket ship ride, including a former British Olympian who bought his ticket 18 years ago and a mother-daughter duo from the Caribbean.

The rocket-powered plane was carried aloft Thursday morning from Spaceport America in the New Mexico desert.

The flight plan called for the plane to be released about an hour later and fire its rocket to reach the edge of space.

If all goes well, Richard Branson's company will begin offering monthly trips to customers on its winged space plane, joining Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin and Elon



Musk's SpaceX in the space tourism business.

Virgin Galactic passenger Jon Goodwin, who was among the first to buy a ticket in 2005, said he had faith that he would someday make the trip. The 80-yearold athlete he competed in canoeing in the 1972 Olympics has Parkinson's disease and wants to

be an inspiration to others. I hope it shows them that these obstacles can be the start rather than the end to new adventures," he said in a statement.

Ticket prices were USD 200,000 when Goodwin signed up. The cost is now \$450,000. He was joined by sweepstakes winner Keisha Schahaff, 46, a health coach from Antigua, and her daughter, Anastatia Mayers, 18, a student at Scotland's University of Aberdeen. Also aboard the plane-launched craft, which glides to a space shuttle-like landing: two pilots and the company's astronaut trainer.

It will be Virgin Galactic's seventh trip to space since 2018, but the first with a ticket-holder. Branson, the company's founder, hopped on board for the first fullsize crew ride in 2021.

Italian military and government researchers soared in June on the first commercial flight. About 800 people are currently on Virgin Galactic's waiting list,

according to the company. Virgin Galactic's rocket ship launches from the belly of an airplane, not from the ground, and requires two pilots in the cockpit.

Once the mothership reaches about 50,000 feet (10 miles or 15 kilometres), the space plane is released and fires its rocket motor to make the final push to just over 50 miles (80 kilometres) up.

Passengers can unstrap from their seats, float around the cabin for a few minutes and take in the sweeping views of Earth, before the space plane glides back home and lands on a runway.

