

As Cancers Surge, 5 New Patients Register At SMHS Every Day

Srinagar: The number of cancer patients is on the rise in Jammu and Kashmir as around 6,000 patients have been registered at the Department of Radiation Oncology, SMHS Hospital Srinagar since 2017. Around one thousand cases of various cancers have been registered this year alone at the department and officials said that number is likely to reach around 2,000 by the year end, KNO quoting medical records reported on Monday.

The details reveal that 491 new cancer patients were registered at the radiation oncology department, SMHS in year 2017; 1,032 in 2018, 801 in 2019, 650 in 2020, 1,010 in 2021, 1,169 in 2022 and 953 in 2023 till date. The report quoting officials said that around 5 to 6 new cancer patients were being registered at the department every day. Prof Manzoor Ahmad Head of Department, Radiation



Oncology, SMHS Hospital, GMC Srinagar, said that the OPD of the department remains functional for six days (Monday-Saturday) from 10 am to 4 pm where the consultant

along with senior resident and PG students remains available. "After checking the relevant reports in the OPD, patients are registered and data is digitised," he said, adding that there are two separate units where patients are being admitted and four consultants along with senior residents remain available in each of the wards. "Later, plans are being discussed after proper unit meetings and accordingly, the patient is being treated for

months. The patient comes for follow-up in OPD whenever it is feasible for him," he said. All high-tech and latest technologies are available at the department including Intensity-modulated radiation therapy, Image-guided radiation therapy, Stereotactic body radiation therapy, Stereotactic radical surgery and Volumetric Modulated Arc Therapy (VMAT), the doctor said. Prof Manzoor said all treatments are being [More On P6](#)

26 JKAS Officers To Retire Next Year

Agencies

Srinagar: As many as 26 officers of Jammu & Kashmir's top-most administrative service are attaining superannuation in the next calendar year.

According to details, Sheikh Fayaz Ahmad, son of J&K's former Chief Secretary Sheikh Ghulam Rasool, figures in the list of 26 JKAS officers hanging up their boots in 2024.

Fayaz is currently posted as Commissioner Secretary, Department of Floriculture, Gardens and Parks.

Other senior officers figuring in the list includes Nisar Ahmad Wani (Director Employment), Tariq Ahmad Zargar (Secretary in the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj), Raman Kumar Kesar (Secretary in the Power Development Department) and Suraiya Jabeen (Secretary in the Tribal Affairs Department).

The other officers attaining superannuation include Ashok Kumar (Mission Director, RUSA), Ashok Kumar Pandita (Additional Secretary, Revenue Department), Farooq Ahmad Rather (Director Floriculture, Kashmir), Suram Chand Sharma (Joint Director, Youth Services & Sports, Jammu), Kewal Krishan (Additional Secretary, Labour and Employment Department), Ahmad Hussain (Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Baramulla), Ghulam Rasool Wani (Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Ganderbal), Ravi Mohan Khajuria (Registrar, District Udhampur), Sushil Kumar Khajuria (Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department), Nissar Ahmad Malik (Programme Officer, ICDS Project, Shopian), Mohammad Jahangir Khanday (Joint Director, Education, South Kashmir), Saleem Ahmad [More On P6](#)

Art-35A Took Away Fundamental Rights Of People: CJJ



Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Monday prima facie agreed with the Centre's submission on pleas challenging the abrogation of Article 370 that the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir is "subordinate" to the Indian Constitution, which is on a higher pedestal.

A five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, however, did not seem to be in agreement with the plea that the Constituent Assembly of the erstwhile state, which was disbanded in 1957, was in reality a legislative assembly.

Without naming the two mainstream political parties of the erstwhile state, the Centre said citizens have been misguided that the special provisions for Jammu and Kashmir were "not discrimination but a privilege". "Even today two political parties are before this court defending Article 370 and 35A," the solicitor general

6 THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR CONSTITUTION PROVIDED FOR A SEPARATE PROVISION for permanent residents of J-K in Article 7. It removed references to Scheduled Tribes from Article 15(4). Other Articles 19, 22, 31, 31A and 32 were applied with some modifications."

told the top court on the 11th day of hearing the litany of pleas challenging the abrogation of the constitutional provision which bestowed special status to the erstwhile state of J-K.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said there is enough material to show that the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir is subordinate to the Constitution of India and the constituent assembly of J-K was in reality a legislative assembly making laws. "At one level, [More On P6](#)

SC Questions J&K Lecturer's Suspension

The Supreme Court on Monday asked Attorney General R Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to look into the issue of the suspension of a Jammu and Kashmir education department lecturer who had argued before the top court in a matter related to the abrogation of Article 370. A five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud took note of the suspension of Zahoor Ahmad Bhat, who had [More On P6](#)

NO POLITICAL PARTY CHALLENGED the governor's rule or dissolution of the assembly. We are being called at midnight in this court for a hearing on forming governments, but here there are no challenges.

Mushroom Cultivation Paying Rich Dividends To Kashmiri Youth

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: Perseverance pays off and this young girl from Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama district has proved it right!

Rumi Jan, 23, was sitting idle at home after finishing her college but she always wanted to start something of her own to support her family of six. But a simple visit to the office of Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) at her home district changed her life forever.

Jan registered herself as a member of JKRLM scheme and got a hundred bags of mushroom for cultivation at her own home. "Everything including the mushroom crop was



provided free of cost," Jan, a resident of Rohmo, Pulwama told Kashmir Observer. After forty days, she harvested the first lot of the mushrooms and earned around Rs 5000.

"Initially I managed to get five to ten kilograms of mushrooms per day from my farm but gradually I learnt that mushroom cultivation is a technical process that requires proper use of

technology and guidance from experts," Jan said.

After working day and night, Jan has now started yielding more than three quintals of mushroom per season with a net profit of two lakh rupees.

Mushroom cultivation has been a great source of income in Jammu and Kashmir with more and more youth choosing this business. The much in demand vegetable can be grown in a temperature between 20 and 30 degrees Celsius and requires relative humidity of 55-75 per cent. This makes Jammu and Kashmir a suitable place for mushroom cultivation and processing.

The government is encouraging youth in the rural areas to

take up mushroom cultivation, which has a potential entrepreneurship for youth in a big way. Market for mushrooms in the valley is growing rapidly owing to its nutritious value and special taste. The main consumers of mushrooms are Chinese food restaurants, hotels, clubs and households as well.

Similarly, Gowhar Ali Lone, 28 from Khochipora, Tangmarg received many local and national awards for his contribution to the agro-farming industry and promoting and growing mushrooms on a large scale in the union territory.

Lone told Kashmir Observer that he started cultivating mushrooms in the year 2007 with the help of the [More On P6](#)

Gurez Witnessed Transformational Change In Last 3 Yrs: LG

'Our Collective Aim Has Been To Convert Today's Weakness Into Tomorrow's Strength'

Observer News Service

Bandipora: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Monday that the picturesque Gurez Valley along the Line of Control (LoC) has seen a transformational change in the last three years with tourism sector witnessing a massive increase in footfall from 700-800 tourists in a year to 35,000 this year till August 15th.

"Today, the increased tourist influx to Gurez has strengthened the local economy and is providing large employment opportunities to the people," the LG said.



He was addressing a gathering after inaugurating the 'Shinon Meeras', the Shina

Cultural Centre, curated and developed by the Indian Army and District Administration.

The centre, Sinha said, was a unique tribute to preserve and promote the glorious artistic heritage of Dard-Shin tribal community and to provide glimpses of its rich culture to the world.

"India's first museum for Dardis traces the journey of Shina culture, languages and Gurezi way of life. I believe Shinon Meeras will become the centre of attraction for travelers visiting this best off-beat destination of India," he said. "Various sections of the museum will provide an opportunity to travelers, historians to explore tangible [More On P6](#)

Hands Over Bravery Medal To Slain Civilian's Father

Observer News Service

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha handed over the Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak to father of a civilian, who was killed in a terror attack in Budgam last year. Sinha handed over Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak, citation and a cheque to Gulam Mohammad Dar, father of Martyr civilian Mohammad Umar Dar, at Raj Bhawan here on Monday, an official spokesperson said. Umar was conferred with Sarvottam Jeevan Raksha Padak (Posthumously) by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu. According to the spokesperson, Umar and his brother Ishfaq Ahmad Dar, who was working as an SPO in J&K Police, were killed by the terrorists inside their house in Chattabugh Budgam on March 26 last year. The LG paid homage to Umar and saluted the exemplary courage shown by him in saving the lives of his family members. Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai, GOC 15 Corps; and family members of the slain civilian were also present on this occasion

Kashmir Ideal Place for Miss World Pageant: Bielawska

KO Web Desk

Srinagar: After the G20- global event, the stage is all set for the 71st Miss World 2023 contest in Kashmir where 140 countries would participate later this year.

In this regard, a press meet was organized at SKICC here in Srinagar in which Miss World Karolina Bielawska, Miss India Sini Shetty, Miss World Caribbean Emmy Pena, Miss Caribbean and Miss England were present.

Miss World Karolina Bielawska while addressing the media, said that the Kashmir Valley has everything and it is the best place to host the event like Miss World.

"I am so grateful to see the beautiful place in India, the beautiful lakes here, everyone



has welcomed us nicely. The hospitality here we got was wonderful," she said, adding it would be exciting to see 140 countries participating in the event.

She added that every state and country has its own beauty, but the pleasant hospitality here has been overwhelming. "It is a proud [More On P6](#)

Beauty Pageants Meet LG

Miss World, Karolina Bielawska and other international beauty pageant winners called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha here on Monday, an official spokesperson said. Karolina Bielawska was accompanied by Miss World Caribbean,

Emmy Pena; Miss World America, Shree Saini; Miss World India, Sini Shetty; Miss World England, Jessica Gagen; Miss Asia, Priscilla Carla Saputri Yules; Chairman and CEO of Miss World Organization, Julia Eric Morley. They shared the experience [More On P6](#)

Detained Kashmiri Students In Rajasthan Released

Action Under Law To Be Taken Against Outsiders For Creating Chaos: VC Mewar University

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: All 21 Kashmiri students, who were detained after a violent scuffle inside Mewar University in Rajasthan, have been released by police, officials said on Monday.

At least 36 students, including 21 from Kashmir were detained after fierce clashes broke out between two groups of students at the Chittorgarh's Mewar University on Friday last during the queuing for food at the mess.

Dr Alok Mishra, Vice-Chancellor of Mewar University told Kashmir Observer over phone that all the students

have been released with the warning that no such incident having potential to create communal disharmony will be tolerated in the future.

Mishra said all 36 students including 21 from Kashmir have been released while action as per law shall be initiated against the outsiders who had joined local students during clashes. He said the situation has normalized and that the students attend classes as per routine.

"No one will be spared; I would like to reiterate that any action that brings disrepute to the Mewar University will not be tolerated. [More On P6](#)

Shepherd Slips To Death

A shepherd died on Monday after slipping from a cliff in the upper reaches of Baba Nagri in Kangan area of Ganderbal district. Muhammad Amjid Raina of Baba Nagri Wangath had gone to a forest area to take care of his livestock when he lost control and fell down from a cliff, a local news agency KNT reported. Raina lost his life due to the fall. Meanwhile, Police have registered a case in this regard. [More On P6](#)

Man Tries To End Life, Neighbour Arrested

Disturbed over a prolonged land dispute with his neighbour, a man allegedly committed suicide by setting himself afire in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district, police said on Monday. The incident occurred at Pathanmorha Dassal village on Sunday in which a person named Sain Dass poured petrol on himself and committed self-immolation, an official said, adding he was rushed to the hospital where doctors declared him dead. A case of alleged abetment to suicide was registered at Rajouri police station and accused Pawan Kumar has been arrested, the official said. Police officials said that there was

Electric Shock Kills Youth

Two siblings were electrocuted in Babapora village of Zainapora Sub Division in South Kashmir's Shopian district and one of them succumbed while another is undergoing treatment at a hospital. An official said that two brothers named Mashooq Ahmad Hajam and his brother Irfan Ahmad Hajam were injured due to electric shock when they were repairing wires on electric pole at Babapora Zainapora. He said both were evacuated to hospital for treatment where Mashooq Ahmad succumbed to his injuries while condition of Irfan is said to be stable. Meanwhile, police have taken cognizance of the incident.

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Tuesday | 29-08-2023

Militancy Challenge Persists

Director General of Police, Dilbag Singh, in a recent interaction with media in Jammu said that significant strides have been made in curbing militancy in J&K and emphasized that the focus is not merely containing terrorism, but eliminating it altogether. Singh underlined that 99 percent of infiltration attempts from Pakistan have been successfully thwarted this year alone. He attributed this success to the heightened vigilance and the tightening of the border security grid.

Over the past two months, there have been multiple instances of interception, leading to the killing of nearly a dozen infiltrators and the seizure of substantial caches of weapons, explosives, and narcotics. However, as the DGP himself acknowledged, the challenges remain. There have been recurrent attempts to send IEDs and weaponry from across the border, some of which seem to have succeeded. A recent incident involving the discovery of an IED in Nagrota served as a reminder of these dangers. Similarly, militants in South Kashmir's Kulgam killed three security personnel during a recent encounter. What is more, Poonch and Rajouri districts in Jammu have witnessed a certain revival of militancy since 2021. This year, so far, ten security personnel have been killed in the twin districts in two successive encounters. And what is particularly concerning for the security agencies is that the forest area where the militants are hiding extends to Shopian in South Kashmir, the district that has been a hotbed of militancy in recent years. But the militants have largely chosen to stay in Jammu only, possibly because the region has a lower concentration of security forces than the Valley and also a warmer climate throughout the year. The security agencies believe they are the highly trained militants since they most probably come from across the border.

If anything, it shows that despite the drastic reduction in the number of militants in recent years, militancy lingers in some form. More importantly, militancy is now largely sustained by the infiltration. But with more counter-infiltration measures the situation could be brought under control. The government, according to Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, is now working on a plan to replicate the counterinsurgency strategy adopted in Kashmir Valley, to curb the rising violence in Jammu. This includes identification and arrest of over-ground supporters of militants, proactive counterinsurgency operations, deployment of police, Army, Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) and night patrolling and area domination, which are believed to have helped check infiltration to a large extent in the Kashmir region. Here's one approach that we would like the administration to follow: the political outreach. In past, this approach has made a redeeming difference to the situation.

OTHER OPINION

The new book ban

In a 1994 interview, the writer and sci-fi sage Ray Bradbury said that one of the motivations for writing his most famous book Fahrenheit 451, about a dystopian society where books are outlawed, was the scourge of "political correctness" which could lead to censoring of books. In previous interviews, when talking about the 1953 book, he had cited the paranoia of the McCarthy era and the effect of mass media on literature as having spurred him to write. Had Bradbury been alive today, one wonders if he would have perceived the danger posed to books by artificial intelligence (AI), and seen in it the potential for the execution of an age-old threat via a very 21st century means.

There is something to worry about in an Iowa school district's solution when confronted with a new law passed by the state which requires school library catalogues to be "age appropriate" and contain no "descriptions or visual depictions of a sex act". The authorities at Mason City Community School District put a "master list" of the most challenged books in the US through ChatGPT so that the programme could identify those that wouldn't comply with the new law: 19 books — including Alice Walker's The Colour Purple, Margaret Atwood's The Handmaid's Tale and Toni Morrison's Beloved — have been removed from its libraries.

Since ChatGPT and other generative AI programmes started making headlines last year, several terabytes worth of arguments have been made both in the technology's favour and against it. The pendulum has swung from fantasies about its potential for medicine, space technology etc to spectres about its impact on jobs and human creativity. But as the Iowa school district's example shows, what is needed, really, is caution: When put in the hands of flawed humans, any tool — which, after all, is what AI is — can become a weapon.

The Indian Express

BRICS Marching Ahead

The 15th BRICS summit comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, was held at Johannesburg, S. Africa. This year's annual summit was majorly focussed on two issues; first, admitting new members to the 5-nation organisation and boosting trade using the local currency of the member nations

Asad Mirza

“There were also rumours that the Summit may announce a BRICS-issued reserve currency to be used by members in cross-border trade. Though the member nations collectively enjoy a comfortable balance of payment surplus, they don't have the financial wherewithal

Reportedly, encouraged by BRICS success on the economic and geopolitical fronts, a growing number of countries in the Global South consider it as an attractive agent of multilateralism. More than forty nations - including Algeria, Egypt, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates, including key G-20 countries such as Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, and Saudi Arabia - had formally expressed their interest in joining the BRICS. But finally only six more were added to the original members' list.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa formally announced BRICS expansion, and now Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the UAE, Argentina and Ethiopia will join BRICS. Overtly this seems to be an attempt to reshape the global world order and provide a counterweight to the U.S. and its allies.

The Chinese president, Xi Jinping, described the expansion as "historic". Xi had leading the demand admitting new members, thus shaping-up an enlarged BRICS as a way for the Global South to have a stronger voice in world affairs.

The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, welcoming the expansion of the five-nation grouping said, "Through this step, the faith of numerous nations in a multipolar world order will become stronger."

Media reports prior to the summit cited Chinese officials furthering the view that the bloc should be a rival to the G-7. But they were silent on plans to enhance the group's clout on the global stage. It would depend on how far it will be able to act in unison, as the addition of new members has made it even more disparate.

The Guardian quoted the director of the Asia and Latin America programme at the Inter-American Dialogue, Margaret Myers, as saying that this move is more symbolic than anything - it's an indication of wide-ranging global south support for a recalibration of the global order.

The decision to admit Iran represented a win for both Putin and Xi, giving the group a more anti-western nuance. Iran, which has been looking for ways to sidestep the U.S. sanctions, was indeed elated and same could be said about Putin, who'll be hosting the next summit and addressed the Jo'burg summit virtually.

While India had not opposed the expansion of the BRICS, it did push for rules and procedures to be laid down, which would govern which countries could enter the bloc. China's push to incorporate Pakistan into the BRICS alliance earlier stirred a diplomatic conundrum, but ultimately it was not amongst the lucky six.

For Argentina, facing dire economic problems, membership may provide a lifeline to escape from

the deepening crisis. Its president, Alberto Fernández, said it represented a "new scenario" for the country. Ethiopia became the only low-income country in the group. Its prime minister, Abiy Ahmed, described it as "a great moment" for his country.

Al Jazeera quoted Ayham Ka-

cies have chipped away at its dominance has been incremental. But a growing number of experts, including senior U.S. government officials, recognise that the aggressive use of economic and financial sanctions to advance U.S. foreign policy could threaten the dollar's hegemony in the



mel, the head of Eurasia Group's Middle East and North Africa research team, as saying that in one move, the Middle East and North Africa region could have four members in an expanded BRICS organisation. This will structurally enhance their leverage regionally and globally.

A strengthened region would further pave the way for a multipolar world, Al Jazeera quoted Trita Parsi, vice president of the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, as saying, "As the world moves away from unipolarity, the U.S. is also losing its ability to act as a gatekeeper, no one single state can any longer decide who is in the Community of Nations and who is a pariah."

However the most important takeaway from the summit was described by Ryan Berg, the head of the Americas programme at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, quoted by The Guardian as saying that "For China and Russia, this is a win. They have been pushing for this for five plus years now. For China, it allows them to continue to build what they hope is a Beijing-centric order. For Russia, who is hosting it next year, it sees this as a tremendous opportunity in its current moment of significant isolation."

In addition, BRICS members also discussed sustainable development in the climate change era, global governance reform, and an orderly process of increasing trade in local currencies, which many emerging economies are exploring and where India is pushing for trade in the Indian rupee.

Hippolyte Fofack, chief economist and director of research at the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) told The Atlantic magazine that the dollar remains the global reserve currency, and the pace at which other curren-

years ahead. There were also rumours that the Summit may announce a BRICS-issued reserve currency to be used by members in cross-border trade. Though the member nations collectively enjoy a comfortable balance of payment surplus, they don't have the financial wherewithal, Hippolyte opined to establish such a currency as they lack the institutional architecture and the scale to sustainably achieve this end.

Reflecting on these challenges, Anil Sooklal, South Africa's ambassador-at-large to BRICS, had reiterated in July earlier that a BRICS currency will not be on the agenda during the summit, though expanding trade and settlement in local currencies will be. According to Hippolyte BRICS countries are already making strides in the use of local currencies in cross-border transactions. Their use is helping to sustain and boost cross-border trade between members, even amid a challenging operating environment of heightened geopolitical risks. It is also loosening the balance of payments constraints associated with dollar funding, bolstering local economies.

Lastly, the Jo'burg summit served as a new foundation in advancing cross-border payment systems and embracing local currencies to fortify international trade, besides sending a warning light to U.S.-led western democracies that the concerns of developing nations shouldn't be ignored any further.

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

Asad Mirza is a Delhi-based senior political and international affairs commentator



OBSERVER MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

Change Your Life and Personality

THERE'S no real "you". You're just a blueprint of the society in which you were born and one that made you. Your habits, hobbies, interests, religion, beliefs and actions are all mediated by society. What you are right now is not the actual you. However, there is a possibility to discover and rediscover yourself. You are the creator of your own story. However this change will hardly come overnight.

Consider this, in a village two children are born. One grows up in the village itself and another is raised in a developed country abroad. After twenty years, they both will have different personalities. The village boy will have his own set of hobbies

and dreams. On the other hand, the one raised abroad will have a different set of values mediated by a completely different society abroad. Therefore, it is obvious that you do not control your life, society does. One might mistake one's life as though luck directed it, however, things aren't that simple.

However, no matter what society has done, you can change it if you don't like your story that you are living. You can completely recreate it no matter how old and strong your story is. You have the power, because you are the author of your own life story. This is the highest power for a human being.

You have to first accept it deep

within by increasing your self understanding. Research on it, analyse your past. Listen and watch struggle stories of people who then become successful all over the world. One thought can change your life. Plant your thoughts deeply in your subconscious mind through gratitude affirmations. Do this until your belief in your abilities becomes stronger.

Then the next step is to destroy your fear of people. As they say, "sabse bada rogh, kya kahenge log". If you don't remove this fear then you can't unlock your true potential or inner voice. Listen to the inner voice not the outer voice. No matter how many failures you have faced, you become closer to success from every failure.

If you are so concerned about what people are thinking, then how can you make your decisions? You will act on their expectations of you and not on your inner voice.

Life is what you make it, it's your choice. Don't compromise in life, enjoy it to the fullest. Don't make excuses. Be patient, work hard. Keep a learning attitude, an open mind and do not see through the beliefs you hold but see things as they are.

Make a commitment that no matter what your boring story was in the past and that you will live life on your own terms and conditions.

Mohsin Nazir

Whispers of Diligence Bee's Unity, Scorpion's Strength

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun

"Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, 'The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.' Similarly, in the delicate dance of honeybees and the determined stride of scorpions, we find a profound lessons on unity and diligence that resonates through the tapestry of nature"

In the vast world of insects, honeybees stand out for their remarkable unity and unwavering diligence. These tiny creatures work together in perfect harmony, displaying a level of cooperation that offers valuable lessons for human societies.

Honeybees are known for their complex social structure, with each member of the colony having a specific role to play. The queen bee, as the matriarch, lays eggs and ensures the continuity of the hive. The male drones serve to fertilize the queen's eggs, while the female worker bees are responsible for various tasks,

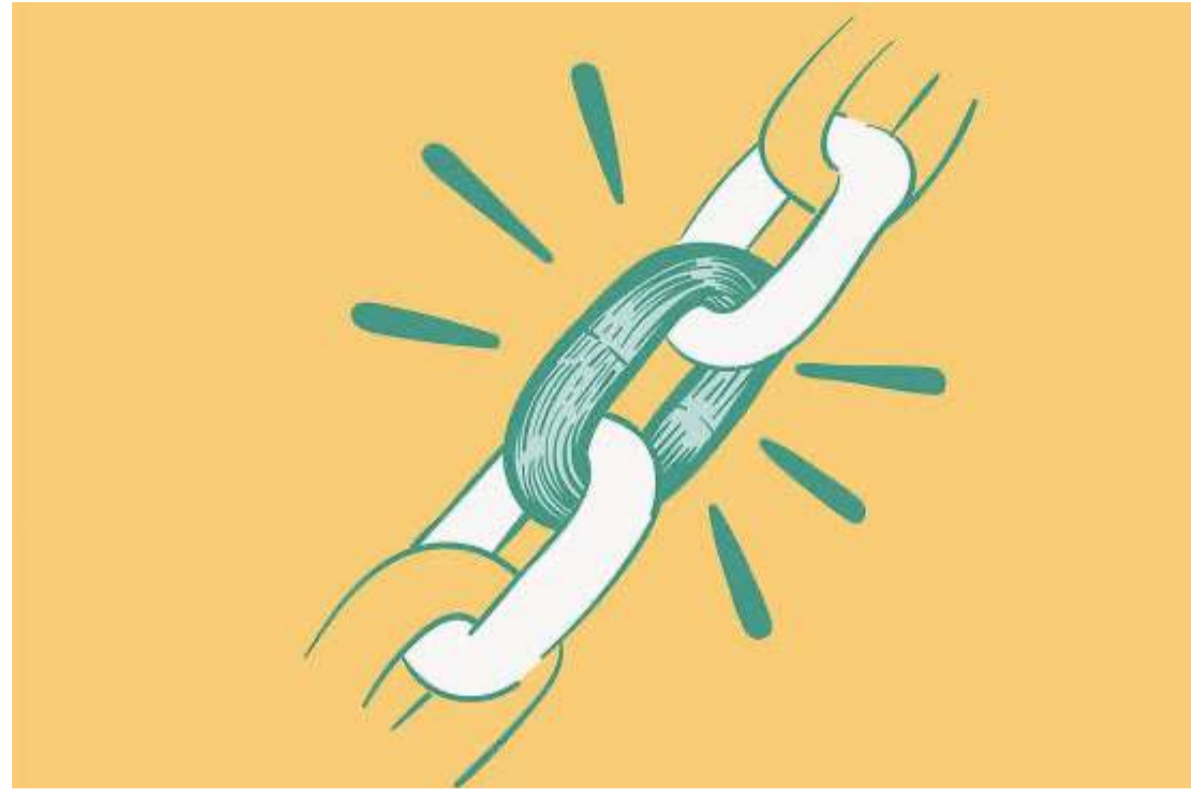
such as foraging for nectar, producing honey, and protecting the hive.

The work ethic of honeybees is truly awe-inspiring. Day after day, they venture out in search of nectar from flowers, tirelessly flying long distances to collect the precious resource. Back at the hive, they convert the nectar into honey, a vital food source for the entire colony, especially during times of scarcity.

What makes honeybees even more remarkable is their cooperative spirit. They communicate through intricate dances, sharing vital information about the location of food sources. The unity of purpose within the hive is evident as they all work towards a common goal – the survival and prosperity of the colony.

As humans, we can learn valuable lessons from the honeybee's way of life. The strength of their colony lies in unity, collaboration, and a deep sense of responsibility towards each other. Similarly, in our societies, when individuals come together, pooling their diverse talents and skills for the greater good, remarkable progress can be achieved.

Just like the honeybees, we should recognize the significance



of teamwork and shared responsibilities. When we work in unison, supporting one another through challenges and celebrating collective achievements, we create a harmonious environment that fosters growth and mutual benefit.

Furthermore, the diligent nature of honeybees teaches us the value of hard work and perseverance. Success often comes through consistent effort and dedication to our goals. Just as honeybees diligently gather nectar day after day, we must stay focused on our aspirations, knowing that our efforts will eventually bear sweet fruits of success.

"Cherishing Parents: A Lesson from the Scorpion"

In the vast tapestry of nature, there are remarkable lessons to be learned from even the tiniest creatures. The scorpion, a creature often misunderstood, reveals a powerful

message about the value of parents and the reciprocity of love and care.

In the scorpion kingdom, a unique phenomenon unfolds. After giving birth, the mother places her offspring on her back, carrying them with utmost devotion. Astonishingly, these young scorpions feed on their mother's flesh, a symbiotic sacrifice she silently endures. This striking tale of selflessness and endurance bears an uncanny resemblance to certain aspects of today's human society.

In our modern world, parents toil tirelessly, working day and night, regardless of challenges, to provide for their children's needs and dreams. Just like the scorpion mother, they silently endure the trials of life, expecting nothing in return but their children's happiness. However, as children grow, some might unknowingly detach themselves, focusing on their own

aspirations without considering the sacrifices made on their behalf.

It is essential to realize that filial responsibility is not merely a cultural norm; it holds deep significance in various religious and ethical traditions. Islam, for instance, places great emphasis on honoring parents, recognizing the profound bond and respect owed to them. In Islamic belief, paradise lies beneath a mother's feet, highlighting the divine importance of caring for parents.

Gratitude and reciprocity towards parents are key tenets not only in Islam but in various other belief systems too. The tale of the scorpion teaches us that by valuing and caring for our parents, we can earn blessings from a higher power, fostering a sense of contentment and harmony in both this life and the hereafter.

It is crucial to remember that the

scorpion's tale is not a call for parents to demand obedience or repayments from their children. Instead, it urges children to recognize the love and sacrifices of their parents and repay them with love, respect, and appreciation. By sharing our goals and achievements with our parents, we invite them into our lives, and in return, they offer guidance, support, and blessings for our endeavors.

The remarkable behavior of honeybees offers profound insights into unity, diligence, and cooperation. By emulating their sense of community and dedicated work ethic, we can create more harmonious societies and achieve extraordinary outcomes together. Let us be inspired by the humble honeybee and strive to build a world where unity and diligence become the pillars of progress and prosperity and similarly the scorpion's unique story carries a profound lesson for all of us. Let us emulate the mother scorpion's resilience and selflessness in our relationships with our parents. By cherishing and caring for them, we not only gain the favor of a higher power but also create a nurturing and loving environment for ourselves and future generations. May we all strive to be like the scorpion in the best possible way – selfless, caring, and grateful to those who brought us into this world.

As we reflect upon the intricate collaboration of honeybees and the steadfast resolve of scorpions, let us remember that unity and diligence are not mere chance occurrences in nature, but deliberate choices that shape the world around us. Their story urges us to embrace the strength of togetherness and the unwavering commitment to our goals, for it is in these virtues that we too can find our place in the grand symphony of existence."

Aubaid Ahmad Akhoun is a Columnist & Motivational Speaker and an Associate Editor of the Weekly Publication 'Education Quill'



THE REMARKABLE BEHAVIOR OF HONEYBEES OFFERS PROFOUND INSIGHTS INTO UNITY, diligence, and cooperation. By emulating their sense of community and dedicated work ethic, we can create more harmonious societies and achieve extraordinary outcomes together

Let us stop glorifying multi-tasking

Asha Iyer Kumar

Hand on the wheel, a thumb on the QWERTY keys in the phone, and eyes alternating between the road and the speeding text.

Feeding a toddler on the lap, a phone sandwiched between the right cheek and ear, a skewed pair of eyes scanning the laptop screen.

Half an ear on the speaker on stage, a revisionary glance on the points to present and mind on the agenda for a client meeting the next day.

Math formulae clouding the eyes, song lyrics on YouTube filling the brain and messages from a school group yanking attention.

These are examples of a few multi-taskers, capable of hopping between assignments and connecting dissimilar mental nodes at the same time without a hassle. They juggle jobs in hand with aplomb and carry the tag of super achievers with elan. There is one problem, though, and a serious one at that.

Unbeknownst to them, the two sides of their brain's prefrontal cortex have slipped into a pattern of disharmony, and their think tank has become muddled. What they consider a phenomenal coup of their mental power has in truth turned detrimental to their brain capacity. What they take pride in—being able to get more done in less time—has in reality become their nemesis.

Multi-taskers are often lauded, but the truth is this much-acclaimed skill has no merit except it injects a notion in them of being a notch better than others, hence more worthy of accolades. It is a myth probably instituted by new



age corporates that expect their employees to extract their last dreg of energy to perform, failing which, to be ready to perish.

The downsides of multi-tasking has been in discussion for a long time now, but they have been ignored deliberately for reasons of vanity than purpose. It serves one's reputation to be a multi-tasker in a world of equal calibres; it gives fillip to one's self-confidence to imagine that to be

able to do multiple tasks at one time reflects one's competence, and it acts as a pick-me-up sign in a contest where speed is key. Add to these, a delusion of time-management it induces into our psyche.

None of the above is true. What is true is that multi-tasking, especially when it involves neurologically intense tasks that require cognitive effort, retards our reflexes, mixes our priorities and

takes our eyes off what is important. Research says it adds burden to the brain, consumes more glucose, thereby sapping our energy and making us disoriented. Our error index goes up and the quality of work suffers. As simplistic as it might sound in words, the truth behind this 'talent' to juggle is a lot more damaging than we may care to think. The negative effects often remain unperceived, but they come out in the open in

the long term when tasks are ridden with mistakes and the final outcome is below par.

The brain science behind it apart, arguments against multi-tasking have sound reasoning. Switching focus frequently and trying to fix attention on more than one thing demands the brain to turn off from one thing and move to the other, which takes extra time. It may not seem like much, but when gathered over a

series of actions, the shifting can result in longer processing time and delays. It is like how leaving our appliances on standby can lead to higher current bills that we fail to notice.

Having said that, it is nearly impossible for people to dislodge the habit of multi-tasking when workload gets overwhelming. Students have more than a handful to accomplish in order to make the cut, employees with ballooning targets stare at back-to-back deadlines and managers have bottom lines to bolster. Given these, multi-tasking seems like the only way to manoeuvre through increasing work pressure.

It is a tough call to make, but one must find a middle path where neither productivity suffers nor one's well-being. Organising chaos will require discipline and an ability to prioritise one's responsibilities. The first thing to do is to dethrone multi-tasking as a champion's asset and decide that we will not put our brain in duress unless life is at stake. We have a choice to either clutter our mind with miscellany or to fix our focus on one and give each task its own deserved time, and get it done well.

At the end of the day, we have only two hands and let us give them only enough to handle. Juggling might be an exciting sport, but only those who are exceptionally adept will ace it. A majority of us have butter fingers and cannot dabble with more than one thing at a time, and we had better know it before dropping things becomes an incorrigible habit.

—The article was originally published by Khaleej Times



Chhari Mubarak Leaves For Holy Cave Shrine

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The saffron-robed holy mace of Lord Shiva, popularly known as 'Chhari Mubarak', left from Pahalgam base camp on Monday for Chandanwari where it will halt for the night, officials said. Amidst religious chants, the Chhari was taken from Pahalgam to Chandanwari by Mahant Deependra Giri, the custodian of the holy mace. The holy mace will reach the cave shrine, considered to be the abode of Lord Shiva, in south Kashmir Himalayas for special prayers on August 31 which will mark the culmination of the annual Amarnath Yatra.

The holy mace will be taken to Sheshnag on August 29 for a night halt before reaching Panchitarani on August 30. The Chhari Mubarak Swami Amarnath Ji had left for the main course of pilgrimage on Saturday from Mahadev Gir Dashnami Akhara here. Special prayers were held at the Dashnami Akhara temple before the commencement of the religious pilgrimage. Giri will carry the holy mace to perform 'pujan' and have 'darshan' in the early morning of 'Shravan-Purnima' on August 31.

Just Tip Of Iceberg: Mehbooba On Lecturer's Suspension

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Monday said the suspension of a Jammu and Kashmir education department lecturer who had argued before the Supreme Court in a matter related to the abrogation of Article 370 was "just the tip of the iceberg". The Jammu and Kashmir administration has placed Senior Lecturer Zahoor Ahmad Bhat under suspension "for violation of provisions of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service Regulations, Jammu and Kashmir Government Employees (Conduct) Rules 1971, J&K Leave Rules", days after he appeared in the Supreme Court as a party against the abrogation of Article 370. He was removed from his place of posting in Srinagar and attached to the office of the Director of School Education, Jammu, while a senior officer was appointed as an inquiry officer to conduct an in-depth inquiry into his conduct. "This is just the tip of the iceberg. Since the illegal abrogation of Article 370, the people of Jammu and Kashmir have to choose. Either be mute spectators and watch their livelihood, jobs and land being snatched or face the music for raising their voice. It's a Hobson's choice laden with deadly consequences. Every

Kashmiri can't afford to knock on the doors of the SC," Mehbooba posted on X. The issue of Bhat's suspension was raised in the Supreme Court by senior advocate Kapil Sibal on Monday. The Supreme Court asked Attorney General R Venkataramani and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta to look into the issue. National Conference leader Omar Abdullah thanked Sibal for raising the issue in the apex court. "Grateful to Kapil Sibal for raising the issue of Zahoor Bhat in the Supreme Court. Zahoor is a lecturer who was suspended immediately after he returned to the valley having argued his petition in front of the Constitution Bench against the events of Aug 5, 2019," Abdullah posted on X. A five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud took note of the suspension of Bhat, who had argued before the top court on August 24 as petitioner in person in the case. As soon as the court resumed its hearing on Monday, senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Rajeev Dhavan pointed out that Bhat was suspended from his job by the Jammu and Kashmir administration after having argued before the top court. "He took leave for two days. Argued before this court and went back and was suspended," Sibal said.

Kupwara Court Convicts 2 In NDPS Case

To Announce Quantum of Punishment On Sept 4

Agencies

KUPWARA: A fast track court in Kupwara on Monday convicted two accused persons in an NDPS case. Dar Abdul Rashid, Additional Public Prosecutor, FTC/NIA Court, Kupwara said that in FIR No 56 of Year 2019 of PS Karnah (Titled State Versus Syed Ishfaq & Anr) U/S 08/21 of NDPS Act, Fast Track Court Kupwara has convicted two accused persons Syed Ishfaq and Khurshid Ahmad Gojar both residents of Jabdi Karnah, 15 kilograms of Heroin was recovered from the duo on 12th

February 2019. The case has been listed for arguments on quantum of punishment on 4th of September 2023. Earlier in June 2023 two persons namely Mohammad Shafi Lone and Bilal Ahmad Dar both residents of Sopore, in case FIR No: 45/2020 U/s 8/21 NDPS Act were convicted by Fast Track Court Kupwara and were sentenced to 10 years imprisonment and 1 lakh fine. It is pertinent to mention that in both these cases prosecution was conducted by Dar Rashid, Additional Public Prosecutor, FTC/NIA Court Kupwara. (GNS)



MISS WORLD KAROLINA BIELAWSKA and Miss World India Sini Shetty interacting with a handicraft artist at a hotel in Srinagar on Monday.. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

FOUR LANEING PROJECT

Chief Secretary Tours Ramban, Inspects Highway Works



Observer News Service

RAMBAN: In an effort to oversee the progress of ongoing four-laning works on Jammu-Srinagar National Highway, Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday took a firsthand appraisal of all critical sections between Banihal and Ramban and also held a holistic review of flagship programmes in the District. During his visit, the Chief Secretary reiterated his direction to the Traffic Department for making the 66-km road stretch between Qazigund and Nashri tunnels two-way for both LMVs and HMVs which are below 4 axle, adding that HMVs which are above 4 axle shall ply only during the lean period as per laid out plan by the Traffic Department. This is expected to provide huge relief as this will put an end to forced halt at Qazigund and Ban toll plaza in future. Additional Chief Secretary, Home, R. K. Goyal, Commissioner Secretary GAD, Sanjeev

Verma; Divisional Commissioner Jammu Ramesh Kumar; Inspector General of Police Traffic, Bhim Sen Tuti; DIGs of DKR and Traffic Range Jammu, Deputy Commissioner Ramban and SSP NHW, RO NHAI, along with many other senior officers of different departments were also present on the occasion. During the first leg of his tour, Chief Secretary inspected the progress of work on 2.3km Banihal Viaduct, which will bypass the Banihal town and facilitate smooth movement of traffic on the National Highway. He emphasized upon the NHAI to ensure that the work on the project is completed by December this year. He also passed standing instructions to NHAI to blackout the link road towards Banihal Market, till the bypass is completed. Earlier, the Chief Secretary stopped at Lambar, on Banihal Expressway, and passed directions to use the handover / takeover site of Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra - 2023 as truck holding area, keeping in view the

increasing movement of fruit laden trucks from Kashmir valley towards Jammu and rest of the country. Emphasizing upon strict adherence to stipulated timelines, Dr. Mehta asked Regional Officer NHAI to ensure completion of 6.2 km Sher Bibi viaduct, Tunnel T-4, 4.2 km Digidol twin-tube and the additional two tubes of Ramban flyover, as this new infrastructure will further decrease the travel time between Srinagar and Jammu. He advised NHAI to explore the possibility of hassle-free two-way movement of HMVs between Tunnels T-3 and T-5. The road between T-3 and T-5 had caved-in following incessant rains in the first week of July earlier this year during SANJY 2023. NHAI had developed a temporary ramp to restore the movement of vehicles. The Chief Secretary also passed directions to NHAI to complete the T-5 viaduct and underpass near Magerkote within the stipulated timeline.

Over 5 Lakh Job Letters Given By Centre Since Oct 2022: Minister

Says 10 Lakh Target By Year-End

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Union minister B L Verma Monday said the Centre has distributed job letters to 5.5 lakh youth since last October and aims to provide 10 lakh jobs by year-end. Addressing a Rozgar mela at the Border Security Force (BSF) headquarters here, Verma handed over appointment letters to 250 candidates, out of a total of 1,000 selected for various Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) such as BSF, CRPF CISE, SSB, and ITBP. This morning, Modi distributed over 51,000 appointment letters to the youth, mostly in

the security forces, joined in from 45 locations across the country. Distributing job letters at the event here, Verma said this Rozgar Mela scheme is part of the government's efforts to abate unemployment in the country. "In October 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi made a commitment that 10 lakh jobs will be given to youth by December 2023. By this time, we have provided job letters to 5.5 lakh youth," the Union Minister of State for development of the Northeastern region said. He added that in the days to come, the prime minister will deliver what he has promised to the youth of this country.

BSF officials at the event here said this recruitment drive will significantly help the country's security forces to conduct their operations more efficiently and effectively and better manage a wide range of security duties across the entire country. Through this Rozgar Mela event, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is recruiting personnel in various CAPFs such as CRPF, BSF, SSB, Assam Rifles, CISE, ITBP and Narcotics Control Bureau as well as Delhi Police, the officials said. The MHA has filled up around one lakh posts through Mission Recruitment, out of which about 87,000 vacant posts have been filled up in CAPFs, they added.

Cong Strong Enough To Defeat Malicious BJP Propaganda: Rajani

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Congress is a vibrant party and is strong enough to defeat the "malicious propaganda" and "misleading politics" of the BJP, All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge of Jammu and Kashmir Rajani Patil said on Monday. Rajya Sabha MP Patil was addressing a workers' convention at Chekibhadri Nath in Pulwama district. "Congress is a vibrant party strong enough to defeat the malicious propaganda and misleading politics of BJP. The party is committed to ensuring that people live with dignity and their issues are resolved on priority," she said. The Congress leader also said that bifurcating the erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state into Union territories was an assault on people's emotions.

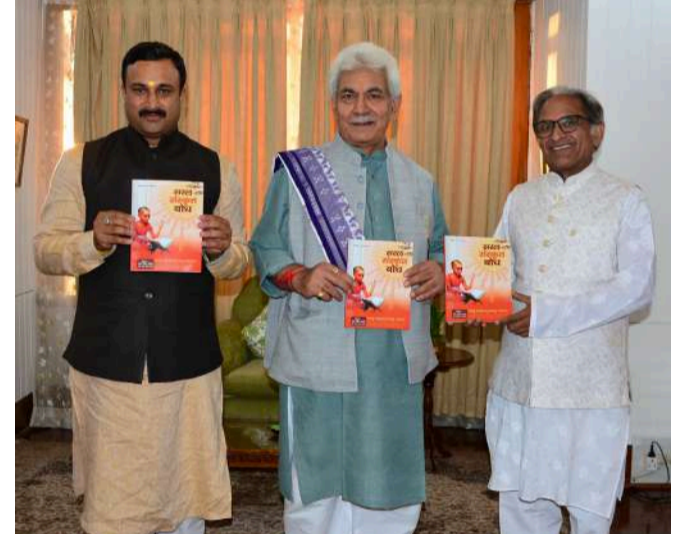
"The BJP rule is hostile, working as a punishment for the public," she said. Patil also alleged that despite all these failures, the BJP government is building a false narrative aimed at diverting the attention of the public from real issues. She added that the Congress will ensure justice and inclusive development in J&K. "The UPA-I and UPA-II had prepared a roadmap and ensured enormous development and employment in J&K, but the BJP policies are contrary to that. With the result, the developmental process started in J&K received severe setbacks," Patil added. She reiterated that the Congress would not compromise on people's aspirations and would do its best to restore the confidence and trust of the common citizens in J&K.

LG Releases 'Saras Sanskrit Bodh'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday released a book titled 'Saras Sanskrit Bodh' published by

President J&K Apni Party called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan, today. Manhas apprised the Lt Governor on various issues of public importance of Shopian in-



Shri Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust, at Raj Bhawan here. The Lt Governor congratulated Mahant Rohit Shastri, President Shri Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan Trust and Prof. Sharat Chandra Sharma, the authors of the book. He appreciated the commitment of Kailash Jyotish and Vedic Sansthan for the promotion, development and enrichment of Sanskrit. Meanwhile, Zafar Iqbal Khan Manhas, former MLC and Vice

cluding providing boost to the horticulture sector, construction of road from Army camp Chanchmarg Shopian to Dubjan, construction of Zarkan Bridge, upgradation of High School building at Shahabad, upgradation of water supply schemes of Kandi Areas of Shopian, promotion of tourism and smooth implementation of PMAY. The Lt Governor assured the former Legislator of appropriate action on the genuine issues put forth during the interaction.

Crewel Embroidery Entrepreneur From Kupwara Scripts Success Story

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Razia Sultan, a crewel embroidery entrepreneur from Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, never pinned her hopes on a government job. She instead took a keen interest in handicraft and scripted her own success story. Today, she has established a successful crewel embroidery chain stitch unit at Trehgam in Kupwara where she is generating livelihood for herself and other women working in her unit. She is also imparting training to other girls of the area. "In 2012, my father passed away and there was no one to support my family financially. It was in 2013 when the Handi-



crafts Department, Kupwara established a Crewel Elementary Training Centre at my native village Trehgam and I along with other village girls got ourselves registered for the course against a monthly stipend of Rs 500," Razia, daughter of Mohammad Sultan Sheikh, said. "The initial training course had the duration of one year

and owing to the good response from the trainees, the batch was put to advanced training for two more years against a monthly stipend of Rs 700," she added. The love for the craft made Razia take up the role of a crafts instructor at a crewel centre at the age of 19 years against a monthly salary of Rs 2,000. She said this money in 2017 meant

a lot for her and her family, and her joy doubled as she was doing something she loved. In the meantime, Razia was honoured with a State Level Award by the handicrafts department in crewel craft in 2018, which fuelled her passion for crewel embroidery. Around the same time, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir announced the Karkhandar scheme wherein the meritorious pass-outs are given advanced training regarding the design and marketing, and the 'karkhana' of Razia was covered under the scheme for a period of six months. Taking the benefit of this scheme, he made 285 metres crewel cloth and produced 236 crewel embroi-

dered cushion covers. She said during the last five months, she got a revenue of Rs 1,60,000 for her crewel work. Besides, she has established her successful entrepreneurial venture and is earning around Rs 60,000 to Rs 70,000 per month. Razia has trained more than 200 girls so far. She believes that every woman should become financially independent which will make them more self-reliant and boost their confidence. The girl from Kupwara suggests that women should come forward and start their ventures to generate employment and earn profit simultaneously and become job providers not job seekers.

UT Of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SHEEP HUSBANDRY OFFICER PULWAMA
Ph. No. 01933-241215 Fax-phone : 01933241215
Mail ID; dshopulwama@gmail.com
TECHNICAL SECTION
NOTICE
Subsequent to Directions of Director General Sheep Husbandry Department Kashmir vide no:- DSHK/Tech/2023-24/3439-55 Dated:- 16/08/2023 and to ensure timely utilization of funds under HADP, this office is going to conduct selection of beneficiaries under different components of HADP scheme. In this backdrop it is hereby notified that application received on HADP Portal by or before 31/08/2023 will only be considered for selection in first instance. The applications received after that will only be considered if additional targets are assigned to this organization for the year 2023-24. Furthermore, it is impressed upon all the VAS's to verify and forward/reject application accordingly by 01 September up to 4:00 Pm positively, enabling this office to conduct selection of beneficiaries on 5th September 2023.
No: DSHOP/Tech/2023-24/1226-35
Dated: 28/08/2023 District Sheep Husbandry Officer Pulwama
DIPK-7909-23
DT: 28/08/2023

Asia's Cricket Giants Square Up Ahead Of WC

Agencies

Asia's cricket giants India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka will get a final chance to size each other up before October's 50-over World Cup when the Asia Cup begins on Wednesday.

Fiery rivals India and Pakistan could clash as many as three times if they go all the way in the six-nation continental championship.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka are co-hosts, a hybrid model agreed after World Cup hosts India refused to tour Pakistan, with the final on September 17 in Colombo.

Pakistan, which became the world's top-ranked ODI team after last week's 3-0 series sweep against Afghanistan, open the campaign at home on Wednesday against Asia Cup debutants Nepal in Multan.

Skipper Babar Azam, who scored 113 runs in the Afghanistan series, leads a team containing a triple-pronged fast bowling attack in Shaheen Shah Afridi, Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf.

World Cup hosts India, led by Rohit Sharma, will open their campaign against the Green Shirts in a hotly anticipated clash on Saturday in Palakkad.

India and Pakistan, who only play against each other in international tournaments due to the countries' long-standing political tensions, are expected to meet again in the Super Four stage and could face off for a third time in the final.

"It's not just Pakistan, there are other teams," Rohit said of the hype surrounding the Pakistan clashes, with the rivals also scheduled to meet in the 50-over World



Cup in Ahmedabad on October 14.

"Sri Lanka won the Asia Cup last year. So there are other teams who are playing good cricket and will challenge us."

'TEST OURSELVES'

Rohit said the Asia Cup was the perfect place to "test ourselves, try and put ourselves under pressure and respond to that pressure".

India's batting has been boosted by the return of KL Rahul and Shreyas Iyer alongside Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill and Rohit.

The 50-over World Cup begins on October 5 in India.

Sri Lanka, who won the Asia Cup last year in Dubai when it was played as a Twenty20 tournament, have been hit by injuries ahead of their opener against Bangladesh in Kandy on Thursday.

Fast bowler Dushmantha Chameera is all but out of the tournament with a shoulder injury and leg-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga is doubtful for at least the group

matches having missed the Lanka Premier League final eight days ago with a thigh strain.

Bangladesh have had a difficult build-up with Tamim Iqbal stepping down as captain and missing the tournament with a back injury as he tries to get fit for the World Cup.

Veteran all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has been reappointed captain through to the end of the World Cup. He previously led Bangladesh for 50 one-day internationals between 2009 and 2017.

Afghanistan, despite their recent loss to Pakistan, can pose problems with their potent spin attack of Rashid Khan, Mujeeb Rahman and Mohammad Nabi.

They also have in-form batsman Rahmanullah Gurbaz who smashed 151 in a losing cause in the second game against Pakistan.

Minnnows Nepal could be in for a baptism of fire having been clubbed with India and Pakistan in Group A. Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Afghanistan make up Group B. (AFP)

AJKMF Mountaineers Scale Mount Tatakooti

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation (AJKMF) members have scaled Mount Tatakooti, which is 15583 feet above sea level and is known as one of the most technical peak of Kashmir valley.

Team left for the expedition from Srinagar on August 25 and pitched tents at Tatakooti base camp in Dumail.

Next day, the team buckled up and started to climb the mountain at 6:00 AM, climbing the 70° steep section of the mountain which is full of loose rocks and rock falls.

At 10:30AM, the AJKMF team reached the shoulder of the mountain which is at the elevation of 14501 feet. At 11:55 AM, all members had successfully scaled the giant peak.



The team was led by the most experienced mountain-

eer of valley Yaseen Lone, who has done his mountaineering courses back in '90s. Lone has climbed major peaks of Kashmir, including the highest in 2005. Other members of the team included Rouf Rather and Muzakir.

As the 50% task was done, same day at 12:15AM it started snowing heavily on the summit. At 12:30 PM, the AJKMF team started their descend down. They tied their ropes and rappel down through narrow patches of the mountain, facing many challenges and making it safe and sound at base camp.

"Club is so proud of their big achievement," the All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation (AJKMF), which is affiliated to the Jammu & Kashmir Mountaineering Association, said in a statement.

DPS Sangam Lifts U-14 Inter School Cricket Tournament Bijbehara Title

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: Delhi Public School Sangam on Monday lifted the title of Under-14 Inter School Cricket Tournament organized by Zonal Physical Education Officer Bijbehara.

In the grand finale, DPS Sangam defeated Oxford High School Bijbehara by 8 wickets at Sports Ground of DPS Sangam, Anantnag.

Earlier while batting first Oxford High School Bijbehara set the small total of 63 runs as target. In reply, DPS Sangam chased the target easily with eight



wickets in hand.

In the post match presentation ceremony, Prof. Nighat Fatima, Principal DPS Sangam, was the chief guest and gave away the trophies and certificates

among the players. On the occasion, Director of DPS Sangam Sartaj Ahmad Alie and others officials of Youth Services & Sports Zone Bijbehara were present as guests.

Williamson Given Two Weeks To Prove Fitness For World Cup

Agencies

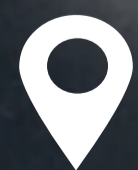
WELLINGTON: New Zealand coach Gary Stead said he will give Kane Williamson every chance to prove his fitness over the two weeks before the World Cup squad is named but conceded the Black Caps captain still had a long way to go. Williamson underwent surgery after suffering a ruptured anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) in the Indian Premier League in early April, making him a serious doubt for the 50-overs World Cup in India.

The 33-year-old batter is in Britain with the New Zealand squad, which is preparing for a four-match Twenty20 series against England starting in Durham on Wednesday. "We got about two weeks from now, until we until we name that side," Stead told reporters from England.

Bun Maska



Famous
Irani Chai of
Bombay
now in Srinagar



JK Bank Lawns,
Opp Ghat 6 Boulevard,
Srinagar