

## JKPC Says BBC Report 'Maligns' Kashmir Media

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Press Corps (JKPC), an association of prominent media organizations in J&K, Monday condemned the recent BBC report titled 'Any story could be your last' - India's crackdown on Kashmir press, calling it not only 'factually incorrect' but also 'maliciously' written.

"In a breach of journalistic norms, the BBC article fails to verify facts with the numerous mainstream journalists employed by over 150 newspapers in Kashmir, as well as with media editors, who could have debunked the inaccuracies presented in the report. The article contains unfounded opinions that are libelous, slanderous, and disgraceful, tarnishing the reputation of the mainstream media in Kashmir", >> More On P10

## BJP Issues Show Cause Notice To V-P Sofi Yousuf

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The BJP on Monday served a show-cause notice on its Jammu and Kashmir unit vice president Sofi Yousuf for indulging in "anti-party" activities and barred him from interacting with the media for the time being.

Yousuf, who is party in-charge of Kashmir, was served the disciplinary notice amid reports suggesting that most of the party leaders in the valley had planned resigning from the party en masse last month.

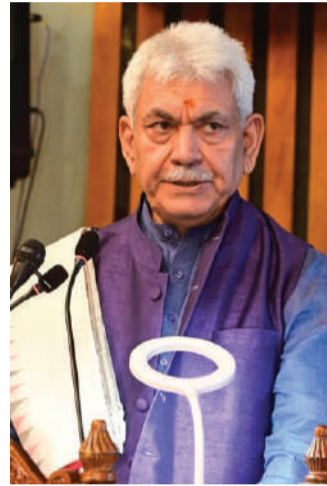
"Despite being >> More On P10

# Clean, Transparent System Has Replaced Corruption In J&K: LG

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said the corruption, which was deeply entrenched in all systems of Jammu and Kashmir, has been replaced by clean and transparent governance.

"Corruption was deeply rooted in all the systems of J&K for many decades. We have taken multi-pronged action against corruption, stringent action against offenders, and implementation of digital governance for accountability to usher in clean and transparent governance," Sinha said at the



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commitment, we have ensured timely and expeditious implementation of development projects, direct benefit to common man, and social and regional imbalances have been removed."

launch ceremony of the first edition of the Journal of Jammu Kashmir Finance & Accounts Society (JAKFAS) here. Sinha said the key reforms including BEAMS, J&KPaySys,

mandatory approvals, technical sanctions, e-tendering, digital payments, adherence to General Financial Rules and other technology interventions have immensely contributed to the efficiency and transparency in the system. He also lauded the key role of Account Service Officers in implementing these reforms.

The Lt Governor congratulated all the members of the JAKFAS and highlighted >> More On P10

## 'India Is New Hope For World'

Terming the G20 leaders' Declaration at New Delhi as historic and path-breaking, the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday advised the young generation to utilize this opportunity to make the 21st Century, India's Century. Addressing the Medhavi >> More On P10

## Mess Scuffle: 17 Kashmiris Among 26 Students Suspended By Mewar University

MAJID NABI

Srinagar: The administration of Mewar University in Chittorgarh district of Rajasthan have suspended 26 students, including 17 Kashmiris over last month's group clash in which several students were injured, two among them critically.

The decision to suspend erring students, besides not allowing them to attend classes or enter varsity premises was taken following a report submitted by the



Registrar Mewar University in the aftermath of the clashes between the two groups of the students on August 25, officials said. It may be in place to mention

that violent clashes broke out at Mewar University after two groups of students had heated arguments over some issue while they were queuing up for dinner at a hostel mess on August 25.

Several students were injured, two of them critically following violent clashes between the two sides inside the varsity, while 40 students including 21 from Kashmir were taken into preventive custody who were later released.

"On the basis >> More On P10

## Curbs On Civilian Traffic Along Highway To Go: Div Com

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Asserting that the situation has considerably improved in Kashmir over the years, Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Monday said the curbs imposed on civilian traffic on the highway in the aftermath of the 2019 Pulwama terror attack, will soon be lifted.

Bidhuri said there would be no restrictions on the movement of heavy motor vehicles

(HMs) along the 276-km strategic highway, connecting Srinagar with Jammu.

The decision of restricting civilian traffic, he said, was taken as a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) following a terrorist attack on the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) convoy in February 2019 near Lethpora area in south Kashmir's Pulwama district that left at least 40 CRPF personnel dead and as many injured.

"The traffic on NH-44 was allowed on odd, >> More On P10

## Heat Wave In Kashmir To Persist: IMD

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday said the heat wave in Kashmir valley will continue over the next week and advised people, especially the elderly and children, to take a lot of fluids.

Kashmir is currently reeling from a record-breaking heat wave with Srinagar city experiencing the hottest September day in 18 years on Sunday.

The IMD has forecast hot and dry weather across Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh Union territories over the next week.

"Since the past three to four days, Kashmir valley is experiencing a heat wave to severe heat wave. >> More On P10

## Govt Transfers Six JKAS Officers

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday ordered transfer of six Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Service (JKAS) officers in the interest of administration with immediate effect.

According to an order issued today, Mudasar Ahmad, JKAS, Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Gurez, holding additional charge of Sub-Registrar, Gurez, has been transferred and posted as Assistant Commissioner Panchayat, Kupwara, against an available vacancy.

Mukhtiar Ahmed Ahanger, JKAS, awaiting orders of adjustment in the >> More On P10



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## Artists Find Hope At Kashmir's Lone Private Art Gallery

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: Mahatta Art Gallery, formerly a photo studio, is Srinagar's only private art gallery and one of the very few refuges for the budding artists of Kashmir to display their works in the heart of the summer capital. Once a workshop for developing photographs clicked by the photographers at Mahatta, the building standing on the banks of river Jhelum - has been converted into an art gallery, research centre, a museum, a photo lab, and a cafe. If that were not enough, Mahatta has also introduced home stay facilities so that visitors get a feel of local living.

"The place where we are standing now used to be the workshop for developing photographs clicked by photographers of Mahatta. It was converted into an exhibition hall later on. The area was renovated in order to build it into the exhibi-

tion hall," Mehraj ud Din Wani, an employee at the Mahatta and Co. for the past five decades, told PTI.

Wani said initially the photo lab displayed only its own works at the gallery but slowly opened up to other artists as well.

"After that people started coming up and booked this place for exhibition purposes. We are happy that art exhibitions have started here." Recently, an art exhibition titled 'Mashq e Arba'een... Dar'ke Azadari' marking the end of the 50-day Muharaam mourning period was held at the Mahatta's.

'Mashq e Arba'een... Dar'ke Azadari' is an annual event held by a team led by Syed Ilyas Rizvi at the Mahatta Art Gallery, said Sabahat Nazir, a regular visitor at the gallery. "It is the only private art gallery in the city. It is a wonderful place with an ambience and a great opportunity for the artists of Jammu and Kashmir," Sabahat said.



## National Level Workshop Under Shaala Siddhi Inaugurated In Srinagar

Observer News Service

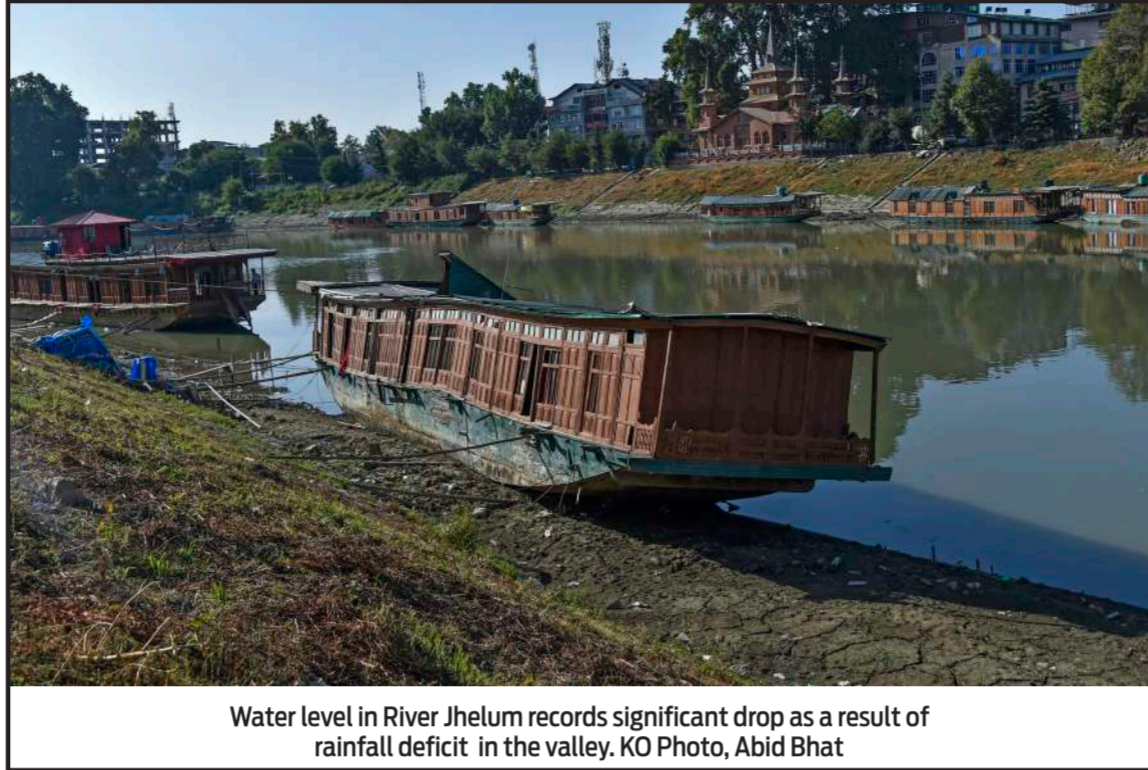
Srinagar: Principal Secretary Education, Alok Kumar virtually inaugurated two days National level workshop under Shaala Siddhi here today.

The workshop organized by National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha, J&K, is aimed at enhancing the quality of education in schools.

Project Director Samagra Shiksha, Deep Raj;

Director School Education Kashmir, Tassaduq Husain; Head, NIEPA, New Delhi, Prof. Pranati Panda; faculty from NIEPA, besides CEOs, DIET Principals, ZEOs and HOs of various districts attended the workshop.

Addressing the inaugural session of the workshop, the Principal Secretary said that Shaala Siddhi empowers educational institutions to take charge of their own development by providing them with structured framework for self-assessment.



Water level in River Jhelum records significant drop as a result of rainfall deficit in the valley. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Thousands Pray At Makhdoom Sahib Shrine On Annual Urs

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Thousands of devotees on Monday converged at the revered shrine of Hazrat Sultan ul Arifeen Sheikh Hamza Makhdoom (RA) in Srinagar to pay obeisance and participate in the special prayers.

The shrine on Koh-e-Maran, dedicated to the revered saint, witnessed a major gathering of devotees from various corners

of the region.

During the 13-day period, the special prayers were held throughout the day followed by nightlong prayers on Sunday.

Thousands of devotees from across the valley gathered at the shrine on the eve of annual Urs on Monday.

Authorities at the shrine ensured the smooth conduct of the Urs, providing essential services and maintaining order.

"This gathering at Makhdoom Sahab (RA) shrine is a testament to our shared faith and the unity that binds us. It's a beautiful sight to see people from all walks of life coming together to pay homage to the saint," said Riyaz Ahmad, a local from Khanyar Srinagar.

"It's a time when we pray for peace and prosperity in the region," said Fatima Khan, a resident of Gojwara Srinagar.

## SeKT&MCC Seeks 2 Years Time, OTS Scheme For Traders

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Shehr-e-Khass Traders and Manufacturers Coordination Committee on Monday demanded a respected exit from the current notices being issued to the traders across the valley, seeking two years time for the traders to pay the debt.

Addressing a news conference here, Shehr-e-Khass Traders and Manufacturers Coordination Committee (SeKT&MCC), said that in case the demands are not fulfilled, they will hand over the keys of their business units voluntarily to the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

"A meeting was today held in which the issues pertaining to the traders were discussed, one of the main issues that surfaced was the notices being issued to the traders at different places," the trade body said, adding that such activities need to be stopped forthwith as the traders seek immediate and respected exit from the situation.

"We want the authorities in the bank to stop issuing notices and take the traders on board to decide the issues with mutual understanding," they said, adding that they have taken the issue of banks with the authorities in New Delhi while the meeting with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha is also go-

ing to be held soon.

"At present, we have got some 3000-4000 cases from different corners. We are ready to talk with the higher ups. Besides, 2 years time should be given to the traders for paying the debt and also an OTS scheme should be implemented for the wellbeing of the traders," they said.

The Shehr-e-Khass Traders and Manufacturers Coordination Committee further said that they want a solution into the matter and in case the demands are not fulfilled, they will voluntarily hand over their business units to the Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir.

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- PDD: 0194-2450213
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QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

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

HIJRI CALENDAR 25 Safar 1445	PRAYERS	
	FAJR	4:50
ZUHR	12:31	
ASR	4:55	
Magrib	6:50	
ISHA	8:12	

## This Day In History

- 1213 - Battle at Muret: Crusade of Simon de Montfort beat Pedro II of Aragon
- 1217 - French prince Louis & English King Henry III sign peace treaty
- 1635 - Sweden & Poland sign ceasefire Treaty of Stuhmsdorf
- 1683 - Austro-Ottoman War: Battle of Vienna - several European armies join forces to defeat the Ottoman Empire
- 1703 - English army under arch duke Charles of Austria lands in Portugal
- 1722 - Russian troops occupy Baku & Derbent in Persia
- 1829 - Greek War of Independence ends after 8 years and 6 months
- 1909 - World's first patent for synthetic rubber granted to German chemist Fritz Hofmann
- 1918 - WWI: US forces launch an attack on German-occupied St Mihiel
- 1919 - Adolf Hitler joins the obscure German Worker's Party as its seventh member, agreeing not with worker's rights, but with its German Nationalism and antisemitism
- 1928 - Hurricane in Florida, kills 6,000
- 1938 - Adolf Hitler demands self-determination for Sudeten Germans in Czech
- 1940 - Italian troops enter Egypt
- 1941 - 1st German ship in WW II captured by US ship (Busko)
- 1942 - Battle of Edson's Ridge begins at Guadalcanal

*From KO Archives*

## Census Held Up, Div Com Cajoles Union Leader

Observer News service

SRINAGAR: The second and final Phase of the census operation in Kashmir, scheduled to begin today, failed to take off with most government employees detailed for the purpose not reporting for duty following militant threat to eliminate those taking part in the exercise.

Director census of Jammu and Kashmir Feroz Ahmad said he had not received any information about the progress of the operation till 1500 hours, today. He said the operations had begun in Jammu and Ladakh regions. "I can't say if the operation had begun in Kashmir valley. I can't even say that the operation had not begun at all", he told reporters.

However, he said the job of the directorate of census is to dispatch the material to the concerned wards which has been completed in time. In Srinagar, the material had not been received by the staff in 15 segments, He said the position would become dear in a few days.

Official reports reaching here said the employees did not receive the material and did not take part in the operation.

But officials in the divisional commissioner's office here claimed, that, employee turned up to collect the census material in Budgam, Anantnag and Kupwara districts.

"The exact information from all over the Kashmir valley is not known, especially in Srinagar", the officials said adding the director-of census has been summoned to obtain information about progress of the operation.

A PTI reporter who visited the directorate of census and other areas in the city found that out of 98 employees in Brain-Nishat in ward number one, only five employees turned up to receive the material for the area.

Two prominent government employees unions, State Employees Conference and Employees and Workers Confederation had directed the staff not to endanger their lives by participating in the operation in view of militants' threat to train their guns on those taking part in the exercise.

Over 22,000 enumerators were trained to conduct the census, to be concluded on September 30, he said adding the first phase was undertaken from May 16 to June 5 this year. House listing with the civic and other amenities available at the household and locality levels was done during the first phase which, however, went off without any problem.

An official handout issued here today said the divisional commissioner had a detailed discussion with the representatives of some employees' organisations and assured them the government would take all possible steps to ensure their security. The statement claimed the representatives informed the divisional commissioner that "they had neither issued any statement to boycott the census duty nor have intention to do so".

(Kashmir Observer, September 12, 2000)

## 4-Day Capacity Building Workshop For Urdu Journalists Begins At KU

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A four-day capacity building workshop for Urdu Journalists commenced Monday at the Hazratbal campus of University of Kashmir.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Neelofar Khan presided over the inaugural function of the workshop. She was accompanied by the Director NCPUL Professor Aquil Ahmad, Dean School of

Arts, Languages and Literatures Professor Adil Amin Kak and senior faculty member of MERC Professor Aaliya Ahmad.

The workshop, organized by the National Council for the Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) in collaboration with Dean School of Arts, Languages & Literatures and Media Education Research Centre (MERC) will focus on enhancing the skills of budding journalists and those already working in the field.

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Zonal Office  
Srinagar

### Extension of time

With reference to the tender notice No. jkb/zokc-1/Est/22 -Dt:-14-08-2023, issued by this office, regarding advertisement for premises for housing its Branch at 90 Feet, Soura, Buchpora, Srinagar, the last date for receipt of the tenders is extended up to 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2023. The tender documents can be downloaded from the link [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com). The parties who have already applied in response to the tender notice No. jkb/zokc-1/Est/22 -Dt:-14-08-2023 need not apply again.

**Other terms and conditions shall remain the same.**

No. jkb/zoSgr /Est/23-  
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## SC Extends Relief To 4 Editors Guild Members From Arrest

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Monday extended till September 15 its order asking the Manipur Police not to take any coercive steps against four members of the Editors Guild of India (EGI) in connection with two FIRs lodged against them for alleged offences, including promoting enmity between two communities.

A bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said it will extend the operation of its order passed on September 6 on the plea of the Editors Guild till Friday when it will hear the case.

At the outset, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the state government, said the EGI members may be protected for some more time and the matter be sent to the Manipur High Court as done in other cases.

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Shyam Divan, appearing for the EGI, opposed the submission and said the matter be heard in top court as the FIRs have been lodged on the basis of a fact-finding report.

"We will take it up on Friday," the bench said, adding it will take up the reply of the state government on that day.

On September 4, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh had said a police case had been filed on the basis of a complaint against the president and three members of the Editors Guild of India and accused them of trying to "provoke clashes" in the state.

A second FIR was also registered against the four members of the Guild, with the additional charge of defamation.

"Till next date of listing, no coercive step shall be taken against the (four) petitioners in connection with the FIRs..." the bench had ordered on September 6.

The Editors Guild, in a report published on September 2, slammed the internet ban in the state as being detrimental to media reportage, criticised what it termed as one-sided reporting by some media outlets and claimed there were indications that the state leadership had "turned partisan" during the conflict.

## Ladakh LG: 'Not Even A Sq Inch Of Land Occupied By China'



Press Trust of India

**JAMMU:** Not even one square inch of Indian land has been occupied by China, Ladakh's Lieutenant Governor Brigadier BD Mishra (Retd.) asserted today, adding that the armed forces are prepared to give "a bloody nose" to anyone engaging in any misadventure.

Asked about Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's remark on China occupying a large chunk of land in Ladakh, he said, "I won't comment on anybody's statement. But I will state facts because I have seen for myself that, on the ground, China

has not occupied not even a square inch of land."

"Whatever happened in 1962 is immaterial. Today we are in possession of our land to the last inch," he said.

Responding to reporters, the Lt Governor said, "Our armed forces are prepared for any eventuality. And, God forbid, if the balloon goes up, people will get a bloody nose from us."

The morale of the troops is very, very high, he said.

"Their intent is to defend every square inch of land. Nobody can dare to come toward India with any design to have a

foothold here. I think the credit goes to the great leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he said.

Asked if weapons have been identified and procured to be deployed along the Line of Control (LoC) to boost security, he said it is being done.

Post a comment  
"... When I was commissioned in the Army in 1961, there was nothing indigenous in my battalion. Our rifles, 303 small arms were made in Birmingham. The watch we got was made in Switzerland. Today, there is nothing that is not indigenous," he added.



## Israeli Officials Make First Public Visit To Saudi Arabia

Agencies

An official Israeli delegation arrived in Saudi Arabia on 10 September to serve as observers during the 45th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee, marking the first public visit by government officials to the kingdom.

An Israeli official who spoke with AP said the delegation is led by Amir Weissbrod, a deputy director-general in the Israeli foreign ministry, and includes several diplomats. The official also stressed that the delegation is "not on a bilateral visit."

"We are happy to be here - it's a good first step... We thank UNESCO and the Saudi authorities," a member of the delegation who did not want to be named told AFP.

The delegation reportedly traveled through Dubai on their way to the kingdom. They only take part as observers due to Tel Aviv quitting UNESCO in 2017 and accusing the organization of being "biased" over Israel's historical abuses against Palestinians and the military occupation of their land.

occupation of their land.  
Last week, Israeli media accused the kingdom of "delaying granting visas" for the delegation, as the group was reportedly set to include Foreign Minister Eli Cohen and Education Minister Yoav Kisch.

In March, Riyadh refused Israel's request to grant entry to Cohen for the UNESCO conference. The public visit by low-level Israeli officials to Saudi Arabia has been described as a coup for the US in its plans to secure a normalization agreement between the two nations.

Normalization would be part of a so-called "mega-deal" with the US, which also calls for a defense pact from Washington, access to more advanced weaponry for the Saudis, and US help in developing a civilian nuclear program that would include uranium enrichment on Saudi soil.

Saudi Arabia has also publicly declared that normalization hinges on the implementation of the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative, which calls for the creation of an autonomous Palestinian state.

## Menace Of Street Dogs Discussed In Supreme Court; SG Mehta Calls It 'Serious Issue'

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Man's best friend was in for some biting criticism in the Supreme Court on Monday when a lawyer told Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud about how he was hounded and attacked by a pack of dogs in his neighbourhood. Known for having a keen eye for finer points of law, the bandaged arm of lawyer Kunal Chatterjee could not escape Chandrachud's notice and he inquired about the reason. Chatterjee said he got injured after being "hounded and attacked" by five stray dogs in his neighbourhood.

Senior advocate Vijay Hansaria urged the court to take suo motu (on its own) notice of the "stray dog menace" in the country.

"We will see what can be done," the CJI told Hansaria, turning his attention to Chatterjee.

The CJI offered him help, asking, "Do you need any medical attention? I can ask the registry to take you right now." Solicitor General Tushar Mehta referred to a viral video from Uttar Pradesh and spoke of the plight of a man whose son was bitten by a rabid dog and died a painful death in his lap.

"This is a serious menace.



Recently a video surfaced. A child was bitten by dogs in Uttar Pradesh. Usually we do not take much care. Once rabies developed, he was taken to hospital. The doctors said nothing can be done, the child was dying in his father's lap," the law officer said.

"Two years ago, my law clerk was parking his car and he was also attacked by street dogs," the CJI said.

After dogged pursuit by some lawyers seeking the court's intervention to tackle the stray dog menace, the bench proceeded to take up its listed work.

## MOROCCO EARTHQUAKE

### Survivors In Remote Villages Seek Aid As Death Toll Passes 2,100

Agencies

Survivors of Morocco's deadliest earthquake in more than six decades struggled to find food, water and shelter on Sunday as the search for the missing continued in remote villages and the death toll of more than 2,100 seemed likely to rise further.

Many people were spending a third night in the open after the 6.8 magnitude quake hit late on Friday.

Relief workers face the challenge of reaching the worst-affected villages in the High Atlas, a rugged mountain range where settlements are often remote and where many houses crumbled.

The death toll climbed to 2,122 with 2,421 people injured, state TV reported.

Late on Sunday, King Mohammed VI thanked Spain, Qatar, the UK and the UAE for sending aid, state TV said in a post on social media site X (formerly known as Twitter).

The damage done to Morocco's cultural heritage became more evident as local media reported the collapse of a historically important 12th century mosque.

The quake also damaged parts of Marrakech old city, a



Unesco World Heritage site. "We lost everything" In Moulay Brahim, a village 40km south of Marrakech, residents described how they dug the dead from the rubble using their bare hands. On a hillside overlooking the village, residents buried a 45-year-old woman who had died along with her 18-year-old son, a woman sobbing loudly as the body was lowered into the grave.

As he retrieved possessions from his damaged home, Hussein Adnaie said he believed people were still buried in the rubble nearby.

"They didn't get the rescue they needed so they died. I rescued my children and I'm trying to get covers for them and anything to wear from the house," Adnaie said.

Yassin Noumghar, 36, complained of shortages of water, food and power, saying he had received little government aid so far. "We lost everything, we lost the entire house," Noumghar said. "We just want our government to help us." Later, sacks of food were unloaded from a truck which local official Mouhamad al-Hayyan said had been organised by the government and civil society organisations.

Twenty-five bodies had been brought to the village's small clinic, according to staff.

With many homes built of mud bricks and timber or cement and breeze blocks, structures crumbled easily.

It was Morocco's deadliest earthquake since 1960 when a quake was estimated to have killed at least 12,000 people.

## NEWS MAKERS

## Ex-Pak Cricketer Offered Money To Kill Dutch MP, Jailed For 12 Years

Agencies

**NETHERLANDS:** A Dutch court on Monday sentenced former Pakistan international cricketer Khalid Latif to 12 years in prison for inciting the murder of anti-Islam Member of Parliament (MP) Geert Wilders.

Khalid Latif, 37, had offered 21,000 euros (\$22,500) for the head of Geert Wilders in an online video after the firebrand lawmaker sought to arrange a competition for cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed.

"It was not a stretch to think that somebody around the world would have taken heed of the call to kill Mr Wilders," presiding judge G Verbeek told the court.

"The accused knew this and his call fuelled the fire to have Geert Wilders killed."

It is extremely unlikely that Khalid Latif, who was convicted in absentia, will serve his sentence. Dutch authorities have sought in vain to question Khalid Latif over the case and requested legal assistance from Pakistan,



also to no avail.

"It's a good sentence, but it's a pity that the accused is not here in court," Geert Wilders told reporters outside, sporting his trademark peroxide hairdo.

"It is no longer acceptable that the Pakistani authorities refuse to cooperate. I am going to ask the prime minister to ensure that Khalid Latif is arrested in Pakistan and extradited to the Netherlands," he added.

Geert Wilders cancelled the cartoon contest after protests broke out in Pakistan and he was inundated with death threats.

He has been under 24-hour state protection since 2004.

In the Netherlands, the plan

to stage the contest was criticised widely with politicians, local media, and ordinary citizens slamming the idea as needlessly antagonising Muslims.

But the call to kill Geert Wilders appeared to resonate in the real world, with a Pakistani man sentenced to 10 years in prison in 2019 for plotting his assassination in the wake of the cancelled contest.

Judge Verbeek said Latif's video was not just an attack on Wilders personally, but also on the concept of free speech in the Netherlands.

Khalid Latif played five one-day internationals and 13 T20 internationals for Pakistan but was banned from cricket for five years in 2017 for spot-fixing in a Pakistan Super League match in Dubai.

His last Pakistan appearance was against the West Indies in Abu Dhabi in September 2016.

However, Verbeek said that Khalid Latif had benefitted from his fame as an international cricketer to "add oil to the fire" at a time when the Netherlands was already the target of several threats.

## Lucknow Student Ends Life, Family Alleges Harassment By Teacher



Agencies

A 24-year-old student at the Ram Prasad Bismil College in Kakori, died by suicide at his house in Lucknow, allegedly owing to harassment by a teacher.

Shahrukh, 24, was a fourth-semester student of the Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEE) course. His father, Zafar Iqbal, informed the police that Shahrukh went to his room to offer namaz on Sunday, 10 September.

When he did not come out, his family members called him but got no response. They then broke the door to find Shahrukh hanging from the ceiling with a noose around his neck.

Shahrukh's mother Shabibi Jahan, a

primary school teacher in Unnao, alleged that a teacher at the school had been harassing Shahrukh, and demanded action against the teacher.

It has come to light that another student of the same college had died in a similar manner in the past.

Shabibi Jahan said Shahrukh was doing an internship at a school and the accused teacher had said that he would ensure that he "gets injured in an accident".

Family members also alleged that the victim ended his life owing to scary stories told by his teachers about the school where he was doing his internship.

Assistant commissioner of police (ACP) Sunil Sharma said the post-mortem examination had confirmed suicide, "As soon as we receive a complaint, an

## Flyer Accused Of Sex Harassment Onboard IndiGo Flight

Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** A passenger travelling on budget carrier IndiGo's flight to Guwahati from Mumbai was handed over to the Guwahati police on arrival for allegedly sexually harassing a passenger onboard, the airline said on Monday.

The complainant has filed an FIR with the local police and the airline will provide assistance in investigation when required, IndiGo said in a statement.

The airline, however, did not share any specific details about the incident. "A passenger travelling on (IndiGo flight) 6E-5319 between Mumbai-Guwahati was handed over to the Guwahati police on arrival, after receiving a complaint from another passenger for alleged sexual harassment," the airline said.

An FIR has been filed by the complainant with the local police and "we will provide assistance in their investigation, where required," IndiGo added in the statement.



KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>™</sup>

Tuesday | 12-09-2023

## G20 Diplomatic Triumph

The G20 summit in New Delhi was a massive success and in many ways signaled India's rise as a major global power. It was clear from the summit that India's role is now eagerly sought by the major powers to address current geopolitical problems. And it was for this reason that despite the absence of China and Russia and the sharp differences among the participating countries, the summit was able to agree to a joint statement. It concluded with leaders reaching consensus on a broad economic plan for impoverished nations. However, underlying divisions surrounding Russia's invasion of Ukraine persisted, challenging the group's diplomatic unity.

The carefully negotiated declaration issued at the summit was notable for what it omitted. In a departure from the previous year's stance in Bali, where leaders had unequivocally condemned Russia's aggression and called for the withdrawal of troops from Ukraine, the New Delhi declaration merely expressed concern for the "suffering" of the Ukrainian people. It alluded to past United Nations resolutions condemning the war and emphasized the adverse impact of global conflicts while calling on Russia to permit the export of grain and fertilizer from Ukraine and to support a just and lasting peace.

President Biden, in deference to India's close ties with Russia, refrained from overt criticism of Russia's actions in Ukraine. While the Ukraine issue remained a point of contention, the summit achieved progress in other areas. One significant announcement at the summit was the plan to create a rail and shipping corridor linking India to the Middle East and eventually Europe. This is believed to be the west's answer to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). India has always been averse to joining the BRI, since it passes through Gilgit Baltistan which India sees as its part. Should the rail project materialize sometime in future, this will obviate India's need to go through Pakistan and Afghanistan to reach the world.

The absence of two influential leaders, China's President Xi Jinping and Russia's President Vladimir Putin, raised doubts about the summit's potential effectiveness in addressing global issues amid ongoing geopolitical divisions. But as the joint declaration later showed, the summit was able to achieve its objectives. G20 leaders and geopolitical experts on Sunday hailed the New Delhi Summit as a resounding success and said the meeting has once again put the bloc at the centre of global governance. And it has brought India's role as an emerging global power in a renewed focus.

### OTHER OPINION

## Stocktaking the calamity

The climate crisis intricately wove itself into the G-20 summit in Delhi, particularly during the discussions on clean energy, sustainable development and the collective responsibility necessary to avert it. The United Nations' Global Stocktake, a report that was released just ahead of the G-20 meet, set out the scope of challenges that awaited the major economies of the world even as it presented little beyond what is already known. This stocktake is to serve as a template to guide discussion ahead of the 28th Conference of Parties scheduled in Dubai this November and is meant to be an official reckoning of the work actually done by countries since 2015, in stemming greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. That year, signatories to the UN convention on climate change agreed in Paris to keep global emissions from rising beyond 2°C and, as far as possible, limit it to 1.5°C. Though it acknowledges "some" headway, the world, as of now, is emitting gases in a manner that will certainly overshoot the Paris-agreed limit. The report unequivocally states that "much more ambition in action and support" is necessary for implementing domestic mitigation measures to reduce global GHG emissions by 43% by 2030, 60% by 2035 and reach net zero CO2 emissions by 2050 globally. Based on current information submitted by countries, the emissions gap consistent with 1.5°C in 2030 is estimated to be 20.3 billion tonnes-23.9 billion tonnes of CO2. These are gaps unlikely to be filled without a rapid upscaling of renewable energy resources and an eschewal of fossil fuel sources such as coal, oil and natural gas. However despite several acknowledgements by world leaders, most recently at the G-20, of the magnitude of the crisis, little has been achieved in terms of energy transition. G-20 countries account for 93% of global operating coal power plants and 88% of prospective ones.

The G-20 Leader's Declaration formally recognised the need for "...\$5.8-5.9 trillion in the pre-2030 period required for developing countries ...as well as \$4 trillion per year for clean energy technologies by 2030 to reach net zero by 2050". The report also dwells on the need to reverse deforestation and the adoption of electric vehicles as vital prongs to a clean energy economy; however, it does not single out individual countries or provide a more granular analysis of where the existing shortcomings are in the approach adopted by countries to curtail emissions. The Stocktake report however must not be dismissed as yet another technical document. During the upcoming climate talks, it must form the basis of negotiations to aid the discovery and adoption of genuine breakthroughs.

The Hindu

# Juvenile Criminality Society On The Edge



Amir Suhail Wani

“While the society as a whole, including our religious institutions, has a responsibility to create a bulwark against these gore and ignoble episodes, we must not fall into the trap of ethicising the problem. This requires such a refinement of understanding and an insight into the heart of the problem as is mostly absent and this absence of understanding leads to addressing it in ways which only augments the underlying malady

Growing criminality in any context is symptomatic of an underlying unrest and unattended maladies festering beneath the surface of apparent calm. While humans have been struggling with criminality and penology for centuries, the phenomenon of juvenile delinquency is a comparatively recent and complex criminal manifestation. The valley of Kashmir, where such cases have been unheard of in the past, has also come to occupy a place on the juvenile criminality map with figures on the rise and the nature of crimes getting gruesome, the reports suggest. The recent incident of a 16 year old boy killing a man for objecting to relationship with his daughter rang some bells and the word caught fire that all is not well and our society is pregnant with criminal potential of unforeseen nature. In another criminal incident a juvenile stabbed to death a 15 year old boy in Srinagar, sending shock waves across the city. This is in addition to the several stabbing incidents that have been reported in Qamarwari, Bemina, Kralpora, Batmaloo, Nowhatta, Kothibagh, Rambagh areas of district Srinagar in the past four months. These episodes speak of a deeper malice corrupting the social substructure and points to the invisible but pressing frustrations faced by the youth on one front or the other. It also raises sharp questions on parental upbringing, the eroding social fabric, the losing grip of the social institutions and the negligence of educational institutions, be they schools or tuition institutions to their fundamental prerogative of man making instead of money minting.

A child is not an island separated from the familial and social mainland. His growth and evolution, pattern of living is by the collective impulses rising from social forces, family environment and peer group, access to education or lack thereof. In tracing the major catalysts driving the criminal behaviour among children one comes across the factors like

Poverty, Drug Abuse, Anti-social Peer Group, Easy availability of firearms, Abusive parents, Single-parent child, Nuclear Family, Family Violence and Child sexual abuse. However, in recent times, exposure to media which glorifies violence and depicts criminality as a heroic deed has not only accelerated criminality among youth, but normalised the abnormal too. Social media platforms incessantly bombard us with the content celebrating and glorifying violence, which the teenagers are easily driven away by. The rise of social media and hyper-urbanization has also weakened parental control; a mechanism which in the past kept the behaviour of children under check. Ironically, the glorification of material pursuits within families and societies and the loss of socio-cultural values have also stirred in children the slumbering bestial traits, made them to model their lives on animalistic pattern where violence is the norm and strength the sole merit. Precisely, the shattering of the social matrix and forgoing the cherished values has brought with it a storm of new-age issues with juvenile criminality as part of the package. While conferring upon children the unprecedented liberty and freeing them from all controlling mechanisms under the pretence of delivering them from the clutches of parental oppression has thrown them out of gears. The disempowering of teachers to the extent where they can't speak in a loud tone to the student has had repercussions of its kind. In an ironic inversion of hierarchy, teachers now seem to be scared of students, fearing character assassination from students over social media or other undeserved consequences of their corrective actions. In the past, children were under parental vigilance at home and under the surveillance of teachers at schools – the disappearance or ineffectuation of these means has pushed youth into criminal euphoria. We do not intend to advocate, behind

the veneer of this moral nostalgia, the resurrection of corporal punishment or throttling the liberty of youth. But it must also be seen that youth are not totally left to themselves, entitled to chaos and criminality of all colours.

While the society as a whole, including our religious institutions, has a responsibility to create a bulwark against these gore and ignoble episodes, we must not fall into the trap of ethicising the problem. This requires such a refinement of understanding and an insight into the heart of the problem as is mostly absent and this absence of understanding leads to addressing it in ways which only augments the underlying malady. The aim is to create a social ambience where such cases don't arise in the first place – the place which can be created to the best of approximation by addressing the issues enumerated above as triggers for juvenile criminality. However, once a teenager commits a crime, there are chances of the occurrence of criminal atavism and to abort these tendencies and save the youngsters from turning into lifelong criminals, institutional and structural interventions are mandatory. The state of affairs in this sphere isn't well in our state and except the lone overloaded juvenile jail at Harwan, the state lacks infrastructural and human resources to cope up with the issue. To put a brake, if not a full-stop on this emerging and threatening phenomenon of juvenile criminality, society can't treated in bits and pieces, assigning this role to family and that to school, but society as a whole with all its institutions has to rise up to its task of slaying the goliath.

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

The author is a Srinagar based columnist



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## Better Together

In an era where the world seems to grow increasingly interconnected yet distant, community-focused programs play a crucial role in fostering a sense of belonging and unity among residents. These programs serve as avenues for individuals to come together, share experiences, and collaborate for the betterment of their localities. By focusing on the unique needs and aspirations of a community, such initiatives contribute to creating safer, more vibrant, and tightly-knit neighborhoods.

One of the most remarkable benefits of community-focused programs is their ability to address specific challenges faced by residents. Whether it's improving educational

opportunities for children, providing healthcare services for underserved populations, or enhancing access to job training and employment resources, these programs can make a significant difference where it matters most. By tailoring their efforts to local needs, they empower communities to overcome obstacles and unlock their full potential.

Moreover, community-focused programs promote social interaction and bridge gaps that might otherwise exist between diverse groups. Through shared activities, events, and collaborative projects, people from various backgrounds can interact, learn from one another, and develop mutual understanding. This not only promotes social cohesion

but also enriches the fabric of our society by celebrating diversity and promoting inclusion.

The ripple effect of community-focused programs extends beyond immediate beneficiaries. As neighborhoods thrive, there is often a positive impact on the overall economy, property values, and local businesses. A vibrant community attracts new residents and fosters a sense of pride that encourages people to invest in their surroundings. This virtuous cycle of growth reinforces the importance of sustaining and expanding such programs.

I urge readers to support and participate in community-focused programs, whether through volun-

teering, donations, or simply spreading awareness. By doing so, we can contribute to the growth of neighborhoods that prioritize the well-being of their residents and work together to create a brighter future for all.

In conclusion, community-focused programs are not just about addressing local needs; they are about nurturing connections, encouraging growth, and building a better society from the ground up. As responsible citizens, let us recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of these programs in shaping our communities for the better.

Faizan Muneer

# Importance Of Educating School-Age Children About Sustainable Development

MUZAMIL ARIF

The idea of sustainable development has become increasingly important in today's society because it focuses on addressing present demands without compromising the capacity of future generations to address their own needs. It is crucial to teach school-age children about sustainable development as we confront serious global issues like climate change, resource depletion, and environmental degradation. We enable students to become responsible global citizens capable of building a better and more sustainable future by arming them with information and attitudes focused on sustainability.

## REALISING HOW INTERRELATED THE WORLD IS:

Children who attend school benefit from learning about sustainable development because it helps them understand the complex web of relationships that exists within the global ecosystem. They discover the close interdependence of environmental, social, and economic elements as well as the potential impact of our current behaviours. Children can develop a holistic viewpoint and make thoughtful decisions to minimise adverse effects on the environment by recognising these links. Environmental responsibility as the planet's inheritors, it is imperative to instill in children a sense of responsibility for its preservation. They are made aware of the value of protecting biodiversity, preserving natural resources, and reducing climate change through education about sustainable development. Children may actively participate in sustainable practices including recycling, energy conservation, and sustainable consumption patterns by developing an environmental stewardship mind-set.

## STRENGTHENING ANALYTICAL AND PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITIES:

Children are encouraged to think critically and analyse complicated situations from a variety of angles through sustainable development education. They gain the ability to weigh the effects of their decisions on the environment, society, and the economy. Children who work on sustainable development-related problems gain the creativity, adaptability, and resilience necessary to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.



## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Sustainable development includes social fairness and economic well-being in addition to environmental preservation. They learn the value of fairness and justice in creating sustainable societies through being taught social responsibility, empathy, and inclusivity. They recognise that sustainable development is an international endeavour and that cooperation, respect, and awareness of many cultures and viewpoints are essential.

## PREPARING FOR FUTURE CAREERS:

There is a rising need for experts in sustainable development as the globe moves towards a more sustainable future. We

give youngsters the information and abilities required for the developing green economy by exposing them to sustainability principles at a young age. They can work in industries like sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, environmental management, and urban planning, improving the world while securing their own future employment.

## ENCOURAGING SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLES:

Educating school-going youngsters about sustainable development also involves advocating sustainable lives. By teaching kids about the ecological footprint and the consequences of individual choices, children become aware of their consumption patterns and the resources

required to support them. They learn about options such as sustainable transportation, organic food, and responsible waste management. Encouraging sustainable habits from an early age creates the groundwork for a generation that emphasises aware and sustainable choices, resulting in reduced environmental degradation and greater general well-being.

## PROMOTING ADAPTABILITY AND RESILIENCE:

Children who receive education on sustainable development will be better prepared to cope with the world's rapid changes. They gain knowledge of the effects of environmental problems such as natural catastrophes, climate change, and

others. Children who are aware of these risks can become resilient and adaptable, coming up with creative ways to manage and overcome such difficulties. They help create more resilient communities by becoming better equipped to deal with future difficulties.

## CONNECTING CLASSROOM EDUCATION WITH PRACTICAL PROBLEMS:

Sustainable development education goes beyond textbooks and classrooms. It emphasises experiential learning and interaction with real-world situations. Field visits, outdoor activities, and community initiatives allow youngsters to observe and comprehend the actual implications of sustainable development ideas. By connecting academic knowledge to concrete experiences, children gain a better regard for the natural world and an understanding of the need for sustainable practices.

## SECURING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:

In the end, educating school-age children about sustainable development is an investment in ensuring a sustainable future for future generations. By equipping kids with information, beliefs, and skills that are in line with sustainability, we create a generation that is able to take on the difficult problems of our day. These young people will go on to become scientists, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and community leaders, helping to create a world where social, economic, and environmental well-being coexist.

For the future to be sustainable, school-age children must be taught about sustainable development. We give kids the skills they need to take an active role in creating a better world by promoting sustainable lifestyles, encouraging resilience and adaptability, imparting optimism and empowerment, and connecting classroom lessons to real-world challenges.

In order for children to participate in a future that is environmentally friendly, socially just, and economically productive, it is our duty as educators, parents, and society at large to make sure they receive a complete education that incorporates sustainable development principles.

The author is a student

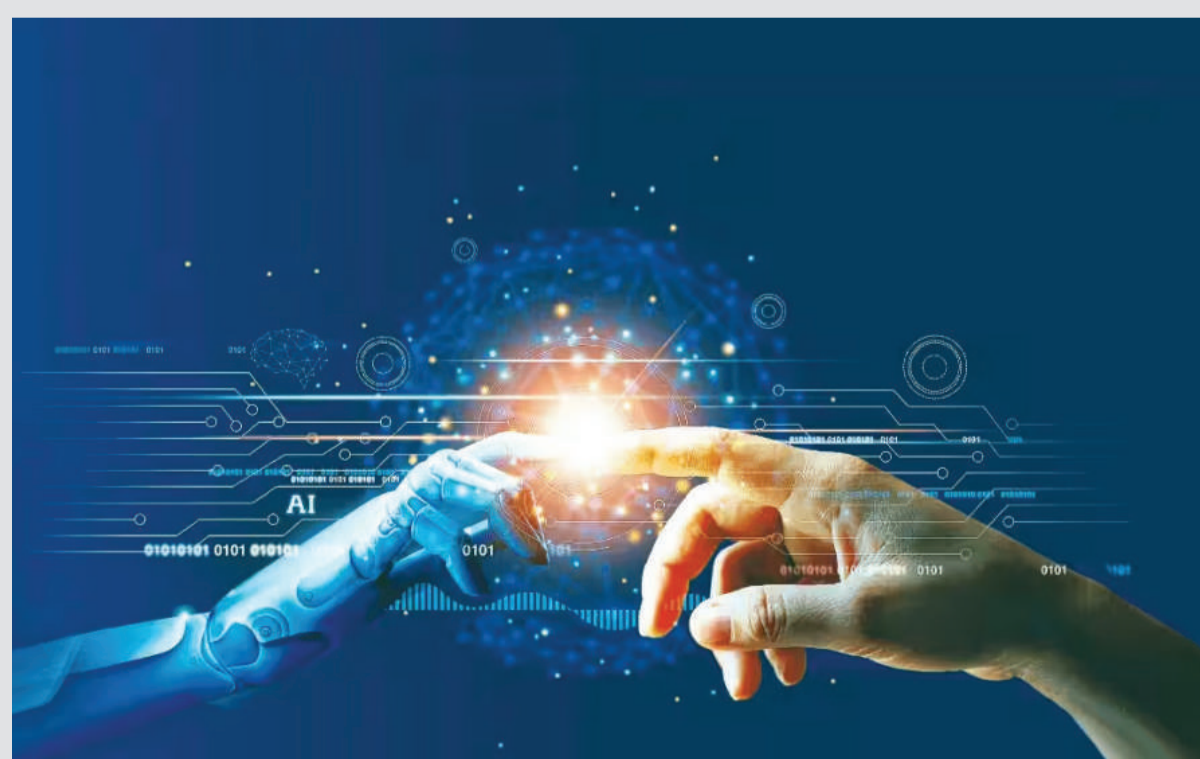
## BEYOND THE HYPE Generative AI Won't Replace Your Teacher But Will Help You Learn Better

Shikhar Sachan

From time to time, a new technology emerges, claiming to be so groundbreaking that it will change everything. Such technologies often find themselves as solutions in search of problems to solve. A decade back, big data was the buzzword; a few years ago, it was the blockchain and cryptocurrency; and now, it's GenAI making waves. Though GenAI offers demonstrable, immediate results when compared to other seemingly groundbreaking technologies, the path to developing category-creation products remains a challenging endeavor.

One such idea of a category creation product being floated is that of an AI Tutor. Every child will have an AI Tutor who is infinitely patient, infinitely compassionate, infinitely knowledgeable, and infinitely helpful. It will be by their side at every step of their journey. While it's important to not dismiss what might be possible, replacing teachers seems like an idea as remote as replacing one's life partner, true love, or therapist.

If you have ever prepared for competitive exams, then you'd know that clearing these exams requires you to operate in beast mode. Have a strategy, break it down into a practical timetable, achieve your targets, and finally become competent to be in the race. This process has a lot of inefficiencies that GenAI can address and these can



then be extrapolated to other forms of learning.

Students attempt hundreds of tests to familiarise themselves with the exam pattern, develop exam temperament, and know their relative standing among peers. More often than not, these aren't effective as students

don't spend enough time assessing them. Effective assessment goes beyond tallying the right or wrong answers. It involves understanding the underlying reasons for errors. Was it a conceptual misunderstanding, lack of last-minute revision, or merely over-attempting difficult questions that

one is required to pass? This comprehensive analysis is a must for targeted improvement. Unfortunately, this process requires significant time and effort, which students may lack or find mentally draining. Generative AI can do the heavy lifting here. Think of a system that tells you the reason

why you got a question wrong and then suggests a short clip to revise that particular concept and attempt ten similar questions for better understanding.

When it comes to subjective papers like essays, humanities, etc. an AI evaluator grades answers based on exam-specific best practices rather than generic knowledge. This is particularly relevant in the context of board exams, and government entrance exams where answers are expected to follow a specific format and stick to core books. AI evaluators can mimic the best human evaluation at scale and point out precise feedback. It ensures consistency and fairness in grading, providing valuable feedback to improve the quality of answers.

GenAI reduces manual efforts by enabling advanced queries on standard books and previous year's exam questions. It can analyze the frequency of questions on specific subtopics within a subject, determine which topics hold greater importance, and create sample questions that closely resemble those asked in previous exams.

While these might look like 3 distinct use-cases, they change how students prepare, ensuring the best utilization of their time and increasing their chances of success.

The article was originally published by Financial Express









# India Beat Pakistan By 228 Runs After Kohli, Rahul Make Mincemeat Of Opposition Bowling

Press Trust of India

**COLOMBO:** India beat Pakistan by 228 runs in an Asia Cup Super Four match here on Monday.

Virat Kohli returned to his record-breaking ways with his 47th ODI ton while KL Rahul dispelled all doubts over his fitness with a scintillating hundred and powered India to a mammoth 356 for 2 against a hapless Pakistan.

Chasing the mammoth target, Pakistan lost Imam-ul-Haq in fifth over and skipper Babar Azam in 11th over. Mohammad Rizwan was third one to depart.

Rain stopped the play after the 11th over of Pakistan's chase.

Pakistan resumed their chase after rain stopped. No overs were lost. Fakhar Zaman was fourth batter to fall. Soon, Pakistan lost their fifth wicket as Salman Agha departed at 96. Shadab Khan was sixth batter to be dismissed. He became third victim of Kuldeep Yadav.

Yadav caught and bowled Iftikhar Ahmed, adding one more wicket to his kitty.

Earlier, Kohli also became the fastest to reach 13,000 runs in the format as he closed down on Sachin Tendulkar's world record 49 ODI centuries.



The contemporary legend's love affair with R Premadasa Stadium continued as his unbeaten 122 off 94 balls was his fourth hundred on trot at this very venue. Kohli's hundred did not overshadow

ow Rahul, who raced to his sixth ODI hundred -- a chiselled 106-ball-111 not out in a superb 233-run stand for the unconquered third wicket.

The highly-rated Pakistan bowling attack lay in tatters and was hamstrung on the day due to absence of their fastest man Haris Rauf, who didn't turn up due to an injury.

Shaheen Shah Afridi, considered to be India's biggest threat was taken to the cleaners by India's top four as he leaked 79 runs in his 10 overs.

Overall, the Pakistani bowlers struggled to contain the opposition batters, who hit 37 boundaries and nine sixes in all.

India started the innings, which was suspended on Sunday because of rain, at 147 for two in 24.1 overs, as Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill had given them early momentum with fifties.

But there was no ennui surrounding the Indian batting, and they maintained a run rate close to 7. Rahul's innings might have been particularly heartening for the team management. He might have batted well in the match simulation process at the NCA, but here the 31-year-old proved his readiness for bigger battles with an ebullient innings against a top opposition.

At the other end, Kohli was a little slow to get off the blocks, sussing up the conditions and also allowing space to Rahul to slot himself into his gear.

But once settled, Kohli bruised the Pakistan attack as only he can.

As he was the previous day, pacer Naseem Shah (0/53 in 9.2 overs) was the most threatening of Pakistan bowlers as others largely struggled to hit the right button.

They were also hit hard by the absence of Rauf, who did not enter the field after suffering an oblique muscle pull while bowling yesterday.

It meant that Pakistan had to use part-time off-spinner Iftikhar Ahmed longer than they would have liked.

However, Kohli and Rahul were not complaining. There were sparkling shots all around as one would expect from two of the finest shot-makers around.

Kohli conjured his drives, on-the-up shots and pulls out of the draw, while Rahul's swat-flick six off leg-spinner Shadab Khan (1/71 in 10 overs) was worth freezing inside a frame among an array of on-side shots.

Rahul completed his hundred in as many balls, and Kohli went past the mark in 84 balls as Pakistan wilted under tremendous pressure.

## Baramulla Wins U-14 Inter District Handball C'ship

Observer News Service

**BARAMULLA:** Baramulla emerged champions of the Under-14 Inter District Provincial Handball Championship on Monday, clinching the title with a commanding score of 20-3.

The competition came to an electrifying conclusion with the final showdown between District Baramulla and Bandipora at the Indoor Stadium Khawaja Bagh here, with Baramulla emerging victorious. This stellar performance has earned them the privilege of representing their district at the divisional level competition.

This remarkable event was organised under the directions of Waseem Raja, Joint Director Youth

Services & Sports Kashmir, and proudly hosted by the District Youth Services and Sports Department Baramulla.

The final ceremony was an affair filled with pride and jubilation, graced by the Jatinder Singh DYSSO Baramulla, along with all Zonal Physical Education Officers (ZPEOs) of the department. The momentous occasion saw the deserving winners and gallant runners-up being honored with trophies and certificates, symbolizing their dedication and sportsmanship.

The excitement continues as today promises yet another thrilling spectacle, with the Handball tournament for Under-17 boys set to unfold at the same venue.



## Srinagar Premier League: FCI Play 1-1 Draw With AG's Office

Observer News Service



**SRINAGAR:** FCI and AG's Office XI played a thrilling game in the Srinagar Premier League 2023 on Monday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

The high voltage matchup between two exciting teams kicked off at 7:00 PM under TRC floodlights. While, AG's Office was led by veteran midfielder Shahnawaz Bashir, FCI were captained by J&K's foremost footballing talent Asrar Rehbar.

The game kicked off with both teams creating opportunities, with AG's Office taking the lead in 11th minute. FCI, undefeated in the Srinagar Premier Division League, went looking for an equalizer and found one in the 30th minute.

With everything to play in the second

half, both teams went for the deciding goal. However, both defences stayed intact as the game ended in a 1-1 draw.

Monday's Game 1 was supposed to be played between Downtown Heroes FC and LoneStar Kashmir FC. However, since LSKFC decided to withdraw from the league due to the club's differences with the J&K Football Association, the game against Downtown Heroes was not played.

The league, organised by DFA Srinagar in collaboration with JKFA and JKSC, also released its fixtures list for Round 14 matches.

Tuesday, September 12, will see Ali Jana FC play SCFA Srinagar, with kick off at 8:30 AM. In the second game of the day, Kashmir Avengers FC will take on Novelty FC at 7:00 PM.

## After Dal & Nigeen, Manasbal Lake Adopts Water Sports

Agencies

**GANDERBAL:** After Dal and Nigeen lakes in Srinagar, the Manasbal Lake in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district has also embraced water sports.

Both Dal and Nigeen are top water skiing destinations in Jammu & Kashmir.

Water skiing is going on in Manasbal and the initiative is aimed at boosting tourism in the district.

"The water skiing began on September 1 and will continue till the end of the month. Three batches from across the country participate and each batch contains 20 participants. Hence, 60 adventure sportspersons got training in three different batches," an official said.

Anjali, a water skiing trainee, while talking to news agency KNO said, "It feels great to be part of this adventurous

sport; our coaches guide us very well."

Rahul from Delhi said it was his first experience and he feels adventurous and refreshed. "Our batch started from September 1st and shall conclude on 10th," he said.

Saba, a trainee from Srinagar said, "Since it was started by IISM last year, it has become a good platform to unlock the potential of the youth. This also boosts tourism of Manasbal."

An official said that water skiing was started by the Indian Institute of Skiing and Mountaineering (IISM) last year.

"We trained 60 participants in two batches including trainees from various states of the country," he said.

This year we intend to train 60 participants in three batches with 10 days for each batch, the official said.



## TIMELINE - Novak Djokovic's Run To Record 24 Grand Slam Titles

Reuters

**NEW YORK:** Novak Djokovic beat Daniil Medvedev in the U.S. Open final on Sunday to win a 24th Grand Slam singles title and equal Margaret Court's record haul. The following is a timeline charting how Djokovic surpassed both Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal.

**2003:** Federer became the newest entrant in the Grand Slam club with the first of his eight Wimbledon titles, beating Mark Philippoussis in the final. Tally: Federer 1

**2004:** The Swiss player flexed his muscles by winning three majors, the Australian Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, losing in the third round of the French Open. Tally: Federer 4

**2005:** Federer defended his Wimbledon and U.S. Open crowns, while Nadal burst on to the scene with his first French Open title, beating Mariano Puerta in the final. Tally: Federer 6; Nadal 1

**2006:** Federer enjoyed another trophy-laden year, winning three majors, while Nadal laid the foundation for a period of dominance on clay with his second French Open title. Tally: Federer 9; Nadal 2

**2007:** The seemingly unstoppable Federer repeated his feat from the

previous year, but the French Open title continued to elude him as Nadal thwarted him in the final for a second straight year. Tally: Federer 12; Nadal 3

**2008:** Djokovic hit the big time with his maiden major, beating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in the Australian Open final. After his French Open triumph, Nadal stunned Federer in the Wimbledon final, but the Swiss player responded by winning the U.S. Open.

Tally: Federer 13; Nadal 5; Djokovic 1  
**2009:** Nadal won his first hardcourt Grand Slam title, edging out Federer in five sets in the Australian Open final.

However, Nadal's 31-game winning streak at Roland Garros came to an end in the fourth round, allowing Federer to claim his only claycourt major trophy. Nadal was unable to defend his Wimbledon title as he was forced to pull out with knee problems.

Federer went on to claim his record 15th major at Wimbledon, surpassing Pete Sampras' tally. He finished the season as the year-end number one for the fifth time in his career. Tally: Federer 15; Nadal 6; Djokovic 1

**2010:** Federer started the year by winning the Australian Open for a

fourth time. But it turned out to be Nadal's finest campaign, as he swept the next three majors. He defeated Djokovic in the U.S. Open final to complete a career Grand Slam. Tally: Federer 16; Nadal 9; Djokovic 1

**2011:** Djokovic began his ascent to the top by winning 10 tournaments in 2011, including three majors at the Australian Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open.

Meanwhile, Nadal reclaimed his French Open crown for his 10th major title overall.

For the first time since 2002, Federer went away empty handed from all four slams. Tally: Federer 16; Nadal 10; Djokovic 4

**2012:** Djokovic overcame Nadal in the longest Grand Slam final in the Open Era to win his third Australian Open title.

Nadal continued his dominant run at Roland Garros to add another major title to his tally, while Federer won a record-extending 17th major at Wimbledon. Tally:

Federer 17; Nadal 11; Djokovic 5

**2013:** Djokovic won his third straight Australian Open by defeating Andy Murray in the final. While Federer struggled with a back injury, Nadal finished the year as number one after defending his French Open crown and adding another U.S. Open title to his tally. Tally: Federer 17;

Nadal 13; Djokovic 6

**2014:** Nadal defeated Djokovic to win his ninth French Open title, equalling Sampras' total of 14 slams. At Wimbledon, Djokovic defeated Federer in the final.

Tally: Federer 17; Nadal 14; Djokovic 7

**2015:** Djokovic won three majors - the Australian Open, Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. The Serb also became only the second man to defeat Nadal at the French Open when he beat the Spaniard in the quarter-finals.

Djokovic reached all four major finals during the season, but was beaten by Stan Wawrinka in the Roland Garros showpiece. Tally: Federer 17; Nadal 14; Djokovic 10

**2016:** Djokovic successfully defended his Australian Open crown before winning his maiden French Open title, making him the holder of all four majors - a feat the media dubbed the "Nole Slam". Federer and Nadal were both plagued by inju-

ries during the season. Since making his Grand Slam debut in 1999, Federer was a no-show at a major for the first time when he missed the French and U.S. Opens due to injury. Tally: Federer 17; Nadal 14; Djokovic 12  
**2017:** Federer won his 18th slam - and his first since Wimbledon 2012 - with a thrilling five-set victory over Rafa Nadal in the Australian Open final.



Nadal cemented his place as the greatest claycourter in history when he secured a record 10th title in Roland Garros. Records continued to tumble as Federer became the first man to win Wimbledon eight times with a victory over Marin Cilic in the final, before Nadal clinched his second U.S. Open title.

Djokovic, who retired midway through his Wimbledon quarter-final against Tomas Berdych, missed the latter half of the season with an elbow injury. Tally: Federer 19; Nadal 16; Djokovic 12  
**2018:** Federer won his sixth Australian Open to become only the fourth player after Court, Serena Williams and Steffi Graf to win 20 or more major singles titles. Nadal extended his winning run at Roland Garros, before Djokovic earned his first major in more than two years at Wimbledon.

## Children Who Live In Cities Are More Likely To Have Respiratory Infections

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LAUSANNE [Switzerland]: Young children who grow up in towns and cities experience higher respiratory illnesses than those who grow up in the country. According to a study presented at the European Respiratory Society International Congress in Milan, Italy.

A second study, presented at the Congress and published in Pediatric Pulmonology, shows that factors such as attending daycare, living in a damp home or near dense traffic increase the risk of chest infections in young children, while breastfeeding reduces the risk.

It's critical to comprehend why some otherwise healthy youngsters experience repeated illnesses and explore solutions, according to researchers.

The first study was presented by Dr Nicklas Brustad, a researcher and physician on the Copenhagen Prospective Studies on Asthma in Childhood (COPSAC) based at Gentofte Hospital and the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. It included 663 children and their mothers who took part in the research from pregnancy until the children were three years old.

Researchers found that before the age of three, children who lived in urban regions had an average of 17 respiratory illnesses, such as coughs and colds, as opposed to an average of 15 infections in children who lived in rural areas.

In-depth blood tests were also performed on pregnant women and their newborn babies by the researchers, who also examined the immune systems of the kids four weeks after birth. Children in urban settings had immune systems that were different from those in rural areas, they discovered. Along with the disparities in living conditions and the frequency of respiratory illnesses, blood samples from mothers and neonates also differed.

Dr Brustad said, "Our findings suggest that urban living is an independent risk factor for developing infections in early life when taking account of several related factors such



as exposure to air pollution and starting daycare. Interestingly, changes in the blood of pregnant mothers and newborn babies, as well as changes in the newborn immune system, seem to partly explain this relationship.

"Our results suggest that the environment children live in can have an effect on their developing immune system before they are exposed to coughs and colds. We continue to investigate why some otherwise healthy children are more prone to infections than others and what the implications are for later health. We have several other studies planned that will look for risk factors and try to explain the underlying mechanisms using our large amount of data."

The second study was presented by Dr Tom Ruffles from Brighton and Sussex Medical School and University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust, Brighton, UK. It included data on 1344 mothers and their children living in Scotland and England. The mothers completed detailed questionnaires when their children were a year old and again when their children were two years old. These included questions on chest infections, symptoms such as coughing and wheezing, respiratory medication, and exposure to potential environmental risk factors.

Analysis of the questionnaires revealed that breastfeeding for longer than six months helped protect babies and children from infections, while attending daycare increased the risk. Young children living in homes with visible dampness were twice as likely to need treatment with an inhaler

to relieve respiratory symptoms and twice as likely to need treatment with a steroid inhaler. Living in an area with dense traffic increased the risk of chest infections, and exposure to tobacco smoke increased the risk of coughing and wheezing.

Dr Ruffles said, "This research provides some important evidence about how we can help reduce chest infections in babies and toddlers. The benefits of breastfeeding are well-established, and we should continue to support mothers who want to breast-feed their babies. We should also be making every effort to reduce exposure to infections in daycare, keep homes free of dampness and mould, reduce tobacco smoking and cut air pollution."

Co-researcher Professor Somnath Mukhopadhyay, also from Brighton and Sussex Medical School and University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust, added, "The link between damp mouldy housing and the need for these very young children to take asthma treatments emphasises how urgently we need legislation to tackle mould and damp in social housing. For example, here in the UK, we want to see rapid implementation of Awaab's Law, which will force social landlords to fix damp and mould within strict time limits." Awaab's Law was proposed following the death of two-year-old Awaab Ishak, caused by the dampness and mould in his local authority home.

Professor Myrofora Goutaki, who is chair of the European Respiratory Society's group on Paediatric respiratory epidemiology and was not involved in the research, said, "We know that some young children suffer with recurrent coughs and colds, and this can lead on to conditions such as asthma as they grow older. It's important that we understand any factors that might be contributing to this, such as the conditions where children live and where they are cared for. The more we understand about these factors, the more we can do to protect the developing lungs of these young children."

## Security Guards For Fountains, Statues Put Up For G20 In Delhi: Officer

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New Delhi: The NDMC on Monday said it is contemplating to deploy security guards to prevent vandalism or theft of assets like fountains and sculptures installed ahead of the G20 Summit.

Different agencies, including the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC), made extensive preparations for the two-day G20 Summit that saw heads of state from across the world gather in the national capital and concluded on Sunday.

Road infrastructure was spruced up, roads were adorned with over 7 lakh potted plants and fountains, statues, sculptures and street furniture were installed in area near the summit venue.

"We will maintain the



assets, including 65 fountains and nearly 20 sculptures, that were installed at prominent locations and roundabouts for the G20 Summit," NDMC vice-chairman Satish Upadhyay said.

The civic body also decorated road stretches, roundabouts and other prominent locations with 1 lakh potted plants. Some of these could now be moved to locations

like NDMC buildings, health centres and schools but the overall greenery will be maintained, he said.

"We will evaluate if there is a need to deploy guards at some of these places to ensure that the assets are not vandalised or stolen in the coming days so that the efforts and hard work put in to beautify the NDMC area do not get wasted," Mr

Upadhyay said. The NDMC will also try to maintain the cleanliness in its area and ensure that the response mechanism that was established for quick disposal of complaints during the G20 Summit also remains effective in the future, he said.

The reason behind the quick response by different agencies during the summit was the high-level of coordination among them, he added.

Mr Upadhyay urged Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena to hold monthly or bimonthly meetings of different agencies to ensure better delivery of civic services to people. The G20 venue, Bharat Mandapam; G20 secretariat and hotels where the heads of the state stayed fell under the NDMC's jurisdiction.

Satish Upadhyay had earlier said that 44 roads in the NDMC area were spruced up for the G20 Summit.

## AI Detects Gallbladder Cancer As Accurately As Radiologists In India: Study

New Delhi: An artificial intelligence (AI) based approach demonstrated diagnostic performance comparable to experienced radiologists in detecting gallbladder cancer at a hospital in Chandigarh, according to a study published in The Lancet Regional Health - Southeast Asia journal.

Gallbladder cancer (GBC) is a highly aggressive malignancy with a poor detection and a high mortality rate. Early diagnosis is challenging because benign gallbladder lesions can have similar imaging features, the researchers said.

The team at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh



and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), New Delhi, aimed to develop and validate a deep learning (DL) model for GBC detection using abdominal ultrasound and compare its performance with radiologists.

Deep learning is a method in AI that teaches computers to process data in a

way that is inspired by the human brain. The study used abdominal ultrasound data from patients with gallbladder lesions acquired between August 2019 and June 2021 at PGIMER, a tertiary care hospital.

A deep learning (DL) model was trained on a dataset of 233 patients,

validated on 59 patients, and tested on 273 patients.

The DL model's performance was evaluated in terms of sensitivity, specificity, and the area under the receiver operating characteristic curve (AUC), which is widely used to measure the accuracy of diagnostic tests. Two radiologists also independently reviewed the ultrasound images, and their diagnostic performance was compared to the DL model.

In the test set, the DL model had a sensitivity of 92.3 per cent, specificity of 74.4 per cent, and an AUC of 0.887 for detecting GBC, which was comparable to both radiologists, according to the study.

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### PRESS RELEASE

One day maiden conference of All India Bank officers Association Jammu Kashmir Ladakh Committee was held today at NundReshi Convention centre SKUAST Shalimar Srinagar J&K. Delegates from Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh alongwith special invitees and Hon'ble guests participated in inaugural session and delegate session. The observer group from central office of AIBOA Chennai under leadership of comrade Gen. Secretary S Nagarajan also attended the session who in his address highlighted the issues of banking industry and officer staff employed in the banks alongwith informing the gathering about struggles undertaken by the organization at national level. Earlier while delivering his inaugural address in the conference the Hon'ble VC of SKUAST Dr. Nazir Ahmed Ganai highlighted the importance of developing agriculture in the economy and funding of this sector by Bank credit. Towards conclusion the session passed several resolutions which included

1. Demand for implementing UDAAN type recruitment plan in Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh.
2. Calling its members not to respond to watsup messages of controllers beyond office hours.
3. Electing an office bearer body for the committee for next three years under leadership of comrade Riyaz Ahmed Bhat as president.

In his presidential address the newly elected president of the committee outlined the future path of the organization while working for welfare of banking industry of the area in general and bank officer cadre in particular. The president thanked the AIBOA central leadership, comrades from all districts especially from Kargil and Leh and SKUAST administration for the cooperation they provided to reception committee of conference making it a grand success.

Sd/-  
**Com. Ashwani Pradhan**  
Gen. Secretary.

ABBAS ADS: 7006444730