

Govt Puts Property Tax On Hold For Now



Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has put on hold the imposition of property tax on residential houses and commercial establishments, within the municipal areas, much to the relief of the people of the Union Territory.

Principal Secretary, J&K Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) Prashant Goyal told Kashmir Observer that the decision to postpone imposition of property tax has been taken as the government wants to "work more" on the issue.

"For time being, it has been postponed. We will work more on this issue since the public has many apprehensions about the government's move," he said.

In February this year, the J&K administration had notified the imposition of property tax in municipal areas from April 1. The tax rates were fixed five per cent of taxable annual value for residential properties and six per cent for commercial properties.

The government order, however, exempted all the properties owned by Central and UT Government from payment of property tax. Only service charge at the rate 3% of the taxable annual value has to be paid to the Municipality in respect of such properties.

Similarly, all the properties of the Municipality and all places of worship, including temples, mosques, gurdwaras, churches, shrines, etc and » More On P10

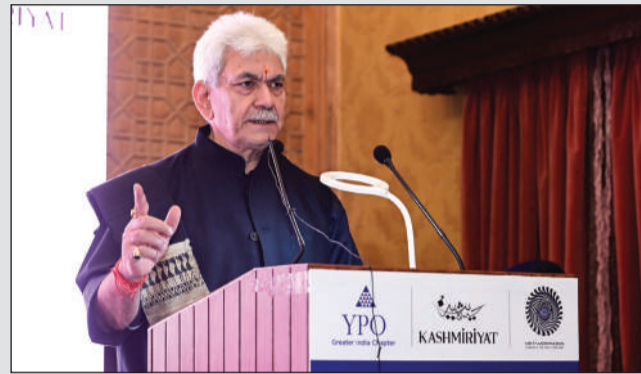
THIS IS INDEED A WELCOME STEP. Government needs to see whether people can afford such a tax because of their current financial position."

J&K Is Now On The Global Tourism Map: LG Says Number Of Foreign Tourists Up By 350% In Comparison To Last Year

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Asserting that Jammu and Kashmir is a byword for socio-economic miracle today, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Saturday that the Union Territory is providing a plethora of investment opportunities in different sectors and offering best incentives to investors.

"We have transformed decades of damage and destruction into prosperity; created an environment for people to live life on their own terms, provided the right conditions for businesses and start-ups to flourish and right opportunities for entrepreneurs to convert their ideas into profitable businesses," Sinha said.



He was interacting with the members of Young Presidents' Organization (YPO) - Greater India Chapter here on Saturday

during which he discussed the business opportunities in Jammu and Kashmir.

In his address, the LG highlighted the extraordinary transformation of J&K under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the fastest expansion of its economy within a few years.

"Jammu Kashmir is also a byword for socio-economic miracle today. The UT is providing a plethora of investment opportunities in different sectors and offering best incentives to investors," he said.

During the interaction, the LG responded to » More On P10

Flags Off 'Walk For Wildlife'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said Saturday that his administration is committed to the cause of wildlife conservation, protection of the unique and rich ecological heritage and pursue economic growth and preserve

the environment by striking the right balance. The LG made these remarks while flagging off Walkathon 'Walk for Wildlife', as a part of Wildlife Week 2023 from Police Golf Course to Nishat Bagh here on Saturday. Prominent Citizens, wildlife » More On P10

PM Modi, Shah To Address Mega Rallies In J&K

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: The BJP's Jammu and Kashmir unit chief Ravinder Raina on Saturday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Home Minister Amit Shah will visit the Union Territory and address mega rallies in the coming days. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and BJP chief JP Nadda, along with other prominent leaders, will also visit the Union Territory, Raina told reporters

on the sidelines of a party function in Ramban district.

The party is launching a public awareness campaign in the Union Territory on October 24 to inform the people about the developmental programmes undertaken by the BJP-led central government.

"In the coming days, the prime minister, defence minister, home minister, roads and highways minister and the BJP president, besides other prominent leaders, » More On P10

Rain, Snow Likely From Tomorrow

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The weather department on Saturday forecast rain in plains and snowfall over higher reaches in Jammu and Kashmir beginning October 9.

A meteorological department official said that a brief spell of rain may occur at isolated places of Kashmir during the next 24 hours.

Fair to partly cloudy weather has been forecast in both Jammu and Kashmir regions on October 8.

"Rain/snowfall over higher reaches is likely at scattered places of Jammu and Kashmir during 9th evening/night with main activity on 10th (70-80% chance)," he said.

On October 11-13, he said, mainly dry » More On P10

WAR CLOUDS OVER WEST ASIA Palestinian Fighters Cross Into Israel



London: In an unprecedented development Palestinian resistance factions, led by Hamas, launched a massive offensive against Israel in the wee hours of Saturday taking the Jewish state by surprise.

The offensive code named "Operation Al-Aqsa Flood" began at dawn Saturday with a barrage of rockets » More On P10

PM Modi: 'We Stand With Israel'

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday expressed solidarity with Israel after Hamas militants launched an attack on the country.

PM Modi condemned it as "terrorist attacks" in Israel as its leader Benjamin Netanyahu said the country is at war.

Deeply shocked by the news of terrorist attacks in Israel. Our thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families. » More On P10

Vehicle Rolls Into Gorge, 3 Killed

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Three labourers were killed and five others critically injured when the vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and plunged into a deep gorge in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir, police officials said on Saturday.

The labourers boarded the vehicle at Khellani and were on the way to their homes in Marmat area, the officials said.

They said the vehicle met with the accident near Humbal village around 10.40 pm Friday, prompting a rescue operation by local volunteers and police.

Three labourers Mani Kumar (31), Karan Jeet Singh (40) and Lal Chand (45) were » More On P10

HC Seeks Govt's Response For Sexual Education In Schools

M Ahmad

Jammu: The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has directed administration to file response to suggestions filed by lawyer-activist Meenu Padha for the interest of children who are vulnerable to abuse and exploitation.

Among others, the suggestions include imparting sexual education in schools and introduction of curriculum focusing on child protection to be implemented in both government and private schools.

In this regard, a bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Rajesh Sekhri asked S.S. Nanda, the senior Additional Advocate General, to file response by or before November 15.

Padha, who is one among petitioners in clubbed PILs regarding children welfare, also sought introduction of Specialized Curriculum, focusing on child protection to be implemented in both government and private schools. This curriculum, she says, needs to be overseen by an expert committee to sensitize teachers, empower children to report abuse, and establish a protocol for handling complaints.

She said there should mandatory sexual education in schools, and awareness programs to educate citizens about child abuse in all its forms.

A comprehensive training program, she said, shall be conducted for teachers and » More On P10

HIGHWAY HICCUPS Key Tunnel On Major Landslide-Prone Area Thrown Open

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Authorities on Saturday dedicated to the public a 645-metre segment comprising the two-lane Maroge tunnel and a viaduct along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway and bypassing a major landslide-prone area in Ramban district.

The new stretch will shorten the travel distance by 200 metres and help commuters bypass the Sita Ram Passi landslide-prone area, Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari said while



announcing the completion of the segment on his social media handle.

"This transformative development not only

contributes to the region's economic growth but also enhances its appeal as a premier tourist destination," the minister said on

X, sharing four pictures of the newly constructed viaduct and the tunnel.

"In Jammu & Kashmir, we have successfully completed the construction of a 250-metre viaduct (2-lane) in conjunction with a 395-metre (2-lane) Maroge tunnel, at an estimated cost of Rs 82 crore," Gadkari said in his post.

"This infrastructure is situated along Ramban to Banihal section of NH-44 (Srinagar-Jammu national highway). This 645-metre segment, as part of the larger project, will not only shorten the » More On P10

SHORT TAKES

Dy Sarpanch Held For Using Fake Seal

A deputy Sarpanch was arrested for using a fake seal of Sarpanch unauthorisedly in the Kralgund area of Handwara on Saturday, police said. A team of cops from Police Station Kralgund raided the house of Deputy Sarpanch Rawalpora, Hafiz-ullah and during searches recovered a fake seal of Sarpanch from the house, a police spokesperson said. Hafiz-ullah, he said, » More On P10

4 Held For Attack On Police, NCB Team

Four people were arrested on Saturday for their alleged involvement in an attack on a joint team of police and Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in Samba district of Jammu and Kashmir, police said. Two sleuths each of police and NCB were severely injured when they were attacked during a raid on the house of narcotics smuggler Mushtaq Ali alias "Kaka" at Sarore on Thursday evening. » More On P10

Crime Branch Chargesheets 3 'Cheaters'

The Crime Branch on Saturday produced a chargesheet before Court of Anti-corruption in Anantnag, against three persons accused of involvement in cheating and other relevant offences. "Special Crime Wing (Crime Branch) Srinagar produced charge sheet of case FIR number 25/2012 before the Court of Anti Corruption Court Anantnag on 05.10.2023 against three accused persons for their » More On P10

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Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir.

Scholarship Name 1: Santoor Scholarship Programme 2023-24

Description: Santoor Scholarship Programme 2023-24 aims to support the undergraduate studies of young women from disadvantaged backgrounds from states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana or Chhattisgarh.

Eligibility: Open only for young women from underprivileged backgrounds from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Telangana or Chhattisgarh.

Have passed Class 10 from a local government school

Have passed Class 12 from a government school/junior college in the academic year 2022-23

Have enrolled in a full-time graduate programme beginning 2023-24

Note: The duration of the full-time graduate course must be a minimum of 3 years.

Students showing a keen interest in pursuing their higher education in the fields of humanities, liberal arts and sciences, in addition to professional courses are strongly encouraged to apply.

Prizes & Rewards: INR 24,000 per year

Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/ob-server/SWS6

Scholarship Name 2: Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships 2023-24

Description: The Reliance Foundation Undergraduate Scholarships aim to support meritorious students from all corners of the country in pursuing their undergraduate education. This empowers them to continue their studies, become successful professionals, and realize their dreams, unlocking their potential to uplift themselves and their communities and contribute towards India's future socio-economic development.

Eligibility: Students must be enrolled in the first year of a full-time undergraduate (UG) degree in any stream at a recognised Indian institute.

Must have passed class 12 with a minimum of 60% marks

The annual household income should be up to INR 15,00,000 (preference will be given to those students whose family income is less than INR 2,50,000)

Open for resident Indian citizens only. Aptitude test is mandatory.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 2,00,000 over the duration of the

Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/ob-server/SWS6

degree

Last Date to Apply: 15-10-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/ob-server/RFS8

Scholarship Name 3: Infocepts Innovate for Impact Scholarship 2023-24

Description: Infocepts Innovate for Impact Scholarship 2023-24 aims to support the education of meritorious and needy students who are pursuing engineering courses in computer science and related fields.

Eligibility: Open for students who are pursuing engineering courses in fields such as Computer Engineering, Information Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and Data Science & Analytics.

Applicants must have secured at least 60% marks in their Class 10 and 12 examination.

Annual family income of applicants should not exceed 6 lakh from all sources.

Students studying or having domicile of the following cities are eligible to apply:

Nagpur

Pune

Chennai

Bengaluru

Prizes & Rewards: Up to 50,000 per year for 3 years

Last Date to Apply: 22-10-2023

Application mode: Online applications only

Short Url: www.b4s.in/ob-server/INF01

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that name of my wards has been wrongly mentioned in School records as Ifra Latief instead of Ifra Lateef and Latief Ahmad Sofi instead of Lateef Ahmad Sofi and Rozy instead of Afroza. Now I want to apply for its correction. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact Al Noor Model School Dana Mazar Safakadal Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

Lateef Ahmad Sofi
 F/o Mohammad Ruhaan Sofi and Ifra Lateef
 R/o Noor Bagh Srinagar

PUBLIC NOTICE

In service records under Code Number 211 My name has been wrongly spelled as Fareeda Bano instead of Farida bano which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may contact Administrative Office SKIMS Medial College/ Hospital Bemina Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Farida Bano
 W/o Ghulam Mohammad Rather
 R/o Bemina Srinagar

In The Court Of City Judge Srinagar

Present. Ms.Fozia Paul

In Case of:
 Muhammad Ashraf Ganie VS Imliyaz Ahmad Shah

Proclamation for appearance of Accused in terms of Section 87 Cr.P.C

Whereas, complaint titled above has been presented and is pending disposal before me wherein it is stated that accused namely Imliyaz Ahmad Shah. S/o Peer/;u., Sham's Din R/o Mahboob Colony Nowgam is alleged to have committed an offence punishable u/s 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act against the complainant named above. Further, the accused has never appeared before this court since the inception of this complaint. And whereas, it has been shown to my satisfaction that the accused has absconded and is avoiding the process issued by this court intentionally.

Henceforth, this Proclamation is hereby made against the accused named above and you are as such required to appear before this Court at Srinagar before me to answer the said complaint against you by or before 06-11-2023

Issued today on 30-09-2023

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کریمی
 مضمون: چھٹی آمدہ از دفتر ایکو کیلیو انجیر فلڈ کنٹرول ڈویژن بارہ مولہ نسبت اجرائی مندر وارث جائز عرفان احمد ولد محمد اشرف پر سے ساکنہ تیل جاگیر فوت شدہ غلام محمد پر سے اشتہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار اطلاع کیا جاتا ہے کہ درخت حداثہ درخواست چھٹی حد نسبت اجرائی مندر وارث جائز زریکاروئی ہے اس نسبت پوری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقوالات ریکارڈ طلب کے لئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال مہتمم ہیل جاگیر میں رہائش پذیر ہے۔ سال کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

حفظیت بیہیمہ محمد اشرف 57 سال گھریلو کام ولدہ متوفی بلال احمد پسر محمد اشرف 28 عارضی ملازم برادر متوفی مریم اشرف دختر محمد اشرف 25 زرعیت ہمشیرہ متوفی حمیرہ اشرف دختر محمد اشرف 19 زرعیت

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ مبعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار kre

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کریمی / کلترہ
 درخواست بجانب عید فاروق ولد فاروق احمد تاجدار (ترکھان) ساکنہ فرستہ تارنگام برادر حصول OBC سرٹیفکیٹ بذمہ ترکھان اشتہار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر میں زریکاروئی ہے اس نسبت پوری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقوالات ریکارڈ طلب کے لئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال ساکنہ مہتمم فرستہ تارنگام میں رہائش پذیر ہے۔ سال کوئی عذر یا اعتراض سے تعلق رکھتا ہے

کنڈیزیل سال آمدنی 108000 روپیہ تک ہے سال کا کنڈیزیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے

فاروق احمد تاجدار ولد محمد تاجدار 40 سال ترکھان 36 گھریلو کام 22 زرعیت عید فاروق ولد فاروق احمد تاجدار 20 گھریلو کام 18 زرعیت عزیز فاروق ولد فاروق احمد تاجدار 14 زرعیت

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکیٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ مبعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار fko

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Principal Government Unani Medical College & Associated Hospitals, Ganderbal Kashmir
 Email: principalgmcsg@gmail.com, noumck@gmail.com

Subject: Advertisement for engagement of Resident Medical Officer (RMO/CR) (Unani) on Academic Arrangement Basis under SO-364 of 2020 dated: 27-11-2020 in Associated Hospital of Govt. Unani Medical College, Ganderbal Kashmir.

Advertisement Notice No: 03 -of 2023
 Dated: 06 -10-2023

Pursuant to approval conveyed by the Administrative Department, Health & Medical Education Department, vide No: HD-ISM/129/2021 (CC:86903) dated: 29.08.2023, applications on plain paper are invited from the eligible candidates for engagement against the following positions of Resident Medical Officers (RMO/CR) in Associated Hospital of Govt. Unani Medical College, Ganderbal Kashmir on "Academic Arrangement Basis" under SO-364 of 2020 dated: 27-11-2020, for a period of one year, extendable up to a maximum of six years (one year at a time and subject to good performance and conduct) or till the selection is made in accordance with recruitment rules governing the respective posts, whichever is earlier. Further, the extension shall be made on year to year basis by the Principal, after approval from the Administrative Department. The extension so granted under these rules shall not be beyond a period of six years under any circumstances. The last date for submission of application complete in all respects, in the office of the Nodal Officer/Deputy Medical Superintendent, Government Unani Medical College, and Associated Hospital Ganderbal, Kashmir is 28-10-2023-Saturday (4pm). The details of the posts are as under:

S.No	Department	Name of the post	No. of posts	Category
1	Moalejat	Resident Medical Officer	01	01-OM
2	Ilmul-Jarahat	Resident Medical Officer	01	01-OM
3	Ilmul- Atfal	Resident Medical Officer	01	01-OM
4	Amraz Niswan wa Qabalat.	Resident Medical Officer	02	01-RBA
5	Illaj Bit Tadbeer	Resident Medical Officer/Clinical Registrar	01	01-OM
Total			06	

Essential Qualification:

A. For the post of Medical Officer/Clinical Registrar:
 Bachelor's degree in Unani Medicine from a University or its equivalent as recognized under the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970. Preference will be given to the candidates having Post Graduate degree in the relevant subject.

B. Age: Maximum age as on, at the time of submitting the application is Fifty (50) years

C. Salary shall be as per SO-364 of 2020 dated: 27-11-2020.

Self-attested photocopies of the following documents are mandatory to be attached with the application:

- BUMS Degree with Marks Certificates (aggregate).
- Post-Graduation Degree in the relevant subject from NCISM/CCIM recognised institution.
- Registration Certificate from J&K Board of Ayurveda/Unani/Sowa-Rigpa, Yoga & Naturopathy systems of Medicine.
- Date of Birth Certificate.
- Domicile Certificate.
- Valid Category Certificate.
- Any other higher qualification like PhD/Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the concerned subject.
- Any academic honour, like 1st /2nd/3rd position in the University (Certificate)
- An Affidavit duly attested by Judicial Magistrate, that the candidate is not in any active Government Service.

The selection of the candidates for the posts shall be made by the Committee constituted by the Government in accordance with the selection Criteria notified vide Government Order No: 554-JK (HME) of 2023 dated: 11-07-2023, which is available on the official website of the college www.gumck.org.in

The appointment against the advertised posts shall and shall always be on academic arrangement basis only without conferment of any preferential right on the engages for regular appointment against these posts, which shall be made strictly in accordance with the relevant recruitment rules. The services of an appointee under these rules shall be terminable before the expiry of the tenure of appointment with one month's notice from either side or on payment of one month's salary in lieu of notice by the appointing authority. Selection of above mentioned posts shall be made strictly after implementing all provisions of rules & regulations of Reservation Act prevalent in UT of J&K.

Note:

- The candidates who have already applied for the posts of Resident Medical Officer/Clinical Registrar vide advertisement notice No: 08 of 2021, dated: 10.11.2021 and No: 09 of 2021, dated: 01.12.2021, need not to apply again. However they can submit any additional qualification/academic honors, if any in the office of Nodal Officer, Govt. Unani Medical College, Nawabgh Ganderbal up to last date.
- The applications incomplete in any respect shall be rejected without any intimation.

In case of any dispute, the decision of Chairperson of the Selection Committee shall be final.

Sd/
 Principal
 Govt. Unani Medical College
 Ganderbal Kashmir

NO: GUMC/PS/23-24/690-96 DIPK-10005/23 Date: 07 /10/2023.

Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal
 NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
 Stage Contract E-NIT No.77/ET/R&B/SUMBAL of 10/2023.
 (Single Cover System)

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

S.No	Name of Work	Total Length	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Repair and Routine Maintenance of roads Under Performance based 2023-24. (R&B Sub-Division Sumbal)	164.00 Kms	500/-	15000/-	F.Y 2023-24	3054-Normal Maintenance (M&R)	All Classes

Position of AAA: - Accorded.
 Position of Funds: - Available

- The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

S.No	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	Period of downloading of bidding documents	Bid submission Start Date	Bid Submission End Date	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)
1		07-10-2023 from 1.00P.M	07-10-2023 from 1.00P.M	16.10.2023 upto 4.00P.M	17.10.2023 at 11.00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
- The successful Bidder has to produce Performance Security Deposit @3% of contract value in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 days after opening of Bids, which shall be released after successful completion of work with DLP. This will replace the EMD @ 2% of the Advertised cost uploaded by the Bidder.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

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

- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (The date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
- Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- In case of CRF and any other specified project, the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
- All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-

- All bidders shall upload Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
- Verification of the Enlistment Card/License from its issuing authority. Subject card is issued other than (R&B) Department.
- All bidders shall upload Treasury Challan.
- All bidders shall upload CDR/FDR/BG as shown against work.
- All bidders shall upload Valid Registration card front and renewal Side (Latest). Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No.
- All bidders shall upload Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents file in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises
- 16.1.1 On contractor's representation based on the grounds as detailed above the time for completion of the work may be extended by a period considered reasonable by the Department.
- 16.1.2 Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.
- The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form) and detailed NIT issued.

Sd./
 Camp Clerk Sd./
 Draftsman Sd./
 Executive Engineer,
 (R&B) Division Sumbal

No. R&B/Sbl/23/3373-79.
 DIPK-10034/23 Dated:- 07-10-2023.



City's Famous Food Street—Khayam Cries Official Apathy

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Srinagar's famous food street, Khayam is craving for official attention, as the dilapidated condition of roads is giving tough times to the commuters for a long time.

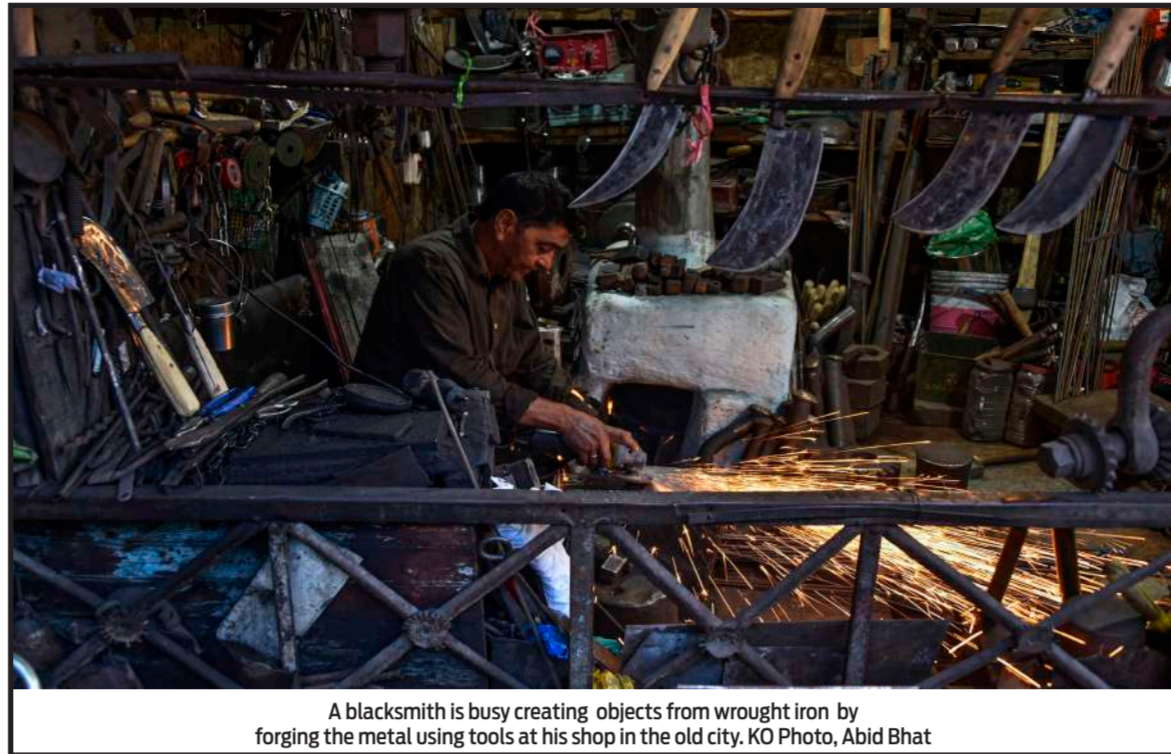
Situated in the heart of Srinagar, the famous food street "Khayam," that has delighted locals and visitors alike for decades, finds itself in a state of longing, as repeated pleas for attention to repair dilapidated roads have seemingly fallen on deaf ears.

This area, known for its delectable array of traditional Kashmiri dishes and street food delights, now faces neglect as a result of the bad condition of roads in the area.

The shopkeepers of the area, said the food street has been a source of livelihood for generations in their family.

However, the commuters visiting the place are presently facing difficulties as the road leading to the area is in shambles.

"Khayam has been the heart of our culinary heritage, but it's heartbreaking to see it in such disrepair. Our cuisine is our identity, and Khayam has been our showcase to the world. It's time to restore its glory, and the condition of the road needs to be repaired urgently," added Manzoor Ahmed, another shopkeeper.



A blacksmith is busy creating objects from wrought iron by forging the metal using tools at his shop in the old city. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Div Com Reviews Developmental, Beautification Works Of Gupkar, Boulevard Roads

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri on Saturday conducted extensive visits of Gupkar, Boulevard & Foreshore Roads besides University of Kashmir to review the arrangements & execution of developmental projects.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar, Commissioner SMC/ CEO SSCL, SP Headquarter Srinagar, SP Traffic City Srinagar, officers of PWD (R&B)/PHE, KPDCCL etc.

During the visit, Div Com inspected major Roads and directed concern for pruning of branches, painting of road dividers, grass cutting of footpaths, white coloring of tree trunks, removal of debris and heaps of leaves.

He stressed on mobilization of resources including men & machinery to beautify the route from Airport to KU to enhance the aesthetic sense and present appealing look.

He directed officers & contractors to expedite the developmental works including tiling along Foreshore Road, precinct development, macadamization and clearing of

mounds of soils from road at STP at Foreshore Road.

At University of Kashmir, Div Com inspected the arrangements for holding Convocation where he was briefed by the registrar of the university about the entire program and activities besides guest invitees, seating and parking arrangements.

On the occasion, Div Com directed concerned parties to chalk out a comprehensive plan of arrangements and earmarking of parking areas in the premises of university.

Weeklong GI Mahotsav Concludes At Kashmir Haat Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The weeklong GI Mahotsav concluded today at Kashmir Haat Srinagar. The function was presided over by Principal Secretary Agriculture Production Department (APD), Shailender Kumar.

Secretary in APD, Shabnum Kamili; Padamshri Dr. Rajnikant; Director General Sheep Husbandry Kashmir; Director General Sericulture; Special Secretary APD; Director Animal Husbandry Kashmir, Director Horticulture Kashmir and Director Agriculture Kashmir; Secretary Human Welfare Association, Artisans from more than twenty States/UTs of the country, officers of Agriculture and allied departments were present on the occasion.

valedictory function, Principal Secretary appreciated the stakeholders for successful organization of the event.

Shailender Kumar said that it was a great experience, hosting a galaxy of artisans from all over the country. He asked the artisans to act as an ambassador of Kashmir to the rest of the country. He added that organizing such events in Kashmir plays an important role in promotion of tourism and other economic activities.

Secretary in APD, Shabnum Kamili, Padma Shri Dr Rajnikant and Director Agriculture Kashmir also expressed their views regarding the event.

An award ceremony was also held wherein the best stalls, highest sale award, best cultural show award, and best artist award were given among the stakeholders by the chief guest.

DC Reviews Physical, Financial Progress Under Capex Budget-2024

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In order to review the physical and financial progress of the developmental works taken up under District Capex Budget 2023-24 in the District, a meeting of all Sectoral/District Officers was on Saturday held under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here at Meeting Hall of the DC Office Complex.

Besides, Additional District Development Commissioner, Srinagar, Zahoor Ahmad Mir and Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, the meeting was attended by all District/Sectoral Officers, Engineers and other concerned.

At the outset, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed review of funds released and expenditure incurred under R&B, PHE, Education, Health, RDD, Agriculture & allied sectors, Social Welfare, Labor, Employment, PMGSY, NRLM,

ICDS and other sectors, besides progress of works taken up under DDC, BDC and PRI grants were also discussed in threadbare.

The DC after taking sector wise review of all works directed the officers to ensure 100 percent expenditure in the set time line by accelerating the pace of the works scheduled for completion during the current financial year. He directed the Officers to work in coordinated manner with line Departments to achieve development goals well in time keeping in view the limited working season.

The DC asked the Officers of all line Departments to discharge their responsibility with greater dedication and sensitivity to ensure the benefits of the development reach every household. He also stressed on giving focused attention towards Deliverables being implemented during current fiscal in Srinagar District

The DC also exhorted for mobilizing men and machinery for

completing the projects being implemented in the larger interest of the public in stipulated time frame besides urged to ensure productive and fruitful utilization of the available resources.

The DC asked all the line Departments to ensure timely submission of pending works bills to concerned quarters.

Taking stock of the status of major under construction development projects, the Deputy Commissioner asked the concerned officials to ensure time-bound completion of the projects by speeding up their execution.

The DC stressed on expediting the major developmental projects like Comprehensive Sewerage Scheme for Zone III, Construction of Double Lane Noor Jahan Bridge at Qamarwari, Additional Gynaecology Block at Lal Ded Hospital, Transit Accommodation at Zewan, Wathpora Shalteng bridges and Additional Gynecology Block at Lal Ded Hospital.

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883
PDD: 0194-2450213
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 245222, 2452155
CAPD: 18001807011
SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

- RAILWAYS SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
BIJHERA: 01932-228243
PAMPORRE: 01933-294132
PATTAN: 01954-293507
QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

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

PRAYERS FAJR 5:06, ZUHR 12:19, ASR 4:29, Magrib 6:12, ISHA 7:31. HIJRI CALENDAR 21 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1445

This Day In History

- 1929 - Mohammed Nadir Khan occupies Kabul Afghanistan and drives out Habibullah Ghazi
1932 - The Indian Air Force is established
1940 - German troops occupies Romania
1945 - US President Harry Truman announced atomic bomb secret shared with Britain and Canada
1945 - Microwave oven patented
1946 - Military plane crashes at Christian HBS, 24 die
1952 - Chinese offensive in Korea
1957 - Turkish & Syrian border guards exchange fire
1963 - Sultan of Zanzibar cedes his mainland possessions to Kenya
1967 - Guerrilla leader Che Guevara and his men are captured in Bolivia.
1970 - Soviet author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn wins the Nobel Prize for Literature
1970 - The Social Democratic and Labour Party (SDLP) propose that a system of Proportional Representation (PR) should be used in elections in Northern Ireland
1973 - OPEC meets with oil companies to discuss revision of 1971 Tehran agreement and oil prices; negotiations fail.
1993 - UN lifts remaining economic sanctions against South Africa
1998 - US House of Representatives votes to begin impeachment hearings against President Bill Clinton on charges of lying about his affair with Monica Lewinsky
1998 - José Saramago is the first person from Portugal to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature
2003 - Peter Agre and Roderick MacKinnon win the 2003 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for discoveries concerning channels in cell membranes
2008 - Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology awarded jointly to Harald zur Hausen (cause of cervical cancer) and Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, Luc Montagnier (discovery of HIV)

From KO Archives

Govt Orders Austerity Measures, Bans Purchases

Observer News Service

Srinagar- With New Delhi having made it clear that it would be paying only for the day to day expenditure of the state, thus putting a virtual brake on the developmental plans, the state government today ordered austerity measures in departmental expenditures "with immediate effect."

Austerity measures in departmental spendings had become imperative following re-reported failure of talks between the Centre and the state in New Delhi recently on the release of funds to the state, dependent completely on New Delhi.

The order, which would be applicable to all Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies, has been taken "in view of the continuing tight resources position of the state." There will be an across the board cut of ten percent on the budget provision under the head maintenance and re-pairs, purchase of material and supplies, machinery and equipment.

The order says that the newly installed offices can buy fresh furniture that too subject to the concurrence of Finance Department, while blanket ban has been imposed on purchasing of furniture for the already existing ones. The ban has also been imposed on purchase of new vehicles of all kinds by all departments.

The measures announced by the state government today will virtually put brakes on all the developmental programmes as there is alarming cash crunch in the state. The Centre will be paying the state a sum of rupees 250 crores only, which is not even sufficient for running day today expenditures.

The expenditure on telephone has been ordered to be restricted within the available provisions and no liability on the account would be allowed to be carried over. No additional provision would be made for purchase of office equipment like photo copiers, fax machines etc. No purchase should be placed beyond December 31, 1998 for any item and purchase contracts should be finalized before the said date.

The government has ordered that there shall be no official dinners and no lunches except those hosted by the Chief Minister and the ministers.

The expenditure on maintenance of government buildings, residential quarters should be restricted to most essential items only. Improvements to existing floorings, wall painting etc., to cater to personal preferences has been totally prohibited and there should be no additions to the residential quarters.

There will be no increase in the current level of grant-in-aid to institutions. (Kashmir Observer, October 08, 1998)

ELLAQUI DEHATI BANK Tender for AMC of Printing/Supply of Bank's Stationery/ Installation of Battery and Inverter/UPS/Printer/Scanner/Cash Counting Machine for the Financial Years 2023-24, 2024-25 & 2025-26

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-AUCTION NOTICE The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway, Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction from eligible and registered bidders for the following works over Firozpur Division:-

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR Office Of The Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Ompora Budgam. e-NIT No.40 of 10-2023 For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders for rate contract invited from Registered CADD Centers for preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of Irrigation Division Ompora for the year 2023-24.

US Fears Canada-India Row Could Upend China Strategy



Agencies

WASHINGTON: The Biden administration is nervously watching a dispute between Canada and India, with some officials concerned it could upend the U.S. strategy toward the Indo-Pacific that is directed at blunting China's influence there and elsewhere.

Publicly, the administration has maintained that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's allegations that the Indian government may have been involved in the killing of a Sikh separatist near Vancouver are a matter between the two countries.

But U.S. officials have also repeatedly urged India to cooperate in the investigation. Those calls have been ignored thus far by India, which denies the allegations.

Behind the scenes, U.S. officials say they believe Trudeau's claims are true. And they are worried that Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi may be adopting tactics to silence opposition figures on foreign soil akin to those used by Russia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and North Korea, all of which have faced similar accusations.

Perhaps of more concern, though, is that the Canada-India dispute could have major implications for one of the administration's main foreign policy priorities: the Indo-Pacific strategy, which seeks to counter China's increasing assertiveness in the region, according to numerous U.S. officials who spoke on condition of anonymity due to the extreme sensitivity of the matter.

Both Canada, a Pacific country and key NATO ally that shares with the United States the longest undefended border in the world, and India are critical to U.S.-led efforts to present a united and democratic front against growing Chinese assertiveness.

Aside from countering Russia's war in Ukraine, the administration has been most focused on dealing with China as a competitor and the potential international threat it poses. To that end it has boosted its diplomatic efforts in the Indo-Pacific, including by creating a leadership group that brings together Australia, Japan, India and the United States. President Joe Biden has hailed the formation of the so-called Quad as a key part of that effort.

NewsClick Rejects Allegations Levelled In FIR Against It As Untenable, Bogus

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The NewsClick portal has rejected as untenable and bogus allegations levelled in a Delhi Police FIR against it, and said the proceedings initiated are "nothing but a blatant attempt to muzzle the free and independent press in India".

In an FIR filed under anti-terrorism law UAPA against NewsClick, the Delhi Police has alleged a large sum of funds came from China to disrupt India's sovereignty and cause disaffection against the country as part of a "larger criminal conspiracy". It claimed the foreign fund was fraudulently infused by Neville Roy Singham, an active member of the propaganda department of the Communist Party of China. The Delhi Police served a copy of the FIR to the portal on Friday.

In a statement issued on X on Friday night, the portal said, "The NewsClick has not received any funding or instructions from China or Chinese entities. Further, NewsClick has never committed or sought to encourage violence, secession or any illegal act in any manner whatsoever."

"A perusal of NewsClick's coverage, which is freely available online, should be sufficient to indicate the veracity of

NewsClick's claims." It said that NewsClick has full faith in the judicial system of the country and is confident that its stand will be vindicated.

On Monday, the Delhi Police arrested NewsClick founder and editor-in-chief Prabir Purkayastha and its HR head Amit Chakravarty after raids at nearly 88 locations related to premises of portal and its journalists.

"The allegations in the FIR, apart from being ex facie untenable and bogus, have been made time and again, in investigations by three government agencies - the Enforcement Directorate, the Economic Offences Wing, Delhi Police, and the income tax department," it said.

It said that none of these investigations led to any chargesheets or complaints over the last three years." In the statement, the portal said that Purkayastha was granted interim protection in these investigations, and the latest FIR has been registered only to circumvent this and carry out "illegal arrests" under the draconian UAPA.

The portal also said Purkayastha was supplied with a copy of the FIR registered by the Delhi Police Special Cell only on Thursday night pursuant to the directions of the Special Judge, Patiala House.

Israel-Palestine conflict: World in shock after attacks

Agencies

Countries around the world have condemned a wave of Palestinian attacks on Israel by land, sea and air that has left many dead and wounded, while the Pentagon reaffirmed the United States' "unwavering" commitment to Israel's right to defend itself and vowed to make sure the key US ally had the means to do so.

"Our commitment to Israel's right to defend itself remains unwavering," Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin said in a statement, adding that his agency would work "to ensure that Israel has what it needs to defend itself and protect civilians from indiscriminate violence and terrorism."

"We are at war," Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said, vowing severe retaliation after the surprise assault by the Palestinian militant group Hamas.

Here is a round-up of the reactions from around the world:

USA
The United States condemned the attack by "Hamas terrorists" against Israel.

"The United States unequivocally condemns the unprovoked attacks by Hamas terrorists against Israeli civilians," a White House statement said, adding that National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan was in close contact with Israeli officials.

"We stand firmly with the government and people of Israel and extend our condolences



for the Israeli lives lost in these attacks," it added.

IRAN
A senior adviser to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei expressed support for the attack, calling it a "proud operation".

"We support this operation," Yahya Rahim Safavi said, quoted by ISNA news agency.

Safavi expressed backing for the Palestinian militants "until the liberation of Palestine and Jerusalem".

At a parliament session on Saturday, Iranian lawmakers chanted "Down with Israel", "Down with America" and "Welcome Palestine", according to a video published by the Tasnim news agency.

SAUDI ARABIA
Saudi Arabia's foreign ministry said: "The Kingdom calls for an immediate halt to the escalation between the two sides, protection of civilians, and self-control".

"The Kingdom is reminded of its repeated warnings of the dangers of an explosive situation as a result of the continued occupation and deprivation of

the Palestinian people of their legitimate rights," it added.

UNITED NATIONS
The UN's human rights chief Volker Turk said: "I call for an immediate stop to the violence, and appeal to all sides and key countries in the region to de-escalate to avoid further bloodshed."

He said he was "deeply concerned at reports that Israeli civilians have been taken hostage".

EUROPEAN UNION
EU chief Ursula von der Leyen said "I unequivocally condemn the attack carried out by Hamas terrorists against Israel."

"It is terrorism in its most despicable form. Israel has the right to defend itself against such heinous attacks," she said.

EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell said "this horrific violence must stop immediately. Terrorism and violence solve nothing. The EU expresses its solidarity with Israel in these difficult moments."

He added: "News of civilians taken as hostages in their homes or to Gaza are appalling. This is against international law. Hostages must be released immediately".

A Timeline Of Israel-Palestine Conflict In Gaza As Hamas Launches Assault

Agencies

The Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas launched its biggest assault on Israel in years early on Saturday, firing a barrage of rockets from Gaza and sending fighters across the border.

Israel said it was on a war footing and began its own strikes against Hamas targets in Gaza, with Israeli media reporting gunbattle between bands of Palestinian fighters and security forces in southern Israel.

The following timeline, which begins with Israel's 2005 withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, details the major flare-ups in the conflict between Israel and Palestinian groups in the crowded coastal enclave, which is home to 2.3 million people.

August 2005 - Israeli forces unilaterally withdraw from Gaza 38 years after capturing it from Egypt in the Middle East war, abandoning settlements and leaving the enclave under the control of the Palestinian Authority.

Jan. 25, 2006 - The Islamist group Hamas wins a majority of seats in a Palestinian legislative election. Israel and the U.S. cut



off aid to Palestinians because Hamas refuses to renounce violence and recognise Israel.

June 25, 2006 - Hamas militants capture Israeli army conscript Gilad Shalit in a cross-border raid from Gaza, prompting Israeli air strikes and incursions. Shalit is finally freed more than five years later in a prisoner exchange.

June 14, 2007 - Hamas takes over Gaza in a brief civil war, ousting Fatah forces loyal to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who is based in the West Bank.

Dec. 27, 2008 - Israel launches a 22-day military offensive in Gaza after Palestinians fire rockets at the southern Israeli town of Sderot. About 1,400 Palestinians and 13 Israelis are reported killed before a cease-

fire is agreed.

Nov. 14, 2012 - Israel kills Hamas's military chief of staff, Ahmad Jabari. Eight days of Palestinian militant rocket fire and Israeli air strikes follow.

July-August 2014 - The kidnap and killing of three Israeli teenagers by Hamas leads to a seven-week war in which more than 2,100 Palestinians are reported killed in Gaza and 73 Israelis are reported dead, 67 of them military.

March 2018 - Palestinian protests begin at Gaza's fenced border with Israel. Israeli troops open fire to keep protestors back. More than 170 Palestinians are reported killed in several months of protests, which also prompt fighting between Hamas and Israeli forces.

UN Urges Halt to Pakistan's Forcible Returns of Afghan Migrants

Agencies

ISLAMABAD: The United Nations agencies for migration and refugee protection Saturday jointly appealed to Pakistan to suspend plans to deport undocumented Afghan immigrants, warning they could be at imminent risk back in Afghanistan.

The appeal comes after Paki-

stan Tuesday ordered all immigrants in the country illegally, including some 1.7 million Afghan nationals, to leave by Nov. 1 or face deportation to their native countries. Many families have already left for Afghanistan to avoid arrest and forcible deportation, with the Pakistani information ministry issuing a daily countdown to remind those covered by the policy that days are running out for them.

"Afghanistan is going through a severe humanitarian crisis with several human rights challenges, particularly for women and girls," said a joint statement from the International Organization for



Taliban returned to power in Kabul in August 2021 and imposed sweeping restrictions on women's access to education and work.

The U.N. statement recognized Islamabad's "sovereign prerogative" over its domestic policies, the need to manage populations on Pakistani territory, and its obligations to ensure public safety and security.

The IOM and UNHCR, while appreciating Pakistan's "generous hospitality" toward Afghan nationals for over four decades, despite challenges, repeated the call for all returns to be voluntary, safe, dignified, and without any pressure.

India Flights: 7 Baggage Handlers Arrested For Stealing Gold, Cash, AirPods In Series Of Thefts

Agencies

Delhi Police have arrested seven baggage handlers in connection with a series of thefts at the Indira Gandhi International Airport, officials said on Saturday.

Police have also recovered a huge stash of gold ornaments, luxury watches, AirPods and foreign currency from the pos-

a specific task of tracking the thieves down.

"The team minutely scrutinised the CCTV footage and interrogated the whole batch of loaders in that shift. Finally, one of the loaders broke down and [confessed to] stealing the said gold jewellery and selling it to a jeweller," officials said.

The accused further disclosed that he has stolen many



session of the accused. The officials added that to curb such incidents of thefts, officials of the airlines concerned are also being interrogated.

"There has been a focus on the cases of baggage thefts throughout the year, and in order to curtail the thefts, a dedicated team was deployed to solve this case," said Devesh Mahla, Deputy Commissioner of Police.

According to officials, a special task force was formed with

more items from the baggage of passengers in the past and various staff of different airlines have helped him do so.

Six more suspects were named and interrogated, the police added.

During the course of interrogation, it was found that the airlines are not following the periodic guidelines issued by the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security, and letters issued by the Delhi Police and are working hand in glove with these thieves, the officials said.

SHER-E-KASHMIR UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES & TECHNOLOGY OF KASHMIR

ESTATES WING, MAIN CAMPUS SHALIMAR - 190 025

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

E-NIT No. 46of 2023-24

Dated: 05.10.2023

For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST(K), e-tenders (two-cover system) are invited on single percentage basis from eligible contractors/firms having executed similar nature of work whose registration is valid up to 31-03-2024 and are registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. departments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Cost of Tender document	Class of Contractor	Time of completion
1.	MARKET INTELLIGENCE CELL & AGRICULTURE BRANDING CENTRE (HADP) at Main Campus Shalimar SKUAST-Kashmir	439.33	878,660/-	15,000/-	A	24 months

- a) Position of AAA: **Accorded**
b) Position of T. S: **Accorded**
c) Position of funds: **Available**

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	05.10.2023
2.	Date of start of downloading	06.10.2023
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	07.10.2023
5.	Bid submission end date	25.10.2023
6.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid (online)	26.10.2023 (2.00 p.m)
8.	Date & Time of opening of Financial bid of qualifying bidders (online)	30.10.2023

2. Only those contractors can apply for the above work who have executed and completed or substantially completed successfully during the last five financial years one similar nature of work of 75% value, two similar works of 45% value each or three similar works of 30% value each of the estimated cost as above.

Further information can be had from the office of the undersigned.

No. Au/Estates/e-NIT(46)/579

Dated: 06.10.2023

DIPK-NB-3554-23

DT: 07/10/2023

Sd/-

Estates Officer

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AT SRINAGAR (OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR JUDICIAL)

QWPN0.579/2014

Chairman BOCA and others

Vs.

Bilal Ahmad Matoo and Others

Notice to respondents 1 & 2 for appearance

Whereas, petitioners Chairman Building Operation Controlling Authority, Srinagar and others, through their counsel Mr. Firdous Ahmad have preferred the above titled writ petition impugning therein the order dated 20.2.2014 passed by the respondent No.3 in a statutory appeal titled Bilal Ahmad Matoo vs. BOCA & others.

Whereas, in the above writ petition, the petitioners have sought the following reliefs:-
" Certiorari quashing the impugned order dated 20.2.2014 passed by the respondent no.3 in a statutory appeal titled Bilal Ahmad Matoo vs. BOCA and Others, filed by the respondent No. 1 and 2 against the order of demolition dated 31.1.2014".

" Any other appropriate writ, order or direction/relief, which the Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper, in the facts and circumstances of the case, may also be granted in favour of the petitioner against the respondents".

Whereas, the writ petition has come up for hearing before the Hon'ble Court on 18.09.2023 and on the said date the Hon'ble Court, has been pleased to direct the service of notice upon the respondents 1 and 2 through substituted mode of service by way of publication.

Therefore, in compliance to Hon'ble Court Order dated 18.9.2023, instant notice is hereby issued, calling upon respondent 1 and 2, to appear either in person or through counsel or any authorized agent on 20.11.2023 at 10:30 AM before the Hon'ble High Court of J&K and Ladakh at Srinagar and file their objections, if any, in the above titled matter.

Herein fail not at your peril

Issued today, the 3rd October, 2023 under my seal and signature of the Hon'ble Court.

Enclosed full title OWP No.579/2014

HC/RJ/SGR28240

Dated 04/10/23

Registrar Judicial

High Court of J&K and Ladakh, Sgr.

DIPK-NB-3539-23

DT: 07/10/2023

5-Day Youth Festival 'Sangam' Kicks Off In Doda



Press Trust Of India

BHADERWAH: Five-day youth festival 'Sangam' commenced in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda on Saturday to encourage youngsters to align with the national mainstream, officials said.

Over 500 students from 20 colleges of Jammu and Kashmir, besides all seven satellite campuses of the Jammu University, are participating in the festival organised by the Army's Rashtriya Rifles unit in collaboration with the Bhaderwah Campus University of Jammu.

Commander, Sector 9, Rashtriya Rifles, Brigadier Samir K Palande inaugurated the festival in the presence of Doda's Deputy Commissioner Vishesh Paul Mahajan and several civil

and military dignitaries.

"The festival was started in 2009 in Bhaderwah with the participation of two colleges. Now, 20 colleges from all over Jammu and Kashmir are part of this important event," Commanding Officer of 4 Rashtriya Rifles Colonel Yogesh Chohan said.

The festival started with the lighting of traditional lamps by the guests, followed by a colourful cultural performance by the participating students.

Brigadier Palande in his address said the festival is an important event for the youth of Jammu and Kashmir, where they can display their talent, and also understand each other in a better way, which is imperative for the nation's holistic development.

J&K Oppn Parties Form Panel To Coordinate Activities

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir have set up a five-member panel to coordinate the alliance's programmes and day-to-day activities, a senior leader said on Friday.

The committee will include Congress leader Ravinder Sharma, National Conference's Rattan Lal Gupta and former minister Harsh Dev Singh.

The move comes ahead of a proposed protest against the BJP in Jammu on October 10. "A sub-group has been set up

by the opposition parties for better coordination of programmes and day-to-day activities of the alliance in Jammu and Kashmir," the senior leader told PTI.

Once the protest concludes, the leadership of the opposition INDIA alliance will be invited to Jammu and Kashmir, he said.

Leaders of various opposition parties met on Tuesday under the chairmanship of National Conference chief Farooq Abdullah and unanimously decided to hold a peaceful protest against the BJP.

Nearly 30,000 Boys, Girls Enrolled In NCC In J&K, Ladakh

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Nearly 30,000 boys and girls are enrolled in the National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, a senior officer said on Friday.

Major General R K Sachdeva, the additional director general of the NCC Directorate in J&K and Ladakh, visited a camp for cadets at Nagrota on the outskirts of Jammu.

NCC cadets from Delhi-NCR,

Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh attended the "Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat" camp.

"About 30,000 NCC cadets are enrolled in J&K and Ladakh directorate and in this year itself, six former cadets have been commissioned as officers of the Indian Army," Major General Sachdeva said.

He said that 400 NCC cadets have joined as Agniveers and 57 were recruited in the Jammu and Kashmir Police and central armed police forces.

RTI Workshop Held At Kashmir Law College

SRINAGAR: A one day workshop on Right to Information Act, 2005 was held at Kashmir Law College Srinagar which was organised by Pro Bono Club of the college in collaboration with the Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement.

Speaking on the occasion, former Chief Information Commissioner G R Sufi who was Chief Guest on the occasion urged upon the law students and faculty to use this law for public good. He said that RTI Law defines democracy in real perspective

as people have been given the right to question their Government.

Chairman RTI Movement Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat was guest of honour threw light on various provisions of RTI law. He explained some success stories and case studies wherein people got Govt jobs using RTI. He said that information which is readily available with PIOs has to be provided in a few days and RTI applicants cannot be made to wait for the same for 30 days.

GMC Srinagar, ECHO India Join Hands To Strengthen Healthcare Access For Tribals

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Government Medical College (GMC) Srinagar and ECHO India have joined hands in a collaborative initiative to conduct a roundtable discussion to explore innovative solutions for healthcare system strengthening for tribal communities.

This pioneering effort seeks to bring together key stakeholders through consultations and discussions to address unique healthcare challenges faced by tribal people in the region.

The event, hosted at GMC Srinagar, united prominent dignitaries, policymakers and renowned healthcare experts to engage in dialogue and explore innovative solutions aimed at bolstering healthcare access and resilience in underserved tribal populations. This gathering

represents a pivotal step in the ongoing journey towards uplifting healthcare infrastructure and outcomes for tribal communities across the region.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, IAS, Secretary of the Tribal Affairs Department and Director of the Tribal Research Institute, emphasized the collaborative nature of this endeavor: "Our objective is to create a comprehensive roadmap that addresses the unique healthcare challenges faced by tribal communities in the mountainous regions of Jammu and Kashmir."

Bhupinder Kumar, IAS, Secretary to the Government of the Health & Medical Education Department, highlighted the importance of inclusivity and innovation: "This event serves as a platform for meaningful discussions and consultations, where experts converge to shape the future of healthcare for underserved

'END TO ADHOCISM, UNCERTAINTIES'

Jal Shakti Department Regularizes 1969 Engineers

Observer News Service

JAMMU: In a major move aimed at efficient cadre management, the Jal Shakti Department issued regularization orders of 396 engineers in various ranks here on Friday, with another 411 in the pipeline pending essential clearances.

Many of those benefited by resultant pay fixation are retired officers who had been drawing pensions in lower ranks.

Since September 2022, 1969 engineers have been regularized, promoted and recommended, right from the rank of Junior Engineer to Superintendent Engineer. Officers had been working in charge capacity, i.e. on adhoc basis, for years together, without substantive promotions. In many a cases, the regularization has taken place after more than twenty two years of the adhoc placement.

The proactive and transparent processes steered by the Public Service Commission (PSC) have enabled the department to address these long pending issues.

The recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee in the PSC has resulted in orders of promotion of 70 Executive Engineers to Superintending Engineers, 129 Assistant Executive Engineers to Executive Engineers, 415 Assistant Engineers to the role of Assistant Executive Engineers

and 665 Junior Engineers to Assistant Engineers while another 690 officers have been cleared subject to essential clearances which are in process.

Also, in another first, since September 2022, the department has strived to man all the posts in the department with competent officers by timely posting and placement of 19 I/c Chief Engineers, 28 I/c Superintending Engineers, 56 I/c Executive Engineers.

Further, the department has made concerted efforts to issue seniority lists at various ranks to bring transparency and stability while assuring career progression free of favouritism. The final seniority lists have been issued in respect of Superintending Engineers [G.O. No. 10-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 25.01.2023], Assistant Engineers (Degree Holders) [G.O. No. 233-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 27.09.2023] and Assistant Engineers (Diploma Holders) [G.O. No. 234-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 27.09.2023] while tentative seniority list have been issued in respect of Assistant Executive Engineers (Degree Holders) [Circular No. 08-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 06.10.2023], Executive Engineers (Degree Holders) [Circular No. 09-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 06.10.2023] and Assistant Executive Engineers (Diploma Holders) [Circular No. 10-JK(JSD) of 2023 dated 06.10.2023].

The resolution of the regu-

larization matters will pave the way for smooth career progression of the Engineering cadre i.e from the level of Junior Engineer to Chief Engineer.

This has been possible only due to the visionary leadership of Lieutenant Governor, J&K. The directions of the Chief Secretary and encouragement of the Advisor to Lieutenant Governor have been critical to the entire process.

Most of all, it has been the unstinted support and guidance by Satish Chandra, Chairman of the Public Service Commission and Zubair Ahmad Raza (Member PSC & Chairman PSC, JSD) that has made the difference; that too despite extreme pre-occupation with the ongoing time bound recruitments. This has enabled the department headed by Shaleen Kabra, Additional Chief Secretary to work tirelessly to address these service matters.

These measures have enabled the department to rise to the challenges of execution of the Jal Jeevan Mission, flagship scheme of the Government of India that envisages to provide safe and adequate drinking water, @ 55 LPCD of BIS 10500 quality to every rural household, numbering 18.67 Lakh in J&K.

Jal Shakti Department is committed to cater to the requirements of the inhabitants of the UT of J&K through its dedicated officials.

All District Hospitals In Kashmir Lack MRI Scan Facility

Agencies

SRINAGAR: All the district hospitals in Kashmir Valley are facing a severe shortage of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan facilities, leaving the patients with no choice but to turn to overburdened hospitals in Srinagar.

According to reports, the absence of MRI services in government hospitals has created significant problems for patients who

cannot afford private diagnostic centres. They are forced to endure long waits for their turn due to the overwhelming rush in Super-Specialty Hospital Shireen Bagh and SKIMS Soura.

Patients from various parts of Kashmir have expressed their grievances, citing the inconvenience caused by the long-distance travel and overcrowding in hospitals in Srinagar.

They said that health issues, especially for economically disadvantaged people, should not be overlooked by the authorities. Officials acknowledged the

challenges faced by patients travelling from remote areas such as Macchil, Keran, Tangdhar, Gurez, Uri, Kangan, Keller, Aripal, DH Pora, Pahalgam, and others. They urge the government to prioritise this matter and actively pursue solutions at the highest level, and ensure that patients do not suffer.

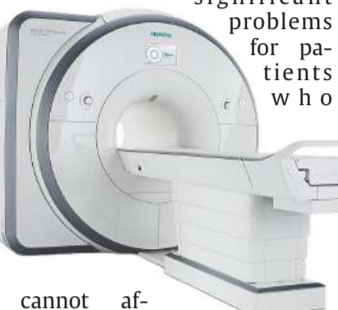
Financial constraints should not impede the allocation of necessary funds for these vital healthcare services, they said.

Doctors have noted that the absence of MRI facilities in district hospitals compels patients to travel to Srinagar or private diagnostic centres, leaving the financially weak patients with no choice but to wait endlessly at government hospitals. "This delay in diagnosis and treatment has proven to be fatal for many," said a doctor.

Spokesperson for the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mir Mushtaq acknowledged the government's commitment to enhancing healthcare facilities for the people.

"While MRI services are presently unavailable in district hospitals, these services are accessible in tertiary hospitals in Srinagar," Dr Mushtaq said.

He expressed hope that in the future, such crucial facilities would be extended to new medical colleges and major district-level hospitals—(KNO)



cannot afford private diagnostic centres. They are forced to endure long waits for their turn due to the overwhelming rush in Super-Specialty Hospital Shireen Bagh and SKIMS Soura.

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Amrit Kalash Yatra Held At Verinag Garden



Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: In continuation of ongoing 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' program, Amrit Kalash Yatra was held Saturday at the famous Verinag Garden in South Kashmir's Anantnag district.

The event witnessed active participation from local PRIs, school children and citizens, underscoring a united effort to contribute to the initiative of nation-building.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, SF Hamid emphasized the importance of gathering soil or grains from every household, ward, and village during this block-level event.

Highlighting the integral role of citizens in the development of the nation, the DC articulated

ed the campaign as a means to connect youth with their roots and immortalize the contributions of martyrs who have sacrificed for the Nation.

The occasion featured the playing of the Mitti Anthem, underscoring the cultural essence of the initiative.

The Amrit Kalash Yatra involved the collection of soil from various Panchayats within the block, symbolizing unity and dedication to the nation. This collective Amrit Kalash will be dispatched from Anantnag, serving as a representation of the region's unwavering commitment to the building of new India.

The campaign, aims to pay tribute to the beloved Motherland and the courageous Veers who have made the supreme sacrifice for our nation.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Name and DOB of my children in my service records has been wrongly written as

- (Daughter) Sabreem Kausar Insted Of Sabreem Kosar DOB 10-02-1996 Insted of 15-09-1995
- (Son) Shajahat Maqsood Insted of Sajhat Maqsood , DOB 18-04-2003 Insted of 15-08-2003
- (Wife) Fareeda Begum Insted of Farida Begum DOB 01-02-1975 Insted of 01-01-1970
- (Son) Jafar Maqsood , DOB 05-01-2001 Insted of 15-07-2000 which needs to be corrected.

If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file in the office of the 13 JAKLI within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohd Maqbool
S/o Mohd Manga
R/o Village Hajitra P.O Tanddar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P)
DEPARTMENT KASHMIR
Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 - email: - kashflori@rediffmail.com

Subject: - Extension No. 01.

In view of no response, the last date for submission of bids invited vide this office e-Tender Notice No.29 of 2023 dated.14.09.2023 for **Outsourcing of Entry Ticketing System of Iqbal Park, Srinagar** is hereby extended as per the details given below: -

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	06.10.2023 from 03:00 PM to 18.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	06.10.2023 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	18.10.2023 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	21.10.2023 at 02:00 PM

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the aforesaid Tender Notice.

No: -DFK/GS-674/3341-43
Dated: -05/10/2023

Sd/-
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)

THE WEEK THAT WAS

Kashmir Hospitals Witness Surge In RSV Cases: DAK

Observer News Service

Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Friday said hospitals in Kashmir are witnessing surge in severe Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) cases. "Over the last few weeks, hospitals are seeing increase in number of seriously-ill RSV patients," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan. Dr Hassan said young children and elderly are coming to hospitals with severe pneumonia requiring oxygen, some needing intensive care and support of ventilators to help them survive the respiratory distress.

Kargil Records 77.61 Turnout In Hill Council Elections

Agencies

A voter turnout of 77.61 was recorded in the high-stakes electoral battle of Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council-Kargil on Wednesday. As per the details, 74026 votes were polled in the election today in which NC-Congress combine are locked in a direct fight with the Bharatiya Janata Party. The highest voter turnout was recorded in Bimbhat seat (4468) followed by Shargole (3768) and Ranbirpora (3760).

Voters across age groups turned out in large numbers since early morning to cast their vote in the 5th LAHDC elections in which 87 candidates are trying their luck for 26 constituencies.

Palestinian Fighters Cross Into Israel, Take Soldiers Captive

Agencies

In an unprecedented development Palestinian resistance factions, led by Hamas, launched a massive offensive against Israel in the wee hours of Saturday taking the right wing government in the Jewish state by surprise.

The offensive code named "Operation Al-Aqsa Flood" began at dawn Saturday with a barrage of rockets falling into central and southern Israel followed by Palestinian fighters crossing over into the occupied territories from land, sea, and air.

Videos purportedly showed Palestinian fighters inside an Israeli military base as bodies of dead soldiers lay on the ground. Israel's N12 News quoting ambulance services reported at least 22 Israelis dead and some 500 wounded. The report said over 30 Israeli soldiers have been taken hostage.

3 Scientists Win Nobel Prize In Chemistry For Their Work On Tiny Quantum Dots

Agencies

Three scientists won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for their work on quantum dots, tiny particles that can release very bright coloured light and are used in electronics and medical imaging.

Moungi Bawendi, of MIT; Louis Brus, of Columbia University, and Alexei Ekimov, of Nanocrystals Technology Inc., were honoured for their work with the particles, just a few atoms in diameter, and that "have unique properties and now spread their light from television screens and LED lamps," according to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, which announced the award in Stockholm.

SUNDAY READS

The Pick Of The Bunch

1. A Doctor's Perspective On Hostility Towards Critical Care Physicians From Patients' Attendants

By Ajit K Thakur and Nitin Saluja
for Outlook India

2. We Finally Have Proof That the Internet Is Worse

By Charlie Warzel
for The Atlantic

3. In Conversation With Shahed Ezyadi: The Truth About Muslim Women and White Feminism

By Sundus Abdullah
for Amaliah

4. What They Don't Tell You About Getting Old

By Roger Rosenblatt
for The New York Times



Picture for Representational Purposes only

India's Pressing Need for a Caste Census

Dr Satyavan Saurabh

“
Reservation in educational institutions and government jobs is provided based on caste identity. The absence of fresh caste census data means that caste estimates from 1931 are being projected to formulate welfare policies in 2021. Which is redundant.”

The caste question of India needs to be dealt with urgently, otherwise, we will have to pay a heavy price not only socially, but also politically and economically and we will lag in development as well.

Caste census means caste-wise tabulation of the population belonging to all castes of India, mainly Other Backward Classes (OBCs), and not just SCs and STs.

The first separate data on Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) was published in the 1952 census. The first caste census data was released in 1931. Despite the caste census being conducted in the 2011 census, the data was not released. Reservation in educational institutions and government jobs is provided based on caste identity. The absence of fresh caste census data means that caste estimates from 1931 are being projected to formulate welfare policies in 2021. Which is redundant. The highest reservation mandate of 27% for Other Backward Classes (OBC) is caste-based as the BP Mandal Commission has found backwardness to be based on caste.

Caste system is a curse in India and has severely restricted the country's ability to realize its immense potential and become a great nation in science, technology, knowledge, arts, sports, and economic prosperity.

Studies show that 94% of marriages in India are endogamous; 90% of small jobs are done by disadvantaged castes, while the figure is reversed in white-collar jobs. This gross lack of caste diversity, especially at the decision-making level in various sectors – media, judiciary, higher education, bureaucracy, or the corporate sector – is weakening these institutions and their performance. It is indeed strange that while caste plays such a prominent role in our social, economic, and political life, no reliable and comprehensive caste data exists for more than half of our country's population. The purpose of the caste census is not to focus only on the issue of reservation; The caste census will indeed bring out a large number of issues that need to be addressed by any democratic country, especially the number of people

who are marginalized, or who are underprivileged.

Caste census will allow policymakers to develop better policies, and implementation strategies and will also enable more rational debate on sensitive issues. It will also highlight the privileged class of the society. Caste is not only a source of disadvantage but also a very important source of privilege and advantage in our society. We have to stop thinking of caste as applying only to underprivileged people, poor people, and people who are disadvantaged in some way or the other. The contrary is also true, caste has created advantages for some communities and these also need to be recorded. No outline of all castes has been made in India since 1931. Since then, caste has acquired an important place in our lives, and our dependence on the inadequate has increased. The unequal distribution of wealth, resources, and education means a severe lack of purchasing power among the majority of Indians.

As a democratic nation, we cannot uproot this system forcibly, but we need to put it in place in a democratic, scientific manner. Our Constitution also favors conducting a caste census. Article 340 orders the appointment of a commission to investigate the conditions of the socially and educationally backward classes and make recommendations regarding steps to be taken by governments. There are a lot of myths that disenfranchise a large number of people, especially

Caste system is a curse in India and has severely restricted the country's ability to realize its immense potential and become a great nation in science, technology, knowledge, arts, sports, and economic prosperity.

the marginalized ones. With accurate caste data, the most backward castes can be identified. Some people have benefited greatly over the years, while there are also people in this country who have not benefited at all. The Supreme Court has repeatedly asked governments to provide data related to castes; However, this has not been possible due to the unavailability of such data. As a result, our national life is plagued by mutual distrust and misunderstandings between different castes. All such commissions have had to depend on the date of the last caste census (1931). Caste has an emotional element and thus caste census has political and social implications. There have been concerns that counting caste may help strengthen or rigidify identity. Caste in India has never been a symbol of class or deprivation; this is a specific type of implicit discrimination that often transcends class.

People with Dalit surnames are less likely to be called for a job interview, even if their qualifications are better than a candidate from a higher caste. Landlords are also less likely to accept them as tenants. Hence it is difficult to measure. Marrying a well-educated, affluent Dalit man still sparks violent retribution in the families of upper-caste women across the country every day. India needs to be bold and decisive in dealing with questions of caste through data and statistics in the same way as the United States of America (US) does in dealing with issues of race, class, language, inter-racial marriage, and other issues. Is. This data provides a mirror to the state and society in which they can look at themselves and make decisions to improve. With each passing day and increasing social awareness, the need to abolish the caste system is increasingly being felt. The 21st century is the right time to solve the caste question of India, otherwise, we will have to pay a heavy price not only socially, but also politically and economically and we will lag in development.

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

Srinagar's Sunday Markets: Tradition, Traffic, and Transformation

Aubaid Akhoun

In the heart of the smart city of Srinagar, cradled by the majestic mountains, a cherished tradition flourishes. This tradition not only intricately threads the vibrant fabric of the city's culture but also breathes life into the livelihoods of many – the captivating Sunday markets. These bustling markets, stretching from TRC ground ground, Poloview to Lal Chowk, offer a vibrant display of goods ranging from clothing to everyday essentials. While they serve as a haven for shoppers seeking variety at affordable prices, the ensuing traffic chaos and pollution have raised concerns about the well-being of the city and its residents.

The concept of Sunday markets is not unique to Srinagar; it thrives in many parts of the world, providing people with an array of choices and bargains. In this age of convenience, these markets maintain their relevance by offering not only clothes and garments but also a wide range of everyday products. It's a testament to their enduring popularity and the economic significance they hold for countless families.

However, the charm of these markets is increasingly marred by the worsening traffic conditions. On Sundays, as eager shoppers flock to these markets, the streets transform into chaotic arteries, clogged with vehicles and honking horns. This traffic congestion not only disrupts the flow of daily life but also contributes to noise and air pollution, taking a toll on the well-being of the residents of this otherwise smart city.

Solutions for Efficient Traffic Management:

To preserve the essence of these markets while ensuring a healthier urban environment, the onus falls upon the traffic department to devise innovative solutions. Here are some key approaches that could be considered:

Alternate Routes: Implementation of



alternate routes that bypass the core market areas on Sundays. By doing so, the traffic department can alleviate congestion on the main thoroughfares and significantly reduce noise and air pollution.

Restrict Vehicular Access: Consider restricting vehicular access within the Sunday market premises during market hours. This would not only ease the traffic burden but also create a pedestrian-friendly shopping experience, allowing people to enjoy their shopping without the stress of navigating through congested roads.

Promotion of Public Transportation: Encourage the use of public

transportation, such as buses or trams, to reduce the number of private vehicles on the road during Sundays.

Pedestrian Zones: Create designated pedestrian zones within the market areas to enhance the shopping experience and promote a safer and more enjoyable environment for shoppers.

Parking Facilities: Develop convenient and secure parking facilities in the vicinity of the Sunday markets, connected to the market areas through shuttle services.

Information and Communication: Implement advanced traffic management systems that provide real-time

updates on traffic conditions and parking availability.

Environmental Initiatives: Introduce electric or hybrid public transportation options and encourage the use of eco-friendly vehicles to reduce air pollution in the city.

Community Engagement: Involve the local community, including vendors and residents, in discussions and decision-making regarding traffic management to find effective and sustainable solutions that benefit everyone.

Gender-Segregated Sunday Markets for Safety and Respect:

Creating separate Sunday markets for males and females could indeed be considered as a potential solution to address the issues of harassment and overcrowding in Srinagar's Sunday markets.

In recent times, it has become evident that some individuals visit these markets not for shopping but for inappropriate behavior, causing discomfort and distress, particularly to women. The overcrowding during these events sometimes enables such behavior to go unchecked. By establishing gender-segregated markets, authorities can provide a safer and more comfortable shopping environment for all attendees.

These separate markets could be organized in close proximity to each other, maintaining the tradition of the Sunday markets while ensuring a more respectful and secure atmosphere. Moreover, this initiative would empower individuals, especially women, to enjoy their shopping experience without fear of harassment and contribute to fostering a culture of respect and decency in these cherished marketplaces.

Implementing this idea would require careful planning and coordination between the authorities, vendors, and the community. By taking such proactive steps, Srinagar can preserve the essence of its Sunday markets, making them inclusive and enjoyable for everyone while addressing the concerning issues of harassment and overcrowding.

Efforts to enhance traffic management in Srinagar's Sunday markets should be part of a broader urban planning strategy aimed at improving the overall quality of life in the city while preserving its cultural heritage and economic vitality. By prioritizing efficient traffic management, Srinagar can maintain the vitality of its beloved markets while ensuring the well-being of its residents, thus fostering a more prosperous and harmonious city.

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

The Science Behind Work-Life-Balance

Jo Adetunji

Finding the right work-life balance is by no means a new issue in our society. But the tension between the two has been heightened by the pandemic, with workers increasingly dwelling over the nature of their work, its meaning and purpose, and how these affect their quality of life.

Studies suggest people are leaving or planning to leave their employers in record numbers in 2021 – a "great resignation" that appears to have been precipitated by these reflections. But if we're all reconsidering where and how work slots into our lives, what should we be aiming at?

It's easy to believe that if only we didn't need to work, or we could work far fewer hours, we'd be happier, living a life of hedonic experiences in all their healthy and unhealthy forms. But this fails to explain why some retirees pick up freelance jobs and some lottery winners go straight back to work.

Striking the perfect work-life balance, if there is such a thing, isn't necessarily about tinkering with when, where and how we work – it's a question of why we work. And that means understanding sources of happiness that might not be so obvious to us, but which have crept into view over the course of the pandemic.

Attempts to find a better work-life balance are well merited. Work is consistently and positively related to our well-being and constitutes a large part of our identity. Ask yourself who you are, and very soon you'll resort to describing what you do for work.

Our jobs can provide us with a sense of competence, which contributes to well-being. Researchers have demonstrated not only that labour leads to validation but that, when these feelings are threatened, we're particularly drawn to activities that require effort – often some form of work – because these demonstrate our ability to shape our environment, confirming our identities as competent individuals.



Work even seems to make us happier in circumstances when we'd rather opt for leisure. This was demonstrated by a series of clever experiments in which participants had the option to be idle (waiting in a room for 15 minutes for an experiment to start) or to be busy (walking for 15 minutes to another venue to participate in an experiment). Very few participants chose to be busy, unless they were forced to make the walk, or given a reason to (being told there was chocolate at the other venue).

Yet the researchers found that those who'd spent 15 minutes walking ended up significantly happier than those

who'd spent 15 minutes waiting – no matter whether they'd had a choice or a chocolate or neither. In other words, busyness contributes to happiness even when you think you'd prefer to be idle. Animals seem to get this instinctively: in experiments, most would rather work for food than get it for free.

Eudaimonic happiness

The idea that work, or putting effort into tasks, contributes to our general wellbeing is closely related to the psychological concept of eudaimonic happiness. This is the sort of happiness that we derive from optimal functioning and realising our potential. Research has shown

that work and effort is central to eudaimonic happiness, explaining that satisfaction and pride you feel on completing a gruelling task.

On the other side of the work-life balance stands hedonic happiness, which is defined as the presence of positive feelings such as cheerfulness and the relative scarcity of negative feelings such as sadness or anger. We know that hedonic happiness offers empirical mental and physical health benefits, and that leisure is a great way to pursue hedonic happiness.

But even in the realm of leisure, our unconscious orientation towards busyness

lurks in the background. A recent study has suggested that there really is such a thing as too much free time – and that our subjective wellbeing actually begins to drop if we have more than five hours of it in a day. Whiling away effortless days on the beach doesn't seem to be the key to long-term happiness.

This might explain why some people prefer to expend significant effort during their leisure time. Researchers have likened this to compiling an experiential CV, sampling unique but potentially unpleasant or even painful experiences – at the extremes, this might be spending a night in an ice hotel, or joining an endurance desert race. People who take part in these forms of "leisure" typically talk about fulfilling personal goals, making progress and accumulating accomplishments – all features of eudaimonic happiness, not the hedonism we associate with leisure.

The real balance

This orientation sits well with a new concept in the field of wellbeing studies: that a rich and diverse experiential happiness is the third component of a "good life", in addition to hedonic and eudaimonic happiness.

Across nine countries and tens of thousands of participants, researchers recently found that most people (over 50% in each country) would still prefer a happy life typified by hedonic happiness. But around a quarter prefer a meaningful life embodied by eudaimonic happiness, and a small but nevertheless significant amount of people (about 10-15% in each country) choose to pursue a rich and diverse experiential life.

Given these different approaches to life, perhaps the key to long-lasting wellbeing is to consider which lifestyle suits you best: hedonic, eudaimonic or experiential. Rather than pitching work against life, the real balance to strike post-pandemic is between these three sources of happiness.

By arrangements with The Conversation



J&K Bank MD & CEO Chairs Customer-Meet In Kathua

Healthy banker-customer relationship is the foundation of our mutual success: Baldev Prakash

Observer News Service

KATHUA: Healthy banker-customer relationship is the foundation of our mutual success and through these interactions we listen to you to serve you better and strengthen this bond further.

J&K Bank MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash stated this Saturday while chairing a customer-meet - held as part of the Bank's customer-outreach program to elicit feedback from clients - at Zonal Office Kathua in the presence of General Manager & Divisional Head Jammu, Sunit Kumar, Zonal Head Kathua, Sanjeev Kumar and other officers of the Bank.

During his interactions with the customers belonging to cross-section of society, MD & CEO further said, "These meetings enable us to apprise you about our initiatives that have been taken in recent past to improve the functioning of the Bank. During the last two years we have performed consistently well and are on trajectory to meet our annual targets. Most importantly, the Bank is in the process of transforming itself into one of the country's digitally smarter financial institutions in coming times."

"I feel conversations like these have played a very important role in the achievement of our

goals because we are able to incorporate the needs, expectations and grievances as part of customers' feedback into our plans. And let me tell you that your feedback always helps us not only to serve you better but progress ahead as a healthier financial institution", he added.

MD & CEO gave a patient hearing to all the participants and assured them of addressing all the discussed issues within the regulatory framework.

Welcoming the participants at the meeting, the Bank's General Manager & Divisional Head Jammu, Sunit Kumar highlighted the importance of Bank-Customer communication and underlined the importance of feedback for making Bank's products and services better to meet the customer expectations.

He said, "Under the present leadership, there has been major transformation in the outlook and operations of the Bank. We have set new benchmarks in our performance parameters like our highest ever annual profit during the last financial year along with major improvement in the key financial ratios. Also the Bank is adopting industry-best business practices and processes while making progress in extending world-class banking facilities through its state-of-the-art digital platforms."

GST Council Decides To Levy 18% GST On Corporate Guarantee For Subsidiaries



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The GST Council on Saturday clarified that guarantees provided by corporates to their subsidiaries will attract an 18 per cent GST, while no tax will be levied if a personal guarantee is given by a director to the company.

The council, chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising state ministers, also cut the GST rate on molasses to 5 per cent from 28 per cent.

It also ceded the right to tax Extra Neutral Alcohol (raw product for making alcohol for human consumption) to the states.

Accordingly, ENA used for human consumption will be exempt from Goods and Services Tax (GST), while ENA for industrial use will be taxed at 18 per cent.

Briefing reporters after the 52nd GST council meeting, Sitharaman said the reduction in GST on molasses will benefit sugarcane farmers and enable their dues to be cleared faster because more money will be left in the hands of the mills.

"The council and we all feel that it will also lead to a reduction in the cost of manufacturing cattle feed, which will be a major development," she said.

Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said the council has decided that when the corporate guarantee is given by a director to a company, then the value of service will be deemed to be zero and hence, no GST will be applicable.

"When a corporate guarantee is given by a company to its subsidiary company, then it will be deemed that the value is 1 per cent of the cor-

porate guarantee. So, it will attract GST at 18 per cent on 1 per cent of the total amount guaranteed by the parent company," Malhotra said.

The GST Council also decided to levy a lower 5 per cent tax on millet-based flour when sold in pre-packaged and labelled form.

Flour, containing at least 70 per cent millets, will attract zero per cent GST if sold loose and 5 per cent if sold pre-packaged and labelled.

The council also decided to cap the maximum age of GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT) President and members.

The GSTAT President will have a maximum age cap of 70 years, while the limit for members will be 67 years.

This is a change from the earlier age limit of 67 and 65 years, respectively, for the GSTAT President and members.

Online Gaming, Casinos Liable To 28% GST Since Beginning: Revenue Secy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: As states like Delhi and Goa raised the issue of tax demand on online gaming companies and casinos retrospectively, Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra on Saturday reiterated that 28 per cent GST was levied on online gaming and casinos even before.

"Certain members had raised the issue of retrospective taxation. It was informed to them that this is not retrospective, and this was the law earlier. These liabilities already existed because money online games played with bets... They were already attracting (28 per cent GST) by way of betting or gambling," Malhotra told reporters.

In the 52nd GST council meeting, Delhi and Goa raised the issue of tax demands on e-gaming companies and casinos.

Delhi Finance Minister Atishi said tax notices for the past 6 years calculated at a much higher rate of 28 per cent are being sent to online gaming cos, even though on October 1, this 28 per cent

GST was to be implemented. "An industry whose revenue is Rs 23,000 crore, you are slapping a tax notice of Rs 1.5 lakh crore...this is to kill the industry. This shows an unsafe erratic investment environment in Indian startups," Atishi said.

Malhotra further said that

said she would make clarifications available to DGGI if required," Chhattisgarh Deputy Chief Minister TS Singh Deo, also a member of the GST Council, said.

The GST Council in its meetings in July and August had decided to clarify the levy of 28 per cent GST on full face value of bets placed on online gaming platforms and horse racing and casinos.

Online gaming, casinos and horse racing were classified as actionable claims, like lottery, betting and gambling, under GST with 28 per cent tax. The amendments to Central GST and Integrated GST were approved by Parliament and were notified by the central government effective October 1.

States were also required to pass amendments to state GST (SGST) laws. So far, 18 states have passed the amendments either in their assemblies or through ordinance. The remaining 13 states would also be passing the amendments, with effect from October 1 in due course.



Special Lok Adalat For Bank Cases Held Across J&K

155 Cases resolved with Rs. 04.33 Crore settled

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As a part of calendar of activities for the year 2023 prepared by J&K Legal Services Authority, a Special Lok Adalat was organized throughout the UT of J&K Saturday under the leadership of Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice, High Court of J&K and Ladakh & Patron-in-Chief, J&K Legal Services Authority and under the able guidance of Justice Tashi Rabstan, Executive Chairman, J&K Legal Services Authority as well as Justice Sindhu Sharma, Chairperson, High Court Legal Services Committee.

The focus for today's Special Lok Adalat was on amicable settlement of Bank cases. As per the information received from various districts of UT of J&K, a total of 886 bank cases were taken up in the Special Lok Adalat organized by various courts across the UT of J&K, out of which 155 cases were settled amicably and finally disposed of with settlement

amount of Rs. 4,32,26,122/-.

Amit Kumar Gupta, Member Secretary, J&K Legal Services Authority while talking to media persons informed that this was the third Special Lok Adalat of the current calendar year and as per the schedule of activities prepared for the current calendar year, the next Special Lok Adalat shall be conducted on Saturday, November 18, 2023, focusing on quick settlement of Consumer cases pending disposal in different consumer forums within the UT of J&K. He urged the Advocates in general and the litigants in particular to take maximum benefit of the Special Lok Adalats which are being organized by the J&K Legal Services Authority.

Amit Gupta appreciated the efforts of all the Judicial Officers, Secretaries DLSA's, Advocates, staff of the district and tehsil courts as well as Legal Services Institutions besides litigants for their whole hearted participation in the Special Lok Adalat and facilitating settlement of cases in such a large number.

India-UAE Free Trade Pact Helping Promote Trade: Industry Experts



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The free trade agreement between India and the UAE is helping boost the bilateral trade between the two countries, according to industry experts. The agreement is helping push Indian foods to regions like Africa and other Gulf countries, they added.

Allanasons Pvt Ltd Executive Director Fauzan Alavi said the agreement is helping in promoting meat products to the UAE.

"We see more opportunity

to increase our exports from India to UAE," Alavi said.

Sharing similar views, Choithrams Head (Retail Procurement) Kirti Meghani said the focus on packaging of products will help Indian exporters to increase trade with the UAE and other Gulf region nations.

He said it was a welcome move that the visiting Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal sought views on increasing exports of food and food products from India. Appcorp Holding Chairman Nitesh Ved said huge oppor-

tunities are there for Indian exporters of all the sectors.

He suggested India to set up "Bharat Bazar" under which Indian exporters will get a chance to showcase their goods.

He also said that setting up an APEEDA office here will also help food exporters.

The India-UAE trade agreement was implemented in May last year.

Bilateral trade between the countries increased to USD 84.9 billion in 2022-23 from USD 72.9 billion in 2021-22.

11 Travel Agents Arrested In Delhi For Sending People Abroad Illegally

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police on Friday said it has arrested at least 11 people for allegedly duping people on the pretext of sending them to foreign countries.

The matter came to fore on September 3 at the IGI Airport where a team of security officials caught a passenger - Deepak Verma - who had travelled to London on someone else's passport and returned to India. On being questioned, Deepak Verma disclosed that his journey was arranged by a travel agent, Barinder Singh from Punjab's Fatehgarh Sahib, on payment of ₹17 lakh. He was sent to the UK in 2021.

A case under sections 419 (cheating by impersonation) and 420 (cheating) of the Indian Penal Code and provisions of the Passports Act was registered at the IGI Airport and a team was formed to nab Barinder Singh.

On September 5, Barinder Singh was arrested from Capitol Hills Hotel in Greater Kailash, Delhi by a team from the IGI police station. Barinder Singh disclosed that he used to send people abroad through illegal means and took money for them for the same. He came in contact with Deepak Verma in 2021 and offered to send him to the UK and took a total ₹17 lakh from him. Following this case, the IGI Airport police conducted a drive and subsequently, arrested around 10 other such agents, who are allegedly involved in immigration frauds, in the last 30 days.

According to a police officer, Satnam Singh alias Jaggi, Jaskaran Singh, Gurdeep Singh alias Bitto, Sushil Kumar Kaushik, Sandeep Singh, Randeep Singh, Pishora Singh, Sumit Kumar Yadav, Mohammad Suhail, and Anjali were further arrested on separate occasions for sending the passengers to various countries fraudulently.

India Offers Lot Of Opportunities To Aviation Sector: DFS Secy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India offers a lot of opportunities to the aviation industry, and the government has taken many initiatives to promote investment in the sector, Financial Services Secretary Vivek Joshi said on Saturday.

Addressing a roundtable conference on the airport sector organised by IIFCL, Joshi said the launch of the 'Ude Desh ka Aam Nagarik' (UDAN) scheme has led to significant development of the sector in the past 7-8 years.

As a result, the number of airports has almost doubled from 74 in 2014 to 148 in 2023, giving a boost to regional connectivity.

The government has additionally given in-principle approval for setting up 21 greenfield airports across the country, he noted.

Further, he said, two big airports coming up in Noida and Navi Mumbai will add to the capacity of the airports in the country.

India's aviation industry has seen a remarkable boost in recent years facilitated by the government's investor-friendly legislation, supportive ecosystem and growing demand. The aviation industry in India is the third-largest and fastest-growing in the world, expanding at a rate of about 10 per cent during the last decade, roughly 2.5 times the global av-

erage. To give a further boost to the aviation sector, Joshi said, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs earlier this week issued a notification excluding transactions involving aircraft, plane engines, airframes and helicopters from the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

"The ministry has exempted the aircraft leasing from Section 14 of IBC, which I think will be a great help for this sector," Joshi said.

Section 14 of the IBC deals with the power of adjudicating authority (NCLT) to issue a moratorium when admitting a company to the insolvency resolution process.

Once the moratorium on asset transactions is imposed, activities like the institution of suits, continuation of pending suits, execution of judgments, transferring/ disposing of assets and recovery or enforcement of security interest are prohibited.

Delivering a welcome address India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd Managing Director PR Jaishankar said IIFCL is one of the major financiers of airports in India and has supported airports with a total project outlay of about Rs 74,000 crore in the country.

India has witnessed a multi-fold jump in domestic and international passenger traffic with the improvement in civil aviation infrastructure, Jaishankar said.

Institutional Investments In Real Estate Down 21% In Jul-Sep: Colliers

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Institutional investments in real estate declined 21 per cent in July-September period to \$793.4 million due to lesser inflows in office assets, according to Colliers India.

Institutional inflows stood at \$1,002.1 million in the year-ago period.

Real estate consultant Colliers India on Saturday released the data that showed a sharp fall of 89 per cent in investment in office assets to \$79.1 million during July-September from \$694.3 million in the corresponding period of last year.

Funds inflows in mixed-use assets too dipped 73 per cent to \$27.2 million during July-September period from \$100.8 million in the year-ago period.

However, the institutional investments in residential properties rose 47 per cent to \$274.6 million in the third quarter of this calendar year from \$187 million in the year-ago period.

Industrial & warehousing assets attracted \$340.3 million during July-September as against mere \$20 million in the year-ago period.

Investments in alternate assets, which include data centres, student housing, senior housing, holiday homes and life sciences, stood at \$72.2 million during July-September period as against zero inflows in the year-ago period.

Despite fall in institutional investments in real estate dur-



ing July-September period, Colliers India data showed that the inflows during January-September were up 27 per cent to \$4,558.1 million as against \$3,578.5 million in the year-ago period.

Foreign investments contributed 77 per cent in the total institutional inflows.

Across asset classes, institutional investments in office assets have risen 60 per cent to \$2,886.9 million during January-September period from \$1,802.8 million in the year-ago period.

Inflows in housing assets jumped more than two-fold to \$707.9 million from \$276.5 million.

Similarly, investments in industrial and warehousing assets jumped more than three-fold to \$690.6 million in January-September from \$199.8 million in the year-ago period.

However, inflows in alternate investments fell 42 per cent to \$230.4 million from \$398.8 million.

Investments in mixed-use properties plunged 90 per cent to \$42.3 million from \$408.8 million.

Black Market Activities, Smuggling Cost Pakistan's economy USD 23 Bn Annually: Report

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: Illegal activities such as black market currency trade, gold smuggling, and oil smuggling among others are costing Pakistan's economy a whopping USD 23 billion per year, according to a UK-based financial service company.

ACE Money Transfer, the UK-based money transfer company, in its recent report said that the black market and smuggling of US dollars in key sectors are draining Pakistan's economy of a staggering USD 23 billion per year, The Express Tribune newspaper reported on Saturday.

These clandestine operations, encompassing black market currency trade, oil smuggling, gold smuggling, and import controls, have detrimental effects on Pakistan's economic stability, it said. They distort exchange rates, leading to currency devaluation, which, in turn, can fuel inflation as imported goods become costlier.

Moreover, such activities undermine the efficacy of monetary policies and erode confidence in the financial system.

"This not only leads to a loss

of government revenue but also fuels a shadow economy, making it harder to track and regulate economic activities," the report said.

In recent years, Pakistan has experienced significant fluctuations in its exchange rates, intensifying its economic challenges.

A robust crackdown on these illicit activities has somewhat stabilised the interbank rate at Rs 282.62 per dollar.

Experts underscore that a steadfast commitment to eradicating smuggling in key sectors is essential for Pakistan's economic recovery.

"The most important part is governance, if governance is improved, it will lead to an overall improvement in the financial and economic environment and bring stability to our financial markets and help economic and financial growth of the country," said the ACE group of companies, Chief Executive Officer Rashid Ashraf.

Speaking to the Express Tribune, Ashraf stressed the need for advanced surveillance techniques and technologies to secure Pakistan's physical borders and crossing points.

Amit Shah Justifies Need To Replace IPC, Says Any Law Becomes Obsolete' After 50 Years

Dehradun: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday justified the need to replace the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act saying any law becomes "obsolete" after 50 years.

"There has been no change in the IPC, CrPC or the Evidence Act since 1860. Any law becomes obsolete' after 50 years. The scale of crime has changed, and so has the method of committing them but there has been no change in the method of dealing with them," Shah said.

Addressing the 49th All India Police Science Congress, he said this has had a crippling effect on the country's criminal justice system.

Speaking of the three new legislations -- the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (to replace IPC), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha



Sanhita (to replace CrPC) and Bharatiya Sakshya (to replace the Evidence Act) -- under consideration of a parliamentary panel, he said they will replace the three old codes once passed by the Parliament.

It will expedite disposal of cases as they won't get inordinately delayed, Shah added.

He said numerous reforms right from the home ministry to

the last police station have been conceived for "Amrit Kaal" and it is the time to implement them on the ground.

The All India Police Science Congress covers six subjects, including policing in the 5G era, narcotics, challenges of social media, community policing, internal security, coordination between police and the Central Armed Police Forces, Shah said.

The scope of the subjects taken up completely cover the country's internal security, law and order, and border security, the Union home minister said.

Drawing a comparison between ten years of the UPA and nine years of the Modi government, Shah cited the substantial decline in incidents of violence in three hot spots - Jammu and Kashmir, left extremist-affected

states and the north-east.

"The number of violent incidents in the three hot spots from 2004 to 2014 were 33,200, which reduced to 12,358 in nine years from 2014-2023. Even deaths of security personnel and civilians in these areas recorded a substantial decline from 11,947 to 3,240," Shah said.

Shah called for a strong and collective endeavour to achieve the prime minister's vision of making India one of the leading countries in the world by 2047, the 100th year of its independence.

"We have to work as hard as it gets in every field to achieve that goal. But the first pre-condition for development is a sound law and order scenario, internal security and the safety of our borders," he said.

IAF to unveil new ensign at Air Force Day parade on Sunday

New Delhi: The IAF will unveil its new ensign at the annual Air Force Day parade at Prayagraj on Sunday to better reflect its values, 72 years after a similar exercise was undertaken.

The Indian Air Force's move comes over a year after the Navy made changes in its ensign shedding its colonial past.

"October 8 will go down as a momentous day in the annals of IAF history. On this historic day, the Chief of Air Staff will unveil the new IAF ensign," the IAF said.

In the new ensign, the Indian Air Force crest will be in the top right corner.

The Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October, 1932. In view of its professional efficiency and achievements during World War II, the force was bestowed with the prefix "Royal" in March 1945. So, it became the Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF).

In 1950, the IAF dropped its

"Royal" prefix and amended the ensign as India became a republic. The RIAF ensign consisted of the Union Jack in the upper left canton and the RIAF roundel (red, white and blue) on the fly side. Post-Independence, the IAF ensign was created by replacing the Union Jack with the Indian tricolour and the RAF roundels with the IAF tricolour roundel in the lower right canton.

"A new IAF ensign has now been created to better reflect the values of the Indian Air Force. This reaffirmation will now be reflected by the inclusion of the Air Force Crest in the top right corner of the ensign, towards the fly side," the IAF said in a statement.

The IAF crest has the national symbol, the Ashoka lion on the top with the words 'Satyameva Jayate' in Devanagari below it. Below the Ashoka lion is a Himalayan eagle with its wings spread, denoting the

fighting qualities of the IAF.

A ring in light blue colour encircles the Himalayan eagle with the words 'Bhartiya Vayu Sena'.

The motto of the IAF -- 'touch the sky with the glory' is inscribed below Himalayan eagle in Devanagari.

The IAF motto has been taken from verse 24, Chapter 11 of the Bhagavad Gita and means "Radiant Thou Touchest Heaven" or in other words "touching the sky with glory".

The Air Force Day parade and air display will be held in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan and Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari are among top military officials attending the event.

The parade was traditionally held at the Hindon airbase near Delhi till 2021 before the event was taken outside the national capital. It was held in Chandigarh last year.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Govt Puts

cremation and burial grounds were exempted from payment of property tax.

Pertinently, the J&K was the only state in the country which was exempted from property tax. However, post abrogation of Article 370, the central laws were extended to the newly created UT and all the laws became applicable automatically.

Meanwhile, the announcement to postpone imposition of property tax has brought much sought relief to the common masses.

"This is indeed a welcome step. Our business isn't doing well because of back-to-back lockdowns. Even now the market is down," said Bilal Ahmad Mir, a shopkeeper from Karan Nagar area of Srinagar.

Echoing similar views, Syed Shakeel Qalandar, former FCIK President asked the UT administration to take civil society on board while framing such laws in future.

"This is indeed a welcome step. Government needs to see whether people can afford such a tax because of their current financial position" he added.

In May this year, the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High had issued notices to the Union of India and the Govt of Jammu and Kashmir in a plea challenging the constitutionality of imposition of Property Tax in the UT.

It may be noted that in October 2020, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) empowered the J&K administration to impose property taxes through the municipal corporations, municipal councils and municipal committees in the Union Territory. However the move was strongly opposed by the regional political parties.

According to the reports, the decision is also seen as a step in the wake of urban local bodies' (ULB) polls expected this year and Lok Sabha elections scheduled next year. The tax was supposed to come into force from September 30.

J&K Is Now

the queries and shared the unprecedented progress registered in diverse sectors.

J&K is now on the global tourism map. Till September this year 1.67 Cr tourists visited the UT and the number of foreign tourists has gone up by 350% in comparison to last year," he said.

The LG appreciated the young industry leaders for their contribution in the country's growth and unwavering commitment to give back to the society and invited them to become the partners in the development journey of Jammu Kashmir.

Members of YPO and young industry stalwarts, present on the occasion, also shared the experience of their visit to the Union Territory.

Flags Off 'Walk

conservation & eco club members, volunteers, NCC cadets, students in large numbers participated in the 5 km long Walkathon organized by Department of Wildlife Protection to spread awareness on wildlife conservation.

In his address, the LG reaffirmed the commitment of the J&K Administration to the cause of wildlife conservation, protection of the unique and rich ecological heritage and pursue economic growth and preserve the environment by striking the right balance.

He called for community-led conservation of biodiversity and protection of wildlife.

"It is our collective responsibility to strengthen the ecological integrity, restore the original glory of our rivers, lakes and protect our forests from smugglers and poachers," he said.

"Every citizen, every youth should become a Wildlife and Environment Mitra and also spread awareness in the society on adopting sustainable lifestyle," he added.

The LG shared the efforts of the UT administration, under the guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for the integrated development of wildlife habitats and promotion of eco tourism and green economy.

"Hangul Breeding Centre in Tral, languishing since 2008 has been revived and completed this year. Hangul population has seen an increase and two more RAMSAR sites were added in 2022. Last year more than 13 lakh migratory birds were sighted," he said.

Sinha appreciated the initiatives taken by the Department of Wildlife Protection for mitigation of man-animal conflict, safety of human lives, their property and livestock.

He also released a short film "J&K: Wildlife Chronicles" and a poster of the Wildlife Protection department.

Palestinian Fighters

falling into central and southern Israel followed by Palestinian fighters crossing over into the occupied territories from land, sea, and air.

Videos purportedly showed Palestinian fighters inside an Israeli military base as bodies of dead soldiers lay on the ground. Israel's N12 News quoting ambulance services reported at least 150 Israelis dead and over 1500 wounded. The report said over 30 Israeli soldiers have been taken hostage.

In retaliation Israeli Air Force bombed densely populated Gaza Strip leaving at least 198 people dead and 1,610 wounded by the nightfall Saturday, the Palestinian health ministry said.

Scores of residential buildings were reduced to rubble, media reports said.

Earlier hundreds of Palestinian fighters infiltrated into Israel in the morning, crossing at multiple points, overwhelming what the IDF considered to be the highly sophisticated border fence.

Thirteen hours after the start of the attacks, there are reported to still be 22 "active" areas in southern Israel, where gunmen are still active or feared to be in the field, Times of Israel reported.

Israel said the Iran-backed group had declared war as its army confirmed fighting with militants in several Israeli towns and military bases near Gaza and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to retaliate.

Reports said armed fighters breached the military border and blasted their way into Israel in SUVs, motorcycles and paragliders.

The attack marked an unprecedented infiltration by an unknown number of Palestinian fighters into Israel from Gaza, and one of the most serious escalations in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict since 1948.

The massive surprise attack on Israel by Hamas on Saturday is a "Pearl Harbor type of moment" for the country, former Israel Defense Forces international spokesperson Jonathan Conriscus told CNN.

"The entire system failed. It's not just one component. It's the entire defense architecture that evidently failed to provide the necessary defense for Israeli civilians," he said of the early morning attack. "This is a Pearl Harbor type of moment for Israel, where there was reality up until today, and then there will be reality after today."

The attack, in which Palestinian fighters entered Israel and infiltrated military bases, towns and farms and took hostages, is unprecedented in Israeli history since town-by-town fighting in the 1948 war of

independence.

Israeli broadcaster Reshet 13 TV News said fighters were holding Israelis hostage in the town of Ofakim, and that five Palestinian militants had been killed in the town of Sderot and homes had been set on fire.

Israeli media reported gunbattles between bands of Palestinian fighters and security forces in towns in southern Israel. Israel's police chief said there were "21 active scenes" in southern Israel, indicating the extent of the attack.

Red alert warning sirens were activated in Tel Aviv, Sde Boker, Arad, and Dimona in the south as explosions were heard by residents on Saturday. In Jerusalem, rocket sirens sounded followed by the sound of explosions.

Cars were seen on fire after a rocket landed in Ashkelon, southern Israel.

Hamas military commander Mohammad Deif announced the start of the operation in a broadcast, calling on Palestinians everywhere to fight.

"This is the day of the greatest battle to end the last occupation on earth," he said, adding that 5,000 rockets had been launched.

Later Hamas' armed wing said more than 7,000 rockets were fired from the Gaza Strip into Israel on Saturday, declaring it had started "Operation al-Aqsa Storm".

"We decided to put an end to all the crimes of the occupation, their time for rampaging without being held accountable is over," Hamas said.

Al-Quds Brigades military wing of Islamic Jihad, another major Palestinian faction also declared that its fighters have joined the operation as Hamas called on Palestinians everywhere to fight.

"We are part of this battle, our fighters are side-by-side with their brothers in the Qassam Brigades until victory is achieved," said Islamic Jihad armed wing spokesman Abu Hamza on a post on Telegram.

"This storm which started from Gaza will spread to the West Bank and outside the country and all the places where our people and nation are present," Hamas politburo chief Ismail Haniyeh said.

"The enemy besieging Gaza has planned to surprise it and escalate the aggression against our people in the Gaza Strip, in addition to the settlement and aggression that continues every moment in the West Bank, which seeks to uproot our people and expel them from their land, and the crimes of the occupation against our people in the 1948s, as it stands behind all the killing and assassination operations there, and the occupation's continuation of detaining our prisoners for decades, and reneging on agreements when he re-arrested those liberated from the swap deal," Haniyeh said.

For its part, Hezbollah issued a statement congratulating the Gaza resistance for the "heroic operation," calling it "a decisive response to the continuing crimes of the occupation ... and a [clear reminder] that the will of the Palestinian people and the rifle of resistance are the only options in the face of aggression and occupation and a message to the Arab and Islamic world and the entire international community, especially those seeking normalization."

The escalation comes against a backdrop of surging violence between Israel and Palestinians in the West Bank, which together with the Gaza Strip is part of the territories where Palestinians have long sought to establish a state.

It also comes at a time of political upheaval in Israel, which has been riven by deep divisions over moves to overhaul the judiciary, and as

Washington works to strike a deal that would normalise ties between Israel and Saudi Arabia.

REPORTS OF ISRAELIS TAKEN CAPTIVE

Palestinian media displayed videos of what it said were bodies of Israeli soldiers brought into Gaza by fighters, and Palestinian gunmen inside Israeli homes and touring an Israeli town in jeeps reportedly driven into Israel by the fighters.

Palestinians in Gaza and West Bank expressed disbelief at the infiltration into Israel. "It is like a dream. I still can't believe it," said one Gaza shopkeeper.

The attack came a day after Israel marked the 50th anniversary of the 1973 war that brought the country to the verge of catastrophic defeat in a surprise attack by Syria and Egypt.

Meanwhile, in the Israeli settlements near Gaza, settlers have communicated with media outlets saying many have barricaded themselves inside their homes and are begging Tel Aviv to "send troops."

"There are wounded here ... There are burning houses," a resident of the illegal Kibbutz Beeri settlement told Israel Channel 12 news, adding that the feeling among settlers is that the have been "abandoned."

"Hamas made a grave mistake this morning and started a war against the State of Israel. [Army] soldiers are fighting the enemy at all the infiltration sites," Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said earlier on Saturday in remarks provided by his office.

"The State of Israel will win this war," he added.

The US embassy in Israel says it is "closely monitoring" the security situation.

"US citizens are reminded to remain vigilant and take appropriate steps to increase their security awareness as security incidents, including mortar and rocket fire, often take place without warning," an embassy statement reads.

Israel cuts power supply to Gaza. Israeli Energy Minister Yisrael Katz signed an order that would disconnect the Gaza Strip from the Israeli electricity grid on Saturday evening.

Israel supplies about two-thirds of the Strip's electricity needs, and the remaining third is produced at the Gaza power plant. Gaza has an energy shortage even when supplied with electricity from Israel, and now the shortage is expected to worsen greatly.

PM Modi: 'We

We stand in solidarity with Israel at this difficult hour," PM Modi said.

A surprise attack by Hamas militants from Gaza at daybreak killed at least 22 Israelis on Saturday even as Prime Minister Netanyahu declared "war" and said his country would extract an "unprecedented price" from its enemy.

Israel's national rescue service said at least 22 people were killed and hundreds of others wounded in the Hamas military incursion, making the operation the deadliest in Israeli territory in years.

PM Modi, Shah

are visiting both regions of Jammu and Kashmir to address mega rallies," Raina said.

Though he did not specify the exact date for the visits, Raina said the rallies will be organised as part of the public awareness campaign.

"Our government is working honestly for all sections of society, whether rich or poor, without any discrimination on the basis of religion. Our motive is that all must get justice," he said, adding the Modi-led government has made it amply clear that there is zero tolerance for corruption.

Raina said the party's mass contact

programme will cover all villages, panchayats and municipal wards and create public awareness about the large-scale development taking place in Jammu and Kashmir under the BJP government.

Rain, Snow Likely

weather was expected. From October 14-20, he said, mainly dry was in store in Jammu and Kashmir. However, he said, a brief spell of rain/snowfall over higher reaches can't be ruled out although chances are less.

The weatherman has also urged farmers to postpone harvesting on October 9th (evening-10th).

Vehicle Rolls

found dead by the rescuers on-the-spot, they said.

Five others were rescued in an injured condition and are undergoing treatment in government medical college hospital Doda.

HC Seeks Govt's

staff to identify, prevent, and address various forms of child abuse including sexual abuse, coercion, and virtual abuse.

She said that strategies should be made to identify potential abusers, ensuring safety of the children, both at home and within school premises.

Schools, she said, should be urged to establish a transparent safeguarding policy, ensuring confidentiality, reporting mechanisms, and appropriate action against offenders.

The lawyer-activist also called for establishment of more One-Stop Centers where individuals, more so victims' families, can report child abuse by filing complaints without visiting a police station. She said that centers should be staffed with female officers to comfort and support female victims. She also called for creating more awareness by encouraging the active participation of parents, communities, and institutions like Anganwadis and Nukad Natak in raising awareness about child abuse.

Key Tunnel On

travel distance by 200 metres, reducing steep gradients, but also provide an alternative route bypassing the well-known Sita Ram Passi slide area. Furthermore, it facilitates the smooth flow of vehicles, bypassing the challenging Maroge area gradients," the minister added.

"Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble PM Shri @narendramodiji, we steadfastly uphold our commitment to delivering exceptional highway infrastructure to Jammu & Kashmir," Gadhkari said in his post.

The work on the four-laning project of the 270-km highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with the rest of the country, was started by the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) in 2011.

Construction of the highway, which would include several small and large tunnels, bridges and flyovers, is likely to be completed by next year, after missing several deadlines over the past decade.

Earlier in March, the NHAI dedicated the 880-metre T-5 tunnel to the public, providing much-needed relief to the commuters as it bypassed the most vulnerable stretch of Panthyal. Besides this, several other tunnels including the one-tube of Kunfer tunnel also got completed, while the Ramban flyover was thrown open to traffic in June.

The most critical stretch of 66 km of the highway passes through the Ramban district from the Nashri tunnel to the Banihal tunnel. Work is in progress on several other tunnels, bridges and viaducts on this stretch, which on completion will bypass other critical spots and ensure comfortable travel.

Dy Sarpanch Held

was later arrested and a case under relevant sections of law was registered against him.

The official added that further investigation has been taken up.

4 Held For Attack

A police spokesman said four hardcore criminals -- Mushtaq Ahmad Mohd Rashid alias Shida of Samba and Farooq Ahmad and Bashir Ahmed of Jammu were arrested in connection with the attack on the police and NCB teams.

A case under sections of Indian Penal Code and Arms Act was registered at Bari Brahmana police station, he said.

Samba Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Benam Tosh said police teams are conducting raids at different suspected hideouts and all perpetrators behind the attacks would be behind the bars in no time.

Crime Branch

involvement in commission of offences punishable under sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B RPC, 5(2) PC Act", reads a statement.

The said case, the statement reads, was registered in Crime Branch Kashmir on a complaint from then Zonal Education Officer Kulgam, wherein, it was alleged that one Rashid-Ul-Hassan Gojjar son of Gh. Hassan, resident of Arigatnong Tehsil Kulgam has been appointed as teacher through Service Selection Board in terms of order number 2034 of 2007 dated 17/10/2007 under reserved category i.e ST category.

"The said teacher submitted his joining report on 07/11/2007 in the office of ZEO Kulgam and produced requisite certificates/documents including ST, PRC and DOB Certificates. On analyzing the certificates, it was found that the caste of appointee in DOB certificate was reflected as "Wagay" which contradicted with caste of Gojjar reflected in his PRC & ST certificates.

"On receipt of this complaint in CBK, a preliminary verification vide PV No 42/2010 P/S Crime Branch Kashmir, was initiated into the matter. During the probe, it was revealed that the actual caste of the appointee is "Wagay" and he in league with revenue officials managed to change his caste from "Wagay" to "Gojjar", reads the statement.

"Subsequently, a formal case vide FIR No. 25/2012 U/S 420,120-B r/w 5(2) PC Act was registered in P/S Crime Branch Kashmir and investigation was taken up."

"During the course of investigation the statements of witnesses were recorded. The relevant records were obtained from the concerned department. The investigation conducted has revealed that the accused number 01 (beneficiary) in connivance with other two accused revenue officers (now retired), has managed to get his caste changed by virtue of a mutation No. 391/1 at Tehsil Office Kulgam", reads the statement.

"The accused officials abused their official positions and in furtherance of criminal conspiracy, prepared and acted on a false and fake mutation and thereby for their ulterior motives issued fake Schedule Tribe Certificate in favour of accused beneficiary, who used the same to get himself selected/appointed as Teacher in District Kulgam under ST Category, as such committed offences U/S 420, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B RPC, 5(2) PC Act", the statement reads.

"Finally, on the basis of evidence, the investigation of the case was concluded as proved under sections 420, 467, 468, 471, 201, 120-B RPC, 5(2) PC Act against the said accused persons", the statement reads further.

Rohit Wary Of Australia's World Cup Records



Agencies

CHENNAI: India captain Rohit Sharma is aware of Australia's awe-inspiring record in global events and warned his team mates not to lower their guard against them in their first match of the 50-overs World Cup on Sunday. India are currently the top-ranked ODI team and they beat Australia 2-1 last month in a series before heading into the World Cup determined to repeat their 2011 feat when they won

the trophy on home soil. "Australia being Australia, we know how they play in ICC tournaments," Rohit told reporters on the eve of their clash against the five-time champions. "There is a reason they have so many championships. "So for us it will be very important that we stick to what we want to do as a team, focus on our strengths and assess the conditions here." The conditions will feel almost equally familiar

to Australia, pointed out Rohit, thanks to their participation in the Indian Premier League (IPL). "It's absolutely true that they play a lot of cricket here," Rohit said. "In terms of how they plan their schedule, it's pretty good. "They know what is at stake, World Cup in India, so they make sure they play as much ODIs as possible in India." "The seven-eight batters that we have in the squad, they bring a different dimension to our team," said Rohit.

Extra Security Arrangements Made For India-Pakistan Match On Oct 14

Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Amid reports of an email threatening attack on Narendra Modi Stadium, the Ahmedabad police on Saturday said that extra security cover will be in place at the ground for next week's India-Pakistan contest and that there is no reason for the public to fear. The massive stadium here is one of the venues of the ongoing cricket World Cup.

Additional Commissioner of Police Chirag Koradia said that extra security arrangements have been made for the India-Pakistan match on October 14. The face-off between the neighbours on the cricket field is expected to draw a huge crowd. He said there is no reason for the public to fear because of the email, in which an unidentified sender reportedly threatened to harm the prime minister and blow up the Narendra Modi Stadium. "Compared to other matches, more intense security arrangements have been made for the upcoming India-Pakistan match," said Koradia. The official said the police will put in place the



bandobast from October 11. "We are fully prepared for that. There will be bandobast at the stadium gates, checkings will be carried out on vehicles, hotels and guest houses, and we will keep a watch on certain elements," he said. As per reports, the Mumbai police received an email in which an unidentified sender issued

threats to harm the prime minister and blow up the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad. The sender also demanded Rs 500 crore and the release of notorious gangster Lawrence Bishnoi from jail. For the opening match of the ICC Cricket World Cup on October 5, about 3,500 police personnel were deployed at the stadium in Motera area and

other parts of Ahmedabad amid a threat issued by Khalistani separatists. Ahead of the opening match, the Gujarat police had registered an FIR against Gurpatwant Singh Pannun, the chief of the banned outfit Sikhs for Justice (SFJ), for threatening to turn the Cricket World Cup into "World Terror Cup". The cybercrime branch

of the Ahmedabad police said that people from across the country had received Pannun's threat via a pre-recorded voice message sent from a foreign number. Pannun has already been designated a terrorist by India in 2020 and faces 22 criminal cases in Punjab. SFJ was banned by the Indian government in 2019.

YSS Ganderbal Holds Inter School Athletic Meet For Girls



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The District Youth Services and Sports Ganderbal on Saturday organised a thrilling Inter School Zonal Level Athletic Meet for Girls Under-14 in Zone Hariganiwan. The meet was organised at BHSS Hariganiwan in which 99 students hailing from both government and private educational institutions participated. The competition unfolded with

fever and intensity, presenting a spotlight on the remarkable athletic prowess of these young participants. Their skills and sportsmanship added thrill and excitement to the entire day. At last, the position holders were awarded with medals by the senior officials of the Department. Selected participants of the concerned zone will face the challenge in District Level Inter Zone Annual Athletics Meet which shall be held very soon in the district.

Bandipora Baseball C'ship Concludes At SK Stadium



Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: The District Bandipora Baseball Championship concluded at S.K Sports Stadium here. The championship was organised by District Bandipora Baseball Association under the "My Youth My Pride" initiative of Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council and the banner of J&K Baseball Association.

The event concluded with an awards distribution ceremony among the winning teams of the championship. The competitions were held from 05-10-2023 to 06-10-2023 at SK Sports Stadium in which 30 teams participated. Gulzar Ahmad, chief coach of J&K Baseball Association, was the chief guest and distributed medals among the winners.



Asian Games: India Finish With Historic 107 Medals

Press Trust of India

HANGZHOU: Indian athletes touched the magical figure of 107 medals at the Asian Games with their blood, sweat and toil over the last fortnight to give the country an early Diwali gift, and a promise of a best-ever harvest at the 2024 Paris Olympics. With India concluding its engagements at the continental showpiece on Saturday as no athlete from the country is in the fray in a couple of events scheduled on the final day of competition on Sunday, the tally of 107 will remain etched in the collective memory of the nation until the athletes decide to reset it in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan in 2026. India's final tally in Hangzhou stood at 28 gold, 38 silver and 41 bronze, a quantum leap from the 70 medals the contingent bagged at Jakarta in 2018. The tally had touched the 95-medal mark on Friday with a few assured medals on Saturday. But, surprisingly, the

athletes bagged 12 medals on the last day of their campaign, clinching six gold, four silver and two bronze. The smashing Indian men's badminton pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty brought tons of cheers to the contingent on Saturday afternoon, while the men's and women's kabaddi teams regained their pride of place after slipping in 2018 Jakarta. A controversy in the final against Iran apart, the Pawan Sehrawat-led men's kabaddi team was simply on fire, while young archer Ojas Deotale and Abhishek Verma made it a gold-silver finish in the compound men's individual event. Archer Jyothi Vennam too had her golden moment on the country's final day of competition, taking the top podium finish in individual women's compound event. The men's and women's chess teams finally provided the silver lining to the country's campaign later in the day as India had the fourth-best tally behind China, Japan and South Korea.



Bellingham Scores Twice As Real Madrid Win 4-0 Against Osasuna

Agencies

MADRID: Jude Bellingham extended his superb scoring run since joining Real Madrid after striking twice in a 4-0 win over Osasuna to help maintain its lead of the Spanish league on Saturday. Bellingham made it 10 goals in 10 games in all competitions since he arrived in Spain this summer with goals in the ninth and 54th minutes at the Santiago Bernabéu. The 20-year-old England midfielder leads the league with eight goals. He has also scored in both of Madrid's Champions League games, including a 3-2 win at Napoli this week. Vinicius Júnior and Joselu Mato scored the hosts' third and fourth goals against Osasuna. Madrid remained two points ahead of Girona, which won 1-0 at Cadiz. Barcelona is four points behind Madrid before the defending champions visit Granada on Sunday. Aleix García's goal in the 59th minute was enough to give Giro-



na the win against a Cadiz team that played 80 minutes with a man down. The midfielder scored with a strike from the edge of the area after he was set up by right back Yan Couto. Cadiz played with 10 men from 10th minute after Darwin Machis saw a direct red card for

a foul on Yangel Herrera. Cadiz is 12th after losing its first home game of the season. Girona, a team from northeast Catalonia partly owned by Manchester City's Abu Dhabi ownership, had entered the previous round as leader after winning six games in a row before it lost 3-0 to Madrid last weekend.

Tottenham Go Top Of Premier League With 1-0 Win Over Luton

Agencies

LONDON: Tottenham moved to the top of the Premier League after a 1-0 win against Luton on Saturday, despite going down to 10 men. Micky van de Ven's 52nd-minute goal at Kenilworth Road extended Spurs' unbeaten league start to eight games, while Yves Bissouma was sent off in first-half added time. The win saw Tottenham move two points clear of defending champion Manchester City, which plays Arsenal on Sunday. James Maddison was the architect of Van de Ven's goal with a twisting run in the box before crossing for his teammate to score from close range. For Luton it was a sixth league loss of the season following its promotion to English soccer's top flight. Richarlison could have put Tottenham ahead early on, but he twice failed to take advantage. First he shot off target



from a promising position and then Luton goalkeeper Thomas Kaminski denied the Brazilian forward with his feet. Pedro Porro also failed to take another opportunity and Kaminski produced an excellent fingertip save to deny Dejan Kulusevski. Bissouma was booked twice in quick succession by referee John Brooks, the second for

simulation, which led to his sending off. Elijah Adebayo had the chance to put Luton ahead before Van de Ven's winner, which was his first goal in English soccer. Maddison collected Kulusevski's short corner and brilliantly spun away from Alfie Doughty before playing in Van de Ven to finish.

Top Medical Body Suggests Dos And Don't For Doctors' Signboards, Prescriptions

Agenceis

New Delhi: A doctor should not use an unusually large signboard and write on it anything other than his name, qualifications, titles, specialty or registration number, the National Medical Commission (NMC) has suggested, saying his prescription papers should also have the same contents.

It is improper to affix a signboard on a chemist's shop or in places where he does not reside or work, the NMC's Ethics and Medical Registration Board (EMRB) said in its E-Book: "Professional Conduct Review - Lessons from Case Archives".

The book also highlighted that trust deficit in the doctor-patient relationship leads to litigation against the doctors and emphasised that the most common cause of complaints against doctors is due to a communication gap.

The commission stated that care should be taken not to mislead the public through signboards, visiting cards, announcements etc.

Medical practitioners may acquire skills and training in various areas related to a particular field,



but the use of the title 'consultant/specialist' should be restricted to those who are qualified in the particular speciality, it said.

As an appellate body, the Ethics and Medical Registration Board of the NMC has been hearing cases of misconduct and passing judgments.

The need to disseminate the learnings from the complaint cases against doctors was felt right from the beginning, Dr Yogender Malik, editor of the booklet and member of the Ethics and Medical Registration Board of the NMC, said.

The thought was shared with the board and a group of experts was formed.

They worked very hard, going through hundreds of pages of each case and summarised them without losing the essence of the case and the message, he stated.

The case studies in the book show that it is very difficult for a patient to differentiate between ethics, conduct and negligence, the NMC said.

Doctors too feel that patients have no right to complain unless there is harm, the NMC stated.

Amid India Vs Bharat Row, Shashi Tharoor Says You Can't Use 'Hindu' Either

Agenceis

Bengaluru: Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Friday took a swipe at those who have a problem with the term 'India' but are comfortable calling themselves 'Hindu', although both the words, India and Hindu, are derived from the same etymology, which is river Sindhu. Dwelling on the origin of the term 'Hindu' during the launch of 'Nanu Yaake Hindu', the Kannada version of his book 'Why I am a Hindu', the Thiruvananthapuram MP said both the words were given by foreigners to describe people beyond the river Sindhu or Indus.

Mr Tharoor's book has been translated from English to Kannada by Congress leader Prof K E Radhakrishna.

In the midst of the 'India versus Bharat' debate, Mr Tharoor said, "It's very ironic when I hear some people in the ruling party objecting to the use of the word 'India' saying that it is not authentic and the same people



shout slogans saying 'Garv Se Kaho Hum Hindu Hain'."

"Well, 'India' and 'Hindu' are derived from the same etymology. If you don't want to use 'India', you can't use 'Hindu' either. They both come from the same source, from the river Sindhu," he explained.

Mr Tharoor said it is still interesting that Hindus call themselves by a label that they did not invent themselves in any of their own languages, but "adopted it cheerfully when others began to refer to them by that word".

Noting that some Hindus prefer an altogether different term, 'Sanatana Dharma', he said Hinduism is just a name that foreigners gave for what they saw as the indigenous religion of India.

Hinduism, according to the Congress MP, embraces an eclectic range of doctrines and practices, which believes in reincarnation and in the caste system.

"But none of these constitutes an obligatory credo for a Hindu. We have no compulsory dominance. And this is why I'm so comfortable with the tenets

of Hinduism, much more than I would be with those of the other faiths that I know," Mr Tharoor underlined.

The Congress MP said the great sages first came up with the original idea of the divine Brahma, which was very much similar to the Islamic idea of God -- that is a God without shape, without form, without gender.

The rishis or seers then realised that this was not good enough for ordinary people as they found them worshipping mountains, trees and rivers because they needed something to focus on. Thus was born the idea of worshipping the divine with a form, Mr Tharoor explained.

Everybody was free to imagine the divine in whatever form or shape he or she chose, he said.

"You want to imagine God as a 10-handed woman riding a tiger, you're welcome to do that. You want to imagine God as a potbelly figure with an elephant's head, you're welcome to do that.

US: Nearly 1,000 Songbirds Die After Crashing Into Chicago Building Windows

Agenceis

Around 1,000 songbirds died recently during night-time after they suffered a crash into US' McCormick Place Lakeside Center's windows amid a deadly conflux of prime migration conditions, rain and the low-slung exhibition hall's lights and window-lined walls. David Willard, the person who had been checking the grounds of Chicago's lakefront exhibition center for dead birds for nearly 40 years told the news agency Associated Press, "It was just like a carpet of dead birds at the windows there."

Willard is a retired bird division collections manager at the Chicago Field Museum. His duties included administering, preserving and cataloguing the museum's collection of 500,000 bird specimens along with searching for bird strikes as part of migration research. While talking about this event, Willard said that he had never seen anything remotely close to such a scale in his past 40 years of working. He added that a normal night would be when zero to 15 birds would die in such a manner but this was a shocking outlier for even him, reported AP News.

A senior conservation ecologist at the Field Museum of Natural History, Douglas Stotz, told CBS News "It was an unbelievable kill that happened, and there were over 900. I think the final total was 961 birds just at McCormick Place."

Stotz added, "When birds are migrating, they don't understand that they can't fly through windows, and lights attract



them. So the combination of lights and windows is deadly."

As per the estimate of researchers, hundreds of millions of birds die each year in the US in window strikes. A study was released by Scientists with the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 2014 according to which around 365 million to 988 million birds die annually, AP reported.

The AP reported that window strike is an issue in almost every major US city. The reason behind it being such a common issue is that birds are not able to see clear or reflective glass and they don't understand it's a lethal barrier. When they see plants or bushes through the windows or see them being reflected in them then they head straight for them and in the process, they end up

killing themselves.

Birds that migrate during the night rely on the stars to navigate. The bright lighting on the buildings attracts the birds and confuses them which increases the crashes or leaves birds flying around until they die from exhaustion. This phenomenon is known as fatal light attraction, reported AP.

According to a report of the Al-Arabiya, an avian ecologist at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, named Anna Pidgeon said that window strikes and fatal light attraction are easily preventable. Pidgeon added that building managers can simply dim their lights, and architects can design windows with markings on the glass that the birds would recognise easily. She further said that people can add screens, paint their windows or apply decals to the glass as well.

Popular weight loss drugs linked to higher risk of stomach paralysis

WASHINGTON: Drugs like Ozempic, which have become increasingly popular for losing weight, heighten the risk of certain severe gastrointestinal problems including stomach paralysis, according to a large study published Thursday.

The paper, published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), looked at a class of drugs called GLP-1 agonists that includes the brands Wegovy, Ozempic, Rybelsus and Saxenda.

It then compared the rate of serious side effects to another class of weight loss drug, bupropion-naltrexone.

The GLP-1 agonists were associated with an almost four times increased risk of stomach paralysis, a nine times higher risk of pancreatitis and four times greater risk of bowel obstruction.

These conditions can cause hospitalization and require surgery, depending on their severity.

"Given the wide use of these drugs, these adverse events, although rare, must be considered

by patients thinking about using them for weight loss," said lead author Mohit Sodhi, a medical student at the University of British Columbia in Canada, in a statement.

"The risk calculus will differ depending on whether a patient is using these drugs for diabetes, obesity or just general weight loss," he added. "People who are otherwise healthy may be less willing to accept these potentially serious adverse events."

Originally developed for managing Type 2 diabetes, GLP-1 agonists have soared in popularity in recent years as a means to lose weight, mainly through "off-label" use.

Saxenda and Wegovy were approved for weight loss in 2020 and 2021, but the clinical trials used to greenlight them involved too few people with too short a follow-up time to detect very rare events, the researchers said.

Epidemiologist and co-author Mahyar Etminan said that while there had been anecdotal reports of some patients using these drugs for weight loss and

then having repeated episodes of nausea and vomiting as a result of stomach paralysis, the current study was the first to examine the question at a larger scale.

The authors trawled through US patient records searching for people prescribed liraglutide or semaglutide -- the two main GLP-1 agonists -- or bupropion/naltrexone, a non GLP-1 weight loss medication, to see how many went on to develop certain gastrointestinal conditions.

Their analysis included patients with a recent history of obesity, but excluded those with diabetes or who had been prescribed another antidiabetic drug. Just over 5,400 records were included in the final analysis.

"The results from this study highlight how important it is that patients access these drugs only through trusted medical professionals, and only with ongoing support and monitoring," said Simon Cork, a senior lecturer at Anglia Ruskin University, who was not involved in the research.

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