

## Kashmir University Convocation

# Security Boosted In Srinagar On President's Visit

Majid Nabi

Srinagar: Security has been beefed up in Srinagar and adjoining areas ahead of President Droupadi Murmu's visit to Kashmir on Wednesday during which she will attend the convocation ceremony of Kashmir University, officials said here.

Security forces, including police and paramilitary CRPF, have been deployed in adequate numbers around Kashmir University a day ahead of Murmu's arrival in the valley, the officials said.

Murmu is scheduled to deliver the 20th convocation lecture at the Kashmir University as chief guest during her maiden visit to the Valley after assuming the office of the president of India in July last year.

Elaborate security arrangements have been put in place in Srinagar, especially around the Kashmir University, which is the main venue for the high profile event.

The Varsity, they said, underwent extensive sanitization as part of the stringent security measures devised for the President of India's visit, even as no specific intelligence inputs



regarding potential strike by terrorists have been received.

In addition, a thorough intelligence analysis is being done to scrutinize the backgrounds of those attending the convocation, irrespective of their role during the event, scheduled to be held on Wednesday.

In addition to drone monitoring around the venue, sources said policemen in civvies have been stationed in and outside Varsity to keep an eye on suspicious individuals.

"A multi-tier security grid has been put in place ahead of the event while surprise [More On P10](#)

**I DON'T THINK THERE SHOULD BE ANY RESTRICTIONS** on traffic, the department hasn't issued any traffic advisory, yes measures may be taken if need arises."

## LG Orders Adequate, Reliable Power Supply During Winter

Directs PDD To Tackle Power Theft Through Effective Enforcement On The Ground

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday directed Power Development Department (PDD) for compliance of curtailment plans and timely replacement of the damaged transformers to avoid inconvenience to the consumers, especially during the winter season.

Chairing a meeting to



review the performance of PDD and to take stock of power scenario in the UT, the LG also called upon the department to tackle power theft through [More On P10](#)

### Reviews Implementation Of Central Schemes

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday asked officials to make dedicated efforts for on-ground execution for 100% saturation of all schemes to ensure all entitled beneficiaries in the Union Territory get facilities and no one is left behind. "Transparency and speed of implementation have played a pivotal role in enabling transformation of J&K in the last three years. 100% utilization of allocation [More On P10](#)

### Lecturer Booked For 'Tearing' Student's Hijab

Agencies

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday booked a lecturer under the Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for allegedly tearing a student's Hijab at a government school in North Kashmir's Bandipora district.

An official said that a girl student in her complaint stated that she was seated in the classroom when the lecturer approached her and forcibly removed and tore her Hijab. He said that the girl [More On P10](#)

## Kashmiri Woman Seeks Evacuation As Israel Pounds Gaza

Press Trust Of India

Jerusalem: Fearing for their life amid continuous bombardments by Israel, a Kashmiri woman living in Gaza with her family on Tuesday sought an immediate evacuation from the war-torn enclave.

"We are facing a brutal war here and everything is being destroyed in a matter of seconds. We are paying the price of this conflict as civilians are being targeted," Lubna Nazir Shaboo, an Indian from Jammu & Kashmir living in Gaza, told



**WE ARE NOT ABLE TO GO ANYWHERE BECAUSE THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE** for us anywhere and the Gaza Strip is too small and it is closed from every side. There are no exit points over here."

PTI over the phone. The Israel-Gaza [More On P10](#)

### People Of India Stand Firmly With Israel: PM

Prime Minister Narendra Modi told his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu on Tuesday that people of India stand firmly with his country in this difficult hour, expressing strong and unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Netanyahu called up Modi to update him on the ongoing situation as [More On P10](#)

## Terrorists Killed In Shopian: Police

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Two local terrorists of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), including the one involved in shooting dead a Kashmiri Pandit, were killed in a fierce encounter with security forces in Shopian district of South Kashmir, police said Tuesday.

The encounter started in Alshipora village of the district after a joint team of police, army's 44 RR and the personnel of CRPF 178 battalion launched a search operation based on specific information about the presence of terrorists in the village, a police spokesperson said.

Giving more details of the operation, he said, the joint search party came under indiscriminate fire by terrorists [More On P10](#)

## RSS Chief To Visit J&K On 3-Day Tour

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat will be in Jammu and Kashmir for a three-day tour beginning October 13, the organisation said in a statement on Tuesday.

Bhagwat's visit to the Union territory comes amid RSS leaders travelling across the country to review the functioning of the organisation, according to the statement.

During the tour, the statement said, the RSS chief will chair a workers meeting on October 14 to review the functioning of the organization in the Union territory and the social upliftment activities being conducted by it.

He will also chair a coordination meeting the [More On P10](#)



सत्यमेव जयते

## Jammu & Kashmir welcomes

# Smt. DROUPADI MURMU

## Hon'ble President of India to Kashmir







Meri Maati Mera Desh

Patriotic Enthusiasm Marks 2nd Phase Of Campaign In Srinagar Panchayats

Observer News Service

Srinagar Portraying a resounding testament to unity and patriotism among the people, several programs were held in Panchayat Blocks of Srinagar District here today to mark the 2nd Phase of "Meri Maati Mera Desh" campaign with Amrit Kakash Yatra, celebrating India's 75th year of Independence.

The Programs were held on the directions of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad by the Rural Development Department at Nayabat Office Harwan. The event witnessed soil collection and tribute paying to brave hearts in the presence of BDC, DDC and PRI members of the District and other large numbers of local people.

the second phase with the Amrit Kalash Yatra being held across the country. As a pan India outreach campaign, its aim is to touch every household of the country and collect Mitti and Rice grains from Panchayat Villages and Urban Wards. In rural regions, it will be combined at the Block level to create Block-level kalash.

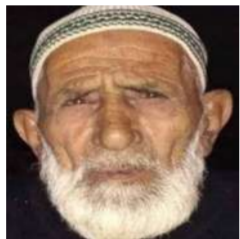
Speaking on the occasion, the speakers highlighted the significance of campaigns like "Meri Maati Mera Desh" in setting the stage for enduring peace and prosperity.

Pertinently, the Amrit Kalash Yatra will culminate on 30th October, 2023 in New Delhi when 7500 Amrit Kalashes collected across the country will find their resting place in Amrit Vatika, a gesture of homage to India's valiant heroes.

Gazanfar Ali, Former Commissioner SMC Bereaved

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Ali Mohammed, father of Gazanfar Ali, Ex-Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation passed away after a brief illness and was laid to rest at Kolkata.



Ali Mohammed was a noble soul and a paragon of compassion, who had settled in Kolkata.

Majlis-e-Tarheem (Fatiha Khwani) will be held at 09.30am on Sunday, 15th October 2023, at Imambara, Pandrethan,

Srinagar. People from different walks of life and various organizations have expressed their heartfelt sympathies and profound condolences with Gazanfar Ali, on the demise of his father.



A group of female tourists enjoying beauty of Dal Lake from Mughal Garden Nishat amidst cloudy weather on Tuesday. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

'World Mental Health Day'

Srinagar's Tele-MANAS: A Beacon Of Hope For Mental Health Support

'27,000 Calls Received In 11 Months; 200 Youngsters Counseled'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The groundbreaking Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) cell, operational at the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS) Srinagar, has emerged as a lifeline for individuals grappling with stress, drug addiction and anxiety-related issues in Jammu and Kashmir.

Since its inception eleven months ago, the first-of-its-kind mental health helpline has received an overwhelming response, with approximately 27,000 calls being made.

Launched on November 4, 2022, this unique three-tier system incorporates mental health counselors, clinical psychologists, and psychiatrists, ensuring a comprehensive support net-

work for those in need. A senior health official informed that the helpline has handled over 26,700 calls, addressing concerns ranging from stress and drug addiction to suicidal tendencies and anxiety.

Notably, around 700 distressing calls involving suicidal tendencies were timely and effectively counseled, demonstrating the critical role Tele-MANAS plays in crisis intervention.

The recent introduction of India's first Tele-MANAS chatbot in Jammu & Kashmir has further extended the reach of mental health support. Designed to engage with individuals in distress, the chatbot provides 24/7 access to health counselors, clinical psychologists, and consultants. This digital initiative not only ensures round-the-clock assistance but also encourages individuals to seek help

from the comfort of their homes, addressing privacy concerns and enhancing accessibility.

The toll-free helpline number for Tele MANAS Cell J&K is 14416/1-800-891-4416, and for the Tele MANAS Chatbot, it is 9797600601. The helpline operates 24x7, offering mental health services and drug de-addiction services to the general public.

In light of previous studies conducted by the Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (IMHANS), it is evident that Kashmir faces a significant mental health challenge. A study in 2016 revealed that 11.3 percent of the adult population in the valley suffers from mental illness. Another study in 2015 by Medicines Sans Frontiers and IMHANS indicated that nearly one in five individuals in Kashmir exhibits symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

DC Srinagar Chairs DLTFC Meeting Of Rural Employment Generation Program

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A meeting of the District Level Task Force Committee (DLTFC) which met here today under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad at Meeting Hall of DC Office Complex gave approval to clear 48 cases under Jammu & Kashmir Rural Employment Generation Program (JKREGP) thereby providing loan amounting to several crores to eligible ben-

eficiaries of the District for setting up income generating units.

At the outset, the District Officer, KVIB Srinagar, submitted proposals before the District Level Task Force Committee for consideration of financial assistance from different Banks to unemployed youth of the Srinagar District for setting up of income generating units.

The Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner screened and scrutinized all

the applications and all 48 beneficiaries were interviewed/interacted by the Committee and were selected for sponsorship under different Industries and sectors like GreenHouse Vegetable growing, Multi Specialty Clinic, CSC center, Cutting Tailoring Boutique, Sheep farm, Cow farm, Dairy products, shuttering, etc.

The units are expected to generate employment opportunities for over 100 unemployed youth in the District.

No. 246/DAHK-EstbOEMW/170/2022-2-1/286604/2023 Dated: 10-10-2023  
Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
Directorate of Animal Husbandry Department Kashmir  
(Gowkadal Srinagar - 190001)  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Ph. No. 0194-245509 E-mail:-est@jkanimalhusbandry.net Fax:-0194-2470518

Sub:- Unauthorized absence from duties.  
OFFICE ORDER No-760- DAHK of 2023  
DATED:-10-10-2023

Whereas, Danish Siraj Masoodi S/o Sirajudin Masoodi R/O Badran Magam was appointed as Attendant in District cadre Budgam vide this office order No. 961-DAHK of 2018 Dated: 21-08-2018 and joined on 07/09/2018; Whereas, from the very beginning of his appointment irregular behavior of Attendant towards his duties was reported for which he was placed under suspension vide this Office Order No. 53-DAHK of 2020 dated 16-01-2020; Whereas, subsequently on the recommendation of CAHO Budgam he was reinstated vide this Office Order No. 1083-DAHK of 2020 dated 10-09-2020 with the warning to remain careful in future failing which action under rules shall follow; Whereas, as reported by CAHO Budgam vide No. 1050-51 dated 09-06-2022, the Attendant under reference proceeded on 18 days earned leave w.e.f. 01-11-2021 and did not reported back after the expiry of applied leave;

Whereas CAHO Budgam vide his office No;-370-74 Dt:-27-04-2022 again placed him under suspension for remaining on unauthorized leave and directed him to explain within 21 days as why he shall not be terminated from the Government services but he did not paid any heed to the notice; Whereas subsequently CAHO Budgam issued another notice vide his No:-CAHO/Bud/Estt/866-70 dt:-28-05-2022 directing the Attendant to report back within 07 days to which the absconding attendant did not paid any heed; Whereas subsequently vide this office No. 22404/2022 dated 29-06-2022, a final notice was served to the absconding Attendant through print media published in local dailies Greater Kashmir & Srinagar News in their edition dt: 03-07-2022 with the directions to tender his explanation within 21 days as to why his services shall not be terminated for remaining unauthorized absence, which he again failed to respond; Whereas CAHO Budgam vide letter No:-CAHO/Bud/Estt/6125 dt:-07-02-2023 intimated that the Attendant has not reported back till date; Whereas despite of the cold response from the absconding Attendant he was provided with another opportunity vide this office No. 192038/2023 dated 14-03-2023 published in local dailies Morning Kashmir / Gadyal in their edition dt:-29/03/2023, to explain within 07 days as to why his services shall not be terminated to which he again failed to comply/respond till date; In the back drop of the above statement of facts, the appointment of Danish Siraj Masoodi S/o Sirajudin Masoodi R/o Badran Magam as Class-IVth (Attendant) ordered vide this Office Order No. 961-DAHK of 2018 dated 21-08-2018 is hereby terminated from the date of his absence viz 19-11-2021 in terms of Article 128 of JK CSR.

DIPK-10/200/23  
DATED: 10-10-2023  
Director  
Animal Husbandry Deptt.  
Kashmir

TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686  
PCR: 0194-2452092, 2455883  
PDD: 0194-2450213  
FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488, 2452222, 2452155  
CAPD: 18001807011  
SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081  
Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

AIRPORTS  
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

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

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

PRAYERS  
HIJRI CALENDAR  
24 Rabi-ul-Awwal 1445  
FAJR 5:09  
ZUHR 12:18  
ASR 4:24  
Magrib 6:07  
ISHA 7:26

This Day In History

- 1138 -Earthquake in Aleppo, Syria, kills an estimated 230,000
- 1142 - Treaty of Shaoning ratified with Chinese southern Song Dynasty agreeing to pay tribute to northern Jin dynasty
- 1531 -Battle of Kappel: Swiss Roman Catholic cantons beat protestant forces of Zurich; Huldrych Zwingli Swiss reformation leader is killed
- 1540 -Emperor Karel names his son Philip, Duke of Milan
- 1573 -Battle of South Seas - Dutch rebels beat Spanish navy
- 1687 -Hungary accepts Habsburg sovereignty
- 1698 -France, England & Netherlands ratified the First Partition Treaty, which eventually led to the War of the Spanish Succession
- 1726 - Benjamin Franklin returns to Philadelphia from England
- 1737 -Earthquake reported to have killed 300,000 and destroyed half of Calcutta in India. Now thought to have been an exaggerated account of a hurricane which claimed 3,000 of the city's estimated 20,000 residents. [1]
- 1746 -Battle of Rocoux: French defeat British, Austrian and Dutch armies
- 1776 - Brigadier-General Arnold's Lake Champlain fleet defeated by British during the Battle of Valcour Island (American Revolutionary War)
- 1797 - Battle of Camperdown (Kamperduin): British navy defeats Dutch fleet
- 1811 - The Juliana, 1st steam-powered ferryboat, begins operation
- 1852 - The University of Sydney, Australia's oldest university, is inaugurated in Sydney.
- 1864 -Slavery abolished in Maryland
- 1865- Paul Bogle led hundreds of black men and women in a march in Jamaica, starting the Morant Bay rebellion
- 1881 -David Houston patents roll film for cameras
- 1887 - A Miles patents elevator
- 1890 -Daughters of American Revolution founded
- 1895 - Emperor Menelik II of Abyssinia rejects a treaty with Italy
- 1899 - South African Boers declare war on Great Britain
- 1914 -German troops occupy Ghent
- 1915 -Bulgarian anti-Serbian offensive begins
- 1918 -Major tsumani shakes Caribbean
- 1922 First woman FBI "special investigator", Alaska Davidson, appointed
- 1922- Turkey & Greece sign cease fire
- 1939- FDR and advisor Alexander Sachs meet to discuss Albert Einstein's letter warning of the possibilities of an atomic bomb 1942 -Naval battle at Cape Esperance, Guadalcanal
- 1944 - Allies bomb sea wall at Veere
- 1944- Tuvianian People's Republic or formerly Tannu Tuva was annexed by the U.S.S.R
- 1945 - Chinese civil war begins between Kuomintang government led by Chiang Kai-shek and Mao Zedong's Communist Party
- 1947 - Brazil & Chile break diplomatic relations with USSR
- 1969 - Soyuz 6 launched; Soyuz 7 & 8 follow in next 2 days
- 1977 - Soyuz 25 returns to Earth
- 1979 - Allan McLeod Cormack & Godfrey Newbold Hounsfield win Nobel Prize for medicine for developing CAT scan
- 1980 - Cosmonauts Popov & Ryumin set space endurance record of 184 days
- 1984 - 1st space walk by US woman (Dr Kathryn D Sullivan)
- 1984 - NASA launches space vehicle S-208
- 1986 - Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev open talks at a summit in Reykjavik, Iceland
- 1990 - Mexican writer Octavio Paz is awarded the Nobel Prize for literature
- 1990 - Libya's Qadhafi says Israel must be eliminated
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-68 (Endeavour 7), lands
- 1994 - Nobel Prize in economics is awarded to John Harsanyi, John Nash and Reinhard Selten for their "pioneering analysis of equilibria in the theory of non-cooperative games"

NORTHERN RAILWAY  
E-Tender Notice  
Sr.DEN-HQ/FZR acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites open tenders (E-Tenders) against below titled tenders and available on www.ireps.gov.in with closing date-27.10.2023 up to 15:00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tenders, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through only payment modes available on www.ireps.gov.in portal like net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker Cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed. For more information logon to www.ireps.gov.in

Tender Type	Tendering Section	Bidding System
Open	Works	Single Bid System
Date of Uploading Tenders	Bid Starting Date	Bid Closing Date/Time
05.10.2023	13.10.2023	27.10.2023/ 15:00 Hrs.
S.N. 1. Tender No.: 177-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR		
Details of Tender: Misc. Works in Connection with the provision of 12.00 m wide FOB inter platform movement for divyangjan at Fazilka Railway Station on FZP-FKA section in C/W ABSS under ADEN-2/FZR.		
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer
2,52,62,147.76/-	2,76,300/-	60 Days
Period of Completion 06 Months		
Similar nature of work:- "Any civil work other than track work".		
S.N. 2. Tender No.: 178-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR		
Details of Tender: Misc. Works in Connection with the provision of 12.00 m wide FOB inter platform movement for divyangjan at Kapurthala Railway Station on JUC-FZR section in C/W ABSS under ADEN-2/FZR.		
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer
4,61,01,787.94/-	3,80,500/-	60 Days
Period of Completion 06 Months		
Similar nature of work:- "Any civil work other than track work".		
S.N. 3. Tender No.: 256-2023-24-ADEN-1-FZR		
Details of Tender: Installation of Zerox Machine in Divl Office, Firozpur for doing day to day Photostat work of various branches as per their requirement for the period of two years.		
Advertised Value (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Validity of Offer
12,57,459.55/-	25,200/-	60 Days
Period of Completion 24 Months		
Similar nature of work:- "Nil".		
Note 1. Before bidding, bidders to check for any corrigendum issued against tender. No.: 177 & 178-2023-24-ADEN-2-FZR & 256-2023-24-ADEN-1-FZR Date: 09.10.2023 3140/23		

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY  
E-TENDER NOTICE  
Tender Notice No. 433-Sig-T-22-23-24 Date: 25.09.2023  
Closing Date/Time: 16.10.2023 15.00  
Sr. DSTE/FZR acting for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender Notice No. 433-Sig-T-22-23-24 Closing Date/Time 16.10.2023 15.00 Hrs. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. Contractors are allowed to make payments against this tender towards tender document cost and earnest money only through online payment modes available on IREPS portal like Net banking, debit card, credit card etc. Manual payments through Demand draft, Banker's cheque, Deposit receipts, FDR etc. are not allowed.  
HIT HEADER  
Contract Type Works  
Name of work : Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Amara Raja make Integrated Power Supply (IPS) systems installed over Firozpur division for Three (03) years.  
Tender Type Open (E-tendering) Bidding System Single Packet System  
Tender Closing Date Time 16.10.2023 15.00 Date Time of uploading Tender 21.09.2023 18.58  
Advertised Value Rs. 20876712.45 Bidding Start Date as per IREPS 02.10.2023  
Tender Doc. Cost NIL Tendering Section SIGNAL  
Earnest Money Rs. 254400.00 Period of Completion 36 Months  
Bidding Style Single Rate for Tender Validity of Offer (Days) 60 days  
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3142/23



## Russia's Putin says Israel-Gaza conflict shows US 'failure' in Middle East

Agencies

**MOSCOW:** Russian President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday the Israel-Gaza conflict showed the "failure" of Washington's Middle East policy and called the creation of "an independent sovereign Palestinian state" a "necessity."

The Russian leader made the comments while meeting Iraq's Prime Minister Mohammed Shia Al-Sudani in Moscow, days after Hamas launched a massive attack on Israel.

"I think many people would agree with me that it's a clear example of the failure of US politics in the Middle East," Putin said.

He spoke of the "necessity to implement the decisions of the UN Security Council on the creation of an independent sovereign Palestinian state."

Putin said the US had "tried to monopolize regulating (the conflict) but, unfortunately, were not preoccupied with looking for compromises that would be acceptable for both sides."

The West had "not taken into account the fundamental interests of the Palestinian people," he said.

A day earlier, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the creation of a Palestinian state was the "most reliable" solution for peace in Israel.

The Kremlin said earlier on Tuesday that a visit by Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas, planned before the Hamas attack on Israel, to Moscow was in preparation but did not give a date.

Moscow has said it was concerned that a foreign player could enter the conflict after the US moved warships closer to its ally Israel.

## 4 AMU Students Booked For Marching in Support of Palestine



Press Trust of India

**ALIGARH:** Police here on Monday lodged a case against four Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) students for taking out a protest march on the campus to express solidarity with Palestinians, a senior officer said. SP City R Shekhar Pathak in a statement said police have booked several students in the matter only four of whom are named.

The students have been booked under sections 153 A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, language, etc), 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant), and 505 (statements inducing public mischief) of the IPC.

Students took out the protest march Sunday night from Duck Point to Babey Sir Syed Gate on the AMU campus.

Police said the protestors had

not taken any prior permission for their march. The FIR says the students marched in "support" of a "terrorist group." Aatif, Khalid, Kaamran, and Naved Chaudhry are the four students named in the FIR, Pathak said.

BJP MP from Aligarh, Satish Gautam, in a statement, said he had asked police and the AMU acting vice Chancellor to take stringent action against the protesters.

Security arrangements on the campus have been tightened as a precautionary measure.

Israel witnessed a surprise and unprecedented attack by Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, in its southern parts on Saturday morning.

More than 700 people, including soldiers, have been killed and more than 2,100 injured in Israel in the deadliest war for the country in at least 50 years.

GATHERING ITS DEAD

## Gaza Under Fiercest Israeli Bombardment Ever



Agencies

**GAZA:** Israel pounded the Gaza Strip on Tuesday with the fiercest air strikes in its 75-year conflict with the Palestinians, razing whole districts to dust despite a threat from Hamas militants to execute a captive for each home hit.

Across the barrier wall surrounding the strip, Israeli soldiers were collecting the last of the dead four days after Palestinian fighters rampaged through towns in by far the deadliest attack in Israel's history.

Israel has vowed to take "mighty revenge", calling up hundreds of thousands of reservists and placing Gaza, crowded home to 2.3 million people, under total siege.

Israel's embassy in Washington said the death toll from weekend's stunning Palestinian operation had surpassed 1,000.

The victims were both civilians inhabiting illegal settlements and military personnel, gunned down in homes, on streets or at a dance party. Estimated hundred Israelis and some foreigners were captured and taken to Gaza as hostages, some paraded through the streets.

Gaza's health ministry said Israel's retaliatory strikes had killed at least 770 people

and wounded more than 4,000. The victims are overwhelmingly civilians, including women and children. The air strikes, already the heaviest ever, intensified on Tuesday night, shaking the ground and pouring columns of smoke and flames into the morning sky.

The United Nations said more than 180,000 Gazans had been made homeless, many huddling on streets or in schools.

At the morgue in Gaza's Khan Yunis hospital, bodies were laid on the ground on stretchers with names written on their bellies. Medics called for relatives to pick up bodies quickly because there was no more space for the dead.

A municipal building was hit while being used as an emergency shelter; survivors there spoke of many dead.

"There is an extraordinary number of martyrs, people are still under the rubble, some friends are either martyrs or wounded," said Ala Abu Tair, 35, who had sought shelter there with his family after fleeing Abassan Al-Kabira near the border. "No place is safe in Gaza, as you see they hit everywhere."

Radwan Abu al-Kass, a boxing instructor and father of

three, said he had been one of the last to evacuate his five-storey building in the Al Rimal district after the area came under attack. He finally left when a missile hit the building, which was destroyed by a bigger strike after he got out.

"The whole district was just erased," he said.

Three Gaza journalists were killed when an Israeli missile hit a building while they were outside reporting, bringing the number of journalists killed to six.

U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said civilians had been harmed in Israeli strikes on tower blocks, schools and U.N. buildings.

"International humanitarian law is clear: the obligation to take constant care to spare the civilian population and civilian objects remains applicable throughout the attacks," he said.

TRAIL OF BLOOD

In Israel, there has still been no complete official count of the dead and missing from Saturday's attacks. In the southern town of Be'eri, where more than 100 bodies have been retrieved, volunteers in yellow vests and face masks solemnly carried the dead out of homes on stretchers.

## Iran's Leader: Israel to Receive 'Heavier Slap' for Gaza Massacre

**TEHRAN:** Iran's Supreme Leader said on Tuesday Israel will receive "a heavier slap" for the regime's ongoing massacre of the Palestinian people in the besieged Gaza Strip.

"The Zionists should know that with the massacre of the people of Gaza, they will receive a heavier slap," Ayatollah Khamenei told a ceremony at the Imam Ali Military University in Tehran.

Israel ferociously pounded buildings in Gaza Tuesday as battles continued in southern towns which Palestinian fighters overran in a blitzkrieg on Saturday.

"In this Oct. 7 incident, the uprising Zionist regime suffered an irreparable defeat both in terms of military and intelligence. Everyone admitted the defeat but I emphasize irreparability."

"I say that this devastating



earthquake has managed to destroy some of the main structures of the usurping regime's governance, which cannot be rebuilt so easily," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei hailed the Palestinian youth for single-handedly pulling off a stunning upset over the Israeli army.

"We kiss the foreheads and arms of the skillful and intelligent designers and Palestinian youth, but those who say that the recent epic is the work of

non-Palestinians suffer from miscalculation," he said.

Ayatollah Khamenei said the Israelis are to blame themselves for the defeat, but they have opted to play the victim.

Iran leader said no Muslim nation in contemporary history has ever faced as much hostile and cruel regime as Israel. Neither has any nation been under as much pressure, siege and shortage as that of the Palestinian nation.



## Supporting Terror Outfits: BJP After Congress Extends Support To Palestine

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The BJP on Monday accused the Congress of supporting terror organisations after the Congress Working Committee affirmed its support for the rights of the Palestinian people to land, self-government and to live with dignity. In a post on X, Union minister Pralhad Joshi asked how will Congress protect the nation and its citizens when it is "openly standing with violence?"

"Congress at it again! Supporting terror organisations and terrorism while innocent civilians lose their lives to bullets," he said.

"With this stand, the leading party of I.N.D.I Alliance has exposed itself to the nation. How will the party protect its nation and citizens when it is openly standing with violence," Mr Joshi added.

Amid the Israel-Hamas conflict, the Congress Working Committee Monday reiterated its long-standing support for the rights of the Palestinian people to land, self-govern-

ment and to live with dignity while also calling for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations on all outstanding issues.

In a resolution passed at its four-hour meeting, the Congress' top decision-making body said the CWC expresses its dismay and anguish on the war that has broken out in the Middle East where over a thousand people have been killed in the last two days.

The assertions in the CWC resolution came a day after Congress condemned the attacks on the people of Israel, saying violence of any type never provides any solution and must stop.

Israel witnessed a surprise and unprecedented attack by Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, in its southern parts on Saturday morning.

Israel said it has brought in special forces to try to wrest control of four sites from Hamas fighters in response to the terrorist group's unprecedented incursion into Israel. More than 1,100 people have been killed and thousands wounded on both sides.

## NewsClick Founder Prabir Purkayastha Sent To 10-Day Judicial Custody



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi court Tuesday sent to 10-day judicial custody NewsClick founder Prabir Purkayastha and human resources department head Amit Chakravarty, arrested in a case lodged under anti-terror law UAPA over allegations that the news portal received money to spread pro-China propaganda. The two were produced before Additional Sessions Judge Hardeep Kaur around 2:50 PM.

The prosecution sought 10 days judicial custody for the duo, which was firmly opposed by Mr Purkayastha's counsel, who asserted "prima facie" no case was made out against his client.

"What terrorist act have I committed? How can I as a journalist commit such an act? What is the allegation in the FIR? That we have done critical reporting of (government's) Covid policy and farmers protest. Is that terrorism?" the lawyer said.

The counsel said if there was even an iota of doubt about their guilt, sending them to judicial custody will be a "travesty of justice".

The counsel for Mr Chakravarty argued he was not a journalist nor had he received any payment.

"There is no such allegation that there is a map of India, published by NewsClick, that shows India without Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh," he said.

Countering the arguments, the Special Public Prosecutor (SPP) Atul Shrivastava said the case was at a stage when evidence was still being collected, and the prosecution has sought judicial custody for the accused in all "fairness".

The Special Cell of Delhi Police had arrested Mr Purkayastha and Mr Chakravarty on October 3. Police also sealed NewsClick's office in Delhi.

According to the FIR, a large amount of funds to the news portal came from China to "disrupt the sovereignty of India" and cause disaffection against the country.

It also alleged Mr Purkayastha conspired with a group -- People's Alliance for Democracy and Secularism (PADS) -- to sabotage the electoral process during the 2019 Lok Sabha polls.

## In Q&A With Students, Rahul Gandhi Answers Why He Isn't Married

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** His skin care regimen, his favourite food and that inevitable poser - why isn't he married? Rahul Gandhi was subjected to a host of questions by women students in Jaipur and gamely answered them all, saying he remains a bachelor because he is "completely entangled" in his work and the Congress.

A video of Rahul Gandhi's interaction with students from Jaipur's Maharani College was released on his social media platforms today. The discussion veered from issues such as the caste census and the role of women in the freedom struggle to the need for financial independence and candid queries about his likes and dislikes.

"You are so smart and good looking... why have you not thought about marriage?" one woman asked the



53-year-old former Congress president.

"Because I am completely entangled in my work and in the Congress party," was the prompt answer.

Asked about his favourite cuisine, Rahul Gandhi said he is fine with everything except bitter melon, peas and spinach.

His favourite destination, he said, is "anywhere I have not gone".

"I always like to see new places." Gandhi was also asked what he applies on his

skin. The answer -- he never applies cream or soap on his face and only washes it with water.

According to Rahul Gandhi, the role of women in the freedom struggle was no less than men so why should they have less rights.

He spoke at length about financial autonomy for women.

"Women are never actually explained about how money works, how power works, what money is," Mr Gandhi said when asked about dis-

crimination against women in society.

"You have been studying since the last 20 years but no one has told you that this is money, this is its definition... why?" A student replied that women would be independent when they learn this and that is why they are not taught about it.

"If a woman has a job but does not understand money, that won't work. If a woman doesn't have a job but understands money, that is a powerful thing. If women don't understand these things, then they are always dependent on a man who either has a job or understands these things," he said.

According to Rahul Gandhi, the role of women in the freedom struggle was no less than men so why should they have less rights.

During the interaction on September 23, Mr Gandhi was also reminded of a fa-

mous meme involving him where he says, "Khatam, tata, bye-bye, gaya".

Sometimes, he responded, one has to say such things. He then pointed to his team, adding that they were putting pressure on him to end the interaction and said, "Khatam, tata, bye-bye".

Asked what he would be if not a politician, he said, "I'm actually many things. I am a teacher. I teach youngsters...I am a cook. So, I am multiple things. That is a complicated thing to put across."

Rahul Gandhi has been interacting with various sections of society - from mechanics and porters to students and carpenters - asserting that his Bharat Jodo Yatra he undertook from Kanyakumari to Kashmir continues with these interactions.

He recently also visited Ladakh and met various social groups.

## AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan Raided In Money-Laundering Case



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** The Enforcement Directorate on Tuesday raided the premises of AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan in Delhi as part of a money-laundering investigation against him and some others, official sources said.

The 49-year-old legislator represents the Okhla constituency in the Delhi Assembly.

The Enforcement Directorate

(ED) searches are being undertaken under provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

The federal agency has taken cognisance of a Delhi Anti-Corruption Bureau FIR and a Central Bureau of Investigation FIR against the legislator, related to alleged corruption linked to illegal appointments in the Delhi Waqf Board.

Mr Khan is the Delhi Waqf Board chairman.

## Lecturer Booked For 'Tearing' Student's Hijab

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** Police on Tuesday booked a lecturer under the Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act for allegedly tearing a student's Hijab at a government school in North Kashmir's Bandipora district.

An official said that a girl student in her complaint stated that she was seated in the classroom when the lecturer approached her and forcibly removed and tore her Hijab.

He said that the girl stated that the lecturer had been harassing her and her classmates for a while, but today he crossed the line and forcibly removed her Hijab.

Meanwhile, the student said that she had discussed harassment issue with her parents previously. "On one occasion, when my mother visited the school regarding the matter, the accused lecturer confronted and shouted at her and questioned her presence in the school premises", she alleged.

The student said that she had repeatedly reported this issue to the school principal and other staff members, but regrettably, no action was ever taken.

Meanwhile, a police official said that a case under section 354 IPC and 9/10 POCSO Act has been registered at police station Bandipora and further investigation is on. (KNO)

## Holiday On Urs Of Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani On Friday

**SRINAGAR:** The government on Tuesday said that the provincial holiday on account of "Urs-e-Hazrat Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani" shall be held on Friday instead of Wednesday.

"In partial modification of Government Order No. 1596-JK(GAD)

of 2022 dated 30.12.2022, the provincial holiday on account of "Urs-e-Hazrat Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Noorani" shall now be observed in Kashmir Province on 13.10.2023 (Friday) instead of 11.10.2023 (Wednesday)," reads a government order.

## MeT Predicts Dry Weather In J&K Till Oct 13



Kashmir Observer

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** After overnight rains in plains and snowfall over upper reaches, the weather was clear at most places in Jammu and Kashmir with the meteorological department on Tuesday predicting mainly clear skies till October 13.

Quoting a meteorological department official, news agency GNS reported that a brief spell of rain/snowfall over higher reaches may occur but "chances are less."

He said that weather is expected to be mainly dry for 40m

October 11 to 13. From October 14-17, he said, intermittent light to moderate rain and snowfall over higher reaches was likely at many places of Jammu and Kashmir and its chances ranged between 60-70%.

Regarding the rainfall from last evening till 0830 hours today, he said, Srinagar received 16.7mm, Qazigund 17.2mm, Pahalgam 16.6mm, Kupwara 3.6mm, Kokernag 21.0mm, Gulmarg 26.6mm, Jammu 27.5mm, Banihal 30mm, Batote 35.2mm, Katra 32.4mm and Baderwah 18.4mm.

## Union MoS Visits Religious Sites, Inspects Dev Scenario



Observer News Service

**SAMBA:** The second day of public outreach program of Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Meenakshi Lekhi, began on Tuesday with her visit to the ancient Buddhist site, Ambaran.

She inspected the Buddhist stupa, Akhnoor fort and the Jio-Pota Ghat, situated on the banks of river Chenab signifying the rich historical and cultural heritage of the region.

Afterwards, Meenakshi Lekhi visited ancient Narsingh Dham Temple, Ghagwal in Samba and offered prayers there.

Later, Union Minister inaugurated an exhibition of women Self Help Groups (SHGs) stalls in Nakshatra Gardens of Narsingh Dham. She inspected the stalls and interacted with the officials of handloom and handicrafts Department stall. She witnessed a live demonstration of Calico Block printing on fabric and even printed a fabric herself. She appreciated the unique talent of calico printers and provided valuable suggestions on contemporary fabrics and styles. She also commended the work done by NRLM UMEED.

In a heartwarming gesture, she prepared traditional Bajra

rotis on a chulha, demonstrating her respect for local traditions and culinary practices.

On the occasion, Meenakshi Lekhi interacted with a large gathering of PRIs and SHG members at the Nakshatra Yoga center, speaking highly of the NRLM's role in empowering women and providing them with a platform and identity.

Addressing the gathering, Union Minister stated that various government initiatives, such as the Ujjwala Yojana, creation of toilets and Ayushman cards have played an instrumental role in empowering the women. She passionately urged upon women to reduce plastic use, emphasizing the importance of environmental sustainability. She also highlighted the significance of promoting the use of millets due to their nutritional and cost-effective benefits. She recommended the use of bamboo cultivation and products in the district.

Union Minister, SHG members, along with prominent figures, also took a pledge to serve the nation wholeheartedly.

Later, Meenakshi Lekhi proceeded to Purmandal, where she visited the ancient Shiv Temple. She offered prayers at the temple and inspected the temple site.



**WORKERS RAISE A RETENTION** wall at the site of under-construction Zojila tunnel in Sonamarg area of Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

'Provocative Speeches' Case

## Delhi LG Okays Prosecution Of Roy, Kashmir Prof

Press Trust Of India

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi Lt Governor V K Saxena has accorded sanction for the prosecution of author Arundhati Roy and a former Kashmiri professor in a 2010 case related to alleged provocative speeches, Raj Niwas officials said on Tuesday.

The FIR against Roy and former professor Sheikh Showkat Hussain was registered following the orders of the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate, New Delhi, they added.

"LG V K Saxena noted that prima facie a case is made out against Roy and Dr Hussain, former Professor, International Law, Central University of Kashmir, for commission of offence under sections 153A (promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth,

residence, language, etc., and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony), 153B (imputations, assertions prejudicial to national-integration) and 505 (statements conducing to public mischief) of Indian Penal Code for their speeches at a public function in the national capital," a Raj Niwas official said on Tuesday.

Under Section 196(1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), a valid sanction for prosecution from the state government is a prerequisite for certain offences such as hate speech, hurting religious sentiments, hate crimes, sedition, waging war against state and promoting enmity among others.

Two other accused -- Kashmiri separatist leader Sayed Ali Shah Geelani and a Delhi University lecturer Syed Abdul

Rahman Geelani, who was acquitted by the Supreme Court in Parliament attack case on technical grounds -- died during the pendency of the case.

Sushil Pandit, a social activist from Kashmir, had filed a complaint on October 28, 2010 with the Tilak Marg Station House Officer against various people and speakers involved in delivering "provocative speeches" in public in a conference organised by 'Committee for release of Political Prisoners (CRPP) under the banner of "Azadi - The only Way", on October 21.

The complainant had alleged that the issue discussed and propagated was "Separation of Kashmir from India".

It was also alleged the speeches were provocative in nature, thus jeopardising public peace and security.

'Restoration Of Democratic Rights'

## Opposition Parties Stage Protest In Jammu

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** The main opposition parties in Jammu and Kashmir, including the National Conference, Congress and PDP, on Tuesday staged a nearly three-hour-long dharna for restoration of democratic and constitutional rights in the Union Territory.

This was the first major protest here since the revocation of the special status to Jammu and Kashmir in 2019.

The protest at Maharaja Hari Singh Park in the heart of Jammu was supposed to be led by National Conference president Farooq Abdullah, but he could not make it to the heavily guarded venue due to "ill health."

However, senior party leaders led by provincial president Rattan Lal Gupta participated in the protest.

Likewise, PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti also did not participate in the protest but almost all senior leaders of the party in Jammu, including vice presi-

dent Abdul Hameed Choudhary and former MLC Firdous Tak, were part of the protest.

National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Monday said the election commission not announcing the poll schedule for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly can push people to take to streets for their right to have an elected government.

"It seems like we are being pushed to a situation where we have to protest even for our democratic rights," Abdullah had told reporters in Srinagar on Monday, shortly after the election commission announced the poll schedule for five states - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Telangana and Mizoram.

Hundreds of leaders and workers of various parties including CPI(M), National Panthers Party (NPP), Awami National Conference, Shiv Sena (UBT), Awami National Conference and social organisations turned up for the protest.

"The opposition parties

have come together to demand immediate restoration of statehood, democratic and constitutional rights," Pradesh Congress Committee president Vikar Rasool Wani said.

"We will continue our protest for the rights of the people and safeguarding their interests," he further said.

Wani alleged the BJP is delaying elections deliberately, knowing fully that it, along with its allies like the Democratic Progressive Azad Party and the Apni Party, will face the rout in the electoral battles.

CPI(M) leader M Y Tarigami said they have no hope from the BJP-led central government as all its promises have proved "false".

PDP's Tak termed the joint protest as a "positive sign" for the people of Jammu and Kashmir and said the message from this platform to the country is that all opposition parties need to stand up against the "divisive politics" of the present dispensation to safeguard the secularism and the "idea of India."

Encroachment Of Forests

## HC Seeks Govt Response Without 'Failure'

M Ahmad

**SRINAGAR:** The High Court of J&K and Ladakh has asked the government to file "without fail" response to a Public Interest Litigation alleging that various forest areas have been indiscriminately encroached upon and used for commercial purposes in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Response has not been filed. Let the same be filed without fail, considering the importance of the issues raised, as it has been alleged that various forest areas have been indiscriminately encroached upon and used for commercial purposes," a division bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi said. The court has directed the government to file the response by or before No-

ember 15.

The order by the court comes nearly a fortnight after it granted four weeks time to CBI to inform it whether the sanction has been granted from the concerned authority for filing the charge sheet, if not and assign the reasons there for if it is not filed regarding illegal constructions at Patnitop.

On December 31, 2019, the court had directed Director Central Bureau of Investigation to conduct in-depth enquiry into encroachment on forest land and other public land; illegal change of use and misuse of the land in violation of the permitted use; raising of illegal constructions; failure of the authorities to take action and fix the responsibility.

## Closes PIL On Parks

M Ahmad

**SRINAGAR:** J&K and Ladakh High Court has closed a Public Interest Litigation pertaining to lack of green space and parks especially in twin capitals of Srinagar and Jammu.

"...this Court is satisfied that the authorities are doing the needful for maintenance and preservation of the green space and parks," a Division Bench of Chief Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice Moksha Khajuria Kazmi said while closing the PIL initiated in 2017.

"We are of the view that it may not be necessary for us to monitor the same at this stage and accordingly, the present PIL is closed with the above observations," the court said, adding, "However, it goes without saying that if the authorities do not continue with or fail to maintain and preserve the green space and parks, liberty is granted to the petitioner for reactivation of the PIL."

The court's orders followed perusal of status reports filed by the authorities, highlight the various measures taken to maintain and preserve parks and gardens in and around the city of Srinagar as well as in Jammu

The authorities submitted that they successfully completed the Tulip Show with the concerted efforts of various wings of administration. The Tulip garden, they said, has earned a prestigious spot in the World Book of Records

(London). "This has been a monumental recognition of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir hailing the Tulip garden as Asia's largest tulip paradise, adorned with 1.5 million tulip bulbs," they said.

They also submitted that four Mughal Gardens namely Nishat, Shalimar, Cheshmashahi and Pari Mahal have been placed in the tentative list of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites. They said that a pilot project has been undertaken by the department of Floriculture and JSWF (a public charitable trust) wherein a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed on 28 July 2021 for a collaborative partnership for the conservation and maintenance work at the select sites of Shalimar Bagh and Nishat Bagh.

Similarly, Director Floriculture submitted that the department is presently maintaining 64 Parks and Gardens in the Jammu Division having an area of 1898.74 Kanals. The Director said single use plastic and other plastic material has been strictly prohibited in all the existing parks and Gardens maintained by the Department. "All the existing Parks & Gardens maintained by the Department have been provided with Grill fencing so that no vision is obstructed from the outside," the Director said, adding, "There is no encroachment in any of the parks/Gardens maintained by the Department as per the report of the field officers."

## Seminary Building Demolished In Pulwama

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** Authorities have demolished a building of a religious seminary constructed on government land in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir, a year after two militants were killed there in a gunfight with security forces, officials said Tuesday.

The building at Chewa Kalan village in Pulwama district was demolished Monday night by

revenue authorities based on recommendations of the National Investigation Agency, the officials said.

Two terrorists - one local and one foreigner - were killed in the gunfight with security forces at the seminary in March 2022. The NIA had taken over the investigations of the case after police registered an FIR.

According to the officials, the seminary was defunct after the gunfight last year.

## RTO Kashmir Earns Rs 200 Cr In Q1, Q2 Of FY 2023-24

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The Regional Transport Office Kashmir has recorded revenue of Rs 216 Cr. in the first two quarters of current financial year 2022-23, representing a growth of 30 percent compared to the previous financial year during the same period.

The information was shared during a meeting led by Syed Shahnawaz Bukhari, Regional Transport Officer Kashmir.

The meeting also highlighted a significant achievement by the MVD Kashmir as they issued a record number of 1607 Fresh Commercial Route Permits for Maxi Cabs, Taxis, and Buses in the last six months, after the process was resumed after nearly 10 years. This showcases the department's proactive efforts in liberalizing commercial permits and improving transportation services.

Furthermore, the RTO commended the officers and officials of MVD for their remarkable performance in collecting fines for various road safety, traffic and transport violations. The fines collected have witnessed a remarkable growth of 71 percent, with total recovery increasing from Rs 0.87 Cr. to Rs 1.50 Cr. during the period under review.

RTO urged officers to continue working with enthusiasm towards this objective and emphasized that violators should not only be penalized, but their driving licenses, registration of vehicles, and commercial permits should be suspended and cancelled.

It was given out in the meeting that across all the districts of Kashmir division, 303 driving licenses, 52 registration certificates of vehicles, and 305 commercial permits were suspended or cancelled in the last two quarters.

KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Wednesday | 11-10-2023

## Win for NC-Congress

In a largely predictable result, the National Conference (NC) and Congress alliance swept the elections to Ladakh Hill Development Council (LAHDC) of Kargil district. The alliance secured 22 seats, while the BJP managed to win only two seats, with two going to Independent candidates. The result is being read as a sign of dissatisfaction with the policies of the BJP-led central government post-2019.

The NC and Congress see this election victory as a triumph for the newly formed INDIA Alliance, comprising Congress and the NC. However, it's essential to recognize that this win is localized and may not significantly impact the upcoming national elections. Still, it underlines the need for the central government to listen to the voices of the people in Ladakh and address their concerns, lest the discontent continues to simmer.

Over the past four years, Ladakh has been nursing a deepening sense of grievance against New Delhi. Following the revocation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, and which incidentally was celebrated in Leh district, the region has sought constitutional protections from the central government to ensure its land and jobs were reserved only for local residents. Before the reorganization of Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh had four MLAs and two MLCs in the then state Assembly, providing a stronger voice for the region. Now, one Member of Parliament democratically represents the region.

The region is now directly ruled by the central government through a Lieutenant Governor, which its residents think renders the democratically elected LAHDCs, both in Leh and Kargil, somewhat redundant. This sense of disempowerment has united the people of Leh and Kargil, who are now advocating together for statehood and the protection of their rights.

Earlier also, the LAHDC has demanded statehood, the extension of the sixth schedule, separate Lok Sabha seats for Leh and Kargil, and the establishment of a Public Service Commission. Significantly, the Apex Body Leh (ABL) and the Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA) have displayed rare political unity, jointly protesting and organizing strikes to advocate for their demands.

The question that looms now is how the newly formed NC-Congress coalition, leading the LAHDC-Kargil, will press for statehood. The NC's stated policy includes the reversal of Article 370, but its actions within the LAHDC will determine the path forward. As for the victory being seen as that of INDIA Alliance, it is a stretch at this time. Both Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have very little sway in national politics. One thing we expect the new LAHDC to do is to ensure better governance to the local population as primarily their role is of a civic nature.

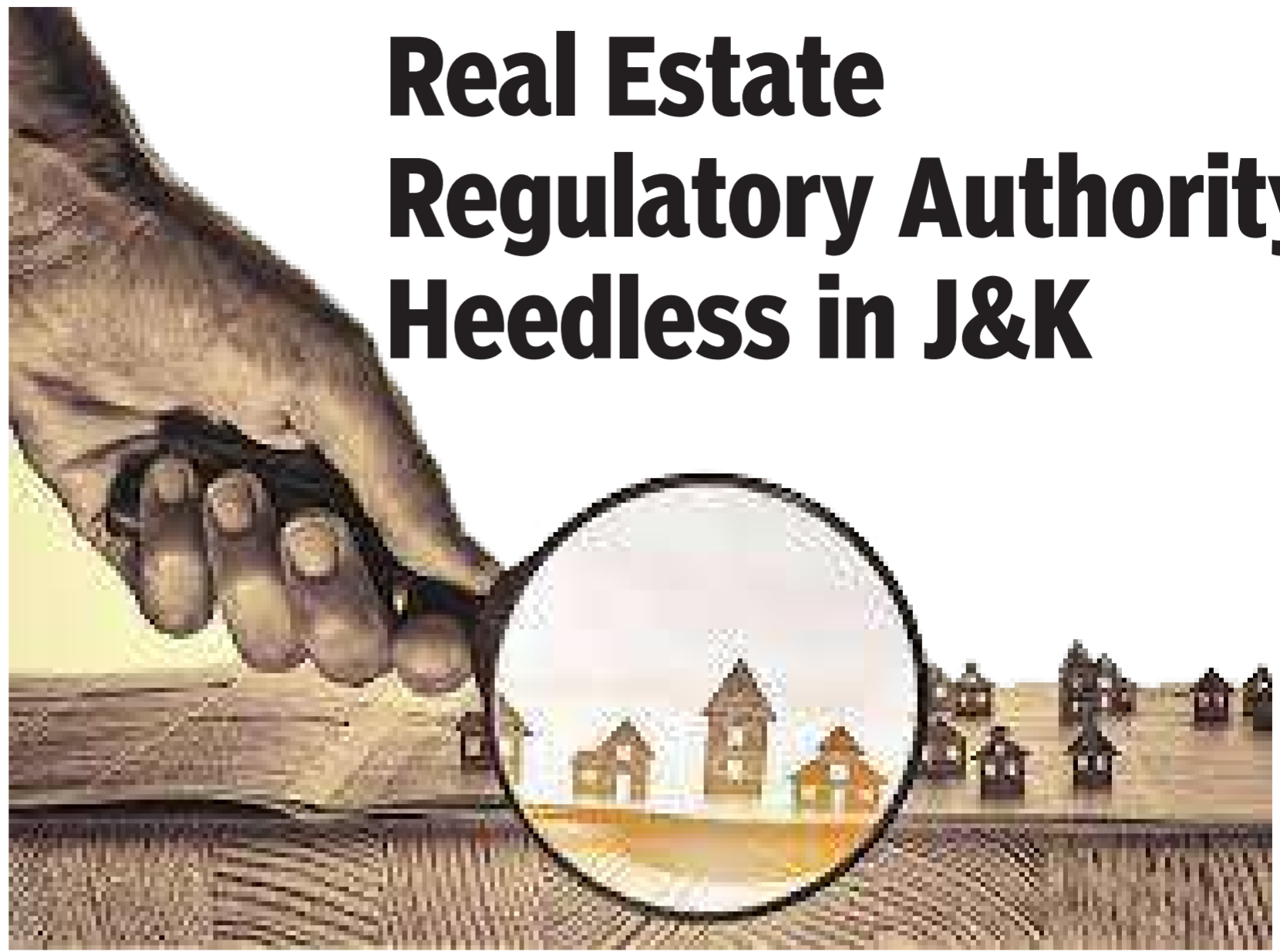
### OTHER OPINION

## Original Sin

The unprecedented surprise attack by Hamas on Israel on Saturday, killing some 700 people, should serve as a reminder of the unsustainability of the situation in the occupied and blockaded Palestinian territories and the dangers that non-state actors such as Hamas pose to Israel, no matter how strong their military and intelligence agencies are. Tensions have been flaring in the West Bank for months, but nobody expected such a coordinated, low-tech yet lethal incursion from Gaza. The West Bank has seen violence on a daily basis in recent months. Before Saturday's attack, some 200 Palestinians and 30 Israelis were killed this year alone. The Benjamin Netanyahu government largely ignored the violence, and went ahead with its other policy preferences, including the overhaul of the judiciary. The Israeli military described the situation in Gaza as "stable instability", noting that the situation, though volatile, was under control. And then came the Hamas attack, reminiscent of the 1973 Yom Kippur war when Egypt and Syria shook Israel. Hamas, an Islamist militant organisation that carried out suicide attacks in the 1990s and early 2000s, showed no distinction between civilians and soldiers, dealing the bloodiest blow to Israel in recent history.

The attack raises moral and pragmatic questions. Hamas's indiscriminate violence against Israeli civilians is repugnant and is not going to help the Palestinian cause in any way. On the contrary, it will put more Palestinian lives at risk as Israel, equally disregarding civilian casualties, is pounding the besieged enclave. But at the same time, Palestinian territories, under the yoke of the longest occupation in modern history, have been a fuming volcano. There is no peace process. Israel has continued to build settlements in the West Bank, raising security barriers and checkpoints, limiting Palestinian movements, and never hesitating to use force or collective punishment to keep organised Palestinians under check. This status quo has only turned Palestinians more radical and Hamas even stronger. Israel has now declared war. But past attacks — ground invasions and air strikes — have done little to weaken Hamas. West Asia has also witnessed geopolitical realignments in recent years — from the Israel-Arab reconciliation to the Iran-Saudi détente. But these changes have conveniently sidestepped the occupation of Palestine, West Asia's original sin, letting the status quo prevail. But the status quo cannot prevail without consequences. If Israel and other regional and international players want lasting peace and stability in the region, their focus must turn to finding a solution to the question of Palestine. The military operations without addressing the core issue would only be cosmetic interventions.

The Hindu



# Real Estate Regulatory Authority Headless in J&K

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

The real estate sector in India saw a huge growth in the last 20 years. The returns from investments in the real estate sector have been huge as compared to other sectors. This is the reason people have preferred to invest in this sector. There has been a downfall also during the last five to six years in some cities but still this sector is performing better. The property buyers however have been concerned about lack of accountability in this sector. In spite of being such a huge sector with billions of rupees being invested all over the country the real estate sector was not guided by a separate legislation. There have been several instances wherein the builders delayed in giving possession to the customers.

As these cases rose to a great level, the Govt decided to streamline the sector by protecting rights of property buyers and to boost the real estate investments as well. The legislative process to enact a law began during Congress led UPA Government in 2013. On 14th August 2013 the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha. On 9th September 2013 this bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Urban Development. Lots of deliberations took place between different stakeholders in October and November 2013 which included Govt, representatives from real estate sector, NGOs etc.

In Feb 2014, the Standing Committee and Urban Development Ministry submitted its report to the Parliament. On 7th April 2015, the Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave approval for making new amendments in this bill which was introduced in Rajya Sabha on 6th May 2015 and referred to the standing committee with 21 Rajya Sabha members. The committee made some changes and 20 amendments were introduced and finally the bill was passed by Rajya Sabha on 10th March 2016. The Lok Sabha also passed this bill on March 15th and on March 25th 2016 President of India gave his assent to the bill. From May 1st 2016 The Real Estate Regulatory and Development Act -RERA came into force across the country except Jammu & Kashmir.

### RERA in J&K

As Real Estate Regulatory and Development Act 2016 could not be extended to J&K in view of Article 370, the J&K Government headed by the then Governor Satya Pal Malik on December 16th 2018 gave assent to enact a similar state law in J&K called Jammu & Kashmir Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2018. This was the time when BJP had taken back its support from PDP and the erstwhile state was put under President's rule. Finally the Govt of India in October 2020 implemented Real Estate (Regulatory & Development) Act (RERA) in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir through a Gazette notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). The order issued on Gazette of India, under provisions of the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) Reorganisation (Adaptation of Central Laws), said: "The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act (RERA), 2016 will now be applicable in the UT and Section 86- In sub-section (2), for the Union territory Government of Puducherry occurring at both the places, substitute, the Union Territory Government of Puducherry or the Union territory Government of Jammu and Kashmir".

“ Builders in J&K are not following the Real Estate Law as they make massive constructions without anyone to take action against them. The builders, as per media reports, go for more floors in the buildings especially around Jammu and such constructions are made which are not approved in the original plans. Like other states many customers are not given possession in time by the builders and there is nobody to hear their grievances

After 4 months, J&K Government in February 2021, initiated the process for constitution of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) under the provisions of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016.

The J&K Housing and Urban Development Department issued an open advertisement inviting applications from eligible/desirable persons for selection to the post of Chairperson and Member(s) of the RERA. On August 1st 2022 after almost 2 years of extension of this central law (RERA) to the UT of J&K, a Retired IAS officer and former Chief Secretary Goa, Rai was appointed as the first chairperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) on August 1, 2022.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 22 of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, the J&K government appoints Parimal Rai, IAS (retired), as Chairperson of the J&K Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA)," read the notification issued by the then Principal Secretary Housing and Urban Development Department Dheeraj Gupta. After 50 days of his appointment Parimal Rai resigned from the post of RERA Chairperson. The Govt accepted his resignation with effect from August 12th 2022.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 24 of the Real Estate Regulation and Development Act, 2016, the Government of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir hereby accepts the resignation of Parimal Rai, IAS (retired), from the post of Chairperson Jammu and Kashmir Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA), w.e.f., August 12, 2022," read the order issued by Principal Secretary J&K Housing and Urban Development Department J&K Government.

### Importance of RERA

As explained above, the Real Estate Regulation and Development Act (RERA) was enacted by the Parliament to regulate the real estate industry in India and safeguard home buyers' rights. Before this law was enacted the property buyers especially flat or homebuyers in India frequently complained that the real estate sector was tilted in the favour of the builders and developers. That was the main reason the Govt of India came up with RERA to make real estate

transactions between the homebuyers, customers and real estate dealers more transparent and equitable. The preamble of this act says that this act is to establish the Real Estate Regulatory Authority for regulation and promotion of the real estate sector and to ensure sale of plot, apartment or building, as the case may be, or sale of real estate project, in an efficient and transparent manner. It further reads:

"To protect the interest of consumers in the real estate sector and to establish an adjudicating mechanism for speedy dispute redressal and also to establish the Appellate Tribunal to hear appeals from the decisions, directions or orders of the Real Estate Regulatory Authority and the adjudicating officer and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The main objectives of the Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016 are listed as under:

To set up a Real Estate Regulatory Authority -RERA in every state and union territory of India which will protect the rights and interests of the homebuyers in India

To maintain transparency in real estate transactions & to ensure the accurate flow of information between developers and homebuyers

To impose greater responsibilities on builders as well as buyers and to uplift the credibility of the real estate sector in India and attract investors

### Conclusion

In the past, I have written extensively on non-implementation of central laws in J&K particularly Right to Information Act (RTI), Right to Education Act (RTE), Forest Rights Act (FRA), Consumer Protection Act, Fair Compensation Act. The Real Estate Regulation and Development Act 2016 is another progressive law that is not being enforced on the ground. I filed a detailed video report about this issue in Kashmir Observer's digital platform some months ago.

At a time when the government wants more investments in the real estate sector in J&K it is a matter of concern that the Real Estate Regulatory Authority-RERA is yet to be constituted under the Real Estate Regulation and Development Act 2016.

Builders in J&K are not following the Real Estate Law as they make massive constructions without anyone to take action against them. The builders, as per media reports, go for more floors in the buildings especially around Jammu and such constructions are made which are not approved in the original plans. Like other states many customers are not given possession in time by the builders and there is nobody to hear their grievances.

The government must hold an audit of all the progressive central laws applicable in J&K post article 370 abrogation. In-fact, this issue was raised by this author before the Union Home Minister Mr Amit Shah in November 2021 at Raj Bhavan Srinagar during his Kashmir visit. The Union Minister in front of the entire administration had shown seriousness about the issue and gave assurance to ensure better implementation of progressive central laws. It is now around 2 years since that meeting but we see many central laws not being enforced which includes Real Estates Regulation and Development Act -2016.

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

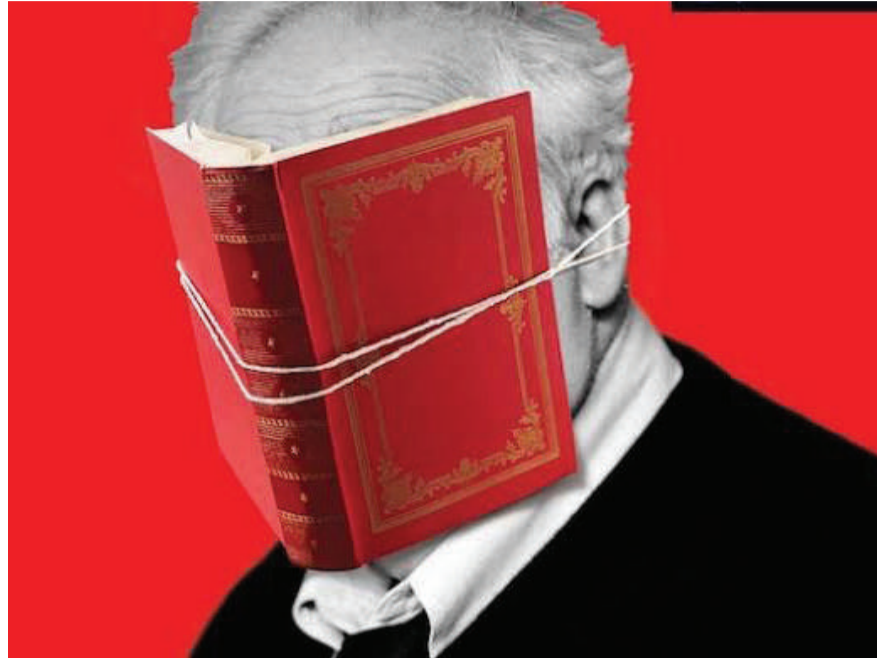
# Facebook Literature and the Death of Literary Sensibility

FIRDOUS BAHAR

Who would dare to come-up with a word of myriad positive significations, and to sway the kind of audience to whom even the prophets fail to move? Yes, it's the sheer negative idiosyncrasy that is looming large onto the art and foil of present literary canon known to the outside world as Kashmir; Cashmere-the refined, posh, and delicate one in every aspect, so does in the dimension of beaux arts as well. But from the past few years, the flux of wannabe-scribblers conclusion has contorted the linear-shape of its literary dome.

Dabblers writing in English, or some in their vernacular don't give a damn to look into the standard writing parameters, meters like editing, proof-reading, re-checking for typos and other such blunders to put straight before making the work of art public. Besides, the rush of self-publishing has totally camouflaged the entire scene, several of these impatient neophytes [so I would like to refer them here] are in the run trying to garner themselves a place in literary circles sans having the fiber to bake themselves in an oven of écriture that demands scarification of time and energy. That is to say, after quick-fame and prestige these novices do not give a whim to the protocols which need to be followed in t'is sublime pursuit, neither do they hark to the bell of their conscience which keeps donging by reminding them what they are doing, is it really worthwhile to do so? Or, should they need to sell some more time, energy, and velocity at workshops; colleges, and universities to hone their writing-caliber in tune with t'is business' ethical codes and morals, so as to carve for themselves a niche in world literature today.

This syndrome is in vogue in general these days, save in some exceptional cases that are maneuvering genuinely to build t'is vale some iota of reputation in the world academia today. Anyway, anyone who yearns to pursue writing as a career should nurture an ever burning flame within, a flame to read voraciously, burn his'er mid-night oil to study queries different profusely, to develop a habit of empirical-research even in the field of social sciences and humanities, and above all, should listen to his'er inner voice which separates evil from good, further, shouldn't stop unless and until, one gets puff'd up with a true-lore, knack and craft of a good writer, hmm, there is a lot of discrepancy b'twixt to read and to study. For example, when one reads one gets merely the cognizance of cover info of a book, that is just the repetition of writer's lines, but when one commences to study, one delves into the unknown realms of writer's being,



and that is where one starts to enjoy and to learn about different things, which lies beyond the compass of one's mental range. Yes, imagination starts to bounce in leaps and bounds, the mind initiates to touch the peripheries of extreme horizons.

Howbeit, a person who is going to write anything, or about something, should be a nitpick, should pay attention to details, a term 'caviler' would be appropriate rather, and above all, the person who is head over heels into writing [has to be indispensably so 'bout it, anyhow] should be his'er own critic, ere someone else might fetch out his'er asterisks into public eye. A good writer is always neat and in utmost unison with his thought-process, and always does away from the hypocrisy, plagiarism, and abstruser-musings of any sort. The bugs which oft confound the readership in a subtle woolgathering which to a certain extent dwindles the power of curiosity of a reader to know what's actually there to know in a book. Presumably, a prospective penner should avoid the aid of baroque intricacy of idioms and phrases, clichéd terminology, age old jargons, and far-fetch'd similes and metaphors. Hitherto, I think, I have put too many imperatives and conditions for an amateur to acquire and to be the consummate master of escrita, [Portuguese word for Writing] thereof. Nevertheless, these stipulated prescriptions are yet to dominate the mise en scène of the current writing system which is gaining currency in Kashmir day in and day out, like the sol-fatara of ignorance in ancient Arabia ere the eminent splurging of the Clement One,

over the one and sundry alike.

Well, the different version of the same ailment making itself visible before us is the production of Facebook-literature which at present is so immense and large that one finds it hard to promulgate even a single syllable valid in substance and structure onto the forefront of a literary platform before the mass proliferation of the junk literary corpus- sprouting in plethora on social media handles like Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Goodreads, Pinterest, LinkedIn, YouTube, just to name a few, and via the stunt of self-publishing. But, just remember, of t'is menace we collectively shall be accountable for it and it will earn us a blemish spot up and down in the annals of history. Because, the current oeuvre d'art is at large, stretching in furlongs from the domain of standard writing parameters, but seriously needs an overhaul by an alchemy of objet d'art of past architectonic pillars of linguists and litterateurs. Rather, an intervention from superior reformers is in regard to surfactant the genres; poetry, essays, short stories, sermons, discourses, narratives, translation works, fiction, non-fiction et cetera, to stop t'is culture of faux pas in literature from becoming a cult, else it would seriously get the second language acquirers or, rather aspirers of Saxon's tongue, into the rutting ground of castigation and humiliation in a long run, more especially in the langue and parole. Hence, shooting up contaminated literature for 'flexing', without proper investigation and editing, publishing without penetrating scrutiny shall bore us negative outcomes in

near future. We should cleanse t'is foul propriety from emerging writing of Kashmir, writing in second-language or in the vernacular asap, also, we should learn to cord-off our sentences, words, letters, very closely ere making them public.

However, the production of junk-yard literature like effervescent micelles of soap and detergent, should be dissuaded at every way possible, unless and until, the subject doesn't meet all the angles of writing. So, that it follows all the aesthetics of writing properly and should indispensably carry on its dos and do nots to further its optimum positive growth. Thus, the process might help to straighten the clenching of social sentences and poetic-passages with lexemes of ostentatiously major but evidently minor significations from becoming a craze. Hence, qué será será. I'm just a slave of my Lord, the master of my naïve narrative.

In addition to t'is, we desperately need to unfurl radical thoughts in our writing, also, we should cling fast to our traditional values, anchor to our age-old prerogative-the resistance culture but unto time with discipline, and guard ourselves from an extravagant flattery of pseudo-nationalism. But opposite to that, we have dilettante[s] who seek 'bubble-reputation' overnight, for a dozen Facebook-likes and comments [which to me is a mere buffoonery, indeed], are ready to feestoon those rooks with garlands and myrtles, who strip them naked in a broad daylight.

A good writer needs appreciation and that we necessarily should do in order to recognise his'er efforts behind his'er workmanship, but we should not do unnecessarily so. Because, that would stunt the growth of imagination of our writers from becoming genuine tale-tellers of the nation. And our nation would become pregnant with a fabricated mass, a heap of junk-litterateurs, whose work will neither have any merit, afterwards, nor any value of any kind.

Yet, another bug which keeps bugging in the writing system of current aspiring writers today is that the language they employ in their writing is often grammatically contaminated. It's great to write in another language which one has mastered via learning, listening, reading, and writing itself, and yet it's not so easy to master it in a day or two. For every portion one needs to spare a great amount of his'er time to exercise on every single aspect to excel smoothly. Sometimes, it demands from us rugged labor in order to be the godfather of a single aspect of any subject.

Habits of a good writer and an eloquent speaker which I have conjectured so far; a person has to have an eclectic-a

heterogeneous reading taste, with that he/she has to be a good listener to pioneer dexterously in these artistic forms. One has to have a nerve and a potential to bear with the prognostic advice of anyone, anyhow. A great speaker, it has been assumed, was a profound listener once. T'is thought often reminds me of a piece of advice of Polonius to his son Laertes in William Shakespeare's acclaimed play "Hamlet" before bidding him farewell to France: "Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice. Take every man's censure, but reserve thy judgment". Rather, it is quite easier to enunciate than to put all t'is counselling into practice. But one who does it, rocks it.

Yet, with an advancement of AI tools-ChatGPT, Caktus, AI Art, Chess, Go, and other such tools which rendered writers, scholars, researchers, painters docile, is another gigantic hindrance which needs to be addressed. Because, the generation of art and literature by Artificial Intelligence is in abundance these days. The machine generated output is in absolute vie with humans to surpass them in creativity and make them [us] mere bones and flesh, without a power to reason, a faculty to imagine and a capacity to create. These tools, if guaranteed full space might reduce men into nothingness, would be a major onslaught on human-intelligencia. Every human being sent on t'is planet does have a purpose to live. But that purpose one realises when one uses the faculty, Almighty has endowed us with; the senses, without which we are no different from animals. It is through t'is faculty called senses we become aware of ourselves, we set our goals, and realise our true potential that what are we capable of, and it has been proclaimed that one who has recognized oneself has rightly identified his creator. But, with the advancement of Artificial Intelligence, human imagination starts to shrink greatly. In a race to become savvy, technological-apparatuses have enlarged our miseries, encircled us like a crocodile does its prey in enchant-full tears. By and large, humans became imbecile, both physically and mentally. Here, we aren't ready to accept yet, because, we know if we're to challenge anything, we need to come out from the cocoon of our sloth and infirmity, that doesn't allow us to speak up against t'is turtle which races from times immemorial with steady steps to prevail onto us over and drape us once and for all. Nonetheless, now is the time we should yoke ourselves in togetherness, and fight with t'is beast of hypocrisy and let the natural order of the world prevail against t'is gag-order put by machines to hamper the progress of human-intelligencia.

The author is has a Masters in English Literature

## The Power of Forgiveness How Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Can Help

Rubin Khoddam

Forgiveness, a seemingly simple word, holds immense power in shaping our emotional well-being. But what is forgiveness, and how does it tie into Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)? Learn the concept of forgiveness, its psychological implications, and how CBT therapy can be a valuable tool in the journey towards forgiveness and healing.

### Defining Forgiveness

At its core, forgiveness is the act of letting go of negative feelings, thoughts, and emotions towards an offense, flaw, or mistake. Oprah Winfrey once defined forgiveness as letting go that the past could be any different. It is not about condoning, approving, or forgetting the wrongdoing; instead, it is a personal, self-directed process that allows us to release bottled anger and resentment. Contrary to common perception, forgiveness does not always involve reconciliation or the need for the other person to be aware of it. It's a self-driven act of kindness we bestow upon ourselves.

### What Forgiveness Is Not

Forgiveness should never be confused with condoning a crime or ignoring the offense. It is a separate entity from reconciliation, although it can be a part of the restitution process if both parties agree. Understanding what forgiveness is not is crucial to embracing its true essence.

### The Psychology of Forgiveness

Psychologists have varying perspectives on forgiveness. It is seen as both an innate reaction and a trait influenced by personality factors. While some may be naturally more forgiving, everyone has the capacity to let go of anger and resentment. Two significant dimensions of forgiveness are emotional forgiveness and cognitive forgiveness.

**Emotional Forgiveness:** This occurs when an emotional apology becomes necessary. Emotional forgiveness allows individuals to

replace negative emotions, such as resentment and revenge, with positive feelings like love. It's about changing emotions rather than thoughts or behaviors.

**Cognitive Forgiveness:** This perspective views transgression as a violation of cognitive structures, such as beliefs. Forgiveness involves letting go of the violation, whether it's a belief about oneself or others.

### How to Start Practicing Forgiveness

Forgiveness is a personal journey that unfolds at its own pace. However, research suggests some steps to initiate the process, such as the REACH method:

- **Recalling and Visualizing:** Reflect on the betrayal and visualize the event.
- **Empathizing Without Minimizing:** Try to understand the motives or circumstances that led to the betrayal.
- **Altruism:** View forgiveness as a gift you give, much like one you'd want to receive.
- **Committing to Forgiveness:** Make a conscious decision to forgive, perhaps by writing it down or sharing it with someone.
- **Holding On:** Continue to embrace your choice to forgive and let go of negative emotions.

### When Forgiveness Is Difficult

Forgiveness can be particularly challenging in situations of deep adversity. It's essential to remember that failing to forgive doesn't make you a bad person. Start small, forgive parts of the event rather than the whole, and gradually work towards complete forgiveness. Be patient with yourself.

### The Importance of Forgiveness

Forgiveness is not just a noble act; it's a vital process for our own well-being. By letting go of anger and resentment, we create a healthier emotional environment within ourselves. Cultivating forgiveness practices can significantly impact our mental health and emotional

healing.

### CBT and Forgiveness

CBT can be a valuable tool in helping individuals with forgiveness by addressing the cognitive and emotional aspects of the forgiveness process. Here's how CBT can assist in fostering forgiveness:

**Identifying Automatic Negative Thoughts:** CBT begins by helping individuals identify automatic negative thoughts related to the person or situation they need to forgive. These thoughts often perpetuate feelings of anger, resentment, or blame. By recognizing and challenging these automatic thoughts, individuals can gain insight into why forgiveness may be challenging for them.

**Cognitive Restructuring:** CBT teaches techniques to reframe negative thought patterns. Therapists work with individuals to replace these thoughts with more rational and compassionate ones. In the context of forgiveness, this means shifting from thoughts of revenge or bitterness to thoughts of understanding and empathy.

**Emotional Regulation:** Forgiveness often involves intense emotions, including anger, sadness, and frustration. CBT equips individuals with emotional regulation skills to manage these feelings constructively. Instead of being overwhelmed by emotions, individuals learn to acknowledge them and respond in a healthier way.

**Empathy and Perspective-Taking:** CBT encourages individuals to see the situation from different perspectives, including that of the person they need to forgive. This can promote empathy and understanding, making it easier to let go of negative emotions.

**Behavioral Strategies:** Forgiveness is not just a cognitive process; it also involves behavioral aspects. CBT can help individuals develop strategies for communicating their forgiveness, if appropriate, and for setting boundaries to prevent future harm.

**Acceptance and Letting Go:** CBT fosters acceptance of the past and the ability to let go of grudges. By working on acceptance, individuals can release the emotional burden they carry

and move towards forgiveness.

**Building Self-Compassion:** Self-forgiveness is often a crucial aspect of the forgiveness process. CBT helps individuals cultivate self-compassion and self-forgiveness by challenging self-criticism and developing a more balanced self-view.

**Goal Setting and Progress Monitoring:** CBT is goal-oriented and encourages individuals to set specific forgiveness-related goals. Therapists assist in monitoring progress, providing a structured framework for the forgiveness journey.

**Coping with Relapses:** Forgiveness is not always linear, and individuals may experience setbacks in their journey. CBT equips them with coping strategies to navigate relapses and continue moving towards forgiveness.

**Improved Mental Health:** As individuals work through forgiveness with CBT, they often experience improved mental health overall. Reduced anger, anxiety, and depression symptoms contribute to a greater sense of well-being.

### Effectiveness of CBT

CBT has emerged as a powerful therapeutic approach, founded in the 1960s by psychiatrist Aaron Beck. Driven by the insight that specific thought patterns contribute to emotional issues, Beck introduced the concept of "automatic negative thoughts" and pioneered the cognitive therapy process.

Unlike earlier behavior therapies that predominantly centered on associations, reinforcements, and punishments to modify behavior, CBT takes a distinct cognitive route by addressing the intricate interplay between thoughts and feelings and their impact on behaviors.

Today, CBT stands as one of the most extensively studied forms of treatment, boasting remarkable efficacy in managing an array of mental conditions:

**Eating Disorders:** Research underscores CBT as an evidence-based treatment for eating disorders, offering individuals a path toward healthier relationships with food and body image.

**Insomnia and Sleep Disorders:** CBT extends

its effectiveness to those grappling with insomnia and sleep disturbances, including individuals facing medical conditions like chronic pain or mood disorders such as depression. Its strategies help restore restful sleep patterns.

**Child and Adolescent Mental Health:** Scientific validation affirms CBT's prowess in treating symptoms of depression and anxiety in children and adolescents, offering them crucial tools for navigating emotional challenges.

**Anxiety and Related Disorders:** A comprehensive 2018 meta-analysis of 41 studies reaffirms CBT's ability to alleviate symptoms in individuals grappling with anxiety and anxiety-related disorders, including conditions like obsessive-compulsive disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder.

**Substance Use Disorders:** With a wealth of empirical support, CBT stands as a treatment modality for substance use disorders. It empowers individuals to enhance self-control, evade triggers, and craft effective coping mechanisms to navigate the rigors of daily stressors.

**Research Intensity:** CBT shines as one of the most rigorously researched therapeutic approaches. Its focus on well-defined therapeutic goals and measurable outcomes positions it as a stalwart contender in the realm of psychotherapy.

In essence, CBT transcends its historical roots to offer a versatile and highly effective approach to healing and well-being. Its empirical validation across diverse mental health domains underscores its significance in providing individuals with the tools they need to thrive.

### Conclusion

In the journey of life, forgiveness plays an integral role in our emotional and mental well-being. It's a process that begins within ourselves and has the power to transform our lives. When combined with CBT, forgiveness becomes a therapeutic path to healing, offering tools and insights to navigate the intricate terrain of emotions and thoughts.

The article was originally published by Psychology Today

# How Female Sex Hormones 'Rewire' Brain During Pregnancy, Prepare For Motherhood, New Study Reveals

Press Trust Of India

How female sex hormones 'rewire' the brain during pregnancy and prepare it for motherhood, scientists reveal by studying mice.

The hormones, oestrogen and progesterone, acted on certain specific neurons in the brain region associated with parenting by making them more sensitive and enriching their network, the researchers at the Francis Crick Institute, UK, observed. The hormones are majorly produced in the ovary and responsible for typical female sexual characteristics, including fertility.

In this brain region, called the medial preoptic area (MPOA) and located in the hypothalamus, oestrogen made the neurons or nerve cells more excitable, whereas progesterone enhanced the communication by adding more connections between these neurons, called synapses, the researchers found by analysing brain recordings.

Further, the mice did not display maternal behaviour both during pregnancy and after giving birth, when the researchers prevented the sex hormones from impacting the MPOA neurons by desensitising the neurons.

This led the researchers to conclude that there is a critical period during pregnancy when these hormones take effect. They have published their findings of their study in the journal Science.

These changes in the brain effected by the sex hormones resulted in stronger and more selective responses to pups, the researchers said. They added that while some changes lasted for a month following birth, others seemed permanent, suggesting that pregnancy can lead to long-term rewiring of the female brain.

Previously, it was thought that hormones released at the time of giving birth were most

crucial for the onset of maternal behaviour.

However, earlier research also showed that rats giving birth by Caesarean section and virgin mice exposed to pregnancy hormones still displayed maternal behaviour, suggesting that hormonal changes during pregnancy may be more important, the researchers said.

"We think that these changes,

often referred to as 'baby brain', cause a change in priority - virgin mice focus on mating, so don't need to respond to other females' pups, whereas mothers need to perform robust parental behaviour to ensure pup survival.

"What's fascinating is that this switch doesn't happen at birth - the brain is preparing much earlier for this big life change," said Jonny Kohl, study



**In this brain region, called the medial preoptic area (MPOA) and located in the hypothalamus, oestrogen made the neurons or nerve cells more excitable, whereas progesterone enhanced the communication by adding more connections between these neurons, called synapses, the researchers found by analysing brain recordings.**

author and Group Leader of the State-Dependent Neural Processing Laboratory at the Crick.

"We've demonstrated that there's a window of plasticity in the brain to prepare for future behavioural challenges. These neurons receive a large number of inputs from elsewhere in the brain, so now we're hoping to understand where this new information comes from," said Rachida Ammari, postdoctoral fellow at the Crick, and co-first author.

In humans too, the brain may be rewired similarly during pregnancy, as the same hormonal changes are expected to effect the same brain regions, which could influence parental behaviour along with environmental and social cues, the researchers said.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas I Mr. UBAID YOUSUF S/O MOHAMMAD YOUSUF MISGAR R/O GUPTGANGAISHBER NISHAT SRINAGAR KASHMIR intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style M/s Fresh and Fine Holidays situated at GUPTGANGAISHBER NISHAT SRINAGAR KASHMIR under tourist trade act 1978/82/2011-12.

Whereas I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate, Pan Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 years), Character Certificate (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10,000) Site Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub Registrar, Printing Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (indoor and outdoor) and two passport size photographs to the Department of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my Unit as an Excursion Agency.

Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12, before my case is processed for Registration in the competent Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general public/Financial Institution/Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration (e-mail id: ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of seven days from the publication of this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objection beyond a period of 07 days shall be entertained.

In/

### From the office of Advocate Dawood Ahmad Bhat

L no JK 1158/23  
Jand k High Court

In the case of M/S Reshi Sumo Service Transport Company Panchachowk Srinagar through president Mohammad imran Hyder S/O Gulzar Ahmad hyder R/O Panchachowk Srinagar

Vs  
Public at Large

In the Petition in terms of Section 148-A The caveators have reason to believe that Non-Caveator may file any Application, Petition, Ap- peal, Suit or any other type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/misrepresentation and cooked story and may seek in obtaining some relief/order at their back/in ex parte against the caveators ( against Order Of Srinagar development authority SDA/Estates/ 273-75 dated 03/10/2023. ) and in such eventuality the caveators will be put in irrepa- rable loss and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveators be given an opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before passing any order.

Sd/advocate  
nj

Tel: 0194-2416090 Fax: 0194-2416090 Email: eomcganderbal@gmail.com  
Government of Jammu and Kashmir

### Office of the Municipal Council Ganderbal

#### Short Term Quotation

For and on behalf of the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir State sealed quotations affixed with Rs: 5/- revenue stamps are invited from the registered dealers/ mechanical workshops for repairing of Sucker Vehicle of this Council as per below mentioned details:-

S.No.	Name of items with description	Rate to be quoted
1.	Pump Repairing and Four Wheeling Checking /Alignments	Complete Job
2.	M. Oil Change / M.oil Filter /Diesel Filter /Air Filter	
3.	Tie Road End	
4.	Steering Box Checking	
5.	Motor bearing (2No)	
6.	Qaman (Patt)	
7.	Front and Window Mirror	
8.	Repairing of Left Side Door & denting and painting	
9.	Clutch Disc /Clutch Cover	
10.	Gear Oil & Hisa Checking	
11.	Self Denmo and battery work/ Battery Box	
12.	Back side safety Guard and Back Lamp	
13.	Seat Cover Repairing	

**Terms and Conditions:**

- The sealed tenders should accompany with CDR of Rs:- 1500 ( Rupees Fifteen Hundred Only) pledged to Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Ganderbal without CDR no tender will be entertained
- The sealed quotations should reach to the office of the undersigned by or before 16-10-2023 up to 2 pm either by post or by hand on the printed letter head of firm/mechanic.
- The rates should be quoted both in words and figures without cutting/ overwriting.
- The quotations shall be opened on the same day after 2 pm or on any other convenient day to the opening authority in presence of the agency who which to be remain present.
- The successful dealers shall be bound to repair the vehicle items as per the above referred details.
- The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the quotations without any reason.
- Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during the working hours.
- The rates should be quoted inclusion of all applicable taxes.
- The interested party /agency can visit the office during office hours for checking of the Vehicle.

No: MC/GBL/2023/3411-15  
DIPK-NB-3592/23 Dated:-10/10 /2023

Sd/-  
Chief Executive Officer  
Municipal Council  
Ganderbal.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Department Of Wildlife Protection**  
**Office Of The Wildlife Warden, Shopian**  
Tele/Fax 01933 261918 email address wildlifeshopian@gmail.com

Corrigendum to e-NIT 25 of 2023-24 dated: 27.09.2023

The Work entitled as "Construction of 204 Forest Demarcation Boundary Pillars as per approved design along the Forest Demarcation line (stretched upto \_\_\_ Kms) as per the Locations provided in the Google Earth at Khangund Range Tral Wildlife Sanctuary." is hereby cancelled

Sd/-  
Wildlife Warden,  
Shopian Wildlife Division.

No: WLW-Spn/Estt/2023/1220-21  
DIPK-10162/23 Dated: 10.10.2023

Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER**  
**POSHAN PROJECT DH PORA**

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE No: 07-CDPO(DHP) of 2023 Dated: 09/10/2023

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project DH Pora for Phase 2nd for the year 2023-24.

References:1. Government Order No 222-JK (SWD) of 2022 Dated: 30.11.2022.  
2. Government Order No.103-JK (SWD) of 2023 dated: 28.04.2023.  
3. Approval Letter No. MD/Recruitment/2022-23/31261-67 dated:03-10-2023.  
4. DPO/POSHAN/KUL/2023/1242-47 Dated: 05-10-2023.

The application forms in offline mode are invited from the eligible candidates for the posts of Sahayikas (Anganwadi helpers) approved by the Mission Director, Mission Poshan J&K vide their approval letter No.MD/Recruitment/2022-23/31261-67 dated:03-10-2023 for filling up of various vacancies of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) on Honorarium basis in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project DH Pora as per the details given below:

A per the norms, the unit of selection for Sahayikas shall be the electoral ward of the concerned Panchayat halqa. Candidates should carefully read the instructions regarding eligibility criteria available with this advertisement notice before applying for the posts.

S. No.	Name of Project	Name of Post	No. of Post	
1.		Poshan DH Pora	Anganwadi Helpers (Sahayikas)	06
Total				

The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

- Date of commencement for submission of application 10.10.2023.
- Last date for submission of applications is 19.10.2023.
- Application form Annexure-B
- Annexure A- Name of the Post, Location/Ward, Qualification and Criteria for selection
- Annexure C- Affidavit.

**ANNEXURE 'A'**  
Details of Vacant Posts of Sahayaikas along with name and location of Anganwadi Center.  
ANGANWADI HELPERS (Sahayikas)

S.No.	NAME OF PANCHAYAT HALQA	NAME OF ANGANWADI CENTRE	PANCH WARD NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1.	DH Pora-B	Alaiepora-A	07	Anganwadi Helper	1
2.	KB Pora-C	KB Pora-C (Dangerpora)	04	Anganwadi Helper	1
3.	DK Marg-C	Sanyadi	02	Anganwadi Helper	1
4.	DK Marg-C	Dudkuchan-A	04	Anganwadi Helper	1
5.	DK Marg-C	Dudwan	01	Anganwadi Helper	1
6.	Badijhalan	Badijhalan Lonepora	03	Anganwadi Helper	1

**Eligibility:**

- Anganwadi Helpers
- The selection of Helper shall be restricted to the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is located.
- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.
- The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
- Minimum qualification for Anganwadi Helper shall be matriculation.
- In case no matriculate candidate available in the ward, candidates with qualification not less than 8th standard shall be considered.
- The committee shall select the married meritorious candidate of the panch ward as Anganwadi helper from amongst the candidates who fulfil the eligibility criteria. In rarest of the rare cases, if finds a widow headed household with no income source or a completely destitute lady with zero source of income, in such cases preference may be given if other things are equal.
- In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points, subject to the production of document proof.
- Non-Employment certificate from the competent authority.

**Format of Application**

- Name of POSHAN Project \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of Anganwadi Centre Applied for \_\_\_\_\_
- Post applied for 1. AWW 2. AWH (Tick the one)
- Name of the Candidate \_\_\_\_\_
- Father's Name \_\_\_\_\_
- Husband's Name \_\_\_\_\_
- Residence \_\_\_\_\_
- Name of Panchayat Halqa \_\_\_\_\_ Panch Ward No. \_\_\_\_\_
- Address for correspondence \_\_\_\_\_
- Contact No. of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_
- Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_
- Age as on 01.01.2023 \_\_\_\_\_
- Academic Qualification: \_\_\_\_\_

Sr. No.	Examination Passed	Board/Univer- sity	Year of Passing	Marks Obtained	Total Marks	Percentage
1.						
2.						
3.						

14. Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW/AWH (YES/NO).  
15. Documents Attached: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Candidate

**UNDERTAKING**  
I, \_\_\_\_\_ D/o/W/o \_\_\_\_\_ R/o \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby certify that the contents of the application given above are correct and true to the best of my knowledge. In case any of the above contents is found incorrect, the selection committee shall have the right to reject my application and similarly revoke my engagement order.

Signature of Candidate

**Document Verification**

- The candidate who is shortlisted for Document verification will be required to appear for Document Verification along with the original documents as well as self-attested Photostat copy of each document as per the Advertisement Notification. The candidate must be in possession of the prescribed academic qualification and other document like Domicile Certificate, on or before the last date of submission of application form.
- Marks sheet(s)/Diploma/Degree of the qualification prescribed for the post as per Advertisement Notification.
- Date of Birth/Matriculate Certificate.
- Domicile Certificate.

2) Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:

- Aadhar Card.
- Voter ID card.
- The candidate, who is supposed to furnish various certificates issued by or before the prescribed cut-off date, shall be required to produce them at the time of Document Verification or as may be sought by the Committee; in case of failure, the committee shall take necessary decision which shall be final.

**ANNEXURE C**  
All applicants to submit affidavit stating following facts:

- All Documents submitted are correct, without any mismatch, scanning, duplicate or fallacious in nature. If found incorrect or in any of the above stated situation the candidature of deponent may be cancelled and liable to action under law.
- Maximum qualification is Class X for (Sahayaika) Anganwadi Helper and this is as per facts and onus of proving it to be true lies with the deponent.
- The deponent has read the HR policy no. 222-JK(SWD) of 2022 dated: 30.11.2022 and is well versed with all salient features of the policy and shall be applicable to the deponent in case of selection as Anganwadi Helper.

No:- CDPO/Poshan/NBD/Recruit./2023-24/1687-1708  
DIPK-10123/23  
Date: 10/10/2023.

Sd/=   
Child Development Project Officer  
Poshan Project DH Pora







## India Aim For Hiccup Free Outing Against Afghanistan

Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Navigating their way through some extreme pressure moments in their tournament opener, India will be eyeing a perfect game against a sprightly Afghanistan in the ODI World Cup here on Wednesday.

As pointed out by skipper Rohit Sharma, India's biggest challenge over the course of the league stage will be to quickly adapt to the conditions in nine different venues.

After a slow and spinning track at Chepauk, a belter of a surface is expected at the Feroz Shah Kotla, where more than 700 runs were plundered in a high-scoring affair between South Africa and Sri Lanka last week.

With Shubman Gill ruled out of the game due to dengue, Ishan Kishan will get another opportunity at the top of the order alongside Rohit.

Kishan and Shreyas Iyer's questionable shot selection against Australia contributed to India's disastrous start and they both would be wiser going into the Afghanistan game.

If Gill is not able to regain full fitness by the Pakistan game three days later, runs on Wednesday will do Kishan a lot of good in his debut ODI World Cup campaign.



Comparatively, facing the Afghan attack upfront would be easier than negotiating the likes of Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc.

The smaller dimensions of the ground, where 31 sixes were hammered in the previous game, would also aid strokeplay.

The main square was re-laid ahead of the World Cup and that has clearly changed the nature of the surface.

The game will also be a homecoming for chase master Virat Kohli who reinforced his credentials batting alongside K L Rahul in Chennai on Sunday night.

Batting in front of pavilion named after him, Kohli will be expected to give his fans another night to remember.

With a sizeable number of Afghans residing in Delhi's Lajpat Nagar, one can expect good support for Hashmatullah Shahidi and his men.

Bowling, mainly spinners, has been Afghanistan's strong suit over the years and if they are to make an impact in this World Cup, their batters too must step.

Opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz seems to be the only one in top form. An effort of 156 all out against Bangladesh was

not acceptable and the batters will be looking for immediate course correction.

Spinner Mujeeb Zadran usually opens the bowling alongside a pacer while trump card Rashid Khan comes into the attack after the powerplay.

While the teams are forced to take chances against Rashid in the shortest format, batters have time to play him without risk in ODIs. That was evident in the game in Dharamsala where Bangladesh batters collected 48 runs from his nine overs and did not concede a wicket.

Match starts: 2:00 pm.

## Gill Likely To Miss Match Against Pakistan



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Recovering from a bout of dengue fever, Shubman Gill has been discharged from a hospital in Chennai but the India opener will most likely miss the marquee World Cup clash against Pakistan on Saturday in Ahmedabad.

Gill had to be admitted to a hospital on Sunday night after his platelet count dropped below one lakh. It has been learnt that Gill was admitted to well-known multi-care speciality hospi-

tal 'Kauvery' and the Indian team's doctor Rizwan monitored his progress.

He had tested positive for the viral infection upon his arrival in Chennai last week and ended up missing India's World Cup opener against Australia on October 8.

Gill is also set to miss Wednesday's game against Afghanistan in Delhi. He is required to rest for at least one more week and that effectively rules him out of match against Pakistan. He might miss the match against Bangladesh in Pune on October 19.

"Shubman Gill was on drip for the last couple of days. His platelet count dropped to 70,000 and he was admitted to a medical facility as a precautionary measure. He was admitted for all mandatory tests on Sunday night when India played Australia but by Monday evening he was discharged," a BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

A bout of dengue weakens the body considerably and even elite athletes take time to recover completely.



District Youth Services and Sports Office Srinagar kick started Inter-District Provincial Level football tournament for Under-17 and 19 girls on Tuesday at Bakshi Stadium here.

## District Level Athletic Meet Concludes At Ganderbal

Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** The Department of Youth Services and Sports Ganderbal-organised Inter Zonal District Level Athletic Meet for boys and girls concluded on Tuesday at Qamaria Stadium here.

On the last day, the department conducted various track and field events for girls in which a large number of student athletes from all four zones of the district actively participated and showcased their talent with full fervor and enthusiasm.

DYSSO Ganderbal, Sheikh Shafiqat Iqbal, interacted



with the budding girl athletes. He congratulated all the athletes for being part of this mega meet.

He urged students to work hard in their chosen games and sports and select

them as a profession.

Later, DYSSO along with other senior officials of the department felicitated the meritorious student athletes with their well-deserved medals.

## ARCO FC Beats Galaxy FC In Srinagar Premier League



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The 2023 Srinagar Premier League action continued on Tuesday, with one Round 17 match played at Synthetic Turf here. In the match, ARCO FC took on Galaxy FC at 4:00 PM.

Favourites to win the contest, ARCO took the lead through Sujith in the 29th minute. ARCO was then awarded a penalty in the 32nd minute, which was duly dispatched by Danish. ARCO added its third goal of the game in the 45th minute, with Mehraj finding the back of the net.

ARCO FC entered half time leading 3-0. However, Galaxy FC avoided further embarrassment in the second half as ARCO won 3-0 on the day. ARCO's Sujith was awarded man of the match for his performance.

As per the fixtures list, two Round 17 matches are on schedule today, Wednesday, October 11. In the first game, Real Kashmir FC (Reserves) will lock horns with J&K Police XI at 2:00 PM. In the other matchup, SCFA Srinagar play STFC Natipora, with kick off at 5:00 PM. Both games will be played at Synthetic Turf.

## PM Modi Felicitates Asian Games Medallists



Press Trust of India

**NEW DELHI:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi assured all possible help to Indian athletes in their endeavour to achieve greater heights and expressed confidence that the country will better its Hangzhou performance in the next edition of the Asian Games.

India's athletes produced their best-ever performance at the continental games, bringing home 107 medals, including 28 gold, as the country finished fourth on the medals table.

Modi also congratulated the women athletes, saying they had given some amazing performances and accounted for half the medals won by the 660-member contingent.

"The government will pull all

stops to ensure the athletes get the best. You have crossed 100 medals. Next time we will go way past this record. Put your best effort for the Paris (Olympics)," Modi said, while felicitating the Asian Games contingent in Delhi on Tuesday.

The next edition of the Games is in Japan, in 2026.

"The athletes tried to give it their best shot. There was never a dearth of talent in India. The will to win was always there. They used to do well earlier as well, but there were a lot of hurdles which came in their way.

"But after 2014 Indian athletes are getting the best training, facilities and competitions abroad," said Modi.

The Asian Games haul, he added, was a good marker for the future of sport in the country.



## Eden Hazard Retires From Football

The Associated Press

**BRUSSELS:** Eden Hazard is putting an end to a 16-year injury-hit career marked by great success at club level and unfulfilled promise with the Belgium national team's "Golden Generation."

The 32-year-old Hazard announced his retirement from all soccer on Tuesday after more than 700 matches and two Premier League titles during his time with Chelsea. Before injuries slowed him



down, Hazard was often unstoppable on the field with his quick pace, creativity and super dribbling skills.

The widely admired player had already retired from international soccer after his country's aging generation of players was eliminated from the World Cup in the group stage last year.

"You must listen to yourself and say stop at the right time," said Hazard, who had been with-

out a club since his contract with Real Madrid expired in June. "I was able to realize my dream. I have played and had fun on many pitches around the world."

Hazard won eight trophies with Madrid, including the Champions League and two Spanish League titles, but his time in Spain was marred by injuries — including a fracture in his right foot during his first season — and coincided with his decline.

After starting his professional career with French club Lille, where he won the league and cup double, Hazard moved to Stamford Bridge in 2012. He spent seven seasons with Chelsea, becoming a fans' favorite with his 110 goals in 352 games.

In addition to the two Premier League titles, he also helped Chelsea win the Europa League twice, and the FA Cup and League Cup once.

## Palestine Football Team Withdraws From Malaysia Tournament

Agencies

The Palestine soccer team has withdrawn from a tournament in Malaysia after a fresh crisis broke out between Israel and the Palestinian Islamist group Hamas over the weekend, disrupting the team's travel arrangements, the Football Association of Malaysia (FAM) said on Tuesday.



"The withdrawal came due to players being unable to travel because of the events and circumstances that the Palestinian territories are going through," Firas Abu Hilal, secretary-general of the Palestinian Football Association, told Reuters.

The Palestine national football team had been scheduled to compete in the Merdeka Cup — an international friendly tournament in Malaysia — from Oct. 13-17 along with India, Tajikistan and host country, Malaysia.

Hilal said the players' plans had been disrupted by the repeated closure of a crossing connecting Jordan to the Palestinian territories, through which they

would have travelled to Malaysia. The Palestine team are due to play 2026 World Cup qualifying matches against Lebanon and Australia in November. They have also qualified for next year's edition of the Asian Cup in Qatar, which will run from Jan. 12 to Feb. 10.

## UEFA Names Euro 2028 & 2032 Hosts



Agencies

The United Kingdom and Ireland will host the 2028 European Championship, while Italy and Turkey will stage the 2032 edition of the tournament, UEFA announced on Tuesday.

By accepting a joint Italy-Turkey bid for Euro 2032 last week, and with Turkey withdrawing from the race for Euro 2028, the hosts for both tournaments were already all but assured. Turkey's withdrawal from the 2028 race left England, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Scotland and Wales as the sole joint bidders for

that tournament.

Both sets of bids, however, still needed final approval from UEFA's executive committee that convened on Tuesday. "Nothing is ever a formality even right until the last minute," said Debbie Hewitt, chair of the English Football Association (FA). "We took nothing for granted."

Hewitt said efforts to organise the tournament had united the five soccer associations. "There's so many things that you might think might divide, but actually it has really unified," she said. "I think that will be something that we all feel very proud of."

## WE'RE HIRING



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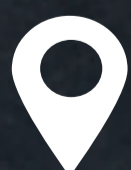
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