

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM
Friday | 13-10-2023

Glacier Retreat Crisis

Experts have sounded the alarm on the rapid retreat of glaciers in Kashmir. Over the past six decades, Jammu and Kashmir have witnessed a staggering 25% reduction in glacier size, a trend exacerbated by the looming threat of climate change. If left unchecked, 48% of these vital glaciers could vanish by the end of the century.

Jammu and Kashmir boasts approximately 18,000 glaciers, including large ones like the Siachen glacier, spanning an impressive 65 kilometers in length and towering 500 to 600 meters in thickness. These glaciers are an invaluable resource, serving as a lifeline for the region, providing water for agriculture. However, with temperatures on the rise due to climate change, these glaciers are melting at an accelerated pace.

One of the most pressing concerns is the shift in the timing of water availability. Historically, the Valley has relied on the gradual release of water from melting glaciers during the crucial months of June and July, coinciding with the agricultural season when water demand is at its peak. However, changing climate patterns have disrupted this cycle, leading to a surplus of water in March, April, and May when it is not required.

Kashmiri Earth scientist and glaciology expert, Shakeel Ahmad Romshoo's research at the University of Kashmir reveals a disconcerting reality. Over the last half-century, the region has already lost 25% of its glacier mass. An additional 68% is anticipated to vanish by the century's end due to climate change.

The crisis is not an isolated phenomenon. It has dire implications for the ecosystem and the people who depend on it. The melting glaciers disrupt the traditional water supply cycle, severely affecting agriculture.

Rising temperatures in the Himalayas are also leading to a shift in tree lines, enabling vegetation growth in previously uninhabitable areas. The melting glaciers provide the necessary space for this transformation, creating a more hospitable environment for vegetation to flourish.

The people of Jammu and Kashmir, particularly the nomadic communities, are already witnessing the distressing consequences of glacier ice melt. Once snow-covered grazing areas have dwindled, and glacier-covered landscapes of yesteryears have given way to visible streams due to continuous snowmelt.

Experts like Ramshoo are emphasizing the urgency of implementing storage projects to ensure water availability during critical periods. These initiatives are vital to mitigating the devastating effects of glacier loss on agriculture, one of the Valley's mainstays. Such projects are important to address our water needs as there is little that we can do locally to reverse climate change which is driven by global factors.

OTHER OPINION

Spring Cleaning

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council last Saturday lifted the haze on about a dozen tax treatment ambiguities, some of which have lingered since the indirect tax regime's launch in July 2017, such as the tax on corporate and personal guarantees for bank loans. It slashed the GST on molasses from 28% to 5%, with a view to lower cattle feed costs and ease up cash flows for sugar mills so they may pay farmers' dues faster. Rate tweaks and spring-cleaning clarifications apart, one of the significant outcomes was the decision not to exercise the Council's power to tax extra neutral alcohol (ENA) used for alcoholic liquor. With alcohol for human consumption still outside the GST net, the indirect tax levy on ENA or high strength potable alcohol — a key ingredient — could not be set off against State levies on the final product. Industry had been seeking for clarity on this vexed issue for years, with courts taking varying positions.

It is heartening that the Council, that met just twice in 2022, has met four times this year, and thrice in just four months, even if a few agenda items pertained to fixing anomalies in recent decisions. With the age norms for the president and members of the long-awaited GST Appellate Tribunals now harmonised with other tribunals — a clearly avoidable oversight — one hopes they will become operational soon. For consumers and producers, however, the biggest matter of concern should be the Council's resolve to meet at a future date exclusively to discuss what Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman termed 'perspective planning' on the GST Compensation Cess and what kind of surcharge it could be replaced with. Originally packaged as a time-bound levy on top of a 'Good and Simple Tax' to compensate States for revenue losses for the first five years of GST, the COVID-19 pandemic's hit on tax collections had triggered an extension of the Cess levied on so-called demerit goods such as aerated drinks, tobacco products and automobiles, till March 2026. Discouraging some sin goods may be desirable. However, ringing in a new cess must not be done in isolation, but as a part of the broader rationalisation of GST's complex multiple-rate structure. That rationalisation exercise, initiated two years ago, unfortunately remains off the table despite robust revenue inflows in recent times. Frequent tweaks of irritants aside, the GST regime needs a holistic reform plan, including a road map to bring in excluded items such as electricity, petroleum and alcohol.

The Hindu

Language Matters

A good command over English can be an asset for students in their journey. We can also work towards incorporating languages like French or Spanish in our school curricula



Anshu Saluja

“In a country ridden with poverty, inequality and unemployment/underemployment, young people are often forced to explore the option of migrating to foreign shores to access education and livelihood opportunities. These realities have to be accommodated in the academic framework. A good command over English can be an asset for students in their journey

The National Education Policy 2020 asserted the importance of imparting primary education to children in their “home language”/“mother tongue”. This is a remarkable idea. It can make it easier for young students to learn and retain knowledge in their formative years. The question is this: in a diverse country such as ours, where language is implicated in the empowerment of certain groups and marginalising others, can we achieve a level playing field for all?

Many locally-spoken languages and dialects do not have their own scripts. The resources to conserve and disseminate these are gravely inadequate. For instance, we lack trained teachers to teach in these languages. Even if we manage to surmount these odds, will it be possible to change wider attitudes? Will speakers of dominant regional languages be ready to engage as equals with speakers of those languages that have historically been described as remote or have tribal origins? A child of the Gond or Korku tribe residing in Madhya Pradesh or Chhattisgarh may find it difficult to secure an education in his/her mother tongue. He/she will, in all probability, be compelled to study in Hindi.

But which version and style of Hindi will be taught to her is another fraught issue. Language is never uniform. There are differences in the ways in which Malayalam is spoken across Kerala; the Marathi spoken in coastal

Maharashtra differs from the one that is popular in Vidarbha; the Hindi that is spoken across Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, and within different regions of these states, varies significantly in tone, style and diction. Complicating matters further, Hindi has been embroiled in at least two additional, often disturbing, strands of politics: the first concerns repeated manoeuvres to install it as the dominant national language. The second is about strategic attempts to distance the twin siblings — Urdu and Hindi — as languages of two distinct collectives.

We need to realise that the insistence on the use of home language/mother tongue as the medium for imparting education will not automatically create linguistic parity. It will only end up reinforcing the dominance of an already dominant local/regional language. So why not break away from this mould and devise an alternative formula? Why not consider the option of offering quality education in English to all students?

The knowledge of English offers a promise of greater economic returns and the consolidation of cultural capital. It has, admittedly, been used to cement pre-existing caste and class privileges. But learning English is an aspiration as well as the key to the door of new economic opportunities. It thus seems prudent to promote and disseminate the knowledge of English. Yet, English teaching and learning are in an abysmal

state. Both teachers and students are often found wanting in the basic skills of reading and comprehension in English. Policymakers and educators must address the shortfall and direct their attention towards improving the state of English teaching and learning.

In a country ridden with poverty, inequality and unemployment/underemployment, young people are often forced to explore the option of migrating to foreign shores to access education and livelihood opportunities. These realities have to be accommodated in the academic framework. A good command over English can be an asset for students in their journey. We can also work towards incorporating languages like French or Spanish in our school curricula. These are spoken widely in several parts of the world. If the teaching of at least one or two of such globally marketable languages comes to be included in the curriculum, students would gain immensely from such a step. These reforms will certainly require calibrated channelling of resources and concerted investment in effort, energy, time and money. But the price is worth it in order to brighten the future of students.

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



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

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The Women's Lens on Economics

In a world where economic history has long been chronicled through a male lens, this year's Nobel Prize winner for Economics Claudia Goldin has effectively broken that trend to become only the third woman since 1969 to win the prestigious award for her decades of work, studying the gender pay

gap. No wonder, she has efficiently turned the spotlight on women's economic roles and challenges. Her findings reveal the complexities of wage disparities, emphasizing issues that women face after childbirth. Ms. Goldin's research doesn't just attribute the gender pay gap to employer discrimination, and instead, her in-

sights advocate for the establishment of a robust support system for working women. Her findings suggest strengthening child care facilities, improving parental leave policies, offering flexibility and bolstering policies for women at the workplace, as in the absence of such support women are bound to keep earning less

than men after they become parents. Ms. Goldin's Nobel recognition isn't merely an honour for her achievement, but it serves as a beacon for women in economics and academia as a whole.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

Mindful Fridays

From Turmoil to Tranquility

The problem of unhealthy attachment, power of detachment, and the psychological significance of ayat "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon"

Wasim Kakroo

Attachment is a fundamental aspect of human psychology, influencing the way we connect with others, ideas, material possessions, and even our past and future. However, the quality of our attachment can significantly impact our emotional well-being. Unhealthy attachment often leads to obsession and, in turn, emotional dysregulation. In contrast, healthy detachment from various aspects of life can promote better mental health. This article explores the intricate interplay between attachment, detachment, and emotional regulation, shedding light on the psychological significance of the phrase "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" as a coping mechanism for dealing with loss.

Attachment and Obsession: A Destructive Connection

Obsession often blurs the line between love and possession, causing suffering not only to the obsessed but also to the object of their fixation. Unhealthy attachments can suffocate the very things we hold dear. Friends may distance themselves, lovers may feel trapped, and passions may wither under the weight of obsession.

The destructive nature of this connection becomes evident when it hinders personal growth and well-being. Instead of nurturing a sense of self and fostering independence, unhealthy attachment fosters codependence. It's a cycle that perpetuates feelings of inadequacy and a relentless need for validation from the object of obsession.

Breaking free from this destructive connection is a challenging but essential task. Recognizing that attachment should not be synonymous with control is a crucial first step. Therapy, self-reflection, and seeking support from friends and family can all aid in the healing process. Learning to love without suffocating, appreciate without grasping, and trust without demanding control can help transform an unhealthy attachment into a healthier one.

Detachment: A Healthy Alternative

Detachment is the conscious act of letting go, to some extent, of our attachments. Healthy detachment involves maintaining a balanced perspective on relationships, material possessions, and future plans. While it may seem counterintuitive, detachment can lead to better mental health and emotional regulation.



Detachment from Material Possessions:

In our consumer-driven society, material possessions often become the focal point of our lives. Healthy detachment involves recognizing that possessions don't define our worth. Letting go of the importance placed on material goods can alleviate the stress and anxiety related to their acquisition, maintenance, and the fear of losing them. It enables a shift towards valuing experiences and relationships over possessions, promoting mental well-being.

Detachment from People:

Balancing emotional connection with independence is vital for nurturing healthy relationships. Healthy detachment allows individuals to maintain their unique identities while still fostering deep emotional bonds. It prevents the suffocation that can come from excessive emotional reliance on others and promotes personal growth within the context of the relationship.

Detachment from the Past:

Carrying the weight of past regrets, traumas, and unresolved issues

can be detrimental to mental health. Detaching from the past involves forgiveness, acceptance, and letting go. It liberates the mind from emotional burdens, leading to better emotional regulation and improved mental well-being.

Detachment from the Future:

Constantly worrying about the unknown future can lead to anxiety and emotional instability. Detachment from the future is achieved through mindfulness and being present in the moment. It helps individuals relinquish their need for excessive control over what lies ahead and promotes a sense of calm and contentment in the present.

The Significance of "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" in Handling Unhealthy Attachments and Healthy Detachments:

"Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" is a profound Islamic phrase that translates to "Verily, to Allah we belong, and verily, to Him we shall return." This simple yet powerful statement holds great significance in helping individuals navigate the complex terrain of attachments and detachments

in their lives. In the following lines, we explore the multifaceted role of this ayat in facilitating both the release of unhealthy attachments and the cultivation of healthy detachments.

Understanding Unhealthy Attachments:

Unhealthy attachments can manifest in various ways, such as excessive materialism, an obsession with worldly possessions, or an over-dependence on relationships for one's sense of self-worth. These attachments can lead to suffering, anxiety, and a skewed perspective on life. The ayat, "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon," serves as a reminder of our ultimate destination, which is not the material or the temporary but the divine. By recognizing that everything belongs to Allah, we are encouraged to let go of these harmful attachments.

Embracing Impermanence:

One of the core teachings of this ayat is the acknowledgment of life's impermanence. The material possessions, relationships, and worldly achievements we often cling to are fleeting. By internalizing the concept of returning to Allah, individuals can

develop a healthier perspective on their attachments. They come to understand that nothing in this world is eternal, leading to a more balanced and resilient approach to life.

Dealing with Grief and Loss:

Grief and loss are part of the human experience. When we lose something or someone dear to us, the ayat "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" can provide solace and guidance. It encourages individuals to find comfort in the belief that everything ultimately belongs to Allah, and our journey leads us back to Him. This understanding can help in the healing process and reduce the burden of attachment-related suffering.

Developing Healthy Detachments:

While the ayat guides us in releasing unhealthy attachments, it also plays a significant role in cultivating healthy detachments. Healthy detachment does not mean disconnecting from life but rather maintaining a sense of self that is not overly influenced by external factors. "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" promotes this by emphasizing that our primary connection is with the divine, which encourages a sense of inner strength and self-sufficiency.

Reducing Stress and Anxiety:

In a world filled with stress and anxiety, people often find themselves overwhelmed by their attachments to societal expectations, material gains, or the opinions of others. By repeating the ayat and internalizing its message, individuals can experience a sense of relief and tranquility, as they detach from the excessive pressures and expectations of the world.

Seeking Contentment:

Healthy detachment allows for a deeper sense of contentment and gratitude. By recognizing the transitory nature of worldly possessions and desires, individuals can redirect their focus toward the spiritual and the meaningful aspects of life. "Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon" is a reminder to find contentment in the divine connection rather than fleeting worldly gains.

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Why ChatGPT Talks The Talk But Doesn't Walk The Walk

Matthias Ramaekers

You have probably noticed that artificial intelligence (AI) research is a booming business. Recent advances in large language models (LLMs), like the one powering ChatGPT, surprised the world.

Their capacity for humanlike language and problem-solving abilities led many to imagine potential applications or risks to society—including Geoffrey Hinton, the "godfather of AI."

Others pointed out that LLMs have comparatively limited capacity for activities that humans perform with little effort, such as humor [1], causal and counterfactual reasoning [2], and logic [3]. So, to what extent do these models truly mimic human, or indeed general, intelligence?

Answering that question requires a definition of intelligence, but there is a lot of debate about how to define intelligence, whether human or artificial intelligence [4-5]. Leaving these debates to the side, I'll focus on a characteristic of intelligent systems that my colleagues in

the Learning and Implicit Processes Lab are interested in: the ability to learn, that is, to change behavior as a function of past experiences [6].

Humans and many other organisms are capable of learning [7]. Many learning psychologists like myself would be out of a job if they were not. LLMs like that under the hood of ChatGPT also learn from experiences using various learning algorithms.

How do we compare these systems? We can differentiate them in terms of the speed and efficiency with which they learn and the flexibility and creativity by which they apply learned knowledge. We now see significant differences between humans, other animals, and artificial systems.

In terms of speed, humans have a clear advantage over state-of-the-art AI. In short, LLMs are trained on massive amounts of data, from which they essentially learn to predict which (parts of) words are most likely to follow previous (parts of) words, followed by a second round of training to finetune their responses to human-produced

prompts and questions.

This learning history is sufficient to produce remarkably humanlike responses. Still, LLMs typically require about four to five orders of magnitude, or roughly 50,000 times more training instances than the average human child, to produce that behavior [8]. ChatGPT's training is a rather brute-force approach to learning to produce intelligent linguistic behavior. It allows it to pick up on the underlying regularities of human language, but it differs significantly from how humans acquire language.

Humans are not only faster but also more flexible learners. Children quickly acquire the ability to reason about novel problems flexibly and to adapt to new situations after only a few exposures or mere instruction.

This feat remains a challenge for state-of-the-art AI. LLMs have much-improved generalization capacity, but it is hard to systematically assess because their training encompasses virtually everything humans have ever written. When probed on novel problems or instances of familiar problems, you

can see the limits of its abilities, suggesting its responses reflect something more similar to memorizing problem solutions than thorough understanding.

Current LLMs are not an ideal model for learning psychologists investigating how humans learn. What, then, makes humans so unique?

In our lab, we take the perspective of relational frame theory (RFT) [9], which proposes that human cognition, and thus intelligence, is founded on our ability for relational responding—responding to one event in terms of its relationship to another.

As we grow up in a verbal, social community, we learn to relate objects and events in our environment in many ways (A is the same as B, A is more than B, A is less than B, A is part of B, A comes after B, A is here and B is there, A is to B as C is to D, and so on). We also learn to respond to those relations appropriately (e.g., if box A has one chocolate, and box B has more than box A, which do you choose?). Over time, the relations can be abstracted away from the irrelevant physical properties of

the related objects, and we can start applying them to objects arbitrarily or symbolically (e.g., responding to the word "dog" in the same way you would to an actual dog).

This ability to "act as if" things are related provides the foundation for fast, flexible, and generative learning and, ultimately, what we consider to be intelligent behavior (see [10] for more examples). It is no coincidence that many of the subtests that make up modern intelligence tests (e.g., Raven's Progressive Matrices and other fluid reasoning tests, verbal reasoning, visuospatial reasoning, etc.) assess behavior that is relational and that there is preliminary evidence suggesting relational training can help increase children's intelligence [11].

Of course, many in AI acknowledge the importance of relational reasoning and have attempted to incorporate relational mechanisms into their models. So far, however, none seem to have reached the "symbolic level" still uniquely occupied by humans. Suppose AI research wants to mirror the processes underpinning human abilities

and not just produce humanlike output as it does now.

In that case, it will require a different approach focused on efficient, context-sensitive learning. In my search in the LIP lab, we try to do this by developing computational models inspired by the core ideas of RFT, which, if the theory is correct, should provide a better (i.e., faster and more flexible) model of human learning.

Returning to the question of ChatGPT's intelligence, it is important to note that it was developed with a specific purpose: to interact with humans through a computer interface and produce coherent answers to whatever prompt it gets. With that goal in mind, its performance is remarkable.

It was not designed to be generally intelligent (i.e., capable of flexibly adapting to novel situations or problems), and it isn't. Still, it gives us the illusion of intelligence because it mimics intelligent human language.

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Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**Office of the Executive Engineer
Mechanical & Hospitals
Division Baramulla**

Fax No: 01952-234426
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CORRIGENDUM-I

Subject: - Extension of Critical Dates of e-NITS No. 20/1, 20/2& 20/3 of 2023-24 Dated: - 05-10-2023.

Reference: - Tender IDs: -
2023_PWDJK_229773_4
2023_PWDJK_229773_5
2023_PWDJK_229773_6

Due to inadequate response in reference to above cited e-NITS, the Critical Dates are extended as under:

S.No	Description	Re- Scheduled date
1	Date of Downloading	05-10-2023 (06:15 PM) to 17-10-2023 (06:00 PM)
2	Date of uploading	05-10-2023 (06:15 PM) to 17-10-2023 (06:55 PM)
3	Due date of opening of tender	18-10-2023 (01:00 PM)

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical & Hospitals Division
Baramulla

No: - MDB /TS/614-16
DIPK-10322/23
Dated: - 12-10-2023

Survey Reveals 90% Indians Prefer To Watch Movies On Big Screen

Press Trust Of India

Big screen cinema magic is still thriving in India, says a new survey by ticketing platform BookMyShow, which spoke to moviegoers in 650 towns and cities across the country to understand their preferred entertainment mode.

The report, titled 'The CineFiles', was launched ahead of the National Cinema Day on Friday, when tickets will be priced at Rs 99 across theatres.

It revealed that 98 per cent of Indians believe "cinematic magic can only be brought alive on the big screen with a third of them attributing it to certain directors, themes, VFX amongst others".

"In fact, 90 per cent respondents' usual go-to option for out-of-home experiences is catching the latest movie release in the theatre amongst other leisure activities such as shopping, live gigs, adventure outings and more, further reiterating that the big screen theatre experience continues to be a mainstay in the cultural fabric of India," the report said.

The survey, which spoke to 5,000 people across different cities, said that 63 per cent of the respondents think about watching a film in a theatre at least once every fortnight.

They comprised a mix of 41 per cent



GenZ (people born in the late 1990s and early 2000s) along with 59 per cent millennial (those born between 1980 and 1995) and GenX (people born between 1965 and 1980) audiences, the survey said. In fact, 35 per cent in the GenZ generation prefer to watch the first day first show of a movie, the report added.

"The enduring love for movies over the years remains unshaken. First day, first shows continue as a sacred tradition for many fans, inspiring cheers, whistles

and endless applause at the sight of beloved stars on the big screen. The resounding response to 'The CineFiles' survey at BookMyShow reaffirms the enduring allure of the big screen movie experience in India," Ashish Saksena, COO - Cinemas, BookMyShow, said in a statement.

"The film industry's tenacity and adaptability shine through its continual evolution. As an enabler to this world of movies on the big screen, it brings us immense joy to engage with and cater to both a burgeoning younger audience and devoted fans across generations, united in their love for this timeless form of entertainment," he added.

According to the survey, 74 per cent of the respondents liked to keep an eye out for movies that resonate with them and plan ahead at least 3 days in advance, while 26 per cent prefer to catch a movie spontaneously.

It also revealed that the key determinants for the consumers remain the storyline, the cast and director, reviews and ratings and the trailer's impact on them.

"43 per cent Mumbaikars choose storyline as the most critical trigger for them to catch a movie in a theatre, significantly higher than other cities. 38 per cent Delhiites rank reviews and ratings highest to determine and decide the film to watch on the big screen.

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Tel: 01933-247954/247955 Website: www.iust.ac.in

(Rolling Advertisement)

Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development (CIED)-IUST Foundation invites innovative proposals for products, processes, & services from the budding entrepreneurs/students of UT of Jammu & Kashmir for the establishment of innovative entrepreneurial business ventures during FY 2023-24. Proposals shall be appraised by Academia & Industry professionals.

*CIED-IUST Foundation can provide incubation support up to Rs. 5.00 Lakhs to selected start-ups. The potential startups shall be mentored by experts for prototype, patent filing, incubation process & commercialization. Students/individuals can apply online as per the details given below:

To apply, click on the below link or scan the QR code:
<https://forms.gle/Mr8ED9gYGBn9A4DA>

Sd/-
CEO, CIED-IUST Foundation

DIPK-NB-3622/23 dated: 12-10-2023

Government of Jammu and Kashmir OFFICE OF THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROJECT OFFICER POSHAN PROJECT DESAR

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE No: 02 of 2023 Dated: 12/10/2023

Subject: Advertisement for Recruitment of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Desvar

Reference: 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. SMD/ICDS/Recruitment/2022-23/31261-67 dated:03-10-2023
4. DPO/POSHAN/KUL/2023/1242-47 Dated:05-10-2023

Approval has been accorded, vide letter No: 103-JK (SWD) of 2023 Dated: 28.04.2023 for filling up of various vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) in Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Desvar as per the details given below:

Sr. No.	Name of Project	Name of Post	No. of Post
1.	Poshan Desvar	Anganwadi Workers (Sanginis)	02
2.		Anganwadi Helpers (Sahayikas)	09
Total			11

13. Academic Qualification:

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

14. Do the candidate belong to Retiring AWW/AWH (YES/NO)
15. Document 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

از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹرول
مضمون درخواست منجانب مشتاق احمد شیخ ولد عبدال کبیر شیخ ساکنہ مضمون
دیوبگ برآمدگی DOB certificate جن دن خیر عیدر مشتاق
اشتبہار برادر گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصد میں دفتر ہذا کو ایک درخواست بابت حصول
تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ سائل مشتاق احمد شیخ ولد عبدال
کبیر شیخ بیان کرتا ہے کہ اسکی دختر کی تاریخ پیدائش
عیدر مشتاق 15-01-2016
کو ہوئی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا
اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش
کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
از بلاک ڈیولپمنٹ آفسر کنٹرول
az k

Applications are invited in the Prescribed Performa in Annexure "A" from the eligible candidates for engagement as Anganwadi Worker and Anganwadi Helper on Honorarium basis for aforementioned posts of Anganwadi Centres. The important dates/details with regard to the posts are as under:

a) Date of commencement for submission of application forms **13.10.2023.**
b) Last date for submission of applications is **27.10.2023.**
c) Application form Annexure-A
d) Annexure B- Name of the Post, Location/Ward , Qualification and Criteria for selection
e) Annexure C- Affidavit

**Child Development Project Officer,
Poshan Project Desvar**

ANNEXURE 'B'

Detail of Vacant Posts along with name and location of AWC.

> **Anganwadi Workers**

Sr. No.	NAME OF HALQA PANCHAYAT/ MUNICIPAL WARD	NAME OF ANGANWADI CENTRE	WARD NAME/NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1	CHIYAN ADIGAM	MAL MOHALLA ADIGAM	WARD NO 08	SANGINI (Anganwadi Worker)	01
2	MUNICIPAL WARD 08 (MC DEVSAR)	GANIE MOHALLA	WARD NO 08	SANGINI (Anganwadi Worker)	01

> **Anganwadi Helpers**

Sr. No.	Name Of Halqa Panchayat/ Municipal Ward	NAME OF ANGANWADI CENTRE	WARD NAME/NO.	NAME OF POST	NO. OF POSTS
1	BOZGAM	KHAR MOHALLA AGROO	WARD NO.07	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
2	NOWPORA	MALIPORA MUKDAMPORA	WARD NO.07	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
3	HABLISH	MUKHDAM MOHALLA HABLISH	WARD NO.03	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
4	SOPAT	MUKHDAM MOHALLA SOPAT	WARD NO.05	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
5	CHIYAN ADIGAM	MAL MOHALLA ADIGAM	WARD NO.08	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
6	CHIYAN ADIGAM	MUSKHUJ JANGIWAH MOHALLA	WARD NO.11	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
7	BOZGAM	DANKARD BOZGAM	WARD NO.01	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
8	WARD NO 08 (MC DEVSAR)	GANIE MOHALLA	WARD NO.08	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01
9	SADURA	GUNDJAFER	WARD NO.06	SAHAYIKA (Anganwadi Helper)	01

Eligibility:

A. For Anganwadi Workers

- The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K.
- Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible.
- The candidate should be a resident of the electoral ward where Anganwadi Centre is situated. Name in the voter list for the ward shall be considered as the proof of residence of the candidate. In case the name of the candidate appears in the voter list along with her parents, then she must provide certificate of being un-married issued by the concerned Tehsildar. Where ever, there is any dispute as to residence for any reason, then a residence proof certifying of the ward of residence from the concerned SDM/ACR shall be considered.
- Minimum qualification for **Anganwadi Worker** shall be 10+2 and maximum Graduation. In case no 10+2 pass candidate is available in the ward, 10+2 pass candidate from the adjoining ward shall be considered which would require prior approval of Mission Director, Mission POSHAN.
- In case suitable candidate is not available for adjoining ward, candidate from the nearest ward within the ward can be considered subject to the approval of the MD, Mission POSHAN.
- Weightage shall be given on the basis of marks obtained in 10+2 and selection shall be done purely on merit basis and no other criteria to be considered.
- In case of tie in merit of the eligible candidate, candidate with higher age will be preferred.
- Candidate with qualification higher than graduation shall not be considered.

B. 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 most destitute/needly married woman of the ward as helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In case no married candidate is available, unmarried candidate may be considered.
- In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWWs/AWHs, the said candidate shall qualify for additional two percent points.

ANNEXURE "A"

Format of Application

S.No

- Name of POSHAN Project_____
- Name of Anganwadi Centre_____
- Post applied for_____
- Name of the Candidate_____
- Father's Name_____
- Husband's Name_____
- Residence_____
- Panch Ward No._____ Name of Panchayat Halqa_____
- Address for correspondence_____
- Contact No._____
- Date of Birth_____
- Age as on 01.01.2023_____
- Academic Qualification:_____

Photograph of the applicant duly attested by Gazetted Officer

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.
 - Unmarried Certificate (where required)
- Candidates have to bring two passport size recent colour photographs and one original Photo ID proof. Photo ID Proof can be:
 - Aadhaar 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 Graduation for vacancy of Anganwadi worker and Class X for 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 worker/ Anganwadi Helper.

No:-CDPO/Poshan/Dev/Estt/Advt./2023-24/271-288
Date: 12/10/2023.

Sd/-
Child Development Project Officer
Poshan Project Desvar

DIPK-10278/23
dated: 12-10-2023

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Williamson Boost For New Zealand Against Bangladesh

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Fortified by the return of inspirational captain and premier batter Kane Williamson, a high-flying New Zealand will believe that they can ward off a spin-heavy Bangladesh to consolidate their position on top of the table during their World Cup match here on Friday.

The Kiwis (NRR: +1.958) have four points now, same as India (NRR: +1.5) and Pakistan (NRR: +0.92) but a better Net Run Rate has kept them ahead, and a win here will free them from the chasing pack for the time being.

In that context, the arrival of Williamson, who has sufficiently recovered from a post ACL injury surgery, benefits them on two counts.

Williamson is a shrewd captain who knows the ebb and flow of ODIs, and he is an excellent batter against spin, a quality that he might have to conjure against a capable Bangladesh unit on a slow Chepauk pitch.

Williamson had missed the Kiwis' matches against England and Netherlands as Tom Latham had stood in as New Zealand captain in those games.

"For me, it's been quite a journey (since my injury). Excited to be back in the World Cup squad. I am looking forward to it," said Williamson on Thursday during



his pre-match press meet.

But the Black Caps will continue to miss the services of senior pacer Tim Southee, who is still recovering from a procedure on his fractured thumb that he suffered during the recent ODI series against England.

"Tim's progressing well, but he won't be playing tomorrow's game," said Williamson.

However, Williamson's come-

back will pose the Kiwis with a selection dilemma as well.

Rachin Ravindra, who batted at No. 3 in the absence of Williamson, has notched up a hundred and fifty in two World Cup outings, and the Kiwis management will have to think hard as to who to be benched to accommodate the returning 33-year-old.

Despite a walloping at the hands of England in their last

match, this could be Bangladesh's secret point of joy going against the Kiwis.

Their spin trio of skipper Shakib Al Hasan, Mahedi Hasan and Mehidy Hasan Miraz has taken 11 wickets among them from two matches.

The Tigers will pin their hopes on those three to weave their magic on New Zealand to notch up a crucial victory.

Match starts at: 2 PM IST.



South Africa Thrash Australia By 134 Runs

Press Trust of India

LUCKNOW: South Africa reaffirmed their status as serious contenders as their pacers fired in tandem after Quinton de Kock's blazing century, paving the way for a dominant 134-run win over Australia in the World Cup here on Thursday.

If de Kock showed his class with a masterful 109 off 106 balls to take the Proteas to 311/7, the fast bowlers were at their ruthless best, bundling Australia for 177 in 40.5 overs for their second consecutive win.

The South Africans entered this game after a com-

prehensive victory in their opener against Sri Lanka.

Australia, on the other hand, bowled without a plan, looked equally clueless with the bat -- losing wickets in clumps -- and were sloppy on the field, dropping as many as five catches.

The loss will severely dent their confidence. They were also outplayed by India in their opener and sit second last in the 10-team table.

De Kock, who will retire from the format after the World Cup, oozed confidence while scoring his second consecutive century with the help of eight boundaries and five maxi-

mums while Aiden Markram smashed 56 off 44 to help the team post the highest ODI total in Lucknow.

The South African quicks were relentless with the new ball and bowled with accuracy to essentially finish off the match before the 18th over of the Australian innings, with Pat Cummins' side tottering at 70/6.

Lungi Ngidi (1/18) set the tone with some incisive bowling. Marco Jansen (2/54) backed Ngidi and reaped the benefit as he removed Mitchell Marsh (7) without much trouble. Kagiso Rabada (3/33) joined the party with the vital strikes.



J&K FOOTBALL TEAM POSE for a photograph on the beaches of Goa. J&K take on Kerala in Santosh Trophy today, Friday, October 12. The game kicks off at 9:00 AM

District Level Basketball Trials Begin In Lar

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The Department of Youth Services and Sports Ganderbal on Thursday started the process of selection of Basketball players for the upcoming Inter District Provincial Level Basketball competitions.

The department is providing a great opportunity to the young players to showcase their talent and represent their district.

In this context, the trials are being conducted at the picturesque ground of BHSS Lar.

On the opening day, selection trials were conducted for boys in which a large number of student players from all four zones of the



district participated.

The selected student players will compete in the upcoming Inter District Provincial Level competition which will be conducted very soon.

The selection trials for girls will be held in the upcoming days.

Srinagar Wushu Championship Concludes

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The two-day District Srinagar Wushu Championship came to an end on Thursday at Sher-i-Kashmir Indoor Sports Complex here. The championship showcasing the remarkable skills and talent of young athletes in the region witnessed tremendous response from various schools and clubs with as many as 500-plus participants featuring in the event.

The event was organised by the District Wushu Association Srinagar in collaboration with J&K Sports Council. The athletes from 20 different schools and clubs gathered to compete in various Wushu categories with participants displaying exceptional discipline, strength and agility.

Divisional Sports Officer, Kashmir, Muzaffar Hussain Wani, was chief guest on the occasion. He was flanked by Hilal Ahmad and Muhammad Iqbal along with Kamal Kishore international Wushu player, Aijaz Hassan, Rameez Ahmad Dar,



Umer, Atul and Irfan Ahmad Wani, the organising secretary of the event.

The Indoor Wushu Academy was declared the overall winner of the event, followed by Al-Noor Model School Safakadal as runner up, while Arise International Academy Chek-i-Mujgund and Crescent Higher Secondary School Natipora bagged 2nd runner-up jointly.

The Joint Secretary of Wushu Association J&K, Mohammad Maqsood Rather presented a vote of thanks.

Speaking on the occasion, he extended gratitude to the Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gull, and thanked Kuldeep Handoo, National Chief Coach for unconditional support and guidance.

Field Archery Camp Concludes At R.P. School

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A week-long Field Archery Coaching Camp concluded on Thursday at R. P. School Malla Bagh here. Girls from 3rd to 8th standard of the school participated in the camp. The closing cum prize distribution ceremony was attended by its Chairman Shabir Ahmad, Principal Shabir Hussain Mir and General Secretary of the Field Archery Association.

Principal R. P. School distributed trophies among winners of the coaching camp and

thanked the association for organising such camps especially for girl students. All the participants who participated in the said coaching camp were awarded with Appreciation Medal and Certificate, Vice President of Field Archery Association said while presenting vote of thanks.

The coaching camp was organised by Field Archery Association of Jammu and Kashmir under the aegis Field Archery Association of India and in collaboration with R. P. School Lawaypora Srinagar.



Novelty Win 5-0 In Srinagar Premier League

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two Round 17 matches of the 2023 Srinagar Premier League were played on Thursday at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

In the first game, FC1 took on Kashmir Panthers FC. FC1 was

awarded a penalty in the 18th minute, which captain Asrar Rehbar calmly slotted home. Hamad added FC1's second goal in the 50th minute. With FC1 looking set to take all three points, Kashmir Panthers decided to go all-in. The team was rewarded when Arpan found the net

in the 89th minute. Umer then made it 2-2 in the 93rd minute of extra time, to give Kashmir Panthers FC a thrilling draw. Umer was awarded player of the match.

In the second game, Novelty FC locked horns with Jhelum FC. Novelty took an early lead after Flinto

scored the opener in 3rd minute. Sahil made it 2-0 in the 5th minute. Flinto scored his second in the 44th minute as Novelty FC entered half time 3-0 up. Yasir made it 4-0 in the 61st minute, before Owais rounded out the score to give Novelty FC a 5-0 win against Jhelum FC.

Gill Starts Practising In Nets

Agencies

AHMEDABAD: In good news for cricket fans, batter Shubman Gill has started practising in nets ahead of India's World Cup match against arch-rivals Pakistan at Ahmedabad on Saturday. Shubman Gill arrived in Ahmedabad on Wednesday. Sources said he practiced for an hour on Thursday. The young right-handed batsman's participation in the upcoming high-voltage ODI World Cup match against Pakistan on Saturday still remains uncertain.

The Indian opener was in Chennai where he was being treated for dengue, and could not take part in India's first two matches of the tournament against Australia and Afghanistan. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had confirmed that talented opener Shubman Gill will stay in Chennai and will not travel with the squad for the Men in Blue's ODI World Cup clash against Afghanistan.

In 20 ODIs this year, Gill has scored 1,230 runs at an average of 72.35 and a strike rate of just above 105. He has scored five centuries and five fifties this year, with the best of 208. In India's previous match against Afghanistan, the Men in Blue clinched an 8-wicket win against Hashmatullah Shahidi's Afghanistan side. Set a target of 273 after pacer Jasprit Bumrah's heroic 4/39, India won the match after the top order consisting of skipper Rohit Sharma (131*), Ishan Kishan (47) and Virat Kohli (55*) and fired Men in Blue towards a with more than 14 overs left. (ANI)

ODI CRICKET WORLD CUP – India v Pakistan

Rain Might Play Spoilsport



Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Rain might play spoilsport during the cricket match between India and Pakistan here on October 14 and the Navratri festival with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicting light showers in the city and north Gujarat for that period.

The much-awaited World Cup contest between India and Pakistan will be held at the Narendra Modi Stadium in the city's Motera area on Saturday, while the nine-day-long Navratri festival begins on October 15.

According to the latest weather update shared by the IMD, light rains may occur at "isolated places" in north Gujarat districts,

and Ahmedabad on October 14 and 15.

"While the weather is expected to remain dry during the next five days in Gujarat, light showers may occur at isolated places in Ahmedabad district on October 14.

"The atmosphere will remain cloudy. The next day, light rains may occur in Ahmedabad and other northern districts, such as Banaskantha, Sabarkantha and Arvalli," said Manorama Mohanty, director of Meteorological Centre in Ahmedabad.

She added that light rains are also expected in Banaskantha and Sabarkantha districts on October 16, adding that the possibility of light rains at a few places in Ahmedabad cannot be ruled out for that day also.

Pakistan Receive Traditional Welcome In Ahmedabad



Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: The famed Indian hospitality was at its best once again here on Thursday as the Pakistan squad received a grand welcome at the team hotel following an in-flight celebration, ahead of their marquee World Cup game against arch rivals India.

Upon their arrival at the hotel here, Pakistan players received a warm welcome with a shower of flower petals and balloons, traditional scarves, the sound of dhols combined with a dance performance. It followed a cake cutting ceremony which was organised by the cabin crew of the carrier that flew them

into Ahmedabad from Hyderabad.

Delighted at the reception its players received, the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) posted a video on X, capturing the moments.

"Touchdown Ahmedabad. Capturing the journey, featuring a surprise in-flight celebration," the PCB captioned the video.

Tight security has been put in place for the high-profile match to be played on Saturday.

The city had been turned into a fortress and it will be secured by more than 11,000 members of the Gujarat police, National Security Guard (NSG), Rapid Action Force (RAF) and home guards.

India Ranks 111th On Global Hunger Index 2023; Govt Calls It Flawed Measure That Doesn't Reflect True Position



New Delhi: The government has rejected the 2023 Global Hunger Index in which India ranked 111th, calling it a flawed measure of "hunger" that does not reflect the country's true position.

The Women and Child Development Ministry said the index suffers from "serious methodological issues and shows a malafide intent". India ranked 111th out of 125 countries in the Global Hunger Index-2023, released on Thursday, with the country reporting the highest child wasting rate at 18.7 per cent.

The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is a tool for comprehensively measuring and tracking hunger at global, regional, and national levels.

Rejecting India's ranking at the index, the Women and Child Development Ministry said the Global Hunger Index continues to be a flawed measure of "hunger" and does not reflect India's true position.

"The index is an erroneous measure of hunger and suffers from serious methodological issues. Three out of the four indicators used for calculation of the index are related to the health of children and cannot be representative of the entire population. The fourth and most important indicator 'Proportion of Undernourished (PoU)

population' is based on an opinion poll conducted on a very small sample size of 3,000," it said.

The ministry said that since April 2023, the measurement data of children under five years uploaded on the Poshan Tracker has consistently increased - from 6.34 crore in April 2023 to 7.24 crore in September 2023.

"The percentage of child wasting, as seen on the Poshan Tracker, has been consistently below 7.2 per cent, month-on-month, as compared to the value of 18.7 per cent used for child wasting in the Global Hunger Index 2023," the ministry said in a statement.

According to the index, the rate of undernourishment in India stood at 16.6 per cent and under-five mortality at 3.1 per cent.

The ministry further said two other indicators, namely stunting and wasting, are outcomes of complex interactions of various other factors like sanitation, genetics, environment and utilisation of food intake apart from hunger which is taken as the causative/outcome factor for stunting and wasting in the GHI.

Also, there is hardly any evidence that the fourth indicator-child mortality-is an outcome of hunger, it said.

“THE INDEX IS AN ERRONEOUS MEASURE OF HUNGER AND SUFFERS FROM SERIOUS METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES. Three out of the four indicators used for calculation of the index are related to the health of children and cannot be representative of the entire population. The fourth and most important indicator 'Proportion of Undernourished (PoU) population' is based on an opinion poll conducted on a very small sample size of 3,000.”

India's Cyber Agency Issues High Severity Warning For Google Chrome

Agenceis

New Delhi: CERT-In has issued a high-severity rated warning cautioning against "multiple vulnerabilities" in popular web browser Google Chrome, which could allow a remote attacker to execute arbitrary code and cause denial of service condition on targeted system.

In a vulnerability note issued on Wednesday, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) said a remote attacker could exploit certain vulnerabilities by sending a specially crafted request on the targeted system, and advised users to "apply appropriate updates as mentioned by the vendor".

Giving technical details,



it said the software affected are "Google Chrome versions prior to 118.0.5993.70/71 for Windows" and "Google Chrome versions prior to 118.0.5993.70 for Mac and Linux".

"Multiple vulnerabilities have been reported in Google Chrome which could allow a remote attacker to execute

arbitrary code and cause denial of Services (DoS) condition on the targeted system," CERT-In said on its website, which lists and updates users with vulnerability notes and advisories.

CERT-In is the national nodal agency for responding to computer security incidents as and when they strike.

How Dust From Thar Desert Significantly Impacts Glaciers In Tibet



Agenceis

New Delhi: Glaciers on the Tibetan Plateau are greatly affected by dust from the Thar Desert in India due to the influence of terrain and westerly winds, according to a study.

Dust deposited on a glacier's surface can reduce the albedo - fraction of light that is reflected by a surface - of the ice and increase absorption of solar radiation, which has a significant impact on glacier melting and global climate change.

Accurately identifying the source of glacial dust on the Tibetan Plateau is critical for comprehending dynamics of glacial environment and reconstructing regional atmospheric

environment, the researchers said.

The study, published in the journal Environmental Science and Pollution Research, determined dust sources for the three glaciers on the Tibetan Plateau and analysed the transport mechanism of the primary dust sources.

The researchers from the Chinese Academy of Sciences used two tracer methods to ascertain the origins of glacial dust and deduced that the dust primarily originated from the Tibetan Plateau surface soils, Thar Desert, Qaidam Basin and Taklimakan Desert, both in China, before the monsoon season.

The Taklimakan Desert and Thar Desert were identified as

the most prominent dust sources, they said.

Central and southern glaciers on the Tibetan Plateau were greatly affected by dust from the Thar Desert and Taklimakan Desert due to the influence of terrain and westerly winds, the researchers said.

The Thar desert dust, lifted by updrafts from northwest India, was subsequently transported by westerlies, exerting a significant influence on the southern glaciers of the Tibetan Plateau, they said.

"Our study provides a valuable reference for future efforts to analyze glacier element characteristics and reconstruct climate," said Li Yuefang, corresponding author of this study.

CIA Publicly Acknowledges 1953 Coup It Backed In Iran Was Undemocratic As It Revisits 'Argo' Rescue



Agenceis

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates: While revealing new details about one of the most famed CIA operations of all times - the spiriting out of six American diplomats who escaped the 1979 US Embassy seizure in Iran - the intelligence agency for the first time has acknowledged something else as well.

The CIA now officially describes the 1953 coup it backed in Iran that overthrew its prime minister and cemented the rule of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi as undemocratic.

Other American officials have made similar remarks in the past, but the CIA's acknowledgment in a podcast about the agency's history comes as much of its official history of the coup remains classified 70 years after the putsch. That complicates the public's understanding of an event that still resonates, as tensions remain high between Tehran and Washington over the Islamic Republic's rapidly advancing nuclear program, its aiding of militia groups across the Mideast and as it cracks down on dissent.

The "CIA's leadership is committed to being as open with the public as possible," the agency said in a statement responding to questions from The Associated Press. "The agency's podcast is part of that effort - and we knew that if we wanted to tell this incredible story, it was important to be transparent about the historical context surrounding these events, and CIA's role in it."

In response to questions from the AP, Iran's mission to the United Nations described the 1953 coup as marking "the inception of relentless American meddling in Iran's internal affairs" and dismissed the US acknowledgments.

"The US admission never translated into compensatory action or a genuine commitment to refrain from future interference, nor did it change its subversive policy towards the

Islamic Republic of Iran," the mission said in a statement.

The CIA's podcast, called "The Langley Files" as its headquarters is based in Langley, Virginia, focused two recent episodes on the story of the six American diplomats' escape. While hiding at the home of the Canadian ambassador to Iran, a two-man CIA team entered Tehran and helped them fly out of the country while pretending to be members of a crew scouting for a made-up science fiction film.

The caper, retold in the 2012 Academy Award-winning film "Argo" directed by and starring Ben Affleck, offered a dramatized version of the operation, with Affleck playing the late CIA officer Antonio "Tony" Mendez. The podcast for the first time identified the second CIA officer who accompanied Mendez, naming him as agency linguist and exfiltration specialist Ed Johnson. He previously only had been known publicly by the pseudonym "Julio."

"Working with the six - these are rookies," Johnson recounts in an interview aired by the podcast. "They were people who were not trained to lie to authorities. They weren't trained to be clandestine, elusive."

But in the podcast, another brief exchange focuses on the 1953 coup.

In it, CIA spokesman and podcast host Walter Trosin cites the claims of agency historians that the majority of the CIA's clandestine activities in its history "bolstered" popularly elected governments.

"We should acknowledge, though, that this is, therefore, a really significant exception to that rule," Trosin says of the 1953 coup. CIA historian Brent Geary, appearing on the podcast, agrees. "This is one of the exceptions to that," Geary says.

Seven decades later, the 1953 coup remains as hotly debated as ever by Iran, its theocratic government, historians and others.