

Centre Hikes DA By 4% For Its Employees

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Ahead of the festive season, the central government on Wednesday decided to hike the dearness allowance for its employees by 4 percentage points to 46 per cent of the basic salary and pay 78 days of salaries as bonus for non-gazetted railway staff.

Briefing reporters about the Cabinet decisions, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the increase in dearness allowance and dearness relief will benefit 48.67 lakh central government employees and 67.95 lakh pensioners, respectively.

The release of the additional instalment of Dearness Allowance (DA) and Dearness Relief (DR) will be applicable from July 1, 2023.

DA and DR are given twice a year to compensate employees and pensioners, respectively, for price rise.

The combined impact on the exchequer on account of both DA and DR would be Rs 12,857 crore per annum.

In March this year and September last year also, the increase in DA and DR was 4 percentage points. >> More On P10

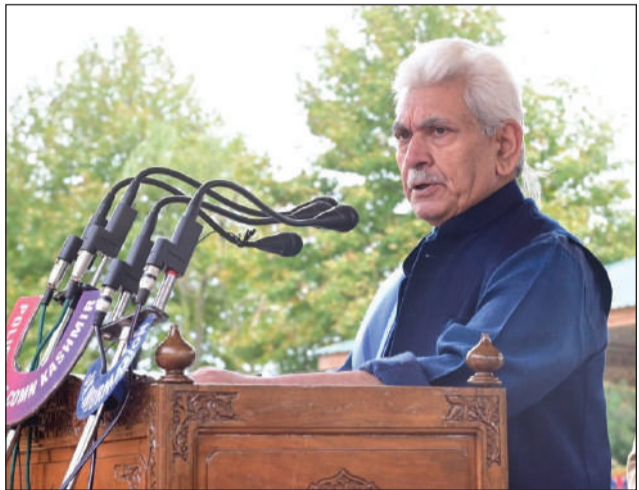
Prime Goal of J&K Police To Eradicate Terrorism: LG

'Zero Tolerance Policy Against Subversive Forces And Strict Enforcement Of Rule Of Law Has Realized The Dream Of Fear-Free J&K'

Observer News Service

Baramulla: Terming terrorism as the biggest threat to humanity, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday that the prime goal of Jammu and Kashmir Police is to eradicate terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations to ensure peace, stability and security in the Union Territory.

"The rule of law is the foundation for equitable socio-economic development and the empowerment of all sections of society. J&K Police is playing a crucial role in combating terrorism and maintaining the rule of law. Zero tolerance policy against subversive forces and strict enforcement of rule of law has realized the dream of fear-free J&K," Sinha said.



He was addressing a passing-out parade of 510 recruit constables of JKP at the Subsidiary Training School (STC), Sheeri in Baramulla district of North Kashmir. "There are many challenges in front of you. Today, the biggest danger is narcotics and psychological >> More On P10

Hands Over Allotment Letters To Landless Beneficiaries

Observer News Service

Asserting that empowerment of socially disadvantaged communities is a top priority on the agenda of administration, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that with the focus on overall economic growth, his administration is ensuring that no section of society is left behind. He made these remarks while inaugurating >> More On P10

Asserting that empowerment of socially disadvantaged communities is a top priority on the agenda of administration, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that with the focus on overall economic growth, his administration is ensuring that no section of society is left behind. He made these remarks while inaugurating >> More On P10

Govt To Identify Foreigners Illegally Staying In J&K

Press Trust: Of India

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has set up a six-member committee to identify foreign nationals who are illegally staying in the Union Territory since January 2011.

The home department in an order stated that the committee will prepare a monthly report and submit it by the seventh day of every month to the Union home ministry.

The financial commissioner-cum-additional chief secretary of the home department will be the chairperson of the panel which was constituted in response to a November 26, 2020, communication by the home ministry, the order read.

The members of the committee include the Foreigners Regional Registration Officer (FRRO) of Punjab, senior superintendents of police (SSPs), the Jammu and Kashmir Police's Criminal Investigation Department (Special Branch) of both



Jammu and Srinagar, and all SSPs and SPs (Foreigners Registration Office).

In 2021, the Jammu and Kashmir Police had launched a major crackdown against illegal immigrants and detained over 270 Rohingyas from Myanmar, including 74 women and 70 children, at the sub-jail in Kathua district's Hiranagar.

The jail was eventually turned into a holding centre for foreigners staying illegally in the Union Territory.

Rohingyas are a Bengali-dialect speaking Muslim minority in >> More On P10

Sun Shines In Kashmir After Snow, Rain Spell

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Kashmir Valley witnessed a bright sunshine on Wednesday after days of incessant rains in plains and snowfall over upper reaches leading to the wintry weather conditions.

While there were foggy conditions in plains of Kashmir valley and other valleys of J&K and partly cloudy at rest of the places in J&K Wednesday morning, the weather started to improve >> More On P10

Ashish Kumar Appointed SSP Srinagar

Srinagar: The home department on Wednesday posted Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Ashish Kumar Mishra as Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Srinagar, relieving Rakesh Balwal from the charge of city police chief.

"In pursuance of the approval of Competent Authority for premature repatriation of Rakesh Balwal, IPS (MA:2012) from AGMUT Cadre, to his parent cadre i.e. Manipur cadre, the Officer is relieved from the Union territory >> More On P10

Synergised Ops Contributing To Peace In J&K: DM

Asks Army Commander To Expect The Unexpected And Prepare Accordingly

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday commended the Army for its high standard of operational readiness and said "war preparedness" should be a continuous phenomenon and that the military should always be ready for the uncertainties.

In an address to the top commanders of the Army, Singh, referring to the situation in eastern Ladakh, expressed full



confidence in the force to effectively confront any contingency even as he noted that the ongoing talks between >> More On P10

KP Families In Delhi To Get Rs 27,000 Monthly

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Delhi Lt Governor VK Saxena has approved an increase in the Adhoc Monthly Relief to Kashmiri migrants in the national capital from Rs 10,000 to Rs 27,000 per month, Raj Niwas officials said on Wednesday.

The Adhoc Monthly Relief (AMR) was last increased in 2007 when the amount was doubled from Rs 5,000 per family fixed in 1995, they added.

"This enhancement of 170 per cent (almost 2.7 times) in the AMR comes after a long gap of 16 years, when the AMR amount was doubled from Rs 5,000 per month to Rs 10,000 per month in 2007. In 1995, the



Delhi government had fixed the AMR amount at Rs 5000 per month," an official said.

AMR is provided to Kashmiri migrants under the "Security Related Expenditure (Relief & Rehabilitation)", introduced by the central government in 1989-90 to support those who had to migrate from

the Kashmir Valley due to militancy.

In Delhi, AMR is provided to migrant families registered by the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi from 1990-93.

At present, approximately 2,000 families in the national capital are being paid AMR at a rate of Rs 3,250 per person per month, subject to a maximum of four people per family. This amount is shared by the Delhi government, which pays Rs 1,000, and the Centre, which pays Rs 2,250. The monthly expenditure incurred on AMR is approximately Rs 2.5 crore.

However, the number of beneficiaries for the AMR is expected to >> More On P10

Govt To Celebrate Oct 31 As 'UT Foundation Day'



Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a move aimed to showcase all the positive changes that have taken place since the creation of Jammu and Kashmir as a Union Territory

four years ago, the Jammu and Kashmir administration is celebrating October 31 as the 'Union Territory Foundation Day'.

In this regard, Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday held >> More On P10

Prestige Shubh utsav Celebrating 75 years of innovation. 16th Sep - 15th Nov, 2023. Advertisement for Prestige kitchenware with various product offers and discounts.

Authorized Dealer - Jammu Province Dealers: Chandigarh: Prestige Xclusive Cocco, Sec No. 1113, Ground Floor, Sector 22-B, Chandigarh (Near Aroma Chowk), Ph: 8951787413, 01725067135; Harmony Zone, Zirakpur Sco 5, Balaji Enclave, Patiala Road - Zirakpur, Ph: 9779351122; Jain Crockery Arcade, Sco 705, Nac Shivakli Enclave, Manimajra, Chandigarh, Ph: 9463800004; Patiala: Kohli Traders, Hindu Public School Market, Tripuri Road, Patiala, Ph: 9815662256, 8236873417; Ludhiana: Virtue Sales, Ludhiana Prestige Xclusive S17-L, Model Town Ludhiana (Near Pal Hospital), Ph: 01812918777, 8146002004; A N Crockery House, Ludhiana Shop No. B-2, Old Opera House, Near Akalgarh Market, Chaura Bazaar, Ph: 01812745791, 9781023210; Bathinda: Ude Chand Satpal Bathinda Sco 65 Vear Colony, Amrik Singh Road 9876359068, 01842252781; Palampur: Nagla's The Super Store, Palampur Nagla Encl, Old Bus Stand, Ph: 01894233200, 9805433200; Ferozpur: Hi Tech Enterprises, Ferozpur Bazar Bansan Wala, Near Bank Of Maharashtra, Ferozpur City, Ph: 0183223484, 9501031620; Amritsar: Divyam Enterprises, Amritsar 116300, Green Fields Amritsar 7503335566; J&K: New Enterprises, Jammu Kanak Mandi, City Chowk Jammu (L&K), Ph: 9419185770, 9419188785; Kirichen: Anantnag, Ph: 9796706760, 9906849999; Shah Bazar, Elnah Bagh, Opposite Grid Station, Elnah Bagh, Srinagar 7889841838; Khajuli Enterprises, Srinagar Prestige Xclusive New Habba Kadal Chowk - Srinagar, Ph: 9796159994, 9797997747.

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Thursday | 19-10-2023

Fresh Gaza carnage

With the killing of around 500 Palestinians in the airstrike on a hospital in Gaza, the conflict in the Middle East has escalated dramatically. Though Israel has blamed the Palestinian militant organization Islamic Jihad for the attack, it has found fewer takers for its claims.

The incident has evoked strong international reactions. Russia and the United Arab Emirates, have called for a United Nations Security Council meeting, while the United Nations itself reported that an Israeli strike hit one of its schools where thousands of people were seeking shelter, resulting in casualties.

The hospital strike has turned the situation explosive. Thousands of people have taken to streets across the Middle East. Already an estimated 3,000 Palestinians have lost their lives in the 12 day conflict that started after Hamas militants killed around 1200 people in their attacks in Israeli cities. The uninterrupted Israeli bombardment of Gaza has forced civilians to seek refuge in and around hospitals in the hope of safety. But the strike on the hospital has made every place unsafe in the congested enclave. Israel has leveled swathes of Gaza, leaving it without functioning infrastructure and basic necessities. It has also cut off power, water, food, fuel, and medicine supplies, deepening an existing blockade.

It is time that the international community fixes the responsibility for the latest carnage in the war and holds Tel Aviv to account. Clarity and accountability are essential to preventing further loss of innocent lives and to working toward a solution to this long-standing conflict.

As the world watches and responds to this tragedy, it is crucial to remember the human cost of such events and to seek a path to peace that will spare the lives of countless innocent civilians caught in the crossfire.

The volatile situation brought US president Joe Biden to Israel, although his meeting in Jordan with King Mohammad, Egyptian president Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas has been called off in the wake of the attack on hospital. The US has emphasized the need for Israel to carefully consider its plans for Gaza and avoid a ground invasion. This could lead to further escalation and pose a threat to stability in the region. The involvement of Hezbollah in the situation could potentially lead to a broader conflict.

That said, the conflict has yet again underlined the urgent imperative for an Israeli and Palestinian state living side by side. Further delay can only prolong the bloody conflict which has already been hanging fire for the past 76 years and has been one of the major causes for regional and global instability.

OTHER OPINION

For cricket in Olympics, a lot needs to fall in place

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) could not stay immune to the undying passion for T20 cricket in the subcontinent, and the Los Angeles Games 2028 organisers have swooped in to peck at the financial pie. At the IOC Congress Executive Board meet in Mumbai a day after India and Pakistan play their 50-over league spectacle in the ongoing World Cup, cricket will be put to vote to be included in the Olympic programme. Early indications point to T20 cricket joining the LA Games — fancy stadiums have come up on the LA horizon where Major League Cricket matches took place over the summer. The T20 format can fit into the Olympics' time-brackets, even as the long-winded five-day Tests and day-long 50-over formats stood no chance in the 16-day Olympic programme.

Challenges remain. Not everyone in the IOC is tuned into the quaint bat and ball and field game, and a large part of the world will need to be taught how it's played or watched even. The onus will be on the ICC, subservient to the Indian board, to do the heavy lifting of spreading the sport. The football experiment at the Olympics didn't quite take off in its U23 avatar or ring cash registers for the IOC, despite being the world's most watched sport. Co-opting tennis and golf too didn't attract the best names. India might throw its weight behind the Olympics but the ICC will need to cede ground in the Olympic years.

Perhaps the biggest headache for cricket in the Olympics is how it tends to rush back to the dressing room at the first drop of rain. A farce played out at the Asian Games recently, when higher ranking decided the gold medal on a rain-marred Finals day. Climate change and unseasonal rain mean reserve days will need to be marked out throughout the Olympics. It's all very fine to want a share of the cricket money pie via the Olympics and make India-Pakistan play-act war-war for TV's sake. But it will take immense effort before cricket can be air-dropped into the Olympics.

The Indian Express

Power Versus Morality

The result of a conflict, including matters of morality, is seldom determined by the righteousness of a cause; rather, it is often shaped by a dominant power



Palestinian children sit amid the rubble near a building destroyed in Israeli raids in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip [Mohammed Salem/Reuters]

RIYAZ WANI

“
And then when you achieve power, you get the means to remake the world in your image. You get the ability to control the narrative, to decide the good from bad according to your own convenience. Weak don't stand a chance as they don't have the resources to match the disproportionate strength of the powerful nor do they have means to promote their discourse

As the new war between Israel and Palestine rages on, the world is once again hopelessly polarized between their respective supporters. It has split governments, the religions, the mainstream media and the social media. But there is a crucial difference: it is the supporters of Israel who call the shots. They don't just make the noise but also provide material support to the Jewish country and create justification for doing so. This despite the fact that Israel, a Middle East superpower, may not require this support in war against a poorly armed rag-tag militia operating from a tiny strip of land measuring 25 mile long, 7.5 mile wide where around two million people live cheek-by-jowl.

It is a familiar script that plays out every time the hostilities break out. Since 2008, Israel has carried out four major military operations in Gaza - 2008, 2012, 2014, and most recently in 2021 - resulting in killing of 6407 Palestinians including children and widespread destruction. Besides, thousands of homes, schools, and office buildings were reduced to rubble. Rebuilding efforts have been severely hampered by a blockade that prevents essential construction materials like steel and cement from reaching Gaza.

The 2008 operation raised international alarm as Israel was accused of using internationally banned weaponry, including phosphorus gas. In 2014, the conflict, known as Operation Protective Edge by the Israelis, lasted for 50 days and resulted in over 2,100 Palestinian casualties, with 1,462 civilians and almost 500 children. Besides, around 11,000 Palestinians were injured, and the destruction of 20,000 homes left half a million people displaced.

True, the fresh conflict has been triggered by the Hamas at-

tacks in Israel which, according to media reports, have claimed 1200 lives. This is the first time in its history that Israel has suffered an atrocity of this scale, something that surpasses the losses it has endured during its wars with its neighbouring Arab states. This has lent legitimacy to Tel Aviv's current invasion of Gaza which is being cheered on by most western countries, particularly the United States, Israel's chief backer. The US president Joe Biden even confirmed the story of the beheading of 40 Jewish babies despite the Israeli government itself denying any proof for it.

In the past week, swathes of Gaza have been leveled and more than 3000 Palestinians have been killed, with Israel being accused of killing over 500 Palestinians in a strike on a Gaza hospital. But the western powers have mainly been apologetically outraged by the killings in Israel. The invasion of Gaza is framed as Israel's exercise of its right to self-defense in response to Hamas' actions. If that be so, the action-reaction argument could also be seamlessly extended to the Hamas attack, which, in turn, stems from Israel's brutal decade-long siege of Gaza. But this has now become a cliched contention which has fewer takers among Israel's backers or in their powerful media.

That said, it is certainly not the moral arguments that matter at the end of the day, it is the power. And why shouldn't it. It is not easy to acquire power. It needs a systematic effort over decades, sometimes centuries, by a nation to develop the economic, technological and military might that gives it a regional and global sway. Power comes from education, creativity, and human ingenuity which, in turn, unleash the potential of human beings to explore, to create and to invent. And then when you achieve power, you get the means to re-

make the world in your image. You get the ability to control the narrative, to decide the good from bad according to your own convenience. Weak don't stand a chance as they don't have the resources to match the disproportionate strength of the powerful nor do they have means to promote their discourse.

The point is why shouldn't the powerful be entitled to this unfair play by virtue of their strength? After all, the power doesn't come easy. The West went through a drawn process - Renaissance, Enlightenment, Industrial Revolution, American Revolution, French Revolution - over centuries while Islamic world went into a free fall, more so, over the past three centuries. Without going into details of the west's climb to the top of the pile, the truth is that it now effectively runs the world - in fact, has been doing so since European powers such as Britain, Germany and France fanned out and colonized the major parts of the rest of the world. America, a state built by European immigrants, took over as the successor dominant power following World War 2. It is now America's world and its narrative is the world's overriding gospel.

As geopolitics plays out over the Israeli-Palestinian war, one must keep in mind the disproportionate power differential between the two sides. The result of a conflict, including matters of morality, is seldom determined by the righteousness of a cause; rather, it is often shaped by a dominant power. Those in power not only construct their own version of truth but also cultivate a willing audience for it. So, give power its privileges.

*Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir Observer*



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

► MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

On Self Medication

MANY thanks to Kashmir Observer for publishing a very useful and informative article on the dangers of 'self-medication' online. ("The rise of 'Dr. Google'", Aug. 24). Living in the e-world, naturally the internet is an endless source for information. And for many of us, it is our 'first go-to' for just about everything we want

to know. It is also a tempting tool for medical self-diagnosis, but which one should be extremely careful of. For their illness, the temptation of people to treat themselves through online medication is totally wrong and highly dangerous.

When you self-diagnose, you are essentially assuming that you know the subtleties that diagnosis consti-

tutes. This can be fatal as people who assume that they can surmise what is going on with themselves may miss the nuances of diagnosis. Says eminent Radiation Oncologist Sean Vance: "The wealth of medical information we have at our fingertips can be empowering. But we need to be really choosy about the sources we are using, especially when searching

topics like cancer, stroke and heart attack." The problem with seeking medical advice through the internet is that you could end up being provided with completely incorrect information, which could become an added detriment to your health.

Ranganathan Sivakumar

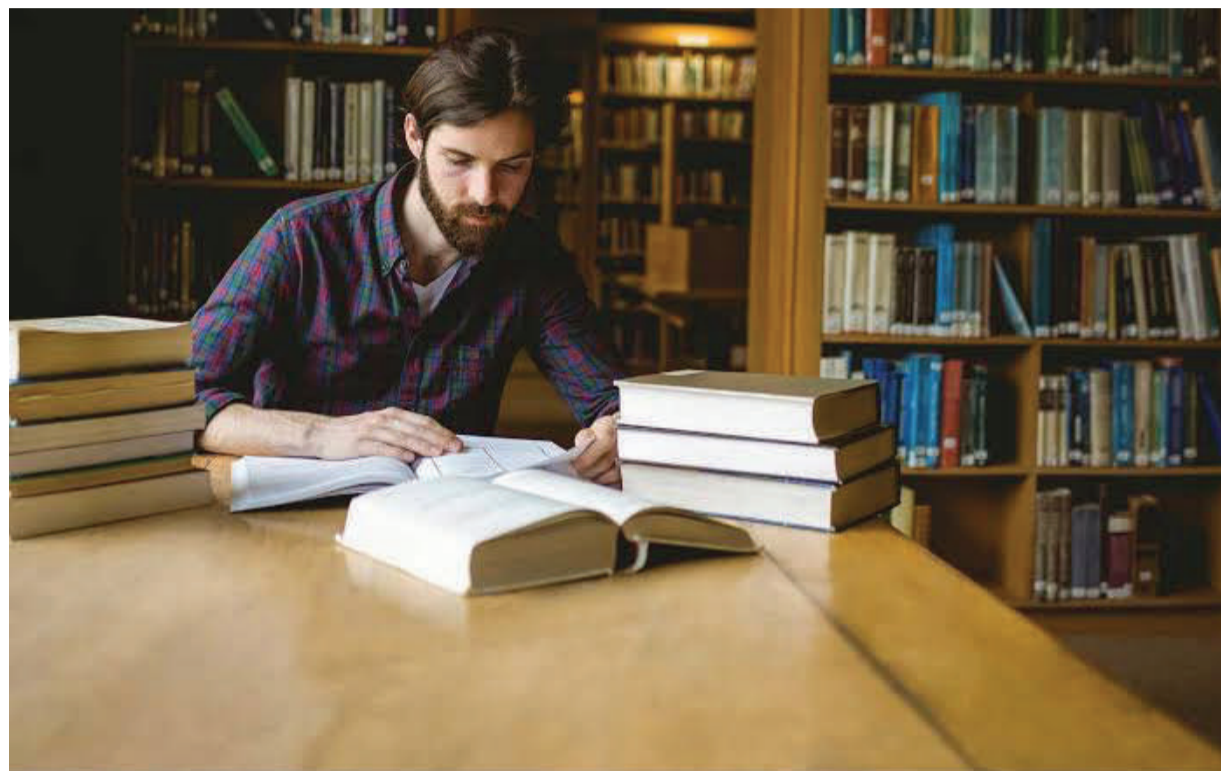
COMPARATIVE RELIGION An Academic Discipline To Broaden Religious Understanding

Dr. Mohd Ashraf and Abdul Majeed

In the contemporary world, interaction with other cultures is inevitable, with trade, in the news, when travelling or just watching television; meeting a different cultural tradition is inevitable for most people. To understand a religion, it is essential to have an awareness of the different sets of values and ideals, customs and ethical values. Even if the people one meets from the 'other' culture are not religious, nevertheless their principles, values and ideals will commonly have been formed by the religion of their culture. According to Pratt, "Religion consists in the serious and social attitude of individuals of communities towards the power or powers which they conceive as having ultimate control over their interests and destinies". Professor Whitehead speaks of religion as, "What the individual does with his own solitariness" and in another place defines it as a "Force of belief cleansing the inward parts". Ali Shari'ati defines religion as "The path leading towards God." Jamaluddin Afghani talks of religion as the "Way of life taught by God through His Prophets." Ibn Khaldun considers religion as the "Natural urge of man to seek for his Creator." In a sense, religion is the indispensable part of human life or as Nasr calls it "life itself".

Comparative Religion as a Discourse

The Comparative Religion as a discourse offers a great opportunity to understand religious others and diverse range of religious phenomena and thus cultures informed by them from academic or scientific perspective. It offers a study of various approaches to religion and such topical phenomena as religion and identity, religion and social harmony and the like. It illuminates central problem of dialogue between cultures. It helps approach diverse cultural phenomena that have an association with the notion of the religious/the mystical/the sacred. Additionally, Comparative Religion also deals with the function of religion as propounded



by the sociologists especially in the social context i.e., the function of religion in the society. Religious Studies deals with the understanding to religions or traditions and phenomenon such as symbolism, rituals, and myths. Unless we know the other better by knowing his/her religion, we can't foster better relations. World scriptures, myths, folklore, darsanas are all associated with the idea of religion and as such better comprehended by the discipline of Comparative Religion. Max Muller had rightly remarked, "One who knows one religion, knows none". Globalization forces us to know religions of our fellows.

Prospects of Comparative Religion

The study of Comparative Religion focuses on understanding the inter-relationship between different religious traditions. It is more importantly

concerned with the influences and impact of religious traditions on civilisations. Comparative Religion offers a multidisciplinary approach to religious traditions. In the present crises of human values study of different religious traditions may help in bridging the gap between the material and the spiritual. The study of religions is essential for the guidance of humanity to balance between the sacred and the profane. One of the significant features of the Comparative Religion is understanding the mutual existence of different religious traditions in the multi-cultural and plural societies. In such societies co-existence and cooperation for overall development of the society becomes vital. This discourse helps to develop the relationship between the different religions living in the same society. Therefore, study of religion provides us strong basis to strengthen the universal brotherhood and promotion of dialogue

among the adherents of different faiths. In the contemporary times one of the significant requirements to establish peace in the societies where diversity of traditions exists is to promote dialogue among them. Religious Studies offer the concept of interfaith dialogue or inter-religious dialogue which not only helps them to understand the differences of each other, but also the necessities that would require to bridge the gap. The said concept guides the adherents of different faiths to come to the commonalities so that peace-building majors would be taken.

The Department of Religious Studies (DRS), Central University of Kashmir, offers the course of MA, M.Phil. and Ph.D in Comparative Religion. In the light of the above discussions this course provides a rare opportunity for the students and research scholars to explore the different dimensions of religious studies from academic perspectives.

It offers a comparative study of major religions of the world both Indian and Semitic religious traditions including Islam, Judaism, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, and Zoroastrianism. Subsequently, nature and scope of religion is also part of the syllabus which offers an in-depth understanding of the origin of religion and modern religious theories. The courses like Religion and Environmental Ethics, Religion and Social Justice, Religion and Gender are specially devised to evaluate the role of religion in the contemporary corpus of sensitive and trend-setting discourses. It is pertinent to mention that the said curriculum has been framed according to the NEP-2020 and is committed to explore the rich religious traditions having positive bearings on our educational systems. The competent faculty at the Department ensures that the students develop an academic acumen of inter-religious understanding, mutual cooperation and the art of co-existence. The Department is keen to highlight the contribution of Muslim scholarship especially al-Shahrastani, Ibn Hazm, Ibn Taymiyyah, al-Nawbakhti, al-Masudi, al-Baghdadi, Abu al-Ma'ali al-Biruni, Ali Shar'ati, Abdul Majid Daryabadi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Isma'il Raji al-Faruqi, Seyyed Hossein Nasr whose contribution to the field of religious studies is academically pioneering.

There is a greater need to introduce Comparative Religion at higher secondary and college levels so that the students learn and understand the religious traditions and world-views of their fellow religionists to contribute to the peace, public-policy and prosperity of the nation in unison.

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

Dr. Mohd Ashraf is the Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies, Central University of Kashmir and Abdul Majeed is a Doctoral Candidate, Comparative Religion, Department of Religious Studies

Gender Justice Is Climate Justice

Immaculate Atuhimize and
Bertrand Badré

The Paris Summit for a New Global Financing Pact, held this past June, rightly focused on promoting an inclusive climate action plan that leaves no one behind. As 13 world leaders stressed in a joint commentary published ahead of the gathering, we must ensure that climate initiatives do not overshadow other development efforts, including the global fight against poverty.

This is a daunting challenge, particularly at a time when centrifugal forces threaten the rules-based international order and many countries are grappling with rising interest rates and elevated debt levels. But if global leaders are serious about leaving no one behind, they must address the specific needs of vulnerable groups – especially women and girls, who comprise half of the world's population.

The United Nations' fifth Sustainable Development Goal (SDG5) – achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls – is inextricably linked to other SDGs, such as those covering health, education, and access to water. Climate change jeopardises all these interconnected goals, potentially generating a cascading effect.

Women and girls in developing countries, particularly those living in rural areas, bear the brunt of the climate crisis. For starters, girls are often tasked with acquiring water and food for their families. Given that most indigenous families have at least five members, these responsibilities amount to a heavy burden – one that becomes heavier as the climate crisis escalates, forcing girls to travel increasingly long distances to fulfil their families' needs.

This contributes, for example, to girls arriving at school late. Moreover, without access to clean water, girls struggle to maintain their menstrual health and hygiene. Such challenges force some to drop out of school, thereby losing their chance to acquire quality basic education. Climate change also contributes to increases in



child marriage, as desperate families trade their daughters for scarce resources.

Climate change exacerbates other societal problems affecting girls and women, such as gender-based violence. And, given that women carry out most of the unpaid domestic and care work, they face distinct challenges when disasters strike. This has been the case in Uganda, which has lately faced severe climate-related catastrophes, such as floods in the east and southwest and prolonged drought in the north. Since few women have training in disaster mitigation, they die at higher rates than men under such circumstances.

Despite all of this, women and other vulnerable groups are frequently sidelined in climate-policy discussions. The recent Africa Youth Climate Assembly – held the day before the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi – showed just what a serious problem this is.

At the event, young people representing various African countries discussed climate-related challenges with which

they have firsthand experience, shared personal stories, and engaged with leaders and peers. As the Africa Climate Summit unfolded, many youth-led organisations continued their work, holding climate walks, side events, and press conferences highlighting further the issues that directly affect them and their communities, but were being left out of the leaders' discussions.

These young people (including one of us) observed with astonishment that most leaders and international organisations seemed focused primarily on carbon markets, but paid little attention to pressing issues like increased plastic pollution in Africa. They were equally dismayed by nebulous commitments to allocate resources for resilience and adaptation measures, and vague promises to help countries deal with loss and damage from climate-driven disasters.

The Africa Climate Summit should be a platform for African people – particularly youth – to share and propose

homegrown solutions, rather than an opportunity for polluters to promote strategies that perpetuate the crisis. Africa is not a dumping ground; it is a continent rich with innovative thinkers and viable solutions. African climate solutions are global solutions, and Africans' ideas deserve attention and genuine support.

Solutions devised without input from those directly affected will always fall short, and the consequences of leaving some behind can extend well beyond the group in question. Consider agriculture. Despite playing a central role in the sector, women often lack the same access to agricultural resources, services, and formal decision-making bodies as their male counterparts.

Increasing women's access to these resources would not only reduce their vulnerability; it would also bolster the food security and climate resilience of households and communities. The Food and Agriculture Organisation projects that ensuring gender equality

in farming could boost women's farm yields by 20-30 per cent. The resulting efficiency gains could reduce global hunger by at least 12-15 per cent and lead to a 2.1 gigaton decrease in carbon-dioxide emissions by 2050.

Similarly, Project Drawdown, a coalition of scientists and economists from around the world, lists girls' education as one of the most effective ways to combat global warming, particularly when combined with voluntary family planning. Bridging the gender gap in education could help countries adapt to climate change and mitigate its worst effects. Investing in girls' education prepares them for the future they inherit and reduces the existing inequalities many women and girls face. Likewise, integrating climate topics into school curricula could foster greater ecological awareness among these children and thus contribute to their communities' resilience.

It is too soon to assess the Paris Summit's impact. But the event undeniably set the tone for subsequent international gatherings, including the Africa Climate Summit, as well as the G20 meeting in New Delhi and the annual session of the UN General Assembly. The message that emerged from these meetings – that climate change and development must be addressed simultaneously – is also likely to feature prominently at November's UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) in the UAE.

This is a start. But for any climate-change plan to be really effective, especially in emerging and developing economies, it must ensure women's social, economic, and political participation. Upcoming international summits, beginning with COP28, must therefore reflect a steadfast commitment to gender justice, and transform the "leave no one behind" mantra from a catchy slogan into tangible actions, both at the policy and grassroots levels. While proactive measures may be expensive, inaction would be far more costly. – Project Syndicate

The article was originally published by Khaleej Times

Google's AI-Powered Search Now Lets You Create Images From Text

IANAS

Google has rolled out the ability to create images with its generative AI-powered Search Generative Experience (SGE), meaning users will now be able to create images right from a text prompt.

It is a similar feature which Google's competitor Microsoft offered in Bing Chat using OpenAI's DALL-E model since March. Additionally, Google will now allow users to write drafts within SGE and customise the output by changing the length or tone of the writing.

"As we continue to experiment with bringing generative AI capabilities into Search, we're testing new ways to get more done as you're searching -- like creating an image that can bring an idea to life, or getting help on a written draft when you need a starting point," Google said in a blogpost on Thursday.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Due to mistake the (Name, S/o, DoB) in My Aadhaar is wrongly mentioned as (Name: Mohd Yusuf, S/o: Mohd Maqbool Sheikh, DOB: 06-04-1982. My actual is (Name: Mohamad Yusuf, S/o Mohamad Maqbool Sheikh, DOB: 20-04-1979). Now, I have applied for its correction. If anybody has any objection in this regard kindly contact Unique Identification Authority of India, New Delhi within the period of seven days. After expiry of said period no objection will be entertained.

Mohd Yusuf Mohd Maqbool Sheikh R/o Surigam Kupwara (J&K)

Before The High Court Of Jammu & Kashmir At Srinagar. Caveat Application No.: 2023. IN THE CASE OF:- Farooq Ahmad Batloo S/O AB RAHIM Batloo R/o: Gurubazar Karan Nagar Srinagar (Caveator) Versus PUBLIC AT LARGE (Non-Caveators)

از عدالت ایڈیشن ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر. با اجلاس: اروند شرما. JK BANK LTD B/U: SOURA SRINAGAR. بنام Mrs Dilshada. دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ: Rs:1,23,022.13/=

از عدالت ایڈیشن ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر. با اجلاس: اروند شرما. JK BANK LTD B/U: NAIDYAR SRINAGAR. بنام Firdour Ahmad Latoo. دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ: Rs:55,012/=

از عدالت ایڈیشن ڈسٹرکٹ جج (بنک مقدمات) سرینگر. با اجلاس: اروند شرما. JK BANK LTD B/U: KHANYAR SRINAGAR. بنام Nisar Ahmad Bhat. دعوئی وصولیائی رقم مبلغ: Rs:1,93,153/=

Government of Jammu and Kashmir. Office Of The General Manager District Industries Centre Srinagar. email srinagardic@gmil.com/ gmdic-srinagar@jk.gov.in tel no: 0194-242748. PUBLIC NOTICE

M/s Hygienic Surgical I/E Khunmoh Srinagar has stands formally registered with this office under No. No. 01/03/07563/ PMT/Tiny dated, 29-032008 for the activity of " Sanitary pads and face masks as proprietorship concern of Mubashir Nazir S/o Nazir Ahmad R/o Nabdipora Hawal Srinagar.

Furthermore the incoming promoter intends to change in line of activity from Sanitary pads and face masks to "Marble Stone/Granite Cutting engraving and edge cutting tiles and polishing and change in name and style from M/s Hygienic Surgical I/E Khunmoh Srinagar to M/s New Sehrish Marble Granite and Stone Industry i/e Khunmoh and de- registration of M/s M/s Hygienic Surgical I/E Khunmoh Srinagar

Any person having any objection, for transfer of lease hold rights, change in line of activity, name and style and De-registration of unit, in favour of the unit shall report to General Manager DIG Srinagar within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice.

General Manager District Industries Centre Srinagar. DIPK-10671/23 dated: 18-10-2023

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR. Office Of The Child Development Project Officer, Poshan Wagoora. Advertisement Notice: No. 04 of 2023 Dated: - 18-10-2023

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

Applications on prescribed format annexed as (Annexure-A) are hereby invited from the eligible female candidates of the Panch wards/Municipal Wards shown against the below mentioned Panchayat Halqa/Municipal Wards, for the engagement of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers) and Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helpers) for the Anganwadi Centres of POSHAN Project Wagoora on "Honorary basis" as admissible under rules. The application along with required documents should reach to the office of Child Development Project Officer Wagoora within 15 working days from the date of publication of the said notice upto 4 P.M. against proper receipt. The application forms shall be available free of cost at Project Headquarter Wagoora.

Table with 5 columns: S.No., Name of The District, Name of the Poshan Project, Name of the Post, Number of Posts. Row 1: BARAMULLA, Wagoora, AWW, 04.

Table with 5 columns: S.No., Name of District, Name of the Poshan Project, Name of the Panchayat Halqa/ Municipal Ward, Details of Vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Workers). Rows 1-4 listing various wards and vacancies.

Criteria for selection of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker). 1. The candidate must be domicile of the UT of J&K. 2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. (Age calculated as on 1st January 2023).

NOTE:- NAME OF THE CANDIDATE MUST BE PRESENT IN THE PANCHAYAT/ MUNICIPAL VOTER LIST, AND THE CANDIDATE MUST SUBMIT IT ALONGWITH OTHER REQUISITE DOCUMENTS. IN CASE OF DISPUTE WITH REGARDS TO THE RESIDENCE OF A CANDIDATE, SHE MUST PROVIDE A RESIDENCE PROOF CERTIFYING THE WARD DULY ATTESTED BY CONCERNED ACR/SDM.

Table with 5 columns: S.No., Name of District, Name of the Poshan Project, Name of the Panchayat Halqa, Details of Vacancies of Sanginis (Anganwadi Helpers). Rows 1-11 listing various wards and vacancies.

Criteria for selection of Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper). 1. The candidate must be a domicile of the UT of J&K. 2. Women candidates in the age group of 18-37 years shall be eligible. (Age calculated as on 1st January 2023).

Helper from amongst those who fulfill the qualification criteria. In rarest of rare cases where selection committee 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 no married candidate is available, unmarried may be considered.

- 6) In case eligible candidate is available within the family of retiring AWH, the said candidate shall qualify for additional 2% points. Self-attested copies of documents to be attached with the application form. 1. Panch ward certificate issued by BDO concerned, as per format annexed with the application form.

NOTE:- NAME OF THE CANDIDATE MUST BE PRESENT IN THE PANCHAYAT/ MUNICIPAL VOTER LIST, AND THE CANDIDATE MUST SUBMIT IT ALONGWITH OTHER REQUISITE DOCUMENTS. IN CASE OF DISPUTE WITH REGARDS TO THE RESIDENCE OF A CANDIDATE, SHE MUST PROVIDE A RESIDENCE PROOF CERTIFYING THE WARD DULY ATTESTED BY CONCERNED ACR/SDM.

DIPK-10652/23 dated: 18-10-2023. ANNEXURE "A" ; Application Form. Application form for the post of Sanginis (Anganwadi Worker) / Sahayikas (Anganwadi Helper)

ADVERTISMENT NOTICE NO:- DATED:-. Table with 13 columns: S.No., Name of the Poshan Project, Name of the Anganwadi Centre, Name of the Post applied for, Name of the Candidate, Father's Name, Husband's Name (if married), Permanent Residence, Name of Panchayat Halqa, Name & Number of Panch Ward, Address for Correspondence, Contact / Mobile Number, Date of Birth, Age as on 01-01-2023.

Table with 6 columns: S.No., Examination Passed, Board/University, Year of Passing, Marks Obtained, Total Marks, Percentage.

15. Does the Candidate belong to the Retiring AWW/AWH (Yes/No)..... (If yes, Attach necessary proof.) 16.Details of Documents Attached; a. _____ b. _____ c. _____ d. _____ e. _____ Any other _____

Signature of the Candidate Date:- _____

ANNEXURE "A" ; Format for Panch Ward Certificate. TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN. This is to certify that the candidate Namely _____ D/O, W/O, _____ R/O, _____ is residing in Panch ward _____ of Panchayat Halqa _____.

ANNEXURE "A" ; Affidavit. I _____ D/O, W/O, _____ R/O, _____ Aadhar No _____, do hereby undertake as under; 1. That 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 engagement shall be deemed to have been cancelled ab-initio and also I shall be liable for any action under law.

JKTPO Participates In 45th India Carpet Expo At Bhadohi



Observer News Service

BHADDOI, (UTTAR PRADESH): Jammu and Kashmir Trade Promotion Organization (JKTPO) participated in 45th edition of India Carpet Expo, at Bhadohi, Uttar Pradesh, a flagship B2B event organized by Carpet Export Promotion Council (CEPC).

The expo was inaugurated by Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath. During the inaugural ceremony, Chief Minister interacted with the exhibitors from Jammu Kashmir and appreciated the hand-woven silk and woolen carpets. He emphasized the pivotal role of UT's carpet industry, over the years, in promotion of exports. He highlighted the evolving industrial eco-system and importance of promoting GI tagged products of Jammu Kashmir at National and international markets.

The exquisite handcrafted carpets from Jammu and Kash-

mir were one of the biggest attractions at India Carpet Expo, showcasing the state's culture, heritage and unique craft.

India Carpet Expo brings together national and international traders, industry leaders and craftsmen, to drive economic growth and promote handicraft in the country. The carpets from Jammu and Kashmir showcased uniqueness in design and skilled craftsmanship of carpet industry of the UT to more than 2000 national and 150 international visitors/investors.

The exhibitors from the UT showcased a variety of unique range of GI tagged silk carpets and woolen carpet at the event. Special media interaction with carpet exporters from J&K was organized to understand the current advancements in the hand-weave carpet industry empowerment and their success stories to encourage more entrepreneurs from the UT of J&K.

Realty Sector Accounts For Nearly 19% Of Total Realisation Via Insolvency Proceedings: Report

Pres Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Real estate accounts for nearly 19 per cent of the total realisation under insolvency proceedings, according to a report by Anarock and Khaitan & Co. Real estate consultant Anarock and law firm Khaitan & Co on Wednesday released a report 'Update on IBC (Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code) in Indian Real Estate'.

"The real estate sector on a reported basis accounted for more than 50 per cent of the total realisations under IBC. However, subsequent to the release of data by IBBI, a large key case went sub-judice following the admission of an appeal before the NCLAT, resulting in the real estate sector accounting for 18.8 per cent of total realisations under IBC," Anarock said in a statement.



debtors being admitted into CIRP," he added.

Sudip Mullick, Partner, Khaitan & Co, said the CIRPs of real estate companies have increased in the last few quarters. Positive outcomes in the ongoing CIRPs of real estate companies would be the key to drive the confidence of homebuyers. Kumar Saurabh Singh, Partner, Khaitan & Co, pointed out that one of the key reasons for the prolonged delay in the resolution of insolvencies has been the large number of vacancies in the NCLTs. With a view to strengthen the bench, Singh said the government has recently appointed 21 members, which will take the bench strength closer to the sanctioned number of 63. On the report, Mani Gupta, Partner, Sarthak Advocates & Solicitor, said, "As of June 2023, according to the IBBI's quarterly newsletter, there were a total of 6,815 insolvencies admitted. Among these, approximately 21 per cent or 1,431 were related to the real estate sector".

Two Day Awareness Programme On Bee-Keeping Inaugurated In Bandipora

Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC) Bandipora, Ali Afsar Khan on Wednesday inaugurated a two days Seminar on Bee-keeping at Town Hall Bandipora.

The programme was organized by Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare department Bandipora under National Bee and Honey Mission (NBHM) and was attended by President Municipal Council Bandipora Basharat Hussain Najar, Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) Javid Iqbal Samoon, District Subject Matter Specialist Abdul Majeed Lone besides beekeepers and progressive farmers.

Speaking at the inaugural session, the ADDC marked the importance of beekeeping as a source of income for the farmers. He said that it is encouraging that a large number of youth in Bandipora district are taking beekeeping as a main venture to earn income and livelihood.

Encouraging youth to come forward and establish beekeeping units of their own, the ADDC urged them to take benefit from the programme and schemes being run by the department for the promotion of beekeeping and other allied activities.

Experts from SKUAST-K were also present on the occasion and highlighted the importance and proper management in bee keeping.

On the occasion, Javid Iqbal Samoon said that objectives of the 2-day's event are to create awareness about the importance of beekeeping in enhancing crop yields and promoting biodiversity. He said that the farmers will gain valuable knowledge into the symbiotic relationship between agriculture and apiculture.

Centre Approves ₹20,774 Crore For Mega Power Transmission Line In Ladakh

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government today approved setting up of a ₹20,773.70 crore-transmission line for evacuation of solar power from a 13 GW renewable energy project in Ladakh to Kaithal in Haryana.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his Independence Day Speech, had announced setting up of a 7.5 GW solar park in Ladakh.

After extensive field survey, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) prepared a plan to set up 13 GW renewable energy generation capacity along with 12 GWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Pang, Ladakh, an official release said.

For evacuating the huge quantum of power, it will be necessary to create an inter-state transmission infrastructure.

Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the project on



Green Energy Corridor (GEC) Phase-II - Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS) for the 13 GW renewable energy project in Ladakh.

The project is targeted to be set up by financial year 2029-30 with a total estimated cost of ₹20,773.70 crore and 40 per cent central financial assistance estimated at ₹8,309.48 crore.

The project is expected to be awarded by March 2025, sources said.

The transmission line for evacuating the power will pass through Himachal Pradesh and Punjab up to Kaithal in Haryana where it will be integrated with the national grid.

An interconnection is also planned from the project in Leh to existing Ladakh grid so as to ensure reliable power supply to the Ladakh.

It will also be connected to Leh-Alusteng-Srinagar line to provide power to Jammu & Kashmir. The project will entail setting up of 713 km transmission lines (including 480 km HVDC line) and 5 GW capacity of HVDC terminal each at Pang (Ladakh) and Kaithal (Haryana), the release said.

The project will contribute to achieving the target of 500 GW of installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuels by year 2030, it added.

SKUAST-K, KVK Budgam Organize Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme

Observer News Service

BUDGAM- Krishi Vigyan Kendra Budgam SKUAST-K organized one day Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) on "Trichoderma a biofertilizer and biofungicide for sustainable organic vegetable production" for farmers of Gariend Budgam sponsored by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME), GoI.

The training programme was aimed to sensitize and build entrepreneurial mindset among the farmers and develop their skills in cultivation of organic vegetable by the use of Trichoderma as biofertilizer and bioagent.

A total of 57 trainees from the said village attended the awareness programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Bilal Ahmad Lone, Sr. Scientist & Head KVK Budgam, stressed on the role of such



awareness programmes for instilling an entrepreneurship spirit among the people.

Also, he stressed upon the use of Trichoderma particularly in vegetables as it is widely used for its well-known biological control mechanism.

Dr Ambreen Nabi SMS Vegetable Science deliberated about the purpose of producing organic vegetable crops. Dr. Shazia Ramzan, SMS Soil Science, discussed in detail how Trichoderma act as a bio-fertilizers and how it can be incorporated with vermicom-

post or FYM in order to produce quality vegetable crop. By incorporating Trichoderma in soil we can reduce the pollution and can improve soil health. With green agricultural development, people are urgently seeking safe, effective and environmentally friendly plant disease control measure.

In this regard Dr Vaseem Yousof Sr. Scientist Plant Protection discussed the disease management of root diseases of vegetable crops by the use of Trichoderma and its role in improving the quality of vegetables.



Govt Extends Curbs On Sugar Exports Beyond Oct

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday again extended restrictions on sugar exports beyond October 31 this year and till further orders, a move aimed at increasing the availability of the commodity in the domestic market during the festive season.

Earlier, the restrictions were imposed until October 31 this year.

"Restriction on export of Sugar (Raw Sugar, White Sugar, Refined Sugar and Organic sugar) is extended beyond 31.10.2023 till further order. Other conditions will remain unchanged," the directorate general of foreign trade (DGFT) said in a notification.

However, it said these restrictions will not be applicable to sugar being exported to the EU and the US under CXL and TRQ duty concession quotas. A specified amount of sugar is exported to these regions under CXL and TRQ (tariff rate quotas).

India is the highest producer and the second-largest exporter of sugar in the world. An exporter would require a licence or permission from the government to export sugar, which is in the restricted category.

The government has been continuously monitoring the situation in the sugar sector, including production, consumption, exports, and price trends in wholesale and retail markets all over the country.

Govt Hikes Wheat MSP By Rs 150 To Rs 2,275 Per Quintal For 2024-25

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the assembly polls in key wheat growing states, the government on Wednesday announced an increase in the minimum support price of wheat by Rs 150 to Rs 2,275 per quintal for the 2024-25 marketing season.

This is the highest quantum of increase in MSP for any marketing season since the Modi government came to power in 2014.

son (April-March).

Wheat is the main rabi (winter) crop and its sowing begins in October while harvesting starts from April.

MSP is the minimum rate at which the grain is purchased by the government procurement agencies.

Briefing media after the cabinet meeting, Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur said the CCEA has approved the increase in the MSP of six mandated rabi



Besides, the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for five other rabi crops -- gram, barley, lentil (masur), rapeseed-mustard seed and safflower -- have been hiked.

A decision in this regard was taken at the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Currently, the MSP of wheat stands at Rs 2,125 per quintal for the 2023-24 marketing sea-

son for the 2024-25 marketing season.

"Based on the CACP (Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices) recommendation, we have increased the MSP of six rabi crops. Wheat MSP has been increased by Rs 150 per quintal," he said.

The MSP of wheat has been raised to Rs 2,275 per cent quintal for 2024-25 marketing season from Rs 2,125 per quintal in 2023-24.

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Capital Committee Executive
Corporate Headquarters,
M.A Road, Srinagar 190001 - J&K

J&K Bank
Serving To Empower

On-line Request for Proposal (e-RFP)
for
**Selection of Book Running Lead Managers/
Merchant Bankers for Proposed Qualified
Institutional Placement (QIP)**

RFP Notice along with Complete RFP document outlining the minimum requirements can be downloaded from and BIDs can be submitted on the Banks' e-Tendering Portal <https://jkbank.abccprocure.com> w.e.f. **October 17, 2023, 16.00 Hrs.** RFP Document can also be downloaded from Bank's Official Website www.jkbank.com. Last date for submission of Bids is **October 31, 2023, 17.00 Hrs.**

e-RFP Ref. No. **JKB/CHQ/CCE/Merchant-Bankers/2023-839**
Dated: **17-10-2023**

Registered office: Corporate Headquarters, M.A. Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India
CIN: L65110JK19385GCO0048; T: +91 (0)194 2481 930-35; F: +91 (0)194 248 1928;
E: info@jkbmail.com; W: www.jkbank.com

DIPK-NB-3751-23
Dated: 18/10/2023

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MECHANICAL & HOSPITALS DIVISION BARAMULLA

Fax No: 01952-234426 | e-mail, ixenmhdbla@gmail.com

TENDER NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT No: M&HDB/TS/2023-24/06/709-15
Date: 18-10-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla, invites online e-bids in Two Cover system on item-wise basis from Authorized Suppliers of OEMs/Registered/Listed Contractors for the below mentioned Supplies:-

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit	Time of Completion	Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
01.	Supply of spares and Repairs to M. Van JK05B-7411 pertaining to Mechanical and Hospitals Sub-Division 1 st Baramulla.	0.183	200.00	366/-	07 days	Vide No. MED/K/ Acctt/427 of 2023 Dated: 27-07-2023	AEE/M&HD S.D 1 st Bla 04/ of 10/23 09 of 10/2023 Dated 17.10.2023
02.	Providing of Shear Pins required for Snow Cutter Rolba 3000 pertaining to Mechanical and Hospitals Sub-Division 1 st Baramulla.	0.24	200.00	480/-	07 days		AEE/M&HD S.D 1 st Bla 10/ of 10/23
03.	Supply of re-filled oxygen cylinders required for fabrication and Repair works to various Snow Clearance Machines pertaining to Mechanical and Hospitals Sub-Division 1 st Baramulla.	0.12	200.00	240/-	07 days		02 of 10/ 2023 Dated 17.10.2023
04.	Supply of Spares required for various Departmental Snow Clearance Snow Cats pertaining to Mechanical and Hospitals Sub-Division 2nd.	0.189	200.00	378/-	07 days		10 of 10/2023 Dated 17.10.2023
05.	Supply of Filters required for various Departmental Snow Clearance Machines pertaining to Mechanical and Hospitals Sub-Division 2nd.	0.22714	200.00	454/-	07 days		

- Downloading of Bids: The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Qs), Set of Terms & Conditions of Contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 18-10-2023 (06.15PM)
- Submission of Bids: The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 18-10-2023 (06.30 PM) to 30-10-2023 (06.55 PM) in two covers.
- Opening of Bids: The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 31-10-2023 (13.00 PM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla.
- The bidders are required to submit their offers in two (02) covers.

Cover-I shall contain: Scanned copies of following documents:

I	Tender Fee	Rs. 200.00 (Rupees Two Hundred only) in shape of e-Challan / e-receipt / online Bank transfer acknowledgement excluding mPay or any other mobile banking App., to be uploaded with each online bid pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla. Tender Id to be written also on the voucher. Bank: J&K Bank Branch: T.P Baramulla. IFSC Code: JAKAQTESHIL Account No.: 0213010200000051.
II	EMD	Scanned copy of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of CDR/FDR equivalent to 2% of value of the advertised cost pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla. EMD of successful bidder shall be released on receipt of 5% Performance Guarantee from (L1) and execution of agreement with the Department. EMD of un-successful bidders shall be also released as per rules provided in J&K Engineering Manual 2020.
III	Terms & Conditions	Scanned copy of the Annexure - "A" & "B" duly accepted by the bidder.
IV	Tax Clearance	Registration Certificate of Sales Tax Department quoting GST Number.
V	GST	Scanned copies of PAN Card / GST Registration / Latest GST clearance certificate or acknowledgement of latest returns.
VI	Undertaking	Undertaking as per format at Annexure "C" that the bidder has not been blacklisted or debarred by any Govt./Semi Govt. Department.

Note: - Successful Bidder (L1) needs to furnish original EMD and Fee Receipt to this Division / Department for obtaining Letter of Acceptance / L.O.I from this Division / Department.

- Cover II shall contain the price bid as per BOQ which shall be inclusive of all taxes under GST. The price bid is to be uploaded only.
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- The Financial bid of only qualifying bidders shall be opened online in the Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla after evaluation of the technical bid.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) content. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- The cost of tender document is non-refundable and the tender shall in no case be accepted if submitted by any firm other than the purchaser.
- Any tender found to have been submitted by the firm by furnishing false information to the Department shall be cancelled and the firm shall be penalized as and when it comes to the notice of the Department even during the currency of the contract. The tenders should be addressed to the Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Baramulla.
- The Department shall not be responsible for delay in submission of bids due to any reasons, whatsoever.
- The Department reserves the right to reject or accept any or all bids in part or in full without assigning any reason thereof.
- The successful bidder has to supply the spares based on allotment order issued by the Department at the rates allotted under this contract (L1 rates only) from the date of issuance of Allotment Order / L.O.I.

No: M&HDB/TS/e-tender-06/709-15
Dated: 18-10-2023
DIPK-10646-23
Dt: 18/10/2023

DIPK-10646-23
Dt: 18/10/2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical & Hospitals Division
Baramulla

WC: 'Winning Juggernaut' India Play Bangladesh

Press Trust of India

PUNE: Going by the current form of the teams, the popular pre-match prediction of India's World Cup game against Bangladesh here on Thursday will be a romp for Rohit Sharma's men.

But if the glossy surface is scratched, one will have to tear away that view based on the form book.

Bangladesh have beaten India three times in the last four ODIs -- twice in a bilateral series in December 2022 and then in the Asia Cup Super Four match recently.

In this tournament, the underdogs have already shown how to slay the giants. If in doubt, check with England and South Africa about their feelings after their shock losses to Afghanistan and Netherlands respectively.

India would certainly want to avoid that banana peel and keep their good run intact in this World Cup.

In the batting front, captain Rohit will look to continue his imperious form while top order batters Shubman Gill and Virat Kohli will be eager to score big.

Among others, Shreyas Iyer's unbeaten fifty against Paki-



stan has signalled that India's batting is firing in unison and there are no real concerns. As such, the team may not want to tinker with the winning combination just yet.

Indian bowlers too have done a collective job though Jasprit Bumrah's brilliance and Kuldeep Yadav's guile made them a stand-out attack.

For Bangladesh, it is imperative that their best player and

captain Shakib Al Hasan overcomes the challenge of a quad injury to his left leg and is available for selection on Thursday.

Shakib, who did not bowl on Tuesday during the team's training session, will be essential for Bangladesh to take the fight to India.

Litton Das and Mehidy Hasan Miraz have one half-century each to show at the top order from the first three games but

more will be expected from young players Najmul Hossain Shanto and Towhid Hridoy, as only Mushfiqur Rahim has done the heavy-lifting in the middle order.

Taskin Ahmed's sudden dip in form has piled up pressure on the team which has been scampering for bowling options, with the right-arm seamer managing only two wickets in three outings.

Action Unlikely On PCB's Complaint On Crowd Behaviour In Ahmedabad

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The ICC is unlikely to take any action on Pakistan Cricket Board's complaint for alleged boorish crowd behaviour during their World Cup game against India in Ahmedabad since the ambit of the anti-discrimination code is restricted to individuals and does not cover group.

More than one lakh fans watched the action unfold at the Narendra Modi Stadium and only three Pakistani-American fans were in the stands to support the players from the neighbouring nation.

A section of fans had heckled Mohammed Rizwan with religious chants when the wicket-keeper batter was walking back to pavilion following his dismissal, prompting the PCB to lodge a complaint with the game's governing body.

Pakistan's Director of Cricket Mickey Arthur had admitted that his players were overawed by the vociferous crowd during their seven-wicket thumping at the hands of India.

It is understood that ICC has taken cognisance of the complaint and is ascertaining its nature and the process it might follow.

"The ICC takes every complaint very seriously but code is



about individuals. I don't know what exactly is PCB looking at but it will be very difficult to take any tangible action," a veteran official, who has worked in both BCCI and ICC told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

PCB's complaint about "inappropriate behaviour" needs to be seen in relative light.

"The ICC may identify individuals if there are charges of racism but if thousands of people are shouting a slogan, what can you do? No player was injured by any 'missile' hurled

from the gallery? A partisan crowd is expected. That's pressure of elite sport," he added.

As a part of standard protocol, the ICC exhibits its stand on racism and zero tolerance policy through billboards during its events.

About Arthur's 'Dil Dil Pakistan' not blaring from the sound system, a BCCI official said, "There was no problem in playing 'Dil Dil Pakistan' but in that entire match, was there any such moment where you could have played that song?"

JKCA Names Team For Balramji Das Tandon Cricket Tournery



Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association on Wednesday announced its team for Balramji Das Tandon Memorial Tournament 2023. The 15-member squad will be led by Shiva Thakur while as Mohammad Zaid Mufti has been named as the Vice Captain. The other team members are: Arjun Sharma, Rahil Younis, Samarth Sawhney, Nityam Sharma, Shourya Chouhan, Aarit Nagpal, Mohammad Shifan, Manityva Sharma, Arun Kumar, Jeevesh Gupta, Irfan Ashraf, Saksham Charak and Asrar Azhad. The J&K team will play its

first match from 19 to 20th October with Chandigarh at Baba Balaknath Ground, while as the second match is with Mizoram on 22nd and 23rd October at Cricket Institute of Chandigarh. This year the tournament is commencing from October 19 to November 1, 2023 at Chandigarh.

In the phase I of the tournament the league matches will be played while as in the phase II semi-finals and finals will be held.

The JKCA had organized a selection camp for Under-16 boys at Hostel Ground Jammu from October 14 to 16 to finalise the squad for the tournament.

J&K Contingent Leaves For 37th National Games

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Ramesh Kumar, on Wednesday flagged off the J&K contingent for its participation in the 37th National Games, scheduled to be held in Goa from 26th October to 9th November 2023. A total of 189 athletes and coaches of 18 different sports disciplines from Jammu and Kashmir will be participating in the championship.

Teams comprising of Pencak Silat, Water Sports, and Yogasana Sports participants were flagged off by Director General Budget J&K, Mohammad Yaqoob Itoo, from Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar.

The DC remarked that the National Games is one of the prestigious and major national event and is a core platform for sportspersons to prove their talent for international events.

Member J&K Sports Council and ex-BCCI Member, Ranjeet Kalra, and Member



JKSC, Bhanu Pratap Singh, along with Chief Sports Officer, JKSC, Mohammad Hanief, Divisional Sports Officer Jammu, Baljinder Pal Singh, and Managers, Incharges, Coaches, Mentors of Jammu district were present on the flagging off ceremony.

Senior Women's Football National Trials From Oct 20

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Football Association on Wednesday announced that it will hold open selection trials for the J&K team to compete in the 28th Senior Women's National Football Championship 2023-24. The trials are set to take place on 20th and 21st October at 3:00 PM. They will be held at Bakshi Stadium in Srinagar and at Mini Stadium

Parade in Jammu. The Senior Women's National Football Championship 2023-24 will be held in Amritsar, Punjab.

"These trials will be conducted in the presence of representatives from both the J&K Sports Council and the J&K Football Association. Show us your skills and passion for the game!," the JKFA said in a statement.

The final selection will be held at Bakshi Stadium on 25th and 26th October 2023.

Rohit Rises Five Places To Sixth In ICC ODI Batters' Rankings

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: India captain Rohit Sharma on Wednesday jumped five places to the sixth rank in the ICC ODI batters' ranking on the back of his imperious form in the ongoing World Cup at home.

Rohit amassed 131 runs against Afghanistan and then backed it up with an imperious 86 from 63 balls against arch-rivals Pakistan to be one of the in-form batters in the showpiece.

South Africa wicketkeeper batter Quinton de Kock rose three spots to the third rank after back-to-back tons (100 against Sri Lanka and 109 against Australia) in the World Cup as he leapfrogged teammate Rassie van der Dussen in fourth.

De Kock missed an opportunity to climb even closer to top spot after he was dismissed for 20 against Netherlands.

Afghanistan opener Rahmanullah Gurbaz (up 19 spots to 18th) and Netherlands captain Scott Edwards (up 16 spots to 27th) have also surged in the batting rankings following superb innings that inspired each of their teams to shock victories.

Pakistan captain Babar Azam has edged up to 836 rating points and stretched his lead in the ODI batting rankings to 18 points.

India opener Shubman Gill remained in the second spot after overcoming illness to kick off his World Cup campaign with 12 runs against Pakistan.

Veteran New Zealand pacer Trent Boult is within reach of the No.1 spot in the ODI bowling rankings following a destructive spell against



Bangladesh. He finished with 2/45 against Bangladesh after also dismissing Towhid Hridoy for his 200th wicket in ODIs.

Boult is only one rating point behind current leader Australia's Josh Hazlewood (660 rating points) after moving up one place in the latest update.

Afghanistan magician Rashid Khan climbed two spots higher to fourth place in the bowling rankings, while South Africa spinner Keshav Maharaj made a bigger move of seven spots to equal fifth alongside Mujeeb Ur Rahman.

Among the quicks, India's Jasprit Bumrah (up seven spots) and South Africa's Kagiso Rabada (up one spot) have risen to equal 14th, as Lungi Ngidi jumps six spots to 16th.

Bangladesh veteran Shakib Al Hasan held onto the No.1 spot in the ODI all-rounder rankings with 343 rating points.



German, French Clubs Suspend Muslim Footballers Over Gaza Posts

Agencies

MAINZ: Football clubs in Germany and France on Wednesday suspended two footballers over their social media posts about the situation in Palestine.

Bundesliga club Mainz suspended Dutch forward Anwar El Ghazi for what it called an "unacceptable" social media post about the Israel-Hamas war.

The club said on its website that it has "relieved Anwar El Ghazi of his training and match-day related duties" because of a post he shared Sunday that he since deleted. It does not say what the post contained, nor whether the player will return to play for the club.

Mainz spokesperson Silke Bannick declined Wednesday to give further details, saying only that El Ghazi was "released from training and matchday activities. Please understand that we will not comment further beyond the official statement."

On its website, Mainz said: "In



the post, El Ghazi stated an opinion on the ongoing conflict in the Middle East that was deemed unacceptable by the club. Prior to making this decision, the club and the player had engaged in an in-depth discussion."

The 28-year-old El Ghazi, who previously played for PSV Eindhoven, Aston Villa and Everton joined Mainz last month. He has made three appearances as a substitute for the team.

Meanwhile, French club Nice suspended defender Youcef Atal on Wednesday until further notice after he shared an antisemitic message on social media.

Nice said in a statement that it had discussed the issue with Atal and that he apologized.

"The player acknowledged his error by quickly withdrawing the sharing of the publication and has offered a written and public apology," Nice said. "Nevertheless, given the nature of the publication shared, and its seriousness, the club has made the decision to immediately take the first disciplinary measures against the player, prior to any action that may be taken by sporting and legal authorities. To this end, the club has decided to suspend Youcef Atal until further notice."

Sweden Fans Told Not To Wear National Team Clothing Abroad

Agencies

BRUSSELS: Fans of Sweden's soccer teams will be advised against wearing clothing in national colors when they travel abroad in the wake of the killing of two Swedish supporters before a European Championship qualifying match in Belgium.

At least one of the men shot dead in the incident in Brussels on Monday was wearing a Swedish soccer jersey.

They got out of a taxi not far from King Baudouin Stadium, which hosted the Belgium-Sweden match, and were chased into a building before being gunned down by a Tunisian national who posted a video online saying the Quran was "a red line for which he is ready to sacrifice himself."

Sweden recently raised its terror alert to the second-highest level in August after a series of public Quran burnings by an Iraqi refugee living in the country resulted in threats from Islamic militant groups.



At a news conference in Stockholm, Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson said "everything indicates this is a terrorist attack against Sweden and Swedish citizens, just because they are Swedish."

Martin Fredman, head of security for the Swedish soccer federation, said Tuesday that fans making trips abroad will be advised not to wear the blue-and-yellow attire associated

with the country's sports teams. "It's the case that a perpetrator has targeted Swedish citizens," Fredman said, "so it would be reprehensible not to go with a recommendation that we should avoid (Swedish team clothing) when we are out on trips like this."

Fredman said he hadn't received any such advice from Belgian authorities before Monday's match.

90% Accident Cases Mishandled at Site, Say Experts

Agenceis

New Delhi: Up to 90 per cent of trauma cases are initially mishandled at accident scenes, worsening injuries and prolonging treatment, say medical experts.

The department of trauma surgery in Lucknow's King George's Medical University (KGMU) conducted a public interaction session on Tuesday on how to handle trauma cases at accident sites.

The department's senior faculty Professor Samir Misra said, "If an injured person receives proper assistance at the accident site, we can stop bleeding, prevent further bone damage, and ensure speedy recovery. Unfortunately, this often does not happen, and about 90 per cent of accident cases result in worsened injuries." Dr Misra also said paramedics or other people at an accident site should follow a simple practice to help trauma victims – the act of lifting an injured person on to a stretcher should be performed by four



people, in order to ensure that there is no added pressure on the spine.

Prof Sandip Tiwari, head of trauma surgery, underlined the importance of not using mobile phones while driving, as it

would reduce road accidents. "Using a mobile phone while driving is an invitation to fatal accidents," he said.

According to the report Road Accidents in India-2021, there are more than 1,000 reported

road accidents per day. Reducing the number of accidents would also reduce fatalities and injuries, said Dr Abhishek Shukla, secretary-general of the Association of International Doctors.

Jet Airways Founder Naresh Goyal Allowed Home Food In Jail At "Own Risk"

Agenceis

Mumbai: A special PMLA court in Mumbai has allowed Jet Airways founder Naresh Goyal, an accused in an alleged fraud of 538 crore at the Canara Bank, to have home-cooked food inside prison.

Naresh Goyal's plea for home-cooked food was allowed by special judge for cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) MG Deshpande on Tuesday.

"Naresh Goyal is permitted to avail home cooked food on a daily basis, as prayed, at his own risk and the risk of his family/relatives, until further order," the court said.

Naresh Goyal is currently in judicial custody and lodged at Arthur Road jail in south Mumbai in a money laundering case linked to an alleged fraud at the Canara Bank.

Earlier, his lawyers had moved an application for home-cooked food along with a chart on Naresh Goyal's health issues that they claimed had cropped up during his judicial custody.

The Enforcement Directorate



(ED) arrested Naresh Goyal on September 1 under the PMLA following a long session of questioning at the central agency's office here.

The money laundering case stems from an FIR of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against Jet Airways, Naresh Goyal, his wife Anita, and some former company executives of

the now-grounded private airline in connection with an alleged 538-crore fraud at the Canara Bank.

The FIR was registered on the bank's complaint which alleged that it sanctioned credit and loans of 848.86 crore to Jet Airways (India) Limited of which 538.62 crore was outstanding.

Israel-Hamas Tensions Hit World's Biggest Book Fair



Agenceis

The Israel-Hamas war is set to overshadow the Frankfurt Book Fair this week after the postponement of a Palestinian author's award ceremony sparked condemnation from top writers and the withdrawal of several Arab groups.

The world's biggest publishing trade event begins Wednesday just over a week since Hamas launched an attack on Israel, prompting Israel to respond with a relentless bombing campaign of the Gaza Strip.

Organizers swiftly denounced the Palestinian's "barbaric" assault and rushed to reorganize the schedule, pledging Israeli voices would feature prominently.

The fair "stands with complete solidarity on the side of Israel," director Juergen Boos said in a statement.

But the run-up to the five-day event has been overshadowed by a furious backlash after an award ceremony for Palestinian

author Adania Shibli was postponed.

She was due to receive the LiBeraturpreis, a German award, for her book "A Minor Detail," based on the real events of a 1949 rape and murder by Israeli soldiers.

It is organized by Litprom, which gives out the honour each year at the fair, but the group said they had decided not to go ahead with the ceremony "due to the war started by Hamas".

It said in a statement that it was looking for a "suitable format and setting for the event at a later point," while insisting that: "Awarding the prize to Adania Shibli was never in question."

However in an open letter released Monday, over 600 signatories including high-profile authors, publishers and literary agents, condemned the move.

Postponing the award amounted to "closing out the space for a Palestinian voice", said the letter, whose signatories included Abdulrazak Gurnah and Olga Tokarczuk, both winners of the Nobel Prize for Literature.

4 Arrested For Allegedly Defacing Flag Of Israel In Mumbai



Agenceis

Four persons were arrested by the police for allegedly defacing the flag of Israel in South Mumbai, an official said on Wednesday.

A video of the incident, which took place at a junction in the Bhandi Bazaar area on Tuesday night, has surfaced on social media platforms. In the video, a group of people can be seen defacing the Israeli flag.

Taking serious cognisance of the incident, the J J Marg Police registered

an FIR (first information report) under relevant sections of the IPC and arrested four persons, he said.

Meanwhile, another official said the Mumbai police were monitoring social media sites for any inflammatory or objectionable content related to the ongoing Israel-Hamas war in West Asia after the devastating October 7 terror attacks on the Jewish state. If anyone tries to disturb peace and harmony with offensive social media posts, appropriate action will be taken against him, the officer warned.



Modi Government Committed towards better Rail Connectivity



"Indian Railways is a good example if one has to see how India is changing and how dreams can come true."
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Flagging Off of

Extension of 12513/12514 Guwahati – Secunderabad Express up to Silchar, (Assam)

- First direct train service between Barak Valley (Silchar) and Secunderabad
- Beneficial to people of lower Assam and areas bordering Barak Valley

15617/15618 Dullabcherra - Guwahati Tri-weekly Train

- Direct train service between Dullabcherra and Guwahati
- Beneficial to students, businessmen & traders of Dullabcherra

Extension of 12519/12520 Kamakhya – Lokmanya Tilak Express up to Agartala, (Tripura)

- A direct train service between the capital of Tripura and the financial capital Mumbai
- Beneficial to students, traders and patients of Tripura

07688/07687 Agartala - Sabroom DEMU Train

- People from the remote areas of the state will get enhanced connectivity with the state capital Agartala
- Will boost tourism in the state

&

Vistadome Coach in 04688/04687 Budgam - Banihal Train

- Vistadome Coach will boost tourism in Jammu & Kashmir
- Will provide memorable journey to the passengers



by

Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma
Chief Minister, Assam
Present at Guwahati Railway Station

Prof. (Dr.) Manik Saha
Chief Minister, Tripura
Present at Agartala Railway Station

Ashwini Vaishnav
Union Minister of Railways, Communications & Electronics and Information Technology
(Through Video Conferencing from New Delhi)

Pratima Bhoumik
Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment
Present at Agartala Railway Station

Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor, Jammu & Kashmir
Present at Srinagar Railway Station

Parimal Suklabaidya
Minister of Transport, Fisheries & Excise Department, Assam
Present at Silchar Railway Station

Sushanta Chowdhury
Minister of Transport, Tourism, Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Tripura
Present at Agartala Railway Station

Date: Thursday, 19th October, 2023
Time: 03:00 PM

INDIAN RAILWAYS

www.indianrailways.gov.in

Follow us on:

f X Instagram YouTube /RailMinIndia