

## Iconic Kashmiri Houseboats In Peril; Only 750 Left

Blanket Ban On Construction Of New Houseboats, Shortage Of Master Craftsmen, Lack Of Finances Major Reasons

### Agencies

Srinagar: Tourists visiting Kashmir may not be able to see and enjoy their stays in the iconic houseboats after a decade from now as the number of "floating palaces" has recorded a drastic decline from 2000 to just 750. Courtesy: blanket ban on construction and non-availability of master craftsmen.

The number of houseboats, one of the huge attractions for the tourists, is dwindling at a great pace due to the blanket ban on construction. Another major reason for the diminishing



number of houseboats is that there are only master craftsmen left, who too are in the later part of their life,

not able to work much. President Houseboat Association (HBOA),

Owners Manzoor

### Survivor Tourists Returning Home Soon

MAJID NABI

The tourists, who escaped miraculously in a houseboat blaze last week, are likely to return to their native places soon. **More on P6**

### NC Demands Probe Into Dal Lake Fire

The National Conference on Monday demanded a thorough investigation into the fire incident in Dal Lake here that resulted in the death of three Bangladeshi tourists. "While it is **More on P6**

Pakhtoon said that till early 1980's, there were almost 2000 houseboats thriving in Dal Lake and Nigeen Lake

and river Jehlum. "Today, the number of houseboats in Dal lake, Nigeen Lake, Chinar Bagh and **More on P6**

## Senior Commander Celebrates Diwali With Soldiers

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Northern Army Commander Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi celebrated Diwali with troops during his visit to Akhnoor sector of Jammu district.

The Army commander interacted with veterans, personnel of IAF, central paramilitary forces and achievers on Sunday and felicitated them for their exceptional work and devotion to duty.

"Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi, Army Commander Northern Command visited forward areas in Akhnoor and celebrated Diwali with **More on P6**

## AMSHIPORA FAKE ENCOUNTER CASE

### Captain's Life Term Suspended, Granted Conditional Bail

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The armed forces tribunal here has suspended the life sentence of an Army captain who was found guilty of killing three men in a "staged" encounter in south Kashmir's Amshipora village in July 2020.

The tribunal also granted conditional bail to Captain Bhoopendra Singh and directed him to appear before its principal registrar at a regular interval starting from January next year.

The three men hailing from Rajouri district of Jammu region -- Imtiyaz Ahmed, Abrar Ahmed and Mohammed Ibrar -- were killed in a remote hilly village in Shopian district on July 18, 2020 and labelled as "terrorists".

However, as doubts were



raised on social media over the killings, the Army promptly constituted a Court of Inquiry (COI) which found prima facie evidence that the troops had "exceeded" powers vested under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, or AFSPA. The Court of Inquiry was followed by the

summary of evidence, which was completed in the last week of December 2020.

Completing general court martial proceedings in less than a year, an Army court in March this year recommended life imprisonment for Captain Singh, subject to **More on P6**



SRINAGAR'S FAMED NISHAT GARDEN presents a majestic look as leaves of mighty Chinar trees have started turning crimson red in the ongoing autumn season. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

**THE TRIBUNAL ALSO GRANTED CONDITIONAL BAIL** to Captain Bhoopendra Singh and directed him to appear before its principal registrar on the first Monday of every month starting from January next year.

## DGP Calls For Continued Action Against Terrorists 'Ensure That People Are Safe While You Deal With Enemies Of Peace'

Observer News Service

Jammu: The Director General of Police, R R Swain on Monday directed police officers to continue action against terrorists and their sympathisers besides keeping suspicious elements under proper surveillance to thwart their ill designs aimed at disrupting the peaceful atmosphere.

Swain made these remarks while chairing a joint security review meeting of high ranking officers of Police, Army and CRPF at Kulgam on Monday. He asked the officers to evolve a more effective mechanism and ensure public safety while dealing with the elements inimical to peace.

The meeting, according to a police spokesperson, was held to review the security setup of the district with an aim to discuss the measures to bring and retain peace and to eliminate the militancy from its roots.

Addressing the officers, Swain stressed upon maintaining the



peaceful, secured environment by people friendly policing. He also highlighted the importance of people's role in prevailing scenarios, and stressed upon the officers to evolve more effective mechanisms and ensure public safety while dealing with the elements inimical to peace.

The DGP also stressed upon strengthening the mechanism of sharing intelligence inputs among the stakeholders at different levels.

"The DGP J&K said that masters of terror across the border and their puppets **More on P6**

## Empowerment Of Tribals PM To Launch Rs 24,000-Crore Scheme Tomorrow

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch a Rs 24,000-crore scheme aimed at holistic development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) on the occasion of 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas' on November 15 in Jharkhand, his office said on Monday.

He will also launch the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', release the 15th instalment of PM-KISAN, and inaugurate or lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects



in the state.

Modi will visit Jharkhand on November 14th-15, a statement released by the Prime Minister's Office said.

On November 15, at around

9:30 AM, the Prime Minister will visit Bhagwan Birsa Munda Memorial Park cum Freedom Fighter Museum in Ranchi. Thereafter, he will reach Ulihatu Village, the birthplace of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, where he will pay floral tribute at the statue of Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

Modi would be the first PM to visit Ulihatu Village, the birthplace of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the statement said.

Prime Minister Modi will participate in a programme marking the **More on P6**

## SED Employees Under Lens For Skipping Biometric Attendance

Agencies

Srinagar: Authorities have said that it has received many complaints against the employees of School Education Department for not marking biometric attendance.

In this regard, the Personal Officer to Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK) has asked Chief Education Officers (CEOs) of Kashmir region to furnish the requisite information.

The officer in a communiqué has said that it has received complaints against the employees of School Education Department for not making

two times biometric or online attendance

The official said that with regard to the matter, the authorities had requested to furnish the desired compliance report.

"Despite a lapse of a considerable time nothing has been heard from your side in this regard till date," it reads.

"Accordingly, I am to request CEOs to furnish the desired information or report without any further delay within two days positively, enabling this department to proceed ahead into the matter on its merits," reads the communiqué--(KNO)

## SHORT TAKES

### China On Alert For COVID Relapse

Chinese experts have sounded an alert about the relapse of COVID-19 infections during the current winter season and asked elderly and vulnerable populations to get vaccinated. The Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (Chinese CDC) shows that a total of 209 new severe COVID-19 cases and 24 deaths caused by COVID-19 were reported across the country in October, with the prevalent strains all being XBB variants, official media reported on Monday. China's top **More on P6**

### Ex-Minister Ajatshatru Meets LG

Ajatshatru Singh, Former Minister and Senior BJP Leader called on Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha at Raj Bhawan. He was accompanied by Ritu Singh. Ajatshatru Singh apprised the Lt Governor about his visit to the United Kingdom in connection with the commemoration of Accession Day in the British Parliament. The event was organised by the Jammu Kashmir diaspora based in the UK. The Lt Governor was also presented a book "Kashmir Under The Dogras- Transition to Peace, Progress & Modernity" authored by Dr S N Pandita.

**BEYOND THE HEADLINES**

**Dr Sameer Kaul**  
Senior Surgical Oncologist

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=smLAZqDjptU&t=3s>





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From The Office Of Advocate Bashir Ahmad Shah Lic. No.834/10

In the case of Sangam Cricket Club Through its president... (Caveators) ... (Non-Caveators)

From The Office Of The Advocate Mudasar Gulzar Vakil

In the case of: Sheikh Abdul Rahman son of Sheikh Abdul Aziz resident of rawalpore Srinagar Vs Public At Large (Caveator) (Non-Caveator)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of DOB certificate for my ward namely Murtaza Hassan Ganie (DOB: 17-02-2018)...

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education New Campus Bemina Srinagar

I have passed/appeared in Secondary School Examination (Class- 10th) under Roll No. 3131410 Session: Nov -Dec Year 2015...



Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION CHADOORA

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Single cover system E-NIT No. 134 of R&B /8935-45/2023-24 Dated: - 13/11/2023

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

Table with 7 columns: S.No, Name of Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs), Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees), Earnest Money (In Rupees), Time of completion, M.H.O.F Account, Class Of Contractor

Position of AAA: - Accorded Position of funds: - Available Position of TS: - Sanctioned Project Authority: Chief Engineer PW (R&B) Kashmir

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

Table with 2 columns: S.No, Date of Issue of Tender Notice, Period of downloading of bidding documents, Bid submission Start Date, Bid Submission End Date, Date & time of opening of Technical Bids

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora... Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids. The earnest money/ performance Security shall be forfeited if:- Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate [DSC]' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including earnest Money Deposit, tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy.

The bidder should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are found forged/fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be recommended for blacklisting and debarred from taking part in tendering in PWD/Other Departments for a period of one year in the first instance, besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons. For item rate method the unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work.

The %age rate method requires the bidder to quote a percentage above / below / at par at the bottom of the BOQ percentage template for the work. The percentage quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work.

Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contractor/bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/ Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited.

Price escalation and Taxes:- The bidder's percentage shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes excluding GST up to the completion of the work. Taxes shall be deducted from the contractor's bills on the gross amount of the bill at the time of recovery at the rates in effect at the time of recovery.

Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required. In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines standard bidding document shall be followed.

All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form). Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora No. 8935-45 Dated: 13/11/2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION GANDEBAL

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

CIVIL WORKS SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs.2.50 Crores) EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-Tender NIT No.152 of 2023-24 issued under endorsement No.13218-23 Dated: 13.11.2023

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

Table with 7 columns: S.No, Name of the Work, Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs), Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees), Earnest Money (In Rupees), Time of completion, M.H.O.F Account, Class Of Contractor

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

Table with 2 columns: S.No, Date of Issue of Tender Notice, Period of downloading of bidding documents, Bid submission Start Date, Bid Submission End Date, Date & time of opening of Technical Bids

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Gandebal. Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date.

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids. The earnest money/ performance Security shall be forfeited if:- Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate [DSC]' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including earnest Money Deposit, tender documents fee in terms of soft copies and all other documents required as per NIT with technical bid. No document (s) which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained for technical evaluation in the form of hard copy.

The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons. For item rate method the unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work.

The %age rate method requires the bidder to quote a percentage above / below / at par at the bottom of the BOQ percentage template for the work. The percentage quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work.

Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. Bidders should be fully cognizant that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract was awarded are later discovered to be fake/not genuine, the contract will be cancelled and the Contractor/bidder will be blacklisted from participating in this Division/ Department for a period of three years, in addition to the performance security deposited for the said work being forfeited.

Price escalation and Taxes:- The bidder's percentage shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes excluding GST up to the completion of the work. Taxes shall be deducted from the contractor's bills on the gross amount of the bill at the time of recovery at the rates in effect at the time of recovery.

Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required. In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines standard bidding document shall be followed.

All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form). Executive Engineer R&B Division Gandebal No. 13218-23 Dated: 13-11-2023

Public Notice

There is a spelling correction in my Father's name on my marks sheet viz third semester, fourth semester, fifth semester and sixth semester which needs to be corrected from the concerned board. If anybody having any objection in this regard may approach or contact the concerned board within a week. Name: Hafsa Farooq D/O Farooq Ahmad

From The Office Of The Advocate Muzaffar Ahmad

In the case of: Bashir Ahmad Bhat 2. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat Ss/O OF Late Abdul Rahim Bhat 3. Taja 4. Farida Shah 5. Jameela 6. Fehmeeda Daughters Of Late Abdul Rahim Bhat 7. Mohammad Shafi Baba S/O Mohammad Sidiq R/O Naqaash-pora Barabarshah Srinagar (Caveator) Vs Public At Large (Non-Caveator)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the Drug License of my shop under name and style Hazim Medicate Chemists & Druggist located near PHC Hospital Kunzer bearing DL No: BR/05/1693/1694. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Drug Office Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained. Shahawaz Ahmad Ganai S/o Gh Mohammad Ganie R/o Mulgam Kunzer Teh. Kunzer bmg

از عدالت انڈیا کیٹھلی مجسٹریٹ درج اول نادرہ بل ضلع بدگام عنوان: درخواست مناجات محمد ایوب ملک ولد غلام محمد ملک ساکنہ نیوہ تحصیل نادرہ بل ضلع بدگام برادر عطانی اجرائی یوم بیدایش سند بحق سائل اسانگہ اشتہار برادر گاہی ہر خاص و عام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں دفتر بدگاؤ ایک درخواست بابت حصول تاریخ بیدایش سرٹیفکیٹ موصول ہوئی ہیں۔ سائل اسانگہ یوم بیدایش سند حاصل کرنے کی خواہ ہے۔ سائل اسانگہ دعویٰ کرتی کرتا ہے کہ منظر ایوب ولد محمد ایوب ملک ساکنہ نیوہ نادرہ بل کی تاریخ بیدایش 15-08-2014 ہے اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام موصول کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی مذریعہ اعتراض ہو تو وہ پانچ روز یا اعتراض ساتھ یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی مذریعہ اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ نایب تحصیلدار کنزور bmg



# Demand For Kangri's Grows As Valley Braces For Winter's

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The early onset of winter in Kashmir Valley has led to a steep rise in demand for the traditional Kangris, or earthen firepots, despite the prevalence of contemporary technology.

The Kangri, a portable heater made of earthenware wrapped in a wicker basket, is used by Kashmiri's to remain warm during the chilly winters while wearing their cozy woolen cloaks. This custom has been practiced in the Valley for ages.

Recent heavy snowfall in the higher reaches and rain in the plains of the Kashmir Valley has led to a drop in temperature, consequently causing a surge in the sale of Kangris this year.

"Kangri is the ultimate weapon against the harsh cold of Kashmir; it's indispensable for staying warm during winters. Even with advanced heating equipment, Kangri holds a unique significance and cannot be replaced. Its importance has stood the test of time and will continue in the future," said Mohammad Ayoub Mir, a local from Lal Chowk.

While acknowledging the availability of modern heating gadgets, he highlighted Kangri's charm, especially considering the occasional electricity shortages in Kashmir during severe winters.

Customers also expressed the crucial role Kangri plays in Kashmir's winters. One customer emphasized its



significance for protection against the cold, particularly in areas with unreliable electricity. "It is very difficult to bear the harsh winters without Kangri. It is very important for protection from cold. Kangri can be ignited using charcoal," said a customer.

Another customer stressed that Kangri is the most important thing during Kashmir's winters, attributing its necessity to the unreliable electricity supply. He emphasized Kangri's cultural importance, representing the unique identity of the Kashmir Valley.

A seller explained that Kangri is

manufactured across all regions of Jammu and Kashmir to meet the needs of the people, and its usage peaks during November and December.

Crafted from dried willow tree twigs with a round earthen pot for charcoal, Kangri's traditional appeal remains unmatched. Customers also expressed the crucial role Kangri plays in Kashmir's winters. One customer emphasized its significance for protection against the cold, particularly in areas with unreliable electricity. "It is very difficult to bear the harsh winters without Kangri. It is very important for protection from

cold. Kangri can be ignited using charcoal," shared a customer.

Another customer stressed that Kangri is the most important thing during Kashmir's winters, attributing its necessity to the unreliable electricity supply. He emphasized Kangri's cultural importance, representing the unique identity of the Kashmir Valley.

A seller explained that Kangri is manufactured across all regions of Jammu and Kashmir to meet the needs of the people, and its usage peaks during January and February. Crafted from dried willow tree twigs with a round earthen pot for charcoal, Kangri's traditional appeal remains unmatched, preferred by people over other available options.

Mohammad Sultan, a Kangri vendor at Hazratbal, noted a significant increase in sales today, selling around 20 kangris after the Friday prayer—an occurrence not seen before.

Bilal, a Kangri seller in Khanyar on the city outskirts highlighted the soaring demand for Kangris, attributing it to people favoring traditional earthen pots over gas bukharis due to recent fire accidents in the valley. Bilal, a small Kangri seller, expressed satisfaction, selling five to six Kangris daily.

Another Kangri seller from Lal Chowk, who travelled from North Kashmir to the city, expressed gratitude for successful sales.

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
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- PDD: 0194-2450213
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**HIGHWAY STATUS**

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



**HIJRI CALENDAR**  
29 Rabi-ul-Sani  
1445

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5: 38
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 51
Magrib	5:31
ISHA	7: 53

## This Day In History

- Albert Einstein presents his quantum theory of light
- 1910 - 1st airplane flight from deck of a ship, Norfolk, Va
- 1915 - Tomáš Masaryk demands independence for Czechoslovakia
- Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk
- 1918 - Republic of Czechoslovakia created with Tomáš Masaryk as its 1st president
- 1919 - Red Army captures Omsk, Siberia
- 1921 - The Communist Party of Spain is founded.
- 1931 - Ottawa Mint Act is proclaimed in Britain
- 1935 - Nazis deprive German Jews of their citizenship
- 1954 - Egyptian pres Naguib fire, state of emergency declared
- 1969 - Apollo 12 (Conrad/Gordon/Bean) launched for 2nd manned Moon landing
- 1975 - Spain, Morocco & Mauretania sign accord about Spanish Sahara
- 1977 - Egyptian President Anwar Sadat repeats willingness to visit Israel to Walter Cronkite
- 1981 - 2nd Space Shuttle Mission-Columbia 2-returns to Earth
- 1984 - Astronauts aboard "Discovery" pluck a 2nd satellite from orbit
- 1984 - NASA launches NATO-3D
- 1990 - France performs nuclear test at Mururoa atoll
- 1990 - Great Britain performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1994 - 1st trains for public run in Channel Tunnel under English Channel
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-66 (Atlantis 13), lands
- 2001 - War in Afghanistan: Afghan Northern Alliance fighters takeover the capital Kabul.
- 2001 - OPEC announces that it intends to cut its crude oil output quotas by 1.5 million barrels per day effective, but only if non-OPEC producers cut their output by 500,000 barrels per day as well.

## Handicraft Dealers Penalized For Violating HQC Act In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A special inspection drive of Handicraft dealers was today conducted under the supervision of Mirza Shahid Ali Beg, Deputy Director Quality Control, in the notified tourist area

of M.A Link road here. During inspection, the dealers found violating the norms of Jammu and Kashmir Handicrafts Quality Control Act were penalized. An amount of Rs. 5000 was realized as fine, and a subsequent machine made inventory being

sold in the name of Kashmir Art products was confiscated/ seized. The dealers were warned of blacklisting in case of continued violation. They were directed to label the items within fifteen days; afterwards stern action will be initiated by the department.

## Workshop On Branding And Marketing Begins At SKUAST-K

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A weeklong workshop on 'Brand for Market' Monday commenced at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shalimar campus.

The workshop was or-

ganized by the varsities Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship (SKIIE) Centre under the sponsorship of the National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) for the institutional development of the varsity to create awareness among participants about brand equity, prod-

uct formation and technology leverage. The workshop began with a welcome address by the Chief Executive Officer, SKIIE Centre, Naveed Hamid, who gave an overview of the workshop and its purposes and introduced various topics and experts of the seven-day workshop.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Wular Conservation And Management Authority Kashmir**  
Forest Complex Rajbagh Srinagar (Near Silk factory) -190008

**NOTICE INVITING BIDS THROUGH E-TENDERING**  
eNIT No.10 of 2023-24 Date: 11.11.2023

E-Tender (Technical and Financial) are invited by the Coordinator Wular Conservation & Management Authority from appropriate Agency/Firms/Individuals/ registered with (MCA)Ministry of Corporate Affairs/Indian Institute of Engineering(IIE)having experience in similar nature of work as given below. Interested bidders may participate ONLINE in e-tendering.

Name of work/service	Tender Fee/ Earnest Money
Hiring of Agency for Consultancy Services for Planning & Designing of various works (civil, electrical, landscaping, etc) for development of Eco-Tourism infrastructure around Wular-Lake for the year 2023-24 & 2024-25, ending March-2025.	Rs.1000 as Tender Fee Rs. 75,000 as EMD

The price offers of only the qualifying parties in the first stage (Technical) shall be opened at the same day OR date to be notified/informed separately. Tender Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

Date of issue of Tender Notice	11-11-2023
Download Start Date:	13-11-2023 from 06:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date:	13-11-2023 from 06:00 PM
Bid submission End Date:	28-11-2023 Up to 06:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid Online:	29-11-2023 at 02:00 PM in the office of the Coordinator Water Management, Wular Conservation & Management Authority Rajbagh Srinagar Kashmir
Date of Opening of Financial Bid Online:	Will be notified separately

Sd/-  
Coordinator  
Water Management, WUCMA

No: Coord/WM/WUCMA/23/1174-79  
DIPK-NB-4210/23 Dated:- 13/11/2023



**Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited**  
Credit Monitoring Department  
Corporate Headquarters  
M.A. Road Srinagar

**Empanelment of External Consultants for conducting Techno Economic Viability (TEV) Study and Lenders Independent Engineer (LIE)**

Applications for empanelment of External Consultants for conducting Techno Economic Viability (TEV) Study and Lenders Independent Engineer (LIE) are invited from individuals, proprietorships, partnership firms/ LLPs' / Companies fulfilling the eligibility and other terms and conditions. For empanelment, interested applicants may visit the Banks website [www.jkbank.com](http://www.jkbank.com) or link <https://www.jkbank.com/pdfs/tev.zip> and forward their applications along with all necessary documents through concerned Zonal Offices of the Bank. All applicants are requested to go through the annexures for eligibility criteria and other norms before applying. The Bank shall have the right to reject any application without assigning any reason.

Registered office : Corporate Headquarters, M.A.Road, Srinagar 190001, Kashmir, India  
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DIPK-NB-4196/23 dated:13-11-2023



**Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited**  
Impaired Assets Portfolio Management Department  
Zonal Office Budgam,  
Industrial Complex Zainakote  
Srinagar 190012, Kashmir.  
Tel: 0194-2497735, Ext. 218,amid.zoltwo@jkbl.com

**POSSESSION NOTICE**  
Notice under Section 13 (4) of the SARFAESI ACT, 2002 read with Rule 8 (1) of the Security (Enforcement) Interest Rules, 2002

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of the Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notice dated 10.01.2023, thereby calling upon Mr.Aijaz Ahmad Sheikh S/o Ghulam Mohiuddin Sheikh R/o Kangan, near new police station, (Borrower) as sole prop. M/s Aijaz Ahmad Sheikh, Mr. Javaid Ahmad Shah S/o Bashir Ahmad Shah R/o Hardu Panzin, Kangan (Guarantor), and Mr. Muneer Ahmad Shah S/o Ali Mohammad Shah R/o Tanghetter, Kangan (Guarantor) to repay an amount of Rs.58,79,147.59 (Rupees Fifty Eight Lac Seventy Nine Thousand One Hundred Forty Seven and Paise Fifty Nine Only) being the balance outstanding as on 31.12.2022 in the accounts of the Borrower, within 60 days from the date of the said notice together with the future interest and other charges thereon.

The said borrower having failed to repay the said amount, notice is hereby given to the said borrower in particular and the public in general that the undersigned being Authorized Officer of the J & K Bank Ltd. has taken possession of the mortgage property/ies described herein below, in exercise of the powers conferred on me under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on this the 10th day of the November of year 2023.

The said borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned against dealing with the said property in any manner whatsoever and any dealings with the said property will be subject to the charge of the J&K Bank Limited for the amount aggregating to Rs.55,90,494.25 (Rupees Fifty Five Lac Ninety Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Four and Paise Twenty Five Only)together with future interest thereon from 01.11.2023and other charges incurred or to be incurred.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of the time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**Description of the Immovable Property/ies**

A piece of land measuring 01 Marlas along with two shops constructed thereupon falling under khasra no 1292/523, Khata no. 42and Khewat no. 08 situated in Mouza Kangan Tehsil & District Ganderbal standing in the name of Mr. Aijaz Ahmad Sheikh S/o Ghulam Mohiuddin Sheikh R/o Kangan, near new police station,"

**Authorized Officer**

Dated: 10.11.2023  
Place:Kangan,Ganderbal ABA

*From KO Archives*

## '50 Percent Indians Are Corrupt'

AGENCIES

**N**EW DELHI: Almost 60 per cent of Indians using government ser-vices end up paying bribes, according to a recent survey commis-sioned by India's Central Vigilance Commission (CVC). But only 20 per cent actually filed complaints against such corrupt practices.

The study was carried out by the Centre for Media Studies (CMS), which interviewed 2,576 visitors to government offices in five cities across the country from October 31 to November 4.

More than 60 percent of respondents said the problem of cor-ruption was not being tackled seriously and that the judiciary was largely ineffective. Most of the respondents agreed the offices for securing driving licenses and civil supplies were the most corrupt in all five cities — New Delhi, Lucknow, Madras, Hyderabad and Pune.

One-third of respondents admitted to using "influence or fa-vour" to get the service they needed. The survey noted that mem-bers of the business community and the self-employed topped the list of bribe givers. According to the survey, the government departments in Lucknow and Hyderabad were the most corrupt. About 42 per cent of people said the departments operated "Middle men" who acted as a paid conduit between the public and officials. The public departments covered by the survey included electricity and telephone boards, civil supplies, driving license and local and urban development offices.

(Kashmir Observer, November 14, 2000)



KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Tuesday | 14-11-2023

## Go beyond resolutions

The Arab-Islamic summit hosted by Saudi Arabia held on Saturday unequivocally rejected the justification of Israel's actions in Gaza as self-defense. The leaders, hailing from 57 mostly Muslim-majority states, condemned what they termed as "Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, war crimes, and barbaric and inhumane massacres." The summit's final communique, issued in Riyadh, called for an immediate end to the war, an end to the siege on Gaza, the supply of humanitarian aid, and a halt to arms exports to Israel.

The summit participants demanded a decisive and binding resolution from the UN Security Council to put an end to what they referred to as Israel's "aggression" in Gaza. While the original expectation was for the 22 members of the Arab League to participate, the meeting expanded to include the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), showcasing a wider representation of Muslim-majority nations.

However, despite the strong stance taken by the summit, there are doubts about the effectiveness of its outcomes. The lack of consensus among the participants, suggesting that the summit's resolutions might not have the necessary mechanisms to enforce a ceasefire and establish a humanitarian corridor.

As the conflict continues to escalate, with Israel showing no signs of relenting, the joint Arab League and OIC summit reflects the urgency felt by these nations to present a unified front in condemning Israel's actions in Gaza. The international community now watches to see if these calls for a ceasefire and accountability will bring about meaningful change on the ground.

But as things stand, the resolutions are certain to make little redeeming difference to the plight of Palestinians in Gaza. Even collectively, Muslim world has little power to force or persuade the western world to stop supporting Israel's monthlong invasion of Gaza which has so far resulted in the killing of 11,000 Palestinians, a majority of them children. The west is still justifying the brutal invasion as Israel's right to self-defense, despite the disproportionate death toll and the leveling of the entire neighbourhoods in Gaza.

Though the US and Europe are rallying around some halt to the Israeli operations, they are not going farther than calling for four-hour 'humanitarian pauses.' But such pauses will serve little purpose considering for the rest of the day, Israel will continue to perpetuate its genocidal violence against Palestinians. So, it is not the time for just verbose resolutions which mean nothing in terms of any difference on the ground but a concrete action to force Israel to stop the invasion forthwith. Muslim world and the global south will need to go beyond statements and resolutions if the west keeps supporting Israel's violation of the rules-based world order.

### OTHER OPINION

## Chip off the blocks

As funds for production-linked incentives (PLI) for manufacturing semiconductors lie under-utilised by upwards of 80%, the Union government must be far clearer on what it has achieved — and aims to accomplish — by continuing to spend crores of rupees on bringing more semiconductor fabrication capabilities to India. While the PLI scheme for IT hardware has a 17,000 crore outlay, the one for semiconductors and displays has 38,601 crore earmarked. On the employment and substantive value addition fronts, existing schemes in and of themselves show little promise: while chips are important for most hardware and appliances, making them employs advanced and automated systems, and manufacturing facilities employ few people for the value generated in sales. Not all big-ticket spending in the national interest translates into domestic employment, as import-heavy defence spending shows. But the central wager with these schemes, at much cost to the exchequer, lies in attracting an "ecosystem" that will increase the value addition of India's electronics manufacturing sector. This is far from a guaranteed outcome, even if PLI benefits are availed optimally. The wager also relies on global manufacturing giants giving other benefits of a globally distributed supply chain a go-by, including cheap and accessible international transport facilities for chips.

The constellation of PLI schemes remains a wager nonetheless. And it must be bolstered by other efforts to strengthen India's hand — encouraging semiconductor design talent to develop domestically. Some efforts here, such as the design-linked incentive scheme, show promise. But the bulk of the capital remains focused on the assembly and subsidising of large manufacturing plants, with much of the raw and even intermediate material still being imported. And with the limited scope of what the PLI funds are incentivising, multinational chipmakers are staying away from making substantive commitments, despite incentives. Private capital is also in a state of flux, with advancements in chips and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence leaving policymakers guessing on how best to allocate resources to boost their technological position for the coming decade. These outlays must, therefore, be pegged to a tangible outcome: is this a matter of safeguarding cyber sovereignty to protect India from another pandemic-style supply chain shock, encouraging the domestic electronics industry to make electronics cheaper for Indian consumers, or asserting India as a global electronics manufacturing centre? Clarity on desired outcomes would make failures easier to spot. It would also make it possible to course correct before massive PLI spending has already taken place with little to show for the outflow.

The Hindu



# Power vs. Principles

In the face of geopolitical interests, the West's double standards and moral contradictions have mortally damaged the credibility of the liberal world order

RIYAZ WANI

**“ We are witness to a blow by blow progression of events in real time. So, people can spot the ironies, contradictions, and hypocrisies of geopolitics play out in front of them. They see the world in its full grayish glory unmediated by the illusion of the pursuit of lofty ideals. They see a world stripped down to what makes it go around: the power, which some would argue is the only absolute reality**

If anything, the Israeli invasion of Gaza has long ceased to be about the victor and loser between the two. As is now becoming clear with every passing day that the war lingers, its implications are far greater and global in scale. Rather than directly challenging the existing US-led liberal geopolitical structure, its impact lies in the erosion of the foundational principles that support that structure. So much so, that the west has been forced to brazen it out, and stoop to supporting Israel in the language of brute power. The moral argument in which the west would make its case for war or support for any country is no longer available. The people are transparently seeing through the hypocrisy and calling it out.

The US president Joe Biden's conduct through the hostilities so far stands out for its blatantly partisan support to Israel in the face of the unconscionable death toll in Gaza, with most of the dead being children and women. He bought the Israeli babies beheading story even when the Israeli government denied this happened. He blamed Hamas for the missile attack at the Ahli Arab hospital which killed around 500 Palestinians even when most of the media coverage pointed towards Israeli involvement.

True, every conflict has its intrinsic moral issues above and beyond the literal "good" and "bad" party, fashioned by the states through their narratives and propaganda - with the major power invariably ensuring a consensus around its own framing of the issue. But the questions posed by the ongoing conflict in Gaza extend beyond conventional moral considerations or competing narratives; they strike at the fundamental tenets of the Western liberal order, encompassing a rules-based system, human rights, political rights and civil liberties. The west has always championed these tenets against the closed, authoritarian systems of China

and Russia. In the words of Fukuyama, the west has sought "the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of human government."

Hardly anyone in the world would argue with the basic principles of the western order. Democracy, human rights, freedom of expression, equality of rights are ideal means to build a just world and to transfer power to common people. But as the war in Gaza has made it clear, the west uses them more as stratagems to perpetuate its power than practice them in good faith. The glaringly differential approach to the wars in Ukraine and Gaza has only further detracted from the credibility of the western-led order. In a sense, the sharply contradictory positions towards the two wars has made the west's position ludicrous. What they stand for in Ukraine, they go against the very same position in Gaza: For example, Russia's aggression in Ukraine becomes Israel's right to self-defense in Israel. Killings of civilians in Ukraine is a crime against humanity, but those in Gaza are collateral damage.

In a sense, this creates a deep philosophical crisis for the west. They are finding it hard to straddle Ukraine-Gaza moral divide without contradicting their professed principles. And in the process, they have not only lost the moral high ground that underpinned their geopolitical aims but also the credibility of their liberal discourse. It is not that the west didn't practice double standards in the past, or just plain hypocrisy when it came to applying or interpreting its own values under different geopolitical contexts. It always did. But it got away with it as the limited means of information dissemination meant that a majority of people in the world didn't see through this. The internet and 24x7 social media has changed this. The world unfolds right before us, much like a live performance on a grand stage. We are witness to a blow by blow pro-

gression of events in real time. So, people can spot the ironies, contradictions, and hypocrisies of geopolitics play out in front of them. They see the world in its full grayish glory unmediated by the illusion of the pursuit of lofty ideals. They see a world stripped down to what makes it go around: the power, which some would argue is the only absolute reality. And power, in turn, creates an elaborate narrative, phraseology and sets salutary goals for its legitimacy and perpetuation. This explains the conduct of the US-led western powers. Not that they are not serious in pursuit of their high ideals, they are, but only as long as it doesn't conflict with their pre-eminent position in the world. This explains the West's all out support for Ukraine against Russia and for Israel against Palestinians.

The US and Europe see the defeat in Ukraine and Israel as an existential threat to them. And it could very well be. A retreat from Ukraine would be a loss to the China-Russia axis, now effectively a credible counter to the US power. This, in turn, could make Europe more vulnerable to Russian threat and influence, weakening the US hegemony over the continent.

Israel's loss to Hamas and Arabs would similarly be a massive setback to US power and influence in the Middle East. Israel is a sort of western outpost in the Middle East, an extension and symbol of the US empire. So, the US will go to any extent to defend it. And the country has demonstrated it by rushing a nuclear submarine to the region in light of threats from Iran and Hezbollah. So, the allegiance to a rules-based order, and human rights can, meanwhile, wait.

*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 of 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

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## Declining Book Reading Culture

THE editorial page came up with something special. I, as a student, had almost forgotten about the decline in book reading culture in Kashmir. The main cause behind it is the mushrooming growth of the Internet.

However, the diverse opinions on the page nudged me and compelled me to read these at the earliest. Though I shared my views regarding this, I was enthusiastic to know what others think about it. From academicians to budding writers and students, ev-

eryone shared their ideas. Variety of opinions opened the closed doors of the mind and I began to ponder over the reality of book reading culture in Kashmir. In short, congratulations to the authors and the team of the Kashmir Observer for this out-of-box idea.

Let the book reading culture prevail again in the age of the Internet.

Syed Mustafa Ahmad



# Why do Peace Processes Fail?

## Unveiling the Hidden Obstacles that Derail their Success

Aiman Masoodi

Why, despite the best of intentions and often enormous resources invested, do peace efforts so frequently fail to result in solidified peace? Even if war is not resumed on a large scale, violence, insecurity, and instability plague many postwar countries.

In the pursuit of lasting peace, noble intentions and substantial resources often converge, yet the elusive grasp on sustained tranquility persists. Despite concerted efforts, the aftermath of conflict frequently witnesses the lingering shadows of violence, insecurity, and instability in many postwar nations. Unraveling the complexities behind this paradox unveils a myriad of challenges that undermine the transformative potential of peace initiatives.

A wealth of literature on peace processes indicates their frailty. Although there is no single factor that accounts for the success of peace processes and peace building, political exclusion, particularly of minorities, is one of the most fundamental factors that makes them fragile. While researchers have focused on whether and how minorities' perceived or actual deprivation of an expected opportunity to engage in state administration was handled throughout peace processes, permitting public articulation of conflict narratives has largely gone unnoticed.

Furthermore, when this has been addressed, the emphasis has mostly been on the necessity of creating shared histories by negotiating these narratives with hegemonic ones in order to open a new page of coexistence, ignoring how the exclusion and delegitimisation of such narratives, as well as the resistance of different groups to accepting their presence in socio-political environments that do not support 'confronting the past' (CTP) initiatives that means the root causes of the conflict, affect peace processes. As in the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the exclusion of minorities became evident in the political representation and decision-making processes which has hindered reconciliation efforts and long-term peace.

The need of transforming antagonistic groups into agonistic adversaries is emphasised in agonistic peace literature. It is critical in such transformations that traditionally delegitimised and unaccepted conflict narratives find a public place to be communicated without necessarily being accepted by the entire population. Such expression serves to change certain groups that reject alternative narratives or remain mute in the face of injustice, and thereby support the conflict without necessarily being personally involved in it. Second, peaceful conflict transformation necessitates transforming these groups into agonistic citizens so that they not only allow space for alternative narratives, but also change conflictual relations to make peace efforts more powerful.

Establishing peace necessitates



**UNRAVELING THE REASONS BEHIND WHY CONFLICTS OCCUR IS NO EASY TASK AND INVOLVES GRAPPLING WITH MULTIFACETED ELEMENTS SUCH AS ACCOUNTABILITY, COMPENSATORY MEASURES, FORGIVENESS, reevaluation of national history, and the restructuring of political institutions and laws to establish safeguards against the recurrence of injustices. This comprehensive approach goes beyond a mere examination of historical grievances**

repairing damaged relationships at multiple levels: between the state and individuals, between the state and groups, and between various groups in society. A comprehensive and multifaceted approach to peace necessitates the development of many strategies to repair these strained relationships. Peace processes can fail for a variety of reasons, including a lack of political will on the part of the conflicting parties, a focus solely on the political elite level, poor peace process design, a lack of trust, an inability to respond to changing political and social environments, resistance to spoiler effects, and so on. Most studies on peace focus on the power of the parties in conflict, their negotiation (or lack thereof), and the actions of the state and armed groups, restricting such perspectives to only achieving negative peace at the decision-making level. Such a focus weakens the importance of modifying group interactions at the societal level, par-

ticularly when it comes to the role narratives play in influencing inter-group connections. This not only hampers the development of a positive peace, but it can also have an impact on other stages of peace-building. For example, in Afghanistan the lack of positive peace has hindered the success of peace efforts along with the differences in the demands of different stakeholders. Factors such as poverty, corruption, unequal access to resources, and political marginalisation has contributed to the ongoing violence and instability. Attempts for peace negotiations have taken place but genuine efforts to address grievances and structural issues along with the underlying causes of the conflict have been insufficient. Thus, failure of the peace process in Afghanistan is limited to focusing on the negative peace.

Another important aspect is that, in many societies, while conflict parties in peace processes address institutional (e.g., power-sharing

arrangements) and legal aspects of the conflict (e.g., constitutional reforms), they undermine inter-group relations, particularly when groups have not engaged in open confrontation with each other. In contrast to cases where groups openly fought each other and accused each other of being perpetrators, many hegemonic narratives that are accepted by leaders and the majority of society as valid stories focus on the assumed 'peaceful relations' among groups when there is an armed conflict between the state and an ethnic group. As a result, peace processes highlight the importance of forward-thinking inter-group connections rather than encouraging social CTP efforts, which can open the Pandora's box. In reality, narratives, in addition to providing guidance for future collective behaviours, provide a "description of past events, an epistemic basis for justifying current objectives and policies." In this sense, when counter-narratives are

not recognised by society, it might encourage the continuation of current state practices and facilitate the rejection of minority groups' peace demands. For instance, in the asymmetric conflict of Turkey, hindrance to peace is the undermining of inter-group relations between the Turkish majority and the Kurdish minority. Historical grievances, cultural differences, and political marginalisation have fuelled mistrust and animosity, making it difficult to find common ground and sustainable solution.

At the same time, when efforts to listen to citizens' narratives are imposed as a top-down mechanism in the absence of a strong and sustained political will, as well as the depth and intensity such processes would necessitate, dominant group members may perceive peace processes as projects of dividing the country, manipulation by foreign powers, a plan of high treason, and so on. Furthermore, such efforts may overlook how minorities' narratives are easily dismissed by members of privileged groups in society, because they do not necessarily aspire to bring these groups into an agonistic dialogue aimed at understanding difference rather than creating a shared conflict history, and because such groups stand to gain little from including minorities in dialogue and collective narratives. As in the case of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the peace processes have often been negotiated and implemented by elites at the national level, without sufficient inclusion of grass-

roots organisations, civil society, and marginalised communities. This top down approach along with the lack of genuine political will from various parties involved in the conflict has further complicated the peace process. Self-interest, power struggles, and the exploitation of resources have played a significant role, making it difficult to reach consensus and implement necessary reforms.

Political will is required to support CTP actions at various stages of peacemaking. Such an approach does not imply that transforming inter-group relations by allowing space for alternative narratives and transforming antagonists are the most important requirements for peace processes to succeed, but rather that failing to understand resistance to alternative narratives contributes to their fragility. The chasm between opposing groups is so wide that reaching consensus on key topics in society is difficult. As a result, rather than attempting to reach ultimate agreement, it is critical to celebrate "diversity through a conflict-ridden pluralism."

Understanding the root causes of the conflict is one of the most contentious aspects of peace processes (peace building) since it is accompanied by other elements like as accountability, compensation, forgiveness, rethinking national history, and re-designing political institutions and laws to ensure that such injustices do not occur again. It 'validates the victims' experience,' and such validation is critical if victims are to transcend their history of domination and abuse and prevent it from happening again.

Navigating the complexities of peace processes becomes particularly challenging when delving into the roots of conflicts. Unraveling the reasons behind why conflicts occur is no easy task and involves grappling with multifaceted elements such as accountability, compensatory measures, forgiveness, reevaluation of national history, and the restructuring of political institutions and laws to establish safeguards against the recurrence of injustices. This comprehensive approach goes beyond a mere examination of historical grievances; it serves as a validation of the profound experiences endured by victims. This validation holds significant weight as it becomes a crucial linchpin, empowering victims to rise above the shadows of their painful history. It not only allows them to transcend a past marked by domination and abuse but also plays a pivotal role in preventing the haunting specter of such injustices from casting its shadow on future generations.

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

*The author is currently pursuing a Masters Degree from the Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace & Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi*

# Minnows Come Of Age

As the business end of World Cup 2023 is drawing to a close, this event will be remembered for showcasing the arrival of Afghanistan on the global cricketing stage. Though the team, nicknamed the Blue Tigers, missed a slot in the semifinals, it has outperformed all expectations. Friday's valiant fight against the mighty South Africans was just one of them. Afghanistan was mostly ahead in its game against the five-time World Cup winning Australian side, but lost out to Glen Maxwell who played one of the finest one-day international innings of all time. It had earlier registered a historic win over the defending champions, England. Then it beat Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and later, the Netherlands. With these four victories, Afghanistan can hold its head high for its outstanding showing in World Cup 2023. The minnows of cricket have indeed come of age. Consider the distance this team has covered. Before 2023, Afghanistan had secured only one victory across two World Cup tournaments after their qualification in 2015. This has simply been sensational. So, what accounts its cricketing prowess? Afghanistan's cricket has been honed under the guidance of foreign coaches and participation of several of its players in top franchise leagues like the IPL. The first generation of its cricketers grew up in refugee camps in Peshawar after Russia's invasion of Afghanistan, and the current lot are victims of the Taliban war, according to Rashid Latif, former Pakistan captain and head of Afghanistan cricket in 2010. The current coach is former English cricketer, Jona-



than Trott, and the chief mentor is ex-Indian player, Ajay Jadeja.

The team's prowess has been credited to its world-class spin attack spearheaded by Rashid Khan, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Moham-

mad Nabi and Noor Ahmad. While they have restricted opposing teams to modest totals, the team's top order batsmen have been equally successful in chasing and putting runs on the board. Afghanistan put up its

highest total so far against Australia, a match in which opening batsman Ibrahim Zadran also scored the first-ever ton by an Afghan player. The other dashing opener, Rahmanullah Gurbaz, has often provided an explosive

start to the innings. The team also has a captain, Hashmatullah Shahidi, who leads from the front with his batting.

Afghanistan's success at World Cup 2023 has thrown up heroes who are bound to inspire the nation's younger generation to take up cricket. Gurbaz was a cattle farmer in an impoverished village just five years ago. Fazalhaq Farooqi, a fast bowler, laboured building mud walls to buy his first bat. Over the past few weeks, they have part of a cricketing fairytale. "It is not just cricket that these guys are playing for. They are aware of the hardships that their people are enduring due to natural disasters and various other reasons. If this can bring a smile to people's faces anywhere in the world and also encourage kids to pick up a bat or ball and get playing cricket wherever they are in Afghanistan, that is the goal that has been achieved," said Trott. Afghanistan must build on its success by improving cricket infrastructure like building bigger stadiums that can accommodate 50,000 spectators. Stepping up the budget for domestic cricket is also warranted, although there are bound to be constraints regarding how much resources can be devoted for this purpose, away from developmental imperatives. Looking ahead, Afghanistan's objective must be to further develop its prowess to ensure that it remains a leading contender in the cricketing world.

*The article was originally published by Financial Express*



## Jail 'extortion': CBI seeks sanction to file FIR against Satyendar Jain, ex-DG prisons

New Delhi: The CBI has sought sanction from the government to file an FIR against former Delhi jail minister Satyendar Jain and former director general of prisons Sandeep Goel for alleged extortion of crores of rupees from high-profile prisoners, including Suresh Chandrashekar, in return for a comfortable life in jail, officials said Monday.

The request seeking sanction against Jain and jail officer Raj Kumar was sent to the office of Lieutenant Governor Vinay Kumar Saxena, while for suspended IPS Goel and retired IAS Mukesh Prasad, the central agency has approached the Union Home Ministry, they said.

In a statement, the Aam Aadmi Party termed the move "nothing but the mockery of law".

"AAP categorically denies any association, communication let alone any money transaction between Mr Jain and Suresh Chandrashekar or any of his associates," the party said.

Goel, a 1989-batch IPS officer, was suspended by the Home Ministry last year after allegations of extortion were levelled against him, they said.

The agency has alleged that it has "source information" that Jain, Goel, Prasad and Kumar were extorting crores of rupees from various "high-profile prisoners", including Chandrashekar facing charges of duping a large number of people, to enable them to live



comfortably in prison, officials said. Questions sent to Goel seeking his reaction remained unanswered. The CBI needs the sanction before filing an FIR or a case against a public servant under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act.

The CBI, while seeking mandatory sanction from Saxena to proceed against Jain and former jail superintendent Raj Kumar, has alleged that "a high-level corruption and extortion racket" was being run in Delhi jails in connivance with Goel and Prasad along with associate officers, private persons and accomplices.

"They worked as a syndicate for the same," the CBI alleged in its letter to Saxena.

It said it has "source information" that Jain allegedly "extorted and received Rs 10 crore from jail inmate Chandrashekar in various tranches during 2018-21 either himself or through

his accomplices, as protection money," to enable the alleged conman to live a peaceful and comfortable life in jail.

Chandrashekar is lodged in a jail here on charges of money laundering and duping several people.

"Goel and Mukesh Prasad also extorted and received Rs 12.50 crore from jail inmate Suresh Chandrashekar. The amounts were extorted and received by them in various tranches during 2019-22 either themselves or through their accomplices, as protection money, to enable inmate Suresh Chandrashekar to live peacefully and comfortably in jail," it alleged.

The extortion was also carried out by Goel and Prasad from "other high-profile prisoners lodged in jail as protection money" to allow them to live in jail safely and comfortably, the agency alleged.

The CBI alleged that Raj Kumar, the then jail superintendent of Central Jail-4, Tihar was a close associate of Goel and aided him in extorting money from Chandrashekar.

Jain, Goel, Prasad and Kumar "misused their official positions" as public servants and "extended undue favour and advantage" to Chandrashekar and other high-profile inmates in the jails of Delhi "in lieu of valuable considerations from the inmates", the agency alleged.

## PM Sunak sacks home secretary Braverman, ex-premier Cameron back as foreign secretary

Press Trust of India

London: British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak on Monday sacked controversial Indian-origin Home Secretary Suella Braverman and appointed former premier David Cameron back into the frontline government as his new Foreign Secretary, in a dramatic reshuffle of his Cabinet ahead of general elections next year.

Braverman, a Goan-origin Cabinet minister, repeatedly courted controversy in her senior UK Cabinet role, most recently by accusing the Met Police of "playing favourites" when tackling with aggressive Israel-Gaza protests in an article in The Times.

"The King has been pleased to approve the following government appointments: Rt Hon James Cleverly MP as Secretary of State for the Home Department; Rt Hon David Cameron as Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs," a Downing Street statement said.

"It has been the greatest privilege of my life to serve as Home Secretary. I will have more to say in due course," Braverman, 43, said in a brief statement.

The reshuffle came at a time when outgoing foreign secretary Cleverly was scheduled for bilateral talks with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who is in the UK for a five-day official visit during which

he held tea-time talks with Sunak at 10 Downing Street on Sunday.

Jaishankar became one of the first world leaders to meet Cameron in his new Cabinet role, just hours after his appointment by Sunak, and discussed a range of bilateral and global issues with his new UK counterpart.

"Though I may have disagreed with some individual decisions, it is clear to me that Rishi Sunak is a strong and capable Prime Minister, who is showing exemplary leadership at a difficult time," Cameron posted in a statement on X.

"I want to help him to deliver the security and prosperity our country needs and be part of the strongest possible team that serves the United Kingdom and that can be presented to the country when the General Election is held," he said.

Cameron served as the UK Prime Minister from 2010 to 2016 and Leader of the Conservative Party from 2005 to 2016.

The 57-year-old had resigned as prime minister in June 2016 soon after he lost in the Brexit referendum, having campaigned for the UK to remain within the European Union (EU). At the time, he was directly at odds with Sunak then a junior minister who had campaigned for Britain to leave the EU.

"While I have been out of

front-line politics for the last seven years, I hope that my experience as Conservative Leader for eleven years and Prime Minister for six will assist me in helping the Prime Minister to meet these vital challenges," added Cameron, who has been made a peer in the House of Lords to meet the parliamentary requirement for appointing the former member of Parliament.

The last foreign secretary to serve in the Lords was Peter Carrington, who was part of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government in the 1980s, according to the Associated Press.

Earlier, Jaishankar focussed on the Opposition Labour Party with a meeting with the party's former prime minister Tony Blair.

"Nice to catch up with former UK PM Tony Blair this morning. Discussed our bilateral ties, the West Asia situation and Africa," Jaishankar posted on X.

Braverman's exit was somewhat expected after days of speculation over her job since it emerged her controversial newspaper article attacking the Metropolitan Police was published without clearance from 10 Downing Street.

Sunak had been under pressure from sections of his Conservative Party as well as faced attacks from the Opposition for allowing her to continue in her job after her breach of the ministerial code

by defying her boss' orders.

"Our brave police officers deserve the thanks of every decent citizen for their professionalism in the face of violence and aggression from protesters and counter-protesters in London yesterday. That multiple officers were injured doing their duty is an outrage," Braverman said in a statement on Sunday evening, following far-right violence during the protests over the weekend.

"The sick, inflammatory and, in some cases, clearly criminal chants, placards and paraphernalia openly on display at the march mark a new low. Antisemitism and other forms of racism together with the valorising of terrorism on such a scale is deeply troubling," she said, in her final statement as home secretary.

However, she is unlikely to go to the Tory backbenches of the House of Commons quietly and is expected to create trouble for the Sunak-led government with the backing of her supporters on the right of the Conservative Party.

There have also been a number of other lower-level exits from the Sunak Cabinet, including Environment Secretary Theresa Coffey and ministers in the transport department. Many of these ministers have revealed plans of stepping away from politics and not contesting the next general election as their reason for exit.

### CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

#### Iconic Kashmiri

river Jhelum is just 750," he said and expressed serious concern over the fast fading houseboats, once known as the "Crown of Kashmir".

He said tourism in Kashmir is incomplete without houseboats. "There is a blanket ban on construction of houseboats from the High Court," Pakhtoon said. He said another irony is that there are very few master craftsmen left now, all of them elderly.

A houseboat is usually made out of Cedar wood which can withstand damage from being in water for long periods. The houseboats usually have a corridor, drawing room, dining room, pantry, two to four bedrooms with attached bathrooms with hot and cold water. The accessories are carved out of walnut wood and placed in various rooms. Even the doors and windows have walnut wood carvings that provide. The sun deck is generally spacious. Interior furnishing mostly comprise carpets, crewl curtains, embroidered bed-sheets, foot mats etc. Average cost of the houseboat ranges between Rs 1 and can go up to Rs 2 core as well depending on the facilities and rooms.

"I have been urging the government to allow reconstruction of gutted houseboats. There should be a joint-committee of the Tourism department and Lakes Conservation Management Authority (LCMA) that would assess the loss of the gutted houseboat and also allow the re-construction," Pakhtoon said. He said that the owner of the gutted houseboat has to make several rounds of court and at the end, he feels exhausted.

Pakhtoon advocated that the government should train the youth to construct houseboats under a "skill development initiative." "Ban on construction of houseboats has led to the huge unemployment of the youth who were earlier associated with tourism and houseboats," he said.

On November 13, five houseboats were gutted in a pre-dawn blaze in Dal Lake in which three Bangladeshi tourists were charred alive. "If the ban persists and re-construction of gutted houseboats continues to be disallowed, tourists won't be allowed to see houseboats anywhere in Kashmir after a decade," Pakhtoon said.

An elderly Ghulam Mohiudin, who owns a houseboat at Nigeen Lake, said that the number of houseboats is fast shrinking at a time when the government eyes 2.25 crores this year. "We can't construct the new houseboats as there are hardly any master craftsmen left now and they are in their late or mid-70. Houseboats have been the major attraction of foreign and domestic tourists for the past so many decades," he said. "If the ban is not removed, there would be no houseboat in Kashmir given the fast declining number."—(KNO)

#### Survivor Tourists

Five luxurious houseboats, an equal number of wooden dwellings and a few concrete structures were reduced to ashes in a devastating blaze at Mir Mohalla near Ghat number 09 at Dal Lake on Saturday last.

Three Bangladeshi nationals on a trip to iconic tourist attraction-Dal Lake in Srinagar also lost their lives in the tragic fire incident. The deceased tourists were identified as Anindya Kawshal, Das Gupta and Mohammad Moinud, all residents of Bangladesh.

The survivors, a senior district administration official said, would most likely be returning back to their home shortly. He said further legal requirements, in addition to recording their statements, stands completed.

"They were relocated to a safe location within Dal Lake the same day. They are safe, but the awful events that transpired have somewhat unsettled them," he added.

Tariq Ahmad Patloo, a well known social activist and former president of the Houseboat Owners Association said the charred bodies of three visitors from Bangladesh were found near the kitchen side of the houseboat.

"Considering that it is the winter season in Kashmir, nobody was awake when the fire broke out. Though it's not as if they wouldn't have tried to escape the houseboat, Patloo speculated that the victims might have hurried towards the kitchen side in search of safety and died," he said.

#### NC Demands

regrettable that tourists lost their lives, a thorough investigation without causing unwarranted harassment to any of the boat owners should be carried out," NC chief spokesman Tanvir Sadiq said in a statement after visiting the fire affected houseboat owners.

Sadiq requested the Jammu and Kashmir administration headed by Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to immediately offer low-interest loans to the houseboat owners affected by the fire in the Dal Lake.

"These owners should be allowed to rebuild their boats, considering the significant impact on their livelihoods," he added.

Sadiq had visited the houseboat owners on the instructions of party president Farooq Abdullah and vice president Omar Abdullah.

Three tourists from Bangladesh were charred to death in a major blaze in a houseboat on the famous Dal Lake on Saturday while eight people were rescued.

Houseboats worth crores of rupees were reduced to ashes in the blaze.

#### Senior Commander

troops", Northern Army Command said on X on Monday.

#### Captain's Life

confirmation by higher Army authorities.

In a 25-page order on November 9, the two-member tribunal headed by chairperson justice Rajendra Menon said, "...in our considered view, the evidence relied upon by the prosecution and accepted by the SGCM (Summary General Court Martial) in the present case is not convincing enough to hold the applicant guilty of the charges levelled against him. Prima facie, based on the material available on record we are convinced that likelihood of the applicant being acquitted after hearing of this appeal cannot be ruled out."

"The applicant has already been in custody for a period of about three years and therefore, it is a fit case where, prima facie, evidence available on record suggests that bail can be granted to the applicant by suspending the sentence," the tribunal stated.

The tribunal said the totality of the evidence available on record clearly shows that there cannot be any motive for the applicant to eliminate three civilians and conduct such an operation without the knowledge of his senior officer.

"...during the period the applicant is on bail, the sentence of imprisonment for life shall remain suspended. The applicant shall appear before the Principal Registrar of this Tribunal alternatively on first Monday of the month starting from January 2024 so that in case for any further requirement the applicant can be apprehended or contacted and appropriate action taken.

"On the applicant's breaching any of the conditions stipulated hereinafter, this Tribunal will have the power to recall the order of bail," the order read.

Responding to the apprehension of life threat to the applicant in case he was handed over to a civil prison in Srinagar, the tribunal said that after promulgation of the sentence by the confirming authority, the applicant shall be shifted to a civil prison in Jammu by the Army authorities under proper escort.

"On the same being done, the concerned Superintendent, Civil Prison shall release the applicant on bail on his furnishing a personal bond in the sum of Rs 50,000 with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the Superintendent, Civil Prison, Jammu and other conditions," the tribunal said.

The conditions put forth for the bail include that he shall not approach anyone who had testified against him and that he shall surrender his passport to the principal registrar and in case he does not possess a passport, he shall file an affidavit to that effect besides he shall not leave the country without leave of this tribunal.

"As we have only stayed the sentence of conviction to the extent of undergoing the jail sentence, all other punishments like cashiering etc. shall continue to remain in operation during the pendency of this appeal. The sentence of imprisonment for life shall remain suspended during the pendency of the Original Application (seeking stay on the findings and sentence passed by the court martial)," the tribunal said.

Earlier, Captain Singh's counsel Maj (Retd) Sudhanshu S Pandey confirmed the grant of bail and said the stand of the defence which the (SGCM) had completely disregarded has been vindicated.

"Such conviction of the young officer in this manner would have a very demoralising effect on other officers who are sacrificing their lives for the defence of the nation. It would have led to a bizarre situation where the young officers instead of showing willingness to put their lives at risk for word of command will insist on written orders when such operations are

conducted. I express my gratitude for the armed forces tribunal to uphold the rule of law," he said.

Following the allegations against the Army, the Jammu and Kashmir Police had also constituted a special investigation team which filed a charge sheet against three people, including Captain Singh, for "staging a fake encounter".

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had visited the families of the slain men in Rajouri in 2020 and conveyed to them Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message that the government stood with the aggrieved families and they would be taken care of with all support from the government.

The identity of the three men was subsequently confirmed through a DNA test. The bodies were handed over to their families in Baramulla in October 2020 and buried in their native village in Rajouri.

On September 5, the Jammu and Kashmir administration handed over appointment letters for government jobs to family members of the deceased men.

#### DGP Calls For

in J&K are desperate to disturb the prevailing peace in Jammu and Kashmir. He said cowardly attacks on innocent civilians and forces exhibit the frustration of terror handlers to disrupt the peace and order in J&K," the spokesperson said.

"The DGP directed the officers that the action against terrorists and their sympathisers must continue and all the suspicious elements be kept under proper surveillance so as to thwart their ill designs aimed at disrupting the peaceful atmosphere," he added.

Swain, the spokesperson said, directed the officers to strengthen and augment the security grids in their respective areas for the safety and security of the people in general, and vulnerable sections in particular.

Termining the role and cooperation of the people in the prevailing peaceful scenario is highly commendable, the DGP said that Police and other sister agencies and the general public have to work together to defeat saboteurs and enemies of peace.

"He stressed upon the importance of maintaining close synergy between police and other forces to ensure a peaceful environment," the spokesperson added.

#### PM To Launch

celebration of third Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, 2023 at around 11:30 AM in Khunti.

During the programme, the prime minister will launch 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' and Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups Mission. He will also release the 15th instalment of PM-KISAN and inaugurate, dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of multiple development projects in Jharkhand, the statement said.

It has been the constant endeavour of the prime minister to attain saturation of flagship schemes of the government through ensuring that the benefits of these schemes reach all targeted

beneficiaries in a time bound manner, the statement said.

In a major step towards attainment of this aim of saturation of schemes, Prime Minister Modi will launch Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' on the occasion of Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas.

The focus of the Yatra will be on reaching out to people and create awareness and providing benefits of welfare schemes like sanitation facilities, essential financial services, electricity connections, access to LPG cylinders, housing for the poor, food security, proper nutrition, reliable healthcare, clean drinking water, etc.

Enrolment of potential beneficiaries will be done through details ascertained during the Yatra, the statement said.

The prime minister will flag off IEC (Information, Education and Communication) vans in Khunti, Jharkhand, marking the launch of Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'.

The yatra will start from districts with significant tribal population initially and by January 25, 2024, will cover all districts across the country.

During the programme, the prime minister will also launch the first-of-its-kind initiative - Pradhan Mantri Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PM PVTG) Mission'. There are 75 PVTGs in 18 states & UTs living in 22,544 villages (220 districts) having a population of around 28 lakhs.

These tribes stay in scattered, remote and inaccessible habitations, often in forest areas and hence a mission with budget of about Rs 24,000 crore, is planned to saturate PVTG families and habitations with basic facilities such as road and telecom connectivity, electricity, safe housing, clean drinking water and sanitation, improved access to education, health and nutrition and sustainable livelihood opportunities, the statement said.

In addition, separately, saturation will be ensured for PMJAY, Sickle Cell Disease Elimination, TB Elimination, 100% immunisation, PM Surakshit Matritva Yojana, PM Matru Vandana Yojana, PM Poshan, PM Jan Dhan Yojana etc., it said.

In a step that will showcase yet another example of commitment of the Prime Minister towards welfare of farmers, the 15th instalment amount totalling to about Rs. 18,000 crores under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN), will be released through direct benefits transfer to more than eight crore beneficiaries.

Under the scheme, till now, more than Rs. 2.62 lakh crores have been transferred to farmers' accounts in 14 instalments.

The prime minister will inaugurate, dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of projects worth around Rs. 7200 crore in multiple sectors like rail, road, education, coal, petroleum and natural gas, the statement said.

The projects whose foundation stones will be laid by the prime minister include the four-laning of 52-km stretch of Mahagama - Hansdiha section of NH133; four-laning of 45-km stretch of Basukinath-Deoghar section of NH114 A; KDH-Purnadih Coal Handling Plant; new academic and administrative building of IIT Ranchi.

The projects that will be inaugurated and dedicated to nation include new campus of IIT Ranchi; new Hostel of IIT ISM Dhanbad; Petroleum Oil and Lubricants (POL) depot in Bokaro; several railway projects viz doubling of Hatia-Pakra Section, Talgaria - Bokaro Section, and Jarangdih-Patratu section.

Further, the achievement of 100 per cent of Railway Electrification in Jharkhand will also be dedicated to the nation by the prime minister, the statement said.

The scheme -- PVTG Development Mission -- will be a huge step towards the empowerment of tribals, official sources said, adding that this will be a first-of-its-kind initiative.

In the 2023-24 budget, the scheme was announced for improving socio-economic conditions of the PVTG.

The mission will be implemented through the convergence of 11 interventions of nine ministries under a host of existing welfare programmes covering rural roads, rural housing and drinking. Some scheme norms will be relaxed to cover these remote habitations, officials said.

#### China On Alert

respiratory disease expert Zhong Nanshan warned of a small COVID-19 spike in the winter and reminded the elderly and vulnerable populations to get vaccinated as soon as possible, state-run Global Times reported.

The virus is undergoing mutations, while the general population's ability to fight off the disease is declining because their antibody levels are lowering as time passes, Lu Hongzhou, head of the Third People's Hospital of Shenzhen, told the Daily.

According to Lu, there may be a rise in COVID-19 cases during the winter seasons. Also, autumn and winter are known for high influenza rates, so people should also be cautious of potential co-infections, according to Lu.

While it is still necessary to continue implementing prevention and control measures in the winter season, there is no need to be overly concerned about it, said Lu.

The coronavirus which first emerged in Wuhan towards the end of 2019 had spiralled into a massive pandemic in which millions of people died all over the world while it affected the health of millions more.

China steadfastly denied the allegations that the virus that shook the world was leaked from a bio-lab in Wuhan. While the world grappled with the fast-emerging variants of coronavirus, China disconnected itself from the rest of the world by banning or restricting flights from abroad.

At home, China resorted to periodic shutdowns of various cities including Shanghai which severely affected its economy. As a result, the world's second-largest still remained in slow-down mode despite various efforts by the government to revive it.

As the winter approached, apart from the risk of COVID-19 infection, there has been a high incidence of mycoplasma pneumoniae pneumonia (MPP) and influenza in recent weeks, the CDC said and cautioned about mixed infection of multiple respiratory pathogens until next spring, the Global Times report said.



## Nazir Khan Demands Repairing Of Chadoora Roads

DDC Chairman Urges CS, Pr Secy Works To Intervene

Observer News Service

**BUDGAM:** Chairman District Development Council Budgam Nazir Ahmad Khan while taking serious notice of dilapidated roads in Chadoora Sub division in Budgam, has urged upon the Chief Secretary and Principal Secretary Works to get Srinagar Chadoora and Chadoora Surasyar road repaired as commuters face lot of difficulties while travelling.

In a statement Chairman DDC Budgam while recognizing the severe hardships faced by the people in Chadoora area due to the deplorable road condition from Kralpora, Gopalpora, Wathoor to Chadoora and Chadoora to Surasyar via Sogam, Gund, Zuhama, Hanjura and Dadompura has formally raised the matter with the UT administration.

"The deteriorating condition of these roads has resulted in considerable inconvenience for the residents, causing disruptions to daily life and impacting overall mobility. Chairman DDC Budgam Khan, understanding the urgency of the situation, has appealed to the UT administra-

tion for swift and effective measures to address and rectify the road conditions. People are facing a lot of hardships due to the bad condition of the Chadoora Surasyar Road and Srinagar Chadoora Road. It is our collective responsibility to ensure the well-being of our community. I have personally brought this matter to the attention of the UT administration especially CS & Principal Secretary PWD (Works), urging them to take timely action to ease the suffering of the people in the affected areas," reads the statement of DDC Chairman Budgam

Nazir Ahmad Khan emphasized the need for prompt intervention to alleviate the difficulties faced by the residents and ensure the restoration and maintenance of these vital roadways. He expressed confidence that the UT administration will prioritize this issue and take immediate steps to bring relief to the affected communities.

"I will also talk to Deputy Commissioner Budgam and Executive Engineer R&B Division Chadoora regarding this issue" the statement further reads.

## DCJ's Media Expedition Tour For Students Begins



Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** Media expedition tour to Chandigarh and Delhi, organized by the Department of Convergent Journalism (DCJ), School of Media Studies, Central University of Kashmir (CUK) was flagged off from the Tulmulla campus.

Around 22 students of semester IV, MACJ, accompanied by faculty members will visit national and international media organisations based in Chandigarh and Delhi. During the tour, students will engage with seasoned journalists and gain insights into the fast paced and evolving landscape of media production. Students will have the chance to witness firsthand the work culture and operations of leading media organizations, both at the national and international levels. The

tour will facilitate networking opportunities, allowing students to connect with professionals in the industry, fostering potential mentorships and future collaborations.

Dean Academic Affairs and Dean School of Media Studies, Prof. Shahid Rasool, flagged off the tour and said, "The Media Expedition Tour aligns with our commitment to providing students with practical, real-world experiences that complement their academic learning."

Head, DCJ, Dr. Arif Nazir said, "This immersive journey will contribute to the growth of students as future journalists." Sr. Asst Prof. Dr. John Babu Koyee and Asst Prof. Dr. Nookaraju Bendukurthi accompanied the students for the tour. Sr. Asst Prof. Dr. Asif Khan and other staff members were present during the flag-off.

## SKUAST-K Student Secures US Fellowship For Innovative Dal Lake Algal Bloom Detection Project

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir's doctoral student Mehak Hafeez has won US\$ 5,000 scholarship award for her innovative project on the detection of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in Dal Lake through sensor-based technology.

Mehak Hafeez, a PhD scholar at SKUAST-K's Division of Aquatic Animal Health Management (AAHM), Faculty of Fisheries, has been awarded the Dr Gregory D Bossart Memorial One Health Scholarship for her One Health Project titled 'Sensor-Based Detection of Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) in Dal Lake, Kashmir: Advancing One Health through Participatory Surveillance' by the United States-based One Health Commission and Georgia Aquarium.

The scholarship is awarded to graduate students in wildlife biology, epidemiology, veterinary, medical, public health, etc focusing on the interconnection between people, animals, plants, and their shared environment using a One Health framework.

This project proposes the de-

velopment and utilization of sensor-based technologies for the early detection and monitoring of HABs in Dal Lake, Kashmir through the participatory surveillance approach. By leveraging interdisciplinary collaboration, innovative sensor technologies, and active involvement of the local Kashmiri community, this project seeks to enhance early detection, understanding, and mitigation of HABs, contributing to the One Health framework.

HABs pose significant threats to human, animal, and environmental health worldwide. These blooms contaminate water bodies, produce toxins, and disrupt ecosystems, leading to adverse impacts on public health and aquatic ecosystems.

Congratulating Mehak for her achievement, Vice Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganai said implementation of her project will have a positive impact on the health and well-being of the local communities residing within and around the lake and the lake ecosystem. He said her innovative approach of using sensor-based technology for the timely detection and lessening of contamination.

He said students and faculty of the university with the right kind of startup ecosystem available on its campuses are coming up with disruptive ideas for resolving the pressing problems in the surroundings including the contamination of the Dal Lake.



A GROUP OF BOYS PLAYING CRICKET inside Srinagar's Nishat garden where Chinar leaves have turned crimson red in the autumn season.

KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

## DSSP Supporters Hit Streets Against Ex-Minister Lal Singh's Arrest

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Supporters of Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party (DSSP) on Monday took out a rally in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua, demanding the release of former minister Lal Singh who was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in a money laundering case last week, officials said.

The rally was staged by the DSSP supporters in Lakhampur and ended peacefully, they said. Singh, the chairman of the DSSP, was arrested by the ED in Jammu on November 7, hours after a special court dismissed his anticipatory bail application.

The former minister was under the ED scanner in connection with alleged irregularities in land purchase to set up an educational trust run by his wife and former legislator Kanta Andotra.

"He was arrested in a false case to defame him ahead of next year's Lok Sabha elections. The BJP will not benefit by his arrest as Dogras of Jammu are united in his support, knowing fully that he has done no wrong in his over three-decade-long political career," one



of the protesters said.

Singh, a two-time MP and three-time MLA, switched from Congress to BJP in 2014 and was also a minister in the previous PDP-BJP government which collapsed in June 2018 after the national party pulled out of the alliance.

Several months before the fall of the government, Singh had resigned from the BJP and had floated the DSSP following an uproar over his participation in a rally in support of the accused in the rape and murder of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua in January 2018. However, he defended his participation in the rally saying that he was there to "defuse the situation".

The money laundering case stems from an October 2021 chargesheet filed by the CBI in this case which alleged criminal connivance in the issuance of land between January 4 and January 7 in 2011 without mentioning details in respect of violation of the ceiling limit of 100 standard kanals imposed under Section 14 of the Jammu and Kashmir Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976, thereby giving undue pecuniary advantage to the educational trust.

Based on this, the trust acquired multiple pieces of land of about 329 kanals vide three gift deeds executed on January 5 and January 7, 2011, the CBI chargesheet claimed

## This Diwali, 80,000 Earthen Lamps Sold Across J&K

Srinagar Alone Sells 20,000 Diyas, Gives Hope Of Livelihood Survival To Potters

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** As a revival for local artisans, this Diwali witnessed a remarkable surge in the sale of earthen lamps in Kashmir, with around 20,000 lamps sold in Srinagar, breathing new life into a business that had been on the decline for decades.

Many potters from different parts of Kashmir expressed their joy and gratitude for the unexpected boost in the demand.

Umer Kumar, a dedicated potter from Srinagar's Nishat, sharing his Diwali experience, said it has been a beacon of hope for them, as the demand for earthen lamps hasn't been this high in years, and it's truly uplifting for their craft.

"The demand for earthen lamps increased this year, as we supplied the lamps to Kulgam,



Baramulla, Kupwara, and other places as well," said Umer.

"We also received orders from outside Jammu and Kashmir, and this Diwali we sold around 20 thousand earthen lamps, which is far higher than previous years," he said.

Umar Khan, another potter hailing from Ganderbal, sharing his sentiment, said "It's not just about the lamps; it's about preserving our tradition and heritage, and the culture which Kashmir has lost, and this year's Diwali has brought a renewed sense of purpose to our work."

As per the details, an estimated 80 thousand earthen lamps were sold across Jammu and Kashmir, as the potters from different parts of Kashmir came forefront and made this happen.

"I would like to appreciate the support which we potters received from the community, and the response this Diwali has been overwhelming, with people not just buying lamps; they are investing in the culture and craftsmanship of Kashmir," said Amir Reshi, a potter from Anantnag.

Another potter, Haris from Budgam, highlighted the economic significance of this surge in orders, saying "for years, our business was struggling, and we feared it might not survive, but this Diwali has not only lit up homes but also the future of our livelihoods."—(KNO)

## IIM Jammu Collaborates With SIDBI To Launch STEM Prog For Youth In J&K, Ladakh

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Jammu and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) have collaborated to offer a specialised one-year-long Skill to Enterprise Module (STEM) programme for students in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, according to an official on Monday.

The programme will commence in two batches starting on December 4 and December 19 at the Srinagar and Jammu campuses of the institute, the official said.

It has been designed to equip

the students with the necessary knowledge and guidance to start and grow their businesses in the future, the official added.

It would provide comprehensive four weeks of residential training along with eight weeks of virtual training to help the participants develop an understanding of business management, compliance, finance, planning, and strategic aspects of a business, as per the official.

"The programme will be particularly beneficial for those who have completed a technical course and possess a valuable skill set but lack

the required resources and knowledge to start their own business. It will also provide an opportunity for those who wish to gain financial independence and create a positive impact in their own communities through entrepreneurship," the official said.

According to the official, the candidates would be selected by the experts based on the readiness of their ideas and provided with guidance through industry mentorship and incubation.

The trained candidates will be connected to financial institutions through Credit Connect Schemes, the official informed.

Dream Comes True!

## Bhadarkote, Karnah Hamlets To Get Road Connectivity For First Time

Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** The people of Takiya, Durri and Dabar hamlets of (Bhadarkote) in the Karnah Sub Division of Kupwara on Monday started celebrating with joy after the road construction project was taken up for these hamlets for the first time.

As soon as the JCB machines started earth cutting work for the road project, the people of the area started exchanging sweets and welcomed officials with garlands.

This road project will first connect Takiya, the hamlet where recently a specially-abled girl was charred to death in a tragic fire incident.

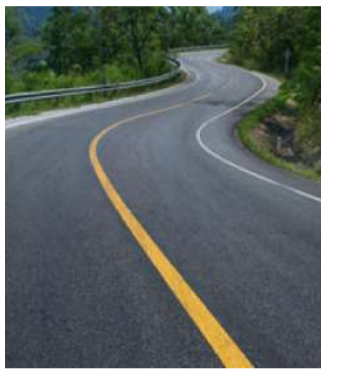
After the approval of this much needed road project, the demand for resolution of land-dispute between the locals and timely execution of the road project was put forth by the residents during Block Diwas at Tangdar before the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Ayushi Sudan who had directed SDM Karnah to bring all the stakeholders on board and get the dispute resolved and start the road project so that residents do not face problems.

Following the resolution of land dispute by SDM Karnah, the local residents offered land for execution of the said road project without any compensation.

Locals of the area welcomed the administration's move and expressed their gratitude to Deputy Commissioner Kupwara and SDM Karnah for playing their important role in execution of the project as it was a long pending demand.

The work on "Construction of Road from Jub Chitterkote to Takiya Durie up to Dabar Bhadarkote with Project cost of 517.53 Lakhs has been approved under NABARD which will benefit entire village especially Takiya, Durri and Dabar hamlets of Bhadarkote where most of the families are below the poverty line.

The road project will benefit people of Riyala, Murchana, Bhadarkote, Karnah Hamlets besides Bahadurkote as it would be the shortest route for the inhabitants of these villages to almost 80% of the villages and also to



Tehsil headquarter at Tangdar "This is a dream come true for the people of the area who have suffered a lot for lack of road connectivity. In absence of better road connectivity the situation used to get worse when there was any medical emergency or any other incident in the area" residents said.

While lauding the District Administration Kupwara and Sub Divisional Administration, locals said that this road project would herald a new dawn in our lives.

Highlighting the problem of not being able to reach the destination in case of emergency due to non-availability of road, a local of Takiya said, "We have been suffering a lot. We have to carry our patients uphill up to Bahadurkote to access any kind of transport to SDH at Tangdar. Now, this road will lessen our travel time and efforts in a big way. The road project will also help students of these hamlets reach High School at Bahadurkote".

However, the locals have appealed Tehsil and District Administration to ensure that this road project is completed as per approved DPR, up to the last unconnected hamlet, Dabar, at the earliest.

### DUA-E-MAJLIS

Even though you are not here, your laughter still echoes in our heart's, your wisdom still guides our thoughts. You may be gone, but you live within us.



According to Bereaved Family, The DUA-I- MAJLIS of Haji GH Mohammad Baba Alias (Gu-Toat) Will be held At Alnoor Masjid Alamdar Colony Charari-Sharief on 14th of November 2023 From Maghrib Nimaz to Isha Nimaz.

Sincerely Yours,  
MANSOOR ALI BABA (SON).

INFO

### MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2023

In order to clear extra rush of passengers during Chhath Puja Festival, Northern Railway has decided to run the following additional Festival Special Trains as per details given below:-

02256/02255 Anand Vihar Terminal - Jaynagar - Anand Vihar Terminal Reserved Festival Special Express		02 Trips		
Train No.:	02256	STATIONS	Train No.:	02255
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
---	15:30	Anand Vihar Terminal	15:15	---
14:00	---	Jaynagar	---	17:00

DAYS OF RUN: 02256 Ex Anand Vihar Terminal on 15.11.2023 and 02255 Ex Jaynagar on 16.11.2023.

STOPPAGES: Govindpuri, Prayagraj Jn., Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn, Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn, Mokama Jn, Barauni Jn, Samastipur Jn & Darbhanga Jn Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC 3 Tier Economy Class.

04640/04639 Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra - Katihar Jn - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra Reserved Festival Special Express		02 Trips		
Train No.:	04640	STATIONS	Train No.:	04639
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
---	21:30	Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra	23:00	---
09:00	---	Katihar Jn	---	11:00

DAYS OF RUN: 04640 Ex Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra on 15.11.2023 and 04639 Ex Katihar Jn on 17.11.2023.

STOPPAGES: Martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan, Jammu Tawi, Pathankot Cantt, Jalandhar Cantt, Ludhiana, Ambala Cantt, Yamunanagar Jagadhri, Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Sitapur Jn, Gonda Jn, Basti, Gorakhpur, Chhapra, Hajipur, Barauni Junction, Begu Sarai, Khagaria Jn & Naugachia Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC 3 Tier Economy Class.

04650/04649 Amritsar - Darbhanga - Amritsar Reserved Festival Special Express		02 Trips		
Train No.:	04650	STATIONS	Train No.:	04649
ARR.	DEP.		ARR.	DEP.
---	08:10	Amritsar	01:30	---
13:15	---	Darbhanga	---	17:00

DAYS OF RUN: 04650 Ex Amritsar on 16.11.2023 and 04649 Ex Darbhanga on 17.11.2023.

STOPPAGES: Beas Jn, Jalandhar City, Ludhiana, Ambala Cantt, Saharanpur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Lucknow, Gonda, Basti, Gorakhpur, Paniai Hawa, Narkatiaganj Jn, Raxaul & Sitamarhi Stations.

ACCOMMODATION: AC 3 Tier Economy Class.

For any kind of information such as arrival/departure timings and stoppages enroute etc., passengers are requested to contact RailMadad Helpline No. 139 or may visit Indian Railways website <https://enquiry.indianrail.gov.in> or NTES App.



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# Team India Inspects Wankhede, NZ Train Hard

Press Trust of India

**MUMBAI:** Looking to keep a clean sheet in the World Cup, India's coaching staff got down to business shortly after landing here on Monday afternoon ahead of their mega semifinal against New Zealand.

India head coach Rahul Dravid, batting coach Vikram Rathour, bowling coach Paras Mhambrey and fielding coach T Dilip made their way to the Wankhede Stadium here to inspect the pitch, on which the home team and title favourites play against the rusty but formidable Kiwis on Wednesday.

While unbeaten India did not have any training activity on Monday, given their league stage campaign ended only on the previous night with a 160-run win over the Netherlands, New Zealand spent three hours training under lights with full intensity in a bid to iron out the flaws that have surfaced of late.

If New Zealand's four consecutive wins sounded an early warning for others at the start of the World Cup,



as many losses in the last five matches took the momentum a bit. A win over hapless Sri Lanka did push them into the World Cup semifinals, where the persevering Kiwis will have to conjure their best to stop India's juggernaut.

Having arrived in the city one day before their rivals for the semifinal contest, New

Zealand certainly have a lot of ground to cover in order to lift their intensity.

The focus was clearly on batters as they had long hits in the nets. A long game of intra-squad football followed, after which the Kiwis did fielding and catching drills. Rachin Ravindra, who is among the tournament's highest run-

getters, had a long hit in the nets alongside captain Kane Williamson, opening partner Devon Conway and Daryl Mitchell in rotation. The fast bowlers -- Trent Boult, Tim Southee and Lockie Ferguson -- also had a bowling stint at the venue, where New Zealand will be playing their first game of this World Cup.

# Bavuma Trains Full Tilt Ahead Of Australia Semifinal



Press Trust of India

**KOLKATA:** Temba Bavuma might be battling poor form and a hamstring injury, but the South Africa skipper had a lengthy training session despite considerable discomfort ahead of their World Cup semifinal against Australia at the Eden Gardens here on Thursday.

While most of his teammates skipped the optional training on Monday, Bavuma, with a strapped right thigh, was seen training with full intent. He did fitness drills, took a couple of laps around the outfield and also did simulated running between the wickets,

gradually increasing his pace.

At times, he looked in discomfort and bent over to indicate something to the team physio Sizwe Hadebe and strength and conditioning coach Runeshan Moodley.

After about 15 minutes of warm-up, he headed to the nets and batted with a single stump and then used his bat. He faced the bowlers for about 30 minutes.

Following the practice session, Bavuma left in a private car, possibly for a scan. The team management didn't give any update on his injury.

Bavuma was indisposed for matches against England and Bangladesh in the league

stage and in his absence, Aiden Markram led the side.

Bavuma possibly suffered the hamstring injury during their match against Afghanistan as he left the field nine balls into Afghanistan's innings.

Aware of his role as an opener, he returned after four overs to avoid a time penalty, but his movements were visibly hindered as he fielded with caution at mid-off.

Bavuma managed just 23 off 28 balls in that match.

His batting is also under the scanner in this tournament. Bavuma has a highest score of 35 in seven innings at an average of 20.71 and a strike rate of 75.12.

# Football Astro Turf Inaugurated At Crescent Public School



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Former Principal Secretary Dr Asgar Samoon on Monday inaugurated a football astro turf at Crescent Public School, Naseem Bagh, Hazratbal, during a ceremony.

The Astro turf has been installed at a cost of Rs 30 lakh by the school management at its Habbak campus.

A large number of prominent personalities attended the function. Samoon expressed his happiness at the great initiative which aims to strengthen the role of sports and physical activity alongside the academics among students.

Samoon said that as per his knowledge it is the first

time that a private school has installed an astro turf at its campus. He said that it will go a long way in encouraging students to go for sports as more facilities are now available to them.

On this occasion a citation was presented to Dr Samoon by Prof Ab Rashid Dar on behalf of Crescent Public School, for his outstanding contribution towards society during his service tenure.

Present on the occasion were President Private Schools Association G N Var, President NLCO Manzoor Ahmad Wangnoo, Directors of Board of Management of CPS, Er Mohammad Shukiel Dar and Er Mohammad Shahid Dar.

# Jammu To Host National School Games In Judo & Fencing



Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Director Youth Services and Sports J&K, Subash Chander Chibber, chaired a meeting of officers of the department for smooth conduct of the 67th National School Games on Monday and reviewed the arrangements for these games at his office here.

The games begin November 15, 2023 at Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu.

While serving instructions to the Conveners of various committees, Chibber said that the recently held 67th National School Games in the disciplines of Football and Volleyball at Srinagar set an example, adding that the officers and officials need to work with the same spirit, enthusiasm and fervour to make the upcoming event in Under-14 boys and girls Judo and Under-19 boys

and girls Fencing a historic event.

Chibber said that emerging champions in football and winning third place in volleyball at Srinagar was the outcome of rigorous training of athletes and transparency and fairness in the selection process.

He further said that it was for the first time, the Department is hosting four National events in a particular season, the grand opening ceremony of which was held in Srinagar on October 31 and the Closing Ceremony will be held in Jammu after the conclusion of the Fencing event on November 24, 2023.

At least 30 teams of various States/UTs drawn from across the country are expected to take part in this sporting extravaganza. Out of which six teams have already reached Jammu.

# Sehwag, Edulji, De Silva Inducted Into ICC Hall Of Fame



Press Trust of India

**DUBAI:** Former captain Diana Edulji on Monday became the first Indian woman cricketer to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.

Legendary India opener Virender Sehwag and Sri Lankan World Cup winner Aravinda de Silva were also made members of ICC Hall of Fame for their stellar achievements during their playing career.

A trailblazer in women's cricket, Edulji made just as big an impact on the field during her playing days when captain of India as she did as an administrator after her playing career.

She played 54 matches for India across three decades (between 1976 and 1993) and made her mark as a slow left-arm orthodox spinner taking more than 100 wickets.

Edulji played 20 Tests,

scoring 404 runs, and taking 63 wickets at an average of 25.77.

From 34 ODIs, she scored 211 runs, and bagged 46 wickets at an average of 16.84.

One of the most destructive batters of the modern era, Sehwag donned India colours between 1999 and 2013. Sehwag scored a total of 23 Test centuries during his illustrious career -- the fifth most by an India men's player.

His highest score of 319 against South Africa in Chennai in 2008 the best of any Indian player ever.

He accumulated 8,586 runs from 104 Tests at an average of 49.34. He also took 40 wickets during his Test career which spanned from 2001-2013.

The batter from Delhi, now 45, totalled 8,273 runs for India in 50-over cricket at an average of 35.05 and his 219 against

the West Indies in Indore in 2011 remains the third-highest score achieved by a male cricketer in ODI.

He also has 96 wickets in his kitty from the 251 ODIs he played between 1999 and 2013. In the 19 T20 Internationals he played, Sehwag scored 394 runs at an average of 21.88.

A key member of Sri Lanka's 1996 World Cup-winning side, De Silva is an icon in the island country.

The consistent right-hander scored 20 Test centuries during a 19-year international career (1984 to 2003) -- the third most hundreds by any Sri Lanka men's player -- and was just as adept against the white-ball with another 11 centuries coming in 50-over cricket.

He accumulated 6,361 runs from 93 Tests at an average of 42.97. From 308 ODIs, he scored 9,284 runs at an average of 34.90 and took 106 wickets.

# Babar Azam Should Quit Captaincy: Ex-Pakistan Players

Press Trust of India

**KARACHI:** Several former Pakistani cricket stalwarts, including Shoaib Malik, Kamran Akmal and Abdul Razzaq, feel that skipper Babar Azam needs to give up captaincy and concentrate on his game following a dismal World Cup campaign under his leadership.

Pakistan failed to qualify for the semifinals following five defeats in nine matches.

They felt that Babar had got his share of chances as a leader but failed to deliver.

"I am not against Babar but he has to decide after looking at his performances as a player and captain whether he can continue to take the pressure of both," said Malik during a reception here on Monday.

"I think we need Babar more as a player. As a captain, he has got his chances to show his worth. Unfortunately, he didn't come through," he added.

Razzaq pointed out that Babar had been captain since late 2019, and four years is enough time to judge someone's capability as a leader.

"I have always said this, if you are honest and sincere in your decisions as captain, things will work out accordingly. Unfortu-



Younis Khan, who captained the team that won the T20 World Cup in England in 2009, felt Pakistan could become better with a bit of fine-tuning.

"I don't think there is a need for any massive changes; just a little fine-tuning and shuffling is required. And, yes, we have to work on finding one or two quality spinners. But this is not a bad team, and its performance in the World Cup is not a reflection of its worth," he said.

Rashid Latif said the PCB chairman too should take the blame for the team's performance.

"It happened in 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015 and 2019. Why should only the captain be changed? What about the board chairman? Does he not have any responsibility?" "First, the PCB has to put its house in order, then look at the team issues. I still say we didn't play well in the World Cup, but if we have two good spinners, this same team will perform differently," he said.

Shahid Afridi said a system has to be created to groom players to handle the pressure of big events.

"I thought our players didn't cope well with the pressure in some matches," he said, before adding that Babar should continue as captain for the upcoming tour of Australia in December.

nately, he has made some wrong calls and that is the reason for our poor performance in the World Cup," he said.

Akmal felt that not everyone can be a leader and also the team's batting mainstay. "He has to make up his mind.

What the Pakistan Cricket Board decides is something different. But he has to realise that captaining the team and being the main batsman is not everyone's cup of tea." "I think we need to have separate captains for red and white-ball formats," he added.

# Australian 3rd Division Cricketer Takes 6 Wickets In 6 Balls

Press Trust of India

**GOLD COAST:** A third division club cricketer from Australia has pulled off a rare feat of taking six wickets in six balls to help his side win a local match here.

Gareth Morgan, captain of Mudgeeraba Nerang & Districts Cricket Club, claimed a sextuple-wicket maiden in a dramatic four-run win over Surfers Paradise CC in the Gold Coast's Premier League Division 3 competition here on Saturday.

Surfers Paradise were chasing 178 and were 174 for 4, heading into the last over of the 40-



over match. But Morgan turned the match on its head as he got a wicket from each off his six deliveries to bowl out Surfers Paradise for 174. Five batsmen were out for golden ducks. The first four dismissals were all caught, while the final two were bowled, according to abc.net.au Morgan,

a local council worker, ended with figures of 7/16 off seven overs. He had earlier taken the wicket of Surfers Paradise opener Jake Garland before his 'six-in-six' feat.

Morgan had also top-scored for Mudgeeraba with a rapid 39. According to ABC, the most wickets taken in an over of professional cricket is five, claimed by New Zealand's Neil Wagner for Otago against Wellington in 2011, Bangladesh's Al-Amin Hossain for the UCB-BCB XI against Abhani Limited in 2013 and India's Abhimanyu Mishra for Karnataka against Haryana in 2019.