

ULB Polls After Delimitation Exercise Of Wards Is Over: LG



Observer News Service

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Tuesday that elections for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) would be held after the completion of delimitation exercise of wards and reservation of wards for other backward classes in the Union Territory.

Corporation, whose tenure ended Tuesday. The LG commended all the Councilors for selflessly serving people, fighting Covid pandemic and ensuring municipal services in respective areas. "The elections for Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) would be held after the completion of delimitation exercise of wards and reservation of wards for other Backward Classes. He extended his best wishes to the Councilors for their future endeavours," Sinha said. **▶ More On P10**

Inaugurates 70th All India Cooperative Week Celebrations

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday inaugurated the 70th All India Cooperative Week celebrations across Jammu Kashmir and launched various new initiatives in the Cooperative sector. In his address, the LG expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home & Cooperation **▶ More On P10**

URBAN GOVERNANCE INCULCATES THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AMONG THE CITIZENS WITH THE ULTIMATE AIM of bringing transformation in the urban development paradigm to fulfill the aspirations of the people. Efforts have been made to improve urban planning, strengthen green infrastructure and enhance the ease of living,"

Will Ensure Zero Terrorist Recruitment In Coming Days: DGP

- Says Any Sort Of Interaction With Pak-Based Handlers Will Be Considered As A Crime
- 'Will Motivate Misguided Youth To Return, Hand Them Over To Their Parents'

Agencies

Anantnag: Jammu and Kashmir's Director General of Police (DGP) RR Swain Tuesday said that in the coming days, police will ensure that no terrorist recruitment takes place and the lives of people are protected.



Talking to reporters after chairing a high level security review meeting of police, army, CRPF, BSF and other security agencies in southern district of Anantnag, DGP Swain, said such meetings are held to finalise a plan for the safety and security of common masses.

"In such meetings, we deliberate on how to maintain better synergy and coordination. We also discuss measures to protect the lives of common people," Swain said. He said in the coming days, police and other security forces will ensure that **▶ More On P10**

3 Held For Manhandling Cops

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: Three people were arrested for manhandling policemen at a checkpoint on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, police said on Tuesday.

A video of the incident that took place at the Goond checkpoint in the Nagri area on Monday went viral on social media.

Three motorcycle-borne men were stopped at the checkpoint and asked to show documents **▶ More On P10**

Fake Army Officer Held For Rape Attempt

Press Trust Of India

Jammu: A man has been arrested for allegedly posing as an Army officer and attempting to rape a class 12 student in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, officials said. The accused has been

identified as Sham Lal from the Ramgarh area in the district, they said.

According to a complaint filed by the girl, Lal posed as an Army Colonel and brought the girl and her brother, a class 10 student, of Udhampur district to Vijaypur **▶ More On P10**

BIG COURT ORDER

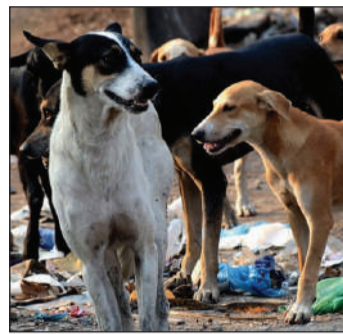


Dogbite Victims To Get Rs 10,000 For 'Each Teeth Mark'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a landmark judgment that is likely to trigger a major debate in the country, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled that in cases involving dog bites, financial assistance shall be at a minimum of Rs 10,000 per tooth mark and a minimum of Rs 20,000 per 0.2 cm of wound, holding state "primarily responsible" to pay compensation to the victims.

"The State shall be primarily responsible to pay compensation with a right to recover the same from the defaulting Agencies/ Instrumentalities of the State and/or the private person, if any," the High Court said in its order on a petition seeking compensation



in a dogbite case.

The Punjab and Haryana HC bench led by Justice Vinod S Bhardwaj, was hearing a bunch of 193 petitions relating to attacks by stray animals.

"The award shall be passed by the committees within a period

of four months of the claims being filed before it along with the requisite documents... The state shall be primarily responsible for paying compensation, with a right to recover the same from the defaulting agencies or instrumentalities of the state or private persons, if any," the court said.

The petitions dealt with the payment of compensation to victims or their family members for occurrences and accidents caused by a stray, wild animal suddenly appearing in front of a vehicle, resulting in injury or death. The occurrences took place in Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh on state and national highways, municipal streets and roads, and streets and roads outside municipal bounds. **▶ More On P10**

Amshipora **Fake** Encounter

Army Confirms Dismissal Of Captain

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The Army has confirmed the cashiering of Captain Bhoopendra Singh for killing three civilians in a staged encounter in south Kashmir's Amshipora in July 2020 and dubbing them terrorists, officials said on Tuesday.

In the meantime, Singh secured a stay on his sentence

of life imprisonment and a bail from the Armed Forces Tribunal.

According to officials in the know of the development, the findings of a Court of Inquiry and his conviction and sentencing were confirmed by the higher Army authorities on November 11 as required under the law.

Singh was brought to a civil jail in Jammu and **▶ More On P10**

Victim Families To Challenge Relief To Captain

Family members of three men killed in a "staged" encounter in south Kashmir's Amshipora in July 2020 have dubbed as "grave injustice" the suspension of the life sentence of the Army captain and the grant of bail to him **▶ More On P10**



Modi Government's Guarantee

Spreading benefits of Welfare Schemes among all entitled

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

flags off

VIKSIT BHARAT SANKALP YATRA

to ensure saturation of flagship govt schemes

from the land of Lord Birsa Munda

An initiative by Government to reach the benefits of all Schemes to every District, every village of the country

Also, **Transfer of ₹18,000 crore as 15th instalment of PM Kisan**

More than **8 crore** farmers to get the 15th instalment

₹ 2.61 lakh crore transferred in the previous 14 instalments

Jharkhand gets a Gift of Development Projects worth ₹ 7,200 crore

Inauguration / Dedication to the Nation	Laying of Foundation Stone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 100% Electrification of Railways in Jharkhand Faster movement of trains, reduced carbon footprint ■ Dual gauging of Hatia-Pakra, Talgaria-Bokaro and Jarangdih-Patratu Sections To enable running of high speed trains like Vande Bharat ■ Permanent Campus for IIM, Ranchi, New Student Hostels for IIT and IIM, Dhanbad Opportunities for the youth to develop their skills in ultra modern surroundings ■ Petroleum, Oil and Lubricant (POL) Depot in Bokaro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Four-laning of Mahagama-Hansdeeha Section of NH-133 Faster movement of minerals and development of tribal areas like Bahul ■ Four-laning of Basukinath-Deoghar Section of NH-114A Reaching Basukinath and Baidyanath Dhams will become easier ■ KDH Purnadih Coal Handling Plant Increased capacity for coal transportation and coal loading ■ New Educational and Administrative Building for IIT, Ranchi

📍 Khunti, Jharkhand, 15 November 11:15 A.M.



#HamaraSankalpViksitBharat

For more information on the Yatra scan the QR code



Watch the Programme live on DD News



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CALL +91-194 2502327
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ASF ENTERPRISES

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Sale and Sendee of Laptops. Desktops. Printers,
 Photocopiers. Faxes, CCTV Cameras, Security
 System and Refilling of all Types of Cartridges,
 Toners Registered Government order Suppliers.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Shahid Nabi Wani S/O Nazir Ahmad Wani have lost B.ed
 Certified bearing registration number 61114-ANG-2009
 under Roll number 1503096 Kashmir University. Now I want
 to apply for duplicate certificate. If anyone has an objection
 he/she may file the same in the University Of Kashmir
 within a period of seven days from the date of publication
 of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 bko

**Subject:-Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the
 name and style M/S" Travelogreaholidays" Situated at Nowhatta
 Srinagar.**

Public Notice

Whereas, I Mr/Ms **Salman Khurshid S/O D/O W/O
 Khurshid Ahmed Rather R/O Dara Harwan
 Srinagar, Kashmir** intends to apply in the Department of Tourism
 for the Registration of my proposed Travel unit under the name
 and style "M/S Travelogreaholidays" Situated at Nowhatta
 Srinagar, Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12.
 Whereas, I will submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate,
 Qualification Certificate Pan Card, Experience Certificate
 (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate (Police Department),
 Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site Plan, Affidavit,
 Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing Material
 (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and
 Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs to the Department
 of Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my
 unit as an Excursion Agency/ Adventure tour operator. Now as
 per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12,
 before my case is processed for registration by the Competent
 Authority, the matter is hereby notified for information of general
 Public/Financial Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection,
 if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director: Tourism
 Registration (e-mail Id-ddtreg/123@gmail.com) within a period
 of 7 days from the publication of this notice in leading local
 newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No objections beyond a
 week shall be entertained.
Medialine

**Subject:-Grant of Registration of the Proposed Travel unit under the name and
 style M/S" Job Oversight Tour and Travel" Situated at 507 3rd floor Jak Bro Building
 Ikhwan Chowk Munawarabad Srinagar.**

Public notice

Whereas, I Mr/Ms **Hilal Ahmad Lone R/O Sindhbhal Hachbura Ganderbal**
 Kashmir intends to apply in the Department of Tourism for the
 Registration of my proposed Travel unit under the name and style "M/S
Job Oversight Tour & Travels" Situated at
507 3rd floor Jak Bro Building Ikhwan Chowk Munawarabad Srinagar
 Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act: 1978/82/2011-12. Whereas, I will
 submit State Subject/Domicile Certificate, Qualification Certificate Pan
 Card, Experience Certificate (Minimum 05 Years), Character Certificate
 (Police Department), Bank Statement (Minimum Balance 10000), Site
 Plan, Affidavit, Rent Deed duly attested by Sub-Registrar, Printing
 Material (Letter Head/Visiting Card), Photograph of the Unit (Indoor and
 Outdoor) and Two Passport size photographs to the Department of
 Tourism as per prescribed checklist prior to Registration of my unit as
 an Excursion Agency/ Adventure tour operator. Now as per J&K
 Registration of Tourist Trade Act: 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is
 processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is
 hereby notified for information of general Public/Financial
 Institutions/Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same
 should reach to the Deputy Director: Tourism Registration (e-mail Id-
 ddtreg/123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of
 this notice in leading local newspaper/newspapers of the valley. No
 objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.
MediaLine

PUBLIC NOTICE

I want to change the consumer name on my electricity bill, con-
 sumer ID 0203020003267, currently registered under the name
 of Peer Mohammad Yousuf Shah S/O Peer Mohi-Ud-Din Shah, to
 Ghulam Jeelani Shah S/O Peer Mohammad Yousuf Shah. If any-
 one has any objections, he/she may file his/her objection in the
 office of the Power Development Department within seven days
 from the date of publication of this notice. After that, no objec-
 tions will be entertained.
**Ghulam Jeelani Shah
 R/O Kalamdon Pora, Srinagar** **ZBS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost the number plate of my vehicle (Alto 800) bearing
 Regd No; JK05E-7037 while travelling from Magam to Khag. 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 Concerned ARTO office within a period of seven days from
 the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection
 shall be entertained.

**Fahid Gayas S/o Gayas-ud-din Ahangar
 R/o Mohalla Jadeed Baramulla** **bmj**

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my Aadhar Card as Irshad
 Hussain Bhat while my correct name as DOB Certificate of class
 10th is Irshad Hussain which needs to be corrected. If anybody
 having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objec-
 tion in the concerned office within a period of seven days from
 the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection
 shall be entertained.

**Irshad Hussain
 Ph. no: 7006049152** **bmj**

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**Office Of The Executive Engineer
 (R&B) Division Ganderbal**

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

ELECTRICAL WORKS

SINGLE COVER SYSTEM (upto Rs. 2.50 Crores)

**EE/R&B/Divn/Gbl/e-Tender Fresh NIT No. 153of 2023-24 issued
 under endorsement No.13234-39
 Dated:13-11-2023**

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Rupees/ lacs)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)	MH	Time of Comple- tion	Class of Contractor
01	Installation of Unipole designed lights align side road at different spots under FC Grants.	Rs.20.13 lacs		Rs.800.00	FC Grants	15 days	"A" class Electric

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	13-11-2023 at 4:30 PM
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	13-11-2023 at 4:30 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	13-11-2023 from 4:30 PM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	20-11-2023 up to 04.30 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	21-11-2023 at 10:35 AM in the Office of the Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.

AAA = Accorded

Terms & Conditions

- 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 Ganderbal.
 Note:-The Date of Treasury Challan and CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date: Any deviation
 shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
 - The Bidders shall upload earnest money equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the shape of CDR/FDR at the time of ten-
 dering pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal 5% of the allotted cost as Performance Security in the shape
 of CDR/FDR/BG by the successful bidder pledged in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal. The Performance Security i.e. 5%
 shall be released after successful completion of the Defect Liability Period (DLP) of the work. The EMD of 2% of successful bidders shall be
 released after receipt of 5% Performance Security/after award of the contract for the work is issued.
 - The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, (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 sche-
 dule of dates given below:-
 - The cost of tenders should be collected by introducing E-Challan or simply uploading a copy of necessary treasury challan /
 receipt
 - The bidders are advised to upload below mentioned documents. Any short fall of these documents the tender shall not be accounted in
 responsive sheet.
 - Scanned copy of Registration Card with latest renewal on JKPWOMS portal
 - Scanned copy of Treasury Challan
 - Scanned copy of PAN Card/ GSTIN No.
 - Scanned copy of Latest GST clearance certificate FORM GST-3B.
 - Scanned copy of valid contact No/E-Mail ID
 - Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the Latest Quarter i.e. July-September
 2023/Qualifying Month i.e. September-2023. - Illustrations:-
 The bidder has to upload the latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the latest quarter i.e. July-September 2023/Qualifying Month.
 i.e. September-2023.
 - All bidders shall upload Verification Certificate from concerned Chief Engineer/ Superintending Engineer of Enlistment/Registration Card.
 - The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders
 automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web
 Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal. (tender receiving authority).
 - The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
 - The earnest money shall be forfeited, if-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraw his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and
 conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
 - Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
 - Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual
 Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
 - To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology
 Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
 - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical
 form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
 - Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original / photocopies of
 documents related to the bid be submitted physically / by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.
- Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
 - Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of E Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal.
 - 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. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the
 same name as it contains.
 - Price Escalation and Taxes:-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 Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross
 amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
 - Bidders are advised to quote Rate without GST @ 18% shall be added at the time of allotment by allotting authority upto completion of
 the work unless otherwise specified.
 - The 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 excluding GST. GST @ 18% shall be added at the time of allotment by allotting authority upto completion of
 the work unless otherwise specified.
 - Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
 - Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
 - All bidders shall include the following information and documents with their bids:-
 15.1. Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of business
 15.2. The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
 15.3. Non-attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder.
 15.4. All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English language.
 15.5. If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list/quantity schedule, cost of such item/ items shall be deemed to
 be part of the overall/total contract value. No rate shall be allowed for such item/ items in the allotment of contract.
 15.6. Special Conditions regarding Specifications and Quality control
 15.7. The defects noticed in the work during execution or D.L.P. shall be corrected by the
 Contractor within the length of time specified by the Engineer. If the contractor does not correct the defects pertaining to D.L.P. to the
 satisfaction of the Engineer within the time specified, the Engineer will assess the cost of having the defects corrected and contractor will
 pay this amount on correction of defects.
 15.8. The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT
 15.9. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).
 15.10. Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR shall be released after D.L.P is over successfully.
 15.11. The quantum / Particular of work may increase or decrease as per site requirement
 15.12. The Department Shall not be responsible for any loss / damage / to the work / material till the proper commissioning &
 hand over or natural climates what so ever.
 15.13. In case successful tenderer / firm fail to execute work in stipulated time, case will be forwarded to higher authorities for black listing.

No.:13234-39
 DPK-12182/23 Dated: 14-11-2023

Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir

**Office Of The Executive Engineer
 Mechanical And Hospitals Division Handwara**

E-mail, id, xenmhdhandwara@gmail.com

Tender Notice Inviting e-Tender

e-NIT No: 17 of 2023-24

Date: 13-11-2023

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals
 Division Handwara, invites online e-bids in Two Cover system on items wise basis from registered "D" class civil works
 contractor card holders for the below mentioned works:

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rupees)	Time of Completion	Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
01.	Renovation (Painting/Wood Work) along with allied works of Divisional office of Mechanical & Hospitals Division Handwara.	3.21	500.00	6420	20 days	Accorded	Accorded

- Downloading of Bids:** The Tender document Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria,
 specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Qs), Set of Terms & Conditions of Contract and other details can be
 seen/downloaded from the Govt. website www.jktenders.gov.in from 14-11-2023 (06.00PM)
- Submission of Bids:** The bidders shall deposit their bids in electronic format on the above website from 15-11-2023
 (10.00 AM) in two covers upto 21-11-2023 (12.00).
- Opening of Bids:** The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on 22-11-2023 (14.00
 PM) in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical & Hospitals Division Handwara.
- The bidders are required to submit their offers in two (02) covers.

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

I	Tender Fee	Rs. 500.00 (Rupees five hundred only) in shape of e-Challan / e-receipt / online Bank transfer acknowledgement excluding mPay or any other mobile banking App, to be uploaded with each online bid pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Handwara. Tender Id to be written also on the voucher. Bank: J&K Bank. Branch: Handwara main. IFSC Code: JAKA0HNDWAR Account No: 013101057000099.
II	EMD	Scanned copy of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in the shape of CDR/FDR equivalent to 2% of value of the advertised cost pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Handwara. The Earnest money shall be released after completion of works in favour of the successful Bidder while as for unsuccessful bidders it shall be released immediately after placement of work order
III	Terms & Conditions	Scanned copy of the Annexure's duly accepted by the bidder.
IV	Tax Clearance	Registration Certificate of Sales Tax Department quoting GST Number.
V	GST	Scanned copies of PAN Card / GST Registration / Latest GST clearance certificate or acknowledgement of latest returns.
VI	Performance guarantee	An amount equivalent to 05% of the value of the Contract shall be submitted by the successful bidder before release of his EMD as "Performance Guarantee" in the shape of BG pledged to Executive Engineer Mechanical & Hospitals Division Handwara, and shall be retained by the department during the currency of contract and shall be released on completion of 60 days after expiry of D.L.P.
VII	Registration	Bidder shall upload the renewed copy of "D" class civil works contractor card, and shall be registered on PWDOMAS portal (Proof to be uploaded).

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

**Cover II shall contain the price bid as per BOQ which shall be inclusive of all taxes under GST. The
 price bid is to be uploaded only.**

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

Sd/-
 Executive Engineer
 Mechanical & Hospitals Division
 Handwara

No: - M&HHD/TS/636-39

**DIPK-12198/23
 dated: 14-11-2023**

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کلتھرہ

درخواست منجانب فاروق احمد شاہ ولد حبیب اللہ شاہ ساکنہ سکونت تحصیل کریبری
 بمقام وصول RBA سرٹیفیکٹ بحق پسر عارف فاروق
 اشتہار بمراد گاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر مذکور میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت
 پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ یقینات اور ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں
 ہوتا ہے کہ سائل اس سائلہ سکونت میں رہائش پذیر ہے۔ کنسٹیبل کی سالانہ آمدنی
 180000 کنسٹیبل سائل بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
 فاروق احمد شاہ ولد حبیب اللہ شاہ 40 سال مزوری
 فریدہ بیگم زوجہ فاروق احمد شاہ 38 سال گھریلو کام
 عارف فاروق پسر فاروق احمد شاہ 18 سال زین تعلیم
 شہنازہ فاروق دختر فاروق احمد شاہ 16 سال زین تعلیم
 سعادتہ فاروق دختر فاروق احمد شاہ 10 سال زین تعلیم
 اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہیں تعلق یا گیا ہے سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث
 اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض
 سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ مینا گذرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول
 نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار fko

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کلتھرہ

درخواست منجانب غلام الدین صوفی ولد محمد سبحان صوفی ساکنہ شہ پورہ تحصیل کریبری
 بمقام وصول RBA سرٹیفیکٹ بحق پسر امیر احمد صوفی
 اشتہار بمراد گاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر مذکور میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت
 پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ یقینات اور ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں
 ہوتا ہے کہ سائل اس سائلہ سکونت میں رہائش پذیر ہے۔ کنسٹیبل کی سالانہ آمدنی
 264000 کنسٹیبل سائل بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
 غلام محمد صوفی ولد محمد سبحان صوفی 60 سال زمینداری
 تسلیہ بیگم زوجہ غلام محمد صوفی 38 سال گھریلو کام
 جہانگیر احمد صوفی پسر غلام محمد صوفی 33 سال ڈرائیور
 پوشیدہ بیگم زوجہ غلام محمد صوفی 32 سال گھریلو کام
 رونق جہانگیر پوتی غلام محمد صوفی 9 سال زین تعلیم
 امان جہانگیر پوتی غلام محمد صوفی 6 سال زین تعلیم
 اسرار جہانگیر پوتی غلام محمد صوفی 4 سال زین تعلیم
 مشتاق احمد صوفی پسر غلام محمد صوفی 28 سال ڈرائیور
 رویدہ بیگم زوجہ غلام محمد صوفی 25 سال گھریلو کام
 امیر احمد صوفی پسر غلام محمد صوفی 19 سال زین تعلیم
 محمد انصاف صوفی پسر غلام محمد صوفی 15 سال زین تعلیم
 اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہیں تعلق یا گیا ہے سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث
 اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا اشخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض
 سات یوم کے اندر پیش کریں۔ مینا گذرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول
 نہیں ہوگا۔
نائب تحصیلدار fko

المیہ مرحوم حامی محمد صدیق چورا انتقال کر گئیں

یہ نیر انجمنی ڈھکے کے ساتھ دی جاتی ہے کہ ہماری والدہ المیہ مرحوم حامی محمد صدیق
 چورا ساکن چنڈ بازار کرن گمر، گمر، گمر 13 نومبر 2023ء بمطابق 28 ربیع الثانی
 1445ھ بروز سوموار کو اس دار فانی سے رحلت کر گئیں۔ اِنَّا لِلّٰہِ وَاِنَّا اِلَیْہِ رَاجِعُونَ
 اس سلسلے میں مرحوم کی جنازی فاتحہ خوانی 17 نومبر 2023ء بروز جمعہ المبارک دن
 2.30 بجے ان کے آباء مقبرہ واقع چنڈ بازار بمقابلہ کھنڈ گڑھ سولہ متصل پبلک سکول
 انجام دی جائے گی۔ ان شاء اللہ

سکواران

چورا بازار

نذیر احمد چورا

7006865638

(نوٹ: خواتین سے گزارش کی جاتی ہے کہ وہ اپنے ساتھ کسی قسم کا بیوہ جات وغیرہ
 نہ لائیں)
 inf

Sweets Manufacturing Unit Sealed, 150Kg Substandard Sweets Destroyed

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A team of Food Safety under over all supervision of Dy. Commissioner, Food Safety/ Intelligence Cum Legal Cell Kashmir on specific information carried out a raid at one sweets manufacturing unit at Qamarwari, Srinagar. The unit was found operating under unhygienic conditions and was sealed by the team. Accordingly, samples of Rasgulla and Gulab jamun were lifted for analytical purposes, whereas the rest of the consignment of these products was seized.

Upon receiving the test report from FOOD Analyst Kashmir, the sample was declared as Sub-standard. Accordingly the complaint was submitted before the Adjudicating Officer (Adl Dy. Commissioner) district Srinagar who issued the order for destroying the said product. As a result about 1.5 quintals of Rasgulla and Gulab jamun were destroyed in proper waste management system and a penalty Rs 50000 was also imposed on the manufacturer as well as supplier by the Adjudicating officer (Adl Dy. Commissioner) Srinagar.

DLSA, Srinagar Organizes Colorful Children's Day Fiesta At GHSS Nishat

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Srinagar under the aegis of J&K Legal Services Authority in association with Department of Social Welfare, Srinagar and Department of School Education, Srinagar orchestrated a series of heartwarming events to commemorate Children's Day at Children's Home, Pareesha (Girls) and Palaash (Boys) and Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Nishat, Srinagar.

The events were organized under the guidance of Chairman DLSA Srinagar, Jawad Ahmed and supervision of Secretary DLSA, Srinagar. The event witnessed the enthusiastic participation of the young inmates from Pareesha and Palaash, who showcased their vibrant talents through captivating performances in debates, singing, and dancing. The atmosphere was filled with joy and exuberance as the children dazzled the audience with their creativity and skill.

A special highlight of the event was the distribution of fresh fruits among the inmates by the Secretary DLSA, Srinagar, in a bid to encourage the intake of healthy food. This gesture reflects the commitment of the organizers to not only celebrate Children's Day but also promote the well-being and health of the young minds under their care.

Secretary DLSA, Srinagar, Jahangir Ahmad Bakshi along with Deputy LADC, Srinagar, Zulfi Tasneem; Superintendent Palaash, Nazia; Superintendent Pareesha,

Satinder Kour and the dedicated staff members of Pareesha and Palaash and staff and para legal volunteers of DLSA, Srinagar joined hands together for making the event a collective effort towards nurturing the potential of these bright young souls. In another inspiring program organized by DLSA, Srinagar, in collaboration with the Department of School Education, Awareness program was conducted at Govt. Hr. Sec. School Nishat, Srinagar. Zulfi Tasneem, Deputy LADC, and Bisma Khan, Panel Lawyer of DLSA, Srinagar, participated as resource persons, shedding light on the significance of Children's Day and the importance of nurturing the talents and dreams of every child.

The event at Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Nishat witnessed the active involvement of teaching and non-teaching staff, students, and para-legal volunteers of DLSA, Srinagar.

The collaborative effort aimed at creating awareness about the rights and well-being of children, ensuring a brighter future for the younger generation.



KO Photo, Syed Mohammad Burhan

Fest Organized To Instill 'Entrepreneurial Spirit' Concludes At KU

Two-Day Event Attracts Thousands Of Students

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Srinagar: "CHIRGISH" fest organized by the Department of Management Studies, University of Kashmir concluded on Tuesday. The event was inaugurated by Vice Chancellor University of Kashmir Prof. Nilofar Khan on Monday.

The business fest attracted thousands of students, faculty members and visitors over a period of two days.

With stalls set up in the lawns of the Management Department, the event as per organizers was held to boost local entrepreneurs and help promote their businesses.

Amid wintry weather, food lovers thronged the place and enjoyed music performances by Ahmad Parvez and Ali Saffudin. Apart from food courts, local entrepreneurs had set up their stalls to showcase their works and find customers.

We invested in the event to invoke entrepreneurial spirit. We invited local businesses and vendors from across Kashmir valley and provided them with the safe space to showcase their stalls. I think we have been able to achieve what we wanted to

Muazzam Zargar, one of the organizers, said the event aimed to promote local business and boost the culture of entrepreneurship.

"We invested in the event to invoke entrepreneurial spirit. We invited local businesses and vendors from across Kashmir valley and provided them with the safe space to showcase their stalls. I think we have been able

to achieve what we wanted to" Muazzam said.

"The faculty including the non-teaching staff has been instrumental in making the event a success. They guided us throughout the journey" Muazzam added.

Khushboo, had set up a stall of Kashmiri handicrafts and jewelry.

"We sell Fashion jewelry at lower prices to the customers. The response has been good for Pherans and Rings" she said.

Darakshan, a student of the Persian Department, was one among scores of students who visited the fest.

"I enjoyed being at the exhibition, hope more such fests are organized at other places also. There was a vast collection of foods, sweets and other items" darakshan said.

"Although I was out of budget for most of the purchases, I enjoyed being there," she added.

Firewood Supply To Registered Mosques In Srinagar From Nov 20

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Forest department will be supplying firewood to the registered mosques and other institutions from the 20th of this month at PC Depot, Qamarwari here for the upcoming winter.

Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar said that it is committed to accelerating the process of distribution so that the supply of firewood to registered agencies and mosques of Srinagar is completed well in time.

Accordingly, all the registered Agencies/Masjids of Srinagar City are hereby informed

to approach the Range Officer, Timber Transport Range, P.C Depot Qamarwari from 15th of November, 2023 with their indent through proper channel for issuance of yearly firewood quota, said the Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar.

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
1445

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 38
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 50
Magrib	5:31
ISHA	7: 55

This Day In History

- 655 - Battle of the Winwaed: Penda of Mercia is defeated by Oswiu of Bernicia.
- 1315 - Battle of Morgarten: Swiss beat duke Leopold I of Austria
- 1527- Treaty of Schoonhoven: Henry of the Palatinate, Bishop of Utrecht, cedes lands to the Habsburgs in return for security help against resistant citizens
- 1533- Spanish expedition led by Francisco Pizarro captures the Inca capital of Cusco after defeating an Inca army led by general Quisquis
- 1715- Barrier Treaty, Austria cedes area to Netherlands
- 1720- Pirates Anne Bonny, Mary Read and Calico Jack are captured by Capt. Jonathan Barnet and brought to the Spanish Town of Jamaica, for trial
- 1813- Allied troops occupies Groningen
- 1837- Isaac Pitman introduces his shorthand system of writing, Pitman shorthand
- 1854- In Egypt, the Suez Canal, linking the Mediterranean Sea with the Red Sea, is given the necessary royal concession.
- 1869 - Free postal delivery formally inaugurated
- 1904- King C. Gillette patents the Gillette razor blade
- 1914- Italian socialist Benito Mussolini founds newspaper Il Popolo d'Italia
- 1920- League of Nations holds first meeting in Geneva
- 1932- Walt Disney Art School created
- 1934- Nobel for chemistry awarded to Harold C Urey (deuterium)
- 1936- Nazi-Germany & Japan sign Anti-Komintern pact
- 1954 - 1st regularly scheduled commercial flights over North Pole begins
- 1955 - Poland & Yugoslavia sign trade agreement
- 1969 - An estimated 2 million people take part in the Vietnam War Moratorium demonstration across the United States
- 1971 - Intel advertises 4004-processor
- 1972 - Small Astronomy Satellite Explorer 48 launched to study gamma rays
- 1973 - Egypt & Israel exchange prisoners of war
- 1974 - International Energy Agency formed in Paris within OECD framework in the wake of the 1973 oil crisis
- 1976 - Syrian army conquers Beirut
- 1979 - ABC-TV announces it would broadcast nightly specials on Iran hostage
- 1979 - Iran cancels all contracts with U.S. oil companies
- 1980 - 30th NASCAR Sprint Cup: Dale Earnhardt wins
- 1982 - Funeral service held in Moscow's Red Square for Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev
- 1983 - Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus proclaimed
- 1988 - Soviet space shuttle makes unmanned maiden flight (2 orbits)
- 1990 - US President George H. W. Bush signs Clear Air Act of 1990
- 1995 - Space shuttle Atlantis docks with orbiting Russian space station Mir
- 2000 - A chartered Antonov AN-24 crashes after takeoff from Luanda, Angola killing more than 40 people
- 2000 - New state of Jharkhand comes into existence in India
- 2002 - Hu Jintao becomes the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
- 2003 - First day of the Istanbul Bombings takes place, followed by additional bombings on November 20th
- 2005 - Boeing formally launches the stretched Boeing 747-8 variant with orders from Cargolux and Nippon Cargo Airlines
- 2007 - A devastating Cyclone named Sidr hit Bangladesh, killing an estimated 5000 people and destroyed the world's largest mangrove forest, Sundarbans.
- 2012 - At least 95 people are killed in Syrian conflicts

SP College, SKUAST-K Kick-Starts Weeklong Skill Based Beekeeping Program

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A weeklong Existing Management Development Program titled 'Craft of Bee Keeping and Winter Management of Bee Hives under Temperate Conditions of J&K' sponsored by Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

(MSME) began today in the Conference Hall of the Department of Zoology, S.P College, here.

The program, organized by Division of Social and Basic Sciences SKUAST-K in collaboration with the P.G. Department of Zoology S.P. College Srinagar witnessed participation of around 100 registered students.

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

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE No: 08 of 2023

Dated: - 13-11-2023

Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Kashmir invites online applications for Re-employment of Superannuated Professor on contract basis in the International Centre for Spiritual Studies. The re-employment of superannuated Professor shall be governed by the UGC Model Guidelines for Re-employment of Superannuated Teachers.

NOTE:

- Date of availability of online application forms: 15-11-2023.
- Last date of submission of online application forms: 30-11-2023 (4.00 PM).
- The hardcopy of the application form along with a detailed CV containing all the contributions made by the teacher, highlighting his/her achievements during the last five years shall have to be submitted in the office of Registrar by or before 05-12-2023.
- Age: Preferably not more than 63 years.

No. IUST/Reg/Adv/E/23/338
Dated: 13-11-2023

Sd/
Registrar

DIPK-NB-4225/23
dated: 14-11-2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE (G&P) DEPARTMENT KASHMIR

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax -2482032 - email: - kashflori@rediffmail.com

GIST of e- Tender Notice No.31 of 2023

Dated: -13/11/2023

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K UT, e-tender is invited from interested bidders for Outsourcing of Entry Ticketing System of Mughal Garden Jaroka Bagh Ganderbal of Floriculture Department Kashmir as per details given below: -

The bidders have to quote their bid amount in the concerned BOQ: -

S.No.	Period of contract	Reserve Bid	Value of security deposit @ 10% of Reserve bid	Cost of tender document
1.	(01) One year from the date of award of contract	Rs.3,87,600.00	Rs.38,760.00	Rs.500.00 in the shape of e-challan

The bidding document(s) consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded through the Departmental website www.dofkashmir.com/www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding document	14.11.2023 from 03:00 PM to 04.12.2023 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	14.11.2023 from 03:30 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	04.12.2023 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders (Online)	07.12.2023 at 02:00 PM

In case of any eventuality, the date of opening will be considered on any other convenient working day.

DIPK-12223/23
DATED: 14-11-2023

Sd/
Accounts Officer,
(Member Secretary)

US-China Relationship Can Easily Veer Towards Conflict If Not Well Managed, Warns NSA Sullivan



Press Trust of India

WASHINGTON: The US and China could easily veer towards a conflict if their "complex and competitive" relationship is not well managed, US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan has warned ahead of the much-anticipated summit between President Joe Biden and his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping.

Biden and Xi are scheduled to meet in San Francisco on Wednesday on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leadership meeting in San Francisco. The two top leaders last met face-to-face at the G20 Summit in Bali in November 2022.

Biden, 80, and Xi, 70, had already known each other for more than a decade before Biden became President in 2021.

Sullivan on Monday said the US president has the opportunity to engage on how they effectively manage peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. The two sides are also

expected to discuss China's aggressive actions in the Indo-Pacific region.

Sullivan said the most important thing is that "this is a complex and a competitive relationship that could easily veer into conflict or confrontation if it's not well managed".

"So, managing the relationship effectively is the single most important responsibility of the president and everyone who works for him on this file," Sullivan told reporters at a news conference here.

Taiwan is likely to be at the top of the list of topics China will be keen to discuss with Biden. Beijing claims sovereignty over the self-ruled island, which is set to hold elections early next year. China has held provocative military exercises around Taiwan in recent months to warn the island against taking any steps to declare independence.

The Israel-Hamas war, the war in Ukraine, human rights and trade disputes are expected to be discussed during the Biden-Xi meeting.

Mass Grave Inside Israeli-encircled Gaza Hospital, No Plan to Rescue Babies

Agencies

GAZA/JERUSALEM: Palestinians trapped inside Gaza's biggest hospital were digging a mass grave on Tuesday to bury patients who died under Israeli encirclement, and said no plan was in place to evacuate babies despite Israel announcing an offer to send portable incubators.

Israeli forces have surrounded Al Shifa hospital in Gaza City, which they say sits atop an underground headquarters of Hamas militants.

Hamas, Gaza's ruling Islamist group, denies fighters are present and says 650 patients and 5,000-7,000 other displaced civilians are trapped inside the hospital grounds, under constant fire from snipers and drones. It says 40 patients have died in recent days, including three premature babies whose incubators were shut down when power went out.

Five weeks after Israel swore to destroy Hamas in retaliation for a cross-border assault by militants, the fate of the encircled hospital has become a focus of international alarm, including from Israel's closest ally, the United States.

Ashraf Al-Qidra, Gaza's health ministry spokesman, reached by telephone inside



the hospital compound, said there were about 100 bodies decomposing inside and no way to get them out.

"We are planning to bury them today in a mass grave inside the Al Shifa medical complex. It is going to be very dangerous as we don't have any cover or protection from the ICRC, but we have no other options the corpses of the martyrs began to decompose," he told Reuters.

"The men are digging right now as we speak." Thirty-six babies are left from the neo-natal ward after three died. Without fuel for generators to power incubators, the babies were being kept warm as best as possible, lined up eight to a bed. Israel announced on Tues-

day that it was offering portable, battery-powered incubators so the babies could be moved. But Qidra said that so far no arrangements had been established to carry out any such evacuation.

"We have no objection to have the babies being moved to any hospital, in Egypt, the West Bank or even to the occupation (Israeli) hospitals. What we care most about is the wellbeing and the lives of those babies," he said.

"The occupation is still besieging the hospital and they are firing into the yards from time to time. We still can't move around, but sometimes doctors are taking the risk when they need to attend to patients."

Eight Pro-Iran Fighters Dead In US Strikes In Syria: Monitor



Agencies

BEIRUT: At least eight pro-Iran fighters were killed in US strikes on eastern Syria, a war monitor said Monday, after Washington carried out raids a day earlier in response to attacks on American forces.

The toll is "eight pro-Iran fighters dead, including at least one Syrian, and Iraqi nationals", the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said, following the strikes late Sunday on the Mayadeen and Albu Kamal areas of Syria's eastern Deir Ezzor province near the Iraqi border.

The United States had carried out strikes against two Iranian-linked sites in Syria in response to attacks on American forces, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said Sunday.

It is the third time in less than three weeks that the US military has targeted locations in Syria it said were tied to

Iran, which supports various armed groups that Washington blames for a spike in attacks on its forces in the Middle East.

"US military forces conducted precision strikes today on facilities in eastern Syria used by Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and Iran-affiliated groups in response to continued attacks against US personnel in Iraq and Syria," Austin said in a statement.

"The strikes were conducted against a training facility and a safe house near the cities of Albu Kamal and Mayadeen, respectively," he said.

The Britain-based Observatory said the strikes completely destroyed a weapons depot in a town in the Albu Kamal countryside, reporting successive explosions due to ammunition catching fire.

Near Mayadeen, it said the strikes targeted a rocket launch platform.

US President Biden Sued For 'Complicity' In Israel's 'Genocide' In Gaza

Agencies

The president of the United States and two of his cabinet members are being sued for failing to prevent and aiding and abetting "genocide" in Gaza.

A federal complaint (PDF), filed on Monday against President Joe Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, accuses them of "failure to prevent and complicity in the Israeli government's unfolding genocide".

New York civil liberties group the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) filed the suit on behalf of Palestinian human rights organisations, Palestinians in Gaza and US citizens with relatives in the besieged enclave that has faced more than a month of relentless bombardment by Israel, which receives funding and weapons from the US government.

More than 11,200 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza since Israel launched attacks on October 7. This followed a Hamas attack in Israel, in which about 1,200 people were killed.

"Numerous Israeli govern-



ment leaders have expressed clear genocidal intentions and deployed dehumanizing characterizations of Palestinians, including 'human animals,' the CCR wrote in the introduction to its complaint.

It said those "statements of intent", when combined with the "mass killing" of Palestinians, reveal "evidence of an unfolding crime of genocide".

Numerous legal scholars, rights groups and humanitarians have also called Israel's actions in Gaza genocide.

"I paid for Israel to kill my cousins"

"Immediately after the launch of Israel's unprecedented bombing campaign on Gaza, President Biden offered

'unwavering' support for Israel, which he and administration officials have consistently repeated and backed up with military, financial, and political support, even as mass civilian casualties escalated alongside Israeli genocidal rhetoric," the CCR said.

The complaint noted that the US is Israel's closest ally and strongest supporter, as well as its biggest provider of military assistance - with Israel being the largest cumulative recipient of US foreign assistance since World War II.

Because of this, it said, the US could have a "deterrent effect on Israeli officials now pursuing genocidal acts against the Palestinian people".

"Lustful, Adulterous Life": Court On Married Man Living With Another Woman

Press Trust of India

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab and Haryana High court has held that a man living a "lustful and adulterous life" with a woman without divorcing his spouse cannot be called a "live-in-relationship" or "relationship" in the nature of marriage.

The single judge bench of Justice Kuldeep Tiwari dismissed the petition of a couple from Punjab who had sought protection of their lives and liberty.

The petitioners submitted that they have been in a "live-in-relationship" which has caused grievance to the woman's family members who have threatened to kill them.

During the hearing, the court observed the woman in the "live-in-relationship" was unmarried while the man was married and had been living separately from his wife due to strained relations.

The man in the "live-in-relationship" has two children with his wife and they live with their mother.

"Without obtaining any valid decree of divorce from his earlier spouse and during the subsistence of his earlier marriage, the petitioner No.2 (man in

live-in relationship) is living a lustful and adulterous life with the petitioner No.1 (woman in live-in relationship), which may constitute an offence punishable under Sections 494/495 of the IPC, as such a relationship does not fall within the phrase of 'live-in relationship' or 'relationship' in the nature of marriage," the court said in its order.

The court also found allegations of threat to life as "bald and vague." "Neither any supportive material has been placed on record by the petitioners to corroborate their allegations, nor even any single instance pertaining to the manner and mode of alleged threats being extended to the petitioners has been anywhere disclosed," the court said.

The court further stated, "On the face of the above, it appears that in order to avoid any criminal prosecution in case of adultery, the present petition has been instituted. To the judicial mind of this Court, under the guise of invocation of the writ jurisdiction of this Court, the hidden intent of the petitioners is just to obliquely obtain the seal of this Court on their conduct."

Prison Law Draft: 3-Year Jail For Possessing Phones; Focus On Segregation And Surveillance

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The draft prison law prepared by the home ministry has suggested a host of steps like three years jail for possessing a phone, segregation of prisoners like drug addicts, first time offenders, high-risk, foreigners and grant of leave on wearing electronic tracking devices for monitoring their movement and activities.

According to the draft law, technology will be used for surveillance, there will be regular frisking of any prisoner in search of prohibited items and the prisoners may be granted prison leave on the condition of their willingness to wear electronic tracking devices for monitoring their movement and activities and any violation by the prisoner shall attract cancellation of prison leave, in addition to disqualification from any prison leave being granted in future.

The draft suggested punishment for possessing or using mobile phones and contraband. It says prison inmates are forbidden from possessing or using mobile phones and other electronic communication devices in prisons.

According to a letter of Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla, sent to all states and Union territories in May but uploaded in the home ministry website on Monday, the ministry has finalised "a progressive and comprehensive" Model Prisons Act, 2023 to re-



place two pre-independence era laws namely, The Prisons Act 1894 and The Prisoners Act 1900.

"With the passage of time and evolution of the ideology of reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners, many of the provisions of these colonial Acts have become outdated and obsolete in present day times," Bhalla said and suggested that the state governments and union territory administrations may benefit from the proposed law by adopting it in their jurisdictions.

The draft says whoever, being a prisoner or a visitor or a prison official, in contravention of any provisions of the Act or rules made thereunder, is found possessing or using such devices... or supplies or attempts to supply to any prisoner, any prohibited article, and every officer or staff of a prison who, contrary to any such rule, knowingly allows any such article to be introduced into or removed from any prison, to be possessed by any prisoner or to be supplied to any prisoner... on conviction be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding three years, or fine not exceeding twenty five thousand rupees, or both.

NEWS MAKERS

Supreme Court Saves US Boy's Life, Permits Indian Cousin To Donate Liver

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has come to the rescue of a three-year-old boy, a US citizen in critical need of liver transplant, by permitting his distant Indian cousin to donate the organ, saying it is not an appropriate case to consider the legal requirement in "absolute terms".

Making it clear that its decision will not be treated as "precedent for any other case", the top court, in a compassionate verdict, accorded primacy to saving the life of the child who was admitted to a private hospital in Gurugram for treatment of decompensated biliary cirrhosis (DBC).

The DBC is a medical condition which results from liver failure and a patient can be saved by the transplant only.

A bench comprising justices A S Bopanna and M M Sundresh was to deal with a legal challenge in the form of section 9 of the Transplantation of Human Organs and Tissues Act (THOTA) which was coming in the way of liver donation to the child by his distant Indian cousin.

The section of THOTA bars transplant of organs where recipi-



ent is a foreigner and donor is not a "near relative". The term -- "near relative" -- includes "spouse, son, daughter, father, mother, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, grandson or granddaughter".

A cousin is not included in the definition of "near relative". The top court took note of the submissions of senior advocate Gopal Sankararayanan and lawyer Neha Rathi, who appeared for the petitioners -- the recipient and the donor.

The bench, in its November 9 order, noted the details of the case and the report of the authorisation committee which functions under the THOTA and authorises the transplant of organ if the donor and the recipient comply with the statutory requirements.

"At the outset, we clarify that though the provisions as contained in The Transplantation of Human

Organs and Tissues Act, 1994 as also the Citizenship Act was referred to during the course of the submissions on either side, in our opinion, the instant case would not be an appropriate case to consider the same in detail," it said.

It took note of immediate necessity of a donor to donate the liver to child in view of his precarious health condition and asked the parties to go through the legal process as contemplated.

"Further, the reasons have also been ascertained as to why the parents of the petitioner No. 1 (recipient) have not donated the liver. Though specific reasons have not been disclosed, it would be appropriate to take note of the sentiment of the mother of the petitioner No. 1 and in that regard, exempt the parents in any event since in the instant case there is an appropriate donor who is a relative and since this Court is also satisfied with regard to the bona fides in this case and in the peculiar circumstance where the choice for this Court is between saving the life of three years old child i.e. the petitioner No.1 or adherence to the legal requirement in absolute terms," the bench said.

Uttarkashi Tunnel Collapse: Trapped Labourer Speaks To Son

Press Trust of India

Gabbar Singh Negi, one of the 40 labourers trapped in the under-construction tunnel that collapsed on the Char Dham route, spoke to his son on Tuesday.

"I was allowed to speak to my father for a few seconds using the pipe through which oxygen is being supplied to the stranded workers," Akash Singh Negi told PTI. "The conversation lasted just a few seconds," he said. "He said they were safe. He asked us not to worry as the company is with them," Akash said.

Akash came along with his uncle Maharaj Singh Negi and three others from Uttarakhand's Kotdwar to enquire about his father's well-being. "We were initially not allowed by the policemen to talk to those trapped inside. When I convinced the inspector that hearing from a relative will comfort the stranded labourers as well as the concerned family members and strengthen their hope for a safe rescue, he relented and I sent Akash to speak to his father,"



Maharaj Singh Negi said.

He said quoting authorities that they should not worry as the tunnel is unclogged and empty 2km beyond the point where the labourers are trapped.

A part of the tunnel being built between Silkyara and Dandlgaon on the Brahmakhal-Yamunotri National Highway caved in on Sunday morning following a landslide. Gabbar Singh, who hails from Bishampur near Kotdwar, is among the two persons from Uttarakhand trapped inside the tunnel along with 38 others.

Local priest Ram Narayan Awasthi also performed a puja to pray for the safe rescue of the trapped workers. "I was asked by the company to perform a puja so that the gods show some mercy and the trapped labourers are safely evacuated and I did it," Awasthi told PTI.

According to a list of the trapped workers issued by the District Emergency Operation Centre, 15 are from Jharkhand, eight from Uttar Pradesh, five from Orissa, four from Bihar, three from West Bengal, two each from Uttarakhand and Assam, and one from Himachal Pradesh.

PM Modi Pays Tributes To Jawaharlal Nehru On His Birth Anniversary



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday paid tributes to Jawaharlal Nehru on his birth anniversary.

Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first prime minister, was born in Prayagraj in 1889 and was one of the leading faces of the country's freedom struggle.

His admirers credit him for nurturing democratic roots in the country.

PM Modi said on X, "Tributes to our first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru Ji on his birth anniversary."

Court Upholds 3-Yr Jail Term To Man For Unnatural Offence

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: A court here has upheld conviction and three years jail term awarded to a man for unnatural offence against a minor boy in city outskirts in 2008.

Dismissing an appeal filed by M A Bhat of Konmoh Srinagar against conviction and sentence awarded by Forest Magistrate in 2017, 4th Additional Sessions Judge at Srinagar, Gowhar Majid Dalal observed that verdict "does not suffer from any infirmity, as same has passed rightly without any illegality" in the light of the evidence produced by the parties before the trial court.

"The suspension of conviction and sentence order passed by this court vide its order dated 23.12.2017 stands withdrawn forthwith," the court said as the convicted person was taken in the custody.

"The appellate court cannot interfere with the finding of trial court, unless the actual finding is perverse, contrary to material on record," the court observed, observing that the trial court has appreciated the evidence properly and there was no sufficient ground for it

to interfere in the finding of the trial court.

According to the prosecution, a written complaint came to be lodged with the police wherein the father of the minor, a laborer by profession, stated that his son was on way to his home after giving meals to him and accused met him on the way and paid Rs. 10 and committed unnatural offence with him.

When the complainant (father) returned home in the evening, the child (victim) narrated the whole episode. Subsequent to the complaint, prosecution said, a case (FIR no. 97/2008) was registered against the accused for the commission of mentioned offences.

After completion of the investigation challan was presented against the accused in the court.

Subsequently, on the basis of evidence mainly on the statement of the victim and doctor, Bhat was convicted by the trial court on 22 December 2017 under RPC sections of 377(carnal intercourse against the order of nature with any man, woman or animal) and 511 by the trial court and was also sentenced to undergo simple imprisonment for a period of 3 years.



A GROUP OF LABOURERS passing through Jhelum riverfront in Srinagar on a cold and foggy Tuesday morning..
KOPHOTO, ABID BHAT

'A Very, Very Scary Situation'

Kashmiri Woman Evacuated From War-Torn Gaza, Reaches Egypt Safely

Press Trust Of India

JERUSALEM: An Indian woman from Kashmir who had sought immediate evacuation from the war-torn Hamas-ruled Gaza has safely reached Egypt with the help of Indian missions in the region, according to her husband.

Lubna Nazir Shaboo and her daughter Karima, crossed the Rafah border crossing between Egypt and Gaza on Monday evening.

"They are in al-Arish (a city in Egypt). Tomorrow morning (Tuesday) they will move to Cairo," Lubna's husband Nedal Toman said in a text message sent to PTI from Gaza.

The only exit route from Gaza, the Rafah crossing with Egypt, has been infrequently opened the past few weeks to let humanitarian supplies enter Gaza and also let some foreign nationals and wounded people cross over to the other side.

In a telephone call to PTI on Sunday, Lubna confirmed that her name was among the people who could leave Gaza and thanked profusely the Indian missions in the region -- in



Ramallah, Tel Aviv and Cairo -- for making this possible.

On October 10, Lubna had reached out to PTI over the phone seeking help for evacuation.

"We are facing a brutal war here and everything is being destroyed and bombarded in a matter of seconds," she had told PTI.

Following the unprecedented attacks by Hamas militants on October 7 in the southern areas of the Jewish state, Israel declared war launching a counter-offensive with the twin objectives of ousting Hamas, which has ruled the coastal Strip since 2007, and freeing around 240 people who were taken hostage by the Islamic faction.

"The sounds of bombard-

ment are too scary and the whole house shakes. It is a very, very scary situation," Lubna had told PTI before moving with her family to the southern part of Gaza where she spent several days with acquaintances before being evacuated.

She had mentioned that their "water supply was officially cut off" in the middle of the night of October 9 and they were without electricity, which made them decide to move to the south and seek help in evacuation.

Lubna had also said that she hadn't seen anything like this before and had two families living with them who had to run away after bombardment in the bordering areas of Gaza.

"We are not able to go anywhere because there is no safe place for us anywhere and the Gaza Strip is too small and it is closed from every side. There are no exit points over here," she said.

"I have already asked for help from the Representative office of India in Ramallah to help me get to a safer place along with my husband and my daughter," she had said in a video message sent to PTI.

AMSHIPORA FAKE ENCOUNTER

Mehbooba, Omar Question Bail To Army Officer

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Former chief ministers Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah Tuesday questioned bail being granted to an army officer convicted of killing three civilians in a "staged" encounter in 2020, with the NC leader terming it a reminder from the government that the blood of people of Jammu and Kashmir is "cheap".

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

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".

National Conference leader Abdullah said on Tuesday, "We are reminded repeatedly by the Centre that our blood is cheap, that there is no value of our blood. When our people get killed, no body is bothered."

"I was surprised to see yesterday's news that the Army officer who killed three men from Rajouri in a fake encounter in Shopian, he was sentenced to life imprisonment by army court martial. Yesterday, he was released and set free. How unfortunate!" Abdullah told party convention in Tangmarg area of Baramulla district.

The former chief minister said people from Jammu and Kashmir who are in jails without any charges were not getting bail.

"How many of our youths are in jails after 2019. Our government employees are dismissed from service without any procedure, bulldozers are run over the houses of people on smallest

of charges. But a man who has been convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for killing three civilians from Rajouri will be free now," he added.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said the bail granted to the Army officer raises serious questions on the sanctity of the judicial process.

"Just spoke with the father of the innocent civilian killed in the fake Amshipora encounter. He is utterly devastated by the Army Tribunal's decision to revoke the life sentence judgement given to the Captain, who himself admitted to the crime.

"Raises serious questions on the sanctity of the judicial process," Mehbooba posted on X.

The family of the three civilians killed in the fake encounter of the three civilians in July 2020 have said they will challenge the order of the armed forces tribunal.

PM's Life-Size Cut-Out At Lal Chowk Becomes New Tourist Attraction

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: A life-size cut-out of Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Ghanta Ghar in Lal Chowk here has become an added attraction for tourists and locals alike as several people can be seen taking photos and selfies with it.

A tourist from Karnataka, Dinesh, said there has been significant development in Kashmir since his last visit to the valley several years ago and attributes it to PM Modi coming to power.

"This is my second time coming to Kashmir. I feel happy to see the cut-out of the prime minister. There is a lot of development also happening here, which was not in the earlier times. Now, I am seeing a lot of development in roads, tunnels, etc. It feels good seeing all this," he said.

Authorities have placed a cut-out of Prime Minister Modi next to a hoarding which depicts a young doctor attending

to an elderly man.

The theme of the campaign is Buzurgon Ka Samman' (respect the elders).

Kargil resident Mohammad Taqi said, "I came here to visit Srinagar and when I saw the cut-out of Prime Minister Modi, we clicked a picture with it because we felt very happy."

Chetan, a Bengaluru resident, said, "We came to Kashmir to see Lal Chowk and we were happy to see the cut-out of Modi Ji. The surroundings are also good. We liked it so much."

Modi supporters are enthusiastic about the cut-out, which serves as a medium for tourists to express their admiration for the prime minister.

"We visited all the places in Kashmir but this statue point is interesting. We are seeing it for the first time in Srinagar. We felt really good that the cut-out of the Prime Minister of India has been installed here," Neil Shah from Mumbai said.



Dismantling Walls Of Hatred Best Tribute To Nehru: J&K Cong

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Observing the birth anniversary of India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru, the Jammu and Kashmir unit of Congress on Tuesday said "dismantling walls of hatred, and strengthening love and communal harmony" will be the best tribute to him.

Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) also continued its attack on the BJP for failure to hold assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir. The BJP will face "bitter defeat" in the region just like they did in the Kargil council polls, said Raman Bhalla, working president, JKPC.

"Best tribute to Nehru ji is to work unitedly in dismantling walls of hatred, and strengthening love and community harmony. We feel proud as he belonged to Jammu and Kashmir. He came from a family of Kashmiri Pandit community," Bhalla told reporters here.

Bhalla and other senior lead-

ers, All India Congress Committee (AICC) members, former ministers, legislators and office bearers paid floral tributes to Nehru on the occasion of his 134th birth anniversary at its headquarters at Shaheedi Chowk here.

"Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru laid the foundation of secularism and communal harmony. The growth of India is because of various initiatives launched by Nehru in the agriculture sector, including the green revolution, setting up of IITs, AIIMS and IIMs besides big dams and road projects," he said.

Prime ministers who followed him made the country stronger by continuing development works on the foundation laid by Nehru, he said.

Hitting out at the BJP for its failure to hold assembly elections, Bhalla said, "BJP has a habit of patting their own back. We challenge the BJP to hold elections in J&K and taste the bitter defeat as seen by the party in Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Kargil."

MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

Lal Singh's ED Custody Extended By 5 Days

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: A court here on Tuesday extended the Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody of former Jammu and Kashmir minister Lal Singh in a money laundering case by five more days.

Singh, the chairman of the Dogra Swabhiman Sangathan Party (DSSP), was arrested from a house in the Chawdi area of Sainik Colony here on November 7 after a special court dismissed his anticipatory bail application.

He was under investigation by the ED in connection with a case against an educational trust run by his wife and for-

mer legislator Kanta Andotra. Special public prosecutor Ashwani Khajuria said Singh was produced before the special court on Tuesday through video conference on the expiry of his seven-day remand.

"The investigation of the case is at an initial stage... accused is involved in a serious and non-bailable offence, he is remanded from ED custody for a period of five days only from November 14 to 18," Khajuria said, quoting the court order. The court ordered the ED to produce the accused on November 18 through virtual mode only and also directed the investigating officer to expedite the investigation.

SCHOOL OF DESIGNS DEPARTMENT OF HANDICRAFTS & HANDLOOM, KASHMIR

No: DHHK/SOD/2023-24/1443 Date: 09-11-2023

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Sealed Dasti quotations are invited from interested registered and authorised dealers of LPG for supply and refilling of commercial LPG cylinders (19 kg) during winter 2023-2024. The dealers must indicate the percentage discount offered at the company-approved rate.

The supply is to be made to School of Designs, Kashmir Haat, Srinagar by a supplier with a proper weighing arrangement. The quotation should reach the office of the u/s until 12:00 noon on November 18th, 2023. A copy of the registration, authorization, and GST documents must be enclosed with the quotation.

Chief Designer
School of Designs,
Srinagar.
DIPK-12142-23
DT: 14/11/2023

OFFICE OF THE BLOCK MEDICAL OFFICER BLOCK SHEERI

TENDER NOTICE

Quotations are invited from registered contractors of District for the Repairs/Renovation/tile work of PHC Sheeri in wards and outer side complete job Quotations must reach this office within 05 days. No quotation will be accepted after the expiry of this date. The specification of the work is mentioned below

The Board already framed by undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any quotations without assigning any reason thereof.

S. No	Name of work	Area
1	Tiling of wards (02 No's)	(22 x12)x 6 = 405.96 sft
2	Dark room tiling	5'.6"x2'+(9'.2"x2')=30 sft
3	Floor tiling of BMO Office	12 x 24 =288 sft
4	Aluminum partition for ECG Room	8 x6 = 48sft
5	Concrete base for water tank	10 x 6)Height 2'=120sft

NO: Estt/BMOS/
Date/

DIPK-12171-23
DT: 14/11/2023

Block Medical Officer
Sheeri

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER GENERATION DIVISION POWER HOUSE GANDERBAL

Email- xeneganderbal@gmail.com | Tel - 01942-416234

No: GDG/T/210-16

Dated:11/11/2023

EXTENSION NOTICE-II

Due to poor response of the following e-Nit's for the below mentioned works, published by this office is hereby extended up to 21st November 2023.

S.No	e-NIT No & Date	Title	Bid Submission End Date	Opening Bid Date
1.	GDG/04 of 202324 dated 12/10/2023	SITC of DC Motor system for lubrication of various bearings of Unit I & II at power house Ganderbal.	21-11-2023	22-11-2023
4.	GDG/07 of 202324 dated 12/10/2023	SITC of 7.5hp Dewatering Motor Pump assembly at power house Ganderbal.		
5.	GDG/08 of 202324 dated 12/10/2023	SITC of 63 KVA, 11KV/.433KV Distribution Transformer with bimetallic terminal connectors and LV cable box at power house Ganderbal.		
6.	GDG/09 of 202324 dated 12/10/2023	SITC of 110v Battery Charger as well as Automatic regulators of static type compatible with VRLA batteries at 15 MW Power house Ganderbal .		

DIPK-NB-4195-23
DT: 14/11/2023

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Generation Division Ganderbal

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Wednesday | 15-11-2023

Five State Elections

The ongoing Assembly election campaign in five states - Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Telangana, and Mizoram are being seen as the semi-finals before the grand 2024 Lok Sabha polls. With a staggering 16 crore eligible voters set to cast their ballots, the stakes are undeniably high. The elections are poised to serve as a gauge of the prevailing voter sentiment, particularly in the crucial heartland states that play a crucial role in the fortunes of the BJP.

The political arena is abuzz with anticipation and speculation, with Congress leader Rahul Gandhi making bold assertions about his party's prospects. Gandhi confidently said that the Congress would "certainly win" in the assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. He also predicted probable victories in Telangana, foreseeing a closely contested battle in Rajasthan.

The electoral landscape in these states is complex and dynamic. The BJP, led by the prime minister Narendra Modi, continues to reign supreme at the national level for almost a decade now. Although the party remains a favourite, the growing concerns over inflation, unemployment, and the uneven economic recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic is creating some disaffection on the ground.

The emergence of a new alliance, INDIA, comprising 28 opposition parties, united in their aim to collectively challenge the BJP on a national level, have made things further difficult for the saffron party. The Congress party, leading the INDIA alliance, currently holds power in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. On the other hand, the BJP governs the central state of Madhya Pradesh, and its ally holds sway in the northeastern state of Mizoram. Telangana, in the south, is under the governance of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi, a formidable regional party.

Prime Minister Modi, recognizing the electoral value of these heartland states, has actively campaigned in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Chhattisgarh. The battle lines are drawn, and political leaders are leaving no stone unturned in their efforts to woo the voters. India awaits the verdict from these states, mindful of the broader implications for the upcoming national elections in 2024. The BJP faces formidable challenges, and the INDIA alliance seeks to capitalize on the prevailing discontent. The stage is set for a political spectacle that could reshape the trajectory of Indian politics, and the results on December 3 will undoubtedly reverberate across the nation. But it would be premature to play down the charisma and the overarching persona of the prime minister Narendra Modi. He remains the only pan-India leader whose support base cuts across the constituencies.

OTHER OPINION

Deadly imitation

Art often attempts to imitate reality. The endeavour is usually benign. But modern technology's projects of imitation are turning out to be far more sinister. The rising concern with deepfakes is a case in point. Deepfakes are images and videos of real people that are created by using a form of Artificial Intelligence called 'deep learning'. Two Indian actresses, Rashmika Mandanna and Katrina Kaif, were targeted by deepfake technology recently and their morphed, objectionable videos disseminated for consumption. Interestingly, the transgressions took place even as nations around the world met in Britain and signed a global pact against the risks posed by 'frontier AI' — highly capable, generative AI models that pose severe risks to public safety.

India, one of the signatories to the pact, has been a witness to deepfake's sinister powers for a while. Last year, a deepfake photograph was created to erroneously depict wrestlers protesting against the chief of the Wrestling Federation of India posing for a selfie inside a police van. In July this year, a man in Kerala was robbed of Rs 40,000 in a deepfake scam. It has taken the targeting of two celebrities for people to wake up to the threat. But the threat, data suggest, has been worsening. Researchers have observed a 230% increase in deepfake usage by cybercriminals and scammers and have predicted that the technology would replace phishing in a couple of years.

The State seems to have been jolted to action too. Earlier this week, the Indian government declared deepfakes to be a violation under the IT Rules 2021. Any company that does not take down content flagged as deepfake within 24-36 hours would be liable to prosecution under Indian laws. India's regulatory approach is being echoed around the world. The European Union has issued guidelines to set up an independent network of fact-checkers to help analyse the sources and the processes of deepfake content creation. China's guidelines direct service providers and users to ensure that any doctored content using deepfake technology is explicitly labelled and can be traced back to its source. The United States of America has also introduced the bipartisan Deepfake Task Force Act to counter the menace. Regulation is necessary to check the creation of spurious content and identity theft using deepfakes. But care should be taken to ensure that the beneficial potentials of AI technology remain unaffected by policy enthusiasm for regulation.

The most obvious challenge for regulatory technology would be to identify deepfakes. But there is a graver threat lurking around the corner. At a time when the refinement and the weaponisation of technology are increasingly making it difficult to differentiate the real from the artificial, the concept of deepfakes is also being invoked to make the real appear fake.

Telegraph India



Photo for representational purposes only

Private School Teachers Deserve Decent Salary

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

A casual labourer working in PHE or Power Department gets Rs 9000 per month and on the other hand a PHD or MSc with NET is paid mere Rs 8000 per month in a private school. This trend must end and those schools who are involved in these acts should be taken to task

Teachers are the heart of any educational process. A teacher makes the world a better place by guiding them through the way and helping them learn life skills. They are assets in every society. However, the way our society is treating teachers is very disappointing and should be a moment of introspection for one and all.

Recently, I read a piece titled, "Ugly Tale of being a Private School Teacher in Kashmir" which made me restless.

One can imagine the ordeal private school teachers are going through by the headline of the piece itself. I believe it is better to work as a coolie rather than a teacher in a private school who are paid meagre salaries even after being promising and qualifying.

Delhi High Court Order

Last year, the Delhi High Court dismissed an appeal filed against the judgement dated 14th December, 2021, wherein the writ petition filed by three teachers seeking payment of 7th Central Pay Commission has been allowed and held that teachers of unaided private schools are entitled to the same pay and emoluments as those of government schools, in terms of the obligation enjoined upon the private recognized schools under the Delhi Schools Education Act -DSE Act, 1973. The schools cannot evade their statutory responsibility and are bound to pay the statutory dues, said the order of the high court.

The Directorate of Education (DOE) Delhi Govt issued a notification on October 17, 2017, requesting that all private recognised schools adopt the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission. As private schools failed to comply with the orders a writ petition was filed by some aggrieved teachers. The High Court observed that respondents were entitled to arrears of their benefits/salaries beginning on January 1, 2016, and also required the school to give them in accordance with the 7th pay commission rules.

The Delhi High court held that the writ petition filed by the three teachers was maintainable as it involves a public law element, inasmuch as, the original writ petitioners were seeking the implementation of Section 10(1) of the Delhi School Education Act, 1973 (DSE Act, 1973) which reads as:

"The scales of pay and allowances, medical facilities, pen-

sion, gratuity, provident fund and other prescribed benefits of the employees of a recognised private school shall not be less than those of the employees of the corresponding status in schools run by the appropriate authority"

This Court further believes that, given the recurrent nature of the claim, the writ petition submitted by the original writ petitioners is not precluded by laches or delay.

Karnataka Educational Institutions Rules

In Karnataka there is a general rule that teachers of unaided private schools are to be paid and provided benefits at par with government school teachers. This is substantiated by Rule 3(1)(b) of Karnataka Educational Institutions (Certain terms and conditions of service of employees in Private unaided Primary and Secondary and Pre-University educational institutions) Rules, 2005. A circular issued by the Department of Public Instruction, Karnataka, based on the above rules has said that failure to adhere to this will result in penalty. However, no specification on the type or quantum of penalty has been provided.

On the basis of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, the Department of Public Instructions (DPI) of Karnataka, in April 2019 has stated that all private schools must pay a minimum monthly salary of Rs 25,800/- to primary school teachers, Rs 33,450/- to high school teachers, Rs 27,650/- and Rs 21,400/- to first and second division clerks respectively, and Rs 17,000/- for cleaning and maintenance employees.

Recognize services of Pvt School teachers

I am aware of the fact that Private Schools in Kashmir have gone through various odds and suffered losses over the years. However, things are moving in the right direction in the education sector for the last 2 years. I believe those private schools who have good earnings should pay decent salaries to their staff, especially the qualified, hard-working and brilliant teachers. The Govt must also recognize the services of private school teachers as they too should be given state awards every year. I had filed a detailed video report on this issue recently.

A casual labourer working in PHE or Power Department gets Rs 9000 per month and on the other hand a PHD or MSc with

NET is paid mere Rs 8000 per month in a private school. This trend must end and those schools who are involved in these acts should be taken to task. At the same time Govt must also not interfere much into the affairs of private schools. I have been told that some officials in the Zonal Education Offices, Chief Education Officers harass and humiliate private school managements and demand unnecessary NoCs which otherwise are not produced by their own Govt run schools.

Conclusion

Children are the future of nations. They always need proper mentorship to become good human beings. For this they need a guide and a mentor whom we call a teacher. The teacher is like an information bank who delivers information to our little stars. They keep inspiring the children. Apart from imparting education they also inculcate values and knowledge to children and make them aware about the day to day challenges and the ways and means to address them. When we celebrate children's day, we must not forget the role of our teachers as well, especially those working on meagre salaries in private schools. At the same time I also appeal to teachers working in private and Govt schools to do their job with utmost dedication as teachers truly are the backbone of society. They are role models to children, offer guidance and dedication and give young people the power of education. Few years back BJP MP Rahul Kaswan had introduced a private members bill in Lok Sabha which aimed at providing for payment of minimum wages to private school teachers by school management and for matters connected therewith. The bill could not be passed. The J&K Govt can at least come up with a law on the pattern of DSE Act 1973, but before doing so Govt must also support the private educational sector in J&K as well. There are very few aided Govt schools in J&K while there are thousands of such schools in Gujarat, MP, Karnataka, Rajasthan or Maharashtra.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow. He is Founder and Chairman of Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement

On World Diabetes Day Listening to Your Body

Dr Syed Riyaz Ahmad

As we join hands around the globe to celebrate World Diabetes Day-2023 with a theme of "Access to Diabetes Care", it's a moment to reflect on our health, particularly when it comes to the widespread multi dimensional challenges posed by diabetes and its sinister complications. As most of us are aware in the field of diabetology, we encounter two main types: type 1, characterized by absolute deficiency of insulin where the only option is to replace the insulin required by the body to handle the food we consume, and the more prevalent type 2, often linked to insulin resistance.

Type 2 diabetes, with its roots in lifestyle and nutrition, beckons us to consider the profound impact our choices make on our well-being. Imagine our bodies as intricate machines; just like any well-maintained device, they require the right fuel and adequate rest. The key to managing and even preventing type 2 diabetes lies in striking a delicate balance.

The Role of Balanced Nutrition

Our bodies are intricate ecosystems, finely tuned to respond to the nutrients we provide. Excessive intake, particularly of refined food grains, sugars and unhealthy fats, can lead to insulin resistance. Opting for a balanced nutritional approach, rich in whole foods, vegetables, and lean proteins, acts as a shield against the onset of diabetes. Let's choose foods that nourish



In our fast-paced lives, we often overlook the importance of allowing our digestive systems to rest. Prolonged fasting intervals and mindful eating not only assist in weight management but also play a pivotal role in reducing insulin resistance. It's time to listen to our bodies, providing them the rest they need to function optimally

rather than burden our systems.

The Power of Rest to Digestive System

In our fast-paced lives, we often

overlook the importance of allowing our digestive systems to rest. Prolonged fasting intervals and mindful eating not only assist in

weight management but also play a pivotal role in reducing insulin resistance. It's time to listen to our bodies, providing them the rest they need to

function optimally.

Pharmacological Intervention

While lifestyle modifications form the foundation of diabetes prevention, pharmacological intervention becomes crucial when numbers need immediate attention. Medications can help control blood sugar levels, preventing complications and improving overall quality of life. However, let's remember that these are tools to aid, not substitutes for an overall healthy lifestyle.

Primary Prevention

The age-old adage, "prevention is better than cure," resonates profoundly in the realm of type 2 diabetes. Educating ourselves and our communities about the importance of a balanced lifestyle, regular exercise, and mindful eating is the cornerstone of primary prevention. Together, we can create a future where diabetes is not just managed but prevented.

As we celebrate International Diabetes Day, let's embark on a journey of self-care and shared responsibility. Each choice we make today shapes the health of tomorrow. By embracing balance in our lives, we pave the way for a healthier, diabetes-free world.

Author an MBBS, PH Dip, MSc Diabetes and Obesity Medicine-UK is Consultant Diabetologist at Paramount Polyclinic Alamgari Bazar Srinagar

Best Leafy Greens and Why You Should Eat Them

Jo Adetunji

Leafy greens are a great way to improve your health as they possess many vital nutrients, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. As a nutritionist, I would highly recommend getting more of the following salad leaves in your diet.



Spinach

Spinach is easy to get all year round, and is chock full of iron, calcium, potassium and vitamins B6, C and K. It is also a good source of antioxidants, which can reduce the risk of many diseases, including heart disease and certain cancers.

It's best eaten uncooked, as part of a salad, as cooking tends to destroy the naturally occurring polyphenols and flavonols in the leaves. Certain polyphenols and flavonoids may reduce the chance of developing certain cancers, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and neurodegenerative diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease.

Kale

Kale has a unique taste that can vary somewhat depending on its variety and how it's prepared. If you can handle bitter taste, kale is packed with important micronutrients such as calcium, iron,

magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, zinc, copper, manganese and selenium. It is also a good source of vitamins, including vitamins A, B, E, C and K.

Avoid blanching and boiling kale as it can reduce the amount of water-soluble minerals, vitamins and phytochemicals in the leaves. Kale can be eaten uncooked in

salads. A cup of uncooked kale (21g) is just nine calories.



Swiss chard

My third choice is Swiss chard, which has a slightly sweet flavour, and has good amounts of vitamins A and C. And even a small amount of Swiss chard (around 175 grams) can fulfil your daily requirement of vitamin K – which is important for blood clotting and healthy bones.

Swiss chard, which comes in a variety of colours, also has essential minerals such as iron, copper, potassium and calcium.

Collard greens

Collard greens are a good source of lutein, which is important for eye health. They are full of vitamins A and C and minerals such as calcium, iron, zinc, copper and selenium, and are a good source of fibre. As with spinach, you can get this all year round.

Rocket

If you're in the mood for a leafy green with a fresh, tangy, slightly bitter and peppery taste, consider adding rocket to your plate. It's been consumed by humans since at least Roman times, and is a popular topping on pizzas.

Rocket, also known as arugula and eruca, is packed with nitrates – which studies have shown can boost performance in

sports. Rocket is also rich in vitamins K and C, and calcium and polyphenols.

Romaine lettuce

The crunchy and mild-tasting romaine lettuce is full of nutrient-rich goodies. It is a good source of vitamins and minerals, including vitamins A, K, C and folate (a B vitamin that is especially important during pregnancy). These nutrients are essential for maintaining overall health and supporting a healthy immune system.

Romaine, also known as cos lettuce, is a source of fibre too, which is known to reduce your risk of heart disease, stroke, type

agent in oral cancer.

Bok choy

If you're looking for a leafy green with a gentle flavour and satisfying texture, bok choy is a great choice. This variety of Chinese white cabbage can be used in stir-fries, soups, salads or simply sautéed as a side dish.

It is rich in fibre as well as various vitamins, minerals and antioxidants. This leafy green can help maintain bone health, immunity, vision, heart health, blood pressure and possibly prevent certain types of cancer.



2 diabetes and bowel cancer.

Watercress

If you enjoy a bit of spice and want to incorporate a leafy green with a distinct flavour into your meals, watercress is a great choice. It not only adds a burst of taste but also provides a rich source of vitamins A and C and antioxidants. Research suggests that watercress could be a therapeutic

I prefer to have a balanced diet and adding these leafy greens can help me stay healthy, improve my immunity, and reduce the risk of various chronic diseases. They are also low in calories, making them a good choice for those who want to manage their weight. So enjoy them in salads, smoothies, soups or as a side dish with your favourite meals.

By arrangements with The Conversation

Urban Land Pattern May Hold Key To Reduce Exposure To Weather Extremes, Study Finds

Press Trust Of India

How a city is laid out, called urban land pattern, may help in reducing population exposure to future weather extremes, scientists in the US have found.

The design of urban landscape how buildings are spread out, clustered or dispersed and how it fits into the surrounding environment, seems to matter more than simply the size of a city, the researchers from the universities from Delaware and Wyoming have found.

The researchers investigated how changes in urban land and population will affect future populations' exposures to weather extremes un-

der climate conditions at the end of the 21st century. "Regardless of the size of a city, well planned urban land patterns can reduce population exposures to weather extremes," said researcher Jing Gao, an assistant professor at the College of Earth, Ocean and Environment in Delaware.

"In other words, cities large and small can reduce their risks caused by weather extremes by better arranging their land developments," said Gao.

The researchers said that the findings encourage researchers and practitioners to reconsider how cities are designed and built, in order to be in harmony with their natural surroundings and more resilient to climate risks.



Their study is published in the journal Nature Communications. These findings differ from current common perceptions. For example, existing literature in this area has almost exclusively focused on limiting the amount of urban land development, Gao said.

For the study, the researchers looked at urban areas across the continental US, including cities large and small, with various development densities and in different climate regions.

Then, they predicted how the urban areas will grow by 2100 on the basis of development data of the past 40 years. The team analysed how these urban land changes might affect weather extremes, such as heat and cold waves, heavy rainfall and severe thunderstorms, and the number of people potentially exposed to these events at the end of the century under varied climate and urban development conditions.

"Carefully designed urban land patterns cannot completely erase

increased population exposures to weather extremes resulting from climate change, but it can generate a meaningful reduction of the increase in risks," said Gao.

And the cost to start is small, Gao said. No extravagant measure, such as leveling and rebuilding a large area at once, is required. "Instead, when building new and renovating existing parts of a city, we should adjust our mindset to consider how the new development and renovation will change the way the city as a whole sits in its natural surroundings, and how the city and its surrounds can be an integrated human-environment system at large scales over the long run," Gao said. "The key is to start adjusting how we think about development now."

Low-Fat Diet May Help Reduce Fatigue In People With Multiple Sclerosis



ANS

People with multiple sclerosis (MS) could benefit from a low-fat diet to improve the fatigue that's a debilitating, and often underappreciated, symptom of the condition, according to a small study, led by an Indian-origin researcher.

A low-fat diet is one that restricts fat, and often saturated fat and cholesterol as well.

MS is a potentially disabling disease of the brain and spinal cord (central nervous system). Fatigue that occurs with the degenerative disease can make it harder for people to go about with everyday tasks.

"Fatigue is very disabling for MS patients," said principal investigator and senior author Vijayshree Yadav, Professor of neurology at the Oregon Health & Science University, in the US.

"There is no FDA-approved drug for fatigue, but we know that fatigue greatly affects their quality of life," she added.

In the study, published in the Multiple Sclerosis Journal, the researchers conducted a randomised controlled trial in which 39 people with MS who experienced fatigue were divided into two groups: 19 people were placed in

the control group and received diet training at the completion of the study after 16 weeks.

The other 20 received nutrition counselling from dietitians and then adhered to a low-fat diet, which was confirmed through routine blood sampling revealing clear signals of reduced caloric intake.

"You cannot really fudge the biomarkers," Yadav said.

In contrast to a 2016 study that tested a purely plant-based diet, the new study was modified to include meat while still remaining low-fat. Exercise was not part of the programme, meaning the study solely focused on diet as an intervention.

Compared with the control group, the active group of participants revealed significant improvement in fatigue, which was gauged through the Modified Fatigue Impact Scale.

Every four weeks, participants answered standardised questions measuring aspects such as their ability to pay attention, concentrate and to carry out routine physical activities.

"The results reinforced what we had seen before," Yadav said. "A low-fat diet can truly make a difference in a patient's fatigue level, even without going so far as to make it a vegan diet."

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

Office Of The Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Bandipora.

Sub:- Auction of Adda Entry/Terminal tax of Municipal Council Bandipora for a period of (16 Months & 05 Days) w.e.f 25-11-2023 to 31-03-2025.

E-AUCTION NOTICE
E-NIT No.MC/Bpr/2023-24/2905
Dated:- 13-11-2023

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory-tenders (in single cover system) are invited from the interested persons /parties /firms/companies for the auction of adda entry/Terminal Tax of Municipal Council Bandipora for a period of 16 Months & 05 Days (w.e.f 25-11-2023 to 31-03-2025). The Minimum reserve bid is fixed as Rs. 45,000,00/= (Rupees Forty-Five lacs only). The Tax schedule of the vehicles is enclosed and the successful highest bidder is bound to recover Entry fee/Terminal Tax as per the same schedule.

Terms and conditions:

- The aspiring/Interested bidder must be bonafide person/party with sound financial back ground holding PAN and Income Tax returns and should submit bids in two covers. The first cover should contain the following documents as qualifying criteria.
 - Income Tax returns of the last two years.
 - Copy of PAN card.
 - Latest GST clearance certificate.
 - An affidavit duly registered before the court certifying that there is nothing outstanding an account of the Adda Entry Fee/Terminal Tax of any Municipal Body of Urban Local Bodies, Kashmir.
 - The second cover should contain financial bid dully offered in a neat and clean manner recorded in both words and figures.
 - While opening the bids the Auction committee will in the first step open the cover of qualifying criteria cover is found up to level then the financial bid will be opened.
- The contract for collection of adda Entry Fee/Terminal Tax shall be for the (16 Months & 05 Days only) commencing from the date of handing over of possession of Tool posts.
- The minimum reserve bid of above auction period has been fixed Rs. 45,000,00/= (Rupees Forty-Five lacs only).
- The intending bidder shall be bound to accompany call Deposit receipt (CDR) for an amount of **Rs. 90,000/- (Rupees Ninety Thousand only)** from any Nationalized/scheduled Bank pledged to Chief Executive Officer Municipal Council Bandipora without which no bid document can be issued.
- After finalization of Auction proceedings, the highest bidder shall have to deposit 5% of the total bid as bid acceptance Token on spot and 95% of the balance bid amount shall have to be deposited by the successful bidder in two instalments.

However, the contractor has to deposit post-dated cheque for the 30% of the time of taking over possession from his own bank account which will be confirmed from the Bank before its acceptance and later the cheque will be returned back after receiving of Bank guarantee within one month of the said amount. The post-dated cheque from any other person cannot be accepted.

- In case the successful bidder fails to deposit the token amount of (5%), the CDR of the earnest money deposited by the aspirant shall be forfeited.
- The persons/parties against whom an outstanding amount exists on the records of the department on account of contracts of Adda Entry Fee/Terminal tax cannot participate in the bid. If any such person who participated in the bid and later on the outstanding surfaced before the Department/Municipality, his contract shall be seized along with all deposits.
- The interested bidder shall have to present earnest money in the shape of call Deposit receipt.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to execute an agreement duly registered in the court of Law with the undersigned after receipt of the allotment and before taking over the possession of the collection posts for the contract.
- The successful bidder shall be bound to collect Entry Fee from the check posts of this Municipality Viz 01.Papachan 02. Watapora 03.Mader 04.Range Khan & 05. Onagam Road strictly as per previous rates which are re-casted in the last Para:- In the event of violation, noticed or reported the same shall invite legal course of action against contractor, including cancellation of the contract.
- The bids offered by the bidders shall be inclusive of all applicable taxes.
- The successful bidder shall have to provide /arrange manpower, furniture, toilet, stationery, electricity charges and drinking water and toolbars and also beautify the tool post at his own level and at his own expenses without claiming any compensation thereof from this institution.
- The contractor while offering the bids shall be responsible to visualize all conditions/circumstances like Hartals, un-favourable circumstances, unrest, pandemic etc. well in advance. Later on, no claim for relaxation /relief in the contract shall be entertained at any stage.
- After expiry of the contract period the successful bidder shall handover the possession of entry fee collection posts to the Municipality in its original position without any damage.
- The authorized contractor is bound to engage well versed persons who are not involved in any kind of criminal activities for collection of entry fees/Terminal tax at the entry posts and the realization of the entry fees/Terminal tax shall be collected in a public friendly manner without causing inconvenience to the public.
- The contractor is bound not to charge any entry fee from the VIP's /Govt. vehicles/Vehicles of Security forces.
- In case of any dispute arising between the parties with respect of any of the conditions as laid down here in above or any ambiguity, the same

- The successful bidder shall be bound not to sublet contract to any other person/parties/firm.
- The contractor is bound to collect revenue with friendly attitude. In case of any confrontation by the driver the contractor shall not take law in his hands. However, he will report to the Municipality for taking cognizance. In the event of violation, noticed or reported the same shall invite legal course of action against contractor, including cancellation of the contract.
- The document fee of Rs. 2000/- (Non-Refundable online payment mode) is compulsory for the bidders who are interested for bidding of the above noted NIT/Auction notice.
- Document fee should be pledged in favour of Executive Officer MC Bandipora pay online Bank Account number: - 0041040500015480 IFSC Code JAKA0WULLAR, J&K Bank Ltd. Main Branch Bandipora.

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen, downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in, as per the schedule of dates given below.

S.No.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	14-11-2023
02	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 15-11-2023
03	Bid submission Start Date	16-11-2023 from 10:00 AM
04	Bid submission End Date	22-11-2023 upto 1:00 PM
05	Date & Time of opening of Bids(Online)	22-11-2023 at 03:00 PM in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Bandipora.
06	Submission of CDR	The bidder shall be bound to accompany his bids offered with call Deposit receipt (CDR) of Rs. 90,000/- (Rupees Ninety Thousand only) from any Nationalized Bank, pledged to the Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Council Bandipora (without which offers shall be liable for rejection) The original CDR be submitted before the office on 22-11-2023 upto 12:00 Noon.
07	Mode of Payment	a) 5% of the total bid as bid acceptance Token on spot. b) 65% before taking over the possession c) 30% within 3 months after taking over possession.

Instructions to the Bidders regarding E-Tendering process:

- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid.
Note: Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document of Rs. 500/- in shape of Bank Receipt/Challan in favour of Executive office Municipal council Bandipora and bid securing declaration must be uploaded with the bid.
- The bidder must have to upload (soft copies) of the following documents (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with ink signed and seal):-
i) Valid original bank challan /Receipt
j) Call Deposit receipt (CDR)
k) Bid securing declaration on stamp paper duly attested by Notary.
l) Valid GSTIN/PAN card No.
m) The bidder should upload the tender Document form attached below (Not Mandatory).
n) Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents.
o) Bid securing declaration and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No documents which has/have not been copies with technical bid. No documents which has/have not been copies in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
p) The Highest Bidders will have to submit hard copies of all documents uploaded on e-tendering portal before issuance of allotment.

S.No.	Type of vehicle	Schedule Rate
01	Matador 407 LP Mazda	Rs. 20/- per day
02	Service Bus	Rs. 20/- per Day
03	Government Bus	Rs. 20/- per Day
04	Load Carter Auto	Rs. 20/- per Day
05	Sumo/Tavera	Rs. 20/- per Day
06	Empty Truck	Rs. 20/- per Day
07	Empty Tipper, Tractor	Rs. 20/- per Day
08	JCB	Rs. 30/- per Day
09	Loaded Track/709	Rs. 50/- per Day
10	Loaded Tipper	Rs. 50/- per Day
11	Loaded Tanker	Rs. 50/- per Day
12	Loaded Platform	Rs. 50/- per Day
13	Tourist Bus	Rs. 30/- per Day
14	Full Booking all commercial vehicles	Rs. 30/- per Day
15	School Bus vans (private)	Rs. 400/- Per Month
16	Truck Trolley	Rs. 50/- Per Trip
17	TATA Mobile	Rs. 30/- per trip

S.No.	Type of vehicle	Rate
01.	Loaded trucks/Tipper with sand, Bajree, bolder stone, Quarry stone/Solling Melting /HCC Muck etc. from Nalla Atri	Rs. 50/- per Trip
02.	Loaded tractor/Oneton with sand , Bajree, Bolder stone , Quarry stone/Solling Melting /HCC Muck etc.	Rs. 30/- Per Trip
03.	Loaded trucks with willow /popular mocha's etc.	Rs. 50/-per Trip
04.	Loaded tractor/Trolley with willow/ popular mocha's etc.	Rs. 40/- Per Trip

Further details can be had from the office of undersigned on any working day during office hours.

No: MC/B/G/2023-24/2897-2904
DIPK-NB-4214/23 DATED: 14-11-2023
Chief Executive Officer
Municipal Council Bandipora.

Office Of The Executive Engineer Generation Division Power House Ganderbal

Email- xeneganderbal@gmail.com Tel - 01942-416234

No: GDG/T/203-09
Dated: 11/11/2023
Extension Notice-III

Due to poor response of the following e-Nit's for the below mentioned works, published by this office is hereby extended up to 21st November 2023.

S.No	e-NIT No & Date	Title	Bid Submission End Date	Opening Bid Date
1.	GDG/01 of 2023-24 Dated: 26-09-2023	Providing and fabrication of Exciter grease coupling and Collar for unit 4 At 15 MW Power house Ganderbal .	21-11-2023	22-11-2023
2.	GDG/02 of 2023-24 Dated: 26-09-2023	Repair of Trash Rack Gate at RD 40000 of power house Ganderbal		
3.	GDG/03 of 2023-24 Dated: 26-09-2023	Refilling of Fire Extinguishers CO2 type at Power House Ganderbal.		

DIPK-NB-4194/23
DATED: 14-11-2023

Sd/
Executive Engineer
Generation Division Ganderbal

PRS Oberoi, Who Redefined Indian Hospitality Through His Hotels, Dies At 94

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Prithvi Raj Singh Oberoi, the 94-year-old veteran corporate hotelier who redefined India's hospitality industry, passed away on Tuesday.

The Chairman Emeritus of The Oberoi Group, popularly known as 'Biki', built a sprawling chain comprising 32 hotels during his lifetime. EIH owns the eponymous Oberoi and Trident hotel chains.

Son of late Rai Bahadur MS Oberoi, the founder of The Oberoi Group, PRS Oberoi had also been instrumental in developing the Trident chain of hotels. His father, the man who started it all in 1934, passed away in 2002 and Tilak Raj, his older son, reportedly died prematurely in 1984.

Since then, PRS Oberoi steered the hospitality chain through its ups and downs. A hotel magnate who embodied fine living, his death brings to an end two generations of the family that built the Oberoi empire into an Indian hospitality powerhouse.

"It is with deep sadness that we inform the peaceful passing of PRS Oberoi, Chairman Emeritus of The Oberoi Group, earlier today. A luminary in the hospitality industry, Oberoi's legacy transcends borders, leaving an indelible mark on the global landscape," a statement said.

PRS Oberoi was born in New Delhi on February 3, 1929. He served as chairman of the company since 1988 until he stepped down in May last year due to ill health.



"PRS Oberoi has decided to relinquish his position as chairman and director of the EIH Associated Hotels Ltd effective May 2, 2022 due to his deteriorating health," a press release had said that time.

Under his leadership, the company expanded from its first hotel, 'The Trident Chennai', that opened in 1988, to become one of India's most reputable hotel companies.

He is reportedly survived by three children, son Vikramjit Singh Oberoi - Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of EIH Hotels, and daughters Natasha and Anastasia.

In 2014, it was reported that PRS Oberoi decided not to choose his successor to run EIH Ltd, after years of intense speculation over who he would choose as successor, son Vikramjit or nephew Arjun, who currently serves as Executive Chairman of EIH Ltd. Arjun is the son of PRS Oberoi's late elder brother, Tilak Raj.

A recipient of India's second highest civilian honour -- Padma Vibhushan -- in 2008, PRS Oberoi was also awarded the 'Corporate Hotelier of the World' by HOTELS magazine in 2010.

Sebi Resolves Over 3,500 Complaints Against Companies via SCORES In Oct

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Sebi has disposed of 3,533 complaints against companies and market intermediaries through its online grievance redressal system SCORES in October, according to the data released by the capital markets regulator.

As many as 16 complaints were pending for more than three months on SCORES as of October-end, involving 12 entities such as SBI Mutual Fund, UTI Mutual Fund, JSW Steel Ltd, Waree Renewable Technologies Ltd, Sundaram Mutual Fund and Tirupati Fincorp Ltd.

At the beginning of October, there were 5,259 complaints pending and 3,369 fresh complaints were received, as per the data released by market watchdog Sebi on Monday.

The regulator said it had 5,083 pending actionable complaints as of October-end, excluding 12 complaints that were under regulatory actions or legal proceedings.

Further, Sebi noted that it had received 159 reviews of complaints. A complainant can request a review within 15 days after the disposal of their complaint. These complaints, which



were disposed of during the October 16-31 period, can also be reviewed during the next month for further action.

As of October, 16 complaints were pending for more than three months. These complaints were related to mutual funds, investment advisers, venture capital funds, buy-back of securities, refund/ allotment/ Transfer/ Rights/ Redemption/ Interest and takeover/ restructuring.

The average resolution time for a complaint was 36 days, as per the data.

In a separate public notice, the markets regulator mentioned about 12 entities against whom complaints have been pending for more than three months on SCORES as of October 2023.

Wholesale Inflation At (-) 0.52% In Oct; In Negative Territory For 7th Month

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Wholesale price inflation remained in the negative territory for the seventh month in a row in October at (-) 0.52 per cent on easing prices of food items.

Experts said some near-term upside risks to the WPI inflation could emanate from volatile vegetable prices, uptrend in domestic prices of most food items as well as an unfavourable base.

The wholesale price index (WPI)-based inflation rate has been in the negative zone since April and was at (-) 0.26 per cent in September, 2023. In October last year, WPI was at 8.67 per cent.

"The negative rate of inflation in October, 2023, is primarily due to fall in prices of chemicals and chemical products, electricity, textiles, basic metals, food products, paper and paper products, etc. as compared to the corresponding month of previous year," the commerce and industry ministry said on Tuesday.

A negative WPI inflation, technically termed as deflation, means that overall wholesale prices have been falling year-on-year.

As per the data, inflation in food articles eased to 2.53 per cent in October. It was 3.35 per cent in the previous month.

While inflation in vegetables and potatoes cooled to (-) 21.04 per cent and (-) 29.27 per cent respectively, the annual rate of price rise in onion continued to rule high



at 62.60 per cent in October. Pulses and paddy continued to witness high inflation of 19.43 per cent and 9.39 per cent respectively.

ICRA Ltd Chief Economist, Head (Research & Outreach) Aditi Nayar said the WPI deflation widened slightly to 0.5 per cent in October 2023, from 0.3 per cent in September 2023, in year-on-year (YoY) terms. This was led by a sharp turnaround in crude petroleum and natural gas print to a deflation, and a softening in the inflation for primary food articles, mainly vegetables.

The fuel and power basket inflation was at (-) 2.47 per cent in October, against (-) 3.35 per cent in September.

In manufactured products, the inflation rate was at (-) 1.13 per cent, as against (-) 1.34 per cent in September.

Barclays MD & Head of EM Asia Economics, Rahul Bajoria said overall, inflation continues to stay broadly in check, with a stable rupee, manageable energy costs, and a countercyclical tax policy on fuel

prices helping keep inflation in a stable range.

"Strong economic growth, coupled with resilient demand, should keep some pressure on inflation, but we see scope for headline inflation, both CPI and WPI, to remain manageable, with some near-term upside risks emanating from volatile vegetable prices," he said.

ICRA estimates the WPI inflation prints to remain below 3 per cent in the remaining months of FY2024, amid expectations that commodity prices will remain at benign levels unless global demand outlook strengthens significantly.

"Looking ahead, while global commodity prices, including crude oil continued to soften in the ongoing month, the uptrend in domestic prices of most food items as well as an unfavourable base is projected to lead to a turnaround in the WPI to a marginal 0.1 per cent inflation in November 2023 (6.1 per cent in November 2022), after a gap of seven months," Nayar said.

Onion Prices Still High; All-India Average Rate At Rs 59.09 Per Kg In Retail Market

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: All-India average retail onion price on Monday is ruling high at Rs 59.09 per kg, according to the government data.

To control the price rise, the central government, late last month, imposed a minimum export price of \$800 per tonne to check exports and boost domestic supply. Retail prices had shot up to around Rs 80 per kg due to tight supply.

As per the data from the consumer affairs ministry, the all-India average price of onion on Monday is ruling at Rs 59.09 per kg. The highest price was recorded at Rs 90 per kg, and the lowest at Rs 20 per kg. The all-India modal price is Rs 60 per kg. In Delhi, onion prices have fallen to Rs 60 per kg.

Onion prices in the national capital started inching up from October 25, when the rates were at Rs 40 per kg. Rates doubled to Rs 80 per kg on October 29.

Onion is grown in three seasons--kharif, late kharif and rabi. It is only rabi onion which is stored, as the variety



grown in this season has a longer shelf life.

On October 28, the government imposed a minimum export price (MEP) of \$800 per tonne on onion exports till December 31 this year to increase the availability of the vegetable in the domestic market and contain prices.

The decision came into effect on October 29. The \$800 per tonne MEP translates into about Rs 67 per kg.

Besides, the government has also announced the procurement of an additional 2 lakh tonnes of onion for the buffer, over and above the 5 lakh tonnes already procured.

The MEP is there for all varieties of onion except Bangalore Rose and Krishnapuram

onions and cut, sliced, or broken in powder forms.

The government said that the step will help maintain sufficient availability of onion to domestic consumers at affordable prices as the quantity of stored Rabi 2023 onion is declining.

The country has exported about 15 lakh tonnes of onion till October 20 of this fiscal. The total onion exports stood at 25 lakh tonnes in the 2022-23, as per the official data.

The all-India average price of potatoes on Monday stands at Rs 25.24 per kg, while the average rate of tomatoes is Rs 38.18 per kg. In Delhi, prices of potatoes and tomatoes are higher at Rs 30 per kg and Rs 47 per kg, respectively.



Swift Claims Settlement Relieves Families Of J&K Bank Customers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In a major relief to the bereaved families, J&K Bank facilitated the swift settlement of insurance claims of seven deceased borrowers who had their accounts in different branches of the Bank. The claims worth Rs 1.95 Crores under MetLoan & Life Suraksha (MLLS) were paid to the legal heirs of deceased customers belonging to Baramulla zone during last few months.

The Bank's Zonal Head (Baramulla) Imtiyaz Ahmad Bhat handed over the cheques to the nominees/legal heirs of the deceased customers in presence of Cluster Head (Baramulla) Sheikh Mohammad Muzaffer, Cluster Head (Kupwara) Shadab Mehboob, Zonal Head (Credit Life - PNB MetLife) Irfan Ali Zargar and other officials of the Bank and PNB MetLife including Regional Manager - Showkat Ahmad Lone.

Expressing gratitude to the Bank and its Insurance partner PNB MetLife, claimants described settlement of their

claims as a big relief for the families during the toughest time of their lives.

While handing over the cheques, both the Bank officials and representatives of insurance company highlighted the significance of the timely insurance of loans. "With a single-premium option alongside the bank funding available for the customers, borrowers can safeguard their families against such unforeseen eventualities", said Zonal Head (Baramulla) as he urged the customers to opt for getting their loans insured under different schemes available to them.

Referring to the descriptions voiced by the family members of the deceased clients, Zonal Head (Credit Life - PNB MetLife) Irfan Ali Zargar reminded the customers of the goodwill J&K Bank has for its customers. "Being their well-wisher, J&K Bank always advises its clients to get their loans insured so that their loved ones are taken care of, in case, unpredictable eventualities put difficult financial burden upon them", he said.

Next Round Of India, UK Talks For Free Trade Agreement Expected Soon

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chief negotiators of India and the U.K. are expected to soon hold next round of talks for the proposed free trade agreement to iron out differences on issues such as automobiles, medical devices, and movement of professionals, an official said.

The official said that the U.K. team may come to New Delhi for the 14th round of negotiations so that the talks can be concluded at the earliest.

"Virtual sessions are progressing. But we are planning for a full fledged round of talks. In the full round, both sides discuss all the chapters. Some 60-70 sessions happen parallelly," the official, who did not wish to be named, said.

Issues which need resolution include rules of origin; intellectual property rights (IPRs); social security agreement; duty concessions on electric vehicles, Scotch whiskey, lamb meat, chocolates and certain confectionary items; liberalisation of norms in services sectors like banking and insurance.

Talks are also progressing on the proposed bilateral investment treaty (BIT).

The investment treaty is be-



ing negotiated as a separate agreement between India and the U.K.

These investment treaties help in promoting and protecting investments in each other's country. The main point of contention involved in this pact is about the mechanism for the settlement of disputes.

BITs help in promoting and protecting investments in each other's countries.

India has proposed to first utilise all local judicial remedies for settlement of disputes before initiating an international arbitration.

India and the U.K. launched the talks for free-trade agreement (FTA) in January 2022, with an aim to conclude talks by Deepavali (October 24, 2022), but the deadline was missed due to political developments in the U.K.

There are 26 chapters in the agreement, which include goods, services, investments and intellectual property rights.

Special Handloom Exhibition Cum Mela Inaugurated At Pahalgam

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: A Special Handloom Exhibition cum Sale was inaugurated at Pahalgam Tuesday by Mehmod Ahmad Shah. Director Handicrafts and Handlooms Kashmir.

The exhibition is being held from 14th to 24th of November under the theme of 'My Handloom My Pride' and has been organised by Govt Central Market Kashmir Haat in collaboration with Directorate of Handicrafts and Handlooms (H&H) Kashmir.

Shah expressed that the Exhibition will give artisans a suitable marketing platform to sell their beautiful products directly to the buyers and will give the tourists visiting Pahalgam an opportunity to get a glimpse of the rich art and craft of Kashmir. He also inspected various stalls installed by the local artisans to showcase the Handicrafts and Handloom.

The exhibitors from various spheres have set up stalls at the expo and various handloom items ranging from pashmina, raffal, kani shawls, crewel, jamawar, etc were on display at the stalls.

Tourists, both domestic and in-

ternational thronged the expo and expressed happiness witnessing the various crafts on display. Talking to the media, the tourists said that they were happy to witness the crafts and to learn of the hard labour that goes into producing these exquisite products. They appreciated the quality of the products and commended the artists for their skill. They also congratulated the organizers for providing the artisans with such an outlet to display their craft and boost sales.

The Director, H&H Kashmir said that the Government has taken various initiatives for promoting local handlooms and provided similar platforms at various places to artisans for displaying their crafts. He said schemes like Karkhandar, 10 percent incentive on exports, etc are aimed at generating more interest and boosting sales of Kashmiri handlooms not only in other parts of the country but also globally.

The Exhibition was attended by Assistant Director Tourism Bilal Ahmad, Assistant Director Anantnag Mohd Yasin Bhat, Assistant Registrar Induscos, Anantnag Fayaz Ahmad Khaki, ARI Kulgam and Anantnag.

RINL Hopes Asset Monetisation May Garner Rs 3000-4000cr

Press Trust Of India

KOLKATA: Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL), a steel CPSE, on Tuesday said if it can garner Rs 3000-4000 crore from the monetisation of its forged wheel plant and land parcel, and the ongoing efficiency measures, it will be able to increase production and turnaround on losses.

As RINL is a divestment candidate, the monetisation process is handled by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM).

"If we are able to fetch Rs 3000-4000 crore from the monetisation of the railway wheel plant and the land parcel at Vizag, it will help us turn around with a reduction in debt and working capital," RINL (Vizag Steel Plant) CMD Atul Bhatt said on the sidelines of the Steel & Metallurgy Steel Conclave and Award Ceremony.

RINL had invested Rs 2000 crore in the wheel plant. The forged wheel plant, a unit of RINL at Rae Bareilly in UP, has a capacity of one lakh forged train wheels per year with a provision to expand the capacity up to two lakh wheels per year and supplies to the Indian

Railways.

"If the monetisation happens by this fiscal, it will help RINL to come back to cash profit by ramping up production with ongoing operational efficiency projects," Bhatt said.

In 2022-23, RINL had posted a loss of around Rs 3000 crore. It has an installed capacity of 7.3 million tonne and current production is at about 5.5 million tonne.

Bhatt attributed this loss to a glut in the steel market due to the global recession, export tax on steel, and a lack of captive raw material security. "We have a cost disadvantage of Rs 6000 per tonne due to buying iron ore from the open market and an unsustainable debt of around Rs 23000 crore.

The monetisation plan will help reduce debt and improve the working capital situation," he added.

Bhatt in his turnaround strategy also said that they have increased oxygen capacity and switched the import of coking coal from Russia to Australia.

He said these measures are yielding positive results. Bhatt declined to speak about the progress of the government's divestment plan.

Tata Steel Announces Hundreds Of Job Cuts To Ensure Profitability

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Tata Steel, which is seeking a financial aid for its Dutch operations, has said it will cut 800 jobs in the Netherlands to ensure structural competitiveness and profitability.

In October 2021, Tata Steel completed the process of separating Tata Steel UK and Tata Steel Netherlands as two independent companies from Tata Steel Europe.

In the Netherlands, the company has a 7 Million Tonne Per Annum (MTPA) plant in IJmuiden.

The company's goal is to produce CO2-neutral steel by 2050 in Europe. The steel market has been in dire straits for some time. In order to ensure structural competitiveness and profitability, both now and in the future, Tata Steel Nederland is implementing significant measures, including the reduction of 800 jobs in IJmuiden," Tata Steel said in a statement.

Tata Steel will improve its market position and reduce costs... and the company also needs to further reduce personnel costs, the statement said.

The decision to reduce the number of jobs is a difficult one, with poten-

tially significant personal impacts on employees and their families, the company said.

The job reduction is expected to affect about 500 Tata Steel employees, primarily in management, staff, and support positions.

There is emphatically no intervention in the five-shift system. Forced redundancies cannot be ruled out, and the company will discuss a social plan with the unions.

The remaining 300 jobs that will be eliminated concern the work of temporary workers and not filling vacancies not directly related to the production.

"The measures being taken are also in the interest of transforming into a cleaner, greener, and more circular steel company. Substantial investments are being made now and in the coming years."

"It is, therefore, crucial to maintain a strong competitive position and to be agile enough to respond to rapidly changing circumstances and new developments," Tata Steel said.

The company further said it would go for fresh hirings as there is no freeze on induction of new skilled talent.

B2V-5 Concludes In All 98 Panchayats At Shopian

VOs Exhort 100% Penetration Of Online Services Among Rural Population To Expedite Public Services Delivery

Observer News Service

Shopian: The phase fifth of government's 'Back to Village' (B2V5) programme concluded today in 98 panchayats of 09 blocks in district Shopian.

The outreach programme in Shopian district, under the unique initiative of the UT Government was supervised and managed by the District Administration Shopian, under the leadership of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Faz Lul Haseeb.

During the programme, the Visiting Officers (VOs) visited their respective panchayats, stayed there for a specific period to interact and obtain feedback from the grassroots to deliver the mission of equitable development in rural areas.

During the last leg of the outreach programme, VOs including Administrator, Associated Hospitals, GMC Srinagar, Hashmat Ali Yatoo; Director, Accounts and Treasuries, Abdul Hamid Kumar; Member, Special Tribunal, Ashiq Hussain Lily; Director, Land Management, Srinagar Dev. Authority, Zahoor Ahmed Magray; Additional



Secretary to Government, Social Welfare Department, Khursheed Ahmed Sanai participated in the B2V-5 programmes and reiterated the commitment of the administration to empower the people of the district and engage them actively in policy making for their own development.

The VOs accompanied by field functionaries of the line

departments listened to the public, participated in the Gram Sabhas and prepared the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GDP) as per their requirements.

The Prabhari Officers also ensured the awareness and saturation of all the government schemes.

The VOs exhorted upon the

100% penetration of online services in the rural population to expedite the public services delivery in a transparent manner and inspected various government institutions viz schools, Anganwadi Centres, Ration Depots, Panchayat Ghars etc.

They visited the sites of on-going and completed works

under MGNREGA, PMAY, SBM and other schemes. They also inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of some of the important public assets.

VOs inspected Amrit Sarovars, interacted with the public especially youth and created awareness on self-employment schemes. Feedback on welfare schemes, service delivery was also reviewed by them.

The resource persons of various departments also educated the public about scores of welfare schemes and programmes being implemented in the district and motivated them to avail benefits of the same.

The VOs will submit their reports based on aspirations and feedback of the people, on a designated portal and have also submitted a hard copy of the same in the district level cell created for the compilation of the reports for future planning.

Huge public participation across the district reflected the high expectations of the people on the government, which is bringing a positive change for progress, development, and prosperity of the district.

Grand Event Held To Commemorate Children's Day At Pulwama

Observer News Service

Pulwama: On the occasion of Children's Day, a joyous celebration unfolded across District Pulwama, culminating in a grand event held at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School Pulwama.

The main function presided over by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Dr. Basharat Qayoom marked a momentous day for the community. The highlight of the event was the inauguration of the Auditorium cum Meeting hall at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School Pulwama. This state-of-the-art facility promises to be a hub for cultural and educational activities, fostering growth and creativity among students.

Cultural events performed by students showcased the rich diversity of talents among students, reflecting both their artistic skills as well as their dedication and passion. The enthusiastic participation of students in these events underscored the importance of fostering cultural appreciation



and expression in educational settings.

Addressing the students, the DC emphasized the importance of leveraging information technology and instilling self-confidence. He urged students to seize every available opportunity, reminding them that they are potential ambassadors for the entire district.

In his speech, Dr. Basharat advocated for healthy competition among schools, believing it to be a catalyst for improvement. He encouraged students to transcend the confines of the curriculum, urging them to explore and apply their knowledge in diverse fields.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

ULB Polls After

He shared the efforts of the government, under the guidance of the Prime Minister, to empower the grassroots democratic setup in Jammu Kashmir.

"Despite delayed implementation of 73rd and 74th amendments in J&K, the UT Administration has ensured basic principles of decentralization of decision making and development by transferring more departments and works to elected representatives after August 2019," the LG said.

He termed the Municipal Corporation as a symbol of the aspirations of the citizens in the 21st century.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Urban Local Bodies of J&K are provided with greater financial resources for strong and accountable self-government and to ensure holistic ecosystem for last-mile access to services," he added.

The LG called upon the common public and elected representatives to work in synergy and focus on resource generation.

"Urban governance inculcates the spirit of cooperation among the citizens with the ultimate aim of bringing transformation in the urban development paradigm to fulfill the aspirations of the people. Efforts have been made to improve urban planning, strengthen green infrastructure and enhance the ease of living," he added.

According to officials, the housing and urban development department is actively pursuing a communication from the office of the chief electoral officer (CEO), which, among other things, suggested transfer of mandate to conduct the municipal electoral processes to the State Election Commission (SEC) in accordance with constitutional provisions.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the chief electoral officer (CEO) is the authority to hold ULB elections in addition to Lok Sabha and assembly polls, while the SEC -- headed by a state election commissioner -- is mandated to conduct elections to Panchayati Raj institutions.

In a letter to the housing and urban development department last month, the CEO's office said consequent to the appointment of a full-time state election commissioner, the mandate to conduct the municipal electoral processes needs to be transferred from the CEO to the SEC.

"For this, the election authority under the municipal acts needs to be changed from chief electoral officer to the state election commissioner. The constitutional provisions also mandate this," the letter read.

The last ULB and panchayat elections were held between October and December 2018 after a long delay. (With PTI inputs)

Inaugurates 70th

Minister Amit Shah for their support and guidance in promoting cooperative movement in J&K UT. He said, the clarion call of 'Sahkar se Samridhi' has revived the values and principles of Cooperatives and contributed to economic and social progress of the people.

Dedicating the new initiatives to the people, the LG said the on-boarding of 537 Primary Agriculture Credit Societies (PACS) as Common Service Centres, 169 PACS as PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras and 25 PACS as Jan-Aushadhi Kendras will create new opportunities for Cooperatives and develop a new business model.

He said the launch of Sarhad Tourism Cooperative Ltd in Uri aims to develop Uri-Boniyaar tourism circuit and homestays in order to promote border tourism.

"This new initiative will ensure greater engagement and inclusion of youth in the cooperative movement in J&K," he added.

The LG said Unnati Behan program will focus on women empowerment and train them for selling and developing various products by cooperatives.

"It will also accelerate the Administration's efforts to address gender equality in the cooperative movement," he added.

At the inaugural ceremony, the LG reiterated the commitment of the J&K Administration to explore more avenues for Cooperatives in diverse sectors and extend its benefits to the

population living in rural areas.

"Cooperatives will play an important role by spearheading rural development, developing critical infrastructure such as godowns, cold storage facilities and access to institutional finance and national and international markets to realize the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047," he said.

The other projects launched and inaugurated by the LG today are Computerization of 537 PACS; Dashboards for Cooperative Banks & Societies; website for 07 Cooperative Super Bazaars; Apple Pulpung Unit Plant at Wagoora under Unnati Multistate Cooperatives, and Global Milk & Food Processing Unit Bari Brahmana; Smart Classrooms and Science Labs for several cooperative schools.

The Lt Governor laid foundation stone for 60 works under CAPEX 2023-24 worth Rs 13.45 cr and also dedicated 21 completed projects under CAPEX 2022-23 worth Rs 4.54 cr to the people.

He also felicitated the members of cooperative societies and released Cooperative department's compendium.

Dogbite Victims

Besides dogbite cases, the court also asked Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh to form a committee to decide compensation to be paid in cases of accidents caused or attacks by stray animals. These include animals such as cows, bulls, oxen, donkeys, dogs, nilgai, buffaloes, and wild, pet and deserted animals.

The court further said that notwithstanding that such a large number of cases are being reported and even instituted before the courts, the state has shown no inclination to address the issue.

"They have chosen to look the other way, as people suffer injuries every day and underplay the magnitude of the problem by underreporting the incidents. The denial of the existence of a problem does not redress the problem but only escalates the agony of the citizen," Justice Vinod S Bhardwaj said.

"The said Committee shall be comprised of Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District as its Chairperson and shall have the following member (a) Superintendent of Police/Deputy Superintendent of Police (Traffic), (b) Sub Divisional Magistrate of the concerned area, (c) The District Transport Officer, (d) Representative of the Chief Medical Officer," the judgment said.

The court further directed that copies of the judgement be submitted to the offices of the Principal Secretary (Home) and the Directors General of Police of Punjab, Haryana, and Chandigarh for immediate action and compliance.

The landmark ruling comes at a time when the country is witnessing a huge debate on stray dog menace.

According to reports, 307 persons died due to rabies in the country last year with New Delhi reporting a maximum cases -- 48 -- followed by West Bengal (38) and 29 deaths each in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

These figures were shared by Union minister of state for health and family welfare, SP Singh Baghel, during the monsoon session in Lok Sabha in July this year.

Before 2001, municipal authorities could euthanise stray dogs to keep public places safe. In 2001 came the Animal Birth Control (Dogs) Rules. These rules created a separate category called "street dogs" and said they should be sterilised and immunised by "participation of animal welfare organizations, private individuals and the local authority". Lack of adequate funds and manpower have frequently stalled such exercises, leading to a spike in stray population.

The 2001 rules were silent on euthanising stray dogs except those "incurably ill" or "mortally wounded". They also said dogs caught for sterilisation and vaccination should be "released in the same area".

Army Confirms

later released on bail as per the directions of the tribunal on November 11 itself, they said.

According to the confirmation of the

sentence, the officer was cashiered, or dismissed from service dishonourably. Singh, who joined the Army in 2015, will now be deprived of pensionary and all other benefits.

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".

In its 25-page order delivered on November 9 suspending his sentence, the tribunal said Singh could not have any motive for the action and conducted such an operation without the knowledge of his senior officer.

The tribunal, however, refused to stay his conviction and other punishments such as cashiering.

The tribunal's principal bench here said, "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 tribunal noted that the counsel for the Centre had sought permission to promulgate the findings and sentence by the confirming authority and then shift Singh to a civil jail to serve the rest of the sentence of life imprisonment.

It had directed the counsel to complete the proceedings by November 11.

Singh's counsel Maj (Retd) Sudhanshu S Pandey expressed hope that the Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) would expeditiously hear his petition against his conviction.

"A young officer has lost his job but we have complete faith in the judiciary and I am hopeful that justice will be done to him and his honour will be restored," Pandey told PTI here.

While granting him bail, the tribunal said it would neither rely on the confessional statement given by another accused, Bilal Ahmed, who has been granted pardon by a civil court for turning approver in the case, nor that of the commanding officer of the 62 Rashtriya Rifles who claimed that he had no knowledge about the incident.

Following the killing of the three men, doubts were raised on social media, prompting the Army to constitute 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 confirmation by higher Army authorities.

While granting him bail and suspending his sentence, the AFT had said, "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 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.

The conditions put forth for the bail include that Singh 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 AFT had noted.

Victim Families

in the case. As the news of the armed forces tribunal granting the relief to Captain Bhoopendra Singh reached the village in Rajouri district the men were from, their grieving families vowed not to remain silent and decided to

move a higher court.

Suspending the sentence, the tribunal granted conditional bail to Singh and directed him to appear before its principal registrar at regular intervals from January next year.

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

Refusing to accept the tribunal's decision, the families said they would take the matter to a higher court, seeking justice for their sons and hoping to unmask the truth behind the fateful encounter.

"We are poor people and feel we were denied justice... We were expecting the death sentence for the captain for killing three innocents in cold blood... We will not stay silent and challenge the order of the tribunal," Sabir Hussain, the father of Abrar Ahmed, told PTI over the phone from Rajouri.

Bagha Khan, the father of Imtiyaz Ahmed, said the three victim families would fight for justice together. "We will move the higher court and appeal against the order of the tribunal. This is not acceptable to us as a compensation of Rs five lakh and a job with a salary of Rs 14,000 are not worth the lives of our children," he added.

As they prepare for the legal battle ahead, the families said they found solace in the support and solidarity garnered from their community and beyond. The village stands united, rallying behind them and demanding accountability for the lives lost and justice for the innocent souls taken too soon, the family members added.

Echoing similar views, Mohammad Yousuf, the father of Ibrar, said, "It is an arduous path filled with challenges and obstacles, but my faith remains unshaken, fuelled by the memory of my son and the conviction that truth will prevail."

The three families are convinced that their fight for justice would not only bring closure to their own shattered lives but also shed light on the larger issue of human rights and the need for accountability in times of conflict.

"The Court of Inquiry proved that they were innocents who had gone there (Shopian) for work. During the court-martial, I visited Kashmir hundreds of times and used to stay for days together in Srinagar to ensure justice is done," Yousuf said.

"When the Court of Inquiry awarded a life sentence to the captain, we felt happy that justice was done to us," he said.

However, the latest court verdict has reopened old wounds. Yousuf said, "We feel disappointed and do not know where we should make an appeal for justice. I have lost a desire to live and now my Allah will provide me justice."

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 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 that 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.

Will Ensure Zero

no local boy joins the terrorist recruitment so that lives remain safe.

"We will also reach out to the misguided youth and motivate them to return. If they return, we will receive them with love and hand them over to their parents," the DGP said. He said that those who have made their mind not to return or are working for money will face strict action.

The DGP also said that police will consider

any sort of communication or interaction with the Pakistan based handlers and anyone back home as "a crime". "We will act very hard against such people," the J&K police chief said.

Meanwhile, a police spokesman said that DGP RR Swain visited Anantnag district to assess the security situation and held a meeting with the officers. "The visit aimed to review the security measures in the district and discuss necessary enhancements to ensure the safety of the area," the statement said, adding that during the visit, DGP engaged in interactive sessions with Police, CAPFs, Army and intelligence officers at DPO Anantnag.

"The discussions provided an opportunity for the DGP to evaluate the challenges faced by the security forces," he said. "The DGP also met with various administrative and intelligence officers to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the security scenario in Anantnag. The discussions revolved around the prevailing security challenges, the effectiveness of counter-terrorism efforts and the progress made towards maintaining Public order in the district."

The spokesman said that the meeting was convened during the DGP's visit, where strategies to tackle any possible security threats were deliberated upon. "The meeting involved the participation of high-ranking Police, CAPFs, Army officers and intelligence agencies. The primary objective was to ensure a coordinated and proactive approach in dealing with security issues to safeguard the peace and stability of District Anantnag," he said.

The spokesman said that the DGP emphasized the need for robust intelligence networks, regular training programs, and equipping the Police force with modern technologies to effectively counter any emerging security threats. "The DGP stressed on the importance of community Policing and maintaining a strong bond between the police and the general public to foster trust and cooperation," he said, adding that overall, the DGP's visit to Anantnag served as an opportunity to assess the security situation, brainstorm effective strategies, and boost the morale of Police officers and security personnel.

"The aim was to create a conducive environment for development and peace in the district, ensuring the safety and well-being of the residents," the spokesman said.

He said that besides DGP Swain, ADGP law order (J&K) Shri Vijay Kumar, IGP Kashmir V. K. Briedi, JD IB Srinagar PK Thakem, IG KOS CRPF G.K Verma Commander 1st Sector RR PR Chowhan, DIG SKR Rayees Mohammed Bhat, DIG CRPF OPS Anantnag K.S Deswal, SSP Anantnag Dr. G.V. Sundeep Chakravarthy, SP Awantipora Aijaz Ahmad Zargar and other Police, CAPFs and Army officers were also present in the meeting--(KNO)

3 Held For

of the vehicle. One of them told the police personnel that he would call someone to bring the documents from home but instead he called around 10 people from the Bamiyala area, police said.

They were in an inebriated condition and got into a scuffle with the naka party incharge. The accused manhandled and abused the naka party, prompting police to intervene, they said.

Police personnel overpowered the accused and three of them were apprehended. A medical examination revealed that the three were under the influence of alcohol, they added.

A case has been registered in the matter and the motorcycle of the accused has also been seized, police said.

Fake Army Officer

by giving them false assurance of getting them enrolled in NCC and subsequently getting them recruited in belt force, they said.

He also checked their running stamina along Vijaypur-Ramgarh road and at midnight, attempted to commit rape on the girl who approached police for help, they said.

An FIR was registered and police immediately swung into action and arrested the accused, they said, adding that further investigation is underway.

WC Semifinal: India's Dominance Meets New Zealand's Perseverance

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: A relentless India rocketed through their league engagements with nine wins on the bounce but the past record is just a shiny antique in a showcase and the hosts will have to be at their gun-slinging best when they face familiar foes New Zealand in the first World Cup semifinal, here Wednesday.

The 2019 Manchester heart-break might be lingering in a corner of the hosts' mind as an irritant. The Kiwis also had the measure of India in the ICC WTC Final in 2021, if one needs more attestation of the Kiwis' grip over the latter in global events. However, this Indian side has shown a propensity to rise above an uncomfortable past, but they will be aware that any slip up at the Wankhede Stadium will be viewed as a national catastrophe, shattering a billion hearts. So, India will also have to rise above the pressure emanating out of those enormous expectations placed on them, also heightened by their league phase bull run.

To start with, the Indian team and its legion of fans will hope and pray that Rohit calls it right at the toss. The teams batting



second at this venue have invariably lost early wickets in clusters under lights with the new ball moving dangerously in the air and off the deck.

Both India and New Zealand have bowlers who can inflict severe damage with the new ball.

In that context, a lot will depend on the fearless approach of Indian openers -- Rohit and Shubman Gill. The Mumbai

has so far made 503 runs and will hope for a continuation, but Gill with a tally of 270 runs from seven matches would like to own the stage with a blistering effort against the Kiwis.

Virat Kohli is now the top run-getter in the tournament with 593 runs, and the landmark of 50 ODI hundreds is waiting to be reached. He would like to marry the milestone with an Indian

victory. Kohli would also like to break the semifinal jinx after getting dismissed for one in the 2019 and 2015 edition.

Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yadav have been as lethal as they ever have been but the lime-light, to a large extent, has been stolen by Mohammed Shami and Mohammed Siraj who have been unplayable when on song. In this World Cup, no other

bowling attack has produced a masterclass in bowling on flat wickets than India's.

But that said, writing off Kiwis' pace trio of Trent Boult, Tim Southee, Lockie Ferguson and left-arm spinner Mitchell Santner will be naive. They have enough experience and skill to make an impact even on a shirt-front, and will also hope to prey on any pressure India faces in front of the home crowd. For India, a win is non-negotiable and the Blackcaps can play all-out cricket knowing that they really have not much to lose.

In batting also, New Zealand have enough depth and experience to counter the marauding India bowlers. The young Rachin Ravindra (565 runs) is the find of the tournament, but Devon Conway is short of big scores -- his unbeaten 152 against England in the tournament opener was the only time he scored fifty or above.

Captain Kane Williamson and Daryl Mitchell are the middle-order Lynchpins but New Zealand do not match India's firepower on paper, but they certainly have the ability to dig deep. So, it all boils down to who will manage the pressure moments better and we might just have a cracker.

Fortune Favours The Brave, Says Rohit Sharma

Agencies

MUMBAI: In Wednesday's World Cup semifinal against New Zealand, India skipper Rohit Sharma also wants "luck to favour" his squad.

"Time has come for luck to favour you and fortune favours the brave," Rohit said on the eve of the big-ticket game.

Rohit said the hosts will not be required to make big changes in regards to their mindset and approach just because they are headed into the semifinal clash.

"I don't think we need to do anything different than what we have been doing," Rohit told the media here before India's only training session ahead of the semifinal game.

The captain said pressure has always been a part of the journey for them as Indian cricketers and it will be no different when they will take the field for the semifinal.

"Be it a league match or semifinal, the pressure is always there in a World Cup match. We have handled it well from the first game to the last. The team has responded well," Rohit said.

"We are focusing on playing good cricket in the next two games. Pressure is always there on us as Indian cricketers. The need is to focus on the game and not on the pressure and challenges from the other side," he added.

Rohit has respect for New Zealand whom he described as probably the "most disciplined" side in the competition, adding that they have a quality of reading the opposition very well.

"New Zealand (are) probably (the) most disciplined team. They play smart cricket, they understand the opposition very well. They understand the mentality of the opposition. They have been very consistent playing semis and finals of all ICC tournaments," Rohit said.

FCI, Syed Tajjudin Draw 2-2 In Srinagar Premier League



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the lone Srinagar Premier League match on Tuesday, FCI and Syed Tajjudin FC played an exciting 2-2 draw at Synthetic Turf TRC here.

Both these teams have been among the best football clubs in the Premier Division this season and possessed the attacking threat to dismantle any defence in the league. The game got off to an enthralling start at Talib gave Syed Tajjudin the lead in the 2nd minute. FCI hit back soon after, forcing Syed Tajjudin to turn the ball into their own net. FCI, still unbeaten in the Srinagar Premier League, took the lead through Hayat in the 40th

minute and entered the second half 2-1 up.

The final few minutes of the game proved to be a frenzy as Syed Tajjudin kept looking for an equaliser, while FCI tried hard to thwart the attacks. However, Syed Tajjudin was rewarded for their persistence when Ishaq found the back of the net in added time. The game ended in a 2-2 draw, with Ishaq awarded man of the match for his equalising goal.

The 2023 Srinagar Premier League action will continue on Wednesday. J&K Bank FC are scheduled to take on AG's Office XI, in what will be a thrilling game of football between two attack-minded teams. The match kicks off at 3:00 PM.

Kashmir's Trekking Trails See Heavy Footfall As Autumn Season Peaks

Agencies

SRINAGAR: With autumn season at its peak, the picturesque trails of Marchoi, Diskal, and Mohan Marg in Kashmir are reporting heavy footfall of adventure lovers.

Marchoi and Mohanmarg in Ganderbal and Diskal in Budgam, which are an abode of various plant species and wild-

currently are holding autumn treks to these three places for adventure lovers looking to immerse themselves in the breath-taking beauty of the changing season.

"In October, trekking to greater lakes is closed. During Autumn when leaves change colour from green to yellow and crimson red, places including Marchoi, Diskal, and

the way," he said.

Similarly, Diskal and Moanmarg for its untouched beauty too are being preferred by the tourists, Arif said.

"Trekking to Diskal and Moanmarg are also in good demand," Arif said.

He said upper Dachigam also has been a popular autumn and winter trek for adventure lovers. Arif said from



life, have emerged as the go-to destinations for trekkers.

These destinations have become famous autumn and winter trekking destinations since the trek to the famous greater lakes concludes by mid-October every year.

Muhammad Arif, founder of Cliffhangers India, said they

Mohanmarg are in huge demand. It is because of the landscape and nature that captivates any adventure lover to explore them," he said.

Marchoi, Arif said, offers a lot of adventure to the trekkers. "Marchoi has a unique passage, and hikers may see a variety of bird species along

equipment to logistics, they manage every facility for the tourists to enjoy their journey.

"We take care of equipment, insurance and medical assistance apart from food for our clients. The beauty of these places is unmatched and trekking is already gaining popularity in Kashmir," he said. (KNO)

DYSS-Hosted Judo, Fencing Nationals Begin Today In Jammu



Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Department of Youth Services and Sports, J&K is hosting the 67th National School Games in the disciplines of Judo (Under-14 boys & girls) and Fencing (Under-19 boys & girls) from November 15 to November 24 at Gymnasium Hall, University of Jammu.

Director Youth Services and Sports, Subash Chander Chibber, addressed a press conference on Tuesday here.

He informed the media persons that the Judo events will commence from November 15 and will conclude on November 19, 2023, while the Fencing tournament will begin from November 20 and culminate on November 24, 2023.

He said that all the requisite arrangements for smooth and successful conduct of these games have been made. "Different committees have been constituted for holding the event in a most befitting manner" he added.

He asserted that the department had recently organised the 67th National School

Games in the disciplines of Football and Volleyball at Srinagar wherein J&K created history by emerging as champion in Football by winning gold, besides bagging bronze medal in Volleyball.

The Director Sports further said that emerging champions in Football and winning third place in Volleyball at Srinagar was an outcome of rigorous training of athletes and transparency and fairness in the selection process.

He said the Department is hoping to win a good haul of medals in the sports disciplines being held in Jammu.

He said for the comfort of the athletes and good health of this prestigious event, the players have been lodged at Sarswati Dham and Kalka Dham, nearby to the University of Jammu, the venue of the events.

The Director said that thirty teams of various States/UTs drawn from across the country are expected to take part in this sporting extravaganza. Out of which twelve teams have already reached Jammu.

It's Guardiola Vs Klopp Again As Man City & Liverpool Top The Premier League

The Associated Press

One of the Premier League's most enduring rivalries looks set to be revived as Manchester City and Liverpool lead the way once again.

Just one point separates the two teams at the top of the standings after first-place City was held to a thrilling 4-4 draw at Chelsea on Sunday.

Earlier in the day, Mohamed Salah scored twice in Liverpool's 3-0 win against Brentford, which briefly saw the Merseyside club move level on points with Pep Guardiola's defending champions.

It sets up a tantalizing clash between City and Liverpool on Nov. 25 after the international break.

Last season's runner-up Arsenal is also a point behind City and in third place on goal difference. Tottenham is fourth, two points off City, after back-to-back losses.

Liverpool's potential challenge comes after slipping out of contention last year as Jurgen Klopp embarked on a refresh of a squad that had won every major trophy from 2019-22.

A disappointing campaign saw the 19-time champions fail to qualify for the Champions League and raise



questions over whether they would be able to challenge City again as star players like Sadio Mane departed.

Klopp's new-look team is answering all of those doubts, while Salah remains its talisman, with the Egypt

international scoring a landmark 200th goal in English soccer against Brentford.

Salah put Liverpool on course to extend its 100% home record this season with goals in each half at Anfield. Diogo Jota added a third.

The win saw Liverpool move above Arsenal and it was then over to City to see if it could open up a three-point lead going into the international break. And when Rodri scored with a deflected shot in the 86th, it looked like Guardiola's team had overcome a major test at Chelsea.

Instead, Cole Palmer, who only left City in September, came back to haunt his former team by converting a penalty in the fifth minute of second-half stoppage time.

Erling Haaland had put City in front from the penalty spot, but Thiago Silva equalized and Raheem Sterling gave Chelsea the lead.

Manuel Akanji evened the score again before halftime and Haaland made it 3-2 to City just after the break.

Nicolas Jackson pulled it back to 3-3 before Rodri and Palmer's goals.

PRICELESS PALMER

City may come to regret letting Palmer go in the off-season.

It wasn't as if the 21-year-old attacking midfielder hadn't shown his

potential to the club he'd been at for 15 years after rising through its academy.

Palmer scored important goals against Arsenal in the Community Shield and Sevilla in the European Super Cup before City accepted a bid of around \$52 million from Chelsea.

He has already established himself as an important part of Mauricio Pochettino's plans, scoring four goals in 11 games. And he showed impressive composure when waiting to take his spot kick deep into stoppage time at Stamford Bridge.

Against a goalkeeper he knows well in Ederson, Palmer fired with a power and precision into the left.

HAALAND VS. SALAH

Haaland and Salah scored two goals each on Sunday to continue their impressive runs this season.

Haaland has 17 in all competitions, while Salah has 12 and also reached the landmark of 200 in English soccer with his second-half header against Brentford.

Salah also became the first Liverpool player to score in each of its opening six league home games of a season.

US Firms To Pay Tens Of Thousands Of Dollars For Dinner With Xi: Report

Agenceis

Top business leaders in the United States are expected to dine with Chinese President Xi Jinping in San Francisco on Wednesday as he seeks to court American companies and counter his country's recent struggles to entice foreign investment.

The dinner on the margins of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum will follow a day of talks between Xi and US President Joe Biden, aimed at stabilizing fraught ties between the world's two largest economies.

For American businesses, it will be a chance to hear directly from China's leader as they search for ways to navigate China's economic slowdown, a US push to "de-risk" some American supply chains away from China, and uncertainty caused by expanding Chinese security rules.

"The purpose of the dinner is to foster better communication," one source close to the organizers told Reuters, declining to say who would speak while confirming representatives from both the Chinese and U.S. governments would share the podium.

But the event, yet to be formally announced by hosts US-China Business Council (USCBC) and the National Committee on US-China Relations (NCUSCR), also presents uneasy optics.

According to event notifications seen by Reuters, some US firms will pay tens of thousands of dollars to hear a "Chinese state leader" from a government that Washington has accused of genocide against Muslim Uyghurs. China has vigorously denied the accusations.

The USCBC and NCUSCR both declined to comment on the planned dinner. China's embassy in Washington did not respond to a request for comment.

Xi, who is widely expected to deliver a speech, will be eager to convince US industry that China is still open for business after recording its first

quarterly deficit in foreign direct investment.

Even as China this year cast off COVID-19 pandemic controls that effectively shut its borders, it has grown more suspicious of engagement with Western companies, in line with Xi's emphasis on national security. Xi has overseen a crackdown on US consultancy and due-diligence firms, a further blow to investor confidence.

'Filet Mignon' And Human Rights

For decades, business and trade has been at the center of US-China relations, helping to fuel China's explosive economic resurgence and offering what Beijing has often described as the ballast in otherwise contentious ties.

But concerns about a new style cold war between the rival economic and geopolitical superpowers has increasingly placed companies in the cross hairs of both governments.

Xi is on his first visit to the US in more than six years and the pricey dinner, up to \$40,000 for a table of eight, according to one notice for the event, is routine by standards for past Chinese presidential visits.

Reuters was not able to obtain a list of attendees, but executives of some companies who spoke privately to Reuters said they would steer clear given questions about the utility for their operations in China and US political risks.

Jeff Moon, a former US trade official turned business adviser, said China's goal would be to soften Xi's image and attract investment, but that the dinner was unlikely to "move any needles."

US lawmakers have castigated some American businesses for turning a blind eye to allegations of forced labor in China and some have been scathing in their criticism of the event.

"How does that dinner conversation go? 'Wow, this filet mignon is a little dry. How's your extrajudicial internment of over a million Uyghur Muslims going?'" said Mike Gallagher, the Republican chair of the House of Representative's select committee on China.

Giant Steel Pipe As Escape Route For 40 Men Trapped In Uttarakhand Tunnel



Agenceis

Dehradun: Rescuers battled for a second day Monday to save 40 workers trapped underground after the road tunnel they were building in Uttarakhand collapsed, bringing down tonnes of debris.

Teams using heavy excavators have been working nonstop since the collapse early Sunday morning to clear piles of concrete and earth, but with more debris falling as workers tried to clear a passage, a giant steel pipe was being prepared as an escape route.

"All the 40 workers trapped inside the tunnel are safe," Karamveer Singh Bhandari, a senior commander in the National Disaster Response Force, told AFP from the site in the Himalayan state of Uttarakhand, adding that water and food had been sent.

Oxygen was being pumped into the blocked portion of the tunnel, with food sent through a water pipe.

Mr Rathodi said excavators had removed about 20 metres (65 feet) of heavy debris, but the men were 40 metres beyond that point.

"Due to excess debris in the tunnel, we are facing some difficulty in the rescue, but our team is leaving no stone unturned," he

added.

Teams plan to use a heavy machine to drive a steel pipe with a width of 90 centimetres (nearly three feet), wide enough for the trapped men to squeeze through, the government's highway and infrastructure company said.

"Water, food, oxygen, electricity all are available with the work force trapped inside the tunnel... All the stranded workers are safe as communicated by them," the statement added.

Initial contact was made via a note on a scrap of paper, but later rescuers managed to connect using radio handsets.

"Some small food packets were sent in through a pipe which is also taking oxygen inside," rescue official Durgesh Rathodi told AFP from the site.

"Bring them out safely" - Uttarakhand chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, who on Monday flew to the site of the accident, said on X, formerly Twitter, that the work to remove the tumbled concrete debris was "being made continuously to bring them out safely".

"Contact has been made with the workers trapped in the tunnel through a walkie-talkie," he said. "Efforts are being made to get them out safely soon."

One rescue worker, quoted by the Press Trust of India news agency, said the men were

contacted shortly after midnight on Monday.

Disaster response official Devendra Patwal said that while the men were trapped, they had space in the tunnel area where they were.

"The good thing is that the labourers are not crammed in, and have a buffer of around 400 metres to walk and breathe," Mr Patwal told the Indian Express newspaper.

The 4.5-kilometre (2.7-mile) tunnel is being constructed between Silkyara and Dandalgaon to connect two of the holiest Hindu shrines of Uttarkashi and Yamunotri.

Photographs released by the government rescue teams showed huge piles of rubble blocking the wide tunnel, with twisted metal bars on its broken roof poking down in front of the rubble.

The tunnel is part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's road project aimed to improve connectivity for some of the most popular Hindu shrines in the country, as well as areas bordering China.

Accidents on large infrastructure construction sites are common in India.

In January, at least 200 people were killed in flash floods in ecologically fragile Uttarakhand in a disaster that experts partly blamed on excessive development.

Dog Enters Goa Airport Runway, Forces Vistara Flight To Return To Bengaluru

Agenceis

Panaji: A Vistara flight returned to Bengaluru without landing at the Dabolim Airport in Goa after a stray dog was spotted on the runway by the Air Traffic Controller, a senior official said on Tuesday. The incident took place on Monday afternoon, he said.

The pilot was asked to "hold for sometime" as a stray dog was spotted on the runway of the Dabolim Airport but "he preferred to return to Bengaluru," Goa airport's director SVT Dhanamjaya Rao told PTL.

The Dabolim Airport in Goa is part of the Navy's INS Hansa base. The Vistara flight UK 881 left from the Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru at 12.55 pm on Monday and returned at 3.05 pm, sources said.

The flight again took off from Bengaluru at 4.55 pm and reached Goa at 6.15 pm, they said.

On Monday, Vistara in a post on X said, "Flight UK881 from Bengaluru to Goa (BLR-GOI) has been diverted to Bengaluru due to runway restriction at Goa (GOI) airport and is expected to arrive in Bengaluru at 1505 hrs."

In another post after two hours, it said, "Flight UK881 which was diverted to Bengaluru has departed from Bengaluru at 1655 hours and is expected to arrive in Goa at 1815 hours."

Mr Rao said once in a while there are instances of a stray dog entering the runway but the area is cleared immediately by the ground staff. "This is the first such incident in my tenure of last one-and-a-half years," he added.

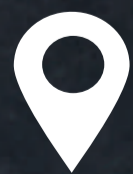


FLIGHT UK881 FROM BENGALURU TO GOA (BLR-GOI) HAS BEEN DIVERTED TO BENGALURU DUE TO RUNWAY RESTRICTION AT GOA (GOI) AIRPORT AND IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN BENGALURU AT 1505 HRS."

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