

## 2 Infiltrators Killed Along LoC In Uri

Agencies

Srinagar- Security forces on Wednesday foiled an infiltration bid in the Uri sector along the Line of Control (LoC) in North Kashmir's Baramulla district by killing two infiltrators, police said.

Quoting an official, news agency KNO reported that a group of terrorists was trying to sneak into this side of the LoC taking advantage of low visibility and bad weather.

He said that they were challenged by alert troops deployed on the LoC and during the exchange of fire one terrorist was killed.

The official added that later one more terrorist was killed, and the whole operation is still underway.

## NIA Chargesheets Two In Terror Conspiracy Case

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: The NIA has chargesheeted two people including a right-hand man of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) Chief Masood Azhar for their plans to disturb peace and communal harmony in Jammu and Kashmir by attacking security forces, officials said Wednesday.

Muhammad Dilwar Iqbal, a resident of Abbaspur in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir goes by several aliases including Maaz Khan Kashmiri and Azad Kashmiri and is a close associate of Masood Azhar, the National Investigation Agency said in a statement.

He delivered incendiary speeches to incite youths in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to conduct terrorist acts, it said.

The NIA has alleged that Dilwar Iqbal indoctrinated and motivated [More On P10](#)

## TRAGEDY IN HILLS

# 39 Killed, 20 Injured As Bus Plunges Into Doda Gorge



Press Trust Of India

Doda: Entire Pir Panjal region was plunged into grief on Wednesday as a passenger bus fell into a 300 feet deep gorge on a treacherous mountain road in Doda. At least 39 people, including six women, were reported killed and 18 others injured as per last reports received late in the night.

"A passenger bus (JK02CN-6555) that left Kishtwar at around 0800 hrs skidded off the road and rolled down into a 300-foot-deep gorge near Trungal-Assar of Doda on the Batote-Kishtwar highway when driver of bus failed to negotiate a sharp curve,"

**IT IS AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT. IT WAS SAID that the bus was not being run on the right side, which resulted in the accident."**

police said.

Police added that a rescue team rushed to the spot and launched an operation and men and machinery were pressed into service to shift the injured for medical treatment.

According to a police spokesperson, the accident occurred at around 11:50 am at Trungal-Assar [More On P10](#)

## Prez Murmu, PM Modi; LG Express Shock

### Political Leaders Also Grieved Over Loss Of Lives

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and political leaders on Wednesday expressed shock and sadness over a bus accident in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda that has killed at least 38 people. "I am deeply saddened by the news of the unfortunate death of several passengers in a bus accident in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir. I express my condolences to the bereaved family members and pray for the speedy recovery of those injured," Murmu said in a post in Hindi on X, formerly Twitter. At least 38 people were killed and 19 injured when the bus carrying passengers skidded off the road and rolled down into a 300-foot deep gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district on Wednesday. [More On P10](#)

## LG Announces Rs 5L-Exgratia For Each Family

The Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday approved an ex-gratia of Rs. 5 lakh each for the next of kin of those who have lost their lives in the tragic bus accident in Assar area of Doda. He has also approved an amount of Rs.1 lakh for those injured and assured all possible assistance to the affected families. "An ex-gratia of Rs.5 Lakh each would be given [More On P10](#)

## A Timeline Of Road Accidents In Doda, Kishtwar

Syed Mohammad Burhan

Hilly terrain, rash driving, overload- ing of passengers and dilapidated condition of roads are said to be the main reasons for the spike in deadly ac-

cidents in the Pir Panjal range and Chenab valley of the Jammu region. As road accidents continue to shatter families, a timeline of accidents reveals shocking details of casualties and injuries caused by the killer roads in the twin districts of Doda and Kishtwar.

As per the data compiled, from 2020 to 2023 a total of 881 road accidents took place in Doda and Kishtwar districts. In Kishtwar, around 90 accidents took place, leading to the loss of 88 lives and 235 individuals sustaining injuries. The Doda witnessed 791 accidents, [More On P10](#)

## RDSS Will End Power Woes In Kashmir: CE KPDCL

### Says Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme Likely To Be Completed In 2025

Auqib Javed

Srinagar: At a time when Kashmir is grappling with a serious power crisis, the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCL) said Wednesday that the power woes will end by 2025 once the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) is operational in the Valley.

Javed Yousuf, Chief engineer, KPDCL told Kashmir Observer that the department has been working on the plan for the last couple of years and that 50 percent of the work has already been completed so far.

"Once the project is completed, the power woes are most likely to end," he said, adding that the project is likely to be

completed in 2025.

Notably, the government of India approved the RDSS to help DISCOMs improve their operational efficiencies and financial sustainability by providing result-linked financial assistance to DISCOMs to strengthen supply infrastructure based on meeting pre-qualifying criteria and achieving basic minimum benchmarks.

The scheme aims to meet the following objectives: Reduction of AT&C losses to pan-India levels of 12-15% by 2024-25, reduction of ACS-ARR gap to zero by 2024-25, improvement in the quality, reliability and affordability of power supply to consumers through a financially sustainable and [More On P10](#)

## Admin Has Taken Holistic Measures For Welfare Of Tribals: LG

### Virtually Joins PM Modi's Launch Of 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra'

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Asserting that the administration has taken significant initiatives for the holistic welfare of tribals, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Wednesday that since August 2019 tribal welfare was given top priority by his administration and various initiatives were launched cutting across sectors to empower tribal communities of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha made these remarks while attending the launch ceremony of 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra', by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, virtually, at Raj Bhawan here on Wednesday.

In J&K, the Sankalp Yatra was flagged off from Budhal, Rajouri and Gurez, Bandipora.



People, Panchayati Raj institutions and government officials attended the launch function.

The LG expressed gratitude to the PM for starting outreach activities in tribal districts of Bandipora and Rajouri to achieve saturation of flagship

schemes, on birth anniversary of legendary tribal freedom fighter, Bhagwan Birsu Munda.

He lauded the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra initiative aimed at reaching out to vulnerable who are eligible under various schemes [More On P10](#)

## PM Releases Rs 18,000-Cr PM-Kisan Installment

Press Trust Of India

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday released Rs 18,000 crore as the 15th installment of the PM-Kisan scheme to more than 8 crore farmers across the country.

From a function celebrating the Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas in Jharkhand's Khunti district, the PM transferred the money digitally to the bank accounts of the farmers by clicking a button.

The Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) aims to support farmers in meeting their agricultural and other incidental needs. Under the scheme, financial assistance of Rs 6,000 per year is transferred to the bank accounts of farmers in three equal installments. Before this installment, more than Rs 2.62 lakh crore was transferred.

The Congress, meanwhile, questioned the release of the money just two days ahead of assembly elections in Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh, and wondered if it was "intentional".

While polling in Madhya Pradesh will be held in a single phase on November 17, in neighbouring Chhattisgarh, voting for



the second-phase will be conducted. The first phase was held on November 7.

The sixth installment of the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi was released on August 1, 2020, while the ninth installment on August 9, 2021, Congress general secretary in-charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X in Hindi.

The 12th installment was released on October 17 last year, said Ramesh, whose party aims to retain power in Chhattisgarh and defeat the BJP in Madhya Pradesh. "The 15th instalment under PM-Kisan is [More On P10](#)

## HIT BY UKRAINE WAR

### Indian MBBS Students Resume Studies In Uzbekistan



Press Trust Of India

Samarkand (Uzbekistan): Evacuated from war-hit Ukraine in 2021, hundreds of Indian MBBS students, who thought their academic journey was over, have resumed their studies and started new lives in a

leading medical university in Uzbekistan.

The Samarkand State Medical University in Uzbekistan has accommodated over 1,000 Indian medical students from Ukraine after the Indian Embassy in Ukraine reached out to them enquiring if the [More On P10](#)

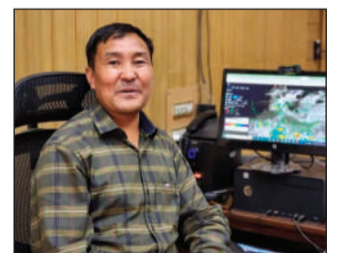
## 'Taking A Bag Full Of Memories From Kashmir' Sonam Lotus Concludes 15-Year Stint In Srinagar

Agencies

Srinagar: Sonam Lotus concluded his remarkable 15-year journey with the Meteorological Department (MeT) Srinagar. Under his leadership, the Met Centre has witnessed a transformative era of advancements and public trust.

Born in the serene village of Shara in Leh-Ladakh to a farmer's family, Lotus embarked on his meteorological career in 2005, joining the IMD as a Trainee Meteorologist. Over the years, he climbed the professional ladder with dedication and passion, ultimately heading the local Met Centre in Srinagar in 2008.

Completed his schooling at a government school in Leh up to



12th, he pursued graduation in Non-Medical from GGM Science College Jammu and earned an MSc and MPhil in Physics from Jammu University.

During his tenure, Sonam played a critical role in the modernisation of the local meteorological office, with his initiatives leading to improved infrastructure, enhanced [More On P10](#)

## SHORT TAKES

### Bear Captured Alive In Bandipora

A black bear was captured alive in Ahemsharif village of north Kashmir's Bandipora district on intervening Tuesday and Wednesday night. Quoting Ranger, Wildlife Range Bandipora, Fida Ur Rehman, news agency GNS reported that a wild bear was roaming in the area for last many weeks now, creating fear among the local populace. "The Wildlife department employees were camping in the area and after weeks of persistent efforts, the bear was caught in the cage and subsequently tranquilised," he said. Another Wildlife Department official wishing anonymity said that they have a huge dearth of manpower [More On P10](#)

### Properties Of 3 Drug Peddlers Attached

Police on Wednesday attached movable and immovable properties belonging to three notorious drug peddlers in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district, a police spokesperson said. The properties including a double-storey residential house and vehicles jointly belonging to drug peddlers Mehmood Hus-sain, Zaffer Iqbal and Javid Iqbal were attached under the NDPS Act, the spokesperson said. During the investigation, the attached properties were found to be illegally acquired, he said. The properties were prima facie acquired from the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by the trio, [More On P10](#)

### Mysterious Blast In Poonch

A mysterious blast took place on Wednesday in Surankote area of Poonch district, officials said. They said that the explosion occurred near Shivmandir late Wednesday evening. "However, there were no immediate reports about any fatality or injury in the incident so far." SHO Surankote confirmed the "mysterious explosion" and said that an FSL team has been summoned to the spot. Sources said that soon after the blast, police and security forces cordoned off the area. (GNS)

**KO** NEWS & UPDATES

**BEYOND THE HEADLINES**

**Dr Sameer Kaul**  
Senior Surgical Oncologist

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



YouTube Creators Will Soon Have To Disclose Use Of Generative AI In Videos Or Risk Suspension

Associated Press

YouTube is rolling out new rules for AI content, including a requirement that creators reveal whether they've used generative artificial intelligence to make realistic looking videos.

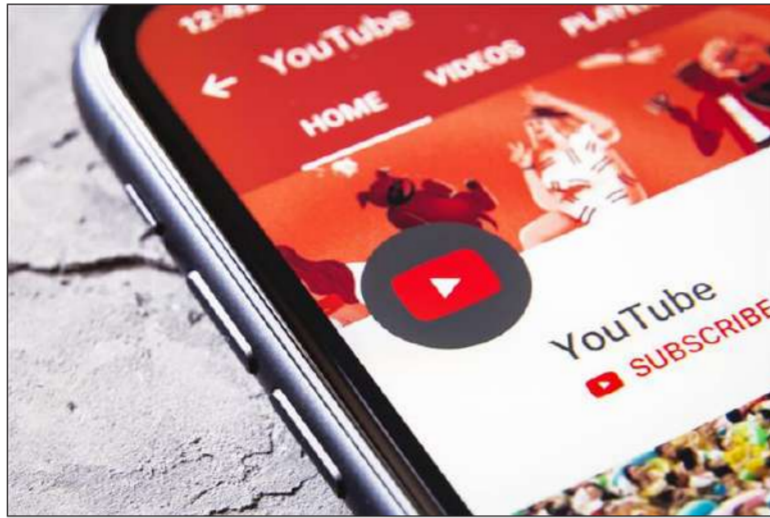
In a blog post on Tuesday outlining a number of AI-related policy updates, YouTube said creators that don't disclose whether they've used AI tools to make "altered or synthetic" videos face penalties including having their content removed or suspension from the platform's revenue sharing program.

"Generative AI has the potential to unlock creativity on YouTube and transform the experience for viewers and creators on our platform," Jennifer Flannery O'Connor and Emily Moxley, vice presidents for product management, wrote in the blog post.

"But just as important, these opportunities must be balanced with our responsibility to protect the YouTube community."

The restrictions expand on rules that YouTube's parent company, Google, unveiled in September requiring that political ads on YouTube and other Google platforms using artificial intelligence come with a prominent warning label.

Under the latest changes, which will take effect by next year, YouTube will get new options to indicate



whether they're posting AI-generated video that, for example, realistically depict an event that never happened or show someone saying or doing something they didn't actually do.

"This is especially important in cases where the content discusses sensitive topics, such as elections, ongoing conflicts and public health crises, or public officials," O'Connor and Moxley said.

Viewers will be alerted to altered videos with labels, including prominent ones on the YouTube video player for sensitive topics.

The platform is also deploying

AI to root out content that breaks its rules, and the company said the technology has helped detect "novel forms of abuse" more quickly.

YouTube's privacy complaint process will be updated to allow requests for the removal of an AI-generated video that simulates an identifiable person, including their face or voice.

YouTube music partners such as record labels or distributors will be able to request the takedown of AI-generated music content "that mimics an artist's unique singing or rapping voice."

Public Notice from Jammu & Kashmir Board of School Education regarding a lost motor car bearing registration no. JK01AM-7848.

Notice from M/S SNOBBY ANTIQUES regarding a lost motor car bearing registration no. JK01AM-7848.

Public Notice regarding the registration of a proposed travel unit under the name and style 'M/S Travelogreaholidays'.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-TENDER NOTICE for tender No. 770-W/169/WA-1/FZR/305-2023-24-ADEN-JRC.

NORTHERN RAILWAY e-Auction Notice for various parcels and contracts.

Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Anantnag. Includes project details, tender information, and contact details.

Public Notice regarding a lost motor car bearing registration no. JK01AM-7848.

Public Notice regarding a lost motor car bearing registration no. JK01AM-7848.

Public Notice regarding a lost motor car bearing registration no. JK01AM-7848.

Before the Hon'ble Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate At Srinagar. Case regarding Sajid Shafi S/o Mohammad Shafi R/o Rawalpura Bypass.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE Common High Court of J&K and Ladakh. Case regarding Ashiq Hussain Sheikh S/o Assadullah Sheikh.

Before the Hon'ble Court of Principal District & Session Judge at Srinagar. Case regarding Maqsood Ahmad Guroo S/O Late Mohammad Ramzan.

From the office of Advocate Altaf Ahmed Wani. Legal notice regarding a caveat petition.

## Rooftop Solar Scheme Evokes 'Overwhelming' Public Response

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Energy Development Agency (JAKEDA) has reported an overwhelming response to its Rooftop Solar Scheme in the Union Territory, with a substantial number of residents expressing interest in availing its benefits.

According to officials, approximately 5 to 6 Megawatt (MW) of capacity has already been installed on residential buildings.

One of the officials highlighted the remarkable enthusiasm among the public, emphasizing that the response to the Rooftop Solar Scheme has been unprecedented.

The intensity of interest, he said, is evident, with around 5 to 6 MW of capacity already installed. Such a swift implementation is noteworthy, particularly when compared to the extended timelines and significant investments typically associated with hydropower generation.

The official further explained that the department had initiated a 20-Megawatt 'Roof Top Solar Power Plant' project for Jammu and Kashmir, with approximately 5 to 6 MW already operational. The aim is to cover 10,000 households under this scheme.

The Rooftop Solar Scheme, launched as part of the National Solar Mission, offers twin benefits to participants. The scheme provides a 65% subsidy (40% from the Government of India and 25% from the Government of the Union Territory of Jammu

and Kashmir), resulting in a substantial reduction in energy bills for residents.

To facilitate the installation process, empanelled firms are responsible for providing Net-meters and coordinating installations through the Jammu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (JPDCL), following guidelines from the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission.

Officials emphasized that the Rooftop Solar System brings numerous advantages to consumers. It not only eliminates immediate concerns about power cuts but also offers a cost-effective alternative to conventional electric supply. With government subsidies, the overall cost is further reduced. Additionally, maintenance costs are minimal, and most rooftop solar systems have a life expectancy of up to 25 years.

J&K Bank, in collaboration with JAKEDA, is offering a finance facility for individuals to purchase and install rooftop solar systems, contributing to the broader adoption of clean and renewable energy. The finance scheme is open to individuals with a consistent income, including government employees, professionals, self-employed individuals, businessmen, retirees, and those engaged in agricultural and allied activities.

As Jammu and Kashmir moves toward self-sufficiency in power generation, the Rooftop Solar Scheme is proving to be a significant stride in harnessing clean energy and reducing the carbon footprint in the region.

## Agri Dep't Kashmir Celebrates 'Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas' In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: To celebrate 'Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas' in Kashmir, the Director Agriculture today inaugurated the function at the Directorate of Agriculture Lalmandi, Srinagar.

Speaking on the occasion, Director Agriculture gave a detailed presentation on the importance of the day and directed all Chief Agriculture Officers of Kashmir division to celebrate the Janajatiya Gaurav Diwas with enthusiasm at each district.

Meanwhile Joint Director Agriculture Extension Kashmir visited Faqir Gujri area of Srinagar district and took stock of the ongoing Rabi campaign in the area.

Speaking to farmers, JD reiterated the department's

commitment to the development of farmers belonging to the backward, far-flung areas. He said that the department is endeavoring to bring more and more cultivable lands under the cultivation of Rabi crops including oilseeds so that the socio-economic transformation of these communities could be achieved. He said that agriculture activities are going on across the Kashmir division for the promotion of Rabi crops.

He impressed upon the concerned officers to work shoulder to shoulder with the farming community and guide them during their cultivation operations.

JD asked the farmers to take benefits from different schemes and programs by the department.



A gang of stray canines lounging on a trendy promenade at Lal Chowk Square on Wednesday afternoon amidst a significant drop in the daytime temperature. KO Photo, Abid Bhat

## Unnecessary' Referrals From DHs Overburdens Tertiary Care Hospitals

### Avoid Unnecessary Referrals To TCHs: DHSK Directs MSs, CMOs

Observer News Service

Srinagar: 'Unnecessary' referral of patients from other districts continues to put a burden on men and machinery at the tertiary-care hospitals here, doctors said.

They said despite repeated directives from the government including the one on November 15, the referrals go unchecked.

"We receive dozens of patients on a daily basis who can be easily managed at sub-district and district hospitals, but they are being referred here," said a doctor at SMHS Hospital.

Admitting that there is a difference in facilities between the district and tertiary-care hospitals but around 30 to 50 percent of patients are being referred unnecessarily.

"Though the hospital is the valley's largest tertiary-care Gynecology and Obstetrics facility, that doesn't mean you have to refer every case here to put pressure on limited resources," doctors at Lal Ded Hospital said.

Of the approximately 40, only

fifty percent of the genuine cases are reported at LD Hospital every day. The rest can be easily managed at primary health centers, sub-district and district hospitals, the doctors said.

Similarly, a top doctor at the Bone and Joints hospital complained that around 90 percent of the patients visiting OPD and referred to the hospital can be easily managed at peripheral hospitals.

"Due to the heavy rush of patients, the deserving one gets little attention," he added.

The doctors suggested the government to further improve the infrastructure at peripherals so the doctors would not have any excuse to refer patients unnecessarily.

The government had ordered an audit of all referrals from district-level hospitals to tertiary-care hospitals in order to optimize the manpower available in peripheries and patient services across the healthcare system.

"There must be monitoring committees in place in all hospitals which must have the power to take the call whether to refer the patient

or not, otherwise this issue won't get resolved," the doctors said.

Amid this, the Directorate of Health Services Kashmir has directed Chief Medical Officers and Medical Superintendents to conduct night rounds of hospitals so as to avoid unnecessary referrals and submit a list of patients referred to tertiary care hospitals on fortnightly basis along with reasons of referral.

"In light of the directions given by the Chief Secretary, UT J&K, it is impressed upon all the Chief Medical Officers / Medical Superintendents of Kashmir Division to take night rounds of all the hospitals falling under their jurisdiction & to check that unnecessary referrals are not being forwarded to the Tertiary Care Hospitals, in order to avoid rush of patients in the Tertiary Care Hospitals," reads the circular issued by DHSK.

"Besides, it is also enjoined upon them to submit the list of patients being referred to the Tertiary Care Hospitals on fortnightly basis with complete details of the patients & reasons for referral," it stated.

## Congress To Hold Strategy Meeting On Parliamentary Polls, Alliance Issue On Nov 21

Agencies

Srinagar: J&K Congress will hold a crucial strategy meeting about Parliamentary polls and alliance issue in J&K on November 21, sources told KNS.

Sources said that party senior leader Tariq Hamid Karra who heads party's Po-

litical Affairs Committee (PAC) has convened a meeting in Srinagar on November 21 in which strategy about upcoming LS polls and other public interest issues will be discussed threadbare.

"The agenda of the meeting is to discuss strategy about forthcoming Parli-

amentary elections which are likely to be held in the month of April-May 2024. The PAC will discuss future course of action besides measures how to stop inroads of BJP in J&K in the forthcoming elections. The meeting will also discuss alliance issue in J&K," sources informed.

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

**AIRPORTS**  
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

**RAILWAYS**

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJHERA: 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**  
01 Jumada al-Awwal  
1445

PRAYERS	
FAJR	5: 38
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3: 52
Magrib	5:31
ISHA	7: 55

## This Day In History

- 13- General Tiberius' (later Emperor) triumphant procession through Rome after siege of Germany
- 534 - Second and final revision of the Justinian Code published, a codified set of imperial and classical laws begun initially in 528
- 1491- An auto de fe, held in the Brasero de la Dehesa outside of Avila, concludes the case of the Holy Child of La Guardia with the public execution of several Jewish 1519- City of Havana moved to its current location to avoid mosquito infestations
- 1532- Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro captures Inca Emperor Atahualpa after a surprise ambush at Cajamarca in the Peruvian Andes
- 1572 - Troops under Don Frederik (the Spanish General Fadrique Alvarez de Toledo) occupy and plunder Zutphen, Netherlands
- 1581- Tsar Ivan the Terrible attacks his son and heir, Ivan Ivanovich, with a scepter after an argument leading to the latter's death three days later
- 1632 - Battle of Lützen: Significant battle of Thirty Years' War - Swedish and Saxon forces defeat the Holy Roman Empire, at cost of the death of Swedish King Gustavus Adolphus
- 1676- 1st colonial prison organized in Nantucket, Massachusetts
- 1677 - French troops occupy Freiburg
- 1700 - Monarch of Brandenburg becomes king of Prussia
- 1764- Native Americans surrender to British in Indian War of Chief Pontiac
- 1771- West Indian Company & Amsterdam divide up Suriname
- 1776 - 1st gun salute for an American warship in a foreign port - US Andrew Doria at Fort St Eustatius (Dutch Caribbean island)
- 1776- American Revolutionary War: British and Hessian troops take Fort Washington, New York marking one of biggest losses by US forces
- 1776 - British troops capture Fort Washington during American Revolution
- 1798 - Kentucky becomes first state to nullify an act of Congress
- 1805- Battle at Schongraben: Russian army stop French
- 1840 - New Zealand officially becomes a British colony
- 1841- Life preservers made of cork are patented by Napoleon Guerin (NYC)
- 1875- Battle of Gundet: Ethiopian emperor Yohannes beats Egyptians
- 1894- French captain Henri Decoeurs troops reach Nikki, West Africa
- 1905- Dutch Russian Count Witte becomes Prime Minister of Russia
- 1907- Oklahoma becomes the United States 46th state
- 1916- Russian La Satannaya ammunition factory explodes, killing 1,000
- 1917- British occupy Tel Aviv and Jaffa
- 1918- Hungarian People's Republic declared
- 1922 - Turkish kalief/sultan Mehmed VI asks British army for help.
- 1943 - World War II: American bombers strike a hydro-electric power facility and heavy water factory in German-controlled Vemork, Norway.
- 1945 - Founding of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization)
- 1950 - Egyptian King Faruk demands departure of all British troops.
- 1962 - Kuwait adopts constitution (1st, Islamic).
- 1965 - Venera 3 launched, 1st to land on another planet (crashes into Venus).
- 1973 - Skylab 4 launched into Earth orbit.
- 1982 - 5th space shuttle mission: Columbia lands at Edwards Air Force Base after 5 days in space.
- 1982 - Space Shuttle Columbia completes its 1st operational flight.
- 1984 - 14th Shuttle Mission (51A) -Discovery 2-lands at Kennedy Center.
- 1988 - Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto's PPP wins 1st free Pakistani elections in 11 years.
- 1989 - UNESCO adopts the Seville Statement on Violence at the twenty-fifth session of its General Conference.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Office of the Chief Accounts Officer,  
District Fund Office Kupwara**  
Phone /Fax- 01955252318, Email: - funds.kupwara@jkk.gov.in

**NOTICE**

Due to poor response of Auction Notice issued/Published vide No: DFO/Kup/Adm/1812-14 dated:03-10-2023 the date of Auction has been extended and will be now held on 28-11-23. However, the terms and conditions will remain same.

No:-DFO kup Adm/1883-84  
DIPK-12264/23  
Dated: -15-11-2023

Chief Accounts Officer  
District Fund Office Kupwara

**Office of the Principal Government  
Boys Model Higher Secondary School  
Kupwara.**

**Re-TENDER NOTICE**

Sealed tenders affixed with revenue stamp of Rs5/= are invited from the authorized/registered dealers for the supply of Lab Equipments affixed by a CDR worth Rs2000/= pledged to Principal Govt Boys Higher Secondary School Kupwara. The tenders should reach the office of the Undersigned within a weeks time from the date of its publication in the local news paper. The list of equipments/articles/material can be had from the office of the U/sd during working hours from 10:00 am to 04 Pm.

The undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/PRINCIPAL  
Mehraj-Ud-Din Shah  
Principal  
Govt BHSS Kupwara

No:- BHSSK/2023/1353  
DIPK-12238/23  
Dated:- 15/11/2023

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**Office Of The Executive Engineer  
Mechanical And Hospitals Division Srinagar**  
(Tele-fax No: 019-2496089, e-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in)

Subject: - Cleaning, Descaling and Repairs to convectors at Govt. CD Hospital, Srinagar

Ref :- This office e- NIT no: M&HDS/TS/2023-24/117/e-tendering Dated 21.10.2023

**CANCELLATION**

In view of minimum number of bidders not qualifying for opening of Cover 2nd, the above referred e-NIT is hereby cancelled and shall be floated afresh shortly.

Sd/  
Executive Engineer,  
Mechanical & Hospitals Division,  
Srinagar

No: M&HDS/TS/7245-48,  
DIPK-12268/23  
Dated: 15-11-2023





KASHMIR OBSERVER<sup>TM</sup>

Thursday | 16-11-2023

## Karnataka Hijab Ban

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has urged Congress leaders Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi to take steps to revoke the ban on hijab imposed by the previous Karnataka government, and rightly so. Congress professes to be a secular party and has opposed government's interference in religious matters. And when the previous BJP government imposed a ban on head covering in schools, Congress had taken a stand against this. Now the same party has introduced attire regulations for upcoming recruitment exams of various boards and corporations in the state. The directives include bans on head coverings and electronic gadgets inside examination halls, sparking a debate on individual freedoms and cultural considerations. What is shocking is that the Congress government is doing it. The party has always trumpeted its secular and inclusive values and which it wears on its sleeve to differentiate itself from the BJP's alleged majoritarian agenda. But in power, the party is doing what it criticizes in opposition. And it is these lapses that detract from the party's secular credentials.

Unlike the BJP, the Congress has invariably peddled an ambiguous politics which allows it to straddle the conservative-liberal divide. Though the Congress has also indulged in soft Hindutva, the drift of its politics has been by and large secular. But it is also true that in recent years the party has become apologetic about secularism, lest it be seen as Muslim appeasement in the country. With Rahul Gandhi's padyatra last year, however, this perception changed a bit. Congress finally showed some assertiveness about pursuing an inclusive political agenda. Ever since, Congress has won two successive state elections, one in Himachal, another in Karnataka. It already rules in Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan. It remains to be seen whether the party retains Chhattisgarh, and Rajasthan. Its performance in Madhya Pradesh will be also keenly watched.

But by failing to stand up for secular and inclusive values, the Congress' return to the centre stage will change nothing, least of all for the minorities. On the contrary, the BJP in recent past has embarked on an outreach to marginalized sections of minorities. And considering that the Hindutva party takes its politics seriously, minorities may find little reason to doubt its initiative.

So, for the Congress to carry conviction, it has to put its professed ideals into practice. Congress government in Karnataka which has banned Hijab should reevaluate its policy, and aim for inclusivity without compromising the integrity of the exams. The state has to navigate this delicate balance, the focus should remain on upholding values of diversity and individual expression while maintaining standardized examination protocols.

### OTHER OPINION

## Superhero to Superzero

When Iron Man — a comic book adaptation about an alcoholic billionaire playing dress-up, starring an actor who was considered a liability by most in the business — released in 2008, few might have predicted the success that would spawn a world-conquering franchise. But 15 years and 32 blockbusters later, the failure of the most recent offering from the Marvel Cinematic Universe, The Marvels, along with the cool reception of its other big release of the year, Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania, has prompted speculation about whether this juggernaut is finally grinding to a halt — and what it might portend for the global entertainment industry that had begun to orient itself to “tentpole” cinema.

There is no question that the fantastical universes spun by MCU, the Star Wars franchise and others have shown the heights of ambition that can be scaled by filmmakers — particularly in visual effects. At a time when there is a deluge of content competing for viewership, these films also offered a model of cinema that, thanks to elaborate plots unfolding over several films, could guarantee audience loyalty. This is a lesson not lost on Indian production houses; some, such as YRF — which has created its own “spyverse” with five films (so far) — have banked on the model to take them through recent bad patches.

Many, though, might welcome its demise, among them filmmakers who will see a space opening up again for the kind of character- and plot-driven films that, in the face of franchise cinema's marketing budgets and fanbase, were starting to be deemed too risky. The development might also please members of the audience fatigued by the relentless onslaught of franchise content on big and small screens. If the franchise model is, indeed, in its endgame, it could clear the way for an entertainment landscape that is more visibly diverse, with more than just endless iterations of the same plot featuring spandex-clad heroes saving the world.

*The Indian Express*

# Are Kashmiri Writers Falling Victim to Unscrupulous Publishers?



Peer Mohammad Amir Qureshi

“This practice not only squanders the readers' resources but also diminishes the appetite of avid readers for works by Kashmiri authors. It appears to be a significant contributing factor to the limited success of many Kashmiri writers in the market

In the Kashmir Valley, a growing cadre of authors is emerging, determined to reignite the waning passion for books. Each day, the region witnesses a captivating spectacle of homegrown writers gracing the pages of newspapers and finding their place on various social media platforms, with a shared aspiration to transform the literary landscape and want to change the paradigm from 'Kebab to Kitaab.' Against this backdrop, a critical question arises: Do the promises made to debut authors of the valley materialize when they choose their preferred publishing packages? Does the transformation of words into printed tomes genuinely confer upon them the esteemed title of being 'publishing-worthy'? Or are they merely pawns in the pursuit of profit for opportunistic publishers? The publishing industry of India, a vast realm, was valued at over 500 billion Indian rupees in 2019. Projections for 2024 anticipate its continued growth, with an estimated market size of approximately 781 billion Indian rupees. Within this colossal industry, novice writers, brimming with dreams of becoming published authors, often tread in a realm of inexperience. They are unfamiliar with the intricate workings of this sector and, at times, fall prey to deceptive practices.

As Kashmiri authors seek to breathe new life into the literary landscape, the issue of transparency and fairness in publishing remains a pressing concern. As the literary passion of these writers continues to shine, it is essential for them to navigate the complex pathways of the publishing industry with caution, to avoid becoming victims of unscrupulous publishers. The authors remain oblivious to the extent of their literary works' dissemination; while promised full

royalties before publication, they find themselves shrouded in ignorance once their books grace the shelves. In my personal estimation, not all works merit publication, and those emanating from Kashmiri publishing houses are riddled with a surfeit of errors. In the world of literature, there exists no latitude for post-publication rectifications, rendering it evident that many books, though their covers may be enticing, harbor content unfit for the literary stage. The onus for this oversight squarely rests upon the shoulders of the editors. I often ponder

It appears to be a significant contributing factor to the limited success of many Kashmiri writers in the market. I earnestly implore reviewers, critics, and newspaper editors to conduct honest and impartial assessments of books. It is of utmost importance for both print and social media editors to scrutinize whether a book or author is truly deserving of featuring. Editors within the Kashmiri publishing industry must also exercise due diligence by assessing manuscripts, detecting plagiarism, and discerning the presence of artificial intelligence-generat-

“As Kashmiri authors seek to breathe new life into the literary landscape, the issue of transparency and fairness in publishing remains a pressing concern. As the literary passion of these writers continues to shine, it is essential for them to navigate the complex pathways of the publishing industry with caution, to avoid becoming victims of unscrupulous publishers

who, if anyone, has undertaken the arduous task of proofreading these tomes. Publishers ought to enlist the services of adept editors, individuals endowed with comprehensive knowledge. The task of editing transcends the capabilities of a single individual; it necessitates a collaborative effort, a cadre of skilled editors working in tandem.

I hold no bias against any particular publishing house or author, but it is evident that the publication of subpar content, driven solely by profit, detrimentally affects the literary landscape. This practice not only squanders the readers' resources but also diminishes the appetite of avid readers for works by Kashmiri authors.

ed works. I fervently anticipate the emergence of an era where bestselling books by Kashmiri authors will rekindle the literary landscape of Kashmir. I genuinely hope that my words do not unintentionally offend anyone's sentiments, as they are rooted in a profound aspiration for the literary revival of this enchanting region.

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

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

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## Architect of Modern India

Last Tuesday the nation remembered India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on his 134th birth anniversary. A people's prime minister, statesman, intellectual and scholar, Nehru was one of the highly recognized world leaders of his time. His policies on economy, science and technology, international relations and education had all designed the future course of the country. Nehru strongly believed in

scientific knowledge and propagated reasoning and rationality as the basis of all learning. He also believed that the role of education in an individual's life was not restricted to academia alone but extended to one's economic ambitions and social contributions as well. Perhaps, the most authentic way to learn and understand Nehru's role in nation-building is to analyse the legacy of intellect left behind by him through his writings which can be interpret-

ed as prescriptive texts. He left his writings that were to be preserved for posterity. And through his cerebral writings, Nehru continues to speak with every Indian even today. Nehru's contributions have been foundational and colossal in building India as a secular and democratic republic which would have a socialistic commonsense. It is not only difficult, but even impossible for the nation to forget the Nehruvian legacy. Nehru laid the foundation for transforma-

tional changes, paving the way for India's eventual emergence as a major economic hub on the global center-stage. In fact, Nehru prided in calling himself as the 'prime servant' of the nation, and that was the humility of this great man. Not for nothing, India's first Prime Minister was hailed as the 'Architect of Modern India.'

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# Industrial Psychology Need of the Hour

Dr. Rajkumar Singh

**I**NDUSTRIAL psychology, also known as organisational psychology or occupational psychology, is a branch of psychology that focuses on studying human behaviour and performance in the workplace. It applies psychological principles and theories to improve the effectiveness and well-being of individuals, groups, and organisations. Industrial psychologists use various research methods such as surveys, interviews, and observations to gather data and analyse organisational dynamics. They often collaborate with management, human resources departments, and other professionals to implement evidence-based strategies that improve individual and organisational performance. Industrial psychology aims to optimise the interaction between employees and their work environment, leading to improved job satisfaction, productivity, and organisational effectiveness. Over the decades and centuries industrial psychology has continued to evolve, adapting to changing workplace dynamics, technological advancements, and societal shifts. It has expanded its focus beyond individual behaviour to include areas like leadership, organisational culture, diversity and inclusion, work-life balance, and employee well-being. Today, industrial psychology remains a vital discipline in understanding and optimising human behaviour and performance in the workplace. In line, further it also offers significant prospects for professionals to contribute to the well-being of individuals and organisations, address emerging workplace challenges, and drive organisational effectiveness and success in a rapidly changing world.

## Roots of industrial Psychology

The roots of industrial psychology can be traced back to the late 19th and early 20th centuries, during the Industrial Revolution. Several key figures and events have contributed to the development and evolution of industrial psychology. Hugo Münsterberg who is often considered the "father of industrial psychology," published the book "Psychology and Industrial Efficiency" in 1913 in which he emphasised the application of psychological principles to industry, including topics such as personnel selection, employee training, and workplace safety. By the time, the need to effectively assign and utilise personnel during World War I led to significant advancements in personnel selection and placement. At the time, Psychologists, including Robert Yerkes, developed intelligence tests to assess military recruits, laying the foundation for future assessments in the workplace. Further a deep study was conducted by Hawthorne at



Western Electric's Hawthorne Works in the 1920s and 1930s, and that these studies by Elton Mayo and his colleagues examined the impact of various factors, such as lighting and rest breaks, on worker productivity. These all highlighted the importance of social and psychological factors in the workplace and paved the way for further research in organisational behaviour. Around the time the human relations movement emerged in the 1930s, who emphasised the significance of social interactions, motivation, and job satisfaction in influencing employee productivity and well-being. Researchers like Abraham Maslow and Douglas McGregor contributed to this movement, focusing on employee needs, motivation theories, and participative management. Industrial psychology played a critical role during World War II, with psychologists involved in tasks such as personnel selection, training, and morale enhancement in the military. This further emphasised the importance of psychology in understanding and improving work performance. Professional Organizations: The establishment of professional organizations, such as the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) in 1945, which, to a large extent, helped to promote industrial psychology as a distinct field and foster collaboration among practitioners and researchers.

## Features of industrial Psychology

The history of Industrial psychology begins in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as a response to the need for understanding and improving worker performance in industrial settings during the Industrial Revolution which contains several features such as:

**Interdisciplinary Field:** Industrial psychology incorporates principles and theories from psychology, sociology, organisational behaviour, human resources management, and other related disciplines to address workplace issues. b. **Focus on Individuals and Organisations:** Industrial psychology focuses on understanding individual behaviour, cognition, and emotions in the workplace, as well as the dynamics and functioning of organizations as a whole.

**Employee Selection Methods:** Industrial psychologists employ various techniques to assess job applicants, such as interviews, personality tests, cognitive ability tests, and assessment centres, to identify the best candidates for specific job roles. **Training and Development:** Industrial psychologists design and implement training programs to enhance employees' skills, knowledge, and abilities, and foster continuous learning and development within organizations. e. **Leadership and Management:** Industrial psychology offers insights into effective leadership and management practices,

including strategies for motivation, communication, decision-making, and team building.

**Job Satisfaction and Engagement:** Industrial psychologists study factors that contribute to job satisfaction, engagement, and well-being, and develop interventions to enhance employee morale and productivity.

**Work-Life Balance:** Industrial psychology recognises the importance of work-life balance and provides guidance on managing workload, promoting flexible work arrangements, and addressing stress and burnout. h. **Organisational Culture and Climate:** Industrial psychologists examine the values, norms, and climate within organisations, and work to create positive and supportive environments that promote employee satisfaction, commitment, and performance.

## Prospects of industrial Psychology

In future, the prospects for industrial psychology are more promising due to various factors which include:

**Increasing Focus on Employee Well-being:** Organizations are recognizing the importance of employee well-being and its impact on productivity, job satisfaction, and retention.

## Emphasis on Diversity and Inclusion:

There is a growing awareness of the benefits of diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Industrial psychologists can assist organisations in creating inclusive environments, addressing bias, and promoting equitable practices to harness the advantages of diverse teams.

**Technological Advancements:** Technology is transforming the way we work, introducing new challenges and opportunities. Industrial psychologists can help organizations adapt to technological advancements, such as remote work and automation, by addressing issues like virtual team collaboration, digital well-being, and upskilling and reskilling employees.

**Evolving Leadership Needs:** Effective leadership is crucial for organizational success. Industrial psychologists can contribute to identifying and developing leadership competencies, enhancing leadership effectiveness, and addressing emerging leadership challenges in rapidly changing work environments.

**Data-driven Decision Making:** Industrial psychology leverages research and data to inform decision-making processes. With advancements in data analytics and technology, industrial psychologists can play a vital role in helping organizations make evidence-based decisions related to talent acquisition, performance management, and organizational development.

**Organizational Change and Adaptability:** In a fast-paced and competitive business landscape, organizations need to be agile and adaptable. Industrial psychologists can assist in managing organizational change, facilitating communication, and fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement.

**Globalization and Cross-cultural Challenges:** As organizations operate in diverse cultural contexts, industrial psychologists can provide insights and strategies for effective cross-cultural communication, teamwork, and leadership, enabling organizations to thrive in global markets. h. **Ethical Practices and Social Responsibility:** Industrial psychology emphasizes ethical considerations and social responsibility in the workplace.

Dr. Rajkumar Singh is a Youth Motivator, presently Professor of Political Science and Dean, Student's Welfare (DSW), at B.N. Mandal University, Madhepura (Bihar), India. His 23 books published in addition to 900 articles in national and international journals and daily newspapers from 25 foreign countries

# Why surging sales of large electric vehicles raises environmental red flags

Laura Lander & Grazia Todeschini

**E**lectric cars are getting bigger and heavier. In 2019, 30% of the electric vehicle (EV) models available worldwide were sports utility vehicles (SUVs).

Fast forward to 2022 and that figure stood at 40% - equivalent to the share of small and medium car options combined. Other large models accounted for more than 15%.

There's an issue with this. Larger and heavier EVs require bigger batteries to power them. In fact, the battery of an SUV can be double the size of that in a smaller vehicle.

As with many other batteries, the lithium-ion cells that power the majority of electric vehicles rely on raw materials such as cobalt, lithium and nickel. In a standard 60 kWh lithium-ion battery pack designed for smaller EVs, there can be as much as 170kg of minerals, including 39kg of nickel and 5kg of lithium.

Batteries for electric SUVs demand that up to 75% more raw materials are extracted from the environment than this.

However, research suggests that there could be shortages in the supply of battery materials in the future. By 2030, there could be a 55% less lithium and 8% less nickel and manganese than is needed to meet the demand for EV batteries.

If the demand for electric SUVs continues to increase over the coming decade, this could severely escalate the pressure on the already tight supply of critical raw materials.

But that's not all

The production of batteries is also a highly carbon-intensive process, with emissions



increasing as batteries grow in size. For example, the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions resulting from materials processing and battery manufacturing can soar to levels 70% higher for electric SUVs compared to smaller EVs.

Mining activities have been linked with several negative environmental effects too. For instance, one study found that lithium mining activities in the Salar de Atacama - Chile's largest salt flat - have disturbed flamingo breeding sites and reduced the birds' access to food and water.

Expanding mining operations to support the growing SUV market could lead to further habitat destruction, excessive water consumption, increased mining waste and

heightened risks to local biodiversity.

Adding to the complexity is the EU's recent decision to mandate a minimum proportion of recycled material in new EV batteries. As of 2021, regulations have required that 6% of the nickel and lithium, and 14% of the cobalt in EV batteries must be sourced from recycled materials.

Given the sharp upswing in battery demand, coupled with the need for more recycled materials, we could once again encounter a strained supply chain, with particular implications for larger batteries.

## We need clean electricity

To charge larger batteries in an environmentally friendly manner will require an increased supply of low-carbon electricity. But, as the energy sources used to generate electricity are influenced by factors including availability and the dynamics of the energy market, the carbon intensity of the electricity supply can often vary.

Even if electricity grids do become cleaner, the increasing demand generated by the need to charge these larger batteries could put pressure on power grids.

Transmission and distribution systems were designed at a time when power plants were large and centralised, and electricity demand was relatively low. However, the

energy landscape has evolved.

We are now moving towards decentralised energy sources, such as wind turbines and solar panels. These energy sources are often smaller and located in areas where electricity generation was previously absent.

As a result, the grid infrastructure in these locations is less developed. Electricity demand is also growing, as more people buy electric vehicles and install heat pumps.

The overall grid capacity might be sufficient to accommodate these changes. But there could still be periods, especially during specific times of the day or year, when the grid experiences bottlenecks.

For example, there may be a surplus of renewable energy generation in one location and significant demand in a distant area, but the electrical infrastructure might be insufficient to transfer power from one end to the other.

This exact situation often occurs in the UK. In 2022, bottlenecks in the transmission system meant Scottish wind farms were paid to stop generating power on 200 separate occasions and gas power stations in England were paid to increase output to compensate for this.

Utilities companies are working to reinforce electricity grids worldwide by, for example, building more lines to transfer the additional power.

Motorists are increasingly opting for large electric SUVs. But the environmental impact of these vehicles should not be underestimated. The relentless demand for battery materials and electricity raises the question of whether SUVs will continue to be a viable green option.

By arrangements with The Conversation









## India Beat New Zealand To Reach World Cup Final

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Making the big stage his own, Virat Kohli added more lustre to his larger than life persona with a historic 50th ODI century that extended India's bullish World Cup run to the title clash even as New Zealand threatened to spoil the home team's party with a lion-hearted fight, here Wednesday.

The semifinal tilted heavily in India's favour after Rohit Sharma's team put on board a massive 397 for four, bulldozing the Kiwi attack but before the hosts romped home by 70 runs for an unprecedented 10th win in a row, New Zealand did cause considerable anxiety in home team's camp.

It was Daryl Mitchell's valiant 134 off 119 balls that had the Indian hearts racing as the equation became a gettable 112 from 54-balls with six wickets in hand but Kuldeep Yadav delivered under pressure a price-less two-run 42nd over that released the pressure.

Pacer Mohammed Shami, who had scalped top four Kiwi batters earlier, then sealed the fate of the Kiwis by ending Mitchell's belligerent knock and ended up with a gold-standard seven-wicket haul.

Shami is serving reminders of



his class in each and every game since making the playing XI after being left out initially and he only made it bigger at the big stage.

When it was alleged that India tried to take advantage by opting for spin-friendly track, it was a fast bowler that made the ball talk.

New Zealand folded for 327 in 48.5 overs and India rejoiced a hard-earned memorable victory with yet another team effort, that earned them a shot at their third ODI world title.

A fearless Rohit Sharma (47

off 29) dented the confidence of New Zealand bowlers with his ultra-risk, power-packed knock that blew away the pressure of the big semifinal, leaving the stage for Kohli (117) to conjure up the knock that perched him atop a mountain from where displacing him does not seem possible for a long time to come.

Shreyas Iyer not only watched Kohli take the crown from his idol, Sachin Tendulkar (49 ODI centuries), from the best seat in the house but he himself made a huge contribution in India rais-

ing a mammoth total, albeit his knock of 105 was overshadowed due to the sheer significance of Kohli's milestone mark.

New Zealand has always been a big-match team and it fought through Mitchell and inspiring leader Kane Williamson (69) but in the end their efforts only saved them from the ignominy of losing by a bigger margin.

Rachin Ravindra (13) and Devon Conway imploded under pressure and the Kiwis did not get the kind start which is required for such targets.

## Virat Kohli Slams 50th ODI Ton To Make History, Breaks Idol Sachin Tendulkar's World Record

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Virat Kohli on Wednesday climbed a peak that no one ever has conquered - 50th hundred in ODIs, and, rest assured, the Indian superstar will stand alone on that high point for foreseeable future.

With that century against New Zealand in the World Cup semifinals here, Kohli moved past his idol Sachin Tendulkar, who had held the record for most ODI centuries till now with 49 of them.

Tendulkar also might have felt a bit of gratification seeing his successor dethroning him, as the batting maestro himself had asked Kohli not to delay in getting to the mark.

After Kohli reached his 49th ODI hundred against South Africa in Kolkata, Tendulkar took to X (formerly Twitter) to wish the Delhiite, "Well played Virat. It took me 365 days to go from 49 to 50 earlier this year. I hope you go from 49 to 50 and break my record in the next few days," Tendulkar had written then.



Kohli did precisely that on this day in Tendulkar's home ground.

Here is a stat-crunch from India's innings.

50: Kohli is now the only batsman to have 50 hundreds in ODI cricket. Among the active cricketers, Indian skipper Rohit Sharma tails him at 31.

5: This was Kohli's 5th hundred in World Cup, going equal with Kumar Sangakkara

and Ricky Ponting. Rohit leads the list with seven centuries.

3: This the first time 3 players from same team score more than 500 runs in World Cup: Kohli, Shreyas, Rohit.

711: Kohli is now the highest run-getter in this World Cup. He is the only batsman to score more than 700 runs in the showpiece. The previous best was Tendulkar's 673 in 2003 World Cup.

## GCOPE Annual Athletic Project Meet Held At Ganderbal



Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The Government College of Physical Education Gadoora Ganderbal held the first day of its 46th Annual Athletic Project Meet on Wednesday.

The two-day event is being held at the college's campus, with 164 students competing in 12 Track & Field disciplines, including 100 Meter (Men & Women), 200 Meter (Women), 400 Meter (Men), 800 Meter (Women), 1500 Meter (Men), 4x100 Meter Relay Race (Women), 4x400 Meter Relay Race (Men), Shot Put (Men & Women), Discus Throw (Men & Women), Javelin Throw (Men & Women), Long-Jump (Men & Women) and High-Jump (Men & Women).

Students of B.P.Ed (Semester-II & IV) and M.P.Ed Semester-I participated in various events. M.P.Ed Semester-III students organised the meet. March Past was presented by the students of the colleges.

Various dignitaries, includ-

ing Nuzhat Ishfaq, Chairperson DDC Ganderbal as Chief Guest, Sareer Ahmad Mir District Treasury Officer, Wajahat Qayoom ARTO and Shafkat Iqbal DYSSO Ganderbal as Guests of Honour and other officers/officials of the college added prestige to the inaugural function.

Welcome address was presented by Dr. Hartej Singh, Principal Government College of Physical Education Gadoora Ganderbal. During his speech, he revitalized the on-field activities conducted by the college under the aegis of Department of YSS J&K at different levels and also professed that Annual Athletic Project Meet is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and collaborative spirit of the entire college community.

Dr. Nazir Ahmad Waza, Sr. Assistant Professor presented a gracious vote of thanks to all the dignitaries and praise for the students who brought vibrancy to the event with their presence.

## Goalie Maroof Shafi Selected For FIFA ID Talent Trials

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Sports Council Football Academy product Maroof Shafi has been selected to participate in the FIFA Talent ID Academy selection trials at Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

The Talent ID academy is the first of its kind FIFA-sponsored academy in India, and was inaugurated by FIFA president. Maroof Shafi is an up-and-coming goalkeeper from Budgam. He recently participated in the Under-14 Sub Junior National Football Championship 2023-24 and caught the attention of many scouts. Maroof is the only footballer from J&K in the 45-player list released by the academy.

The trials begin No-

vember 20 and go on till November 24.

J&K Football Association also released a statement congratulating the young prospect.

"The JKFA is thrilled to extend its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Maroof Shafi of Budgam. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to coaches for their unwavering commitment to nurturing and recommending these outstanding young players for FIFA Talent ID," the FA said in a statement.

"On behalf of Nazir Ahmad Andrabi (Chairman JKFA), B.A Shah (General Secretary JKFA), and Wasim Aslam (Chief Coordinator JKFA), we extend our warmest congratulations to Maroof Shafi," it added.



## J&K Women Suffer 1-0 Loss In Senior National

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The J&K Senior Women's football team lost 1-0 to Uttarakhand on Wednesday in the 28th Senior Women's National Football Championship 2023-24 being played at Amritsar, Punjab.

The team is coached by Qudsiya

Altaf and will be happy with the fight shown in a tough matchup.

J&K will next play Ladakh on Friday, November 17 at GNDU Sports Complex. The game begins at 10:00 AM.

J&K Starting XI vs Uttarakhand:  
1 Afshan 2 Seerat 4 Afreena 8 Zaara 11 Shrunya 13 Riya 14 Tanzeela 17 Shabnam 19 Nidha 7 Nadiya 12 Mahrugh



## South Africa Look To Drop WC Chokers Tag Against Nemesis Australia

Agencies

KOLKATA: Should South Africa finally shed the World Cup 'chokers' tag by beating Australia in their semi-final on Thursday it may feel doubly sweet given the prominent role their opponents have played in creating the myth of the panicky Proteas.

Nearly a quarter-century has passed since the classic 1999 World Cup semi-final where South Africa needed one run from four balls for victory, only to draw the match and be eliminated due to Australia's higher placed finish in the Super Sixes stage.

Far more than just a bleak day for South African cricket, the Edgbaston debacle remains a historical reference point for all the ills that have since befallen the Proteas at World Cups.

While the semi-final was dramatic enough in isolation, South Africa's doom was actually a tragicomedy in two parts, with act one being the final Super Six match against Australia days earlier.

Australia captain Steve Waugh played the villain to perfection, scoring a match-winning, unbeaten century af-



ter being bizarrely reprieved by Herschelle Gibbs.

Gibbs had jogged to his side at mid-wicket to take a simple catch but spilled the ball when set to fling it skyward in celebration.

"You've just dropped the World Cup," were the words attributed to Waugh after Gibbs's drop, though neither player has ever corroborated the remark.

It proved the sharpest of turning points as Waugh



guided Australia to victory with two balls to spare, saving his team from the brink of elimination.

South Africa, chasing a modest 214 for victory in the teams' re-match in the semi-final, entered the final over at 205 for nine, with Lance Klusener on strike and tail-ender Allan Donald at the other end.

Klusener thumped fours off paceman Damien Fleming's first two balls to leave South

Africa needing one run from the final four balls for a place in their maiden World Cup final.

Klusener mishit the next two deliveries but made an ill-fated dash for a run on the second, only for Donald to be caught unawares.

South Africa's humiliation was complete when Donald dropped his bat when finally taking off for the run and wicketkeeper Adam Gilchrist whipped off the balls.

HISTORY REMINDER

World Cup setbacks have piled up for the Proteas ever since.

They were eliminated from their home World Cup in 2003 after miscalculating the adjusted winning target in a rain-hit match against Sri Lanka.

Four years later they crashed to a heavy defeat in the semis against Australia, and a stunning batting collapse in the 2011 quarter-finals saw them beaten by New Zealand.

In 2015, New Zealand batsman Grant Elliott smashed Dale Steyn for six to sink South Africa in the semi-final in Auckland.

Former Australia wicket-keeper Brad Haddin said he would waste no time in bringing up South Africa's World Cup misfires if he was playing against them in Thursday's semi-final in Kolkata.

"I'd be reminding them of that (history) as soon as we walk on the field," TV pundit Haddin said this week.

"They'll have enough going on in their own heads and we'll have a few players reminding them of that."

## Babar Azam Resigns As Pakistan Skipper From All Formats

Press Trust of India

KARACHI: Babar Azam on Wednesday quit as Pakistan captain across formats, four days after his team's elimination from the World Cup, where the former champions finished fifth.

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) appointed Shaheen Shah Afridi as their new T20I captain and Shan Masood as their Test captain shortly after Babar stepped down from the role. Babar announced his decision on social media.

"Today, I am stepping down as captain of Pakistan from all formats. It's a difficult decision but I feel this is right time for this call," Babar wrote in his statement, posted on X.

Babar faced scathing criticism for his team selection and many accused him of creating a coterie with the players of his liking, including Imam ul Haq, Mohammed Nawaz, Shadab Khan to name a few. With no ODIs scheduled in the near future, the PCB has not named a captain for the format.

Pakistan lost five of their nine games, including a shock



defeat to Afghanistan in the World Cup, bringing Babar's leadership under scanner.

The 34-year-old Masood has featured in 30 Tests, scoring 1,597 runs, which includes four centuries and seven half-centuries but was overlooked for the Asia Cup and World Cup.

His first assignment will be a three-match Test series in Australia starting December 14.

Afridi's first assignment as captain will be the five-match T20I series in New Zealand from January 12 to 21.

The 23-year-old Afridi has captained Lahore Qalandars to two Pakistan Super League titles in the last two years.

## Tagore's timeless 'Kabuliwala' to hit silver screen again after six decades in Mithun-starrer Bengali film



Agenceis

KOLKATA: Nearly six decades after filmmaker Tapan Sinha dished out cult movie 'Kabuliwala', based on a timeless story written by Rabindranath Tagore, another Bengali film with Mithun Chakraborty in the lead role will retell the tale, hitting the screens this Christmas.

Kabuliwala, written in 1892, showcases the fatherly love of a middle-aged Afghan man named Rahmat for Mini, a little girl from Kolkata.

Rahmat, who comes to the then capital of the British Indian empire to sell dry fruits and enter the moneylending business, bonds with one of his patron's five-year-old daughter who reminds him of his own child back home.

While Chakraborty will essay the role of Rahmat, child artist Anumegha Kahali, famous for her role in 'Mithai' Bengali soap, will portray the role of Mini in the new film, also named 'Kabuliwala', directed by Suman Ghosh.

Bengali actors Abir Chatterjee and Sohini Sarkar will essay the roles of Mini's parents. The new film is set in the Kolkata of 1960s and is a heartwarming tale transcending geographical borders and cultural disparities.

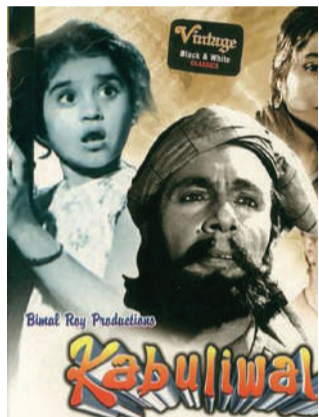
"Kabuliwala is scheduled for a festive release during Christmas 2023 to bring cheers among the audiences including children during the festive season," the producers said in a

statement on Children's Day on Tuesday.

Tapan Sinha had first brought the story to the celluloid in 1957.

Bengali actor Chhabi Biswas had portrayed the role of Rahmat in the movie.

Sixty-six years later, the



story is being retold in another Bengali film by Ghosh, who had earlier directed 'Nobelchor', a movie based on the theft of Tagore's Nobel prize medal from Santiniketan.

Chakraborty said he will interpret the character of Rahmat in his own way.

"This 'Kabuliwala' has no similarities (with the earlier film)," the director had told PTI recently.

The story has inspired Hindi movies, including a 1961 movie of the same name made by Hemen Gupta with Balraj Sahni in the lead role, and 'Bioscopewala', a 2008 Danny Dengzongpa-starrer directed by Deb Medhekar.

## After Beatles, AI To Bring Edith Piaf Voice Back To Life For Biopic



Agenceis

A new biopic on the life of Edith Piaf will use artificial intelligence to allow the French star to narrate her own story, Warner Music and her estate said on Tuesday.

"Edith" is "in the final phase of development", sources close to Warner Music France said, but no release date has been scheduled.

The unveiling of the "innovative and revolutionary technological project using AI to re-create her voice and image", the statement said, comes 60

years after Piaf's death.

It also follows the success of the Beatles' latest release "Now And Then" which, with a little help from AI, last week soared to the band's first UK number one single in 54 years.

Artificial intelligence helped isolate the late John Lennon's vocals from a tape he recorded in 1978, two years before he was murdered.

The two surviving Beatles, Paul McCartney, aged 81, and Ringo Starr, 83, finished "Now And Then" last year, including the late George Harrison's guitar parts recorded in 1995.

For the singer of French classics "La vie en Rose" and "Non, je ne regrette rien", AI will be fed hundreds of voice and image clips, some more than 80 years old, to re-create her unique style and "further enhance the authenticity and emotional impact of her story".

Original recordings will be used for her greatest hits, Warner said. The 90-minute film will move between Paris and New York from 1920 to 1960 and be narrated by the singer's voice, including hitherto unknown "aspects of her life".

## Stranded Whale Calf Pushed Back Into The Sea After 40 Hours In Maharashtra's Ratnagiri District

Agenceis

A 35-foot-long whale calf that was stranded on the coast of Ganpatipule in Maharashtra's Ratnagiri district was on Wednesday pushed back into the sea after 40 hours of efforts, delighting visitors and locals at the tourist spot, officials said.

The whale calf, weighing nearly 4 tons, reached the coast on Monday but got stuck in the sand near the beach as there was a low tide.

Travellers and locals who spotted the marine mammal struggling in shallow waters alerted the authorities, including Ratnagiri police and Coast Guard, resulting in a spirited rescue operation.

Initial attempts by the fire brigade, police and locals to push back the whale calf deep into the sea did not succeed, triggering concerns about its safety and survival.

Moving quickly on their feet, the rescuers began pouring seawater to keep the calf hydrated and covered it with cotton to create the required environment to save it, said the official.

A team of veterinary doctors also reached the spot and administered fluid to the whale calf to keep it alive.

An effort was made to push the sea animal by tying it with a belt and dragging it, but it caused injuries near its tail, prompting authorities to abort the method. Meanwhile,

marine experts were also roped in to monitor the whale calf's health, he said.

On Tuesday night, a tugboat was brought and the whale was placed on a net under a new rescue plan. During high tide, officials and locals again started pushing the calf into the water. They were inspired to work harder seeing the calf itself making attempts to slide towards deeper water, the official said.

After working relentlessly for several hours, the whale calf was dragged 7 to 8 nautical miles into the sea by the tugboat in the early hours of Wednesday, the official said.

Once back in its natural habitat, the whale calf broke the net and started swimming on its own. It then swam deeper and vanished in the sea, said Dhanajay Kulkarni, superintendent of police, Ratnagiri district.

"It was an important task to save the marine life. All stakeholders, including the district administration, Coast Guard, a private company, local villagers, and marine experts, were involved in the operation alongside the police to rescue the whale," he said. Typically, mammals like this calf face survival challenges after being stranded on the shore for more than 35-40 hours, but this calf defied the odds, he said.

"All were very happy as they successfully guided it back into the sea, knowing that it can now resume its natural life," he added.

## A 32-Year-Old US Woman Born With Two Uteruses Is Now Pregnant In Both

Agenceis

It's double trouble, with a unique twist: A 32-year-old woman from Alabama who was born with two uteruses is now pregnant in both.

Kelsey Hatcher, who is documenting her story on her Instagram account "doublehatchlings," knew from the age of 17 she has "uterus didelphys," a rare condition where a person has a double uterus, thought to affect about 0.3 percent of females.

It was during a routine

eight-week ultrasound visit in May that the massage therapist and mother-of-three learned not only that she was having twins this time around—but that a fetus was present in each of her uteruses.

"We were kind of blown away! During that first ultrasound we had LOTS of laughs," she wrote in an Instagram post.

"Most likely what happened is that she ovulated separately and had one egg come down each fallopian tube, meaning coming down on each side of

the uterus, and then sperm traveled up on each separate uterus and fertilization occurred separately," Shweta Patel, the obstetrician-gynecologist caring for Hatcher at the University of Alabama at Birmingham's Women & Infants Center, told ABC's "Good Morning America."

Although women with a double uterus often face pregnancy complications, all three of Hatcher's previous children were born healthy at full term. Pregnancies in both uteruses

are exceedingly rare—Hatcher said she was told the odds were 1 in 50 million—with the last widely known case occurring in Bangladesh in 2019 when Arifa Sultana, then 20, gave birth to healthy twins 26 days apart.

Hatcher is hoping to go into labor and give medicated natural birth to both Baby A and Baby B, or "the girlies" as she affectionately calls them, with a due date of Christmas. Both are said to be "thriving."

But the uteruses will contract

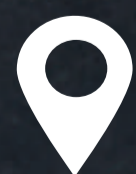
at different times, which could be minutes, hours or even days apart, and Kelsey and her husband Caleb Hatcher are aware Cesarean sections—for one, or both—could be needed, depending on how things unfold.

"They like to tell me at every doctor's visit that 'You are aware, we've never had a situation like this before, this is a new case for us altogether'...But I feel like I have the best team for this situation and I'm at the best hospital at Alabama for what's going on," she said.

# Bun Maska



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