

Rain, Snowfall In Kashmir Likely From Today

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: The minimum temperature in most parts of the Kashmir Valley remained above the 2 degrees Celsius mark for the second day on Tuesday due to the impact of a Western Disturbance, officials said.

The improvement in the temperature has brought relief to people in this region of Jammu and Kashmir, which otherwise was in the grip of intense cold. Thick fog was reported from several parts of the Valley.

The officials, however, said there is a possibility of light to moderate snowfall in the higher reaches over the next three days.

The ski resort of Gulmarg in north Kashmir was the only weather station in the Valley where the minimum settled below the freezing point at minus 0.2 degrees Celsius in the night, they said.

However, the temperature was a degree up from the previous night, the officials said.

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, recorded a minimum of 3.9 degrees Celsius, while in Qazigund, the gateway town to the Valley in south Kashmir, it was 3.8 degrees Celsius.

Kokernag town registered a low of 2.8 degrees Celsius, according to the [More on PIO](#)

Govt Avails 'Shakti' Power To Meet Electricity Demand

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The electricity crisis in Jammu and Kashmir is likely to ease from next week as the Union Territory administration has reached out to the central government to procure an additional 500 MW power supply under Shakti policy.

Principal Secretary of Power Development Department (PDD) H Rajesh Prasad told Kashmir Observer that the process is in its final stage and will come into effect from the first week of December.

"In December we have the peak load and we are in the final stage of procuring the additional power supply from the central government under Shakti policy," Prasad said,



adding that Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) is pending as of now while other formalities have been completed.

Last year, the Ministry of Power launched a scheme for procurement of aggregate power of 4500 MW by states

and Union Territories for five years under SHAKTI Policy. The Ministry said that the scheme will help states/UTS

that are facing power shortage and help generation plants to increase their capacities.

It is pertinent to mention that J&K government has sanctioned the acquisition of more than 2400 MWs of power through PPA from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) and Solar Power Corporation of India (SPCI) to address the deficit.

Prasad, however, noted that the department is running short of funds to purchase the power. "The revenue generation is very poor, leading to constraints on the budget," he said.

Last week, the PDD had called an important meeting amid severe criticism from the cross sections of the society for failing [More on PIO](#)

KPDCL To Rope In Clerics, Scholars; Civil Society

The Jammu and Kashmir government has decided to rope in religious clerics, scholars and civil society to ensure the judicious use of electricity. In view of the increasing complaints about power thefts and illegal connections, the Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDCCL) is taking this measure to enhance the power situation within the valley. Principal Secretary, Power Development Department, H Rajesh Prasad said that they will rope in representatives from various sections of the society to disseminate the message of judicious use of electricity within the public. "We will take support of all those persons who have a social concern and reputation among the public. We will use religious clerics, scholars and civil society to propagate the judicious use of electricity," he said. An official of the KPDCCL said the incidents of hooking in metered areas on bare conductors have witnessed a steep rise over the last month. "Consumption [More on PIO](#)

JKAS Officer Suspended For Violating Rules

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has suspended a land department official for violation of rules in connection with transfer of officials in the Union Territory.

"Pending enquiry into his conduct, Abdul Hafiz Shah, Regional Director, Survey and Land Records, Anantnag, is hereby placed under suspension, with immediate effect in terms of Rule 31 of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956." Commissioner-Secretary, General Administration Department, Sanjeev Verma said in an order issued on Monday.

Shah during suspension will remain attached to the office of Divisional Commissioner in Kashmir, he said.

The order did not give any specifics on his acts which led to his suspension.

According to official sources, Shah was suspended on the direction of the Chief Secretary for violating rules in transfer of some officials.

The administration also removed Hilal Ahmed Mir, Project Officer, Wage Employment of Kupwara district, from his post and attached him to the General Administration Department. [More on PIO](#)

'Fell Down Many Times'

J&K Girl Urges PM To Build Better Roads To School



Agencies

Udhampur: Jammu and Kashmir: Following in the footsteps of little Seerat Naaz, a schoolgirl from Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua, who urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to lift her school from dire straits and ensure better learning ambience and infrastructure for herself and her mates in a viral video, a 'Divyang' (disabled) girl from

Udhampur district has now come forward with a similar request for the country's most powerful leader.

Introducing herself only by her first name Kajal, the girl has written to Prime Minister Modi, urging him to build better roads leading to her school in the Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir.

In her letter, she said she studies in the sixth standard at the [More on PIO](#)

Legends League Cricket

A New Beginning Of Sporting Era For J&K: LG

Hosts 'High Tea' For Renowned International Players At Raj Bhawan

Observer News Service

Jammu: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday termed the Legends League Cricket matches in Jammu and Kashmir after several decades as the first major international cricket in the Union Territory and said it was a beginning of new sporting era for J&K.

"This tournament is also an occasion to uphold the values of the Cricket game, which seeks to promote peace, excellence, respect, friendship and unity. In every respect, Jammu Kashmir echoes and reinforces these ideals and developing a thriving sporting culture," Sinha said.

He made these remarks while interacting with cricketers renowned international players during 'High Tea' hosted by him at Raj Bhawan here on Tuesday.



J&K, Sinha said is proud and excited about the matches being held at MA Stadium.

"This is the first major international Cricket event for the UT after several decades and a

beginning of new sporting era for Jammu Kashmir," he said. "These matches featuring International Cricket stars will not only help us to achieve excellence in [More on PIO](#)

PO Fired For Taking Rs 2L Bribe From Murder Accused

Agencies

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir government has dismissed a prosecuting officer for taking a bribe of Rs 2 lakh from an accused for not getting him arraigned as an accused in a murder case in Rajouri.

According to an order, the government dismissed incharge senior prosecuting officer Aijaz-Ul-Hassan for taking Rs 2 lakh bribe from the accused while he was posted as Senior Prosecuting Officer in the court of Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Thanamandi.

The order states that the officer failed in maintaining absolute integrity and acted in a manner unbecoming of a government employee, thereby violating the provisions contained in J&K Employees



(Conduct) Rules, 1971.

"The act on the part of the officer tantamount to a violation of Rule 3 of J&K Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971," it said.

It added that therefore, in terms of Rule 30(viii) of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Services (Classification, Control & Appeal) Rules, 1956, Shri Aijaz-Ul-Hassan, in charge Senior Prosecuting Officer is dismissed from service, with immediate effect, which will also disqualify him from future employment.

THE ACT ON THE PART of the officer tantamount to a violation of Rule 3 of J&K Employees (Conduct) Rules, 1971."

WORLD CUP ROW

Students Booked Under Softer Provision Of UAPA: Police

Press Trust Of India

Srinagar: After it faced flak from a section of politicians, the Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday defended booking under UAPA seven university students who had raised objectionable slogans after the Indian cricket team's in the World cup final, saying it had invoked a "softer provision" of the anti-terror law.

Several politicians, including the former J-K chief ministers Mehbooba Mufti and Omar Abdullah, have condemned the action by police, alleging that it will disaffect the youths with such an extreme punishment.

In a statement on Tuesday, police said that the boys have been booked under section 13 of Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, or UAPA, and added "in contrast to other provisions of the Act, it is a softer provision of the Act."

Section 13 of the UAPA deals with the inciting or advising of any unlawful activity and is punishable with seven years' jail.

The students have also been slapped with provisions of 505 and 506 which deal with public mischief and criminal intimidation of the Indian Penal Code, under which, if convicted, the jail term can go up to five years. Police said [More on PIO](#)

NIT Erupts Over 'Blasphemous' SM Post

Protests were held at the National Institute of Technology here on Tuesday over a student's social media post allegedly hurting religious sentiments, officials said. The protesters demanded stringent action against the non-local [More on PIO](#)

IT IS ABOUT TERRORISING OTHERS who may be nourishing pro India feelings or anti Pakistan feelings or disagreeing. There were written complaints to evidence this."



J&K Bank | YOUR BANK SINCE 1938
Serving To Empower

Open your Account Online

WHILE you listen to your favourite **SONG**

24 X 7 Service

Video KYC

100% Secure




Scan Here to know more



CAUTION: Bank does not ask for your Password / PIN / OTP / CVV / Card Number.
CALL US AT 1800 890 2122 | LOG ON TO www.jkbank.com | FOLLOW US ON

* Terms and Conditions Apply.
DJK-NB-4491/23 Dated: 29-11-2023



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327
 Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)
 No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

Prehistoric Women Engaged In Hunting, Their Anatomy Suitable For It: US Researchers

Press Trust Of India

Prehistoric women not only engaged in the practice of hunting, but their anatomy and biology would have also made them intrinsically better suited for it, scientists have claimed.

Drawing their conclusions from both archaeological and physiological evidence, the researchers from US universities found that "hunting belonged to everyone, not just to males."

They said that through their studies, published in the journal American Anthropologist, they were "trying to correct the history that erased women from it," instead of erasing or rewriting history.

Their archaeological findings regarding the women's injuries and the women being buried with their hunting weapons suggested that no "strict sexual division of labour existed," especially in prehistoric societies, where survival was an all-hands-on-deck activity.

"There weren't enough people living in groups to be specialised in different tasks. Everyone had to be a generalist to survive," said Cara Ocobock, an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Notre Dame.

The researchers found injuries in the women resulting from close-contact hunting, akin to what is attributed to Neanderthals' "up-close-and-personal style of hunting," which meant that the hunters would often have to get up underneath their prey in order to kill them.

"As such, we find that both males and females have the same resulting injuries when we look at their fossil records," said Ocobock, adding, they found the patterns and rates of wear and tear equally in both women and men.

Further, in Peru, they found evidence of early female hunters of the Holocene period buried with hunting weapons.

"You don't often get buried with

The physiological findings told the story of the prehistoric women's capabilities of performing the arduous physical activity of hunting prey and their ability to hunt successfully for prolonged durations, the researchers said.

something unless it was important to you or was something that you used frequently in your life," said Ocobock.

"Furthermore, we have no reason to believe that prehistoric women abandoned their hunting while pregnant, breastfeeding or carrying children," she added.

The physiological findings told

the story of the prehistoric women's capabilities of performing the arduous physical activity of hunting prey and their ability to hunt successfully for prolonged durations, the researchers said.

They found that the female body was both metabolically and structurally advantageous in terms of endurance and effectiveness for prehistoric hunters.

Metabolically, the hormones estrogen and adiponectin, which are typically found in greater amounts in women than in men, enabled efficient burning of fat for energy and protecting the muscles from breaking down, they said.

The hormones helped the women to endure, "which would have been critical in early hunting because they would have had to run the animals down into exhaustion before actually going in for the kill," according to the researchers.

Structurally, the typical "wider hip structure of the female" enabled them to rotate their hips and lengthen their steps, eventually helping them get farther faster, Ocobock explained.

"When you look at human physiology this way, you can think of women as the marathon runners versus men as the powerlifters (or weightlifters)," she said.

All these revelations together find importance in the current political moment where sex and gender are in the spotlight, she said.

"And I want people to be able to change these ideas of female physical inferiority that have been around for so long," Ocobock said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that I intend to transfer the electricity connection presently in the name of Syed Mohammad Afzal to Syed Arshad Hussain s/o Syed Mohammad Afzal r/o Gasiyar hawal. If anybody has any objection he/she may contact PDD sub division concerned within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained thereafter.

NJ

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB in my Aadhaar Card has been wrongly written as 12/11/1969 while my correct DOB is 10-11-1969 as per school records which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection 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.

Ghulam Hassan Malik
 S/o Ghulam Mohammad Malik
 R/o Magam Alamdarpora

bmj

Government Of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the District Agriculture Officer Extension Anantnag

Sub: Notice inviting Quotation.
 For & on behalf of the Lt Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, sealed quotations affixed with Rs.5/- revenue stamp are invited from Registered Wholesale Seed Dealers for supply of following Hybrid Vegetable Kharief Seeds to be procured under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) Scheme, as per details given below:-

S.No	Kind of seed	Variety	Packing
01	Tomato	NS 501	10 gram each
02	Cauliflower	Snow White	
03	Cauliflower	Lucky	
04	Knol Khol	Spin Top	
05	Capsicum	Green Wonder	
06	Saag	Khanyari	
07	Bottle Gourd	Muskan/Vardhan	
08	Brijnal	Lal Pari	
09	Chillies	ANHJ-777	
10	Chillies	Local	
11	Cucumber	Local	

The quotations pledged to District Agriculture Officer Extension Anantnag should reach the office of undersigned within 05 days from the date of publication of this quotation in news paper and shall be opened on cut-off date at 04:00 pm by following committee of Officers/officials under the chairmanship of undersigned in presence of the interested parties.

S. No	Name of officer/ No official	Designation
1	Shri Mahinder Kumar	I/C Arpath Vegetable Garden (SMS-SDL)
2	Shri Vinod Kumar	I/C Vegetable Garden Bijbehara (SMS-SDL)
3	Shri Bilal Ahmad	Agri. Extn. Officer Mattan

Terms & conditions

- Undersigned reserves the right to accept or reject any or all quotations without assigning any reason thereof.
- Rates quoted should be FOR District Agriculture Office Extension Anantnag.

Sd/-
 District Agriculture Officer,
 (Extension) Anantnag

No: DAOE/Dev/2023-24/3037-45
 dated: 28-11-2023

tko

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Zainab Bashir needs to correct my Fathers Name as well as Date of birth which is wrongly written in passport as Bashir Ahmad Yatoo & date of birth 14/03/2003 while my correct fathers name as well as date of birth is Bashir Ahmad Yatoo & date of birth 14/05/2003 which needs to be corrected. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file the same in the office of Regional Passport officer Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.

Zainab Bashir
 Daughter of Bashir Ahmad Yatoo Date of Birth 14/05/2003
 R/o: Alamdar Pora Magam

bmj

High Court Of Jammu & Kashmir And Ladakh (Office of the Registrar Recruitment at Jammu)

Notification

No. 2586 of 2023/RR/NG, Dated: 23-11-2023

Whereas, advertisement Notice No. 03 of 2022/RG/NG dated 30.08.2022, was issued by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, for filling up the vacant posts of Computer Operators in Pay Level-4 (25500-81100) and Pay Level-2 (19900-63200) respectively.

Whereas, Online Computer based Written Examination of all the eligible candidates who have applied for the posts of Computer Operator, pursuant to the Advertisement Notice (supra), will be conducted simultaneously at Srinagar and Jammu, probably in the second week of January, 2024. The date, time and venue of the said Examination/Test will be notified separately.

Whereas, the candidates belonging to the UT of Ladakh, who have applied for the said posts, would be at liberty to appear in the examination either at Jammu or Srinagar.

Whereas, the test structure, syllabus and type of question paper for the post of Computer Operators in Level-4 (25500-81100) and Pay Level-2 (19900-63200) respectively would be as follows:

Test Structure:

- The test will comprise of an online computer based written Examination carrying 80 marks.
- The interview shall be of 20 marks.
- The computer based written Examination shall be of 80 minutes duration.
- The question paper shall comprise of 80 questions and each question shall carry one mark. Each question will contain multiple choices.
- There will be no negative marking.
- There will be no cut off point or pass marks in the written Examination, instead candidates shall be called for interview in the ratio of 5:1, five candidates against one vacancy on the basis of their merit obtained in the online computer based written Examination.

Syllabus for the online Examination for the posts of Computer Operator would be as follows:

- The question paper shall comprise of following five parts with breakup of marks given against each part:
- General English = 20 marks.
 - General Knowledge/Current Affairs = 15 marks.
 - General Science = 05 marks.
 - Mental Ability = 05 marks.
 - Computer Application/ Job related Awareness = 35 marks.

For Computer Operator: The Job related questions shall include questions on Digital Electronics, Computer Programming, Database Management Systems, Operating Systems, Multimedia Applications, Data Structures, Object Oriented Language using Java Programming, Computer Networks, Generic Skills, Visual Programming using NET, Wireless Communication, Software Engineering etc.

By Order S. Satinder Singh
 (Registrar Recruitment)
 No: 51950-80 of 2023/RR/NG DPK-12965/23 DATED: 28-11-2023

Office Of The Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division (KPDCL) Sopore

Fax No:- 01954-222626 email:- xenstdsopore@gmail.com

NIT No.-STDS/37 of 2023-24

Dated: 25/11/2023

Notice Inviting Tender

1. INVITATION:-

For and on behalf of the Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders (In Two Cover System) are hereby invited from registered A class Electrical Contractors registered with J&K state Government, Central Public Works Department, Railways and other state or central governments or any other relevant Government agency enlisted with CPWD, MES, Railway, DG/BRO of appropriate class, for (Additional Electrical works for R/s 6.3 MVA at GMC Baramulla (Providing of loop out facility from R/s Baramulla 1), as per terms, conditions, technical specifications, Drawings and schedules forming part of this tender document.

Intending bidders are requested to submit their offer along with terms, conditions, technical specifications and annexures forming part of this tender document

1. Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.

2. The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below:

A	Date & Time of down loading of Standard Bidding Document	27 th of November 2023; 02:00 pm
B	Sale of Bid Document (Start)	27 th of November 2023 ; 02:00 pm
C	Sale of Bid Document (End)	11 th of December 2023 ; 04:00 pm.
D	Clarifications start date	27 th of November 2023 ; 02:00 pm
E	Clarifications end date	27 th of November 2023 ; 03:00 pm
F	e-Bid submission (start) date & time(Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	27 th of November 2023 ; 03:00 pm
G	e-Bid submission (end) date & time(Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	11 th of December 2023 ; 04:00 pm.
H	Online Bid opening and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	12 th of December 2023 ; 02:00 pm.
I	Online financial e-Bid opening date & Time (Only of the Commercial & technical qualified bidders)	Will be communicated to the Commercial & Technical Qualified Bidders
J	Venue of opening of technical & financial e-Bids	Office of the Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore
K	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.1000.00 (Rupees one thousand only)(Non-refundable)
L	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 48000.00 (Rupees forty eight Thousand only)

3. The Successful bidder need to submit the proof/cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through Demand Draft (Preferably State Bank of India/J&K Bank) pledged to Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore, payable at Sopore. The scanned copy of the Demand Draft must be enclosed along with the e-Bids but the original Demand Draft should reach to the office of Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore after opening the financial bid.

4. The bidder has to upload the successful completion certificates from last three years duly verified, including this Division if any, by the DDO / Executive agencies along with the details of the works currently under execution. The certificates to the effect that the bidder has completed the work to the satisfaction of the department and is not a defaulter.

5. All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR/FDR/ Bank Guarantee only, pledged to the Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.

6. An ink signed and stamped hard copy of the complete SBD document including Technical Specifications, Drawing and Schedules is required to be submitted along with Bid documents to the office of Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore by Registered post/Courier/By Hand only from the bidder who is declared L1 after opening of financial bids.

7. The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same Web Site at Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division Sopore.

8. The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of department will be final and binding.

9. In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.

10. All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.

11. To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III (B) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.

The name of the bidder and NIT No. shall be clearly written on the cover of ink signed copy.

It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica of the uploaded offer documents. For evaluation purposes the uploaded offer documents will be treated as authentic and final. The hard copy shall be used only for reference purpose. Any documents submitted in hard copy but not uploaded on the website shall be treated as irrelevant.

DIPK-NB-4484/23
 dated: 28-11-2023

Executive Engineer
 Sub Transmission Division Sopore (KPDCL)

NO: STDS/TS/ 1007-9



Demand For Duck & Geese Picks Up Amid Winter Chill In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: As the winter chill returns, the busiest markets of Srinagar come alive with the arrival of 'ducks and geese,' a seasonal delicacy, eagerly awaited by locals and visitors alike.

These plump birds are known for their rich and flavorful meat, making them a staple Kashmiri cuisine for winters. Shopkeepers in the bustling Maharaj Bazar and Lal Chowk markets display their freshly slaughtered ducks and geese, as their golden skin glistening under the winter sun.

Ghulam Hassan, a shopkeeper, who has been selling these birds for over a long time, said ducks and geese are a must-have during the winter season.

The meat, he said, is tender and flavorful, and it's a great source of protein to keep the people warm during the cold months.

Locals from different parts of Srinagar said ducks and geese are an essential part of their winter diet. "I always make

sure to buy a few ducks and geese for the winter," says Fatima, a housewife from Rajbagh, adding her family loves them and they are perfect for making a variety of dishes.

Likewise, the elders in Srinagar recall the days when ducks and geese were raised in almost every household, providing a sustainable source of food for families.

Ghulam Mohammad, an elderly resident from Sonwar, recalling his memories, said, "In the old days, we used to raise our own ducks and geese. It was a way of life, and it ensured that we had fresh, organic meat throughout the winter."

He further added that today while fewer families raise their own birds, the demand for ducks and geese remains strong as the winter has finally arrived and the taste of home-grown ducks and geese is unmatched.

"As an old tradition, when autumn falls starts in Kashmir, ducks and geese become more tasty and mouthwatering, and a delicacy of each and every household," he added.

Fire Damages Mosque In Old City's Saraf Kadal

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A multistoried mosque in Saraf Kadal area of the old city was damaged in a fire incident during the night intervening Tuesday, officials said.

An official said the fire incident was reported around 1:04 AM and the fire tenders from

Babademb, M.R Gunj, and F&ES Headquarters were immediately dispatched to the spot to douse off the flames.

The fire was brought under control while no loss of life or casualties were reported in the incident. The fire, however, damaged the attic of the Masjid, they said, adding the cause of fire is being ascertained.

Homestay Entrepreneurship Program Launched At Dara, Harwan

Observer News Service

Srinagar: In a momentous occasion, the Homestay Entrepreneurship Training Program was inaugurated at Dara, Harwan area in Srinagar on Tuesday.

The Program is sponsored by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and co-sponsored by J&K Bank under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative and implemented by a local NGO, JK Developmental Action Group.

The program is implemented in close coordination with the Department of tourism J&K which is one of the key stakeholders in the promotion of Homestay as a business concept. The inauguration witnessed the active participation

of 30 enthusiastic trainees from Fakir Gujri area of Srinagar.

The ceremony was graced by the distinguished presence of Aadi, Assistant Manager, SIDBI as Chief Guest who commended the initiative, emphasizing its role in not only promoting sustainable tourism but also in empowering the local community to become active contributors to the region's economic growth.

Other eminent speakers on the occasion including Farooq Kuthoo, President travel Agents Association of Kashmir shared insights into the tourism potential of the region and the transformative impact that well-managed homestays can have on the overall visitor experience.

از سر ششہ سکرٹری پنچایت حلقہ نوپورہ A بلاک واگورہ

اشتہار عام

ہرخاص دام کو پڑیہ اشتہار منظر کیا جاتا ہے کہ وہ مورخہ 5 دسمبر 2023ء بروز منگل وار ہفتہ 11 بجے مقام پنچایت گورنر پورہ A میں درجن کو بولی کرنی مطلوب ہے جن کی کل قدر مطابق مقب شدہ 2 کروڑ 2 لاکھ 20 ہزار روپے کے مطابق 5 دسمبر 1 بجے مارکنگ پیلٹی کی ہے بولی بولی تریوں کے 2 لاکھ 20 ہزار روپے سے گئی بولی دھند کو بولی میں سرت سے نقل 10,000 روپے کے مطابق رکنا لای ہوگا۔ بولی تحت پنچایت رٹ 10 دن تک گلی دیکھی اور مورخہ 5 دسمبر 2 بجے تک اتمام پرموٹی بولی دھند کو کو مندرجہ ذیل شرائط پر عمل کرنا لازمی ہوگا۔

- 1. کامیاب بولی دھند کو کو تری بولی کی کثرت اور کرنا ہوگا۔
- 2. بولی تحت کو کو دھند کو کو پنچایت رٹ پر پائی جائیگی۔
- 3. نہ بولی شرطیہ موافقہ پر ہتھے جائیگی۔
- 4. بولی منظور کرنا یا کرنا پنچایت کثرتی کے ساتھ اور آفران والا کے اختیار میں ہوگا۔

نمبر: SP/S/258-261-2023
DATED: 28-11-2023

KRI



3 Day State Level Philatelic Exhibition "KASHPEX-2023" Inaugurated At SKICC

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The three day KASHPEX 2023, i.e. The State Level Philatelic Exhibition was inaugurated by Brig K Bhardwaj, Brig HQ 15 Corps along with Col Vinod Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, J&K Circle at SKICC here today.

The event was also attended by Col Faraz, Col GS (IW), HQ 15 Corps and Athar Aamir Khan, Commissioner SMC and CEO, Srinagar Smart City Limited.

In line with said promotional endeavor, Department of Posts, J&K Circle has organized the KASHPEX-2023 from November 28 to 30, where approximately 50,000 postage stamps and other philatelic items are on display.

The exhibition will highlight India's history, culture, art and heritage across years through stamps and pictorial collections. India Post scented stamps are also on display besides some rare and old stamps dating back to the 1800s and 1900s. The exhibition is a rare opportunity to see some of the best stamps, first day covers, miniature sheets, stamp cards etc from India and other countries.

The philatelic exhibition will be

open to the general public from 11 am to 4 pm on all three days.

It also aims to be a platform to introduce a whole new generation to philately and its delightful charms. As part of promoting philately as a hobby among school children, philatelic kits were distributed among school children besides holding seminars and Workshop on Philately by renowned philatelists of the country and state.

As part of the Event, a special cover on Ghanta Ghar Lal Chowk was also released. The special cover was released in acknowledgment of Srinagar being developed and recognized as Smart City and the iconic importance of Ghanta Ghar in the history and culture of Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion, Col Vinod Kumar, Chief Postmaster General, J&K Circle while addressing the audience highlighted the role of India Post in the lives of common people and the vast network of India Post. He said the role of India Post in ensuring Financial inclusion while ensuring last mile delivery of mails was also emphasized. Col Kumar urged the audience predominantly consisting of school children to take Philately as a hobby having twin benefits of enhancement of knowledge and monetary value.

Athar Aamir Khan, Commissioner SMC and CEO Srinagar Smart City Limited while addressing the gathering threw light on the vast network of India Post. He urged school children to pursue the hobby of stamp collection and also invited people of Srinagar Smart City to visit the exhibition. He also acknowledged the release of Special Cover on Ghanta Ghar which has achieved prime importance in the context of revamp of Srinagar city and transmission into Smart City.

A special attraction of the exhibition, "My Stamp" which is a personalized stamp, was presented to the Chief Guest by Col Vinod Kumar on the occasion. The personalization is achieved by printing a thumb nail image of the customer's photograph and logos of institutions, or images of artwork, heritage buildings, famous tourist places, historical cities, wildlife, other animals and birds etc., on a selected template sheet having Postage Stamps.

Philately, the collection of stamps, is said to be the king of hobbies and hobby of kings. Philately is more than a hobby. Philately increases our knowledge of history, culture, art and nature and is a lifestyle choice that can help us connect and ground ourselves.

Srinagar Municipal Corporation Office Of The Executive Engineer Right River Works Division

Regal lane Lal Chowk Srinagar Email: eerrwdsmc@gmail.com

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER No. 34 of 2023-2024 Dated: 23.11.2023

For and on behalf of the Commissioner, Srinagar Municipal Commissioner, e-tenders are invited on a percentage basis (as per the J&K PWD Engineering Manual 2020) from approved registered eligible Civil Contractors/ Self Help Groups for the below mentioned works.

S. No.	Name of the Work	Adv. cost in lacs	Cost of T/ Doc. in Rs.	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time of Completion	Head of Account	Class of contractor	AA order No	T.S. Order No. dated
1.	Plantation landscaping and other developmental works at Civil Service officers Institute at M.A.Road Srinagar	43.63	1120	87260	03 MONTHS	NCAP	AAV/BEE	Order No. 1488 of 2023 dated: 10.11.2023	T.S order No. 21 of 2023 dated: 22.11.2023

Position of AAA: Accorded, Technical Sanction: Accorded The NIT consists of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the date schedule given below:-

S. No.	Particulars	Date from to
1.	Date of publication of e-portal	23.11.2023
2.	Date of Downloading of bid documents for said NIT	23.11.2023 from 05:00 PM
3.	Date of uploading of bid document / bid submission starts	23.11.2023 from 06:00 PM
4.	Date of uploading of bid document/ bid submission Ends	11.12.2023 at 06:00 PM
5.	Date of Bid opening	13.12.2023 at 11:00 AM
6.	Date of Submission of Uploaded documents (Hard Copies) by Successful Bidder including Bid Security (CDR/FDR). Tender document fee.	14.12.2023 up to 04:00 PM

Note: - (The Date of EMD/Challan must be from the date of start of bid upto Bid Submission End date.

- TERMS AND CONDITIONS
- 1. The intending tenders should attach a call deposit receipt equivalent to 2% of the advertised cost / total cost of the work shown against each work pledged to the Executive Engineer Right River Works Division, SMC, drawn from any scheduled Bank without which no tender will be entertained.
- 2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in the shape of Bank Receipt / challan as a tender fee paid in the Municipal Account No. 021601020000007 payable at J&K Bank Branch Dood Ganga Balgarden, Srinagar payable at Srinagar (with NIT No and Serial No of work mentioned and Division name Viz RRWD) and Earnest Money/bid security in the shape of CDR/FDR (The date of Bank Receipt/ Challan and earnest money/bid security should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date). The tender fees is non-refundable and can also be paid through online mode via NEFT/RTGS in favour of F./A/ Chief Accounts officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation with Bank Details as given below:-

Name of the Bank: - Jammu and Kashmir Bank Ltd. Branch: - Balgarden, Srinagar Bank Account No: - 021601020000007 IFSC CODE: - JAKA0GARDEN MICR CODE: - 190051008

Any payment for Tenders fees through online mode shall necessarily mention the following information. (Sender Name, Account No of Sender/Beneficiary, Transaction ID, Reference ID, Transaction date and time. The Remarks should necessarily mention NIT NO, SNO and RRWD viz. NIT 03, SNO, 10, RRWD) For one particular work, only one Bank Receipt / challan (not more than one) of the exact amount of tender fees (neither lesser nor greater) as shown against that particular work must be paid and uploaded with the tenders. The same tender fees paid and uploaded for a particular work should not be again used/ uploaded for any other work in the NIT (i.e. one Bank Receipt / Bank Challan for one work only) Tender Fee and other relevant documents including Bid Security (CDR/ FDR) duly filled up, if found uploaded, with any ambiguity or un-attested correction/over writing for any work such tender /bid shall be considered as invalid bid and shall be outrightly rejected and action under rules shall be initiated. Further use of pencil in writing (NIT No and S.No) on tender fees and EMD must be avoided. The participating agencies/ contractors are advised in their own interest not to resort to any cheating while submitting and uploading the tender document Fees or any other document. The bidders are requested to upload following documents:

No: SMC/EERRWD/1911-1914. DIPK-NB-4487/23 Dated: - 28/11/2023.

- 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

- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102209
- BIBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

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

PRAYERS

FAJR 5: 45
ZUHR 12:17
ASR 3: 47
Magrib 5:27
ISHA 6: 50

HIJRI CALENDAR

14 Jumada al-Awwal 1445

This Day In History

- 1581 - Doornik (Tournai) surrenders to Duke of Parma
- 1596 King Philip II devalues Spanish currency
- 1812 - Napoleon's Grand Army crosses Berezina River in retreat from Russia
- 1850 - The Treaty, Punctuation of Olmütz, signed in Olomouc means diplomatic capitulation of Prussia to Austrian Empire, taking over the leadership of German Confederation
- 1864 - Battle of Spring Hill, TN (Thomason's Station)
- 1870 - Compulsory education proclaimed in England
- 1872 - Indian Wars: The Modoc War begins with the Battle of Lost River.
- 1877 - US inventor Thomas Edison demonstrates his hand-cranked phonograph for the first time
- 1893 - Ziqiang Institute, today known as Wuhan University, is founded by Zhang Zhidong, governor of Hubei and Hunan Provinces in late Qing Dynasty of China after his memorial to the throne is approved by the Qing Government.
- 1900 - General Horatio Kitchener assumes command of the British forces in South Africa from General Lord Roberts
- 1916 - US declares martial law in Dominican Republic
- 1917 - A Supreme Allied War Council meets at Versailles to define war aims
- 1918 - Serbia annexes Montenegro
- 1933 - Japan begins persecution of communists
- 1935 - Michael Joseph Savage becomes the first Labour Prime Minister of New Zealand
- 1935 - Physicist Erwin Schrödinger publishes his famous thought experiment "Schrödinger's cat", a paradox that illustrates the problem of the Copenhagen interpretation of quantum mechanics
- 1939 - USSR drops diplomatic relations with Finland
- 1943 - Partisan Tito forms temporary government in Jajce, Bosnia
- 1943 - U-86 sinks in Atlantic Ocean
- 1943 - US aircraft carrier Hornet launched
- 1944 - Albania liberated from Nazi control (National Day)
- 1944 - The first surgery (on a human) to correct blue baby syndrome is performed by Alfred Blalock and Vivien Thomas.
- 1945 - Yugoslavian Socialist Republic proclaimed
- 1947 - UN Gen Assembly partitions Palestine between Arabs & Jews.
- 1952 - US President-elect Eisenhower visits Korea to assess war.
- 1962 - Great Britain & France decide to jointly build Concord(e).
- 1963 - Trans-Canada Airlines Flight 831: A Douglas DC-8 carrying 118, crashes after taking-off from Dorval Airport near Montreal, Canada.
- 1967 - British troops withdraw from Aden and South Yemen.
- 1978 - UN observes "international day of solidarity with Palestinian people," boycotted by US & about 20 other countries.
- 1989 - India Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi resigns
- 1990 - UN Security Council approves US-sponsored resolution authorizing the use of force in the Persian Gulf if Iraq does not withdrawal from Kuwait by Jan. 15, 1991.
- 1995 - US President Bill Clinton lifts ban on exports of oil from the Alaskan North Slope; the ban was imposed after the oil embargo by Arab oil producers in 1973.
- 1997 - OPEC agrees to an increase in its production ceiling. OPEC has raised the ceiling to 27.5 million barrels per day for the first half of
- 1998. 2001 - UN Security Council unanimously approves a resolution extending
- 2012- 30 people are killed and 100 are wounded by bombs in Hillah and Karbala, Iraq
- 2012- The UN votes to approve Palestine's status change from an observer to an observer state
- 2015-104th Davis Cup: Great Britain beats Belgium in Ghent 6-3, 7-5, 6-3, 1st win since 1936



'DON'T BE SO NARROW MINDED'

SC Trashes Plea Seeking Ban on Pakistani Artistes in India

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed a plea seeking a complete ban on artistes from Pakistan to perform or work in India, and asked the petitioner not to be "so narrow-minded".

A bench of justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti said it was not inclined to interfere with the Bombay High Court order which junked the plea filed by Faaz Anwar Qureshi, who claims to be a cine worker and artiste.

"You should not press this appeal. Do not be so narrow-minded," the bench said.

The top court also refused the submission to expunge certain remarks made by the high court against the petitioner.

The petition had sought the court's direction to the central government to impose a complete ban on Indian citizens, companies, firms and associations from employing or soliciting any work or performance, taking of any services, or entering into any association and so on with any Pakistani artiste, including its cine workers, singers, musicians, lyricists and technicians.

The Bombay High Court had dismissed the petition, saying the reliefs it seeks is a retro-

grade step in promoting cultural harmony, unity and peace, and has no merit in it.

"One must understand that in order to be a patriot, one need not be inimical to those from abroad especially, from the neighbouring country," the court had said.

"A true patriot is a person who is selfless, who is devoted to the cause of his country, which he cannot be unless he is a person who is good at heart. A person who is good at heart would welcome in his country any activity which promotes peace, harmony, and tranquility within the country and across the border," it had said.

Arts, music, sports, culture, dance and so on are the activities which rise above nationalities, cultures and nations, and truly bring about peace, tranquillity, unity and harmony in nation and between nations, the high court had said in its order.

It had noted that in the Cricket World Cup, Pakistan was a participant. This happened only because of appreciable positive steps taken by the Indian government in the interest of overall peace and harmony in consonance with Article 51 of the Constitution of India which is about promotion of international peace and security, the high court had said.

Israel-Hamas Truce: Laughter, Tears On Gaza Beach As Children Get Break From War



Agencies

Children played on a Gaza beach as displaced families left their cramped shelters for a short break during the truce between Israel and Hamas, but amid the laughter, their parents could not forget the hardships of war and homelessness.

As children splashed in the shallow water, jumping over small waves, adults in bare feet watched from the shore. Asmaa al-Sultan, a displaced woman from northern Gaza, sat on the sand with her arm around her mother. The older woman was crying quietly.

More than 30 members of the al-Sultan family are sheltering in a UN school in the town of Deir Al-Balah with hundreds of other displaced people.

"We came to the beach to take a breather, to escape from the feeling of the crowded schools and from the depressing and polluted environment we are in," said Asmaa.

"People come to the beach to relax, to swim, for their children to have fun, they take food with them. But we are so depressed. We are on the beach but we want to cry."

Hundreds of thousands of people have left their homes in northern Gaza, which has borne the brunt of Israel's military assault, to seek refuge in tents, schools or the homes of friends and relatives in the southern part of the strip.

The gruelling conditions in the tent camps and schools, with overcrowding, a dearth of toilets and showers, and long daily queues for small rations of food and water, have been compounded by the psychological impact of bombardment and displacement.

The beach at Deir Al-Balah has a row of fishermen's huts at the back, towards the bottom of a slope strewn with rubbish. Some displaced people had taken up residence in the flimsy huts, clothes hanging on strings outside.

Waleed al-Sultan, one of Asmaa's younger relatives, was trying to untangle a net near the huts as he prepared to go out fishing in a small boat, hoping the truce would mean he could do so without danger.

"I brought nothing with me when I was displaced, so I thought I would make a living from fishing, but the (Israeli) guards stopped me and started shooting at us," he said.

The war began when Hamas militants burst out of Gaza on October 7 and rampaged through southern Israel, killing 1,200 people, including babies and children, and seizing 240 hostages. Israel responded with an all-out assault on Gaza which has killed 14,800 Palestinians, four in ten of them children under 18, according to health officials in the Hamas-controlled territory.

While some displaced people have seized the opportunity to check on their homes, others have been too fearful to return to the north.

Israel And Hamas Extend Their Truce, But It Seems Only A Matter Of Time Before The War Resumes

Agencies

A truce between Israel and Hamas entered its fifth day on Tuesday, with the militant group promising to release more civilian hostages to delay the expected resumption of the war and Israel under growing pressure to spare Palestinian civilians when the fighting resumes.

The sides agreed to extend their truce through Wednesday, with another two planned exchanges of militant-held hostages for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. But Israel has repeatedly vowed to resume the war with "full force" to destroy Hamas once it's clear that no more hostages will be freed under the current agreement's terms.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is set to visit the region later this week for the third time since the start of the war, and is expected to press for an extension of the truce and the release of more hostages.

The State Department said he would also discuss efforts to "protect civilian life during Israel's operations in Gaza" and accelerate the delivery of aid to the impoverished coastal strip. Israel's top ally has pledged unwavering support for its Gaza



offensive, but Blinken has also said "far too many" Palestinians have been killed.

Hamas and other militants are still holding about 160 people, out of the 240 seized in their October 7 assault into southern Israel that ignited the war. That's enough to potentially extend the truce for another two weeks under the existing framework brokered by the Qatar, Egypt and the US, but Hamas is expected to make much higher demands for the release of captive soldiers.

Either way, Israel says it is committed to resuming the war, which is already the deadliest round of Israeli-Palestinian violence in decades. It blames the soaring casualty toll on Hamas, accusing the militants of using civilians as

human shields while operating in dense, residential areas.

Israel has vowed to end Hamas' 16-year rule in Gaza and crush its military capabilities. That would almost certainly require expanding the ground offensive from northern Gaza — where entire residential areas have been pounded into rubble — to the south, where hundreds of thousands of displaced people have packed into overflowing United Nations shelters.

HOSTAGES RELEASED

Hamas freed another 11 women and children on Monday in the fourth and final swap planned under the initial cease-fire agreement, which went into effect Friday. Israel released 33 Palestinian prisoners.

SC Orders Dignified Burial Of Manipur Violence Victims

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued directions for ensuring burial or cremation of bodies lying in mortuaries in Manipur, where ethnic clashes had claimed several lives in May.

A bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud noted that a report filed by the apex court-appointed all-woman committee of former high court judges, headed by justice (ret'd) Gita Mittal, has indicated the position of the bodies that are lying in mortuaries in the northeastern state.

The bench, also comprising justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said the report indicated that 169 of the 175 bodies have been identified while six have not been identified.

It noted that of the 169 identified bodies, 81 have been claimed by the next of kin while 88 have not been claimed.

The bench observed that the state government has identified nine sites where the burial or cremation can take place.

"Bearing in mind the fact that violence in the state of Manipur had taken place in May 2023, it would not be either appropriate or proper to keep the bodies which have not been identified or claimed indefinitely in the mortuaries," it said.

The apex court is seized of a batch of pleas, including those seeking court-monitored probe into cases of violence, besides measures for relief and rehabilitation.

During the hearing on Tuesday, the bench directed that last rites can be done by family members for identified and claimed bodies at any of the nine sites without any hindrance by any other parties.

It said state authorities will intimate the next of kin of the identified bodies, which have already been claimed, about the sites.

The bench said this exercise must be carried out on or before December 4.

"As regard the bodies which have been identified but which have not been claimed, the state administration shall

issue a communication to the next of kin on or before Monday intimating the next of kin that they are permitted to carry out the last rites together with requisite religious observances within a period of one week thereafter at any of the identified nine burial/cremation sites," it said.

It said the collector and the superintendent of police (SP) would be at liberty to take all appropriate steps for maintenance of law and order so as to ensure that the burials or cremations take places in an orderly manner.

Marriage Does Not Eclipse Right to Privacy: Karnataka HC

Press Trust of India

BENGALURU: Marriage does not do away with the procedural rights of a person to divulge his personal information, a Division Bench of the High Court has said.

Setting aside the order of a single judge, the Division Bench comprising Justice Sunil Dutt Yadav and Justice Vijaykumar A Patil, said the procedure under Section 33 of the Aadhaar Act has to be followed even if the person seeking information is the wife.

As per Section 33(1), the power of passing an order to divulge the information is conferred on a Court not inferior to that of a Judge of the High Court. But the HC noted that the single judge order had directed an authority lower than that to divulge the details.

The "learned Single Judge has grossly erred in directing the Assistant Director General, Central Public Information Officer (UIDAI) to issue notice to a person whose information sought to be divulged and to decide whether such information is to be divulged. It is a settled principle that, if the Act provides that a particular act is to be made in a particular manner, it should be done in such manner or not at all," the Division Bench said.

The woman, from Hubballi in north Karnataka, has sought information on the address of her husband mentioned in his Aadhaar card from the Public Information Officer (UIDAI). She was trying to enforce a family court order against the husband directing to pay maintenance to her.

But he was absconding. The officer replied that an HC order was necessary to divulge the de-

tails after which she approached the single bench. The single bench order was challenged by the Central Public Information Officer (UIDAI).

The HC accepted the arguments against the single judge order.

Citing the Apex Court in the K S Puttaswamy case, the Division Bench said, "The right to privacy of Aadhaar number holder preserves the autonomy of the individual's right to privacy which is conferred primacy and admits of no exception under the statutory scheme."

The relationship by marriage which is a union of two partners does not eclipse the right to privacy which is the right of an individual and the autonomy of such individual's right stands recognised and protected by the procedure of hearing contemplated under Section 33. The marriage by itself does not do away with the procedural right of hearing conferred under Section 33 of Aadhaar Act." The Division Bench also noted that the husband has not been made a party before the single bench. It remitted the matter back to the single bench and said, "The above discussion would clearly lead to a conclusion that a person whose information is to be divulged is to be arrayed as respondent to the proceedings before the learned Single Judge. Accordingly, we remit the matter to the learned Single Judge, wherein the husband of the petitioner is to be arrayed as respondent. An undertaking is made by the petitioner/wife that necessary amendment would be carried out to array the husband as respondent in a writ proceedings."

NEET Aspirant Found Hanging in Kota; 25th Suicide This Year



Press Trust of India

KOTA: A 20-year-old NEET aspirant from West Bengal was found hanging in his rented accommodation here but no suicide note has been recovered from his room, police said on Tuesday.

Faured Hussain (20), a native of West Bengal's Birhum district, had been preparing for the medical entrance exam NEET at a coaching institute in Kota for around a year. He had been living in the rented accommodation in Wauf Nagar since July this year.

Some other students of coaching institutes also lived in the same house.

Hussain was last spotted in the afternoon hours of Monday. When he did not come out of his room till 8 pm, his friends called him but he did not open

the door. Following this, they informed the house owner, who called the police, Circle Inspector at Dadabari police station Rajesh Pathak said.

Police rushed to the spot and broke the door open to find the youth hanging, he said, adding, "No suicide note was found in the room and the reason behind the extreme step is yet to be ascertained."

Post-mortem will be done after his parents arrive, the police officer said.

This is the 25th case of suicide here by a coaching student since July this year. On September 18, a 16-year-old girl from Uttar Pradesh, preparing for NEET in Kota, ended her life by consuming a poisonous substance. It was the second suicide case that month. In August, six coaching students had committed suicide.

NEWS MAKERS

Pakistan Man Enrols In Class 1 At 65 Years; Says Was Too Poor To Go To School Earlier

Agencies

CHANDIGARH: In testimony to his boundless passion for knowledge, 65-year-old Pakistani man, Dilawar Khan, has etched his name in history by shattering societal norms and enrolling in Class 1 at Government Primary School, Khongai.

His extraordinary decision has earned him accolades, with the school administration applauding his commitment to lifelong learning and recognising the positive effect it is set to have on society.

Hailing from a financially-challenged household in Dir Upper, in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Dilawar was forced to prioritise



supporting family over pursuing education. However, the passage of time has not dimmed his childhood dream. Determined to complete his education at an age when many contemplate retirement, Dilawar is challenging both familial responsibilities and societal expectations.

His story serves as a beacon of inspiration, particularly for those who, due to personal reasons, may have had to leave their studies or postpone them. Dilawar's journey encourages the pursuit of knowledge as a lifelong endeavour proving that it is never too late to embrace education and defy the constraints imposed by age and circumstances.

Netizens on Instagram have taken note of Dilawar's courageous step, showering him with cheers and admiration for his resilience.

His story resonates as a powerful reminder that the pursuit of education knows no bounds and can serve as a source of inspiration for generations to come.

British Policeman Who Mimicked Indian Woman's Accent Found Guilty

Press Trust of India

LONDON: A police officer from northern England has been found guilty of gross misconduct by a disciplinary tribunal for mimicking the Indian accent of a woman who had called the West Yorkshire Police call centre to report a hate crime.

Patrick Harrison was found guilty following a misconduct hearing last month, and the panel concluded that he would have been dismissed had he not already resigned as a Police Constable (PC) from West Yorkshire Police.

"On November 29, 2022, former PC Harrison was on duty, working

in the Force Call Centre, when he made a call to SA, a female member of the public who had reported a hate-related assault," reads the judgment.

"The former officer asked SA for more details in relation to why she believed that it was a hate crime. Having had the conversation, the former officer failed to clear the line and repeated back some of the phrases SA had used, mimicking her accent whilst doing so. SA heard these comments and made a report to Tell MAMA," it said.

Harrison accepted that his behaviour was "unacceptable and inexcusable" and that it breached the standards of professional conduct.

Booker For Irish Author Paul Lynch's 'Prophet Song'

Press Trust of India

LONDON: Irish author Paul Lynch's "Prophet Song" was named the winner of the Booker Prize 2023, beating London-based Indian-origin author Chetna Maroo's debut novel "Western Lane", at a ceremony in London.

Lynch, 46, won for his novel presenting a dystopian vision of Ireland in the grips of totalitarianism, something the author describes as "an attempt at radical empathy". Set in Dublin, "Prophet Song" tells the story of a family grappling with a terrifying new world in which the democratic norms they are used to begin to disappear.



Tuberculosis Cases On Decline In Kashmir

Region Aiming To Be TB-Free By 2025

Agencies

SRINAGAR: In a significant development, Tuberculosis (TB) cases across the Kashmir region are on the decline due to concerted efforts by the health department, public awareness campaigns, and improved healthcare facilities, officials said.

Official data indicates a decreasing trend in TB cases across Kashmir, with the region aiming to be TB-free by 2025.

According to the data, in 2020, 2,841 cases were reported in the Kashmir division, with fewer screenings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The numbers increased to 3,439 cases in 2021, followed by 3,396 in 2022, and 2,638 cases reported so far this year.

Officials said that the target for this year was to have cases below 3,500, and they are confident of achieving this goal.

They said the Anantnag and Pulwama districts were declared tuberculosis-free under the sub-national certification for TB elimination in India earlier this year, while Budgam received this designation in 2021.

Official data indicates a decreasing trend in TB cases across Kashmir, with the region aiming to be TB-free by 2025.

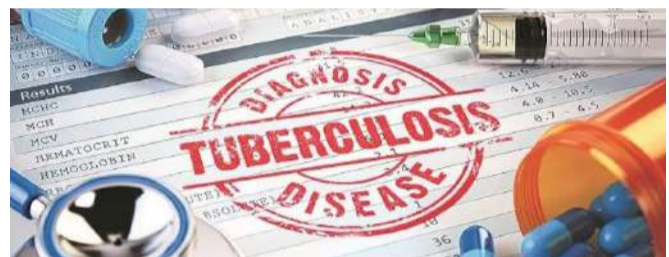
Officials said that patients receive the utmost attention, with regular data updates and a team of watchdogs at the block, district, state, and federal levels. Screenings of patients' relatives are also being conducted.

Under the Nikshay Poshan Yojna, patients receive Rs 500 for the duration of their therapy, they said, adding that the decline in cases is attributed to targeted prevention campaigns and enhanced diagnostic capabilities. They also stressed the need for continued vigilance to sustain and build upon these gains.

Officials further said that robust surveillance along with public awareness campaigns will continue to make Kashmir TB-free by 2025.

The government in Kashmir has introduced an AI-based system to identify potential TB cases, and testing has been increased to detect cases in the initial stages.

There are four categories of recognition for achieving reduction targets, with the top spot being TB-free status, indicating an



"Budgam, Anantnag, and Pulwama fall into the TB-free category, with Baramulla categorised as bronze, Kupwara as gold, and Srinagar already awarded gold. Overall, three districts in Kashmir are free of TB, with two receiving gold awards and one a bronze award," the officials said.

They said that claims of TB state units are being verified by four national agencies on the ground. Four national agencies assess TB status and provide certification based on perfor-

80% reduction. Other categories include gold medal (over 60% reduction), silver medal (over 40% reduction), and bronze medal (over 20% reduction).

Budgam was the first district to be declared TB-free. Sub-national certification, initiated in 2020, marks progress towards TB-free status, with the goal of achieving a TB-free India by 2025. The process rewards well-performing states/districts when specific milestones in TB elimination are achieved—(KNO)



A MAN LOOKS AT THE POSTAL stamps and other philatelic items put on display by the Department of Posts, J&K Circle during an exhibition held at SKICC Srinagar on Tuesday. KO PHOTO, ABID BHAT

Installation Of CCTV

Court Discharges Srinagar Shopkeeper

M Ahmad

SRINAGAR: A Court here on Tuesday discharged a shopkeeper from Hawal Srinagar who had been booked by police for not installing "functional" CCTV in February this year. According to the prosecution, the accused violated the order of District Magistrate Srinagar by not installing the functional CCTV cameras in his business unit and committed the offence punishable U/S 188 IPC.

"...the charge-sheet in hand has been preferred by the police before this court but the court cannot take cognizance of the offence punishable U/S 188 IPC except on the complaint in writing of the public servant whose order is violated or of other public servant to whom he is administrative

subordinate as per the provisions of section 195(1) of Cr.PC" Sub Judge/Special Mobile Magistrate Srinagar (Railway Magistrate Kashmir), Ahsan Malik, said.

"In view of the provision of Section 195 (1) Cr.PC, no case of framing of charge against the accused U/S 188 of IPC is made out, as no court shall take cognizance in the offences punishable U/S 188 of IPC except on the complaint in writing of public servant or of other public servant to whom he is administratively subordinate..." the court said, adding, "Therefore, the case is not made out for framing of charge punishable U/S 188 IPC against the accused. Therefore, the instant charge-sheet is dismissed and the accused is discharged for the offence punishable u/s 188 IPC."

The police had filed the FIR based on a complaint Naib Tehsildar Executive Magistrate 1st Class Eidgah Srinagar that on the direction of the superior officers the complainant along with police party of police sta-



tion Zaidal were checking that the CCTV cameras have been installed in the area or not. During the checking it was found that the shopkeeper had installed the CCTV camera but was non-functional which according to the complainant was the violation of the order of the District Magistrate Srinagar.

Baramulla Woman Dies After Delivering Baby, Family Alleges Murder

MS Assures Thorough Probe, Says Guilty 'Will Not Be Spared'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A woman died after giving birth at District Hospital Baramulla in north Kashmir, with her family alleging medical negligence. However, the Medical Superintendent has assured a thorough investigation, saying that those responsible will not be spared.

The family of the deceased woman, Dilshada Akhter (32), a resident of Khadnyar, said that she passed away after delivering a baby. They claim that despite repeated requests, doctors at the district hospital ignored Dilshada's condition after she gave birth at 10:30 am on Monday.

Alleging that she was not properly cared for, the family said that Dilshada fought for her life from 10:30 am until 1

o'clock midnight. They alleged that the hospital staff remained engrossed in their cell phones instead of attending to her.

"It was a murder," alleged the deceased woman's sister, who witnessed the entire distressing incident. She urged authorities to investigate the matter to prevent further loss of lives.

Expressing shock, she called on the authorities to address negligence issues and "prioritise the welfare of society". Many people fear visiting government hospitals due to perceived safety concerns, she said. The Medical Superintendent of GMC Baramulla, Dr Parvaiz Masoodi said that a thorough investigation would be conducted. "If anyone is found responsible for any wrongdoing, they will face strict legal consequences," he assured—(KNO)

VIKSI BHARAT SANKALP YATRA

Large Public Turnout Witnessed At Keller Block Of Shopian

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: All six designated Panchayats of Keller block, where the Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra (VBSY) campaign was undertaken on Tuesday, witnessed appreciable participation of people.

Government officers and officials, PRIs, youth and students and beneficiaries of Government welfare schemes took part in Yatra enthusiastically.

The aim of the yatra is to generate awareness regarding the Central government's welfare schemes and policies to ensure 100 percent saturation of flagship government schemes with the sole purpose to facilitate the general public at their doorsteps.

The campaign organized in six Panchayats includes Mastpora, Moshwara, Narapora, Naserpora, Phelipora and Wat-

hoo of Shopian district. The highlights of the programme included holding medical camps, on spot registration of people for various beneficiary schemes, banking services and drone demonstrations.

Flagship schemes viz. PM KISAN, Vishvakarma, Suraksha Bima Yojana, Jeevan Jyoti, Ayushman Bharat, Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan Yojana, PM Awas Yojana, JJM, Poshan Abhiyaan and scores of other schemes including welfare, employment and income generation based schemes were highlighted by officials and people were asked to register.

A variety of cultural programmes, debates and painting competitions were also held across these panchayats. The programme ended with the felicitation ceremonies.

CS & Secy DARPG Release Case Studies Of Good Governance Initiatives

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta and Secretary Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India, V Srinivas on Tuesday released four case studies of Good Governance Initiatives of Jammu and Kashmir.

The four initiatives are Back to Village, Empowerment (Janbhagidari) Portal, Jammu and Kashmir Bank - A story of transformation and Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Aarogya Yojana.

While launching the case studies, the Chief Secretary highlighted the stellar journey of development during the last five years and said that the transformation has been phenomenal. He said that from a largely no tender system to a complete 100 percent e-tendering process is not a small transformation and the manner in which people have adopted the change is extremely commendable. He said that the engine of change since 2019 in JK has fundamentally changed JK forever and JK should probably be number one in terms of systems transparency.

Talking about the J&K Bank, CS said that in 2019 people were extremely sceptical about the bank but soon, the Bank figured among the top four banks in the country in achieving targets in digital payments.

As far as Back to Village is concerned, Chief Secretary said that it has evolved into Aspirational Panchayat and there is a Prabhari which is there for the entire year and more.

Dr Mehta highlighted that in terms of Good Governance, JK has been on the fore front on aspects. He said that JK is among the first to cross 1100 e-services and which we are really proud of. He said that JK is saturated on many schemes



as we are No 1 in Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, No 2 in Nasha Mukta Abhiyan and No 3 in Amritsarovar. He said that JK has been on a ranking of 1-5 on many initiatives and we have hope to remain among the top five if not better than that. He said that on e-governance, J&K should not lag behind any state or UT on any parameter and urged officers to carry forward the process. He said that every work requires teamwork manner and thanked the officers for being strong pillars of the team.

V Srinivas who released the case studies through VC said that his team looks forward to circulate these case studies to all universities, government institutions and state governments. He thanked the Chief Secretary Dr Arun Kumar Mehta for his yeoman services to the nation which has brought in sweeping reforms in governance across the UT of J&K.

Professor and Director, Centre for Public Policy Governance and Performance, Harsh Sharma earlier gave a detailed presentation about the methodology, key elements, impact and way forward on each of the four initiatives. He highlighted that the

impact of Back to Village has been such that more than 4000 work worth of Rs. 8110 lakhs (approx.) has been completed across J&K and a Saturation coverage of 4291 Panchayats has been achieved.

He said that there is a need to prepare a framework to capture the progress made in the welfare schemes (Jal Jeevan Mission, etc.) He said that focus should be laid on development of training modules to support implementation of B2V-5 for the creation of Model Panchayats in line with the Aspirational Panchayat Development Program of J&K.

He said that there is a further need to encourage local community in decision-making processes to ensure the projects align with their needs and aspirations. Strengthening the role of Panchayats by providing them with more decision-making powers and financial resources and establishing regular channels for feedback from the local community is an imperative.

He asserted that the Empowerment portal provides detailed insights to citizens by enabling them to monitor works/projects being implemented and encouraging citizen to give their

feedback about the quality and pace of work.

The impact of Janbhagidari has been such that number of works completed increased from about 9200 in 2018-19 to 21943 in 2020-21 and more than 50,000 in 2021-22 with a decrease of 20-30% cost of execution because of better supervision and oversight by the public.

Talking about the transformation change of JK Bank he said that it registered an annual net profit of Rs 1197.38 Cr for FY 2022-23 witnessing 139% YoY growth. He said that total Business of the Bank as of 31st March 2023 stood at Rs. 212666 Crore registering a growth of 9.40%.

Talking about the impact of AB-PMJAY, he said that JK is the first UT in the country to insure its entire population and 26 lakhs (approx.) beneficiaries have been covered under AB-PMJAY. It was given out that 81 percent of beneficiary families have at least one e-card in AB-PMJAY. He said that JK has 100 percent redressal of grievances through Jammu & Kashmir - Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (JKIGRAMS) and a fine of Rs. 45 lakhs (approx.) collected through Anti-Fraud mechanism for violation of SoP.

GOVT. OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION

P.h. No. 0 194-2458118 **CORRIGENDUM** Email: lrwdsmc@gmail.com

Corrigendum to Nit No.39 of 2023-24 issued vide endorsement No.SMC/EELRWD/2002-2011, Dated:-23-11-2023.

Unbalanced Bid: The successful bidder shall have to deposit an additional performance security in the shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG before award of contract in case the bid of the successful bidder is found to be unbalanced and the following scale shall apply thereto:-

S.No.	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz -a- viz Adv.Cost	Additional performance security to be deposited
1.	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
2.	>15% upto and including 20% below	5%
3.	>20% upto and including 25% below	10%
4.	>25% upto and including 30% below	15%
5.	>30% below	20%

Instead of

28. The bidder should have experience of executing civil works and should have executed and completed atleast 1 work equivalent to 80% of the cost, 2 works 50% each of the adv. cost, 3 works 40% each of adv. cost.

29. All interested bidders are advised to concentrate on the all terms and conditions before uploading the tender. Any bidder who will reduce the advertised cost below 10% shall have to upload FDR for the same amount. In violation of the terms and conditions the tender will be rejected. Rest conditions shall remain same.

NO: SMC/EELRWD/2033-40
Dated: -25/11/2023.
DIPK-NB-4483-23
DT: 28/11/2023

Sd/-
Er. Ishfaq Ahmad Shah,
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
LEFT RIVER WORKS DIVISION, (SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.)

OFFICE OF THE AUTHORIZED OFFICER
JEHLUM VALLEY FOREST DIVISION
BARAMULLA

NOTICE

It is by medium of this notice hereby informed that the below mentioned cases are under trail as per Section 52-IFA-1927 in the Authorized Court. Now, the hearing of the said cases has been fixed on 12th Of December 2023 at 10.30 A.M in case, anyone having any kind of objection, will produce the same before this Authority on scheduled date and time.

S.No	Type	Registration No	Date of seizure	Seized by	Particulars	Remarks
1	TATA AC	JK05D/5337	30.06.2017	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
2	Truck	JK02BS/1163	07.08.2017	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicles/timber under trail	-
3	Tata Mobile	JK05B/1315	30.12.2018	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
4	Maruti Car	JK12/3932	29.06.018	Range Officer Doabgah/FPF Baramulla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
5	Tata Mobile	JK01N/9626	29.06.2019	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
6	Tata Mobile	JK05/9561	18.08.2020	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
7	Maruti-800	JK05/6225	18.08.2020	Dy. Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
8	Auto load carrier	JK05D/9640	21.11.2021	Dy Director FPF Bla	Vehicle/timber under trail	-
9	Maruti-800	JK05/6113	27.04.2022	Dy. Director FPF Bla & R.O Doabgah	Vehicle/Timber under Trail	-
10	TATA Mobile	JK09/5435	23.06.2022	FPF K-07 & R.O Bla	Vehicle/Timber under Trail	-
11	LP Truck	JK02BH/2215	15.01.2023	FPF K-07	Vehicle/Timber under Trail	-

DIPK-12970-23
DT: 28/11/2023

Authorised Officer,
Divisional Forest Officer,
Forest Division Baramulla

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

Wednesday | 29-11-2023

Bridging Power Shortage

The decision by the Jammu and Kashmir administration to purchase an additional 500 MW of power to combat the rising winter demand comes as a much-needed relief for the region. The stark reality of reduced electricity availability during winter months, primarily due to lower hydroelectric output, has perennially been a bane of the Valley. The belated move, however, comes as a proactive step to address the imminent power scarcity.

The Union Territory's heavy reliance on hydropower makes it vulnerable to seasonal variations in water discharge, consequently affecting electricity generation. This impacts the lives of residents, with power shortages causing disruptions across domestic, commercial, and industrial sectors.

The approval of a fresh Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between J&K Power Corporation Limited and the NTPC is an initiative to bridge the gap between demand and supply. Singrauli-III power station's inclusion in this agreement, being a thermal power station, proves critical in meeting the escalated winter demand when hydro-generated power undergoes a significant decline.

The decision is timely, considering the compounding annual growth rate of energy demand in Jammu and Kashmir, pegged at 10 percent. This underlines the pressing need for augmenting the existing power supply infrastructure to sustain the region's development and livelihoods.

While this move is commendable, it's equally crucial to address underlying issues contributing to power scarcity. The Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC) blames power pilferage, defaulting consumers, and damaged infrastructure for being a factor in the existing state of power situation. According to the corporation, the pilferage primarily results in outages and damage to transformers, thus causing hardships to genuine consumers. The consequent crackdowns launched by the corporation has fetched it around Rs 30 crore in just four days. And this massive amount may not have been recovered only from the power pilferers. This goes on to prove that people have been paying for the electricity consumed by them. But despite that they don't get adequate electricity. Even with this responsible payment behavior, the Valley faces a persistent struggle with power shortages, especially during the winter when hydroelectric output diminishes substantially. While power pilfering has certainly been a fact of life in J&K, as elsewhere in the country, it is something that generally doesn't happen without the connivance of the KPDC staff. So, the corporation needs to look within also.

That said, the decision to secure additional power from the Centre is a timely intervention, acknowledging the region's vulnerability during this crucial period. Here's hoping that the power situation only improves from hereon.

OTHER OPINION

Truce in Gaza must be built on

Yet, the four-day window for desperately needed aid, medical supplies and essentials for the thousands of civilians suffering the consequences of the conflict between Hamas and Israel, is welcome. The terms of truce, brokered by Qatar, the US and Egypt, require a cessation of violence and an exchange of 50 Israeli hostages held by Hamas in return for the release of Palestinian prisoners in Israel. The prisoner exchange adds a strategic and political component to the humanitarian window. It also brings an opportunity.

Since Hamas's attack on October 7, and Israel's brutal response, many countries — including big powers like China and Russia — have indulged in lofty rhetoric about the need for peace. That the cessation of hostilities, even if brief for now, was brokered by countries with stakes and roots in the region — and not necessarily those engaged in rhetorical displays of moralpolitik — is worth noting. The US has open channels of communication as well as leverage with both Israeli and Palestinian decision-makers. Qatar has influence with Hamas and Egypt, as a regional power that shares a border with Palestine and is a refuge for Palestinians. The role that the three countries have played — the lives they will undoubtedly save — must be commended. As humanitarian operations begin, India must do all it can for those suffering in Gaza — in terms of aid, supplies, as well as help to broker a solution.

The coming humanitarian pause also offers space for regional leaders to think of a way forward. The road map suggested by India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar at the BRICS summit on Tuesday may be useful. First, humanitarian aid and a cessation of hostilities. Second, both terrorism and military attacks on civilians must stop. Finally, a two-state solution that ensures security for Israel and sovereignty of Palestinians. What is needed in this moment of death and suffering is leadership that looks beyond the pain, that can clear a path to peace. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's statement, just before his cabinet approved the pause, is disturbing: "We are at war and we will continue it until we achieve all the objectives," he said. Rather than take a maximalist position, Israel should try — reports indicate that sections of the coalition government are amenable to this — to negotiate the return of more hostages for a longer cessation of violence. Hamas must realise that the cycle of violence it began only serves to further devastate the lives of Palestinians.

The Indian Express



Garbage is Choking Wullar Around Bandipora

Even after Supreme Court's intervention ULB has failed to set up scientific waste management plant

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

It has been more than a year now since a matter related to unscientific waste disposal into Wullar lake by Municipal Council Bandipora was taken up in Supreme Court and a two-member bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and C T Ravikumar castigated the municipal council for playing with the lives of people. As a stakeholder in this case, I was of the firm belief that within some months the Directorate of Urban Local Bodies Kashmir would set up scientific waste management plant in the Bandipora town to address this menace but even after one year, we see Wullar being choked around the Bandipora town as untreated solid and liquid waste continues to be dumped on the banks of this lake which is a Ramsar site of international repute.

On October 19th 2022, the SC double-bench dismissed an appeal filed by Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Municipal Council Bandipora against the imposition of environmental compensation of Rs 64.21 lakh for unscientific dumping and disposal of solid waste. The compensation was earlier imposed by the J&K Pollution Control Board (now known as JK Pollution Control Committee) on February 9th 2021.

The Municipal Council Bandipora had moved an appeal before the National Green Tribunal (NGT) against the said order. They sought exemption from paying the fine but the Tribunal on 21.10.2021 dismissed the appeal and directed the municipal body to pay the penalty money. After this, the Municipal Council Bandipora went to Supreme Court of India but the apex court dismissed the appeal outrightly. The compensation money was paid as per sources but the unscientific waste continues to be dumped near the Wullar and other places of Bandipora town.

Rs 6 crore to be spent on SWM plant

In August last year, the Chief Planning Officer (CPO) Bandipora, Imtiaz Ahmad, had said that a scientific waste management plant had been sanctioned at the cost of Rs 6 crores. However, even after 15 months, the work on this plant is yet to start. Infact, the expression of interest -EOI was invited last year as per media reports but work has not been taken up at all. A few days back, another news report circulated in the media, wherein it was said that District Administration Bandipora was going to start waste management on scientific lines around Zalwan site near Wullar lake but these are only the statements and nothing substantial is happening. I have been following this case for the last 4 ½ years in the National Green Tribunal -NGT but it seems that the local administration in Bandipora, especially the Urban Local Bodies Kashmir, have not prioritized this work.

Background of the case

In March 2019, this author moved a formal petition in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) against unscientific dumping of municipal solid waste by Bandipora Municipal Council at Zalwan Nussu area in the outskirts of the town. I had visited the area several times and found lots of waste being dumped in violation of MSW Rules 2016. Ironically, the waste was being unscientifically dumped by the Municipal Council

Bandipora which was supposed to enforce the MSW Rules 2016 on ground.

In addition to the municipal waste dumping in Wullar lake around Bandipora, I also raised the issue related to waste dumping and illegal encroachment of Hokersar and Kreechu Chanhara wetlands as well before the NGT in the same petition.

On August 27th 2020, the NGT's Principal Bench issued a detailed order asking the National Wetlands Committee to compile data of status of compliance of environmental norms in respect of all significant wetlands in the country to ensure remedial action. The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir was asked to ensure scientific solid waste management near wetlands and utilization of SBM Gramin funds for the same which was in-fact my suggestion to the NGT.

“Wullar is our identity and is an important constituent of Kashmir valley's collective biodiversity. The solid and liquid waste is choking it.”

As the order was not implemented in letter and spirit, the J&K Pollution Control Board on 9.2.2021 issued a penalty notice directing MC Bandipora to pay Rs 64.21 lakhs under Polluter Pays Principle as per approved guidelines of the Central Pollution Control Board and the National Green Tribunal (NGT)

The Order reads:

“Whereas, on continuous failure on part of the Executive Officer Municipal Committee Bandipora to dispose of solid waste in a scientific manner a show cause notice for levying of Environmental Compensation, in light of the directions of the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal was served upon Executive Officer Municipal Committee Bandipora vide No. PCB/LSK/489/020/124-130 dt. 26.06.2020, calling upon him there to show reasons within fifteen (15) days as to why Environmental Compensation be not levied upon him for these blatant violations of Environmental Laws. Now, therefore, in view of foregoing back ground Environmental Compensation under Polluter Pays Principle as per approved guidelines of the Central Pollution Control Board and the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, to the tune of the Rs.64,21,000/- is hereby levied upon Executive Officer Municipal Committee, Bandipora for violation of Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 for the period commencing from the date show cause notice dated 26.06.2020 to 25.09.2020 i.e. the date of latest report of Regional Director, PCB, Kashmir”

Municipal Council Bandipora went to NGT to challenge the PCB's order. The NGT's four-member Principal Bench headed by Justice A K Goel on October 21st 2021 dismissed the appeal with the following observations:

“In view of the above, no interference is called for with the above order. However, the amount recovered may be utilized for restoration of the environment by preparing an action plan with timelines by a joint Committee comprising State PCB and District Magistrate, Bandipora. The plan may be prepared within two months and executed within the stipulated timeline. The plan may take into account plans already prepared for protecting the water bodies/wetlands in compliance with the order of the Tribunal dated 22.07.2021 in O.A. No. 351/2019, Raja Muzaffar Bhat v. State of Jammu and Kashmir & Ors. The appeal is disposed of”

Failing to get any relief from NGT the Municipal Council Bandipora filed an appeal before the Supreme Court of India. The Supreme Court bench of Justices Ajay Rastogi and C T Ravi Kumar in the order said that court finds no ground to interfere with the impugned order passed by the National Green Tribunal. While castigating the Municipality the SC in its order said:

“Is it the way you deal with matters? Is it the consciousness of your state? You cannot play with the lives of the people. Deposit the fine.”

Misleading NGT with wrong information

The officials of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) have failed to comply with scientific waste management rules across J&K. I don't see even a single municipal body where waste is managed as per MSW Rules 2016. In Chadoora town, almost 100% door to door collection of waste is undertaken after NGT penalized them with Rs 50 lakhs penalty last year. The waste management plant is also operational and I appreciate the work done by the local President of the Municipality and his staff but when it comes to collecting the waste in a segregated manner that hasn't been achieved.

Infact, the Housing and Urban Development Department J&K filed an inaccurate affidavit before NGT in my case, on November 21st 2023, claiming that 92% waste is being collected from Chadoora town in a segregated manner. This is not true, as per my information.

Conclusion

Wullar is our identity and is an important constituent of Kashmir valley's collective biodiversity. The solid and liquid waste is choking it from different sides and the silt and solid waste transported via Jhelum is also impacting its health.

In the past too, I have written extensively on Wullar lake and sought judicial intervention for the same. The Wullar is still getting choked from its east shore which needs to be addressed. Waste from Bandipora town is largely impacting Wullar which needs urgent action.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. Information provided in the present article is the responsibility of the author.

Islamophobe Greet Wilders, The New Dutch PM?

Asad Mirza

Last week, veteran Dutch anti-Islam politician Geert Wilders vowed to be prime minister of the Netherlands eventually, following an election in which his party won the most seats. Wilders vowed on X, "I will be prime minister."

In a long post on X, he expressed frustration at other parties for their apparent unwillingness to cooperate with his Freedom Party (PVV). Wilders said he would "continue to moderate" his positions if necessary to gain power.

Although Wilders' party finished well ahead of rivals in the November 22 vote on an anti-immigration platform, his party won only 37 seats in the Dutch parliament. That means he will have to cooperate with at least two more moderate parties in order to form a government.

Earlier, the conservative VVD Party, of caretaker Prime Minister Mark Rutte, which shares many of Wilders' views on immigration, said it would not participate in a cabinet with him. However the VVD's new leader, Dilan Yesilgoz, did not rule out offering outside support to a Wilders-led government.

Pieter Omtzigt, who leads the centrist reform NSC Party and is also seen as a likely partner in a Wilders' government, has said cooperation will be difficult due to extreme positions Wilders has voiced that appear to violate Dutch constitutional protections on freedom of religion.

Wilders' stand on Islam

Geert Wilders is known for his radical anti-immigration and Islamophobic politics and his staunch Euro-scepticism.

In 2007, Wilders sent a letter to the Dutch newspaper *de Volkskrant* calling the Qur'an a "fascist book" just like *Mein Kampf*. The newspaper put the letter on the front page but in an editorial suggested that the PVV leader had gone too far with the comparison, which was deeply hurtful and offensive to many. This letter and other comments led to Wilders being prosecuted for inciting hatred and discrimination. He denied any wrongdoing. In 2011, he was acquitted and his comments ruled acceptable within the context of public debate.



In a 2008 interview with the Observer, Wilders said that Islam is not a religion; it's an ideology, the ideology of a retarded culture. The interview coincided with him creating a short film entitled *Fitna*, an Arabic word meaning "strife". In the film he again criticises the Holy Qur'an as a "fascist book" and intersperses images of the September 11 attacks with quotations from the Islamic holy book. It was screened on the internet and sparked violent protests in the Muslim world. In February 2009, Wilders was refused entry to Britain to screen the film on the grounds of it being a threat to public order. Wilders, who denied any wrongdoing, appealed, and a court later said the decision was wrong. The Dutch public prosecutor stated that statements made in it were "hurtful and offensive to a large number of Muslims" but not punishable by law. The

episode subsequently became part of the 2011 case.

Wilders coined the word "Head Rag" to describe the headscarves worn by Muslim women. In the Netherlands' annual political debates in September 2009, Wilders suggested an annual tax of €1,000 on headscarves, provoking a scandalised reaction. His position on headscarves, and talks on Turkish accession to Europe, had led him to break with the People's Party for Freedom and Democracy (VVD) and set up the PVV, or "Party for Freedom", in 2005.

On immigration, Wilders stands for decreasing and clubs it with Moroccans, whom he describes as "scum" migrating to Netherlands and delivered a speech at The Hague in 2014 condemning migration. In a lengthy prosecution, which he claimed was politically motivated; this speech was eventually

ruled as unlawful discrimination in terms of insulting a group. It resulted in a criminal record for Wilders but he was acquitted of inciting discrimination and given no other penalty.

From calling Moroccans "scum", to holding competitions for cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed, Wilders has built a career based on his self-appointed mission to stop an "Islamic invasion" of the West.

Wilders also condemns the Dutch democracy and has stated that there is an enormous gap between this fake Dutch parliament and common people at large. Talking in the 2015 budget debates, Wilders argued for a closure of the borders and questioned Dutch democracy because MPs did not agree with him. He also wants the Netherlands to leave the EU, just like the UK.

Moreover, Wilders pledges to close the

Dutch representation in Ramallah, home to the "corrupt Palestinian Authority." He also describes Israel as the only true democracy in the Middle East and has stated that once in power he'll ensure Dutch relations with Israel are strengthened and will move the Dutch embassy to Jerusalem.

Dutch politics

The Netherlands is known for low corruption, press freedom and moderation, but for the past two decades it has witnessed a rising support for far-right parties. Prof Tom Louwerse of Leiden University's Institute of Political Science, told *The Guardian* that the Dutch far right has polled on average 15% to 20% votes in the past decade. Prof Matthijs Rooduijn of Amsterdam University told a Dutch news website *localnews.com* that he sees the election as a "breeding ground for right-wing populism".

Although Wilders is extremely right wing on immigration, he has populist policies on healthcare, pensions, the minimum wage and social housing. "The electorate of the PVV in general consists of people who experience more difficulties," said Rooduijn. "They feel they are being neglected. They have tough lives, economically but also culturally. And that is one of the reasons they vote for a party that promises radical change."

But will this radical change happen? Wilders has won the most seats and been invited to try to form a coalition. But the Dutch representative democracy and the process of electing a coalition PM is very complicated. And it could take months for him to be chosen the prime minister.

Overall, the Dutch elections may serve as an indication of the increasing right-wing sentiments in Western Europe. The far right has grown throughout much of Europe in the past decade. Giorgia Meloni of Brothers of Italy rode to power last year, the National Rally led by Marine Le Pen came second in the 2022 French presidential election polls, and the Alternative for Germany party is currently polling second.

Views expressed in the article are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer. Asad Mirza is a Delhi-based senior political and international affairs commentator.

Why You Reveal More Than You Know You Should

David Ludden

It was late last night. You'd had a rough day at work, and you'd come home exhausted, both physically and mentally. You were still upset about that incident in the office, so you had a couple of drinks and went onto social media to unwind. While you were there, you let your friends know just what you think about your boss and coworkers.

It felt so good at the time to let out all that pent-up frustration. But now, in the cold light of morning, you've got that sinking feeling of regret. You know you revealed more than you should have, and now you're afraid it's going to come around to bite you.

We think we prize our privacy—and yet people frequently disclose personal information that may not be in their best interest. This is a fact of human behavior that psychologists have struggled to explain.

The Costs and Benefits of Revealing Private Information

According to traditional views on privacy-related behaviors, people should carefully consider each piece of personal information, only revealing it if the benefit of doing so outweighs the cost. Since people often disregard costs and benefits when revealing personal information, there's obviously a problem with the traditional explanation. Perhaps, Carnegie Mellon University psychologists Erin Carbone and George Loewenstein suggest, people do in fact weigh the costs and benefits, but not in the way psychologists have assumed.

In an article they recently published in the journal *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, Carbone and Loewenstein



argue that we all have a drive to disclose that works just like other drives, such as those for hunger, thirst, and sex. In other words, we have a fundamental need to reveal information about ourselves to others. That means that when people decide to disclose something private on a given occasion, the costs and benefits center on satisfying that drive in the moment rather than long-term consequences.

The Carrot and the Stick of Drives

According to Carbone and Loewenstein, drives work by the stick-and-carrot approach. The stick is the unpleasant feeling that we experience when a drive is not met. When we're hungry, thirsty, or horny,

we feel uncomfortable, and we can think only of satisfying that need.

The carrot, then, is the pleasure we experience when we do satisfy a drive. Orgasm may be the greatest pleasure we humans can experience, but the satisfaction of a good meal is a close second. Of course, drives care only about the here and now and not the future, and we may soon regret that particular sexual encounter or the kind of food we ate.

Disclosing personal information works the same way, Carbone and Loewenstein argue. Holding back secrets can be troubling, and, in fact, doing so can lead to long-term physical and psychological health problems. There is also the pleasurable sense of relief we feel when we can

finally get something off our chest.

When we open up to a trusted friend or counselor, we can gain the benefits of disclosure while incurring no social costs. But when we reveal private information to strangers on the internet, we may feel relief in the moment, but the long-term social costs are quite likely going to outweigh that momentary pleasure. In this way, disclosing too much on social media is a lot like ill-advised drunken sex or gorging on junk food—such acts may satisfy a drive, but not in a healthy way.

The Drive to Disclose in Our Evolutionary Past, and Now

The evolutionary rationale behind most

drives is obvious. We need to eat and drink to survive, and we need to have sex to get our genes into the next generation. But why would we have evolved a drive to disclose?

For most of human existence, our ancestors lived in small groups of 100-150, in which everyone knew everyone and many people were related to each other. When individual survival depends on coordinating group activities, candor is essential. Besides, when you spend your whole life in the same small group, there really are no secrets anyway, so it's best to be open.

But nowadays we live in a world of strangers, and we never know for sure who we can trust and who wants to take advantage of us. In other words, privacy is a need that arises from our modern, anonymous lifestyle, and as such, evolutionary psychology suggests that we have no innate cognitive mechanisms for dealing with it. Instead, we have to exercise willpower to keep from making personal disclosures that would have been appropriate in the days of our hunter-gatherer ancestors but are totally inappropriate in modern society.

Even though our drives are often a mismatch for our lifestyle today, there's no way we can curb them entirely. If we want to live a healthy life, we need to choose nutritious foods to satisfy our hunger drive, and we have to find dependable mates to meet our sexual needs. Likewise, we have to acknowledge our drive to disclose, but we should also find safe channels for meeting that need to reveal ourselves to others.

The article was originally published by *Psychology Today*

Talking To Children About Body Safety And Teaching Them To Say No To Secrets

How empowering kids can help protect them from abuse

360info.org

Keeping kids safe from abuse isn't about teaching stranger danger or tricky people. It's far less simplistic.

If you grew up in the 1970s, '80s and '90s in Australia, you might recall being warned about "stranger danger".

Parents, teachers and even the media used the phrase to warn children about talking to unfamiliar adults to reduce the chance of child abduction or abuse. But child protection experts now suggest a different approach to reflect that strangers are not the main perpetrators of child abuse.

These days, rather than focusing on stranger danger or even the concept of "tricky people", which has been doing the rounds of parenting websites researchers suggest parents talk to children about body safety and empowerment, and teach them to say no to secrets.

Where did stranger danger come from?

The widespread fear of "stranger danger" may have been prompted by media coverage of unknown male perpetrators abducting and abusing children.

But it may also stem from our fear of recognising that abuse is going on much closer to home.

Keeping the focus on the rare, and exceptional event helps the majority of Australians to distance themselves from the problem, to imagine it as a random event that happens to others'.

Since the 2017 report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse exposed the abuse of children and young people by people in positions of power, we understand more about the need for a shift in the culture of child safety in organisations.

The Royal Commission shifted the conversation, recognising that abuse goes on in organisations at the hands of those who are known and trusted, involving a process known as grooming'.

We now understand that most child sexual abuse occurs at the hands of someone a child knows. Of people who experienced sexual abuse before they were 15, about 79 per cent were abused by a relative, friend, acquaintance or neighbour.

Only 11 per cent were abused by a stranger. (Other perpetrators included trusted figures such as teachers, recreational leaders, religious leaders, doctors, staff in a children's home, or corrective services personnel.)

According to recent findings from the Australian Child Maltreatment Study of 8500 people, that figure is even lower: only 4.9 per cent of all respondents experienced



sexual abuse by an unknown adult (or about 18 per cent of those who experienced child sexual abuse).

What's more, around one-third of childhood sexual abuse is perpetrated by another child or young person, which sometimes includes siblings.

The uncomfortable truth is that children are abused and groomed not only in institutional settings but also within the family.

What about the tricky people' concept?

Some child safety advocates have recently steered the child safety conversation towards "tricky people" teaching kids to recognise dangerous people who may be trying to trick them.

them to operate unchallenged in plain sight.

It is often only with hindsight that we can see who is grooming and who is just a trustworthy and wholesome person.

Instead of trying to identify who are "tricky people", researchers now call us to focus on the environment, and looking out for situations or context that are tricky and place children and young people at risk.

In organisations, policies and code of conduct call out these situations (such as private communication between a sports coach and team member via a personal social media platform, rather than from a club account that is monitored by other adults).

We need to recognise and modify tricky places' or tricky processes' those situations that allow grooming and abuse to occur.

What actually works

Apart from minimising situations that may enable grooming and abuse, the best defence against child abuse is talking, to overcome the shame, secrecy and silence that enables the behaviour.

Parents, carers and teachers are encouraged to talk to children and young people about body safety and empowerment.

They can focus on teaching children how to speak up when they have concerns, and say no to secrets (this involves differentiating between unsafe secrets and surprises).

Eating Beef, Dairy Can Boost Immune System To Fight Cancer: Study

IAN S

Turns out eating beef and dairy may bolster your body's immune response against cancer, according to a study.

Trans-vaccenic acid (TVA), a long-chain fatty acid found in meat and dairy products from grazing animals such as cows and sheep, improves the ability of CD8+ T cells to infiltrate tumours and kill cancer cells, revealed the study by researchers from the University of Chicago.

The study, published in the journal Nature, also shows that patients with higher levels of TVA circulating in the blood responded better to immunotherapy, suggesting that it could have potential as a nutritional supplement to complement clinical treatments for cancer.

"There are many studies trying to decipher the link between diet and human health, and it's very difficult to understand the underlying mechanisms because of the wide variety of foods people eat. But if we focus on just the nutrients and



metabolites derived from food, we begin to see how they influence physiology and pathology," said Jing Chen, Professor of Medicine at University of Chicago in the US.

"By focusing on nutrients that can activate T cell responses, we found one that actually enhances anti-tumor immunity by activating an important immune pathway," Chen added.

However, Chen cautioned that there is a growing body of evidence about the detrimental health effects of consuming too much red meat and dairy, so this study shouldn't be taken as an excuse to eat more cheeseburgers and pizza.

For the new study, the team started with a database of around 700 known metabolites that come from food and assembled a "blood nutrient" compound library consisting of 235 bioactive molecules derived from nutrients.

They screened the compounds in this new library for their ability to influence anti-tumour immunity by activating CD8+ T cells, a group of immune cells critical for killing cancerous or virally-infected cells.

After the scientists evaluated the top six candidates in both human and mouse cells, they saw that TVA performed the best. TVA is the most abundant trans fatty acid present in human milk, but the body cannot produce it on its own.

Only about 20 per cent of TVA is broken down into other byproducts, leaving 80 per cent circulating in the blood. "That means there must be something else it does, so we started working on it more," Chen said.

He noted that the study also indicates that nutrient supplements such as TVA could be used to promote T cell activity.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office Of The Executive Engineer REW Division Ganderbal

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NIT No. 166/2023-24 of REW Ganderbal Dated: 28/11/2023

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

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Earnest Money (In Rs.)@3%	Scheme	Block	Treasury Challan Account Head
1	Construction of Foot Bridge BWO Sub Structure on Nallah Sindh Ph Ist with Approach at Bonpora Rayil Block Gund	25.50Lacs	1000	75 Days	AAY/BEE	76500	Land Compensation	Gund	0515
2	Development of walking path around Khanpora Sar Phase Ist at Guzham Block Wakura under UT Capex (Amrit Sarovar 2023-24)	21.00 Lacs	1000	70 Days	BEE/CEE	63000	UT Capex(Amrit Sarovar)	Wakura	0515
3	Construction of foot bridge on Nallah Sindh at Margund Phase 2nd Block Kangan under UT Capex (CD-Pyt 2023-24)	11.98Lacs	600	60 Days	BEE/CEE/DEE	36000	UT Capex (CD Kangan & Pyt)	Kangan	0515

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-11-2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	28-11-2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	28-11-2023 from 12:00 Noon
4.	Bid Submission End Date	07-12-2023 at 4:00 P.M.
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online) -	08-12-2023 at 10:00 A.M.

Conditions for Bidders:
1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (REW) Division Ganderbal (Account Head-0515-Executive Engineer REW Ganderbal) mentioning therein NIT No. & Serial No. Of Work on it.
Note: The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money/CDR must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission end date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
2. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 3% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e. Executive Engineer (REW) Division Ganderbal. Non submission of earnest money/bid security shall render the bidder as non-responsive.
3. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@3% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the successful Bidder (L1) shall be treated as Performance Security for fixation of contract.
4. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD@3% of Advertised Cost) in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG of the unsuccessful Bidders shall be released within 15 days after opening the Tender on production of Treasury Challan.
5. The Tender Opening Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders or any part of any tender without assigning reason thereof.
6. Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form as per Annexure "B" given below.
7. The date and time of opening of Bids will be notified on website 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 will be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer Rural Engineering Wing Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).
8. The bids for the work will remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids.
9. The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
1. Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
2. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within specified time period.
3. In case contractor fails to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
10. Unbalanced Bid: - In case bid of the lowest bidder is found unbalanced, the successful bidder shall have to produce additional performance security in shape of CDR/ FDR within five days after opening of bids, as per following break-up:-

S.No	Percentage of unbalance bid viz., advertised cost on account of Low rates	Additional Performance Security to be deposited on quoted bid by L1
1.	Up to and including 15% Below	Nil
2.	>15% upto and including 20% Below	5%
3.	>20% upto and including 25% Below	10%
4.	>25% upto and including 30% Below	15%
5.	> 30% Below	20%

11. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
11.1 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.
11.2 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.
11.3 The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
11.4 Bids to be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
11.5 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.
12. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
10 (a) Bidders should note that if the documents uploaded/submitted on the basis of which the contract has been awarded are forged/fake/not genuine at any time, the contract shall be cancelled and the contractor/bidder shall be recommended for blacklisting and debarred from taking part in tendering with the RDD/Other Departments for a period of one year in the first instance, besides the performance security deposited for the said work shall be forfeited.
13. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
14. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Rural Engineering wing Ganderbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document) and relevant bid documents will be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.
15. 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.
16. 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 and all taxes up to completion of the work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes will be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
17. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on REW e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required
18. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer Rural Engineering wing Ganderbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid.
19. Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
19.1 All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-
a. Copies of original documents defining constitution/ legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address.
b. Scanned copy of E- challan/Treasury Receipt
c. Scanned copy of Registration Card with latest renewal
d. Scanned copy of Valid GST No. / GST Acknowledgement receipt with latest GST (3B) or GSTR-(1) certificate ending previous month/ quarter.
e. PAN Card
f. Tender Document Fee Receipt shall have NIT No. & Serial No. Of Work Mentioned on it.
20. If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list/quantity schedule, cost of such item/ items will 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.
20.1 The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
21. The works are approved under Capex Budget -2023-24.
22. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

No. Xen/REW/GBL/e-tendering/13329-37
DIPK-12957/23
Dated:-28-11-2023

Sd/
Executive Engineer (REW)
Division Ganderbal

Email ID: rbdvisionawantipora@gmail.com

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

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
Single Cover System

Fresh Nit against Nit: Fresh-62/EAA/RNB/of 2023-24/2485-95, Dated. 07/11/2023
E-NIT No. Fresh-87/EAA/RNB/of 2023-24/3318-28 Dated. 28/11/2023
SINGLE COVER SYSTEM

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

SN	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (incl. GST) (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (days)	M.H OF Account	Class Of Contractor
1	construction of tile work from Lalwani Masjid to H/O Mohd Ismile lone ward No 13 at Lalwani Mohallah Kadlabal Pampore	4.91	200	2% of Adv cost	45 working days	Normal Head	Dee

Position of AAA: Accorded- vide No: MCP/2023-24/033 Of 2023 dt. 30.08.2023
Position of funds: - Available
Position of TS: - Sanctioned
Project Authority: DULB.

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28/11/2023
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	29/11/2023
3.	Bid submission Start Date	30/11/2023
4.	Bid Submission End Date	07/12/2023 upto 4.00 PM.
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids	08/12/2023 at 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora.

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan (deposited in MH: 0059) in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora (tender receiving authority).
Note: - The Date of Treasury Challan and Earnest Money / Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.
2.1 The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 5% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora within 07 (Seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for beyond bid validity.
3. At the time of tendering, all bidders must upload earnest money/bid security equal to 2% of the Advertised Cost in the form of CDR/FDR/BG pledged to the tender receiving authority, i.e., Executive Engineer R&B Division Awantipora. Besides that, the successful bidder will have to provide Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG @ 5% at the time of contract award, strictly in accordance with the Government's circular instructions from time to time. The earnest money/bid security of 2% will be released to the successful bidder only after the submission of a Performance Security of 5% of the allotted cost, which will be released after successful completion of the DLP/Maintenance Period.
4. All Bidders shall to quote the rates in BOQ including GST. GST @ 18% or as admissible will be added separately at the time of issuance of Allotment by the allotting authority.

Head Draftsman
DIPK-12964/23Technical Officer
DATED: 28-11-2023Executive Engineer
R&B Division Awantipora

Mcap Of BSE-Listed Firms Hits Record High Of Rs 331 Lakh Cr; Just Shy Of Entering USD 4-Trn Club



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The combined market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms hit an all-time high of Rs 331 lakh crore on Tuesday and is just shy of entering the landmark USD 4-trillion club.

At the end of trade, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies reached Rs 3,31,05,425.71 crore, which translates to USD 3.97 trillion at the current exchange rate of 83.34, thanks to a flag-end recovery in the equity market after a highly volatile trade.

On May 24, 2021, the market capitalisation of all listed companies on the BSE touched the USD 3-trillion mark. The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex hit its all-time peak of 67,927.23 on September 15, this year.

While the BSE benchmark Sensex has rallied 5,333.46 points, or 8.76 per cent, so far this year, the market capitalisation (mcap) of all listed firms at its platform has jumped Rs 48.67 lakh crore.

The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 204.16 points or 0.31 per cent to settle at 66,174.20 on Tuesday.

"After last week's range-bound trend, markets registered gains led by uptick in power, metal and auto stocks

as hopes of strong growth momentum going ahead and receding worries of rate hikes in the US strengthened the mood," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd.

"Fills turning net buyers of local equities in the last few sessions too has brought some cheers to the market, even as caution could prevail in next few sessions ahead of monthly F&O expiry and exit poll results of five state elections later this week," Tapse said.

Among the Sensex firms, Tata Motors, Bajaj Finserv, UltraTech Cement, Bajaj Finance, NTPC, Bharti Airtel, Titan and Axis Bank were the major gainers.

ITC, ICICI Bank, Power Grid and HDFC Bank were among the laggards.

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge climbed 0.30 per cent while the small-cap index gained marginally by 0.06 per cent.

Among the indices, utilities rallied 3.64 per cent, power jumped 3.47 per cent, oil & gas climbed 3.13 per cent, energy (2.27 per cent), services (2.02 per cent), commodities (1.27 per cent) and metal (1.13 per cent).

FMCG, industrials, telecommunication and capital goods were the laggards.

Automobile Retail Sales Soar To Record High In Festive Season This Year: FADA

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Driven by robust demand, automobile retail sales in India rose to a record high this festive season with all segments, barring tractors, reporting year-on-year growth, dealers' body FADA said on Tuesday.

Overall automobile sales rose 19 per cent to 37,93,584 units in the 42-day festive period this year as compared with 31,95,213 units last year.

During the period, which starts from the first day of Navratri and ends 15 days after Dhanteras, passenger vehicle retail sales rose to 5,47,246 units, up 10 per cent from 4,96,047 units in the same period last year.

"Despite initial underperformance during Navratri, particularly in the passenger vehicle sector, the situation improved by Diwali, ending with a 10 per cent growth rate," Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations (FADA) President Manish Raj Singhania said.

Sports utility vehicles were the most sought after segment during the festive period, he added.

Singhania however noted that inventory levels for passenger vehicles remain a significant concern as OEMs



continue to push further dispatch, thus keeping the inventory rate near all-time high levels.

TWO-WHEELER REGISTRATIONS

Similarly, two-wheeler registrations rose 21 per cent year-on-year to 28,93,107 units this year from 23,96,665 units in 2022.

"Record-breaking sales were reported in several categories, with rural areas particularly contributing to the surge in two-wheeler purchases," he said.

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SALES

Commercial vehicle sales rose 8 per cent year-on-year to 1,23,784 units in the 42-day window.

THREE-WHEELER REGISTRATIONS

Three-wheeler registrations witnessed 41 per cent increase to 1,42,875 units during the period under re-

view from 1,01,052 units in the year-ago period. Tractor sales however declined marginally to 86,572 units from 86,951 units in the festive period last year.

TRACTORS SALES

"Tractors, which saw 8.3 per cent decrease in sales during Navratri, made a remarkable recovery, ending the festive period with only a 0.5 per cent decline," Singhania said.

Festive period this year commenced on October 15 and ended on November 25. Last year, it stretched between September 26 and November 6. FADA said it collated vehicle registration data from 1,355 out of 1,442 RTOs. FADA

India represents over 15,000 automobile dealerships having over 30,000 dealership outlets across India.

Govt Suspends 70 Lakh Mobile Numbers Due To Suspicious Activity: DFS Secy

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: To check digital frauds, the government has suspended 70 lakh mobile numbers on account of suspicious transactions, Financial Services Secretary Vivek Joshi said on Tuesday.

Emerging out of a meeting to discuss issues related to financial cyber security and increasing digital payment fraud, Joshi said banks have been asked to strengthen the system and processes in this regard.

More such meetings would take place, he said, adding the next meeting is scheduled in January.

With regard to Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS) fraud, he said states have been asked to look into the issue and ensure data protection.

He also said that there was a discussion with regard to KYC standardisation of merchants.

The meeting chaired by the Financial Services Secretary also deliberated on how to ensure better coordination among various agencies to check cyber fraud.

Joshi said there was a need to create awareness about cyber fraud in society to protect gullible customers from being duped.

During the meeting, the Indian Cyber Crime Co-ordi-



nation Centre made a presentation on the latest statistics of digital payment frauds as reported in National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP), including challenges and issues faced in countering such issues.

The meeting was attended by senior officials of the Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Revenue, Department of Telecom, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India and National Payments Corporation of India.

The meeting assumes significance in view of digital fraud witnessed by UCO Bank and Bank of Baroda in the recent past.

Earlier this month, Kolkata-based public sector lender UCO Bank reported erroneous credit of Rs 820 crore to account holders of the bank via

Immediate Payment Service (IMPS).

During November 10-13, the bank observed, due to technical issues in IMPS, certain transaction(s) initiated by holders of other banks have resulted in credit to the account holders in UCO Bank without actual receipt of money from these banks.

IMPS is a real-time interbank electronic funds transfer system without any intervention.

The bank blocked the recipients' accounts and has been able to recover Rs 649 crore of the Rs 820 crore, or about 79 per cent of the amount.

The state-owned bank is yet to clarify whether this technical glitch was due to human error or a hacking attempt.

However, the bank has reported the matter to the law enforcement agencies for necessary action.

FPIs Investment In Debt Market Hits 2-Yr High At Rs 12,400 Cr In Nov

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have infused about Rs 12,400 crore into the Indian debt markets in November so far, making it the highest inflow in more than two years, on attractive yields offered by the country's debt. The inclusion of Indian G-Sec in the JP Morgan Government Bond Index Emerging Markets has spurred foreign fund participation in the Indian bond markets, market experts said.

FPIs have been bullish on Indian debt since the beginning of 2023 and have invested throughout the year, except March, when they had pulled out Rs 2,505 crore, data with the depositories showed.

With the latest inflow, the net investment by FPIs into debt reached Rs 47,900 crore so far this calendar year.

According to the data, overseas investors put in a net amount of Rs 12,400 crore into the debt market this month (till November 27). This was



the highest inflow since September 2021, when they had poured Rs 12,804 crore.

This came following a net investment of Rs 6,382 crore in October.

Indian debt is relatively attractive compared to debt in other emerging markets, and it offers a relatively high yield compared to debt in developed markets, Bhuvan Rustagi, COO and Co-Founder, of Per Annum and Lendbox, said.

Apart from equities, FPIs pumped in a net amount of Rs 378 crore in the equity markets during the period under review.

This came after FPIs dumped equities worth Rs 24,548 crore in October and Rs 14,767 crore in September.

Maruti Suzuki, M&M, Audi Plan Price Hikes In January

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Automakers Maruti Suzuki, Mahindra & Mahindra and Audi India on Monday announced plans to hike prices of their passenger vehicles in January 2024 citing reasons, including cost pressure driven by overall inflation and increased commodity rates.

Besides, Tata Motors and Mercedes-Benz India are mulling increasing the prices of their models from January.

The country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India, which sells a range of vehicles from entry-level small car Alto to multi-utility vehicle Invicto, priced between Rs 3.54 lakh and Rs 28.42 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi), on Monday said the price hike would vary from model to model.

In an interaction with PTI, Maruti Suzuki India (MSI) Senior Executive Officer (Marketing and Sales) Shashank Srivastava said the price hike would be "substantial" in some models.

"There is an inflationary pressure all around, including volatility in commodities, so that is the reason we have decided to increase the prices in January," he noted.

MSI had last hiked vehicle prices by 0.8 per cent in April this year. It had effected a total price increase of 2.4 per cent last fiscal.

"There is no choice left for us now but to enhance the prices. We are yet to figure out the exact quantum of the increase," Srivastava said.

Earlier, in a regulatory filing, MSI said the company has planned to increase the prices of its cars in January 2024 on account of increased cost pressure driven by overall inflation and increased commodity prices.

"While the company makes maximum efforts to reduce cost and offset the increase, it may have to pass on some increase to the market. This price increase shall vary across models," it said.

Mahindra and Mahindra CEO (Automotive Division) Nalini-

kanth Gollagunta said in that based on the inflation and commodity prices outlook, "we intend to take a price increase for our automotive products effective January 2024.

The details for which will be announced closer to the time, he said in a statement.

Meanwhile, Tata Motors said it is also considering increasing prices of its passenger and electric vehicles in January 2024.

The company, which sells a range of passenger vehicles starting with hatchback Tiago to premium SUV Safari priced between Rs 5.6 lakh and Rs 25.94 lakh, also did not specify the quantum of the proposed hike.

"We are considering a price hike across our passenger and electric vehicles in January 2024. The extent of the hike and exact details will be announced in a few weeks," a Tata Motors spokesperson said.

Earlier in the day, German luxury car maker Audi said it will hike prices of its vehicles in India by up to 2 per cent from January next year, citing rising input and operational costs.

Gen AI Likely To Have More Impact On White Collar Jobs Than Blue Collar Roles: Report

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: Generative AI is likely to become a much greater threat for white-collar roles, such as accounting and book-keeping, rather than blue-collar jobs, a report said on Monday.

Many administrative roles involve repetitive tasks such as scheduling appointments or answering and directing calls, which can easily be replicated by generative AI, according to global learning company Pearson's Skills Outlook report -- 'Gen AI Proof Jobs'.

The report cited that in India around 30 per cent or more time spent on some white-collar tasks every week can be performed by generative AI.

However, generative AI can do less than 1 per cent of a blue collar workers' job in a week, it said. "As employees look to the future, understanding which jobs are at risk from AI allows them to prepare. They should also consider where new roles might be created by Gen AI," Pearson Workforce Skills President Mike



Howells said.

"Workers and employers should look at how they can ride this wave of change by using the best of AI and the best of human skills together," he said.

Pearson's Skills Outlook series looks at 'Gen AI Proof Jobs', based on an analysis of impact of generative AI on more than 5,000 jobs in five countries -- Australia, Brazil, India, the US, and the UK.

As per the report, in India, the most impacted white-collar jobs are accounting and book-keeping clerks (46 per cent), word processor and related operators (40 per cent), administrative secretaries and related associate professionals (38 per cent), stall and market salespersons (30 per cent), and accountants (28 per cent).

Govt To Launch First Round Of Auction Of Critical, Strategic Minerals Today; 20 Blocks To Be Put On Sale

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government will launch the first round of auction of critical and strategic minerals on Wednesday putting 20 blocks under the hammer.

Twenty blocks of critical and strategic minerals being put on sale are spread across the country, an official statement said, adding that critical minerals are important for the country's economic development and national security.

The auction will take place

ical minerals meet the needs of sectors like renewable energy, defence and agriculture.

"This is a landmark initiative that will boost our economy, enhance national security and support our transition to a clean energy future," the ministry said.

There is high demand for critical and strategic minerals. Their demand is usually met by imports. Critical minerals cater to the needs of sectors like renewable energy, defence and agriculture.



online via two stage ascending forward auction process. The sale of tender document will be on Wednesday, the mines ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

"Details of the mineral blocks, auction terms, timelines etc. can be accessed on MSTC auction platform," the statement said.

There is high demand for critical and strategic minerals. The demand of such minerals is usually met by imports. Crit-

These minerals are essential for our economic development, the country and its security.

"The lack of availability of these minerals or concentration of their extraction or processing in a few countries may lead to supply chain vulnerabilities. The future global economy will be underpinned by technologies that depend on minerals such as lithium, graphite, cobalt, titanium and rare earth elements (REE)," it said.

India Projected To See Domestic Air Passenger Traffic Of 155 Mln In FY24: Report

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India is projected to see a domestic air passenger traffic of around 155 million in the current financial year while the number of grounded aircraft of the domestic carriers is expected to be around 200, according to a report released on Monday.

Aviation advisory firm CAPA India said the international air passenger traffic is anticipated to be about 70 million in the year ending March 2024.

"Domestic air traffic in FY2024 has remained above FY2020 levels in every month to date, although the strength of recovery has eased in the last couple of months.

"Since May 2023, international traffic has remained largely in line with FY2020 but is expected to move ahead in the remainder of the year," it said.

In its March report, CAPA India had estimated domestic air passenger traffic at more than 160 million and international air passenger traffic at 72-75 million.

As per the report, overall industry profitability is expected to be largely in line with our initial guidance of a loss of USD 1.6-1.8 billion, of which full-service carriers are expected to account for USD 1.4-1.5 billion and low-cost carriers at USD



200-300 million.

"Despite having a very challenging FY2024 from an operational perspective due to the Pratt & Whitney engine issues, IndiGo is expected to post a record profit of USD 500 million and will see its cash balances increase by USD 1.2+ billion," the report said.

At the end of March 2024, airlines are projected to have an operational fleet of 588 planes.

The report noted that close to 200 planes are expected to remain grounded as of March 31, 2024, and more than 90 of them will be that of IndiGo.

Air India is projected to have 25-30 grounded planes while Spicejet's number of grounded aircraft will be around 27, it said. Currently, there are 161-166 planes of IndiGo, Air India, Go First and Spicejet that are on the ground.

"The number of fleet on the register at the end of FY2024 is expected to be close to 790 aircraft, an increase of around 100 during the year, of which the Air India Group accounts for 60+ aircraft," the report said.

American Chip Maker AMD Inaugurates Its Largest Global Design Centre In India

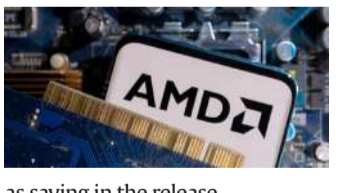
Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: US chipmaker AMD on Tuesday inaugurated its largest global design centre in Bengaluru, expanding its research, development, and engineering operations in India.

The state-of-the-art campus plans to host approximately 3,000 AMD engineers in the coming years, and is focused on the design and development of semiconductor technology, including 3D stacking, artificial intelligence and machine learning, the company said in a press release.

According to AMD, its 'Technostar' campus has been set up as part of the company's USD 400 million investment in India over the next five years, which it had announced at Semicon India 2023 in July.

Union Minister for Telecommunications, Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw inaugurated the facility. "India's semiconductor programme lays strong emphasis on supporting the design and talent ecosystem for semiconductors," he was quoted



as saying in the release.

"AMD setting up its largest design centre in Bengaluru is a testament to the confidence global companies have in India," he added.

AMD top officials, including Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer Mark Papermaster, Senior Vice President of GPU technologies and Engineering David Wang, Senior Vice President of Central Engineering Brian Amick, and Chief Software Officer and Senior Vice President of GPU technologies Andrej Zdravkovic were present, along with other members of the AMD India leadership team.

The campus will serve as a centre of excellence for the development of leading products for high-performance CPUs for data centres, PCs, gaming GPUs, and adaptive SoCs and FPGAs for embedded devices, the release said.

General Manager Reviews Performance of Northern Railway

Calls For Focus On Safety On Tracks, Safe Operation Of Trains During Winter Season; Cold Weather Patrolling Of Tracks

Observer News Service

New Delhi: Shobhan Chaudhuri, General Manager, Northern Railway held a performance review meeting with the departmental heads of Northern Railway & DRMs.

The GM emphasized that Safety is the main concern over Railways, for which all out efforts should be directed towards maintaining the tracks, rolling stock, signaling and electric overhead wires are working in top order. Shobhan Chaudhuri and other officials, before the start of proceedings of meeting, undertake the pledge by reading the preamble of the Constitution of India in observance of the Constitution Day.

The 26TH November, 2023 is observed as Constitution Day. He reviewed the work done over the zone in improving the maintenance standard of tracks, proper functioning of signal system and other safety arrangements during upcoming fog season.

He instructed officials for speedy removal of scrap lying near the tracks and increase

of cold weather patrolling of railway tracks, visual examination of rail ends fish bolt holes, and identify rail fracture prone locations and take necessary preventive measures to keep watch on any untoward incidents.

He further said that the divisions should enhance the safety and counsel the staff whenever necessary and required. He also emphasized on focusing on electrical safety on tracks as well as safety in relay and panel rooms for error free movement of trains. He stressed upon the minimizing the human failure in train operation. He also instructed the department heads and DRMs, to maintain the punctuality with keep pace for freight loading with safety as priority.

He added that the initiatives and concessions offered by the Railways should reach the customers. He also informed that, loading of food grains & other items have steadily increased with every passing month.

Northern Railway is committed to provide safe, smooth and efficient services to its customers.

Top Judges Across Nations Agree 'Right To Legal Aid' Must Begin At The Earliest: CJI

New Delhi: Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud Tuesday said top judges of several countries agree that the right to legal aid has to begin "at the earliest," even before arrest of an accused.

He said judges need to educate not just students but the masses also about it.

The CJI was speaking at the valedictory session of the two-day 'Regional Conference on Access to Legal Aid: Strengthening Access to Justice in the Global South' organised by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) here.

The conference was attended by President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, and Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal.

Besides them, more than 200 delegates including Chief Justices of Bangladesh, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, the Maldives, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nepal, Zimbabwe and the ministers of justice from Kazakhstan, Nepal, Palau, Seychelles, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Zambia took part in the meeting.

"The right to legal aid, all Chief Justices have concluded, has to begin at the earliest stage, even before arrest," CJI Chandrachud said.

"There is a need for judges to publicise schemes and educate not just students but the



wider community. And finally, we dwell on the importance of technology in fostering access (to judiciary) which is equal between our citizens," he said.

Justice Chandrachud also referred to the use of celebrated Indian judgements by courts of nations like South Africa, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and other countries and termed it a "trans-judicial communication."

He said that in the Chief Justice's round table he discussed several other avenues for collaboration including the use of technology to make courts more accessible.

"At the end of the round table, we successfully adopted the New Delhi principles on the role of the judiciary in ensuring equal access to justice for all in the Global South, which lays great emphasis on legal representation, legal aid,

affordability, legal education, and awareness," he said.

The CJI said the participating nations realised that they are intrinsically part of a common sustainable development goal to promote legal aid.

"We have accepted that judges have a vital role to play in facilitating access to justice and legal aid is an intrinsic element of the process."

"Legal Aid is provided either in our Constitutions or in our statutes or in both. In some countries, state funding is channelised through autonomous institutions like India. In others, the executive performs the role of being the dispenser of legal aid," he said.

The CJI also referred to the concept of public interest litigation and the attempts of the Indian Supreme Court in increasing the access to justice

by doing away with the legal requirement of "locus standi" (a right to appear in a court) in a court case.

"Our court removed procedural barriers to access the Supreme Court and allowed all citizens to approach the court for the alleviation of socio-economic injustice...the South African Constitutional Court has on several occasions relied on Indian jurisprudence in that regard," he said.

Using the expression "trans-judicial communication," he said in recent years, the decisions of constitutional courts in several global south jurisdictions such as South Africa, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Kenya, have become the primary catalysts of comparative constitutional law.

"Mutual inspiration is increasingly drawn from the case law of peer courts of other countries and even other continents, which gives rise to the cross fertilisation of legal ideas," he said.

He also named certain judicial decisions on such issues as basic structure doctrine, right to privacy, the rarest of rare doctrine for awarding the death penalty, the public trust doctrine, and environmental law where other nations' courts followed Indian judgements.

"A seven-judge bench of Kenya's court of appeal has

also applied the basic structure doctrine to place limits on the amending powers of Parliament and foster responsive constitutionalism," he said.

"Further, the Sri Lankan Supreme Court discussed as many as 20 Indian cases that involved Article 14 of the Indian constitution in a case about equality of opportunity in university admissions," he said.

And the Indian Supreme Court has also greatly benefited from the "creative jurisprudence emerging from several nations in the Global South," he said, adding, the region "has in many ways become a North Star for all nations around the globe."

Besides judicial decisions, courts across world have also learned from each other on the administrative side to facilitate access to justice, he said.

In his inaugural address, the CJI on Monday said access to justice cannot be secured only by crafting pro-people jurisprudence in judgments, but requires active progress on the administrative side of a court, such as improving infrastructure and enhancing legal-aid services.

President Murmu, Law Minister Meghwal, and SC judges Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Sanjiv Khanna-- also spoke at the valedictory session of the conference.

Wealthiest 10% in developing nations emit less emissions than regular earners in rich nations: Study

New Delhi: In rich countries, even regular earners produce more carbon dioxide than the wealthiest 10 per cent of people in developing countries like India, Brazil, and others in Asia and South America, according to a new study.

Released ahead of the UN climate talks in Dubai, the study by the New Delhi-based climate think tank Council for Energy, Environment, and Water (CEEW) shows that the richest 10 per cent in the developed countries and China produce 22 per cent more CO2 than all the developing countries studied combined.

The study highlights that carbon emissions of an individual in the bottom 10 per cent income bracket of Saudi Arabia, the US, or Australia are 6 to 15 times more than an individual in the poorest decile of India, Brazil, or the ASEAN region.

For this study, the researchers analysed per capita CO2 emissions for different income brackets across 14 countries, the EU, and the ASEAN region using data from the World Inequality

Database and the World Bank.

These countries, taken together, account for 81 per cent of global emissions, 86 per cent of the world's GDP, and 66 per cent of the global population.

Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, CEEW, said the study clearly shows that not everyone is equally responsible for increasing global carbon emissions.

"The top 10 per cent in many developing countries emit less than the average per capita emissions in developed countries. This, once again, drives home the scientific basis for 'common but differentiated responsibilities', especially as COP28 holds up a mirror to past pledges and broken promises," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been championing the Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE movement), urging countries to adopt planet-friendly living practices and move away from deeply consumerist behaviours.

Recognising the criticality of this decade (2021-2030) for climate action, there's a call for rebalancing consumption patterns between the Global North



and the Global South.

Differences in historic emissions and contributions to global warming across nations are evident. For instance, while the US accounts for only 4 per cent of the current global population, it contributed 17 per cent of global emissions between 1850 and 2021. In contrast, India,

representing 18 per cent of the world's population, has contributed only 5 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions to date.

According to Oxfam International, a group of independent charitable organisations, the world's wealthiest 10 per cent were responsible for around half of global emissions

in 2015.

The CEEW study also found that encouraging the adoption of low-carbon lifestyles among the richest can lead to significant emission reductions.

If the richest 10 per cent of developed countries and China reduce their carbon footprint even by half, they can save more

than 3.4 billion tonnes of CO2 annually. Moreover, a carbon tax on the richest 10 per cent of developed countries and China could shore up USD 500 billion and discourage highly carbon-intensive consumption patterns, the researchers said.

These funds could be used for climate change mitigation, research and development, de-risking clean technology, and building resilience.

This is crucial since another recent CEEW study showed that developed countries are not on track to meet their 2030 emission reduction targets and will overshoot their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) or national plans to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 38 per cent.

Pallavi Das, Programme Lead, CEEW, said, "Inequity in the climate debate has a long-standing history, and the rich in developed countries are primarily responsible for carbon emissions. Our study shows that while the emission intensity of income has reduced for the highest earners (top 10 per cent) in most countries

between 2008 and 2018, overall emissions are increasing because of the rise in incomes. With the carbon budget depleting to keep the world below the 2 degrees Celsius threshold, the rich must be held accountable and nudged to pursue sustainable lifestyles."

The CEEW study also highlighted that the carbon emissions across both developed and developing countries reveal significant inequities between the wealthiest and poorest income brackets. The difference in the carbon footprint between the top and bottom income 10 per cent ranges between 8 and 22 times for the countries studied. This makes it clear that high earners must make concerted efforts to adopt low-carbon lifestyles and practice responsible consumption.

In this study, 'developed countries (or regions) and China' include Australia, Canada, China, European Union, Japan, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, the UK, and the US, and 'developing countries (or regions)' include Argentina, Brazil, India, Mexico, South Africa, and ASEAN.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Rain, Snowfall

officials. They said the tourist destination of Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag district recorded a low of 1.2 degrees Celsius, while it was 3 degrees Celsius in Kupwara town in north Kashmir.

The weather is generally cloudy at most places of Jammu and Kashmir and it will likely remain such with light rain or snow at isolated places on Tuesday, the officials said.

They said Jammu and Kashmir is set to be impacted by another Western Disturbance from Tuesday, bringing light to moderate rain or snow across the Union Territory.

From Wednesday, there are chances of light to moderate rain or snow at fairly widespread places with the possibility of thunderstorms or lightning at a few places over the next three days, they said.

While snowfall in the plains is unlikely, even if it does occur, the accumulation is expected to be minimal, they added.

Govt Avails

to provide adequate power supply amid the dip in temperature.

It was deliberated to disconnect the power supply of those who failed to pay the electricity fee and intensify its crackdown against defaulters.

Kashmir Power Distribution Corporation Limited (KPDC) has claimed to have recovered a whopping Rs 28 crore revenue from defaulters within just four days, besides disconnecting lines to over a thousand houses, business establishments and industries over non-payment of dues.

KPDCL To Rope

of energy by consumers in unmetered areas over and above their agreed load has also sharply grown, putting a huge strain on the power curtailment schedule. In unmetered areas, the usage of power by consumers is three to four times their registered load, leading to frequent DT damages," he said.

The official said they are now exploring options to ensure that rampant power pilferage

is stopped.

"We are hopeful that a strong message goes to people through these religious clerics and civil society. If power is judiciously used, the problem of frequent power cuts will be solved," he added.

The KPDC has also resorted to name and shame individuals involved in illegal electricity consumption.

In a tweet recently, KPDC announced, "Consumers hooking, bypassing meters and exceeding agreed load will be named! Night inspections by KPDC teams, breaching the 1000 mark daily."—(KNO)

JKAS Officer

"Pending inquiry into his conduct, Hilal Ahmed Mir is hereby attached with GAD with immediate effect," an order of GAD said. Both officials belong to Jammu and Kashmir Administrative service.

J&K Girl Urges

Government Middle School in Meldi, which comes within the administrative jurisdiction of Fangyal panchayat of the Udhampur district. Sharing her everyday ordeal and that of her friends at school, Kajal, in her letter to PM Modi, said such is the prevailing state of the only approach road to the institution that she fell down many times while commuting on it.

"I fell down many times on this road on my way to school. Such is the prevailing state of the road that it has become nothing short of a risk for me and my friends commuting on it. I urge you (PM Modi) to build us better roads leading to the school," little Kajal said in her letter.

Kajal's impassioned letter to the country's most powerful leader has drawn the spotlight on the plight of students studying at this government school.

The school houses a total of 101 students, including many who are differently abled. With the only approach road to the school rendered in a non-motorable state currently, the students have no option but to walk to school, risking falls and accidents.

Ranjeet Singh Kotwal, the assistant district development commissioner in Udhampur,

took note of Kajal's plight and her desperate appeal for better roads to school.

Speaking to news agency ANI, Mr Kotwal said, "I thank her for bringing this matter to our notice through her letter (to PM Modi). I will hold immediate discussions with the deputy commissioner and arrange all amenities either through my department or any other. I will take this matter forward with the officials concerned and ensure that her concerns are addressed at the earliest."

A New Beginning

organising international sporting events but also popularize a robust sports culture in the masses, especially among the youth," he added.

The LG said over the next three days, Jammu Kashmir will celebrate and honour sporting excellence, dedication and commitment of the cricketers in the playing field and players will get an opportunity to enjoy UT's hospitality, and incredible culture of J&K during their stay.

"The power of sports to bring peace and unity is extraordinary and I am sure your presence will influence and inspire the young generation to discover their true calling to shape a new future," he added.

The LG congratulated the players including Chris Gayle, Harbhajan Singh, Suresh Raina, Praveen Kumar, Thisara Perera, Stuart Binny and extended his best wishes to the teams for the remaining matches.

Students Booked

the incident was not merely about raising pro-Pakistan slogans. "...these slogans, as has usually been the case with a select few bullies, were aired to intimidate those who disagreed and also to identify and vilify those who choose to keep a distance."

The incident came on the back of separatist and terrorist networks, they said.

The statement also defended police action saying the youths' aim was neither about airing personal preference of a particular sporting team, nor about dissent or freedom of expression.

"It is about terrorising others who may be

nourishing pro India feelings or anti Pakistan feelings or disagreeing. There were written complaints to evidence this," it statement said.

Police said the FIR was lodged on the basis of a written complaint and sections were invoked as per the contents of the complaint.

Fighting the police action, Abdullah said the move goes against the assurance given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi who had announced in 2021 that it was time to end 'Dilli ki duri' as well as 'Dil ki duri' with Jammu and Kashmir.

"I don't agree with what these students did. But having said that I also do not agree with the way police have handled this case. This will not decrease 'dil ki duri' as envisaged by the Prime Minister," Omar said, adding, police must remember their "softer version" would destroy the careers of the students.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti condemned the police action, terming the youths' arrest "shocking."

She said UAPA is used to book terrorists, but the government was using it to arrest the youths, journalists, and students.

"Disconcerting and shocking that cheering for a winning team too has been criminalised in Kashmir. Normalising slapping of draconian laws like UAPA on journalists, activists and now students reveals the ruthless mindset of the establishment towards youngsters in JK," Mufti said in a post on X.

BJP leader Tarun Chugh condemned her remarks saying she has brought nothing but misery to the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The PDP chief has always brought misery and hardships to people of J&K, and pushed J&K into crisis situations from where the Prime Minister has salvaged the situation to a great extent," he said.

Chugh in a statement lauded the police action against the students saying "the forces that try to invoke anti-India sentiment by shouting pro-Pakistan slogans needed to be curbed decisively."

The national general secretary of BJP said, "due action must be taken against the forces that try to incite pro-Pakistan sentiments and cause a divide in the society."

"At a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been undertaking numerous development and progressive steps for the prosperity of the J&K, such nefarious elements which play a disruptive role, must be checked."

Senior CPI (M) leader M Y Tarigami termed the action deplorable and students' sloganeering a simple act of celebration.

"It is highly deplorable to invoke UAPA, an act supposedly meant to combat terrorist activities, against students for the simple act of celebrating sports events. This not only reflects the recurring misuse of the act but also signifies unprecedented curbs on expression. Sport should be viewed as a recreational activity and must not be politicised," Tarigami said.

JK Students Association has urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to drop UAPA charges slapped against the students, seeking mercy on humanitarian grounds.

"This punishment could ruin their futures. The UAPA charges will have serious consequences on the academic and future career of the students and should be withdrawn," the union said.

NIT Erupts

student who has been sent home on leave, they said.

The students have blocked both the gates of the institution, located in Nigeen area of the city, and raised slogans inside the campus, officials said.

Police have reached the spot and are trying to pacify the protesting students who claimed that the social media post has hurt the religious sentiments of Muslims, they said.

The Institute is contemplating taking action against the student for sharing the post on social media, they said.

Clashes between local and outstation students had rocked the institute in 2016 after India lost to the West Indies in the semi-final of the T20 World Cup.

As some of the local students burst crackers to celebrate India's loss, the outstation students protested leading to clashes.

Real Kashmir Outclass Inter Kashi With 4-0 Triumph



Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir Football Club (RKFC) secured a decisive victory here on Tuesday, triumphing over Inter Kashi FC 4-0 in their I-League contest at the TRC Ground.

With the victory, RKFC moved to the third spot on the table with 12 points

from six matches.

Fuelled by the passionate home crowd, the team showcased skill and determination and emerged winner with a big margin again, having beaten Neroca FC 4-0 in their previous outing.

It was the local boy Mohammad Inam who scored the first goal in the 30th minute.

Inam was also declared the man of the match.

The fans passionately cheered for their home team as RKFC maintained relentless pressure on the visiting team.

After leading the first half 1-0, RKFC players asserted dominance in the second half as well, adding three more goals.

In the 66th minute, Carlos Lomba extended the RKFC's lead and then Gnohere Krizo secured a third goal in the 83rd minute.

RKFC sealed an impressive win with Mohamad Maksoud's late strike five minutes into added time.

Real Kashmir FC will next play Aizawl FC on December 2 at the same venue.

J&K Teams Emerge Overall Champions In Pencak Silat Championship

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K was crowned as the overall champion in the 11th National Pencak Silat Championships for Pre Teen, Sub Junior and Junior (Boys and Girls) at Patli Putra Stadium in Patna, Bihar.

The 2023 edition of the Pre Teen Sub Junior and Junior Pencak Silat Nationals was held from November 23rd to 26th with participation from 34 States and Union Territories in both boys and girls categories. Over 1400 players took part in the mega tournament with high fervour.

Players who performed well were taken under the radar for the Indian national camps for the 5th Junior World and 20th Senior World Pencak Silat Championship 2023 which will be held at Singapore later in January 2024.

J&K teams emerged overall champions/winners, with Gold: 27, Silver: 22, Bronze: 28 medals. Haryana emerged as the runners up overall, with Gold : 25, Silver : 14, Bronze : 20

Delhi and Uttarakhand stood on the 3rd place in the total medal tally.

Sports minister Bihar, Jitendra Kumar Rai, was the chief guest, while Director General (Sports) Ravindran Shankaran (IPS), Pankaj Raj Director cum Secretary Bihar State Sports Authority, were guest of Honor and distribution of medals was made by the chief guest.



Rajeshwar Raj, President Pencak Silat Association of Bihar, Gautam Pratap Singh, General Secretary Pencak Silat Association of Bihar, Kishor Prakash Yewale, President, Indian Pencak Silat Federation, Tariq Ahmad Zargar, Secretary General Mohammad Iqbal, Coach Team India, Irfan Aziz Botta, CEO Indian Pen-

cak Silat Federation and other officers and officials were present on the occasion. The championship was organised by Pencak Silat Association of Bihar under the aegis of Indian Pencak Silat Federation and under the banner of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India and Sports Authority of India.

JAMMU ABUZZ: International Cricketers Play Golf, Visit Shrine

Agencies

JAMMU: Jammu has suddenly become a tourist hot-spot with several national and international cricketers roaming around the city, while fans made a beeline outside hotels to have a glimpse of favourite stars.

A day after the Legends League Cricket's first game at the Maulana Azad Stadium in Jammu, the cricketers including Harbhajan Singh (Member Parliament Rajya Sabha), Sreesanth and several others offered prayers at Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine atop Trikuta hills in Katra, Reasi. Former Indian cricketer, Suresh Raina, whose

ancestors belongs to Jammu and Kashmir, visited Kul Devi Temple bordering Ramghar of Samba district.

Some International players, including Kevin Pietersen, Ben Dunk, Devon Smith, Martin Gupit, Nikhil Chopra, Rusty Theron among others enjoying their rest day at Jammu Tawi Golf Course.

Speaking to media persons in Katra, Harbhajan Singh said, "I'm here to pay obeisance and bow my head in the feet of Mata Vaishno Devi. I'm feeling glad that I got a chance to seek blessings of Mata Vaishno Devi."

About cricket pitch at MA Stadium, he said, "The ground was very good and

the viewers were very excited because cricket match has been organised in Jammu after years," adding, "We enjoyed the match even we lost yesterday. We and the crowd enjoyed cricket."

Earlier, praising Jammu as a "lovely place," former New Zealand cricket captain Ross Taylor, who is leading Southern Superstars said he believes that the refurbished Maulana Azad Stadium in the heart of the city could be a venue for the Indian Premier League.

The cricketer is here along with over 100 former greats of the game for Season 2 of the Legends League T20 cricket, which brought the

competitive cricket to the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir after a gap of more than three decades.

The first of the four matches were played at the 20,000 capacity stadium under floodlights Monday evening and attracted an enthusiastic turnout of fans from all parts of the region, including the Kashmir Valley.

Legends League cricket co-founder and chief executive officer Raman Raheja thanked the crowd for turning up in good numbers and said "the objective of the league is to take cricket where the game has not taken place for a very long time." (KNO)



Namibia Qualify For Men's T20 World Cup 2024



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Namibia on Tuesday qualified for the men's T20 World Cup 2024, courtesy 10 points and a net run rate of +2.643 that assured them a top-two finish on the Africa region qualifiers points table, the International Cricket Council announced. The T20 World Cup will be played in the West Indies and the USA from June 4-30 next year.

The ICC informed that five wins in as many matches have not only taken Namibia to the top of the points table, ensuring their third straight appearance in the tournament.

"The Eagles currently sit on top of the table with 10 points, with their win against Tanzania ensuring a top-two finish required to qualify for the showpiece event next year," the ICC

said on its website.

Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Nigeria are still in the reckoning from the Africa region. Among these, Uganda and Kenya are placed better than Zimbabwe and Nigeria, who will have to wait for other results to go their way.

A few days ago, Uganda had stunned Zimbabwe by five wickets to earn two crucial points in the Qualifiers.

The next edition of the showpiece will feature 20 teams divided into four groups consisting five sides each, while 12 teams have already qualified for the event. This includes the co-hosts West Indies and the USA, followed by top eight teams in the last T20 World Cup in Australia alongside Afghanistan and Bangladesh, who were the next two best teams on the cut-off date of November 14, 2022.

Maxwell's Ton Carries Australia To Thrilling Win Over India

Press Trust of India

GUWAHATI: Glenn Maxwell's fiery unbeaten hundred carried Australia to a five-wicket win over India in the third T20I here on Tuesday.

With this win, Australia managed to cut India's series lead to 2-1 in the five-match rubber.

Maxwell made 104 off 48 balls (8x4, 8x6) as the Aussies went past India's 222 for 3 in the last ball of the match. Skipper Matthew Wade remained not out on a crucial 28 off 16 balls. Leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi took two wickets for India.

Earlier, Rituraj Gaikwad's maiden international hundred



was the cornerstone of India's big total. Gaikwad made a rollicking unbeaten 123 off 57 balls.

Brief scores: India: 222 for 3 in 20 overs (Rituraj Gaikwad 123 not out, Suryakumar Ya-

dav 39, Tilak Varma 31 not out; Jason Behrendorff 1/12) lost to Australia: 225 for 5 in 20 overs (Glenn Maxwell 104 not out, Matthew Wade 28 not out, Ravi Bishnoi 2/32) by 5 wickets.

Sheetal Devi Becomes World No 1 Para Archer

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Fresh from winning two gold medals at the Para Asian Games, Sheetal Devi jumped two places to become world No 1 in the women's compound open section of the para world archery rankings.

Rakesh Kumar, who won three gold medals at recently-concluded Para Asian Championship, also moved up two places to become world No 3, behind Nathan Macquoen of Great Britain and Matteo Bonacina of Italy.

Indian para archer Sarita, who returned with a



bronze medal at the Bangkok Asian Championships was the highest gainer, moving up seven places to become world No 6 in Tuesday's update.

Free Entry For Indian Women's Cricket Matches In Mumbai



Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Fans have been spared the hassle of running around for match tickets during Indian women's cricket team's upcoming fixtures against England and Australia at the Wankhede Stadium and DY Patil Stadium as the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) on Tuesday made the entry free for all those matches. The cricket fest here will start with India Women's A team taking on their England counterparts in a three-match T20 series from Wednesday, with all matches to be played at the Wankhede Stadium on November 29, December 1 and 3 from 1:30pm.

India women's senior team will then take on England in a three-match T20I series starting on December 6, and the second and third match will be played on December 9 and 10

respectively at the Wankhede Stadium. These games will have a 7:00pm start.

"MCA president Amol Kale and the apex council unanimously passed the decision to encourage support for women's cricket," said secretary Ajinkya Naik. "Unlocking the gates for free entry not only fills the stadium but also opens the door to a world of empowerment through women's T20 cricket," added Naik.

India and England will then engage in a one-off Test to be played at the DY Patil from December 14-17. India will begin their home series against the Australian Women's team with a one-off Test to be played at the Wankhede Stadium from December 21 to 24, followed by a three-match ODI series.

While the first ODI will be played on December 28, the second will be on December 30 and the third ODI will be

Man United Set For Fiery Galatasaray Clash In Champions League

The Associated Press

ISTANBUL: If it wasn't the "Welcome to Hell" signs at the airport, it was the bell boy at the team hotel performing a throat-slitting gesture as the players arrived.

Or, the deliberately timed phone calls during the night to disrupt sleep, and the mud and flags thrown at the bus to the stadium.

Or, the riot police bundling players down the steps to the

locker room with their shields after the match.

Manchester United's first Champions League match against Galatasaray at the Turkish team's Ali Sami Yen Stadium has gone down in lore. Thirty years later, United is back in Istanbul and again fighting to stay in the competition — something it failed to do back in 1993.

"It was probably the most intimidating atmosphere I ever played in," then-United midfielder Bryan Robson has said.



United's players probably thought their Premier League match on Sunday against a fired-up Everton seething with resentment at the perceived injustice of a 10-point sanction for financial mismanagement was a tough gauntlet to run.

Wednesday's match against Galatasaray promises to be as — if not more — fiery. There's plenty on the line, too, like there was in 1993 when United could only draw 0-0 and was eliminated on away goals after a 3-3

draw at Old Trafford to miss out on a place in the group stage.

This time, a defeat would end United's chances of reaching the pre-quarters, with Erik ten Hag's team having lost three of its first four Group A matches — including at home to Galatasaray on October 3.

United starts the game in last place on three points, one behind both Galatasaray and FC Copenhagen. Bayern Munich is on 12 and has already qualified as group winner ahead of

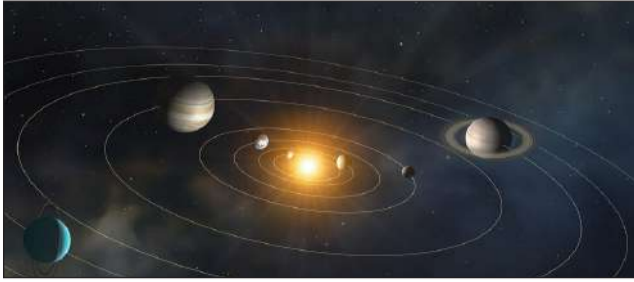
its home match against Copenhagen.

United has played away to Galatasaray twice in the Champions League since 1993 but wasn't in the same qualification jeopardy in those trips.

"You have to stay calm in your head and not get too emotional," United manager Erik ten Hag said Tuesday.

"You need emotion but you need to control it. Don't give them anything, don't give the referee anything."

Current solar cycle intensity to peak in 2024, may impact Earth's satellites, find researchers



Agenceis
The current ongoing solar cycle is likely to peak its intensity in 2024 and can potentially impact Earth's space weather, according to researchers at the Indian Institute of Space Education and Research (IISER), Calcutta.

It is known that roughly every 11 years, the intensity of solar activity reaches its peak, which manifests as violent disturbances in space weather such as solar magnetic storms or coronal mass ejections, impacting Earth's satellites and telecommunications.

"During intense solar storms, the Earth's upper atmosphere expands outwards, thereby introducing friction on the low-Earth satellites. The friction can lead to a decay in the satellites' orbits and reduce their lifetime. Thus, they are able to live in space for a much shorter time than they were originally supposed to," Dibyendu Nandy, the study's corresponding author and Professor of Physics and Head, Center of Excellence in Space Sciences India, IISER, Calcutta, told PTI.

The researchers also said that the most intense of these storms can cause serious damage to orbiting satellites, electric power grids and telecommunications when directed at Earth.

In their study appearing in the journal Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society Letters, the researchers discovered a new relationship to help predict the occurrence of peaks in solar cycles, which are produced by an internal dynamo mechanism, harnessing energy from plasma flows inside the Sun.

Using decades-old data archives from ground-based solar

observatories worldwide, they found that the ongoing solar cycle 25 is related to the Sun's magnetism activity, which they said manifests as sunspots cycle and recycling of the large-scale solar dipole magnetic field.

The sunspots, or dark spots on the Sun, are comparable to the size of the Earth and their magnetism intensity is about 10,000 times stronger than the Earth's magnetic field.

The research team found that the solar dipole magnetic field - stretching from one pole of the Sun to another in a way similar to the Earth's - waxed and waned in strength, flipping its polarity periodically, with the ongoing sunspot cycle.

Specifically, the rate of decrease in the Sun's dipole magnetic field is related to the rate of rise of the ongoing solar cycle, the researchers said in their study.

Swiss astronomer Max Waldmeier had discovered in 1935, that quicker the rise of a solar cycle, the greater its strength. This meant that stronger cycles would take lesser time to reach their peaks.

This discovery complemented the Waldmeier effect, the researchers said.

Their findings connecting the two primary components of the solar magnetic field support the theory that the evolution of sunspots are integral to the functioning of the solar dynamo process rather than being a mere symptom of it, they said.

Their findings open up a new window for forecasting the timing of the peak of solar cycles - when the most intense activity and most frequent space weather disturbances are expected, they said.

17-Day Ordeal Over; All Trapped Workers Rescued From Uttarakhand Tunnel

Agencies
DEHRADUN: Celebration erupted outside the under-construction Silkyara tunnel in Uttarakhand on Tuesday night as rescue workers successfully brought out all the 41 labourers trapped inside for the last 17 days.



The extraction process began in the evening after a team of five-six rat-hole miners finished the drilling work and pushed a 700 mm rescue pipe towards the trapped workers.

A few personnel from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) had first gone down the pipe to assess the condition and guide the workers through rescue protocols.

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and Union Minister V.K. Singh, who were at the site to oversee the rescue mission, met the workers who were brought out on specially modified stretchers.

Dhami was seen distributing sweets to officials and rescue personnel.

Those rescued were given the initial first aid at the temporary medical facility set up at the site and later shifted to a nearby hospital.

"I am completely relieved and happy as 41 trapped labourers in the Silkyara Tunnel Collapse have been successfully rescued," Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari posted on X.

"This was a well-coordinated effort by multiple agencies,

marking one of the most significant rescue operations in recent years. Various departments and agencies complemented each other despite facing numerous challenges," he said.

The workers were trapped inside the tunnel being between Silkyara and Dandalgaon following a landslide at the site on November 12.

Following is a timeline of the disaster and the rescue efforts:

November 12: The labourers get trapped as portions of the Silkyara-Dandalgaon under-construction tunnel on the Brahmkhal-Yamunotri highway collapse following a landslide at around 5.30 am on the day of Diwali.

Arrangements made to supply oxygen, electricity and eatables to the trapped labourers through air-compressed pipes as multiple agencies, including the NDRF, SDRF, BRO, project executing agency NHIDCL and ITBP, begin rescue efforts.

November 13: Contact is

established with the trapped workers through a pipe meant to supply oxygen to them and they are reported to be safe. Fresh rubble keeps falling from above due to which the debris accumulated in an area of around 30 metres spreads to 60 metres.

November 14: Steel pipes of 800- and 900-millimetre diameter are brought to the tunnel site to be inserted through the rubble with the help of an auger machine for horizontal digging.

However, when more rubble falls from the cavity created by the cave-in, two labourers sustain minor injuries.

November 15: Dissatisfied with the first drilling machine, the NHIDCL asks for a state-of-the-art auger machine, which is airlifted from Delhi to speed up the operation.

November 16: The drilling machine is assembled and installed. It starts working past midnight.

November 17: The machine

Info From Social Media Can't Be Part Of Petitions, Says Bombay High Court



Agencies
Mumbai: Information gathered from social media cannot be part of the pleadings in a public interest litigation, the Bombay High Court said on Tuesday while hearing a petition claiming that 1,500 to 2,000 people lose their lives in unsafe water bodies in Maharashtra every year.

A division bench of Chief Justice D K Upadhyaya and Justice Arif Doctor refused to hear a PIL filed by advocate Ajitsingh Ghopade seeking a direction to the Maharashtra government to take measures to safeguard waterfalls and water bodies in the state.

Ghopade's lawyer Manindra Pandey claimed that around 1,500 to 2,000 persons lose their lives at such unsafe waterfalls and water bodies every year, and the bench sought to know from where the petitioner had got the information on the deaths. Pandey then said they had procured the information from newspapers and social media posts.

The court then said that the petition was vague and did not contain many details.

"Information gathered from social media cannot be part of pleadings in a PIL. You (petitioner) cannot be so irresponsible while filing PILs. You are wasting judicial

time," CJ Upadhyaya said. The bench noted that such petitions could not be entertained as it was a "sheer wastage" of time.

"Somebody goes for a picnic and accidentally drowns, therefore a PIL? Someone drowns in an accident, how is it a violation of fundamental rights under Articles 14 and 21 (equality and life)," the court said.

Pandey then said that the state government should be directed to take steps to ensure the safety and protection of people who visit such water bodies and waterfalls.

The bench, however, noted that most of the accidents were because of "reckless acts".

"What do you expect from the Maharashtra government? Can each and every waterfall and water body be manned by the police?" the bench asked.

To this, the lawyer pointed out that many times when there is a drowning accident, there is no rescue team, because of which the body of the victim is recovered two to three days later.

The court then sought to know if the petitioner had visited any such waterfall or water body or if he had ascertained which one was more dangerous or unsafe.

The bench asked the petitioner

UP Temple 'Purified' With Gangajal After Muslim MLA's Visit

Agencies
Siddharthnagar (UP): A temple in Uttar Pradesh's Siddharthnagar district was 'purified' with 'gangajal' after a visit by a Muslim MLA of the Samajwadi Party.

Doomariyaganj MLA Sayeda Khatoon had on Sunday visited the Samay Mata temple at the invitation of the local people to participate in a 'Shatchandi Mahayaga.' After she left, some people

not in favour of her visit purified it with 'gangajal' amid chanting of mantras. Dharamraj Verma, chief of Badhani Chafa's Nagar Panchayat where the temple is located, led the purification. The lawmaker was invited by some "unrighteous" people, he said.

"Because Sayeda Khatoon is a Muslim and eats cow meat, her visit to this holy place had made it impure," he said, adding, "after this purification, this place has now become completely pure



and suitable for worship. Such an act should never be tolerated."

Sayeda Khatoon told PTI from Lucknow that she being a people's representative would continue to visit places related to

all religions and sects and would not be deterred by any such acts.

"Many Brahmins and saints of the area are associated with me and had invited me to the 'Samay Mata temple' about ten days ago. I honour all religions, I am a legislator for all the people in the area and will go wherever I am invited," Ms Khatoon, who is known to have got several temples renovated in the area, said.

She said Verma, an elected

member, is associated with BJP and Hindu Yuva Vahini, a right wing group started by UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The pujari of the temple, Sri Krishna Dutt Shukla, said the MLA was invited for the 'mahayaga' and she had come there in the evening. According to Shukla, the MLA remained there for some time and talked about amity in society before leaving.

"The next morning Verma

MAZBOOTI SE BANI HAR
— DEEWAR SE JHALAKTE HAI —
DIL KE EHSAAAS



0.495 cm

Spectrum Adv/1969700698