

CMYK

J&K Budget To Focus On Nine Sectors In 2023-24: LG

HT News Network

JAMMU, MAR 29: Stating that last year Jammu and Kashmir has witnessed economic growth

of 14.64 percent and the tax revenue has shown growth of 31 percent, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that the Budget 2023-24 will be

focussing on nine-sectors for an overall development and progress of the Union Territory. "In the budget 2023-24,

Turn.....J&K Budget To.....Pg 02

Good Governance

- Strengthening Grass-root Democracy
- **Promoting Sustainable Agriculture**
- **Facilitating Investment & Industrial Growth**
- **Employment Generation**
- Accelerating Development & Inclusive Growth
- Women Empowerment
- **Social Inclusion**
- **Doubling GDP in next five years**

Security Situation Has Improved, 1.88 Cr **Tourists Visited J&K Last Year**

HT News Network

JAMMU, MAR 29: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said an unprecedented number of tourists visited the Union territory last year as the security situation has improved. He also said investment Turn.....Security Situation.....Pg 02

Allocated Rs 145 cr budget to transform J&K into power house of sports in 2023-24

HT News Network

Focus 2023-24

JAMMU, MAR 29: Asserting that around 70 Lakh youth to participate in different sports activities in the year

2023-24, the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that an allocated budget of Rs 145 crores will further Turn.....Allocated Rs 145 cr.....Pg 02

NEWS BRIEF

Throat-slit Body of Nine year old Found in **Kupwara Village**

Dr Ab Qayoom

KUPWARA, MAR 29: Throat-slit body of a 9-year-old girl was found in Zab village of Khurhama area in north Kashmir's Kupwara district this evening, reports and officials said.

Reports said that panic gripped Zab village as the body of a minor girl (name withheld) was found under suspicious circumstances adjacent to her Turn.....Throat-slit Body.....Pg 02

Nine sheep killed after dog attack in Budgam

J&K Orders Probe Into Gujarat "Conman" Posing As **PMO Official**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Nearly a month after an alleged conman from Gujarat Kiran Patel who took the security apparatus here for a ride, the J&K government has ordered a high level inquiry to look for "lapses"

The probe would be conducted by Kashmir's Divisional Commissioner Vijay Kumar Bidhuri. "Sanction is hereby accorded to appointment of Vijay Kumar Bidhuri, IAS, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir as inquiry officer to inquire into the various aspects related to visits of Shri Kiran Patel to Kashmir during the past months and security arrangements

Revision of electoral rolls doesn't disturb schedule/conduct of polls: ECI

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Wednesday said the revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir doesn't disturb schedule or conduct part of polls and the poll-body is aware that there is a vacuum in the Union Territory which needs to be filled.

Addressing a news conference in New

revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir doesn't disturb schedule or conduct part of the polls. "It doesn't disturb the schedule part/conduct part that depends on various other factors," the CEC said.

that there is a vacuum in Jammu & Kashmir which needs to be filled. On fresh revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir, the CEC said the process is aimed at bringing the voter list of J&K at par with the rest of the country. "There are four qualifying dates for enrollment of Turn.....Revision of.....Pg 02

War Against Drugs

3 more notorious drug peddlers booked in

Delhi, as per news agency–Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the CEC said that

The CEC said that they are aware

New timing for schools falling outside Srinagar municipal limits

HT News Network

BUDGAM, MAR 29: Ferocious dogs attacked and subsequently killed at least 9 sheep in Central Kashmir's Budgam district on Wednesday.

The sheep belong to one Farooq Ahmed Parra, a resident of Sonpah Khatirunah village of Budgam while dogs killed the sheep in Sodipora Beerwah hamlet.

Turn.....**Nine sheep killed**.....Pg 02

Passport Row: Iltija Mufti's writ petition bereft of any merit: CID

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Criminal Investigation Department (CID) wing of Jammu Kashmir Police has sought dismissal of the writ petition filed by PDP president Mehbooba Mufti's Turn.....**Iltija Mufti's**.....Pg 02

Biker dies in Chatargam road accident

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: A biker died after there was a collision between a motorcycle and an Alto-800 in Chattargam Nowgam area of Budgam district on Wednesday.

Official sources said that the accident occurred in Sudso area of Chattergam. They said that the biker identified Turn.....Biker dies in.....Pg 02

made thereof," the order by Financial Commissioner, Additional Chief Secretary read. The inquiry officer has also been asked by

the government to look into the lapses on part of officers.

"The Inquiry Officer shall identify the lapses on part of the Officers/ Officials concerned and submit a detailed report within one week," the order said.

Patel, who was impersonating as an Addior strategy and campaigns ister's Office, was arrested Turn....J&K Orders Probe.....Pg 02 tional Director for strategy and campaigns in the Prime Minister's Office, was arrested

'Timing for schools within Srinagar municipal limits to remain the same as

notified earlier'

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: The School Education Kashmir (DSEK) Wednesday Turn..... New timing for.....Pg 02

ΒΟΤΤΟΜ **Farmers Expect Better Income As Mustard Fields In Full Bloom**



Land under mustard cultivation increased from **3,000 ha** to **1,40,000 ha** in two years: Director Agriculture

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: The farmers across Kashmir are expecting better income this year as mustard fields are in full bloom with tourists Turn.....Farmers Expect.....Pg 02



Kashmiri willow trees to replace diseased and decaying local species: CM

HT News Network

SHIMLA, MAR 29: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Wednesday said that monoculture of local willow species are leading decaying of this tree in tribal Lahaul-Spiti district it was now being replaced by fungal disease resistant Kashmiri willow.

Baramulla 68 NDPS cases, 108 arrests

in 3 months: Police

HT News Network

BARAMULLA, MAR 29: Police in north

Kashmir's Baramulla district booked three more drug peddlers under the Jammu and Kashmir, PIT NDPS Act, while more than 100 peddlers have been booked in 68 NDPS cases this year so far, an official said.

A senior police official told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that three notorious drug peddlers have been booked under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (PIT NDPS) Act and have been lodged at Kot Bhalwal Jail in Jammu.

He said the accused were promoting the drug abuse trade by supplying drugs to local youth in and around Baramulla and were involved in multiple Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance (NDPS) cases.

The official identified the drug Turn.....3 more notorious.....Pg 02

Turn.....Kashmiri willow.....Pg 02

Of 272 km Udhampur-Baramulla rail link, 161 km already commissioned: Union Minister

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: The Centre on Wednesday said out of the total 272 km Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla rail link, 161 km has already been commissioned, while Rs26,786 Crore expenditure has been incurred till March 2022 out of the antic-

ipated cost of Rs 37,012 Crore. In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Union Railways Minister, Ashwini



Vaishnaw, as per the news la Rail link (USBRL) project was agency-Kashmir News Observsanctioned in 1994-95. He said the anticipated cost er (KNO) said that 272 km Turn.....Of 272 km Udhampur.....Pg 02 Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramul-





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CONTINUE FROM FRONT PAGE.....

Farmers Expect.....

focus will be laid on nine key sectors, which will further expedite progress and development in Jammu and Kashmir," Sinha told reporters at a press conference.

He stated that the Budget 2023-24 will focus on sectors comprising good governance, strengthening grass-root democracy, promoting sustainable agriculture, facilitating investment and industrial growth, employment generation, accelerating development and inclusive growth, women empowerment, social inclusion and doubling GDP in next five years.

Notably, the Lok Sabha on March 21 passed the over ₹1.18 lakh crore budget for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for 2023-24 with 35 percent capital expenditure at ₹41,491 crore to be spent on development and infrastructure.

Sinha also said that the law and order situation has improved appreciably in J&K and this year the highest number of 1.88 crore tourists visited the Union Territory.

He added, "the Jammu and Kashmir has been among top performers in the country for implementation of schemes like Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Amrit Sarovar, SVAMITVA Scheme, Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Nasha Mukt Abhiyan and Renewable Energy Development. Most of the social security schemes have been saturated in J&K."

Under "My Youth My Pride, Har Din Khel Har Ek Kay Liye Khel", Sinha said that nearly 50 lakh youth have participated in different sports activities this year, adding, "under Digital J&K initiative, 445 online services are being provided through e-UNNAT portal. 225 e-services have been integrated with Rapid Assessment System for real time feedback on quality of service delivery. All the online services have been linked with the Public Service Guarantee Act in J&K."

J&K is the first among States and Union Territories to have District Good Governance Index for assessing the public service delivery at district level, he asserted and said that aspirational Panchayat Development Programme, Aspirational Block **Development Programme and Aspirational** Town Development Programme are the three new initiatives being implemented in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sinha also disclosed that the highest ever investment of Rs 1547.87 crore received during the last 10 months of this year while 500 startups have come up during the last three years.

"Unemployment rate is marginally reduced; 33426 Posts have been referred to recruiting agencies.25450 selections have been made including 2436 selections of J&K Bank Limited," he said adding that around 2, 02,749 youth have been covered under various self-employment schemes and target is to cover 2, 37,000 by end of current year.

"Next year around 3 lakh will be covered under all the self-employment schemes,"

powerhouse in the sports sector," Sinha told reporters addressing a press conference here.

He said that under "My Youth My Pride, Har Din Khel, Har Ek Kay Liye Khel", nearly 50 lakh youth participated in different sports activities this year, adding, "around 70 Lakh youth to participate in different sports activities during 2023-24."

The Lieutenant Governor further said that 25 national events to be hosted in different sports disciplines under "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Abhiyan", adding, "we are connecting more youth into sports and it is visible on ground that sports is enthusiastically being played everywhere across the Union Territory."

"We are committed to encourage this sector and special emphasis is being laid for sports promotion," said Sinha adding that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a boom in the sports sector.

The Lieutenant Governor added that high performance centres to be established in Fencing, Wushu and Gymnastics while Cricket, Football, Volleyball and Wushu academies are also to be established.

"Yoga centres at Maulana Azad Stadium Jammu and Bakshi Stadium Srinagar to be established," said Sinha adding that women participation in sports and para athletics to be encouraged.

Notably, the Lok Sabha on March 21 passed the over ₹1.18 lakh crore budget for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir for 2023-24 with 35 percent capital expenditure at ₹41,491 crore to be spent on development and infrastructure.

J&K Orders.....

in Srinagar on March 3 from a luxurious hotel. His arrest was kept under wraps for over a week.

Police later said the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) wing on March 2 informed police about the arrival of an impersonator in Kashmir.

After the arrest, J&K Police registered a case against Patel for cheating, forgery and impersonation. They also questioned Patel's two associates Amit Pandya and Jay Sitapara from Gujarat.

The imposter, Patel, also held a series of meetings with J&K officials during his two visits to Srinagar earlier this year. Many of his videos traveling to various places escorted by the paramilitary and the police surfaced in his social media handles. There have been questions about how

Patel managed to hoodwink the Jammu & Kashmir police and administration by introducing himself as a PMO official as there is a laid protocol for getting security.

Revision of.....

voters. The qualifying date for revision of electoral rolls in Jammu & Kashmir was October 1 while January 1 was the qualifying date for summary revision in the country. We wanted to complete the process (previous revision) as soon as possible," he said, adding that those who will attain the age of 18 years on April 1, 2023 are eligible to enroll themselves as voters. On March 20, the ECI ordered a fresh revision of electoral exercise in Jammu & Kashmir. The exercise would start on April 5 with publication of the integrated draft electoral roll and culminate on May 10 with publication of final electoral rolls. This is the second such exercise ordered by the poll-body in Jammu & Kashmir in less than one year. Jammu & Kashmir has been without an elected government since June 19, 2018 when BJP withdrew support to Mehbooba Mufti-led government for which it had entered into a power-sharing agreement in 2015.

peddlers as Maroof Ahmad Khan, son of Mohammad Younis Khan, of Ramgai Uri; Tawqeer Bashir Magray, son of Bashir Ahmad Magray, of Nowshera Boniyar; and Mohammad Altaf Chopan, son of Mohammad Ahsan Chopan, of Kanispora Baramulla.

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"In addition to these three, more than 100 peddlers have been booked in 68 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance (NDPS) cases registered across the district since January this year," the official said, adding, "In March alone, 28 NDPS cases have been registered and around 50 people, including a woman peddler, Sarpanch, SPO, ambulance driver and Councilor of MC Pattan, were arrested."

The official said that police have zero tolerance against those involved in drugrelated activities and are making all-out efforts to keep society free from drug abuse. He said many miscreants and those involved in drug peddling have been identified and will be behind the bars soon.

The official appealed to the general public to support the police in order to make Baramulla a drug-free place. He said parental care is a must to stop crimes. He appealed to the parents to keep a strict vigil towards the activities of their wards.

Farmers.....

enjoying to the fullest in the yellow fields. Talking to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), the farmers from various areas of the valley said that this year the weather conditions remained favourable for mustard in winter due to which there is a better crop, and that they expect a better yield as well.

Mohammad Shaban a farmer from the Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district, said while there was less snowfall in the plains this year, however, the timely rains helped mustard crops to grow well.

"The mustard seeds provided by the Agriculture Department have grown well than our traditional seeds and we expect good income this year," he said.

Farmers from other districts shared similar views and said they expect a good yield this year.

Director Agriculture Kashmir, Mohammad Iqbal Choudhary told KNO that some years ago, most people were not sowing anything on their land but after taking different parameters into consideration, most of the land was found favourable for the cultivation of mustard.

"As the Government of India started oil seed mission, we wrote to the Centre that we want to be part of it, following which they provided us with around 1,800 quintal seeds," Iqbal said, adding that the land under mustard was increased from 3,000 hectares to 1,40,000 hectare in the last two years.

"Mustard crop has turned the valley into yellow colour. Tourists travelling to Kashmir Valley are also enjoying the mustard bloom from Qazigund to Srinagar along the Jammu Srinagar National Highway," the Director

stock to raising the nursery in polybags. The Forest Department regularly keeps advising the local people on the following points regarding plantation of willow trees in their private land.

Proper site selection for raising the willow trees specifically raising the willow trees in places where irrigation facilities are available since these trees are water loving in nature. The growing stock should be taken from selected, healthy, young and vigorous plants only. Pollarding should be done in a scientific way. Mechanical damage should be avoided.

Earlier raising this query Ravi Thakur said that willow trees which also lifeline of Lahaul economy to feed cattle and winter wood stock is decaying due to disease since many years. He informed the house that no others tree survive in the cool climate of Lahaul-Spiti district and only willow trees could grow along the river banks.

He suggested that steps should be taken for its cure and replacement by Kashmiri willow trees. He said that the government should replace decaying forest trees by Kashmiri willow trees at the earliest. Member said that high altitude plantation in the settlement would be sheer wastage of the money as it could not survive there.

Of 272 km.....

of the project is Rs 37,012/- crore, against which, expenditure of Rs 26,786 crore has been incurred up to March, 2022 on the project.

"Out of the total 272 km length of the USBRL project, a length of 161 Km has already been commissioned. Work on the balance stretch of Katra-Banihal section of 111 Km has been taken up," he said.

He also said the completion of any Railway projects depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, deposition of cost by State Government in Cost sharing projects, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of projects site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic considerations etc. "All these factors affect the completion time of the projects."

On whether the government is likely to increase the number of trains deployed to Kashmir with the completion of USBRL project, he said at present, 19 passenger special train services are running on Baramulla-Budgam-Banihal section of USBRL Project. Moreover, introduction of new train services or extension of existing train services is an ongoing process over Indian Railways subject to traffic demand, operational feasibility and availability of rolling stock. On whether the government is proposing to provide transport linkages to tourist destinations nearby the USB rail link, the minister said the new line projects are considered on the basis of demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Member of Parliament, other public representatives and Railways' own requirements. "As receipt of such proposals is a continuous and ongoing process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained." He added the proposals are taken up on the basis of remunerativeness, last

mile connectivity, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socioeconomic considerations, missing links and alternate routes including connectivity to tourist destinations etc., depending upon liabilities of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands which is a continuous and ongoing process.

Throat-slit Body.....

home. The gruesome incident has taken the area by shock as more and more have been pouring in at the site when this report was being drafted.

Confirming the incident, a senior police officer told this Reporter that a

police team is at the site to collect relevant details.

More details awaited.

Nine sheep.....

Farooq Ahmed told the news agency Kashmir News Trust that a pack of dogs possible 7 in number pounced upon the sheep and killed 9 of them.

"Nearly 9 sheep had been killed and another 2 had to be put down due to injury," he said adding that dogs entered the kennel and attacked the sheep.

Farooq Ahmed while appealing to authorities to compensate him for his losses urged the administration to curb the dog menace in the district.

Last week, dogs had critically injured an elderly woman in the same district.

Iltija Mufti's.....

daughter, Ilitija Mufti for the issuance of a passport.

CID has informed the High Court that the final verification report of Iltija Mufti was forwarded to the concerned department last month.

Iltija Mufti in her petition to High Court had stated that despite applying for a fresh passport last year after her passport was due to expire, she till date has not received the passport.

"The Passport as per the instruction manual is expected to be dispatched within approximately 30 days the inaction is discriminatory in nature and unconstitutional," she said in her writ petition before the court.

In his response through the counsel, the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), headquarters, CID J&K informed the court that the final passport verification report in respect of the petitioner has been forwarded to the Regional Passport Officer, Srinagar on February 16.

"That the petitioner has no ground to approach the Court against the answering respondent because none of the right, whether fundamental or legal, has been infringed by the answering respondent," the officer said in his reply adding that the present writ petition is bereft of merit and deserved to be dismissed with costs.

Biker dies in.....

said Sinha.

Counting the achievement on developmental works, the Lieutenant said that in 2018-19, 9228 works have been completed; in 2019-20. 12637 works have been completed, in 2020-21, 21943 have been completed and in 2021-22, 50627 works have been completed and this year it is expected that 70,000 works to be complet-

"This is the paradigm shift in the pace of development in Jammu and Kashmir over the last three to four years," Sinha stated.

Security.....

proposals worth Rs 70,000 crore have been received for industrial development.

"There is huge improvement in the law-and-order situation. It has good results as an unprecedented number of 1.88 crore tourists visited Jammu and Kashmir. This is the previous year's figure," Sinha told a press conference here.

"Till late night, people are enjoying Sikara rides. They are taking dinners at restaurants and hotels. Cinemas are running smoothly," he said.

The LG said night bus services have started in Kashmir. "I think this has started after 30 years. Schools and colleges and universities are running smoothly. Shops remain open," he said.

On the Rs 1 lakh crore budget approved for Jammu and Kashmir, Sinha said, "It is first budget of Amritkaal. It is the third time that Jammu and Kashmir's budget has exceeded Rs one lakh crore to order ensure development. This budget will give a fillip to the development journey during Amritkaal." "We are trying to fulfil the dream of new Jammu and Kashmir during the last three years," he said.

The LG said the Rs 1,18,500 crore budget will fulfil the dreams of all. "I thank Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman from the core of my heart for this budget. I am indebted to the Union home minister too".

Allocated Rs 145 cr.....

boost and augment the sports sector in the Union Territory and transform into a power of sports.

"Jammu and Kashmir is becoming a

New timing.....

ordered change in school timings from April 1 for all schools of Kashmir division falling outside municipal limits.

According to the news agency–Kashmir News Observer (KNO), in this regard, an order was issued by Director of School Education (DSEK), Tassaduq Hussain Mir.

In the order, he said that the new timings for the government and the recognised private schools falling outside Srinagar Municipal limits will be from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

The orders shall be implemented from April-01.

'The order and the instructions shall be adhered to strictly by all the concerned institutions," the DSEK said.

Earlier on February-28, School Education Department had changed school timing in Srinagar city from 9Am to 2 Pm.

Under Secretary to government for School Education Department had said, "I am directed to convey approval of the department for change of school timings in Srinagar City from 9 Am to 2 Pm from March 01."

Pertinently, in the backdrop of ongoing work for Srinagar smart city, the timing of all schools within the Srinagar municipal limits shall remain the same from 9Am to 2Pm

3 more notorious.....

Agriculture said.

Choudhary said also said the seeds provided by the Agriculture Department have doubled the yield of farmers and increased their income.

Kashmiri willow.....

Sukhu, who also holds the portfolio of Forest Ministry, was responding in the State assembly to a query by Ravi Thakur from Lahaul-Spiti during the question hours. "If member want to discard the monoculture of existing or indigenous species of willow in the district it should be avoided," he said. The mixed plantation of various species of willow trees suitable for the area should be done.

In the written reply, the CM said that Department would not replace decaying forest trees by Kashmiri willow trees, as monoculture of Kashmiri willow trees may lead to spread of disease. "Instead mixed plantation of various willow species is being done and will also be continued in future," he stated. Chief minister also informed the members that Local willow trees in Lahaul area are decaying due to disease and Department has taken various steps for its cure and replacement of decayed species with new sapling.

He said that a survey was also conducted by Himachal Pradesh Krishi Vishavvidyalaya Palampur and Dr.Y.S.Parmar. University of Horticulture and Forestry Nauni, Solan and Himalayan Forestry Research Institute (HFRI), Shimla, on the request of the Department to find the reasons for the drying and decaying of willow trees in Lahaul area.

HFRI, under a research project funded by ICFRE, is working on development of disease free and disease resistant clonal varieties of willow since 2016 in Lahaul and Spiti District. The same varieties would be available for multiplication within a year.

Proper site selection, raising of mixed plantations and planting of good quality seedlings of willow species is being done. He said that raising of willow species in nurseries including Kashmiri willow and planting the same in the forest area. I

In the past few years nursery raising practices for willow have been improved including a shift from raising naked root

as Muzafar Ahmed sustained grieves injuries and was shifted to SMHS Hospital for treatment where he succumbed.

Hospital sources confirmed that the biker Muzafar Ahmed, a resident of Raj Bagh Srinagar died in the hospital. They said the son of the deceased was also brought to the hospital and he is stable and sustained minor injuries.

Police have taken cognizance of the incident and registered a case under relevant sections of law.

Sangrama residents protest over frequent power cuts, block Sgr-Bla highway



prevailing power crisis.

against the Power Develop-

Aashiq Hussain

SOPORE, MAR 29: Residents of Sangrama Sopore in North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Wednesday staged protest against power crisis in the area.

Reports said scores of peoment department.Protestple including local traders ers block Srinagar Baramassembled at main Chowk ulla highway at Sangrama. Sangrama and staged a

Locals said that with the unscheduled power cuts in protest demonstration over the area ,the people are They raised slogans being forced to take to streets.







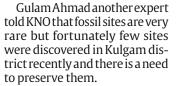
Experts for preservation of fossil sites in Kashmir

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Experts and people in Kashmir have urged government to take steps for preservation of fossil sites and use them for promotion of tourism.

Mudasir Ahmad a geology expert and vocational trainer from Kulgam told news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that tourists rarely visit Aherbal and other sites during lean season but these fossil sites can be promoted as alternate ourist destinations. "There is need to conserve these fossil sites as these sites are potential resources in every respect and every organization must come forward to preserve them," he said.

Say they can be used for tourism promotion



He said that the government must take cognizance at the earliest and take immediate steps for its preservation and promotion as it will help us in getting more resources.

Experts said that the sites can be preserved with a little care and they can provide a lot of information about our rich geological past to the future generations. They emphasised the need to protect and preserve the rich geo heritage by educating the community and locals about



the need and significance of preserving them. People in Kulgam area have

also demanded that fossil sites that were discovered last year must be preserved and promoted as tourist sites. The sites are at Noorabad in Kulgam.

Kashmir is rich in fossils that date back millions of years.

Mushtaq Ahmad Beigh, Deputy Director Archives, Archaeology and Museum, Srinagar told KNO steps are being taken for the preservation of fossil sites. He said department along with

tourism department is planning to establish at site museum in Aherbal area in Kulgam to promote and boost tourism sector as well.

He said that Kulgam where fossil sites were discovered are in snow bound area and every possible step will taken for preservation of fossil sites as site plan and markings have been already done.

Congress will fight for the Rahul Gandhi: **Salman Khursheed**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Senior Congress leader Salman Khursheed on Wednesday said that the party will fight for Rahul Gandhi who has become "the symbol of freedom".

"It is Congress party's duty to fight for Rahul Gandhi who has become a symbol of the freedom whether we have a choice to speak in the country under this democratic system or not", Khuursheed told media persons in Srinagar today.

He said the voice of senior most democratic leaders of the country is being suppressed.

"Where will a common man go to register his grievance?" he asked

"I remember a poetry couplet "Hum uff bhi Karte hain to ho jate hain badnaam, woh qatal bhi kartay hain to ah nahi hoti" (If we raise a voice we became infamous, they commit murder nobody raises the issue). This is the present position of the democracy of India", he claimed.

The former external affairs minister said the main cause of the Rahul Gandhi and Congress party is to defend the democratic system of India.

'We will go to the higher courts to challenge the conviction verdict of Rahul Gandhi and hopefully will get the relief", he said.

Regarding Rahul Gandhi's disqualification from the Parliament, Salman Khursheed said that if the BJP claims that they did whatever under the constitution of India, why hasn't the Supreme court dismissed the case so far.

He said the hearing of the case will take place in the supreme court. When the Supreme Court will hear the case it will be known to everyone whether the BJP did it under the preview of constitution or not.

Khursheed said that a consensus is being developed with the opposition parties to form a platform to defend the democratic process of the country.

"There are positive indications and talks with the parties are going on. Congress President Malikarjun Kharge met the opposition leaders recently and they have given their suggestions.. let us see what will happen in the near future", he added.

In a question Khursheed said that not only in Kashmir but in entire India the voice of people is being crushed.

What has not happened in the past 70 years in India is now visible how the voices of the people are being suppressed", he said and added "What happens or what not happens, how much happened in Kashmir the time will tell us".

Fruits, vegetables overpriced by vendors, people angry

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: Amid the ongoing month of Ramadan, consumers have accused the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumers Affairs (FCSCA) department of failing to regulate the prices of vegetables, fruits, and poultry.

This come amid the government's rate list issued early this week for both vegetables, fruits and poultry.

Consumers in Srinagar told news agency-



School Edu Deptt 'short' of lectures in Kashmir division

promote the eligible

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: The School Education Department Wednesday said that it has a dearth of lectures and will try to fill all loopholes by next academic session.

Mir said that the basic motive of

ity education. "We are short of lectures in School Education Department but we are working hard on DPC's and by the end of April, we will promote the eligible teachers and in next session, we will

try to fill the all gaps," DSEK said. Mir further said that private and government schools are working jointly to provide quality education to students.

"Any parent having a capacity to admit their ward in private school can enroll their wards their but I would like to inform every parent that the government schools have good human resources and infrastructure and are at par with other standard schools," the director said. He also requested the parents to

trust government school and enroll their wards in government schools We are short of lectures in

School Education

Department but we are

working hard on DPC's and

by the end of April

as well. On asking about the developments in the department, Mir said, "As far as National Education Policy is concerned, we have started preprimary in all primary and middle schools which used to be the drawback of government schools and a major cause for parents to enroll their wards in private schools."

"We have established nearly 1,000 KG classes and in next few years, we will establish all middle and primary and middle schools will have established KG classes," DSEK said.

Locals demand repair of damaged footbridge in Tarzoo

We are working the department is to provide qualhard on DPC's and by the end of April, we will

teachers: DSEK

According to the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO), Director of School Education Kashmir (DSEK), Tassaduq Hussain Mir said this in the sidelines of an event.

Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that none adheres to the rate list issued by the department.

"The Government has fixed the rate of chicken at Rs 130/Kg but it is being sold between Rs 135-140 per kilogram. Now tell me, where is the regulation and what is the concerned department doing," said a consumer in Srinagar.

Mohammad Maqbool, a shopkeeper in Srinagar said there is no check on prices of fruits and vegetables and shopkeepers are selling them at exorbitant prices.

Shabir Ahmad, a private school teacher said that instead of offering discounts in the holy month of Ramadan, essentials are being sold at inflated prices.

"Rates of A and B grade bananas have been fixed at Rs 130 and Rs 90 per dozen but it is being sold in the market at Rs 140 and 120 per dozen. Same is the case with other fruits", he said.

Similarly, people in other parts of the Valley too complained about lack of market checking. Director FCSCA Kashmir could not be contacted.

Kashmiri Pandit's Killing: **SIA conducts raids in Pulwama village**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MAR 29: The State Investigation Agency (SIA) on Saturday conducted raids in Achan village of south Kashmir's Pulwama in connection with the killing of a Kashmir Pandit.

An official told the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that SIA is conducting raids at Achan in connection with the investigation into the killing of Kashmiri Pandit Sanjay Sharma.

He said the sleuths of the investigating agency assisted by the local police and CRPF have carried out raids in the native village of Sharma.

Notably, Sanjay Sharma (40), who was working as a bank ATM guard, was killed by militants on February 26.

'Doctor' in Budgam fails to prove his credentials; investigation started

HT News Network

BUDGAM, MAR 29: A "doctor" practicing at a medical shop in the Main Market Budgam failed to prove his credentials and is being investigated by the authorities. The suspicions were raised after he failed to provide the registration number and otherdocuments, locals of the area told the news agency-

Kashmir News Observer(KNO). We received information about the self-

styled doctor and a team from the revenue, police and health departments was sent to ascertain the facts, said the Chief Medical Officer Budgam Dr Ayoub. 'The doctor in question has been prohibited from practicing after failing to submit the necessary papers on time," the CMO said, adding, "We have collected some documents from him, and an investigation is underway."

> The alleged actions of the "doctor" have raised serious concerns about the safety and well-being of patients in the area, said a local, adding that this has also underlined the importance of stringent regulations and checks to ensure that only qualified medical professionals are allowed to provide medical services

HT News Network

SOPORE, MAR 29: A footbridge constructed two decades ago in Tarzoo village of north Kashmir's Sopore has been severely damaged and poses a risk to commuters and pedestrians, even as the officials say the matter was "never" brought to their notice.

The residents of Tanki Mohalla of Tarzoo village told the news agency-Kashmir News Observer (KNO) that the footbridge constructed by the Irrigation & Flood Control (I&FC) Department some twenty years ago connects the

village with the rest of its peripheral areas.

We brought the issue to the notice of the concerned authorities several

times, but our pleas were not responded and nothing has been done to repair or reconstruct the footbridge," Sarpanch, Nazir Ahmed, told KNO.

He termed it a "matter of serious concern", saying the bridge poses threat to the lives of people and needs to be repaired at the earliest.

The residents urged the Lieutenant Governor-led administration and Deputy Commissioner Baramulla to look into the matter.

When contacted, Executive Engineer, I&FC Department, Sopore told KNO that

the matter will be looked into and the necessary repairing process will be taken up. The official however said the matter was "never brought to our notice".



Kashmiri pandits perform annual Hawan at Mata Durganag temple on the occasion of Navratra in Srinagar on Wednesday



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J&K gets maiden twin Centre of **Excellence in Handicrafts, Carpet Sector**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: Craft Development Institute (CDI) and Indian Institute of Carpet Technology (IICT), Baghi-Ali-Mardan, Nowshera, Srinagar have been declared as J&K's maiden "Centre of Excellence" (CoE) in Handicrafts and Carpet Sector.

The Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir (DHHK) had submitted two proposals in the month of February 2022 to Handicrafts and Carpet Sector Skill Council of India for recognizing CDI and IICT as Centre of Excellence in Traditional and Heritage Crafts.

The twin Centre of Excellence in skilling ecosystem have been envisioned to be one stop resource centres for raising training standards, boost productivity, address emerging skill-gaps and align training & research with the current industry needs



with the intent to overcome skill demand-

supply mismatch and to have continuous supply of skilled workforce and disseminate best practices.

The key objectives of the Centre of Excellence CDI/IICT include conducting high quality training in Handicrafts and Carpet sector with special focus on reviving the languishing crafts and new/future crafts with emerging technologies.

The CoE shall also work towards developing association between academia and industry for the benefit of the skill development sector, conduct Research and Development in Handicrafts and Carpet sector and disseminate the results of the R&D and other activities through filling of patents and transforming them into sustainable business proposals/solutions.

It shall also provide support to creative and innovative designs with respect to crafts based on the emerging national and international demands and establish a sound new institutional base for executing the programmes/projects by strengthening the existing infrastructure.

Director, Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir said, "These CoE institutions are first of its kind in Handicrafts and Carpet Sector in J&K and have been envisioned to work towards realizing the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat wherein the tradi-

tional and heritage crafts from J&K shall be taken to the global level by introducing frugal design innovations and develop a unique academia-industry model for the better product development to revive the Handicrafts and Carpet industry of the UT".

HT - KASHMIR

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Besides, the two CoE shall work to foster relations across countries, between governments, provide incubation, mentoring & support to start-ups in the entrepreneurship education domain and establish an Entrepreneurship cell for interested youth in Handicrafts and Carpet Sector.

These shall also conduct training of trainers for master trainers and shall also host exclusive art galleries. The CoE shall offer skill development courses as per with the National Skills Qualification Framework (NSQF) with an aim to increase employability of the artisans and job seekers in the Handicrafts & Carpet sector for different job roles, certifying up to 500 candidates and training as much as 100 master.

JJM conducts 3-days handholding session of ISA representatives, Anganwadi & Asha workers, Water testing lab staff

@headlinestodaynews

HT News Network

BUDGAM, MARCH, 29: Following the directions of Deputy Commissioner Budgam, S F Hamid, the Jal Jeevan Mission conducted a handholding session for ISA representatives, Anganwadi/Asha workers, Water testing lab staff and Women PRIs.

The programme was conducted by project management consultants of Mission Directorate Jal Jeevan Mission at three Sub divisions of Budgam including Beerwah, Chadoora and Khan Sahib for three consecutive days from March 27 for effective implementation of JJM in district Budgam.

Respective Divisional Magistrates were chief guests on the occasion.Various training programmes were conducted from time to time in District Budgam for effective and time bound completion of this prestigious mission.

AD Enforcement seals 3 shops for violation of Essential **Commodities Act**

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: The Enforcement squad of FCS&CA Department headed by Assistant Director Enforcement launched a massive drive within the vicinity of Srinagar City during the current month amid complaints pouring in from various corners.

During the course of action 355 erring traders were penalised with a sum of Rs 240400 in District Srinagar. Besides, three mutton shops have been sealed for violation of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

It pertinent to mention here that during the current financial year in the entire valley, an amount of Rs 11019280 has been collected as fine from 23730 erring traders. Besides, 401 establishments have been sealed and police complaints against 22 defaulters lodged for violation of the set norms.

"The erring lot has been reprimanded to remain careful in future. The drive will continue in the same passion in future as well & whosoever found violating the norms will be brought to justice.", AD Enforcement In case of any complaint, people may contact on toll

free number 18001807011. **Public Grievance Redressal**

camp held at Rawalpora Khansahab

Faroog Rather



DC Bandipora reviews R&R Plan, Developmental activities of KGHEP NHPC Bandipora

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, MARCH 29: Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad on Tuesday chaired a meeting of officers to review the implementation of developmental projects under Resettlement and Rehabilitation(R&R)Plan funded by KGHEP NHPC Bandipora.

The meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Waseem Raja, Sub Divisional Magistrate Gurez Dr Mudasir, General Manager NHPC, Tehsildars and other senior officers of the district.

The meeting discussed threadbare the developmental needs in the Snowbound Gurez valley in Education, Health, Livelihood, Skill development, Animal Husbandry and Agriculture.

DDC reviewed the implementation of several schemes including development of several roads, construction of infrastructure in several schools in Gurez and Bandipora, development of parks, beautification of towns and villages besides other



developmental projects.

He directed the officers to expedite the works so that the projects can be completed soon for the welfare of the people.

He also directed the department of Education to complete works taken up under RR Plan and CSR in schools while R&B was directed to complete works taken up by them with improvement in weather conditions.

Dr Owais took the feedback about the status of various pending projects besides reviewing the staff strength in schools, availability of staff and medicine in hospitals besides other projects.

Principal Secretary ARI visits Kulgam, interacts with DDC, BDC, PRI members

Inspects development projects across the district

Farooq Rather

KULGAM, MARCH 29: Principal Secretary ARI & Trainings Department, Ashok Kumar Parmar today visited Kulgam and inspected development projects being executed in the district.During the visit, Principal Secretary convened an interactive meeting with DDC, BDC and Panchayat members to get first hand appraisal of their concerns, grievances and development issues.

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat gave a brief detail about developmental scenario of the district.

During the meeting, DDC Chairperson Mohammad Afzal Parrey, DDC, BDC and



other PRI members highlighted various development issues of the district. They informed about the

devastation caused by floods in 2014 and demanded construction of a proper protection bund at Veshow river to avoid any flood threat in future. They also demanded augmentation of staff at District Hospital

in PMAY-G quota. Speaking on the occasion, Principal Secretary said that role of PRIs is vital in development and implementation of schemes. He assured that all development concerns of PRIs shall be looked into so that the vision of democratic decentralization is realized.

Kulgam and enhancement

DC Srinagar visits Psychiatric diseases Hospital, SMHS De-Addiction Center

Public Notice

Farooq Rather

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29:- The Deputv Commissioner Srinagar. Mohammad Aijaz Asad here on Wednesday undertook a visit to Govt Psychiatric Diseases Hospital, Kathi Darwaza and Drug De-Addiction Centre at SMHS Hospital to oversee the facilities being provided to the victims of Drug Abuse.

During the visit, the DC was accompanied by Chief Planning Officer, Mohammad Yaseen Lone, Principal ITI, Bagh-i-Dilawar Khan, Anisa Parvez



Principal ITI, Bemina, Dr Shafaqat Principal Govt. Polytechnic College, Imiyaz Ahmad, Gogji Bagh, Project Manager, JKPCC, Sajad Ahmad, Incharge Drug De-Addiction Centre,

GMC Srinagar, Dr Yasir Rather, Medical Superintendent, Govt Psychiatric Hospital, Dr Aijaz, Nodal Officer, Dr Arshid and other concerned.

At new building of IMHANS (Govt Psychiatric diseases Hospital), Kathi Darwaza, the Deputy Commissioner took a detailed round of the Hospital and inspected various units of facilities including Indoor Patient Wards, Brain Stimulation Centre, Diagnostic Centres, Counselling Centre, Telemans Monitoring Cell, Clinical Psychology Lab etc and inspected the facilities being extended to the patients.

My Daughters Name in School Records has been wrongly entered as Sad Afreen instead of actual Name AFREEN D|O Latif Ahmad Dar R|O Gulbarg Coloney Hyderpora Bypass Srinagar Now I intend to make necessary correction accordingly in School Records. If any person having objection to it may please fill his/

ner objection before the **Principal British School** Nowgam By pass Srinagar within a period of seven days of publication of this notice falling which no any objection shall be entertained.

Name,AFREEN D|O Latif Ahmad Dar Mothers Name, Mubeena RIO Gulbarg Coloney Hyderpora Bypass Srinagar Cel No 9596526616

Public Notice

The parentage (Father) of my ward namely Amaan Aashiq has been wrongly mentioned as Aashiq Hussain Khan in school recards. When in fact my wards parentage (father) Ashiq Hussain khan instead Aashiq Hussain khan R/o Goihard Devalgam Teh Kokernag Distt Anantnag.

Now I intend to make necessary correction accordingly in School Records. If any person having objection to it may please fill his/ her objection before the **PRINCIPLE NEW ERA PUBLIC SCHOOL** within a period of seven days of publication of this notice falling which no any objection shall be entertained.

Name, Ashiq Hussain khan FIO Amaan Aashiq RIO Goihard Devalgam Teh Kokernag Distt Anantnag

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ADVOCATE M.M.Dar

In the Case of Zubair Shafi Mir S/o Mohammad Shafi R/o Umar Lane Firdous Colony Eidgah Srinagar (Ceveator) VS

Public at Large (Non -Ceveator) In the matter of the Caveat petition in terms of section 148-A of CPC.

The Caveator has reasons to believe / apprehension that Non caveat may file a suit or any type of proceeding before the Hon'ble Court and on the ground of distorted facts/ misrepresentation and cooked story and may succeed in obtaining some relief /order at their back / exparte against the Caveators and such eventuality the caveators will be put to an irreparable lose and inconvenience. It would be proper that caveator is given opportunity of being heard by the Hon'ble court before assing any other

Sd/ Advocate

BUDGAM, MARCH 29: Additional District Development Commissioner (ADDC), Budgam, Dr Akramullah Tak today chaired a public grievance redressal camp at Panchayat Halqa Rawalpora in Block Khansahab.

Locals, PRIs, village elders and others respected from villages including Rawalpora, Khospora, Dangerpora, Pannagund, Chanpora, Hanjigund and other adjoining villages of Block Khansahab raised their demands.

After giving patient hearing, the ADDC assured that all genuine demands shall be taken up with the relevant quarters for early resolution.

The ADDC called for the holistic development of the area and emphasized that work on all ongoing projects be expedited to ensure timely completion.

He stressed on development of road connectivity and all hassle- free irrigation and potable water supply to locals.

The ADDC also instructed concerned to conduct a joint awareness camp to apprise locals about various government schemes and initiatives in the area.

Instruction were given to ARTO Budgam to ensure adequate transport facility on local route for convenience of general public.

The ADDC urged that villages elders and parents must play active role in curbing the drug abuse spread by keeping tight vigil on their wards and emphasized youth should actively participate in co- curricular activities and sports activities to remain healthy and away from the drugs and other social evils.

At the outset, the ADDC also appealed youths to register themselves under different self-employment schemes and create their own ventures to become job providers instead of job seekers.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my 10th pass certificateNow I am applying for its duplicate if anybody have any objection in this regard He /she may contact with office of Govt Higher Sacandary School Kreeri /Board of School Education (BOSE) within seven days from the from the date of publication of this notice .After that no objection shall be entertained

AIJAZ AHMAD CHOPAN S/O GH MOHI UD DIEN R/o Dolipora KawacheckTehsil kreeri Distt Baramulla

AS college organises extension lecture on Personality Development

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: The NCC wings of Amar Singh College today organized an extension lecture on "Personality Development".

On the occasion, Col. Deepak Bhatt, AO 1 J&K Bn Srinagar was the resource person while Dr. Pervaiz Ahmad Dar, Assistant Professor Department of Botany, Amar Singh College Srinagar moderated the pfogramme.

While welcoming the guest and participants, Principal Amar Singh College Srinagar, Prof. Bashir Ahmad Rather highlighted the importance of personality development among students for achieving the goals in life.

Col Deepak Bhatt delivered a talk on Personality Development in which he deliberated upon importance of personality and the ways of developing a strong personality.

SILABATIZ TASTABY

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BABA PAYAM UD DIN EDUCATIONAL

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Atal Dulloo asks for priority movement of fertilizers, fruit laden trucks in, out of Kashmir

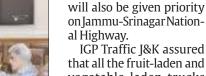
HT News Network

JAMMU, MARCH 29: Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department (APD), Atal Dulloo, today asked the officers for prioritizing movement of fertilizers and fruit laden trucks in and outside the Kashmir valley during a meeting held here at Civil Secretariat.

The meeting was attended by Secretary in Agriculture Production Department, Inspector General of Police Traffic J&K, Special Secretary APD, Directors of Horticulture Jammu/Kashmir, Directors of Agriculture Jammu/Kashmir, Director of Horticulture P&M, SSP



Traffic Rural Kashmir/Jamonline. mu. SSP National Highway, Chairman of Kashmir Valley Fruit Growers Union, President of Fruit Mandi Sopore, President of CA Stores, President of Fruit Association Anantnag, and representatives of fertilizer companies including CCFCL, IFFCO, IPL and NFL while Kashmir based officers and participants participated



vegetable-laden trucks would be given priority. He urged upon the fruit associations to provide registration numbers and paste sticks so that they may be given priority during the During the meeting, ACS directed for priority movemovement on highway. ment of fertilizer trucks to The meeting also dis-

and other perishable items

and fro from Kashmir and cussed stock availability of Jammu. He also instructed fertilizers in the Kashmir that fruit-laden trucks from valley.

ACS urged upon the fertil-CA stores going outside Kashmir be given priority izer companies to transport fertilizers to Kashmir in to reach their destinations. He added that with the sufficient numbers to avoid any shortage during the arrival of vegetable season, trucks carrying vegetables peak season.

f **DDC Udhampur inspects** ongoing works of Devika Project

HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, MARCH 29: District Development Commissioner, Krittika Jyotsna conducted a tour of Udhampur town to inspect the ongoing execution works of the Devika Project today.

During the tour, the DDC visited various locations in the interior of the city to get a first-hand report on the progress of works. The Executive Engineer informed her that the sewer network of the project is nearing completion and that all major sewer lines have been laid. Work on laying sewer lanes and their off-

shoots is ongoing along with household connections in Zone 2 and 3. It was informed that the work of laying major sewer

Block Diwas: DC Rajouri listens to public issues at Breri



Household connections in

Zone-2 and Zone-3 have

already started and so far,

200 connections have been

completed. Household con-

nections in Zone-1 will start

from the first week of July

on the eve of commissioning

The DDC was informed

STP-1.

lines along both banks of Holy River Devika has been completed. In addition to laying the sewer network, 2 Sewerage Treatment Plants and 8 Intermediate Pumping Stations were also completed in the last 10-11 months.

Out of the balance project work, STP-1 which is part that the remaining work of of Zone-1 will be commisthe Devika Project will be executed as per the timesioned by July 15 and IPS-8 lines of micro planning and which is part of Zone-3 will is being monitored on a be functional by May 2023.

daily/weekly basis by UEED and PMC.

The UEED Executive Engineer informed her that restoration work by way of bituminous tarmac is pending for 4 km and cement concrete tiles for 1.5 km. This work has been taken up by subcontractors and is scheduled to be completed by April 30.

While inspecting the remaining works, Jyotsna asked the executing agency to gear up men and machinery to complete the ongoing works within the stipulated time frame. She stressed on inter-departmental coordination for smooth execution of their respective plans, especially the restoration works, to minimise inconvenience to the general public and save time and resources.

Block Diwas programme held at 4 locations across Doda

HT News Network

DODA, MARCH 29: Public outreach programmes were held across the district of Doda at four different locations under the banner of Block Diwas, here today. These programmes were supervised by Deputy Commissioner, Vishesh Mahajan.

The Block Diwas was held at Assar block headquarters, Gandoh sub divisional headquarters, Bhaderwah block headquarters and Thathri tehsil headquarters.

Large numbers of people attended the programme at all four locations and demanded upgrades to local infrastructure in health and education sectors, as well as improved road connectivity, water and power facilities. Participants also raised demands for macadamisation of roads, execution of works under MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) and upgrading electricity poles.

Udhampur: Chairperson DDC inaugurates District Court Post Office

HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, MARCH 29: The District

certificates.

The Deputy Commissioner gave a patient hearing to all the issues projected by the public and assured them that their demands would be fulfilled in a timely manner.

In response to the issue of water scarcity, he stated that dedicated efforts are being made to complete work on JJM schemes in time. Regarding the upgradation of GGMS Breri, he assured that he would take up the matter with the concerned authorities. He also stated that an adequate number of electricity poles would be provided under the RDSS scheme of the PDD sector.

For sanctioning a health subcentre at Breri, he asked the concerned officer from the Health Department to submit a feasibility report at the earliest. Regarding the dilapidated condition of internal roads, he asked the concerned offi-



cer to repair any damage to ensure road safety. The officer was also asked to fix any potholes and surface irregularities. He directed officials to ensure timely payments for the

construction of bunkers and motivated educated and unemployed youth to avail benefits of selfemployment schemes and become job creators rather than job seekers.

Deputy Commissioner of Rajouri, Vikas Kundal briefed the public about the district administration's initiative towards making Rajouri drug-free and sought their cooperation in the fight against drug abuse.

Among those present during the event were Block Development Chairman Nowshera, Bodh Raj; Additional Deputy Commissioner Nowshera, Kartar Singh; Additional Superintendent of Police Nowshera, Sheraz Chowhan; ExEn Jal Shakti Nowshera, Vipin Kumar; Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Shami Kumar and other district and sectoral officers. A number of issues and demands were highlighted during the event, including scarcity of water, speedy implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission schemes, upgradation of Government Girls Middle School Breri to High School level.

protect our youth. We must come

Anti-drug rally organised by District Police Jammu at Domana

HT News Network

HT News Network

Block Diwas.

RAJOURI, MARCH 29: Deputy

Commissioner, Vikas Kundal pre-

sided over a public outreach camp

at the border area of Breri in Now-

shera block as part of the weekly

were highlighted during the event,

including scarcity of water, speedy

implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission

schemes, upgradation of Govern-

ment Girls Middle School Breri to

High School level, sanctioning of a

sub-centre at Breri, dilapidated con-

dition of the road at Gai Gangota,

shortage of electricity poles and

transformers, sanctioning of a vet-

erinary center and an Aangawadi

Centre in every ward, sanctioning

of border bunkers and holding spe-

cial camps for issuing disability

A number of issues and demands

JAMMU, MARCH 29: An Antidrug rally was organised today



together as a community to raise awareness and provide support

to those in need." Other officials also emphasised **Kishtwar: Agriculture Department organises** awareness camp at panchayat Chamoti

Court Udhampur Post Office, which falls under Udhampur Postal Division, was inaugurated today by District Development Council Chairman, Lal Chand and Deputy Commissioner, Krittika Jyotsna. The Chairperson of the District Development Council said that the post office will now serve customers in a better way and provide a customer-friendly atmosphere. The general public of the area was congratulated for the opening of the post office. The District Court Udhampur Post Office was temporarily shifted to the Udhampur Head Post Office.

by the District Police Jammu (Subdivision Domana) to raise awareness about the drug menace.

The rally was flagged off by District Development Council Chairman Jammu, Bharat Bhushan. The rally was attended by a gathering of around 350 people, including youth, who were briefed on the issue.Block Development Council Marh, Surinder Kumar; Additional Deputy CommissionerJammu(ADM), Sandeep



Seointra, Superintendent of Police Rural Jammu, Sub-Divisional Police Officer Domana, Station House Officer Kanachak and Station House Officer Domana along

with other officials were present on the occasion.Speaking on the occasion, DDC Chairman said, "it is our collective responsibility to fight against the drug menace and

the importance of staying away from drugs and leading a healthy lifestyle. They encouraged the youth to spread awareness about the harmful effects of drugs and to support their peers in making positive choices.

The rally started from Higher Secondary School Domana and culminated at Shri Jagdamba Banquet Hall in Purkho. Refreshments were distributed among students and volunteers.

HT News Network



KISHTWAR, MARCH 29: A farmer awareness camp was held at panchayat Chamoti by Agriculture Department today, where more than 30 farmers from different villages participated. The camp provided farmers with information on the latest practices for Kharif crops and different schemes of the agriculture department. Kharif vegetable seeds were also sold at a 50% subsidy rate under the intensive vegetable scheme.

Speeches were delivered by Agriculture Extension Assistant, Yasir Aftab Mughal, Agriculture Extension Officer, Ampy Singh and Junior Agriculture Extension Officer, Ajay Chandra. They discussed the significance of organic farming, judicious use of fertiliser, and natural farming.

The camp was organised by direction of Sub-Divisional Agriculture Officer, Sahil Gandotra and under the overall supervision of Chief Agriculture Officer, Amjed Hussain Mallik.

Udhampur: DDC Council discusses, finalizes Annual Plan 2023-24

HT News Network

UDHAMPUR, MARCH 29: A meeting was held today by the District Development Council Udhampur to discuss and finalise their Annual Plan for 2023-24. The meeting was chaired by Chairman District Development Council Udhampur, Lal Chand. The discussions included various aspects of the Area Development Plan, including rural connectivity and infrastructure, water conservation, agriculture, power, health and education.

The meeting was attended by Chairpersons of the Block Development Councils and members of District Development Councils.

During the meeting, a proposal was made for an Area Development Plan consisting of 2226 works with an estimated cost of Rs 69.23 crore. This includes 1691 PRI works, 175 BDC works and 360 DDC



works.Otherattendees included Vice Chairperson DDC, Juhi

Manhas Pathania; Deputy Krittika Jyotsna; Additional Commissioner of Udhampur, District Development Com-

Chief Planning Officer, Mudassir Yaqoob Zargar; ACD, Dr Ranjeet Kotwal and other senior district officers from various departments. All participants unanimously approved the Annual Plan for the district.

missioner, Ghan Sham Singh;

The Council also complimented and appreciated the district administration for achieving all of their physical and financial targets set for the year 2022-23.

Div Com signs MoU with JSW Foundation for development of facilities at Shiv Khori Shrine

HT News Network

JAMMU, MARCH 29: Divisional Commissioner Jammu and Chairman of Shri Shiv Khori Shrine Board, Ramesh Kumar signed an MoU with JSW Foundation for the development and restoration of facilities at Shiv Khori Shrine. Major works to be undertaken include refurbishment of food kiosks and resting shelters, installation of a sound system along pathways, provision of rain shelter branches and dustbins along pass ways, refurbishment of existing Ghats, beautification,

development of four meditation centres, construction of a reception centre with refreshment facilities, installation of signages, IT intervention (online registration, WiFi zones) and other required development works. The Div Com said that the MoU aims to provide the best facilities to pilgrims visiting the Shiv Khori Shrine. He informed that work on the project has already started and will be completed in a time-bound manner.JSW Foundation is a charitable trust incorporated under the Indian Trust Act 1882 with its registered office in New Delhi. The government has invited



the foundation to restore, improve and upgrade facilities in and around the shrine. The foundation will provide necessary funds under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) corpus for the development of facilities and support the Shiv Khori Shrine Board in ensuring public convenience. Deputy Commissioner Reasi and Vice Chairperson SSKSB, Babila Rakwal; Executive Officer SSKSB, Pardeep Kumar; Deputy Director Planning, Munish Dutta; representatives of JSW foundation Sanjay Sagar and Jyoti Chetal were also present on the occasion. Major works to be undertaken include refur-

bishment of food kiosks and resting shelters, installation of a sound system along pathways, provision of rain shelter branches and dustbins along pass ways, refurbishment of existing Ghats, beautification, development of four meditation centres, construction of a reception centre with refreshment facilities, installation of signages, IT intervention (online registration, WiFi zones) and other required development works. The Div Com said that the MoU aims to provide the best facilities to pilgrims visiting the Shiv Khori Shrine. He informed that work on the project.





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EDITORIAL

Reservations in Education, Jobs Continue to mar the merit...How Long???

Issue of Reservation continue to be debated with heated arguments, however all the time these movements cool down in one way or the other, amid the heat of Political interests.

Pertinent to start with the Supreme Court's landmark judgement last time which sought to know during the Maratha quota case hearing, that for how many generations would reservations in jobs and education continue. SC also raised concerns over "resultant inequality" in case the overall 50 per cent limit was to be removed.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Justice Ashok Bhushan was vehemently told by senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Maharashtra, that the Mandaljudgement on capping the quota needed a re-look in changed circumstances.

He said the courts should leave it to states to fix reservation quotas in view of the changed circumstances and the Mandal judgement was premised on census of 1931.

Arguing in favour of the Maharashtra law granting quota to Marathas, Rohatgi referred to various aspects of the Mandal judgement, also known as Indra Sawhney case, and said the Centre's decision to grant 10 per cent quota to people from economically weaker section also breached the 50 per cent cap.

"If there is no 50 per cent or no limit, as you are suggesting, what is the concept of equality then. We will ultimately have to deal with it. What is your reflection on that... What about the resultant inequality. How many generations will you continue," observed the bench, which also comprised Justices L Nageswara Rao, S Abdul Nazeer, Hemant Gupta and S Ravindra Bhat.

Rohatgi said there were many reasons for the re-look of the Mandal judgment which was premised on the census of 1931 and moreover, the population has increased many fold and reached to 135 crore.

The bench said 70 years have passed since independence and the states have been carrying on so many beneficial schemes and "can we accept that no development has taken place, that no backward caste has moved forward".

It also observed that the purpose of reviewing the Mandal judgement was that those who have come out from backwardness must be eliminated.

"Yes, we have moved forward. But it is not that backward classes have gone down from 50 to 20 per cent. We still have starvation deaths in this country... I am not trying to say that Indra Sawhney is completely wrong, throw it



While the primary motive of education is giving an education, it is equally important to evaluate the knowledge received by the student. For this purpose, timely and proper monitoring of the student is important. How can this be achieved?

The answer is simple teachers. After all, it is the teachers who are in constant touch with the students via their academic connection. It is the teacher who will know his/her student the best as they are in touch Teachers monitor student progress for several purposes. Teachers can use monitoring tools to evaluate how well an individual student learns new concepts presented in class and how well she retains skills and concepts previously learned. Teachers can also evaluate how well the current teaching program performs in reaching students and what changes can be made in the way things are taught to improve learning.

Academic Monitoring

The academic monitoring of the student can be done by using standard tests from the material presented over a certain period-quarterly, halfyearly or yearly. They are used on a regular basis to measure the student progress. They could be in the form of written exams, oral exams or in other forms. If the grades rise during the course of the year, the teacher knows the teaching methods are effective and the students are learning. However,

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The Monitoring Mechanism

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HT - EDIT

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if the grades drop, he knows that the teaching methods are not effective and he needs to present concepts in a different manner. Frequency Of Evaluations

Frequent evaluations which help to chart a student's progress can positively impact a student's confidence level as a learner. Frequent evaluation though classroom response, written work, testing and student-teacher interaction can pinpoint areas where a student needs additional help or a different type of instruction to achieve successful learning. Successful learning improves the student's selfesteem and motivation to continue to participate in the educational experience.

Teacher-Student Interaction

This aspect is extremely important in terms of monitoring. The individual interaction between

er Evaluation is twofold. The first is to provide teachers with some feedback on the success of their teaching in light of their lesson plans. Lesson plans are detail methods to be used by teachers to instruct their students in accordance with the map outline by the discipline and the curric ula. Each discipline has a map that teachers must adhere to in order to teach the essentials of a course. For this, a teacher draws upon proven methods of instruction and upon their own intuitive sense of successful teaching. The teacher and student joint review of the student's written work can facilitate an accurate evaluation of progress. The teacher can then offer her valuable suggestions that will help fulfill where the student is lacking in. The teacher can also help the student by setting clear targets for progress thus enabling him to map a path to success. Positive feedback provides the student with valuable motivation and encouragement that

in the dustbin. I am raising issues that 30 years have gone by, the law has changed, the population has grown, backward persons may also have increased," Rohatgi said.

He referred to amendments made in the Constitution and said they are the indicators that the country has not reached "anywhere near the emancipation" it required for its backwards classes.

"The fact of the matter is Parliament should know what is going on in the country. If Parliament knows it is more than 50 per cent and has given 10 per cent to a class of economically backward section, no warrant from court should say it cannot go over 50 per cent," he argued.

When a number of states have reservations exceeding 50 per cent and in this situation, it cannot be said that this is not "a burning issue" and does not require a relook after 30 years, he said.

The arguments in the case remained inconclusive and would resume on Monday.

On Thursday, Attorney General K K Venugopal had told the apex court that the 102nd amendment to the Constitution does not deprive state legislatures to enact law determining the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) and conferring benefits on them.

The 102nd Constitution amendment Act of 2018 inserted Articles 338B, which deals with the structure, duties and powers of the National Commission for Backward Class (NCBC), and 342A dealing with power of the President to notify a particular caste as SEBC as also of Parliament to change the list.

On Wednesday, the top court was told that Marathas have been dominant "socially and politically" as almost 40 per cent of MPs and MLAs of Maharashtra are from this community and the entire hypothesis that they have been left behind, faced historical injustice is completely flawed.

The top court has been hearing a clutch of cases challenging the Bombay High Court verdict which upheld the grant of quota to Marathas in admissions and government jobs in the state. teacher and student provides the teacher with opportunities to evaluation his/her progress. It also helps the student to evaluate his/her own progress. If something is unclear, they can communicate the concern or need to the teacher. The purpose of Teachcan change the student's self-perception from a negative outlook to a positive one.

Vijay Garg Retired Principal Educational Columnist Malout Punjab

Let The Aspirations Come True



Acting as a guiding principle, a sweet stimulus, compass and fuel, a strong desire to achieve something for a greater good, subsequently, setting a point and endeavouring to accomplish it, is a human instinct that we call 'Aspiration'. Possessed by every human being as genetically hard-wired behaviour, enhancing his ability to cope with vital environmental contingencies, this innate instinct hardly knows about the financial status of its possessor, hence compels the poors to dream of the luxuries for their children, the ambitious rich can afford for theirs. While the rich are ambitious of admitting their children in private schoos, the poors, if cant afford, have every right to aspire for all such luxuries in government run schools. And, it is the "Right to education", that fulfills the aspirations of poor parents to an extravagant extent. Past week witnessed an unanticipated and extraordinary hike in the enrollment of children in government schools, yet lot needs to be done.

Cluster Haril, substantiated a drastic improvement by creating a sense of belonging among the stakeholders as team led by cluster head Abdul Haq Masoodi knocked at doors of the dwellers of untraversed and remote habitations, listened to the grievances of common people, sorted out the circumstances leading to wastage and stagnation and assured a convenient and



permanent solution to the problems faced by the inhabitants. After overall assessment of the educational setup, Mr Abdul Haq Masoodi, a renowned physicist, now Principal BHSS Harli, took a transfiguring initiative of introducing (QBAAE) Quarterly Based Assessment For Academic Excellence in the cluster, the procedure of which has already been conveyed to the Hol's the cluster. QBAAE, Homonymous to the first mosque and first Islamic school, remarking end of darkera and beginning of a new era, appeals to expect an ingenious outcome of the project aimed at betterment of the educational scenario in such untraversed habitations.

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With the theme "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" meaning One Earth, One Family, One Future, drawn from the Sanskrit phrase of the Maha Upnishadas, India, as the President of the G20nations for 2023, is all set to host the summit in New Delhi. Structures have already been laid downandworked out strategies put in place, to accomplish the tasks and achieve the objectives as per the formulated agenda of the summit.

The main focus of G20 is toaccelerate inclusive and resilient growth through sustainable goals.

India has assumed the presidency of G20 at an important juncture of its history where it has pledged to move towards thegoal of becoming a futuristic and prosperous nation with the idea of inclusivity.

G20 presidency is a great opportunity for India to display its vision and showcase its leadership capabilities before the major, advanced and emerging economies of the world. India, simultaneously is demonstrating its commitments towards the establishment of a new order that's aimed at bringing about the economic stability and sustainable growth. As a member nation it is promoting financial regulations that could preventfuture financial crisis and create a new architecture of international financing.From this very platformIndia can give voice to the issues of disarray in policy issues related to global economy. This is an opportunity for India to share its perspectives and opinions on key economic issues and participate in shaping global economic policies.

India has got an opport unity to enhance its influence and engage with the world'slargest economies for attracting investment for promoting its economic interests

G20 is the premier forum for establishing international cooperation between the member countries and shape the aspects of the international and financial agenda. The coordination between the members couldstand as a guarantee in the path of the achievement of the goals of economic



stability and sustainable growth.

Srinagar, Thursday

30-March-2023

During its G20 presidency, India could showcase its vast cultural heritage moving beyond the ordinary introduction of international processes. This shall enable it to show to the world that unseen India is beautiful, dynamic and united.

India, as an important member of the body can help bridge the gap that exists between different nations on the issues of climate change, carbon emissions, renewable energy, intellectual property rights and trade & commerce.

India's lead role as G20 host and head for this year summit shall be very important in finding sustainable solutions to the most important issues of escalating existential threats in the spheres of climate change and energy transitions, demanding greater financial and technological support.

An important milestone in the process of achieving the goals shall be to highlight the need for "data for development" that shall benefit the digital access to different processes in an inclusive manner leading to socio-economic growth and transformation.

G20 summit in India shall have a positive impact on the global economy thereby benefitting India as well.

India's concerns about the sustainable growth and inclusive development in the member nations shall recogniseits credibility and serve as an image booster as a trusted nation to engage with. This will result in expanding the opportunities of trade and investment here leading to improved economic growth.

G20 summit provides a platform for India to work with other countries in order to address he issues and challenges of common nature. This is expected to enhance global cooperation and help India to strengthen its relationships with other countries for building trust.

Now, coming to the idea of inclusivity and the possible outcomes of the G20 event to be held in Srinagar, it can be said with great confidence that the economy of the Jammu and Kashmir is likely to witness a new era of stability and sustainable development. The impediments stand removed and the road is clear for moving ahead.

Jammu Kashmir is surely to get its share from the ultimate benefit India is expected to get out of G20. Recognising the importance of the event the living standards of the people of Kashmir are expected to improve as a resultant outcome of the access to basic services like healthcare, education, energy transitions, infra building besides ushering a new chapter of economic activities for growth and development.

HT - OPED

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The diplomatic advantage for India as a consequence of holding the G20 event in Srinagar shall be bigger and will remove the misconceptions prevailing in the outer world about this region.

The leaders of some most influential countries of the world, who are the members of the G20, could serve the great purpose of boosting tourism and handicraft sectors in Kashmir; paving way for increased attention and investment in the region. The event definitely will showcase the mesmerising beauty, rich cultural heritage and unparalleled crafting skills of the artisans of Kashmir before the delegates and would attract more tourists and providebetter marketing facilities in the region.

The Srinagar event of G20 shall be a pre cursor to the efforts of relaunching Kashmir as "paradise with positive shades".

Kashmir till recent past of its history has witnessed decline in exports and dip in economic growth because of uncertainties around in the region. The process of revit-

alising of the economy of Kashmir is surely to take off and reach the zenith with this event.

With the G20 event in Srinagar, the entrepreneurship sector will get developed and strengthen, the young generation could largely benefit from.

During the event in Srinagar, local business community is likely to interact with a network of representatives, business men, delegates and investors from around the world. The investment opportunities in the region are expected to get established.

Creation of job opportunities, discovering new fields of employability and treading the path of development would give boost to the local economy and infrastructure development here. Kashmir shall succeed in motivating the world community for heavy investments in Kashmirandthat is likely to work as a major contributor forchanging the landscape of economy and move towards inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

The cultural and traditional heritage of Kashmir is varied, manifold and multi faceted. It has the capacity and scope to blend with the cultural and ethnic identities of the other nations thus could serve a great deal in establishing new cultural and emotional bondings, strong in nature. Kashmir's rich cultural heritage and great mystic traditions have a universal appeal and could be vital in sending the message across that it continues to be a paradise. It could be explained well in the backdrop of Amir Khusrao's poetic description of Kashmir;

"Agar firdaus bar roo-e zameenast, Hameenast-o hameenast-o hameenast.

(If there is paradise on earth it is this, it is this, it is this)

(Courtesy: PIB Srinagar) Author is a freelance writer. **Disclaimer: The views expressed are** authors own.



'If Mujeeb Zamurani had walked away from a toxic, negative, abusive, one-sided, dead-end low vibrational relationship or friendship with Hafiz Saeed he would have been alive! But that could not have been the case!' The man was murdering people or getting them murdered for a cause that was meaningless'! It still is!

'02 July 2020 as he walked out from his house he never knew what was waiting for him. Death had planned an ambush and he was to die, he did not know that as many who died in his own planned killings of innocents but he was to die for sure! Sorry! He had got to his dead end!'

'That day it was to be game over for him and it was because he was so incapacitated that he never took the second breath' Bang and down!'

'The incident happened in Karachi, the crowd was humming and buzzing that day and Mujeeb was walking as if he was a professor hurrying towards the next lecture. Basically if gone by texts they were all the same, volatile, screamers that could burst the ear drums of the listeners and abusive enough to put humanity to shame! Though nothing new yet he was the favorite of another man Hafiz Saeed who is not growing younger anymore. This is the time he should be relaxing with his grandchildren and atoning for his sins because the wreckage he has created is immense and collecting the same is bound to take generations. I think I titled this piece as exactly as I wanted, 'the dead end'!

'Every incident has a history behind it and thus one too has one. I was about to move to Batote, a lovely place where I have ancestral lands and a lovely sprawling house under the shade of a lonely Chinar tree planted by my father who was also an officer, on my first birthday which happened 49 years ago. I do not remember that day, because I cannot but I can now feel it now and see as to why we all smile, laugh and party when a child is born,

Someone had to kill him and someone did: **Unidentified gunmen did** so with a purpose!

since the child does not know what is happening around. From Bhartiya Pustakalaya that afternoon, in Jewel roundel Jammu, I carried along with me two books both written by Ahmed Rashid (an expert from Pakistan on Afghanistan) which I was to read two weeks later. Some names got clutched in my brain (I will get them for you later in the script) and one of them was Zamurani! Supposedly a fighter and unaware at that moment on 2nd July 2020 in Karachi that a bullet was heading his way! Whack! Gone! As it happens! Dead end!

'He loved to shout, scream out to everyone, transcending a mindset, mentality, desire, belief, emotion, habit, behavior or vibration! Some did get motivated and many did not but had to listen because they were scared that someone would kill them. Zamurani was not interested in that and yet he was a Mullah! Unbelievable but still true! But no longer he is alive! Many were cursing the unknown man in Karachi market but why forget that many curses led to the fall of the scoundrel who shot at innocents and planned killings in abundance! This was a curse from the innocents who were conservative yet wanted the Baloch fighters to get up and fight for their pride! I know it did! You cannot hurt a Baloch woman! But someone was!

Lashkar-e-Taibaor whatever wants to fight, but let's be honest when on a face off they are as chilled as a frozen ice cube in a drink of a gin on a nonchalant Sunday afternoon. Perhaps Mujeeb Zamurani was out on a trip to get more chilled. He did. Dead-end roads don't mean you've come to your end, just means you need to take a different detour. But the bearded Laskara-Toiba did find one but never to see that. He was on a hospital bed with the post mortem being the next option in a hospital somewhere in Karachi! The military one out there cannot be ruled out! His last words if some closer ones of his (that is if he had any) would have been, 'I was consumed too much of venom for nothing, not by the dying but by the dead but I'm dying now, although I was far too frequently convinced otherwise, with God a dead-end is only the death of an end. I'm sorry that I did something wrong! Please do not get on to the path of destruction'! But trust me that this snake in human's shadow would not have been giving this last sermon before dying when he was alive! But someone will do it! Someone in Pakistan can do it! And I know who can! He/She has to be a Baloch kid!

I'm sure that the red bearded man Hafiz Saeed must have been crest fallen then! Mujeeb Zamurani is a forgotten man, still and frozen to a skeleton now as many others are and many others would be. Simple suggestion to Hafeez Saeed is to retire to the bed because ISI Generals will look after you.

But the 26/11 Mumbai terror attack did hurt we Indians and the man planning the same in Karachi was Hafiz Saeed's associate Mujeeb Ur Rahman Zamurani. He was Known to be the bowling arm of Hafiz Saeed, Mujeeb Ur Rahman Zamurani was the Makaran head of Lashkar e Tayyiba (LeT)) in Balochistan and had links with Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) as well in fact very close ones, Ehsan-ul-Malik was the ISI Chief then.

This is what I did not read in Batote that day in afternoon under the shade of by birthday partner the Cinar tree but fifteen years later I never knew that I was about to proceed with the story, Mujeeb Ur Rahman Zamurani was associated with terror camps functioning from Pakistan and provided training to terrorists to infiltrate Jammu and Kashmir. That was when he was building himself to become a monster. But later more information began coming in though in trickles. But all that was indicative of the fact that he was responsible for inducting, preparing and sending militants to the valley. He also perpetrated to radicalize the locals of J&K after the government of India scrapped Article 370 which provided special status to Jammu and Kashmir. Since August 5 last year, 2020 he had arranged for a number of rallies in the valley with an aim to disrupt peace. Furthermore, Mujeeb Ur Rahman Zamurani had been involved in the killing of several political activists in Balochistan. Along with his men, he also attacked their houses and even threatened their family members.

Well the collage of terror monsters is a bigger one in the ISI situations room. Terrorist Maulana Mujibur-Rehman J/ Z amurani used to work for Lashkare-Taiba's Jamaat-ud-Dawa in Balochistan and was involved in the killing of many Baloch. He was also named for providing terrorist training for terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir in India. LeT came into being in 1986-1987, when Zaki ur Rehman Lahkhvi merged his Ahl-e-Hadees militant group with, Jamaat ud Dawah (JuD), another Ahl-e-Hadees organization that had been established by Hafiz Muhammad Saeed and Zafar Iqbal. The ensuing organization took the name Markaz al-Dawah Irshad (MDI, center for Preaching and Guidance). Hafiz Saeed, the current Amir of the organization, and its sprawling subsidiaries established LeT as its armed wing a few years after MDI's establishment. JuD's Hafiz Saeed launched his political party Milli Muslim League, on 2018 to contest Pakistan general elections and Mujeeb Ur Rahman Zamurani was their principle fund riser.

But after July 02/2020 he never was destined to see the next day! The dead end as the God's had decided had arrived in a Karachi street, shot dead by an unidentified gunman. He deserved that death and thus got one! End of a terrorist! That is usually what happens because you have to die anyway, choices are two, by a bullet or the other way around after living life to the full. The choice is still with a man with the gun, a branded terrorist! But men like Hafiz Saeed die on their own after battering the youth psyche in Pakistan to the pulp as his friend in Kashmir Syed Shah Geelani did and died in Kashmir! Both had a dream, one wants Kashmir (Hafiz of Muridke) and the other Pakistan (Geelani from Sopore). One dream is over and the other will survives till it does! Dreams die last is synonymous with mankind!

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Chandigarh: Radical Sikh

preacher Amritpal Singh,

who has been evading

arrest for more than 10 days,

has returned to Punjab and

plans to surrender, police

Amritpal Singh, who sup-

ports a call for a separate

homeland for Sikhs and is

wanted for an armed raid

on a police station last

month, was said to be trav-

elling to Amritsar through

the villages of Hoshiarpur

when the Punjab Police was

tipped off about his pres-

ence in the area, sources

On Tuesday night, the

police launched a massive

door-to-door search opera-

tion in Hoshiarpur and

neighbouring villages to

catch him and his associ-

ates, who are accused in

However, Amritpal Singh

appeared to have escaped,

ditching an Innova car at a

gurdwara in the Maraiyan

village of Hoshiarpur and

fleeing into the fields. The

police later recovered the

car.A cordon and search

several criminal cases.

said.

sources have claimed.

Srinagar, Thursday 30-March-2023

Amritpal Singh May Be

Back In Punjab To Surrender:

Police Sources

operation was launched in revived memories of the

1980s Punjab insurgency,

in which thousands died.

Amritpal Singh remains

untraceable since a police

crackdown against him and

members of his pro-Kha-

listan 'Waris Punjab De'

outfit on March 18, about

three weeks after he and

his supporters stormed the

Ajnala police station near

Amritsar to secure the

release of an arrested man.

police dragnet in Jalandhar

district, switching vehicles

The preacher escaped the

and around the village,

while checkposts and bar-

ricades were raised on the

roads to catch the suspects.

pal Singh was planning to

give an interview to an

international news agency

before surrendering, but

changed his mind after real-

ising that he had no chance

been under immense pres-

sure to arrest him and his

supporters after they

The Punjab Police have

of escaping.

Sources said that Amrit-

@HEADLINESTODA17

and changing appearances.

of Amritpal Singh with his

key aide Papalpreet Singh

surfaced on social media,

showing the self-styled

preacher without a turban

age, said to be from a market in Delhi, showed the

fugitive walking down a

street wearing dark glasses.

Behind him, Papalpreet

Singh could be seen walking

with a bag. The Punjab

Police have not commented

on the footage yet. A senior

Delhi Police official said

they are probing whether

the persons seen in the

video are Amritpal Singh

and his aide. Sources said

that Amritpal Singh was

planning to give an inter-

view to an international

news agency before sur-

rendering, but changed his

mind after realising that he

had no chance of escaping.

and wearing a mask. The undated CCTV foot-

On Tuesday, a new video

@headlinestodaydaily 👫 @headlinestoday 💼 @headlinestodaynews Karnataka Election On May 10, BJP Faces Tough Challenge

will vote on May 10 to elect a new government and members to its 224-seat assembly, the Election Commission announced on Wednesday. The results will be declared on May 13.

The announcement comes amid a high-stakes political battle between the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress and Janata Dal-Secular (JD-S). The BJP, led by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, hopes to retain power in the state, fending off allegations of corruption and communal polarisation. The election will also test the popularity of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his party's policies at the national and state

level. Addressing a news conference, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said the elections have been scheduled on a Wednesday, and not on a Monday or Friday, to encourage greater participation of voters and discourage them from leaving town for a long weekend holiday.

The last assembly elec-The Punjab Police have tion in Karnataka was held been under immense presin May 2018, which resultsure to arrest him and his supporters after they ed in a hung assembly. The BJP emerged as the single-

"HT - NAƏONAL

New Delhi: Karnataka largest party with 104 seats has 30 seats. The BJP has promised to provide 3,000 but fell short of a majority. been trying to consolidate per month to unemployed The Congress and JD-S its support base among the graduates for two years if it



formed a post-poll coalition dominant communities of Lingayats and Vokkaligas, with 80 and 37 seats respectively and formed the govwho together account for ernment with Mr Kumarasabout 40 per cent of the wamy as the Chief Minister. state's population. The However, in July 2019, the party has recently increased coalition collapsed after the reservation for these communities in education several MLAs resigned from their parties and joined the and government jobs, scrap-BJP. The BJP then formed the pinga4percentreservation government with BS Yediyfor Muslims that was introduced by the previous Conurappa as the Chief Minister. He resigned in July 2021 and gress government. was replaced by Mr Bommai. The Karnataka assem-

The Congress, on the other hand, has been accusing the BJP of indulging in communal politics and corruption. The party has

comes to power. The party has also been trying to woo the backward classes, minorities and Dalits, who form a significant chunk of the electorate. The JD-S has been playing the role of a kingmaker in Karnataka politics. The party has been maintaininganequidistant stance from both the BJP and the Congress, keeping its options open for a postpoll alliance. The party has also been focusing on its core issues of farmers' welfare and regional development.

"India Will Be **Corruption-Free Once** BJP's Rule Ends": **Arvind Kejriwal**

HT News Network

New Delhi: Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal alleged on Wednesday that the raids by CBI and ED have brought all the corrupt people in "one party" and when the BJP's rule ends the country will become corruption-free. Speaking on the confidence motion tabled by him in the Delhi Assembly, Arvind Kejriwal alleged that the BJP has not missed any chance to trample democracy in the country.

He said the ED and the CBI have brought all the corrupt people in one party.

"All the thieves, loots and corrupt are in one party. Once BJP people are in jail after their government's rule ends, the country will become corruption free," he asserted. Mr Kejriwal claimed his MLAs have been threatened

National Anthem Case: High Court Refuses **To Grant Any Relief To Mamata Banerjee**

revived memories.

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court today refused to grant any relief to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee in a complaint seeking action against her for allegedly disrespecting the national anthem at an event here in 2022.

A single bench of Justice Amit Borkar dismissed the application filed by Mamata Banerjee challenging a sessions court's order of January 2023 remitting the matter back to the magistrate's court for inquiry and on the issue of issuance of summons. Ms Banerjee in her application said the

sessions court, instead of quashing the summons and remitting the matter, ought to have quashed the entire complaint. Justice Borkar, however, noted there was

illegality in the sessions court's order and hence the HC need not interfere.

A magistrate's court in March 2022 issued a summons to Mamata Banerjee on the complaint filed by activist Vivekanand Gupta alleging that during a public function at Yashwantrao Chavan Auditorium at Cuffe Parade in Mumbai, Mamata Banerjee had started singing the National Anthem in the sitting position, and later standing up and singing two verses before abruptly stopping and leaving the venue. The West Bengal Chief Minister had

New Delhi: Prime Minister

Narendra Modi told BJP parlia-

asked the MPs to dedicate the

period between the party's foun-

dation day on April 6 and B.R.

Ambedkar's birth anniversary

on April 14 to the cause of social

Briefing the media after the

meeting, Union minister Arjun

Ram Meghwal said the PM also

asked party MPs to promote and

justice.



challenged the summons before the special court. In January 2023, Special Judge RN Rokade set aside the summons issued by the magistrate on procedural grounds and asked the magistrate to consider the complaint afresh.

In her application in the high court, Ms

"BJP Ever-Ready Party, Will Return To Power": Karnataka Chief Minister

Bengaluru: Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai today exuded confidence in winning the state Assembly polls slated to take place on May 10 and said that the BJP is an "everready party" which is prepared for the elections.

bly currently has 121 MLAs

of the ruling BJP, while Con-

gress has 70 and its ally JD(S)

The Election Commission of India announced the schedule for the Karnataka Assembly polls today. Chief **Election Commissioner said** that the polling will take place on May 10 and the counting of votes will be done on May 13.Speaking to the reporters after the announcement of dates, Mr



May. BJP is an ever-ready party with strong organisation and we are prepared for the polls. We have done a lot of Abhiyan (campaigns) where the response of the people was tremendous. The double-engine government has done a good job in terms of infrastructure

"DK Shivakumar (Karnataka Congress President) is following big Congress leaders when it comes to corruption. BJP is ready for Karnataka elections and BJP will form a government with absolute majority once again in the state," he said.

Meanwhile, Congress also exuded confidence that the party will win the polls. Privank Kharge, Chittapur MLA, said that party president Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi want the party to secure 150 seats from the state.

"We are winning this election. The people of Kar-

with CBI and ED raids and offered 25 crore bribe but nothing could break them.

"Each one of you is a gem. Don't be afraid. Even if you go to jail, I will take care of your family," he said. "Happenings inside the Delhi Assembly send out a

positive message for democracy today," he added. The BJP-ruled Centre does not allow opposition party governments to work, Mr Kejriwal alleged.

Rahul Gandhi To Start Karnataka Campaign From Site Of 2019 Remark On PM

HT News Network

Bengaluru: Congress's Rahul Gandhi will begin his Karnataka campaign next month for the state elections due on May 10. The April 5 rally will be held in Kolar, the place where Mr Gandhi made the comment on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's surname which has led to his two-year jail term and disqualification from parliament. Earlier today, the Election Commission announced the poll date for the state where the ruling BJP is hoping for a second straight term in power.

Google India Fined ₹ 1,337 Crore For Unfair **Practices**

HT News Network

New Delhi: Google has been ordered by the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) to pay a fine of 1337.76 crore within 30 days. The penalty was imposed on the tech giant for indulging in unfair trade practices. Here are 10 facts about the case: The Competition Commission of India (CCI) imposed a 1,337.76 crore fine on Google for exploiting it dominant position with the Android operating system. The CCI had asked Google to remove restrictions on phone makers, including those which required them to have pre-installed Google apps. Google was also accused of pushing its default search engine on all Android devices.Google challenged the fine in National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT), which is an appellate authority over the orders passed by the CCI.Google in its petition contended the investigation carried against it by the CCI was "tainted", contending that the two informants on whose complaint the fair trade regulator initiated the enquiry were working at the same office that was investigating.

Banerjee challenged this order claiming that the summons ought to have been quashed instead of directing the magistrate to consider the same afresh.

Mr Gupta in his complaint claimed that Mamata Banerjee's acts amounted to an insult and disrespect to the national anthem, and hence they are an offence under the Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act of 1971.

Bommai said that the party will return to power on the basis of the work it has done for the public.

"The ECI has declared the election dates. Election Commission has announced the dates. Polls will take place on 10th May & results will be announced on 13th

and others. People cutting across all sections have shown a great deal of support. I am sure that on May 13, BJP will get an absolute majority," he said. Union Parliamentary

Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said that the BJP is ready for the elections.

nataka are fed up with the 40 per cent government, BJP playing the caste politics, and unemployment is at its highest. This time it is going to be Congress all the way. Kharge ji and Rahul ji want 150 seats delivered from Karnataka.

Modi to BJP MPs: Opposition attacks will grow, be ready for a fight

schemes for a month from May

publicise various government through trees, grains and other sition protests, Mr Modi noted produce.He said politicians he had said during the Gujarat



15 in their respective constituencies to mark nine years of the Narendra Modi government.

In his address, Mr Modi also called upon party leaders to work for the cause of "Mother Earth". The PM said that "Mother Earth" was crying for freeing her from chemicals poisoning her, adding that she has nurtured humanity should work for non-political causes as well as they have a lot of impact on society. In this context, Mr Modi noted the Gujarat government's work for "Beti Bachao" (save daughters) when he was the chief minister and said it helped a lot in improving the gender ratio.In an apparent reference to the persistent Oppo-

polls that such agitations will become more intense as the BJP wins more and more elections. The party will face more intense and low-level attacks, he noted.

This was the first BJP parliamentary party meeting after the recent Assembly polls in three Northeast states, where the party was able to retain power in Tripura. Its alliance also won the polls in Nagaland while the party again joined hands with the NPP to be a part of the government in Meghalaya.

As the Congress decides to intensify its protests against its leader's disqualification from the Lok Sabha after he was convicted by a Surat court in a defamation case, the BJP has also decided to "expose" the Opposition party's "anti-OBC mindset" throughout the country.

BJP OBC morcha chief and MP K. Laxman said that the morcha will carry out a massive outreach campaign, "Gaon Gaon chalo, Ghar ghar chalo", which will be launched by party president J.P. Nadda from Haryana's Manesar on April 6. Through this campaign, the party is planning to reach out to one crore people in rural areas to highlight what the Central government under Mr Modi has done for the community, compared to the previous governments. While the Congress has been attacking the ruling party for its leader's disqual ification as "murder.



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Saudi Joins Shanghai Cooperation **Organization As Ties With China Grow**

HT News Network

Riyadh: Saudi Arabia's cabinet approved on Wednesday a decision to join the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as Riyadh builds a long-term partnership with China despite U.S. security concerns.

Saudi Arabia has approved a memorandum on granting the kingdom the status of a dialogue partner in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), state news agency SPA said.

The SCO is a political and security union of countries spanning much of Eurasia, including China, India and Russia.

Formed in 2001 by Russia, China and former Soviet states in Central Asia, the body has been expanded to include India and Pakistan, with a view to playing a bigger role as counterweight to Western influence in the region.

Iran also signed documents for full membership last year.

Joining the SCO was discussed during a visit by Chinese President Xi Jinping to Saudi Arabia last December, sources have told Reuters.

Dialogue partner status will be a first step within the organisation before granting the kingdom full membership in the mid-term, they said. The decision followed an announcement by Saudi Aramco (2222. SE) which raised its multi-billion dollar investment in China on Tuesday, by finalising a planned joint venture in northeast China and acquiring a stake in a privately controlled petrochemical group.

Riyadh's growing ties with Beijing have August this year. Saudi Arabia's cabinet raised security concerns in Washington, approved on Wednesday a decision to join



its traditional ally. Washington says Chinese attempts to exert influence around the world will not change U.S. policy toward the Middle East.

Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states have voiced concern about what they see as a withdrawal from the region by main security guarantor the United States, and have moved to diversify partners. Washington says it will stay an active partner in the region.

Countries belonging to the organisation plan to hold a joint "counter-terrorism the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, as Riyadh builds a long-term partnership with China despite U.S. security concerns. Saudi Arabia has approved a memorandum on granting the kingdom the status of a dialogue partner in the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), state news

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HT - W RLD

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Countries belonging to the organisation plan to hold a joint "counter-terrorism exercise" in Russia's Chelyabinsk region in August this year.

Thirty-nine killed in fire at Mexico migrants facility

HT News Network

CIUDAD JUAREZ: At least 39 migrants from Central and South America died after a fire broke out at a migrant holding centre in the Mexican northern border city of Ciudad Juarez, the government's National Migration Institute (INM) said on Tuesday.

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador said the blaze apparently broke out after migrants set fire to mattresses in protest after discovering they would be deported.

"They didn't think that would cause this terrible tragedy," Lopez Obrador told a news conference, noting that most migrants at the facility were from Central America and Venezuela.

President Obrador says asylum seekers apparently burnt mattresses to stop being deported

There were 68 adult men from Central and South America staying at the facility in the city opposite El Paso, Texas, the INM said in a statement. Twenty-nine of them were injured in the blaze and taken to four hospitals in the area.

Those who died included migrants from Guatemala and Honduras, a Mexican official said.

"I was here since one in the afternoon waiting for the father of my children, and when 10pm rolled around, smoke started coming out from everywhere," said 31-year-old Viangly Infante, a Venezuelan nation-

US Introduces Bill To Reform H-1B, L-1 Visa **Programme**

HT News Network

Washington: Agroup of influential law makers have introduced a bipartisan legislation in the US Senate to comprehensively overhaul the H-1B and L-1 visa programmes and usher in more transparency in the recruitment of foreign workers.

The H-1B visa is a non-immigrant visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in speciality occupations that require theoretical or technical expertise. Technology companies depend on it to hire tens of thousands of employees each year from countries like India and China.

The L-1 is the other type of work visa the US issues to professionals looking to work in the country.

Unlike the H-1B, where an individual is looking to join an American company, the L-1 visa is issued to those who are already employed by the company in another country, and who are merely relocating to an American office.

Two influential Senators -- Dick Durbin and Chuck Grassley -- have introduced this legislation in the US Senate. The co-sponsors include Senators Tommy Tuberville, Bernie Sanders, Sherrod Brown, and Richard Blumenthal. The H-1B and L-1 Visa Reform Act will reduce fraud and abuse in the immigration system, provide protections for American workers and visa holders, and require more transparency in the recruitment of foreign workers, a media release said on Tuesday. The legislation proposes to place new wage, recruitment and attestation requirements on employers looking to hire L-1 and H-1B workers, and employers seeking to hire H-1B employees to post those jobs on the Department of Labour (DOL) website, it said. **Israel's Netanyahu Hits Back At Biden After His Remark On Judicial Reforms**

Mike Pence Ordered To Testify Against Donald Trump In US Capitol Riot Case

HT News Network

Washington: A US judge has ordered former vice president Mike Pence to testify about his conversations with Donald Trump leading up to the 2021 assault on the Capitol, multiple media outlets reported on Tuesday. Washington's Chief Judge James Boasberg reportedly ruled that Pence should have to provide answers to a federal grand jury on any questions probing potential criminality by the then-president.

But Pence can decline to discuss his actions on the day of the insurrection itself, when he was serving as president of the



viously vowed to fight his summons all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary. Pence and Trump have been at logger-

Myanmar Junta Dissolves Aung San Suu Kyi's Political Party

HT News Network

Yangon: Myanmar's junta-stacked election commission on Tuesday announced Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party would be dissolved for failing to re-register under a tough new military-drafted electoral law, state media said.

The military justified its February 2021 coup with unsubstantiated claims of widespread fraud in 2020 elections won by the NLD, ending a 10-year democratic experiment and plunging the country into turmoil.

In January, it gave political parties two months to re-register under a strict new electoral law written by the military ahead of fresh polls it has promised to hold but which its opponents say will be neither free nor fair.



statement. Junta vows further crackdown

Last month, the military announced a six-month extension of a two-year state of emergency and postponed elections it had promised to hold by August because it did not control enough of the country for a vote

Senate for the certification of the election, the reports said.

The ruling, which remains under seal, marks a partial victory for the Justice Department as it probes the insurrection, which was linked to several deaths, left more than 100 police officers wounded and led to more than 1,000 arrests.

Trump is running for the White House again in 2024, and Pence indicated he may challenge him for the Republican nomination.Investigators are probing Trump's role in provoking the violence on January 6, 2021 as part of a broader alleged effort to cling to power after losing the presidential election to Joe Biden.Both Pence and the government's quasi-independent prosecutor, Special Counsel Jack Smith, can challenge the parts of the decision that didn't go in their favor.

Neither has announced whether they intend to appeal, although Pence has preheads since Pence refused to go along with Trump's efforts to overturn the election. Section of the pro-Trump mob that stormed the Capitol called for Pence to be hanged, forcing him to flee.

Pence has already described many of the relevant conversations with Trump in "So Help Me God," a memoir published last year, but he refused to testify before a House committee that investigated the insurrection.

He had argued unsuccessfully that he was allowed to avoid giving evidence under the Constitution's "Speech or Debate" clause, which shields officials in Congress from legal proceedings specifically related to their work.

The judge also rejected a separate assertion by Trump of executive privilege -which protects aides from having to testify about certain conversations with presidents.

Out of 90 existing parties only 50 had applied to re-register under the new rules, state broadcaster MRTV said. The rest would be dissolved from Wednesday.

Suu Kyi co-founded the NLD in 1988, and won a landslide victory in 1990 elections that were subsequently annulled by the then-junta. The NLD carried the torch for democratic aspirations in military-ruled Myanmar and won crushing victories over military-backed parties in elections in 2015 and 2020.Its leadership has been decimated in the junta's bloody crackdown on dissent, with one former lawmaker executed by the junta in the country's first use of capital punishment in decades.

Some leaders in exile had previously called for the party not to re-register under the new rules. The military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party had applied to re-register, according to a junta to take place. On Monday, junta chief Min Aung Hlaing

vowed no let up in a crackdown on opponents and told thousands of soldiers at an annual parade that elections would be held, although he did not give a timeline.

"The Myanmar regime is preparing for national elections that, if imposed by force, are likely to be the bloodiest in the country's recent history," said Richard Horsey, International Crisis Groups senio adviser on Myanmar."The majority of the poulation fiercely oppose going to the polls to legitimise the military's political control, so we will see violence ratchet up if the regime seeks to impose a vote.'

Suu Kyi has been detained since the early hours of the coup in February 2021. In December, the junta wrapped up a series of closed-court trials of the 77-yearold Nobel laureate, jailing her for a total of 33 years in a process rights groups.

Pakistan removed from EU's High Risk Third Countries list

HT News Network

The Ministry of Commerce on Wednesday announced that the European Commission has removed Pakistan from its "High Risk Third Countries" list, which poses significant threats to the European Union's financial system.

In a statement, the ministry stated that Pakistan was added to the EU's list in October 2018, which imposed undue regulatory burdens on "Obligated Entities" within the Union and created obstacles in legal and financial transactions with individuals and entities based in Pakistan.

It further added that EU

Pakistan.



member states' "Obligated nal accountants, tax advi-Entities" will no longer be sors, notaries, independent required to apply "Enhanced legal professionals (acting Customer Due Diligence" on behalf of and for their while conducting transacclient in any financial or real estate transaction), estate tions with individuals and legal entities established in agents and individuals trading in goods.

The EU High Risk Third The entities include credit institutions, financial Countries list is a list of institutions, auditors, extercountries that the union

considers to have strategic deficiencies in their antimoney laundering and counter-terrorism financing frameworks.

The countries that are currently on the EC list of High Risk Third Countries.

According to the ministry, Pakistan's exclusion from the list would add to the comfort level of the European economic operators and was likely to ease the cost and time of legal and financial transactions by Pakistani entities and individuals in the EU.

The EU's delegation in Pakistan termed it an "important positive step" for Pakistan.

Humza Yousaf named Western Europe's first **Muslim head of govt HT News Network**

EDINBURGH: Scotland's parliament on Tuesday confirmed Humza Yousaf will replace Nicola Sturgeon as first minister, the devolved nation's youngest and the first Muslim leader of a government in western Europe.

Yousaf, 37, narrowly won a Scottish National Party (SNP) leadership battle on Monday to clinch the top job, vowing to rejuvenate the stalled pursuit of independence for Scotland.

He then secured the nominations of a majority of lawmakers in the early afternoon vote on Tuesday to become the new first minister, and will be formally sworn in at a ceremony on Wednesday. Ahead of the confirmatory vote, Yousaf acknowledged he had "some very big shoes to fill" succeeding Sturgeon, but vowed to "continue to ensure that Scotland is a positive, progressive voice on the world stage".

"I will also argue vigorously for independence," he added afterwards, pledging in the meantime "to make the best possible use of this parliament's existing powers".

Yousaf had promised on Monday to be "the generation that delivers independence for Scotland", and said he would promptly ask London again to allow another vote. But congratulating Yousaf on his election.

HT News Network

Jerusalem: Israel is a sovereign country that does not make decisions based on pressures from abroad, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said overnight between Tuesday and Wednesday in response to comments by U.S. President Joe Biden.

Biden earlier said he hoped Netanyahu would abandon judicial changes that had sparked protests in Israel and a political crisis for its government.

"Israel is a sovereign country which makes its decisions by the will of its people and not based on pressures from abroad, including from the best of friends." He said his administration was striving to make reforms "via broad consensus."

"Dangerous": Biden **Expresses Concern Over Putin's Plan To Deploy Nukes In Belarus**

HT News Network

Washington: US President Joe Biden on Tuesday blasted Russian President Vladimir Putin's stated plan to deploy nuclear weapons in neighbouring Belarus, branding it "dangerous" talk."This is dangerous kind of talk and it's worrisome," Biden told reporters at the White House. The Kremlin leader announced on Saturday that he was ordering the deployment of Russian tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, run by fellow authoritarian leader Alexander Lukashenko as one of Russia's closest allies. Washington has denounced the plan, which follows more than a year of Moscow's attempt to conquer pro-Western Ukraine -- a neighbor of both Russia and Belarus. However, US officials say they have seen no sign of Russia actually moving nuclear weaponry.





Director Employment J&K inaugurates Job Fair at Govt. Polytechnic College, Gogji Bagh 22 Companies participated; 24 youth provided on-spot offer letters, 337 candidates shortlisted for next rounds

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: In an endeavour to provide a convenient platform to the educated unemployed youth and to facilitate their interaction with the Private Companies and Employers for Training, Skilling and placement, District Employment & Counseling Centre (DE&CC) Srinagar today organised a one day Job Fair at Kashmir Govt. Polytechnic Gogji Bagh, Srinagar here.

The Job fair was inaugurated by Director Employment J&K Nisar Ahmad Wani, in presence of Deputy Director Employment, DE&CC Srinagar Dr. Sheeba Inayat.

Around 22 Private Companies and Skill Development Organisations operating in varied sectors and fields including M/S Zaydaan Renewable Energy Pvt. Ltd, M/S Dominos Pizza, M/SWishfin Pvt. Ltd, M/S Continental Heating and Air conditioning system, M/S R.S Profiling Pvt. Ltd, M/S ALBA Power Pvt. Ltd, M/S Hotel Four Points by Sheraton, M/S Janta Joinery, M/S DG Power Systems, LIC, Himalayan Motors, Mahindra Shuhul, Amco Automobiles, M/S Rooman Technologies



etc. participated in the event. Resource Persons from government line depart-

Centre and Women Development Corporation also disseminated the information about their respective schemes and programmes. The event saw an overwhelming response from the Job seekers and companies. Director Employment visited the stalls and interacted with the participating youth and representatives of private companies. While addressing the vouth, Director Employment emphasised upon them to come out of the traditional mind set up and participate in such kinds of events to extend their horizons of vision and wisdom. He

ments including District Industries further briefed the audience about the options available in private sector, public sector and incentivized schemes under the self employment sector.

The CEO's/Managing Directors and representatives of the participating private sector establishments also spoke on the occasion and acquainted the participants regarding the job opportunities, skill development and employment oriented courses offered by these companies. 24 Unemployed youth were provided on spot offer letters, 617 fresh registrations were made and 337 candidates were shortlisted for the next rounds.

J&K Bank MD & CEO launches Banks e-Pathshala

HT News Network

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: [&K Bank MD & CEO, Baldev Prakash today rolled out J&K Bank's maiden staff portal - JKB e-Pathshala - a Unified e-learning platform that has been designed to meet the knowledge requirements of the staff.

The launching ceremony held at corporate headquarters was attended by Executive Director Sudhir Gupta, General Managers and senior officials of the bank besides representatives of K-Nomics (Mintbook) that has developed the module.

While appreciating the concerned department for coming up with such a vibrant e-learning portal, MD & CEO urged upon the staff to take full advantage

of the courses and training programs that have been tailored to upgrade their knowledge levels about contemporary issues and practices in banking and finance. MD & CEO said, "We want to develop learning culture in the Bank. And with sweeping changes happening in knowledge driven sectors like Banking, there was a need for our staff to have an easy access to quality learning anytime and anywhere. I am happy to see JKB e-Pathshala as a result of that quest.""In line with the digital progress and to ensure training needs of our employees are addressed in an effective and convenient manner, we have implemented a Unified eLearning Solution to

enable our L&D team to

organize, track, manage



Earlier General Manager and most importantly (Human Resource) Sushil develop the talent within the organisation. The plat-Gupta while giving an overform will also encourage view of the platform stated healthy competition among that new module will go a the staff with best performlong way in building the capacities of the staff. "In ers getting rewarded suitably", he added. JKB e-Pathshala we have

employed gamifications such as coins and badges; leader board, quiz hour etc. to ensure staff engagement besides forums and querycorners allowing the employees to avail realtime support from the experts of relevant subjectdomains. The portal contains various learning modules of Indian institute of Banking & Finance (IIBF) with a special focus on training material related to credit, Forex, Treasury operations, Information Security etc.," he said.

Notably, the advanced eLearning platform allows employees to access the courses online besides enabling the Bank to manage training initiatives both online as well as offline programs. Digital library with eBooks from reputed publishers is another unique feature in J&K Bank eLearning. Through this platform, the Bank staff can now undertake mandatory training and certificate courses from the comfort of their homes or anywhere.

DECC Kupwara organises Job Fair at Kupwara

HT News Network



KUPWARA, MARCH 29: District Employment and Counselling Centre (DECC), kupwara today organised a Job Fair cum Placement Drive at DECC kupwara.

The Fair was inaugurated by District Development Council (DDC), Member Sogam, Nasir Ahmad Lone.The programme was attended by unemployed youth of District kupwara around 110 Candidates participated besides this 3 reputed Employers/Corporates with 40 plus vacancies participated like Edel Weis Tokio, Natural Life Care pvt ltd, LIC kupwara who held one to one interaction with candidates. Around 49 candidates were short listed by these companies.

Further 50 plus candidates have been registered on the employment portal on spot.

On the occasion Career Counselling Officer of DECC Kupwara emphasised upon the online registration of unemployed youth on department's portal and integration of Employment portal with National Career Services so that they could get real time information in future regarding employment avenues.

The unemployed youth expressed gratitude to the DECC kupwara for organising this job fair.

Intensive market checking conducted in **Doda town**

HT News Network

DE&CC Pulwama conducts Job Fair at Pulwama

DR.AB QAYOOM

PULWAMA MARCH 29: To facilitate employment opportunities for unemployed youth and to provide a platform of job opportunities in private sector, a day Long Job fair was organised today by District Employment & Counselling Centre, Pulwama for jobseekers from the District which saw participation from reputed private employers from insurance sector.

Companies like LIC India, ICICI Lombard, Accure India insurance, PNB MetLife, V5 participated with more than 100 vacancies, participated in the event. On the occasion Assistant Director Employment, Haf-

PMC for Silk Samagra-2 under HADP

It was informed in the meeting that

HADP for Sericulture is going to ben-

efit 5157 silkworm rearers across the

UT which will improve their source

The members from CSB headquar-

of livelihood through Sericulture.

of India.

SRINAGAR, MARCH 29: UT Level Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) meeting of Sericulture Development Department J&K, which is the apex committee for approval of projects under Silk Samagra-2, was held today at Directorate of Sericulture Tulsi Bagh Srinagar.



HT News Network



sa Qayoom interacted with the Jobseekers and Job Providers and impressed on the Employers and Job seekers to register on the Employment Portal of Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir www.jakemp.nic.in

The event witnessed good response from job seekers. More than 200 unemployed youth/jobseekers from the District participated in the event.

149 Job Seekers with varied skills were shortlisted by the companies for different jobs. Moreover 63 candidates registered themselves on the Employment Portal i.e., www.jakemp.nic.in on the spot.

The unemployed youth from District Pulwama expressed their gratitude to District Employment and Counseling Centre, Pulwama for organizing this job fair and bringing employers to their doorsteps.

DLSA organises awareness campaigns on **Solid Waste Management** in Bandipora

HT News Network

BANDIPORA, MARCH 29: The three-days awareness camp on Solid Waste Management organised by District Legal Services Authority Bandipora concluded on WednesdayThe awareness programmes were held in collaboration with Municipal Council Bandipora and District Pollution Control Board Bandipora under the Chairmanship of Chairman District Legal Services Authority and Principal District & Sessions Judge, Bandipora Amit Sharma.

Secretary DLSA Nusrat Ali Hakak said three mega awareness programmes were held on 23rd, 24th and 25th March at Government Degree Colleges of Bandipora, Hajin and Sumbal respectively.

She said the programmes were aimed at to create awareness among the general public to segregate waste and to explain them about the evils of dumping garbage in public places.

On the occasions resource persons and other speakers delivered lectures on the importance of Solid Waste Management and also highlighted the issue of Solid Wastes, effects of poor solid waste management.

It was apprised to everyone that due to improper disposal of solid waste particularly by waste management organizations, the collected wastes gets piled up and become a problem for both the environment and public. During the programmes, participants were sensitized regarding the proper collection, treatment, analysis and disposal of Solid Wastes by the speakers.

Director General Sericulture, Manzoor Ahmad Quadri chaired the meeting of PMC.

The meeting was also attended by the Director Central Sericultural Research & Training Institute, Central Silk Board (CSB), Pampore, Additional Directors of Sericulture Jammu/ Kashmir, Astt. Secretary (Tech.) Regional Office, CSB, Ministry of Textiles New Delhi and Senior Officers of Sericulture Dev. Deptt. & Central Silk Board.

The held detailed discussion and approved the action plans of Silk Samagra-2 for the year 2023-24, 2024-25& 2025-26 for upliftment of farming community associated with sericulture through Holistic Agriculture Development programme of the Govt. for the Sericulture Sector.



SSRER 2023: ADC Component wise budgetary allocations of 40 crore kept in the plan were **Anantnag chairs** discussed and reviewed for development of the industry and Important meeting of EROs decisions pertaining to the implementation of the project were taken.

ANANTNAG MARCH 29: Additional Deputy Commissioner Anantnag, Dr SM Ashraf chaired a meeting of Electoral Registration Officers of he district regarding the ongoing special summary revisions.

ter Bengaluru attended the meeting in virtual mode and finally the plan Deputy District Election Officer, Nazia Hassan highlighted that any was approved in principle by the committee and recommended it for person who is attaining age of 18 arrangement of funds from Central years on April 01, 2023 is eligible for Silk Board, Ministry of Textiles Govt. registration and must be covered in the SSR

DODA, MARCH 29: A team of officers led by Additional Deputy Commissioner Doda, Dr RK Bharti conducted a surprise market inspection in Doda town to check for food adulteration, hoarding of commodities and to ensure the quality, quantity and hygiene of edibles and other consumables. The market inspection teams, headed by ADC Doda, have already been constituted and are conducting regular inspections in view of the holy days of Ramazan and Navratras. The team also included Additional Superintendent of Police Doda, Assistant Director Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Doda, Assistant Commissioner Legal Metrology, veterinary doctors from Sheep Husbandry Department, representatives of the Food Safety Department and Municipal Council Doda. They inspected various food establishments including sweet shops, fruit and vegetable shops, chicken shops, mutton shops, kiryana shops and milk shops in the town.Erring shopkeepers were fined a total of Rs 5800 for offences such as not displaying rate lists, unhygienic conditions and selling rotten fruits and vegetables. The team also inspected jewellery shops, hardware shops.

DC Kupwara held interactive session with Hoteliers, Transporters, Tour operators Says efforts are on to boost tourism sector in district

HT News Network

KUPWARA, MARCH 29: Deputy commissioner(DC) Kupwara, Dr. Doifode Sagar Dattatray today held an interactive session with hoteliers, transporters and leading Travel and Tour Operators to take stock of accomodation, transport facilities and exploring of off-beat tourist destinations of Kupwara district for upcomming tourism season in Kupwara district.

A detailed power point presentation (PPT) showcasing Unseen Kashmir -Bungas, Keran, Teetwal, Lolab and Kupwara was presented. The PPT showed availability of accomodation facilities, cleanliness, Hygiene at different locations of



Kupwara district. The interactive session was attended by Travel Operators which included Zelam Amit Chaubal; Chairperson, Keseri Tours & Travels, Pune, Vandana

Shailesh, Abhimanya Nawal, Farooq Ahmad, Executive Engineer Lolab-Bungas, Drangyadi Development Authority(LBDDA), Shamim Ahmad Pir;

President Hotel Owners Association Kupwara, Showkat Ahmad Mir; President Sumo-stand Kupwara and other travel and tourism representatives. During the interactive session, Deputy Commissioner Kupwara welcomed the representatives of Keseri Tours and Travels for showing interest in sending tourists to off-beat tourist destinations of Kupwara district. The Deputy Commisioner apprised the travel trade representatives about the steps taken by the District administration Kupwara for a comfortable and safe stay of tourists in Kupwara district. The Deputy Commisioner while highlighting the prospects of tourist season in Kupwara district said that the divine beauty and enticing sceneries of different off-beat destinations.









Eye Drop Recall Linked to 3 New Deaths and 8 Cases of Blindness: What to Know



and there have been eight reports of people losing their vision after developing a bacterial eye infection possibly linked to the use of certain artificial tears products, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) saidTrusted Source March 21.

In addition, there have been four reports of people needing to have their eyeball removed as a result of the infection.

In total, the CDC has identified 68 patients affected in 16 states as of March 14. All patients were identified as having an infection caused by an extensively drug-resistant strain of the bacterium Pseudomonas aeruginosa.

As the agency continues to investigate, it recommends that clinicians and patients stop using Ezri-Care's or Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears products, both manufactured by India-based Global Pharma Healthcare. Ezri-Care's product was the brand most

Three people have died | contain bacteria or other germs. "Use of contaminated eye drops can result in the risk of eye infections that could result in blindness," the notice said.

> Dr. Diane Hilal-Campo, an ophthalmologist and founder of twen-

dropper caps and white lids. The products affected by the recall are: Consumers with questions concerning the Purely Soothing, 15% Alcon, and Bausch and Lomb," she

MSM recall can contact Pharmedty/twenty beauty, said symptoms [|] ica by email at osm@pharmedi-

cylindrical bottles and have eye easier on the surface of the eye. In addition, "stick with large, trusted brands for your over-thecounter eyedrops – like Allergan,

What are eyedrops

said.

hree deaths and eight cases of vision loss due to bacterial infection have been possibly linked to the use of certain artificial tears products. As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention investigates, the agency recommends that clinicians and patients stop using EzriCare's or Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears products, both manufactured by India-based Global Pharma Healthcare. In February, Global Pharma Healthcare voluntarily recalled its Artificial Tears Lubricant Eye Drops and its Artificial Eye Ointment due to possible contamination. A separate recall for eye drops has impacted two lots of the Purely Soothing 15% MSM eye drops from Pharmedica USA.

of an eye infection can vary, but causa.com, or by calling (623) 698may include redness, itching eye | 1752 between the hours of 8 a.m pain, a gritty sensation in the eye, and 5 p.m. Mountain Time. discharge, sensitivity to light or a decrease in vision.

by affected patients, the CDC said. mild, I encourage them to seek healthcare provider.

Consumers who have experienced any problems that may be "If someone is experiencing any related to their use of this product commonly reported being used of these symptoms, no matter how should contact their physician or Trusted Source that's commonly of Pseudomonas that's responsible

contaminated with?

Officials are investigating if the eye drops are contaminated with a bacteria called Pseudomonasfound in the environment, like | for infections in people, is known water and soil. Dr. Amesh Adalja, a senior schol-

The eye drops come in white, | eye drops, which she says are | becoming resistant to our antibiotics.

> "Pseudomonas is a bacteria, well known for its ability to develop antimicrobial resistance, it could be one of the more difficult organisms to treat when it becomes resistant," Adalja said.

In the United States, about 13% of Pseudomonas aeruginosa infections are caused by multi-drug resistant strains.

What are eyedrops

contaminated with?

Officials are investigating if the eye drops are contaminated with a bacteria called Pseudomonas-Trusted Source that's commonly found in the environment, like water and soil.

Dr. Amesh Adalja, a senior scholar at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security and an infectious disease expert, suspects the germ contaminated the product during the manufacturing process.

Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a type

NEWS Lung Health: Eat These 7 Superfoods To Boost Your Lung **Health**

As the air we breathe becomes increasingly polluted, it's more important than ever to take steps to protect our respiratory health. One effective way to do that is to add more superfoods to our diets. These nutrient-rich foods are packed with vitamins, min-erals and antioxidants that can enhance lung function and help prevent respiratory conditions. Keep reading as we share seven superfoods that can help boost vour lung health.

7 Superfoods that will boost your lung health:

1. Kale

Kale is a dark, leafy green that contains high levels of antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds. Eating kale may help reduce the risk of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and other respiratory conditions.

2. Spinach

Spinach also contains high levels of antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds, which can help reduce the risk of COPD and other respiratory conditions. In addition, spinach is an excellent source of vitamin C, which can help improve lung function.

3. Broccoli

Broccoli is a cruciferous vegetable that contains high levels of vitamin C, folate and anti-inflammatory compounds. Eating broccoli may help reduce the risk of lung cancer and other respiratory conditions.

4. Berries

Berries are packed with antioxidants, which can help protect the lungs against the harmful effects of ir pollution and other environmental toxins. Eating berries on a regular basis may help improve lung function and reduce the risk of respiratory conditions such as asthma.

5. Garlic

Garlic contains numerous compounds that can boost immune function and reduce inflammation throughout the body, including the respiratory system. Regularly consuming garlic may help reduce the risk of respiratory infections and other respiratory conditions.

6. Turmeric

Turmeric is a spice that contains a powerful antiinflammatory compound called curcumin. Eating turmeric may help reduce inflammation in the lungs and improve lung function.

7. Ginger

Ginger is another spice that contains anti-inflammatory compounds. Drinking ginger tea or adding fresh ginger to your meals may help reduce inflammation in the respiratory system and improve lung function.

In addition to these superfoods, there are several

On Feb. 2, Global Pharma Healthcare voluntarily recalledTrusted Source its Artificial Tears Lubricant Eye Drops. The company issued another voluntary recallTrusted Source on Feb. 24 for its Artificial Eye Ointment due to "possible microbial contamination."

MSM eye drop recall

In a separate incident, Pharmedica USA issued a voluntary worldwide recall of two lots of its Purely Soothing, 15% MSM eye drops, the Food and Drug Administration announcedTrusted Source March 3.

The recall notice warns consumare non-sterile, meaning they may company said.

medical attention immediately," she told Healthline.

Pharmedica has advised customers to immediately stop using the product, which can be returned to the place of purchase for a refund.

The Phoenix, Arizona-based company said in its notice that it has not received any reports of illness related to use of the recalled eye drops.

Purely Soothing, 15% MSM eye drops are an anti-inflammatory topical solution to relieve eye irritation and swelling.

The affected products were sold worldwide via e-commerce sites ers that the products being recalled such as Amazon Marketplace, the

Soothing the eyes safely

To reduce the risk of infection when soothing your eyes, Hilal-Campo recommends choosing artificial tears that come in singleuse vials.

"To use correctly, these singleuse products should be opened and instilled with clean hands, and then immediately discarded," she said. Multi-use bottles increase the

risk of spreading bacteria or other germs to the eye, because the dropper tip has more chances to come into contact with the eye, skin, or other surfaces.

Hilal-Campo also suggests that people choose preservative-free bacteria is particularly adept at

ar at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security and an infectious disease expert, suspects the germ contaminated the product during the manufacturing

process. Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a type of Pseudomonas that's responsible for infections in people, is known to cause infections in the blood and the lungs.

The strain appears to be resistant to multiple types of antibiotics – carbapenem, ceftazidime and cefepime – that are typically used to treat this type of infection.

According to Adalja, this type of

to cause infections in the blood and the lungs.

The strain appears to be resistant to multiple types of antibiotics – carbapenem, ceftazidime and cefepime - that are typically used to treat this type of infection.

According to Adalja, this type of bacteria is particularly adept at becoming resistant to our antibiotics."Pseudomonas is a bacteria, well known for its ability to develop antimicrobial resistance, it could be one of the more difficult organisms to treat when it becomes resistant," Adalja said.In the United States, about 13% of Pseudomonas aeruginosa infections.

other dietary and lifestyle changes you can make to improve your lung health.

Few tips for better lung health:

Smoking is one of the leading causes of respiratory disease and lung cancer. If you're a smoker, quitting is the most important step you can take to protect your lung health.

Regular exercise can help improve lung function and reduce the risk of respiratory conditions. Aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate-intensity exercise, such as brisk walking, most days of the week.

Avoid exercising outdoors during times of high air pollution, and invest in an air purifier for your home to reduce exposure to indoor pollutants.

Wash your hands regularly and avoid touching your face to reduce the risk of respiratory infections. Talk to your healthcare provider about getting vaccinated against flu.

Long-Term Anxiety After Cardiac Arrest Affects More Women Than Men A recent study highlights the need for cardiac arrest survivors to identify and treat mental health issues.

omen have a much greater risk of experiencing anxiety months after cardiac arrest than men, according to findings presented at a scientific gathering of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) on Sunday.

The study, which tracked 245 patients who had a cardiac arrest and then were admitted to the hospital in a coma, found that 43 percent of the women reported a level of anxiety considered borderline or higher four months after their heart suddenly stopped, compared with 23 percent of men.

"Cardiac arrest occurs with little or no warning, and it's common to feel anxious and low afterwards," said Jesper Kjaergaard, MD, PhD, an author of the study and a faculty member at the department of cardiology at

University Hospital in Denmark, in a press release. "Our study indicates that women are more affected psychologically and could be targeted for extra support."

Women Are More Likely to Report High Anxiety and Possible PTSD After **Cardiac Arrest**

Measures of anxiety and depression were determined on the basis of responses to a selfevaluation in which patients rated statements related to psychological distress; for example, "I get sudden feelings of panic." With anxiety and depression each rated on a scale of 0 to 21, the average depression score for women was 3.3, versus 2.6 for men. The average anxiety score was 6.1 for women and 4.5 for

the Rigshospitalet Copenhagen | men. Scores between 8 and 10 | above borderline, whereas just | rating system, scores of 31 to 33 indicated borderline anxiety or over 1 in 10 men did. Authors

depression, while 11 or higher indicated anxiety or depression. Dr. Kjaergaard and his colleagues noted that 23 percent of the women had borderline anxiety, compared with 11 percent of the men. One in five women had levels of anxiety did not find significant differences in depression.

From a separate evaluation for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder), researchers observed that women had significantly higher scores – a median of 33, versus 26 for men. Under this

suggested probable PTSD.

Coping With a Sudden Major

Health Issue

Cardiac arrest is a life-threatening health event. As the American Heart Association describes it, when someone goes into cardiac arrest, heart function suddenly ceases. If blood flow is not restored quickly, the individual can pass out and die within 10 to 20 minutes. Every year, about 365,000 people have these events outside of a hospital setting, and of those, only about 10 percent survive, according to the Sudden Cardiac Arrest Foundation.

According to Jayne Morgan, MD, a cardiologist at Piedmont Healthcare in Atlanta, psychological distress is common for

anyone who has had this type of major health trauma. "Not only do we see this in cardiac arrest, but also after serious surgeries, prolonged hospitalizations for any cause, and unexpected medical complications delaying recovery expectations,"

she says. As to why women are more prone to these feelings, Dr. Morgan suggests that women often shoulder greater family responsibility, and as caregivers, they can see a cardiac arrest and the road to recovery as placing a burden on family members. Previous research found that

women are more likely to "ruminate" than men. "This involves repetitive cycles of worrying and negative thoughts, which increase the risk of depression and anxiety," says Anais Hausvater, MD, a cardiologist at NYU Langone Health in New York Citv.

Spotting the Signs of Psy-

chological Distress

Anxiety and depression often go hand in hand. Recognizing the symptoms can help a person get the treatment they need. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides an extensive list of depression signs, including: Anxiety may make an individual feel fear, worry, or panic.Sometimes psychological issues can manifest as symptoms similar to those of a heart condition, such as chest pain, trouble breathing, and palpitations. "If you are having symptoms that may be related to your heart, or if you aren't sure, it is always best to consult with your doctor," says Dr. Hausvater.



CMYK



'Home-and-away is what makes the IPL what it is'

MUMBAI: Tilak Varma was eight years old when he saw on TV a packed Wankhede bursting into song - AR Rahman's 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' - soon after MS Dhoni hit that six in 2011.

Eleven years later, Tilak was in the middle, experiencing firsthand the joy of playing in front of the Wankhede crowd. He can't wait to do it again.

Rajat Patidar has often imagined what it will be like to walk out to chants of 'RCB, RCB' and 'ABD, ABD' at the Chinnaswamy. Last year, he had a small taste of the adulation when he won the Ranji Trophy there. He's injured right now, but he's counting down the days until he can walk out into that sea of red for the very first time. Devon Conway has only come across Chennai's love for their thala on social media. On his third trip to India, he'll finally see it in real time.

As a teenager fresh from a victorious Under-19 World Cup campaign in 2018, Shivam Mavi saw 60,000 fans at Eden Gardens roar in jubilation as he picked up his first-ever IPL wicket, a Kolkata Knight Riders legend, Gautam Gambhir, when he was playing for the Delhi Daredevils. Having now been signed by Gujarat Titans, he might expect

the roar to be a lot louder. After all, their home base can seat 120,000 people.

These are just some snippets of the excitement among players, and most definitely among the fans, as the IPL returns to its traditional home-and-away avatar for the first time in four years. Chennai Super Kings have thrown open their anbuden for the fans to watch the team train. It's been an emotional return; this will be their first full season at home since 2019, with their beloved thala having mortality thrust onto him.

Remember last year's presentation after CSK's final game when Harsha Bhogle asked Dhoni about the legacy he will leave behind and him responding, "still I've not left it behind"? The fans hang on to every single world he says. Yet, there's realisation this could perhaps be Dhoni's last IPL season, which is adding a bit of chaos around the Chepauk. On Monday, the security personnel at the ground were unable to control excited fans from making a beeline outside the stadium entrance.

This is Dhoni mania. He can still saunter into stadiums and generate kilowatts of energy with nothing more than a sim-



ple wave. Over the weekend in Bengaluru, 30,000 fans turned up to watch RCB's 'OGs' reunite. Chris Gayle and AB de Villiers were inducted into RCB's Hall of Fame at a glitzy event. The third member of this trio, Virat Kohli, retired their jerseys.

The Knight Riders too have been big on such promotions, notleastbecause their co-ownerShahRukhKhanisacelebrated public figure and a beloved superstar actor. Every season

has begun with a special opening night at Eden to celebrate their fans, and this year was no different.

"That's the beauty of playing at home, the crowd is your 12th man," KKR CEO Venky Mysore tells ESPNcricinfo. "But more important is the vibe it creates from the time you land in Kolkatayouwillseefromtheairport to Eden the whole Knight Riders brand is visible. You can't hide. "When I land there people tell

me: 'Venky Sir, iss baar jeetna hain'(This time we have to win) And you feel good. That is the kind of sentiment people have towards us and that's how connected they feel."

Titans, the defending champions, had a memorable first experience of playing on home turflastyear. It ended in crowningglory when they beat Rajasthan Royals in the final in front of over 100.000 fans.

individuals, no timeline for Paris Olympics

IOC backs return of Russian athletes as

The demand for tickets is

expectedly massive despite the leaves at 8 pm (from the station early onset of what many believe will be another harsh summer. Within three days of them going on sale, about 70,000 tickets were already lapped up for Friday's season opener between Hardik Pandya's Titans and Dhoni's Super Kings.

Arvinder Singh, the COO at Titans, is excited at the prospect of returning to Ahmedabad, which is the world's largest cricket stadium capacity-wise. "There are expectations from us based on what we achieved last year," he says. "And our fan base has been growing exponentially, too."

Singh is also enthused at the levelofengagementontheirsocial media. Previously CEO at Kings XI Punjab and Gujarat Lions, he wants the Titans fans to have a wholesome experience and feed the team with positive energy. To which end, the Titans have tied upwithlocaltransportauthorities to ensure fans can travel to and from the ground without any hassle.Withametrostationadjacentto the ground, the Titanshave liaised with municipal authorities in Ahmedabad to reduce the frequency between trains from 15 to just seven.

near the ground), but they have made an extension with the last trainleaving at 1.30 amon match days," Singh adds.

Inside the ground, fan zones have been created for pre-match entertainment to tempt people to come in early and make the most of their live-match experience. "We are looking at ways to ensure the fans get to their seats hassle free, they have easy access to simple things like water quickly and possibly by the seat, will the toilets be clean - these things are important."

As important as it is to create off-field buzz, much of it can be sustained only if teams go out and actually win games. And that's far from easy, especially in the IPL

RCB's Harshal Patel, for example, knows he has to hit the ground running. His blockbuster season when he picked up 32 wickets in 2021 came in Dubai and Abu Dhabi, fueling his journey to the India cap. But he understands that the margin for error is considerably less in the "unforgiving" Chinnaswamy. After all, the average bowling economy rate at this venue is the highest of 14 that have "Usually, the last metro train hosted 30 or more IPL games.

Lionel Messi surpasses 100 career goals for Argentina

SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO: Argentina captain Lionel Messi on Tuesday scored his 100th international goal for the reigning world champions as they romped to a 7-0 friendly win over outclassed Curacao.

Seven-time Ballon d'Or winner Messi opened the scoring against the Caribbean island minnows on 20 minutes in Santiago del Estero.

It came 17 years after he opened his Argentina account in a 3-2 defeat to Croatia in March 2006.

said the body's Executive Board The 35-year-old soon added another just after the half-hour mark to make it 3-0, and then completed his had recommended to international federations and internahat-trick on 37 minutes with the fifth as Argentina toyed with their overmatched opponents. tional sports event organisers It was his seventh hat-trick for the national that "athletes with a Russian or

Rakuter

a Belarusian passport must compete only as Individual Neutral Athletes". The move to "postpone" the

Paris Olympics.

decision about Russian and Belarusian athletes competing at the Games in France was welcomed by Ukraine. "The decision on the admission of Russians and Belar-

vidual neutrals, but refused to

give a timeline on their potential

participation at next year's

IOC president Thomas Bach

LAUSANNE: Olympic chiefs usians to the Olympics in 2024 on Tuesday recommended the has been postponed," Ukraine's return to competition of Russian Sports Minister Vadym Gutzeit and Belarusian athletes as indisaid on Facebook.

> "We will also make joint efforts so that not a single Z-patriot gets into international sports arenas," he added in an apparent reference to pro-war Russians.

German Sports Minister Nancy Faeser called the recommendation for Russians and Belarusians to return as neutrals a "slap in the face" for Ukrainian athletes, who she said "deserve the solidarity of international sport".

"International sport must condemn Russia's brutal war of aggression in no uncertain terms. This can only be done



was "an outrage and a betrayal pic Committee, said as quoted by of the true spirit of sport". Russian news agencies.

But Moscow said forcing Rus-Among other IOC recommensians to compete under a neutral dations -- which Bach said were flag would amount to "discrimagreed unanimously, the IOC said "teams of athletes with a "The announced criteria for the Russian or Belarusian passport return to international competicannot be considered"

Belarusian military or national security agencies".

Bach reiterated that the sanctions against "those responsible for the war, the Russian and Belarusian states and governments", must remain in place, having first been introduced after Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.

That means Russia and Belarus are unable to organise international sports events on their territory.

Additionally, "no flag, anthem, colours or any other identifications whatsoever of these countries displayed at any sports event or meeting, including the entire venue" and "no Russian

fellow goalscorer Nicolas Gonzalez. "He's the best in the world and he shows it match after match, day after day. Every time he touches the ball, he makes you smile." Messi came into the game not just as his

country's all-time record goalscorer, but with more goals than the next two top marksmen -- Gabriel Batistuta on 56 and Sergio Aguero with 41 -- put together.

"You cannot describe Messi in words," said

This was Argentina's second match since winning the World Cup in dramatic style against France in Qatar in December -triumphing 4-2 on penalties after a thrilling 3-3 draw -- and it was always going to be about Messi reaching 100 goals.

team.

Now with 102, he remains third in the alltime list, behind great rival Cristiano Ronaldo (122) of Portugal and Iran's Ali Daei (109).

Messi had come up short on Thursday last week when he notched his 99th goal for the Albiceleste as Argentina toiled in their homecoming celebration match against Panama.

The Central Americans had held out until the 78th minute before 21-year-old MLS sensation Thiago Almada broke their resistence.

Messi then scored direct from a freekick a minute from time -- his 800th goal in professional football -- in front of 83,000 delirious fans in Buenos Aires.

Curacao, ranked 86th by world governing body FIFA, could only hold out for 20 minutes before Messi took a pass from Giovanni Lo Ceslo, cut inside his marker onto his weaker right foot.

with the complete exclusion of Russian and Belarusian athletes." Morawiecki said the decision

Polish Prime Minister Mateusz

tions are unacceptable. This is discrimination on the basis of nationality," Stanislav Pozdnyakov, the head of the Russian Olym-

Also missing out will be "athletes who actively support the war" as well as "athletes who are contracted to the Russian or

and Belarusian government or state official can be invited to or accredited for any international sports event or meeting".

NBA roundup: Memphis Grizzlies get past Orlando Magic, win 7th straight game

ination".

LONDON: Desmond Bane scored 31 points and Xavier Tillman added a career-high 20 as the Memphis Grizzlies extended the NBA's longest active winning streak to seven games with a 113-108 victory over the visiting Orlando Magic on Tuesday.

Jaren Jackson Jr. added 16 points and 10 rebounds for Memphis, which led by as many as 23 in the third quarter before Orlando stormed back in the fourth. Luke Kennard scored 16 points and Dillon Brooks

had 13. Orlando had its threewinning snapped

streak despite Franz ner's 25 Wagpoints. Paolo had 24 Banchero points, 11 rebounds and five assists, while Wendell Carter Jr. added 14 points, Goga Bita-

game



dze had 13, Markelle Fultz scored 11 and Cole Anthony chipped in 10. The win moved Memphis three games ahead of the Sacramento Kings for the No. 2 spot in the Western Conference playoff race. The Grizzlies played minus star Ja Morant, who is listed as day-to-day due to right thigh soreness.

P.J. Washington scored a career-high 43 points to lead Charlotte past host Oklahoma City, giving the Hornets their third straight win, all against Western Conference opponents in the thick of the playoff race. The Thunder had a chance to send the game into overtime at the buzzer after a long inbounds

pass with 2.8 seconds left deflected into Jalen Williams' hands just outside the arc. But Williams' 3-pointer bounced off the back of the rim as the Hornets escaped.

The Thunder have lost three of their last four. Isaiah Joe scored a career-high 33 points to lead Oklahoma City. Dejounte Murray scored 29 points, five in the final 2:14, to help host Atlanta defeat short-handed Cleveland to end the Cavaliers' four-game winning streak.

Murray made three free throws with 2:14 remaining and hit a clutch jumper from the foul line to give Atlanta a four-point lead with 58.6 seconds left.

Ramdan Cosco Tournament Wanigam Baramulla

Palpora Warrior's register 4-Wicket Victory against Ahmad Sports Hyderbeigh

Lone Musaib

BARAMULLA: Palpora Warrior's register 4-Wicket Victory against Ahmad Sports Hyderbeigh at Wanigam Pattan Baramulla on Wednesday here. After winning



the toss Ahmad Sports Hyderbeigh opt bat first and were abke to score 47 runs in the alloted overs.

In reply Palpora Warrior's Chased the alloted target in 9 overs for the loss of 4-Wickets and register the victory by 4-wickets.Mohammed Yousif was adjuged player of the match for his brilliant bowling figures with 3-Wickets.

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