

Kashmir Convener



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Turbulent times of past will never return to J&K: LG Sinha

»»» Train to chug between Jammu-Srinagar in April «««



Yogesh

JAMMU: Maintaining that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and no power can snatch it

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Wednesday said that "our neighbor" won't be allowed to succeed in its nefarious designs and turbulent times of the past will never return.

Addressing NITI Aayog's workshop at IIM Jammu LG Sinha, according to the news agency—Kashmir News Observer (KNO) said, "J&K is an inseparable part of India, and no one can take it away. Our future is with India, and together, we will continue to progress."

In an apparent reference to Pakistan, LG Sinha said, "Our neighbor continues to make efforts, and sometimes, a few individuals fall into its trap. However, it is important to send a clear message these nefarious designs will not succeed. The turbulent times of the past will never return."

"The current state of our neighbor speaks volumes about its own plight. J&K's future is firmly tied to the nation's progress and development."

Referring to the role of common people in maintaining peace, LG Sinha said, "To maintain peace is not only the responsibility of the police and security forces. People have an important role

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CM Omar Abdullah inaugurates Tulip Show-2025

• Asia's largest Tulip Garden opens to visitors in Srinagar

KC News Network

SRINAGAR: Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today inaugurated the Tulip Show-2025 at the iconic Tulip Garden in Srinagar, marking the arrival of spring in Kashmir.

Nestled at the foothills of the Zabarwan Range, this garden—the largest of its kind in Asia—was officially opened to visitors.

The garden boasts a breathtaking display of 1.5 million spring-blooming bulbs featuring over 74 tulip varieties, alongside vibrant daffodils, hyacinths, and muscari, offering a spectacular floral experience.

Speaking at the event, the Chief Minister highlighted the Tulip Show as a celebration of Kashmir's diverse natural beauty and a key attraction



for nature lovers worldwide.

He emphasized Jammu and Kashmir's timeless charm and scenic landscapes, inviting tourists to explore its unmatched splendor.

Interacting with visitors, Chief Minister Abdullah welcomed them to the "Paradise on Earth",

encouraging them to cherish and share their experiences of the Tulip Garden in their home countries.

The inaugural day saw an overwhelming response from tourists and locals alike, who marveled at the mesmerizing floral expanse.

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Search operation in Hiranagar enters 4th day

Yogesh

KATHUA: Several suspects with criminal history were detained at Hiranagar in Kathua district for questioning while a major counter-terrorism operation entered its fourth day on Wednesday.

According to the details available with the news agency—Kashmir



News Observer (KNO) the anti-terror operation was launched on the evening of March 23 after the security forces established contact with the hiding terrorists.

The operation, according to the officials, involves a coordinated effort by the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Indian Army (Rising Star Corps), Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), National Security Guard (NSG), and the Special Operations Group (SOG).

"The operation aims

to neutralize a group of infiltrating terrorists believed to have crossed into this side from the International Border," they said.

The operation commenced following reports from local villagers, including Anita Devi and her husband Ganesh Kumar, who encountered five to six heavily armed terrorists while collecting

firewood in the Sanyal village nursery area, approximately five kilometers from the International Border.

The terrorists briefly took Ganesh Kumar hostage before fleeing into the dense forest upon spotting security forces. Based on this intelligence, a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) was initiated on March 23 evening, triggering an encounter when the terrorists opened fire on approaching security personnel.

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Timeline

March 23: The operation began with an exchange of gunfire lasting over 30 minutes. A seven-year-old girl sustained minor injuries from a stray bullet and was promptly hospitalized. Her condition is reported as stable. Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat, accompanied by Inspector General of Police (Jammu Zone) Bhim Sen Tuti, arrived at the site to oversee operations, with DGP Prabhat personally leading from the front, armed with an AK-47 rifle.

March 24: The search intensified with the deployment of additional forces, including commandos, sniffer dogs, drones, and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). Ammunition, including loaded M4 carbine magazines, grenades, eatables, and clothing, was recovered from the site, indicating the terrorists' preparedness. Sporadic gunfire was reported as forces closed in on the suspected hideout.

March 25: The operation continued with aerial surveillance via army helicopters. Security forces expanded the cordon to prevent escape, while villagers set up a community kitchen to support personnel and media. A local woman, Darshana Devi, reported two men in army uniforms requesting water in the Ding Amb area, prompting further area lockdowns.

March 26: Now in its fourth day, the multi-tier combing operation spans several kilometers from Sanyal to Ding Amb and beyond. Security has been heightened along the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway and border roads. No additional casualties have been reported, and the terrorists remain at large, believed to be trapped within the cordoned-off zone

Historic Amira Kadal bridge undergoing major transformation



KC News Network

SRINAGAR: A historic bridge here is undergoing a major transformation as a tribute to the city of bridges' rich architectural heritage, and is set to become a tourism landmark as well as improve the summer capital's aesthetic appeal.

The Amira Kadal wooden bridge — near the city centre of Lal Chowk — over the Jhelum river is being revived under the Srinagar Smart City project. Officials said a wooden walkway on the existing

piers of the old bridge is being constructed,

The Rs 717-crore project includes retrofitting of the piers and carrying out all allied works, the officials said.

They exercise aims to revive the old Amira Kadal wood bridge, one of the oldest in the city, and transform it into a cultural and scenic landmark that would offer a vibrant view of the river and attract tourists.

The revamped bridge would be a modern recreational space, equipped with a walkway that

would feature various kiosks and offer architectural and cultural experiences to the visitors, the officials said.

Originally constructed in 1774 Amir Khan Jawan Sher, the Afghan governor of Kashmir under the Durrani Empire, the bridge is undergoing a significant renovation as part of the Srinagar Smart City project, fusing modern architecture with its traditional wooden look.

Taking cues from the Rajbagh wooden bridge, Habba Kadal and Zero bridge, the refurbished Amira Kadal wood bridge aims to preserve Kashmir's architectural heritage while meeting the city's contemporary needs.

The new wooden bridge will only be accessible by foot, contrary to the adjacent Amira Kadal bridge which is used for vehicular traffic. For tourists to enjoy Srinagar's history and natural beauty, it seeks to offer a cultural and recreational experience.

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J&K Govt Rejects Over 39,000 Land Claims Under FRA

KC NEWS NETWORK

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government has rejected over 39,000 claims for land ownership under the Forest Rights Act but has distributed over 65,000 kanals of forest land to over 6,020 scheduled tribe (ST) families, including Gujjars, Bakerwals and other forest dwellers.



A total of 46,090 claims were submitted by Scheduled Tribes (ST) and other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs) under Individual Forest Rights (IFR) and Community Forest Rights (CFR), senior officials from the forest department said.

"Of these, 39,906 claims were rejected due to applicants' inability to provide requisite evidence and documents, while 126 claims are still pending," an official said. The majority of the rejections — 35,924 claims — occurred at the gram sabha level,

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Centre inks Rs 6,900 cr contracts for advanced artillery gun systems, high mobility vehicles

KC NEWS NETWORK

NEW DELHI: In a bid to further to further enhance Indian Army's operational readiness, the Centre on Wednesday announced contracts with

Bharat Forge Limited and Tata Advanced System Limited for the procurement of 155mm/52 Calibre Advanced Towed Artillery Gun Systems (ATAGS) and High Mobility Vehicle 6x6 Gun Towing Vehicles, at a total cost of about Rs 6,900 crore.

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed contracts with the two companies, in the presence of Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, in the national capital. With this, total contracts worth Rs 1.40 lakh crore have been signed by MoD for capital procurement till date in the current fiscal.

The 155 mm/52 Calibre ATAGS will replace the vintage and smaller calibre guns and enhance the artillery capabilities of the Indian Army. According

to the Ministry of Defence, the procurement of this gun system marks a significant milestone in the modernisation of the Artillery Regiments, enhancing operational readiness.

"ATAGS, renowned for its exceptional lethality, will play a crucial role in bolstering the Army's firepower by enabling precise and long-range strikes," it said. Being the first major procurement of towed guns from the private sector by the Indian Army, the project will provide a boost to the Indian gun manufacturing industry in particular and the indigenous defence manufacturing eco-system as a whole.

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ECI Launches First-Ever Training for Over 1 Lakh Booth Level Officers

KC News Network

NEW DELHI: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has started its first-ever training program for over 1 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs) at the India International Institute of Democracy & Election Management (IIDEM), New Delhi.

Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar, along with Election Commissioner Dr. Vivek Joshi, inaugurated the training program on Wednesday, which, according to Spokesperson, aims to enhance the efficiency and accuracy of electoral roll management across the country.

Speaking on the occasion CEC Gyanesh Kumar emphasized the critical role of BLOs in maintaining error-free electoral rolls, highlighting that only Indian citizens above 18 years of age who are ordinary residents can be registered as voters, as per Article 326 of the Constitution. He also called upon state governments to appoint senior, local officials as BLOs, ensuring a more accountable and efficient electoral process.

Officials said the first batch, comprising 109 BLOs from Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam, along with 24 Electoral Registration Officers (EROs)

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J&K To Sensitize Outside Doctors On Amarnathji Yatra Health Certificates: CS



KC News Network

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, today held a crucial meeting with the Health Secretaries from 10 States and UTs, asking them to designate adequate number of doctors for issuance of 'Compulsory Health Certificates' (CHCs) in favour of pilgrims embarking on the sacred journey to Shri Amarnathji Shrine in J&K.

The meeting besides Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor and CEO, Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board

(SASB) was attended by Secretary, H&ME; Additional CEO, SASB; Director, SKIMS; Director, Health, Jammu/ Kashmir; representative from Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Gol.

The Chief Secretary directed the Health Department to conduct the sensitization sessions with the doctors designated by the respective states for issuance of these CHCs in favour of the pilgrims intending to take on this holy journey. He said that such an exercise would help them in better understanding of the requirements to

be met by a person for safe pilgrimage.

He also asked the participating Health Secretaries to further ensure rationalization of doctors across the health facilities commensurate to the number of pilgrims from that area. He declared that this would reciprocate into thorough clinical assessment of the applicants on part of the medics thereby ensuring safety of lives.

He emphasized that individuals with underlying comorbid conditions or physical weaknesses that render them unfit for high-altitude travel must be thoroughly screened. Those deemed unfit should not be issued health certificates, as this would pose a significant risk to their lives during the pilgrimage. He maintained that the UT government is committed to provide best facilities to these pilgrims and wants the yatra to be fully safe, secure and enthralling for each of the devotees. While pointing out some of the critical issues that have undermined

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Students should focus on skill rather than marks: Satish Sharma

• YS&S Minister visits SRML HSS

KC News Network

JAMMU: Minister for Youth Services and Sports, FCS & CA, Transport, Information Technology, Science and Technology, ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, today visited the Sri Ranbir Multi Lateral (SRML) Model Higher Secondary School.

While speaking on the occasion, the Minister lauded the valued contributions of over a century old SRML Model School for promoting education in J&K which was established in 1872 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh ji. The institution has stood the test of time, nurturing generations of students who have made their mark in various fields. The Minister observed that education is



of vital importance and good school education lays a strong foundation for establishment of a sound, wholesome and productive society. He stressed the importance of students

being imbued with ethical and moral values and also gaining skills which would help them in gaining employment after finishing School.

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Congress, SP ‘barriers’ in UP’s Development: CM Adityanath

AGRA (UP):Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Wednesday accused the opposition of acting as “barriers” in the state’s development.

Addressing an event organised to mark eight years of the BJP government in the state, the chief minister said, “All those who are above 25 years of age will remember that before 2017, the public system of Uttar Pradesh was ruled by hooliganism and mafia.” He emphasised that the situation was especially dire for the youth, farmers, and the general public. “The youth was facing an identity crisis, farmers used to commit suicide, and the poor used to die of hunger,” he added.

Underscoring the progress made under his government, Adityanath said, “This is the same state where the youth did not get jobs and when they went out of the state, they faced an identity crisis,” he said. He criticised the Congress and the



Samajwadi Party for allegedly “opposing development”.

“When it comes to the pride of Uttar Pradesh, these people first start making misleading comments,” he said.

He alleged that the Congress and SP were “fighting against the government during the COVID pandemic”. They were not happy with the consecration of Ram temple and “spread false propaganda

regarding the Maha Kumbh,” he added. “When these people got the opportunity, the Congress, the Samajwadi Party, they never did any development and when it is happening in UP, they are becoming a barrier in the way of development,” said the chief minister.

Claiming development in sectors like agriculture, Adityanath said, “Farmers who once faced despair are now contributing to the state’s development and no longer committing suicide.” Adityanath outlined the government’s commitment to economic growth, citing initiatives such as “One District, One Product” and increased infrastructure development, particularly in expressways, metro systems, and airports. “Today, Uttar Pradesh is the largest producer of food grains, potatoes, sugarcane, and ethanol in the country,” he said, adding, “We have transformed Uttar Pradesh from a BIMARU state into a thriving economy.”

Ex-ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra Appointed To EAC-PM

NEW DELHI: Former ED Director Sanjay Kumar Mishra had been appointed by the Union government as a full-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM). Mishra, 65, served as the Enforcement



Directorate (ED) chief till September 15, 2023 after the Supreme Court curtailed his extended tenure following petitions filed against multiple extensions granted to him by the government. A government order issued on Tuesday said Mishra, a 1984-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer of the Income Tax cadre, will serve as a full-time member of the EAC-PM following approval of his appointment by the prime minister. The order added Mishra has been appointed in

the rank and pay of secretary to the government of India, from the date of assumption of post, as per usual terms and conditions as are applicable to re-employed government officials.

The EAC-PM is an “independent” body constituted to give advice on economic and related issues to the government of India, specifically to the prime minister. Its current chairman is economist Suman Berry.

Avacancy arose in the body following the death of its former chairman Bibek Debroy in November, 2024. The ED, during Mishra’s tenure, probed a number of high-profile people and politicians, including the first family of the Congress like Sonia Gandhi, her son Rahul Gandhi and daughter Priyanka Gandhi apart from multiple chief ministers, ministers, MLAs and MPs under the criminal provisions of the anti-money laundering law which drew criticism from opposition parties that the agency was a “tool” and was acting at the behest of the Centre that is being ruled by the BJP.

He was appointed ED director in October, 2018 and had the second longest tenure of five years as the agency head. ED’s first director A M Chatterjee had the longest tenure of nearly 7.5 years between 1957 and 1965.

Misleading Ads

SC Asks States, UTs To Set Up Grievance Redressal Mechanism

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the states and union territories to create a grievance redressal mechanism against misleading advertisements that “can cause great harm to society”.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan said state



governments should create such mechanisms for members of the public to lodge complaints about objectionable advertisements prohibited under Drugs and Magic Remedies Act, 1954.

“We direct the states governments to create proper grievance redressal mechanisms within a period of two months from today and give adequate publicity to the availability at frequent intervals,” the bench said.

The top court directed the states to sensitise the police machinery on implementation of the provisions of 1954 act. Clamping down on misleading advertisements, the apex court on May 7, 2024 directed that before an advertisement was permitted to be issued, a self-declaration be obtained from the advertisers on the line of the Cable Television Networks Rules, 1994.

The issue of misleading advertisements had cropped up when the apex court was hearing a plea filed in 2022 by the Indian Medical Association alleging a smear campaign by Patanjali and yoga guru Ramdev against the Covid vaccination drive and modern systems of medicine.

Maternity Scheme Severely Underfunded: Sonia Gandhi

NEW DELHI: Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday said the government’s flagship programme to provide maternity benefits to pregnant women is “severely underfunded”, resulting in a drastic fall in entitlements to beneficiaries.

Raising the issue through a Zero Hour mention in the Rajya Sabha, she said Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) has seen a drastic fall in the number of beneficiaries and asked the government why this was allowed to happen.

Gandhi said the National Food Security Act (NFSA), passed by Parliament in September 2013 under the leadership of the then prime minister Manmohan Singh in September 2013, has been the foundation for PM Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), which was launched during Covid-19 to provide food grains to poor families. PMGKY currently has 81 crore beneficiaries.

Under NFSA, pregnant women were entitled to maternity benefit of Rs 6,000 per child, paid in two instalments.

PMMVY was launched in 2017 to fulfil this entitlement. But under PMMVY, only Rs 5,000 is given for the first child and the benefits are



extended to the second child only if it is a girl.

“According to an informed analysis for 2022-23, about 68 per cent of pregnant women received at least one instalment of PMMVY for their first birth, but this number drastically dropped to 12 per cent (in) the following year. I would like to ask the Union government why this was allowed to happen,” she asked.

She also questioned the provision for PMMVY not being separately mentioned in the Union Budget documents.

“The full implementation of the maternity benefits provision requires an annual budget of around Rs 12,000 crore.

Surprisingly, the Budget documents do not contain separate information on allocations for PMMVY,” she said.

All that the Budget documents reveal is that there is a programme called Samarthyaa in the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It has five components, of which PMMVY is one.

“The allocation in 2025-26 for Samarthyaa is only Rs 2,521 crore.

This clearly shows that the PMMVY is severely underfunded, thereby violating the key provisions of the law passed by Parliament,” she said.

This is the second time in the current sitting of the Rajya Sabha in the Budget Session where Gandhi has raised an issue.

On March 18, she raised concern over the dilution of employment guarantee under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

Expect Leader Of Opposition To Follow Rules Of Procedure: LS Speaker

NEW DELHI: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Wednesday asked Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi to follow the rules of procedure that members are expected to observe to uphold the dignity of the House.

It was not immediately clear what was the reason for the Speaker to make the observation.

The Speaker said members are

expected to conduct themselves in a manner that upholds the high standards and dignity of the House.

“Several instances have come to my notice where the conduct of members does not conform to the high standards,” the Speaker said.

“In this House, father and daughter, mother and daughter, husband and wife have been members.

Judge Cash Discovery Row: Dhankhar Says Legislature, Judiciary Not Pitted Against Each Other

NEW DELHI: Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday said the executive, legislature and judiciary are not pitted against each other and they have to function in tandem with checks and balances.

He made the comments in Rajya Sabha a day after saying “things would have been different” if the mechanism for judicial appointments — referring to the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC)

— had not been struck down by the Supreme Court.

The reference to NJAC on Tuesday in the Upper House came amid a row over the discovery of wads of currency notes at the New Delhi home of Justice Yashwant Varma.

Dhankhar had called a meeting of leaders of various political parties to discuss the fallout of the row and the way forward.

“I need to indicate to the House that we yesterday had a very fruitful interaction on

the issue that is agitating the minds of the public,” he said.

Leaders of various political parties including Leader of the House and Union minister Jagat Prakash Nadda and Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge were present at the meeting.

“Without going into the details, the deliberations were consensual, reflecting cooperation, concern and the issue is not between institutions inter se.

Judiciary Unique As It Connects Directly To Citizens: CJI Sanjiv Khanna

NEW DELHI: Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna on Wednesday said the judiciary, unlike other arms of the state, was unique as it connected directly to the citizens, providing them with an easy access to raise grievances that were even against the state and the law.

The CJI was speaking at an event titled “Celebrating 75 Years of the Constitution of India” organised by the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA).

“The second aspect which came to my mind was as to what makes the judiciary unique. The legislators are elected by the people. They are representative of the people. They are a handful. The executive, political executive is in a parliamentary democracy, is answerable to Parliament or the legislature,” he said.

The CJI added, “What makes the judiciary unique is our direct connect with the people... The



most easy access which the people have is the access to the judiciary in any of the three institutions.” It was the judiciary, he said, where anybody could raise any grievance and ask for explanation, even against the state and citizens could approach the courts challenging the constitutional vires of the legislation.

“You can ask for the enforcement of constitutional rights, statutory rights, and it is so easy to walk into any court,

engage a lawyer, engage or even argue in person. That means we are the ones who are directly associating ourselves with the citizens,” he added.

For the CJI, the judiciary did not mean only judges as it included the bar as well.

“I was just wondering today, when we talk about the judiciary, the first thing which comes to the mind of most people is the judges. But the judiciary is not about the judges. When we refer to the

judiciary, it means the judges, as well as the bar. Without the bar, there cannot be the judiciary,” he said.

The CJI lauded the SCAORA for launching its e-journal, its revamped website and congratulated the bar body for celebrating significant milestones such as 75 years of Indian constitution and recognising advocates on record for their 50 years of contribution to the bar.

“I hope this SCAORA e-journal will one day become the journal wherein you will have critical analysis of Indian jurisprudence, Indian legal thought, Indian judgements, and contribute worldwide for this,” CJI Khanna said.

Aside from the CJI, Justices B R Gavai, Surya Kant and Abhay S Oka also addressed the gathering.

Attorney general R Venkataramani, solicitor general Tushar Mehta and SCAORA shared their thoughts on the occasion.

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR KASHMIR HORTICULTURE (P&M) RAJBAGH SRINAGAR. NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

FRESH e-Nit AUC Notice 23 OF 2025-26 Dated: 25-03-2025

Outsourcing of Gate Entry Contract with respect to F & V Market Zazna Ganderbal

For and on behalf of MAC Fruit and Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal, bids accompanied with CDR worth Rupees: 10,000/- (Rupees: Ten Thousand only) pledged to Member Secretary MAC Fruit and Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal as earnest money and Demand Draft for an amount of Rs. 500/- pledged to Member Secretary MAC Fruit and Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal as tender processing fee are invited from public at large/NGO's having valid GST registration, for execution of Gate Entry Contract at F&V Market Zazna Ganderbal for the year 2025-26 commencing from 15-04-2025 to 31-03-2026. The tender documents can be downloaded from <http://jketenders.gov.in> The Tenders/bids shall be opened online in the Office of the Deputy Director Kashmir/Chairperson MAC on bid opening date.

Name of work	Minimum Reserve Bid	Earnest Money in the shape of CDR/FDR	Cost of Tender Document	Period of Contract
Collection of Gate Entry fee of Fruit & Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal for the year 2025-26 (w.e.f. 00.00 hrs of 15-04-2025 to 2400 hrs of 31-03-2026)	1,10,000/- plus GST/ TDS and other taxes as applicable in J&K UT	(10% Minimum bid amount) in favour of Market Administrative Committee Fruit & Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal Rs. 10,000/-	Rs. 500/- (non-Refundable) in favour of Member Secretary Market Administrative Committee Zazna Ganderbal in the shape of DD	w.e.f. 15-04-2025 to 31-03-2026

Critical Dates Table.

1	Publishing Date	25-03-2025
2	Document Download/Sale Date	25-03-2025
3	Bid Submission start Date	25-03-2025
4	Bid Submission Closing Date	08-04-2025 (Up to 4:00 PM)
5	Bid Submission Opening Date	09-04-2025 (At 11:00 AM) at Deputy Director (K) office Rajbagh Srinagar

The Gate Entry Fee for each type of vehicle (loaded/unloaded)/entering/leaving Fruit and Vegetable Market Zazna Ganderbal shall be as under:

S. No.	Type of Vehicle	Entry Fee Per Trip for 2025-26
1	Trolley (14/18/20 Tyres)	260/-
	Trolley (10/12 Tyres)	210/-
2	Truck/Bus- (06 Tyres)	130/-
3	Matador/Tractor/Jonga/Tata Mobile/Tata sumo/Tavera/Van/Four Wheelers	50/-
4	Auto/Raida/load Carrier-3 wheelers/ Horse Cart/Tiller with trolley	10/-

The committee will comprise of the following members:-

- Deputy Director Horticulture (P&M) Kashmir : Chairman
- Accounts Officer Horticulture (P&M) J&K : Member
- Member-Secretary MAC /Area Marketing Officer Zazna Ganderbal : Member
- Assistant Grading and Marketing Officer Zazna Ganderbal or Grading and Marketing Inspector : Member

The Successful Tenderer shall have to enter into an agreement with the Member Secretary MAC F&V Market F&V Market Zazna Ganderbal.

The other terms & conditions are as under:-

- The minimum reserve offer is Rs. 1.10 Lacs (Rupees One Lac Ten Thousand Only).
- The Offer should be super scribed as Gate Entry Fee for F&V Market Zazna.
- The successful tenderer shall have to execute an agreement with Administrative Committee Zazna Ganderbal within seven days from the date of issue of letter of authority and also has to deposit the full bid amount before execution of agreement.
- The successful tenderer shall not raise any structure in the Mandi / Market premises during the contract period.
- The allottee shall maintain record of all the vehicle entering the mandi on daily basis (including approximate weight) and submit a copy to the office on daily basis.
- The allottee shall utilize the existing structure on gate for collection of gate entry fee.
- The allottee shall be bound by the labour laws being in force.
- The allottee shall be liable to pay tax of any kind chargeable under the law, whichever is applicable.
- The specimen of the receipts (in triplicate) to be used by the successful tenderer shall be provided by the Administrative Committee Zazna Ganderbal.
- In case of any dispute between the parties, matter shall be referred to the Director Horticulture Planning and Marketing (J&K) for arbitration and the decision of the competent authority /Director Horticulture Planning and Marketing J & K shall be final and binding upon both the parties.
- The Administrative Committee shall not be responsible in case of nil or less arrivals in the market due to strike/ curfew or other reasons whatsoever.
- The Member Secretary Administrative Committee Zazna Ganderbal reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

No:- 142-III/MAC/DDK/HPM/2025/5526-30
Dated:- 25-03-2025

DIPK-13416/24

**Sd/- Deputy Director (K),
Horticulture (P&M), Srinagar**

Bandipora Police Raids Multiple Locations in Crackdown on Banned Organizations

BANDIPORA: Bandipora Police carried out searches at multiple locations as part of an ongoing investigation into terror-related activities linked to banned organizations, including Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, Jammu & Kashmir Peoples Freedom League, Muslim Conference, and the Bhat Group.

An official spokesperson said the searches were conducted in connection with FIR No. 04/2024 under Sections 10 and 13 of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) at the residences of Riyaz Ahmad Mir, Qaiser Ahmad Khan, Firdous Ahmad Bhat, and Farooq Ahmad Mir, all residents of Plan Bandipora and members of



Tehreek-e-Hurriyat.

Further searches were also carried out in Onagam and Nathpora, Bandipora, in connection with FIR Nos. 68/2024 and 69/2024, also registered under UAPA.

While no incriminating material was recovered during the searches, several suspects were questioned as part of the ongoing probe.

Authorities have stated that the investigation is focused on dismantling the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir by identifying overground workers (OGWs) aiding proscribed terrorist outfits and ensuring strict legal action against them.

DC Bandipora Launches Chinar Plantation Drive at Mini Secretariat

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner Bandipora Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, today launched the Chinar Plantation Drive at the Mini Secre-

tariat, Bandipora. sioner Manzoor Ahmad Qadri, emphasized the importance of preserving the environment and highlighted the cultural significance of Chinar trees.



He said chinar plantation drive is the part of ongoing efforts to preserve the environment and promote sustainable development and called on citizens to actively participate in the plantation drive and contribute in making the district greener and more sustainable.

On the occasion, Senior official of Floriculture Department, Ghulam Mohammad Khan informed that around 100

Chinar saplings are available for distribution and these saplings will be provided free of cost to educational institutions, shrines, and government departments, to encourage more green spaces across the district.

He urged the public and institutions to take advantage of this opportunity and contact the District Floriculture Office before 31 March to receive saplings.

Among others, senior officials of Floriculture Department and other concerned were present on the occasion.

DC Bandipora Reviews Jal Shakti Abhiyan 2025; Calls for Sustainable Water Management

Bandipora, March 26: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri who is also the Nodal Officer for Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), on Wednesday convened a meeting at Mini Secretariat, to review the progress of Jal Shakti Abhiyan – Catch the Rain (JSA-CTR) 2025 in the district.

The meeting discussed in detail the ongoing initiatives, challenges, and future strategies for effective water conservation and management.

The DDC, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri emphasized the importance of rainwater harvesting in ensuring sustainable water resources.

Officers present on the occasion apprised the DDC regarding the status of water conservation projects, desilting of water bodies, and other initiatives. The DDC stressed interdepartmental coordination to expedite the implementation of JSA-CTR projects.

He directed the concerned officers to construct rainwater harvesting structures in schools, Anganwadi centres, Panchayat buildings, and other government institutions to ensure effective water conservation.

The Assistant Commissioner Development (ACD) was instructed to construct at least five rainwater harvesting structures in every Panchayat to maximize rainwater storage and groundwater recharge.

The District Development Commissioner directed the concerned departments to conduct geo-tagging of all water bodies in the district besides emphasized regular cleaning and main-



tenance of these water bodies to ensure their sustainability. He further passed on directives to carry out GIS mapping of water bodies across the district to create a comprehensive database for better management and planning of water conservation initiatives.

DPO ICDS, Yaar Ali Khan, ACD Irfan Bahadur, CPO Mohammad Maqbool Lone, Project Coordinator WUCMA Owais Farooq Mir, Executive Engineer Jal Shakti/ J&FC Mutayib Bashir, Chief Agriculture Officer Javid Ahmad Samoon, EOMC Ajaz Ahmad and other concerned officers were also present in the meeting.

Resource Persons Trained for Effective IEC Campaign Against Drug Abuse in Bandipora

BANDIPORA: The District Administration Bandipora today organised a training programme for resource persons designated for IEC campaign against drug abuse.

The training held at mini secretariat Bandipora was designed to em-



power resource persons with the knowledge and skills necessary to lead effective IEC campaign at grass root level.

The training session was presided over by District Information officer Bandipora Aadil Manzoor Wani who is also designated as coordinator IEC Campaign against drug abuse and training was provided by Councillor Addition Treatment Facility DH Bandipora Junaid Ghayas Zargar.

The programme discussed effective measures to combat drug abuse aimed to empower resource persons to serve as vital links between those in need and the available treatment services besides discussed measures for effective execution of IEC campaign at Panchayat level.

Speaking on the occasion, DIO Aadil Manzoor highlighted the importance of community-driven action in tackling the growing issue of drug addiction.

Aadil Manzoor said, Drug abuse is a challenge that impacts every segment of society, and it demands a united front for promoting a healthy and drug-free environment.

He emphasized the moral responsibility of all stakeholders in the battle against drug menace.

Aadil Manzoor said that the fight against drug abuse is not solely the responsibility of any one group, but a shared duty of all.

Speaking on the occasion, Inspector JKP Arif Hameed highlighted the legal aspects of drug abuse and deliberated on laws in place to combat the distribution and consumption of illegal substances besides pointed out the serious legal consequences of drug trafficking and abuse.

The Counselor Addiction Treatment Facility, District Hospital, Bandipora Junaid Ghayas Zargar highlighted the clinical aspects of addiction and the importance of compassionate support besides highlighted social, economic, and health consequences of drug addiction.

Among others the programme was attended by resource persons from Education, Police, Youth services and sports, socials welfare and other concerned stakeholders.

DC Bandipora Flags Off IEC Van to Promote 'Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi' Initiative

Bandipora, March 26: The Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, Manzoor Ahmad Qadri on Wednesday flagged off an IEC Van under "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi" initiative at mini secretariat Bandipora.

Speaking on the occasion, Deputy Commissioner Manzoor Ahmad Qadri emphasized the importance of integrating early education with proper nutrition to ensure the holistic development of children.

He said that the IEC Van will travel across different areas of the district to spread awareness about the initiative, highlighting the significance of cognitive learning, health, and early childhood development.

He highlighted the aim of "Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi" campaign to transform Anganwadi Centers into vibrant learning hubs by providing better infrastructure, engaging play-based education, and upskilling Anganwadi Workers to deliver quality early childhood care and education.

He urged the parents to take advantage of the various facilities being provided under the Poshan Bhi Padhai Bhi initiative.

Among others the flag off ceremony was attended by District Programme

Officer Poshan Project Bandipora Yaar Ali Khan, ACR Shabir Ahmad Wani, Supervisors, Anganwadi Workers and other concerned.



GVEI hosts inter school speech competition on Fasting beyond food

Srinagar: Green Valley Educational Institute (GVEI) Srinagar on Wednesday hosted an inter school speech competition on the theme 'Fasting Beyond Food: Controlling Our Words and Actions'.

As per the handout issued here, the event brought together students from around 12 schools including Crescent Public School, Government Girls Higher Secondary School Soura, Government Girls Higher Secondary School Gulababagh, Islamia Higher Secondary School, The Legends School of Education, Government Boys Higher Secondary School Soura, SP Higher Secondary School, Kashmir Harvard Educational Institute, and Birfa Open Minds International School.

The competition aimed to highlight the true essence of fasting, emphasizing self-restraint not only from food but also from negative speech and actions.

Participants eloquently discussed

how fasting nurtures patience, kindness, and discipline, encouraging individuals to practice mindfulness



in their words and behavior.

A distinguished panel of judges, including Dr. Prof. Mohammad Shafi from the Central University of Kashmir and Syed Suhaib Hassan from the University of Kashmir evaluated the participants.

The judges praised the students' for their powerful speeches and commended GVEI for providing such an impactful platform for young minds.

On the occasion, Principal GVEI Riyaz Kathjoo highlighted the importance of such competitions in

shaping students' moral and intellectual development.

He encouraged students to apply the values discussed in their daily lives, fostering a culture of respect, patience, and self-discipline.

Kashmir Harvard Educational Institute secured the first position followed by The Legend School of Education in second place, while Crescent Public School bagged third place.

The management of GVEI congratulated all participants for their remarkable performances and reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing intellectual and moral growth among students.

Chairman GVEI, Muhammad Yousuf Wani emphasized that the school will continue to provide such platforms to the students and ensure that students receive the best opportunities to learn, express, and grow in a competitive and enriching environment.

Ramzan Volleyball Cup Shadipora Edition 4th Concludes

Bandipora: The 4th edition of the Ramzan Volleyball Cup Shadipora was successfully organized on Wednesday in Shadipora Sonawari, area of Bandipora district.

The event was held under the slogan "Say Yes to Life, Say No to Drugs" and was a joint effort by Indian Army's 24 Rashtriya Rifles (RR), White Globe NGO, and PMSHri Higher Secondary School Shadipora, which served as the venue partner.

The tournament was organized by Sahil Bashir and Beigh Fazil, with participation from 16 teams across the Kashmir Valley. The event witnessed enthusiastic competition, promoting sportsmanship and youth engagement in positive activities.

On the occasion, CO 24 RR was the Chief Guest, while Mr. Anas Farhat graced the event as the Guest of Honour and Mr. Imtiyaz Wani attended as the Special Guest.

The winner and runner-up teams were awarded cash prizes and trophies in recognition of their outstanding performances.

Speaking to the media, tournament organizer Sahil Bashir said that the primary objective of the event was to keep the youth away from drugs and encourage them to participate in sports activities.

He further added, "For the last four years, we have been organizing volleyball tournaments every month during Ramadhan to engage young people in positive and healthy activities."



SHA de-empanels Shifa Medical Centre on contract expiry

JAMMU: The State Health Agency has de-empanelled Shifa Medical Centre, Srinagar, with immediate effect, under the Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY and AB PM-JAY SEHAT scheme on expiry of the contract with the hospital.

The hospital is no longer authorized to provide cashless treatment under the scheme.

According to a communication received here in this regard, the beneficiaries seeking treatment under the AB PM-JAY and AB PM-JAY SEHAT schemes have been advised to visit other empanelled government and private hospitals for cashless treatment.

The public can check the list of empanelled hospitals at <https://www.jkpmjaysehat.co.in/>.

"If any empanelled hospital denies treatment under the scheme, the beneficiaries are urged to immediately report the matter at toll free helpline 104' read the document.

For further assistance, the general public has been asked to contact the State Health Agency, J&K.

Indian Army Conducts Awareness Lecture on Women-Centric Govt Schemes in Poonch

POONCH: The Indian Army conducted an awareness lecture at Dupariya and Khanetar in Poonch to educate residents, particularly women, about various government welfare schemes aimed at socio-economic upliftment.

An official spokesperson said the event focused on informing locals about schemes related to health, financial assistance, education, and skill development, ensuring that beneficiaries from border villages are aware of their entitlements.

During the session, officials provided details on initiatives such as the Tejaswini Scheme, Kishor Shakti Yojna, Janani Suraksha Yojana, HIMAYAT-Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana, Ladli Beti Scheme, Integrated Social Security Scheme, and Aayushman Bharat, among others. Special emphasis was given to programs that support women's empowerment, financial inclusion, and healthcare access.

The lecture witnessed significant participation from locals, including elderly women who can play a key role in spreading awareness within their communities. The initiative reflects the Indian Army's ongoing efforts to foster social development and improve access to government welfare programs in remote areas.

Airtel launches IPTV services across J&K

Srinagar: Bharti Airtel, one of India's leading telecommunications service providers, launched its IPTV services across Jammu and Kashmir offering customers the best large screen viewing experience.

An official spokesperson while informing about the service Customers will get access to an extensive library of on-demand content from 29 prominent Streaming Apps including Sony Liv, Netflix, Apple TV+, Amazon Prime, Zee5, 600 popular television channels, and Wi-Fi service at plans starting Rs. 599. As an introductory offer, all Airtel customers will get upto 30 days of free service on the purchase of IPTV plans which can be availed through the AirtelThanks App.

Commenting on the launch, Dibyendu Aich, COO, BhartiAirtel, Jammu and Kashmir said, "Entertainment has long been a cherished and integral part of the vibrant culture of Jammu and Kashmir. "Today, we are delighted to announce the launch of our cutting-edge IPTV service in Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

"This service will usher in a new era of immersive experiences for our customers. With this launch, we are confident of setting a new standard for entertainment solutions that will resonate with the aspirations and desires of the people of Jammu and Kashmir."

Editorial

White Revolution 2.0:

India's dairy sector, a key driver of rural livelihoods and nutritional security, is set for a transformation with the launch of White Revolution 2.0. The initiative aims to increase milk procurement by 50% over the next five years by expanding cooperative coverage and market access, particularly in uncovered rural areas. The Ministry of Cooperation, in collaboration with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), plans to establish 75,000 new Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCSs) and strengthen over 46,000 existing ones, creating new market linkages and milk routes. One of the most promising aspects of White Revolution 2.0 is its focus on women empowerment. Women constitute nearly 70% of India's dairy workforce, yet their contributions often remain undervalued. The cooperative model has already demonstrated how women-led dairy societies can enhance income and social standing, and this initiative will further integrate them into the formal dairy economy, giving them greater financial independence.

However, while the vision for White Revolution 2.0 is ambitious, successful implementation will require overcoming key challenges. Infrastructure gaps, cold storage and transportation bottlenecks, and quality control issues remain persistent hurdles. Additionally, ensuring fair pricing mechanisms for small dairy farmers and reducing dependence on intermediaries will be critical for long-term sustainability.

To maximize the impact of this revolution, the government must ensure timely investment in dairy infrastructure, training programs for farmers (especially women), and transparent pricing mechanisms. Additionally, leveraging digital technology to facilitate direct market access for dairy farmers can further strengthen the cooperative network.

If executed effectively, White Revolution 2.0 will not only boost milk production and rural employment but also empower millions of women, reinforcing India's position as the world's largest producer of milk. The initiative has the potential to be a game-changer, but its success will hinge on sustained policy support, grassroots-level implementation, and ensuring that benefits reach the smallest dairy farmers in the remotest villages.

A Father's Love vs. Manipulation: Can Hatred Win Over Blood?

By: Syed Majid Gilani

A father's love is one of the purest and most selfless forms of devotion. It is not just a relationship—it is a foundation upon which a child's identity, security, and future are built. This bond is deeply

young minds, feeding them hatred and turning them away from their father's pure and unconditional love.

These mothers, blinded by bitterness, fabricate false stories, spread baseless accusations, and weave a web of lies to sever the natural bond between father and children. They do not just harm the father—they

As children mature, their understanding deepens. Slowly, they begin to see through the deception. The hatred that was planted in them starts to fade as they question the narratives they once believed. And when the moment of realization comes, their hearts change. They see the father who never wavered, the

years trying to erase the father's presence from their lives is left abandoned, suffering the consequences of her own actions.

The law of nature is absolute—those who plant seeds of hatred ultimately lose. The mothers who dedicate themselves to breaking the father-children bond may enjoy temporary success, but in the long run, they face Allah's wrath. Their deceit does not go unpunished. Justice is never denied. The children they manipulated eventually leave them, and they find themselves alone—stripped of love, stripped of trust, and stripped of the very relationships they sought to control.

These mothers, who knowingly wronged a sincere father, meet their downfall. The wrath of Allah is upon those who destroy sacred relationships. They may have triumphed in lies for a time, but in the end, they stand alone—abandoned by the very children they once influenced. They lose not only their children but also their place in their hearts. As their deceit crumbles, they fade away, forgotten, and ultimately vanish into obscurity, bearing the curse of their own actions.

But for the father who remains steadfast, truthful, and committed to his children, the outcome is different. No matter how strong the deception, no matter how long the separation, if he has dedicated his life to his children with sincerity, his love will never be in vain. Time dismantles falsehood, and one day, clarity replaces confusion. The truth always triumphs.

A true father does not seek revenge. He does not harbor hatred. Even when his children misunderstand him, he does not waver. He waits, prays, and believes in the power of truth. And when that day of realization finally arrives, when his children return, he welcomes them with open arms—because his love was never conditional, never selfish, and never-ending. Those who attempt to destroy the father-children bond must remember: time is always on the side of truth. Every deception is exposed, every injustice meets its end, and ultimately, truth reigns supreme.

Just as a river, no matter how many obstacles it faces, always finds its way back to its true course, the bond of blood also reclaims its rightful place. No matter how much time, distance, or hardship intervenes, the connection between a devoted father and his children remains unbreakable. It is one of life's strongest and most lasting realities—a reality that no force can ever truly erase.

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rooted in nature, an unshakable force that neither time, distance, nor hardships can truly sever. Yet, in life's complexities, there are those who seek to break this sacred relationship. Some act out of selfishness, others out of hatred, but one truth remains constant—falsehood may prevail for a time, but in the end, truth always triumphs.

There are times when misunderstandings, circumstances, or people with malicious intentions try to create rifts between a father and his children. Lies, false narratives, and conspiracies may cause temporary separation, but deception is like a fragile wall—sooner or later, it crumbles under the weight of reality. A bond built on sincerity and love cannot be destroyed by manipulation. Just as a river, when obstructed, carves a new path to keep flowing, a father's unwavering devotion eventually finds its way back into his children's hearts—provided he remains loyal, committed, and truthful, dedicating his life to their well-being.

History bears witness to those who, driven by selfishness or personal grudges, seek to turn children against their noble fathers. Some individuals dedicate themselves to filling young hearts with resentment. Worst among them are the mothers who, out of enmity toward their husbands, use their own children as weapons to settle personal scores. Instead of fostering love and unity, they manipulate

make their own children suffer, depriving them of the warmth, guidance, and security that only a devoted father can provide. They believe they are punishing their husbands, but in reality, they live in a fool's paradise, unaware that they are actually troubling their own children, robbing them of the very love that could nurture their growth and happiness.

For a time, they may succeed. The innocent minds of children, trusting and vulnerable, may accept the falsehoods instilled in them. They may grow distant, indifferent, or even hostile toward their loving father. But time is a great revealer. No lie can endure forever.

man who loved them unconditionally, who remained steadfast despite their coldness, who prayed for them even when they rejected him. They come to understand that the resentment they carried was never truly theirs—it was forced upon them by a mother who sought to manipulate their emotions for her own selfish gain.

When this realization dawns, the tables turn. The same mother who once controlled their emotions loses her grip. The love she selfishly sought to manipulate now slips from her grasp. The children, heartbroken by the betrayal, turn away from the one who deceived them. And thus, the mother who spent

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Why Turn to Ibn Arabi Today?



Dr. Muhammad Maroof Shah

We need to read and revisit Ibn Arabi because we are ever in need of knowing the Self/the Real and the treasure of mercy that is the world, "the Breath of the Compassionate." We need to know him better and revisit the archives hiding his dense, evocative, multifaceted and profound elaboration of the depths of Islamic and spiritual universe of meanings. His works are arguably the deepest and densest explorations of varied dimensions of the Islamic Tradition.

Though an exponent of mystical unveiling he appropriates the religion of reason of Late Antiquity and builds one of the most imposing "systems" of thought, at once rational, mystical and religious directed towards attaining the supreme aim of eudaimonia, sa'āda which has been the prerogative of traditional philosophies, religions and wisdom traditions of the world. He is, self avowedly, the heir of the prophetic and mystical wisdom it appears that God hid nothing from him – as it has been remarked about Meister Eckhart – and he is undoubtedly unrivalled in unpacking multidimensional meanings and significance of Islamic tradition. Combining in himself all the traditionally recognized paths to the Ultimate Reality – mysticism, philosophy, poetry and religion – he is a man of all seasons representing Islam's multidimensional – theological, mystical, metaphysical and aesthetical – genius and is, arguably, the medieval Islam's greatest contribution to the world.

Several studies engaging with Ibn Arabi vis-a-vis major modern and postmodern thinkers have been published and well received and it can be said that from Nietzsche and Heidegger to Derrida and Levinas and major theologians, writers and contributors to interfaith dialogue and many wide ranging debates on nihilism, mysticism and the Sacred invoke or respond to certain of his insights. Ibn Arabi is with us, with influential writers (from Gibran to Pamuk) of the world, with major metaphysicians including Guenon and Schuon, with major Muslim thinkers down to Shah Waliullah, Mulla Sadra, Iqbal, Nasr and Soroush, with Muslim scholars down to great names in



Ibn Arabi has no peer in simultaneous subtlety, breadth, width, magnificence, penetrating power, brilliance and encyclopedic scholarship and prolific contributions. Test your mettle by reading him and engaging with him. There are pygmies who think they have refuted Plato or Aristotle without even trying to read them or engaging with their great legacy that has shaped our culture and tools they have formulated to analyse things. The same is true about most modern rejecters of Ibn Arabi.

Ibn Arabi is to be treasured for opening up a window to experience the Real and inviting us to see through. He illuminates, as none else, the question of Being. In an age when gods are said to have fled, as Heidegger and others complained, revisiting Ibn Arabi may mean the pos-

sibility of receiving grace, of seeing everything as a theophany and every event as a message from the "other world." This may be a possible path out of the absurdist nihilist impasse that has been a key problem to be overcome for almost all great post-Nietzschean writers and philosophers. He quotes a prophetic tradition stating that if you let down a bucket by a rope verily it descends to

a reverence for the Fussoos that he recommended that work to the USSR president Gorbachev and expressed his disagreement with Dawood Qaysari for seeking to explain away or interpret (ta'wīl) of some statements in Fussoos as the former for him is a sort of revelation as Ibn Arabi himself claimed to have received it from the Prophet (S.A.W). Izatsu in his Sufism and Taoism and Chittick in his magisterial works have done much to make him more accessible. To read him only through the eyes of a minority of theological critics is like forfeiting the opportunity to travel in the airplane on the advice of those who have primarily travelled only through land transport. To accuse him of misguidance in general involves a compliment if one reads it at ontological plane as Ibn Arabi would invite us to.

However, to imply its pejorative meaning involves problematic privileging of someone who in turn may have been/may be accused of misreading the Master. It also presupposes one has a better understanding of such notions as guidance and better access to the secrets and mysteries and depths of Divine Names Al-Hadi (the Guide) and Al-Mudhill (Who leads astray). One needs to have travelled on a certain road to warn others about the merits or dangers of that road. Who can claim to have travelled better on the road on which Ibn Arabi has been travelling? Who has given us another Futoohat (which is one of the only three books that Allama Anwar Shah found he can't write better)? To avoid reading Ibn Arabi or miss him is to miss the adventure and joy of engaging with the most provocative, the most exciting, the most influential, the most commented upon, the most brilliant, the most informed mind in the last 800 years of Islamic history. It is also to miss arguably the best argument for Islam's universality, its most attractive aesthetic dimension, its most profound metaphysics, its deepest layers of meaning/symbolism and its love and mercy centric understanding.

It is also to miss arguably the best missionary Islam has produced who, according to Muhammad Hamidullah, one of the most successful missionaries of the twentieth century, best suits for introducing Islam to the European elite. It is also to accuse the vast majority of Muslim scholars down the ages of being duped by Ibn Arabi and failure to guard the Tradition in whose name they have been speaking. For the Urdu readers, Ahmed Javed and Suheyil Umar have translated from Persian a modern classic study of Ibn Arabi. The argument that people would be misled if we advocate reading Ibn Arabi no longer holds water as there is enough material that has misled

people in an age of misinformation and pseudo spirituality against which Ibn Arabi is arguably one of the best antidotes.

Anyway Ibn Arabi has ample resources to ward off those not capable of breaking hard nuts. He is also an oasis in the desert of nihilistic currents in the post-Nietzschean age. Charging today Ibn Arabi with pantheism, hulool, suspension of ethic or shariah or deliberately ignoring understanding/ hermeneutical tools of salaf is inexcusable given the great mass of Ibn Arabi scholarship today that has satisfactorily explained the charges. Few are

Several studies engaging with Ibn Arabi vis-a-vis major modern and postmodern thinkers have been published and well received and it can be said that from Nietzsche and Heidegger to Derrida and Levinas and major theologians, writers and contributors to interfaith dialogue and many wide ranging debates on nihilism, mysticism and the Sacred invoke or respond to certain of his insights....

informed about his "spiritual literalism": i.e., "his constant insistence on the ultimate coincidence (not simply in outward formulation) between the precise, revealed literal formulations of the Koran or hadith and their essential spiritual truth and intentions as realized and verified by the saint." and his "usual favorable view of the unquestioning, implicit faith of the common believer, and his corresponding distrust of all contrived intellectualist "interpretations" (ta'wil)." Today he would have endorsed Qardawi's proposal that (genuine) Sufis should become/are Salafis and (genuine) Salafis Sufis.

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Mystic Insights

Satish Sharma reviews functioning of Legal Metrology Department

Reiterates department's role in consumer safety

JAMMU: Minister for FCS&CA, Transport, Youth Services and Sports, Information Technology, Science and Technology ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, paid surprise visit to the office of the Legal Metrology department at Narwal and conducted an in-depth review of the departmental functioning.

Controller Legal Metrology, Anuradha Gupta, presented a detailed overview of the departmental activities, emphasizing upon its critical role in consumer protection, fair trade practices and enforcement of standard weights and measures in commercial transactions.

In a PowerPoint Presentation, she highlighted the contribution of the department towards safeguarding consumer rights by enforcing the provisions of Legal Metrology Act and rules. She also elaborated that all ten services being provided by the department are available online on the J&K Single Window.



She apprised the Minister that during this financial year the department conducted 59000 inspections throughout J&K and booked 2876 cases under various sections of the Legal Metrology Act and rules. Besides, the department conducted 301 verification camps and 562 traders awareness camps. For making consumers aware about the legal provisions and remedies available under the Legal Metrology Act and the Consumer Protection Act,

He stressed upon the importance of accuracy in trade transactions, from verifying the correct dispensing of fuel at petrol pumps to ensuring the precise measurement of packaged commodities.

The Minister also reiterated the vital role of Legal Metrology department in everyday consumer safety. He took a round of the Legal Metrology complex and inspected the Secondary Standards Lab.

The Minister was briefed by the concerned officer about the role and importance of laboratory equipment in ensuring accuracy in weights and measures.

The Minister interacted with the officers present during the visit including Assistant Controllers, Accounts officer and other staff members. He appreciated the efforts of the department and urged them to continue working diligently for upholding compliance with legal standards and protecting the interests of the consumers.

Students should focus on skill rather than marks Satish Sharma

YS&S Minister visits SRML HSS



JAMMU: Minister for Youth Services and Sports, FCS & CA, Transport, Information Technology, Science and Technology, ARI & Trainings, Satish Sharma, visited the Sri Ranbir Multi Lateral (SRML) Model Higher Secondary School.

While speaking on the occasion, the Minister lauded the valued contributions of over a century old SRML Model School for promoting education in J&K which was established in 1872 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh ji. The institution has stood the test of time, nurturing generations of students who have made their mark in various fields.

Minister observed that education is of vital importance and good school education lays a strong foundation for establishment of a sound, wholesome and productive society. He stressed the importance of students being imbued with ethical and moral values and also gaining skills which would help them in gaining employment after finishing school.

Satish Sharma advised the student to focus on skills rather than marks. He asked them to opt for professional courses instead of traditional studies. He also assured the Principal SRML to look into the genuine demands raised by him including renovation of open gym, transport facility etc.

The Minister also unveiled the school prospectus and planted a Rudraksh sapling, marking the commitment to a greener future.

CEO Jammu, Jagdeep Kumar Padha, District Education Planning Officer Jammu, Bhagwan Dass Sharma, Principal, Dr. Kishore Sharma, Principal GBS Gandhi Nagar, Adash Bala, Principal GHSS Shastri Nagar, Anu Bhardwaj, Principal GHSS Rehari, Dr. Jyoti Parkash besides teachers and other staff members were present on the occasion.

Arrangements for the launch of NMBA Campaign reviewed at Kupwara

KUPWARA: A meeting of concerned officers was held to review the arrangements for Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan campaign which is set to be launched on April 7th in the district.

The campaign aims to raise awareness and take proactive measures to combat drug abuse, especially among youth.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Kupwara, M Rouf Rehman, who chaired the meeting emphasized the importance of a coordinated approach involving all stakeholders, including Health, Education, Police, and social welfare departments, as well as NGOs and civil society. He directed the concerned officers to ensure the effective implementation of the campaign through awareness drives, community outreach programs, and counseling sessions.

On the occasion, Nodal Officer for NMBA Campaign, Mudassir Ahmad also spoke and provided information about the implementation of the campaign to the participants.

DC B'la chairs awareness programme on menstrual hygiene at Aspirational Block Singhpora

Inaugurates sanitary napkin manufacturing unit at Nehalpora; distributes incinerators and vending machines among school heads

BARAMULLA: In a step towards improving menstrual hygiene among girls, a distribution cum orientation programme on the usage of incinerators and vending machines was held today at Higher Secondary School, Gund Khawja Qasim in the Aspirational Block Singhpora Pattan.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Minga Sherpa in presence of the Joint Director Planning, Javed Ahmad; SDM Pattan and representatives from the Vatsalya Foundation distributed incinerators among the 50 school heads of various schools for the convenience of girl students in their respective institutions.

Earlier, DC inaugurated the sanitary napkin manufacturing unit at Nehalpora Pattan, donated

by the Vatsalya Foundation Vadodara, which will be run solely by the Women Self Help Group under the National Rural Livelihood Mission,



thereby providing employment opportunities and financial independence.

Speaking on the occasion, DC highlighted the importance of menstrual hygiene for the well-being of young girls and expressed his gratitude to the Vatsalya Foundation for this collaborative initiative towards setting up this automated unit for manufacturing sanitary napkins.

The DC further stated that these sanitary napkins would be supplied to all government institutions to ensure convenience for female students.

Meanwhile, DC instructed the Chief Education Officer to ensure proper utilization and maintenance of the vending machines and incinerators in all designated institutions.

During the event, DC also engaged with women from Self-Help Groups, reaffirming the administration's commitment to creating new employment opportunities to support their financial independence.

DC Srinagar inaugurates Job Fair/ Rozgaar Mela at SP College

Highlights significance of such initiatives in enhancing employment prospects, supporting career aspirations of unemployed youth

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Dr Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat inaugurated mega Job fair at Sri Pratap College, Srinagar.

The Job Fair, organised by District Administration Srinagar in collaboration with District Employment and Counseling Center (DECC) Srinagar, aimed at bridging the gap between Employers and job seekers.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC highlighted the significance of such initiatives in enhancing employment prospects and supporting the career aspirations of the unemployed educated youth of the District.

He also extended gratitude to all participating companies for their active involvement in this critical event.

The event brought together about 20 Companies from diverse sectors, including Insurance, Health, Education, Skill training,

Banking and Electric sector. These companies showcased their vacancy positions



and engaged directly with unemployed youth, providing insights into the job opportunities available, skill sets required, and the type of human resources required. During the job fair many young job seekers were shortlisted for the second round of interviews, marking a significant step toward employment.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students of adjoining Colleges and

pass-out graduates, highlighting its impact in connecting the youth with potential employers.

The District Administration and DECC Srinagar continues its commitment to facilitating employment opportunities and skill development for the region's youth through such initiatives.

Chief Planning Officer, Fayaz Ahmad Dar; Deputy Director Employment, Dr. Sheeba Inayat; Principal of SP College, Prof. Mohammad Farooq Mir and other participants were present at the event.

DC Ganderbal visits mosques, shrines to review arrangements for Shab-e-Qadr, Jumat-ul-Vida & Eid-ul-Fitr

GANDERBAL: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Jatin Kishore, today conducted an extensive visit to various religious places across Ganderbal town to assess the arrangements being made for the upcoming observances of Shab-e-Qadr, Jumat-ul-Vida and Eid-ul-Fitr.

During his visit, the DC inspected key religious sites, including the Qamar-ud-Din Bukhari Shrine, Eidgah Duderhama, and Jama Masjid Beehama, where he interacted with the respective management committees to review preparations for the smooth conduct of the festivals.

Emphasizing the importance of sanitation, the DC directed the Executive Officer, Municipal Council Ganderbal, to launch intensive cleanliness drives around major mosques and shrines to ensure a hygienic environment

for devotees.

Additionally, the Executive Engineers of Jal Shakti and PDD were instructed to ensure uninterrupted water and electricity supply during



the festive days, facilitating a hassle-free experience for the devotees.

On the occasion, the DC assured the management committees that all necessary arrangements will be put in place for the convenience of the public and urged the

concerned departments to work in close coordination to facilitate a smooth and peaceful celebration of the upcoming religious occasions.

The DC was accompanied by SSP Ganderbal, Ragav S; Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Gulzar Ahmad; Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti; Executive Engineer KPDC, Tehsildar Ganderbal, EO Municipality, and other concerned officials during the visit.

DIC Kulgam organizes awareness programme on PM Vishwakarma

KULGAM: An awareness programme on the Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Scheme was held at the Industrial Training Institute (ITI) in Kulgam, organized by District Industries Centre Kulgam.

The event was attended by officials from the District Industries Centre (DIC) Kulgam, including the Principal of ITI Kulgam, and featured key presentations by Waseem Zehgir, Deputy Manager, and Arshi Aarif, Assistant Manager from the State Level Programme Management Unit-PM Vishwakarma, Kashmir.

The session commenced with a presentation by DIC Kulgam officials, outlining the objectives and benefits of the PM Vishwakarma Scheme, which aims to support traditional artisans and craftspeople by enhancing their skills and providing financial assistance.

A significant portion of the event was dedicated to a detailed explanation of the e-commerce onboarding process for beneficiaries,



delivered by Waseem Zehgir and Arshi Aarif. They addressed various implementation concerns and provided solutions to issues raised by participants.

The programme facilitated active interaction, enabling attendees to gain a comprehensive understanding of the scheme's benefits.

Officials encouraged participants to utilize the resources offered by the PM Vishwakarma Scheme for their professional development and business growth.

CS sets ball rolling for establishment of CoE in AI, GIS & E-governance

Exhorts for e-office adoption at tehsil, block level by June 15

JAMMU: Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo, while reviewing the IT services and infrastructure in J&K, exhorted upon the concerned department to initiate measures for establishment of Centre of Excellence (CoE) in Artificial Intelligence, Geographic Information System (GIS) and E-Governance here.

The meeting besides ACS, Education Department, Commissioner Secretary, IT; Commissioner Secretary, I&C and CEO, JaKeGA was attended by DG, Budget, several HoDs, representatives from NIC and concerned officers and officials from the IT Department.

Dulloo impressed upon the department to create necessary framework for establishment of this CoE under JaKeGA. He called for holding consultations with the MeitY and BISAG-N for assistance and expertise regarding its swift establishment in the UT.

The Chief Secretary also assessed progress on establishment of IT Parks at Jammu and Srinagar. He enjoined upon the department to identify suitable infrastructure for the same so that these are established without any further delay.

The Chief Secretary further directed for taking the e-Office services down to Tehsil and Block levels for swift movement of files besides

ensuring timely monitoring and processing of these. He asked for completion of the exercise by 15th of June this year.

Regarding the quality of online services,



the Chief Secretary emphasized on ensuring end-to-end digitization of services besides adhering to the specific timelines set for delivery of each service.

He maintained that it is crucial to increase services under newly launched Sehat App, Mission YUVA, Kisan Khidmat Ghar (KKG), Kisan Sathi, HADP, Vidhya Samiksha Kendra and Samadhan 2.0, bringing governance at the doorsteps of the masses.

He stressed on substantially increasing the number of documents/certificates available over DigiLocker. He made out that these

numbers should match with our population and services available online now. He called for uploading all educational certificates, birth/death certificates, domicile, property and documents of prime concern for the citizens.

The key areas that came up for discussion encompassed current status of development of digital infrastructure, implementation of online services and portals, initiatives under NeGD, ongoing projects with BISAG, nominations for National e-Governance Awards (NAeG), incentives for outstanding contributions, training programs, enhancement of connectivity, strengthening human resources for making the IT services more meaningful for the citizens.

Regarding the future roadmap,

Commissioner Secretary, IT, Saurabh Bhagat, informed the meeting that establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Artificial Intelligence, Creation of IT parks, expansion of the e-Office and initiatives like introduction of e-Cabinet system, implementation of NeVA and establishment of e-Vidhanare which are in pipeline will help in furthering the vision for Digital Jammu & Kashmir.

He added that the implementation of eUNNAT, e-Office 2.0, RTI portal, J&K LMS, and online water billing are in the final stages of implementation.

In addition, expansion of digital infrastructure establishment of a State Data Centre, SWAN 1.0 and 1000 more Digital Village Centres are going to be a reality soon.

As far as the Cybersecurity is concerned, CEO, JaKeGA, Rupesh Kumar, informed the meeting that the agency is conducting security audits for all the websites. He detailed out the status of setting up of Security Operations Centre (SOC). He also apprised of the capacity building/training programs held for government employees besides those planned ahead for making these initiatives more effective and result-oriented for effective functioning of the government.

Muslims and the Eclipse of Knowledge: Rekindling Intellectual and Spiritual Illumination



Shabeer Ahmad Lone

“The Quran repeatedly urges deep contemplation (tadabbur), empirical observation (tafakkur), and the pursuit of knowledge (ilm).

The intellectual and spiritual legacy of the Muslim world stands as one of the most brilliant and transformative forces in human history, shaped by centuries of inquiry, discovery, and synthesis of diverse knowledge traditions. At its zenith, the Islamic intellectual tradition was not only a beacon of spiritual enlightenment but also a formidable force in the advancement of philosophy, science, law, and ethics. The early Muslim world flourished because knowledge was not seen as a compartmentalized or purely utilitarian pursuit but as an integral part of divine purpose.

The Qur'anic injunctions that command reflection, critical thinking, and the pursuit of wisdom created an ethos in which scholarship was not confined to religious exegesis but extended into the natural and social sciences. Rooted in a tradition that once harmonized rigorous inquiry with profound spirituality, it gave rise to groundbreaking advancements in science, philosophy, mathematics, medicine, and the arts. This understanding produced towering figures with influence across. A new Renaissance requires a synthesis of classical wisdom and contemporary insights, leading to a revival of intellectual and spiritual illumination.

Historical facts and instructive examples regarding Muslims and eclipse of knowledge throughout history, the intellectual and spiritual legacy of Muslims flourished through an unbroken chain of scholars, scientists, and mystics who harmonized reason, empirical enquiry and revelation. From the Abbasid Golden Age to the intellectual circles of Andalusia, The House of Wisdom in Baghdad, the academies of Muslim Spain, and the scientific and philosophical vibrancy of the Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal periods all bore testimony to a culture that saw learning as a sacred imperative. Muslim polymaths like Al-Farabi, Ibn Sina, Al-Khwarizmi, Al-Biruni, Ibn Khaldun, Al-Ghazali and Ibn Rushd not only preserved the knowledge inherited from Greek, Roman, Persian, and Indian traditions but also but critically engaged with, refined, expanded and integrated into an evolving body of wisdom. It was this dynamic engagement with diverse intellectual traditions that positioned the Islamic world as the vanguard of human civilization. Their contributions laid the foundations for the European Renaissance and modern scientific thought. Muslim Spain's Al-Andalus illuminated Europe through scholars like Ibn Hazm and Ibn Arabi, while Fatimid Cairo's Al-Azhar nurtured intellectual rigor.

This luminous era was not the product of isolated genius but of a civilization-wide commitment to the pursuit of knowledge as a sacred duty, where theologians, scientists, and philosophers engaged in rigorous intellectual exchange without artificial barriers between the sacred and the secular. However, the forces that led to its stagnation and decline have been multifaceted, encompassing both internal failures and external disruptions, resulting in an epistemic inertia that continues to shape contemporary Muslim societies. Rather than retreating into nostalgia for past glories, the Muslim world must critically examine its current condition and seek inspiration from its own intellectual heritage while engaging with contemporary advancements.

Annemarie Schimmel notes that, "Not to recall over and again the golden age of Islam but to ask for what reasons Muslims have created these great works of art and science, would help mould the future destiny of the community. This echoes with, 'The revival of Muslim intellectual culture requires not nostalgia for the past but a critical engagement with the present to reimagine the future.'" as held by Ziauddin Sardar in "Islam, Postmodernism and Other Futures" and "The ultimate aim of religious thought in Islam is to reconstruct the foundations of knowledge so that faith and reason are in harmony, not conflict." by Iqbal in "Reconstruction".

However, despite this illustrious past, the contemporary Muslim world faces an intellectual and epistemic crisis, marked by the erosion of critical thought, a disconnect between scientific progress and spiritual wisdom, and a growing dependence on borrowed paradigms. In the face of these challenges, rekindling the lost intellectual and spiritual light of Islam is not just an academic pursuit but a civilizational imperative. This humble attempt critically examines the factors that led to this decline, the consequences of knowledge stagnation, and the possibilities for intellectual resurgence by synthesizing authentic sources, rare historical insights, and the latest data from across cultures, traditions, and periods.

The decline was neither sudden nor uniform; it resulted from a confluence of historical events, the Mongol invasions, which led to the destruction of centers of learning such as Baghdad, dealt a severe blow

to intellectual life. Colonial subjugation, socio-political stagnation, economic crises, fragmentation of knowledge, internal stagnation, intellectual rigidity & taqlid (blind imitation), and a loss of the very ethos that once made knowledge sacred and a growing estrangement between religious thought and scientific inquiry. European colonial rule disrupted indigenous systems of education, replacing them with institutions that often undermined traditional scholarship. The shift from dynamic intellectual engagement to a more rigid, dogmatic approach within certain circles also contributed to this stagnation. Critical reasoning, once the hallmark of Islamic thought, was often supplanted by rote learning, diminishing the once-thriving culture of ijtihad (independent reasoning). The resulting crisis of knowledge

manifested in a deepening disconnect between tradition and modernity, faith and reason, and spirituality and empirical inquiry.

Despite this decline, efforts to rekindle the intellectual and spiritual light of the Muslim world persist. History shows that declining civilizations revive through knowledge. The European Renaissance (14th–17th c.), Meiji Restoration (1868–1912), Jewish intellectual resurgence (19th–20th c.), China's Self-Strengthening Movement (1861–1895), and India's colonial-era revival (19th–20th c.) all blended tradition with progress. For Muslims, rekindling ilm demands educational reform, critical inquiry, and institutional renewal bridging heritage with modern adaptability. Leading thinkers and reformers have continually called for a revival that bridges the

conservatism. Franz Rosenthal emphasized that the Islamic world once led in scientific and philosophical advancements but lost momentum due to waning intellectual curiosity and estrangement from empirical inquiry. Bernard Lewis pointed to economic and political crises but also a reluctance to embrace modernity while preserving Islamic values. W.C. Smith stressed the need for a revival that harmonizes spiritual depth with dynamic intellectual engagement. George Makdisi noted the weakening of educational institutions, while Hodgson and Grunebaum urged rediscovering Islam's pluralistic intellectual heritage. A revival demands a fusion of rationalism and spirituality, ethical governance, decolonization of knowledge, and interdisciplinary learning, ensuring that ilm (knowledge) once again



“

The decline of knowledge began with dogmatic stagnation, colonial subjugation, and internal decay, leading to the gradual eclipse of scientific and philosophical inquiry. Ibn Khaldun had forewarned that civilizations crumble when they forsake their intellectual and moral foundations. The loss of institutions like Baghdad's House of Wisdom (1258) symbolized this downfall. European Renaissance thrived on the very knowledge Muslims had preserved and advanced, yet the Muslim world faltered due to intellectual ossification, suppression of ijtihad (independent reasoning), and disengagement from global scientific progress.

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past and present, integrating the wisdom of classical Islamic thought with contemporary advancements in science, technology, and the humanities. Figures such as Muhammad Iqbal, Syed Hossein Nasr, and Seyyed Muhammad Naquib al-Attas have emphasized the need for a holistic approach to knowledge—one that neither rejects modern science nor abandons the ethical and spiritual dimensions that once enriched Muslim intellectual traditions. Their works argue for an education system that harmonizes reason with revelation, rather than placing them in opposition. Institutions like the International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) and Al-Furqan Foundation have also made significant contributions in reinvigorating Islamic scholarship with a contemporary relevance, publishing critical studies that seek to restore intellectual rigor within the Muslim discourse. Ibn Khaldun (1332–1406) developed a cyclical theory of civilization, warning against intellectual stagnation and decline. Mulla Sadra (1571–1640) synthesized mysticism, theology, and philosophy in his "Transcendent Theosophy," a potential guide for rekindling Muslim intellectual life. Syed Nursi (1877–1960) emphasized the necessity of integrating science with spiritual wisdom for Muslim renewal. Ali Shariati (1933–1977) called for intellectual and spiritual reawakening, linking religious consciousness to socio-political activism. Muhammad Asad - Critiqued intellectual malaise and called for a dynamic engagement with Islam.

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The intellectual and scientific decline of the Muslim world was not an inevitable destiny but a historical consequence of external disruptions, internal stagnation, and the gradual severance of reason from revelation. Edward Said and Maxime Rodinson highlighted colonial interventions and economic stagnation, while Gustave von Grunebaum and Marshall Hodgson traced this decline to the loss of openness, synthesis, and engagement with global knowledge systems. William Montgomery Watt and Henri Corbin identified a theological shift that separated faith from reason, leading to intellectual

becomes a transformative force in global civilization.

In "Overcoming Orientalism-Essays in honour of John L. Esposito" edited by Tomara Sonn, Oxford University Press 2021, John Esposito guides readers beyond misleading, politically dangerous nature of orientalist polarizations. They present Islam as a multi-faceted and dynamic tradition embraced by communities in globally interconnected but substantially diverse contexts over the centuries. The contributors follow Esposito's lead, stressing the profound commonalities among religions and replacing Orientalist discourse with holistic analyses of the complex historical phenomena that affect developments in all societies.

In the subcontinent and across the borders of Islamic world Shah Waliullah emphasized ijtihad and synthesis of reason with revelation to counter stagnation and advocacy for social and political reform to inspire contemporary Islamic thought and reformist movement. Sir Syed championed scientific inquiry and modern education to uplift Muslims. Shibli Nomani and Sulaiman Nadwi called for holistic Islamic scholarship beyond jurisprudence. Hali lamented decline in Musaddas but urged moral and intellectual revival. Muhammad Abdhu denounced taqlid, advocating reason and reform. Iqbal stressed khudi and ijtihad to merge spirituality with modern thought. Abul Kalam Azad saw knowledge as Islam's soul, urging inquiry and wisdom. Prof. Mujeeb highlighted colonial disruption of Muslim education, while Khawaja Abdul Wahid sought an integrated curriculum. Muhammad Asad critiqued blind imitation and stressed Islam's dynamic adaptability. Fazlur Rahman called for a contextual, dynamic reinterpretation of Islamic thought to bridge classical wisdom with modernity. Ismail Raji al-Faruqi emphasized tawhid as a foundation for intellectual revival. Syed Hossein Nasr warns against scientism and urges the revival of a spiritually grounded knowledge tradition. Malik Bennabi diagnosed colonizability, highlighting intellectual stagnation and the need for self-renewal. Their shared vision calls for reviving ilm through reason, education, and renewal. While as Abdolkarim Soroush's seminal work, "Reason, Freedom, and Democracy in Islam: Essential Writings of Abdolkarim Soroush" advocates for evolving religious knowledge, intellectual freedom, and a balance between tradition and modernity. He challenges authoritarianism, promotes pluralism, and urges critical inquiry. By harmonizing reason and spirituality, he envisions rekindling knowledge and enlightenment in the Muslim world.

To Be Continued...

Continued From P1...

Turbulent times

to play as peace cannot sustain without their support. More than anyone else, it is the common people who benefit the most from peace, as their future, business, and development are tied to it."

He called on the people to assist security forces in ensuring stability in the region, adding that adversarial attempts to disrupt harmony would not succeed. "Business, tourism, and overall development are intrinsically linked to stability in Jammu and Kashmir. Peace and development are interlinked," he added.

Highlighting the rapid economic growth in Jammu and Kashmir, LG Sinha stated that the region has witnessed remarkable progress in entrepreneurship. "Jammu and Kashmir should be known for its entrepreneurs, not troublemakers," he said adding, "J&K has achieved a remarkable feat. It has become the first region in the country since independence to utilize the incentive, announced for 10-years, within 2.5 years."

CM Omar

Accompanying the Chief Minister were Minister for Agriculture, Javid Ahmad Dar, Advisor to Chief Minister, Nasir Aslam Wani, and several Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Senior officials present at the occasion included ACS to Chief Minister, Dheeraj Gupta; Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Vijay Kumar Bidhuri; DC Srinagar Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat; Director Floriculture Kashmir Shakeel-ur-Rehman; and other senior officers from the Floriculture Department.

J&K Govt Rejects

primarily due to lack of supporting documents, they said. Additionally, 3,982 claims were rejected at the sub-divisional and district-level committees, they said.

The Forest Rights Act mandates a structured process for claim recognition, with approvals granted by gram sabhas, sub-divisional committees, and district-level committees based on laid-down procedures and norms.

"Applications failing to meet these criteria are not considered," the official said. However, applicants whose claims are rejected have the right to appeal at higher levels, with the final appeal heard by the district-level committee, they said.

The Forest Rights Act, 2006, was implemented in Jammu and Kashmir in 2019 following the abrogation of Article 370.

Of the 65,497.21 kanals of forest land distributed by the J&K government, 784.19 kanals were allocated to other traditional forest dwellers (OTFDs), officials added.

These lands were granted under 4,803 cases, comprising 430 individual forest rights (IFR), 4,277 community forest rights (CFR) and 96 community forest rights.

Among the 6,020 land titles issued to ST families in the Jammu region received the majority, they received the highest 5,195 land titles were issued in 10 districts of the region, they said.

Historic Amira

An official of the Srinagar Smart City said the bridge is being built on the lines of the old Amira Kadal bridge.

"Its style and design have been conceptualised accordingly. It will have a 52-metre long vending zone, gazebos, plazas with seating arrangements at both ends," he said.

The official said as it is a foot bridge and it needs

to have two levels of flooring – the rough flooring and the finished flooring.

"It will have amenities like drinking water. It would be illuminated to give it an aesthetically modern look," he added.

Search operation in

The joint forces have intensified their efforts, particularly along the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway in the Samba-Kathua section, with heightened surveillance on border roads, officials said.

The combing operation spans multiple areas, stretching from Sanyal to Ding Amb and beyond, covering several kilometers of challenging terrain.

ECI Launches

and 13 District Election Officers (DEOs) from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and other states, has begun a two-day residential training.

The capacity-building program will continue in phases, initially focusing on poll-bound states before expanding nationwide.

Spokesperson said the training curriculum is designed to equip BLOs with a clear understanding of the Representation of the People Act, 1950, electoral rules, and IT applications essential for error-free electoral roll updates. "These trained officers will later serve as Assembly Level Master Trainers (ALMTs) to mentor other BLOs in their respective states," he added

The ECI reiterated its commitment to empowering nearly 100 crore electors, ensuring a transparent and accurate voter registration system. "The training initiative is expected to significantly strengthen electoral management at the grassroots level, ahead of upcoming elections".

J&K To Sensitize

the CHC process in previous years, Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Dr. Mandeep Kumar Bhandari, who is also CEO of the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB), said in past doctors had issued CHCs to unfit pilgrims, including those with co-morbidities, to participate in the Yatra, resulting in tragic consequences.

He cited the 2012 Amarnath Yatra as a stark example, where over 100 pilgrims lost their lives due to health

complications that were severely exacerbated by the extreme conditions of the pilgrimage like high altitude above 12,800 feet, low oxygen levels, snow-covered mountains and sudden temperature drops. These challenges underscored the urgent need for rigorous health screening to prevent such incidents in future, therefore, making of CHC prerequisite for registration.

Students should

Satish Sharma advised the student to focus on skills rather than marks. He asked them to opt for professional courses instead of traditional studies. He also assured the Principal SRML to look into the genuine demands raised by him including renovation of open gym, transport facility etc.

The Minister also unveiled the school prospectus and planted a Rudraksh sapling, marking the commitment to a greener future.

CEO Jammu, Jagdeep Kumar Padha, District Education Planning Officer Jammu, Bhagwan Dass Sharma, Principal, Dr. Kishore Sharma, Principal GBS Gandhi Nagar, Adaesh Bala, Principal GHSS Shastri Nagar, Anu Bhardwaj, Principal GHSS Rehari, Dr. Jyoti Parkash besides teachers and other staff members were present on the occasion.

Centre inks Rs 6,900

Last week, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, approved eight proposals worth over Rs 54,000 crore that include the purchase of more powerful engines for the Army's T-90 tanks, anti-submarine torpedoes for the Navy, and Airborne Early Warning & Control (AEW&C) Aircraft Systems for the Air Force.

The council accorded 'Acceptance of Necessity' (AoN) for the procurement of a 1350 HP engine to upgrade the present 1000 HP engine for the T-90 tanks. Similarly, the Council gave its nod for the procurement of the indigenously-developed Varunastra Torpedoes (Combat) for the Indian Navy.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that i have lost my 8th class pass Discharge Certificate some where, Now i want to apply for its duplicate in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the principal Govt Higher secondary school Arin Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Nasrullah Mir.
S/O Gh Hassan Mir.
R/O Konan Bandipora.

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that the Aadhaar Card of my Son bearing Registration No: 8418 2732 3843, his name has been Mistakenly Mentioned as Malik Mohammad Afnan, while as his Actual and correct name as per his Domicile Certificate is Mohammad Altamash Malik. Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Concern Authorities with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, after that no objection shall be accepted.

Ehtisham Ali Malik.
F/O Mohammad. Altamash Malik.
R/O Plan Bandipora , Ward NO : 02 , jammu and kashmir , pin code ; 193502.

NOTICE

Whereas, I Suhail Ahmad Bhat S/o Mr. Mohammad Sidiq Bhat R/o Naidyar Rainawari Srinagar, Kashmir intend to apply in the Department of Tourism for Registration of my proposed Travel Unit under the name and style "M/s Travia Tour and Travels situated at Naidyar Rainawari Srinagar Kashmir under Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011-12. Now as per J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/12, before my case is processed for registration by the Competent Authority, the matter is notified hereby for information of general Public/Financial Institutions/ Bank/Organization, etc for objection, if any and the same should reach to the Deputy Director Tourism Registration (e-mailId:-ddtreg123@gmail.com) within a period of 7 days from the publication of this notice. No objections beyond a period of 7 days shall be entertained.

Suhail Ahmad Bhat
S/o Mr. Mohammad Sidiq Bhat
R/o Naidyar Rainawari Srinagar,
Kashmir

Kashmiri Filmmaker’s Documentary on Deodar Forests Selected for US Film Festival



SRINAGAR: Renowned Kashmiri filmmaker Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan's latest documentary, Deodar – Roots of Paradise, has been officially selected for screening at the Eastern's Green Frog Film Festival 2025, set to be held at Eastern Connecticut State University, USA, on April 12.

The film explores the ecological and cultural significance of Kashmir's Deodar forests, often referred to as the "guardians of the valley." Covering over 30% of Kashmir's forest area, these ancient trees play a vital role in maintaining environmental balance, preventing landslides, and supporting biodiversity.

However, the documentary raises alarm over the rapid deforestation in the region. Over the past 50 years, Kashmir has lost 19% of its forest cover due to illegal logging and urban expansion. The illegal timber trade, valued at 500 crore annually, continues to threaten the Deodar species. The film also links deforestation to natural disasters, including the 2014 Kashmir floods, which were exacerbated by large-scale tree cutting and soil erosion.

Speaking on the film's selection, Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan said, "Deodar is more than a film; it's a movement to awaken people to the urgent need for forest conservation. The world needs to see what we stand to lose if we don't act now."

The documentary also highlights conservation efforts by the J&K Forest Department, which has planted over five lakh Deodar saplings annually and restored 15,000 hectares of degraded forests under various government initiatives.

The Eastern's Green Frog Film Festival showcases films focusing on sustainability, climate change, and environmental conservation. Deodar – Roots of Paradise will be screened alongside other global entries addressing critical ecological challenges.

Birla Open Minds Intl School Hosts Inter-School Tilawat-e-Quran, Naat Competition

Bilal Habib

PAMPORE: Birla Open Minds International School (BOMIS) Pampore organized an Inter-School Tilawat-e-Quran and Group Naat Competition on the occasion of Firaq-e-Ramadhan, bringing together students from various institutions in an atmosphere of devotion and spiritual reflection.

Peerzada Maulana Shakeel ur Rehman Owasi, who attended the event as a jury member, praised the participants for their heartfelt recitations, stating, "It is heartening to see young students express their deep love for the Holy Prophet (PBUH) with such sincerity. This event beautifully captures the essence of Ramadhan."

The program began with an insightful discourse by Ghulam Hassan Chamgeen, who spoke about the poetic and spiritual depth of Naat recitation, encouraging students to



embrace devotion and discipline in their performances. Principal BOMIS Pampore, Dr. Mehnaz Rehman, expressed gratitude to all participating schools and the jury panel. "Hosting such an event is an honor. It not only celebrates Quranic recitation and devotional poetry but also strengthens the spiritual foundation of our students," she said. The competition was judged by Maulana Shakeel ur Rehman Owasi, Mirwaiz Khanqah-e-Faiz Panah Pakherpora, and District President Karwan-e-Islami

International, Shopian, along with renowned Kashmiri poet and former AIR broadcaster Ghulam Hassan Chamgeen.

Participants from Green Valley Educational Institution, Kashmir Harvard School, Dolphin International School Pulwama, Doon International School Baramulla, and Hamdania Mission School showcased exceptional talent in Quranic recitation and Naat performances, reflecting their deep spiritual connection and commitment.

علوم اسلامیہ اور دین اسلام کے حدام آپ کے محبوب ادارہ

دارالعلوم رحیمیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

کی آپ مندرجہ ذیل طریقوں سے رجعتوں کے اس مہینہ میں مدد کر سکتے ہیں

۱۔ صدقہ جاریہ (خریدی زمین اور تعمیرات وغیرہ)

0061010100001532
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر

۲۔ زکوٰۃ، نیا زکوٰۃ

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر
0061010100000321
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۳۔ عام امداد، عمومی خیرات، اللہ تعالیٰ

0727040100000386
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

بینک اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک نشاط پارک بانڈی پورہ

۴۔ تعمیر مسجد شریف

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ نشاط پارک رانچ ہے کے بینک بانڈی پورہ
0727010100000084
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ دارالعلوم رحیمیہ ہے کے بینک میں بازار بانڈی پورہ کشمیر
0061010100001226
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

۵۔ مدرسۃ البنات

0727010100000200
IFSC Code: JAKA0NIPARK

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ جموں و کشمیر بینک

۶۔ ریلیف کے لئے (بھنگائی آفات، مریضوں کے ڈاکٹر، محتاج)

0061010100001098
IFSC Code: JAKA0WULLAR

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ ریلیف سکل ہے کے بینک میں رانچ بانڈی پورہ

۷۔ محمود غلامی ادارہ پورہ پورہ یتیم خانہ، امداد یتیم گاہ مساکین

0181010100002615
IFSC Code: JAKA0FRUITS

کرنٹ اکاؤنٹ جام احمد چٹاڑن ہوم پاد پورہ یٹرو منڈی سرینگر

نوٹ:- آپ جس اکاؤنٹ میں رقم داخل کریں اس کی اطلاع دفتر کو فون 01957-225271 پر ضرور کریں یا موبائل

9419089250 SMS کریں تاکہ مدرسہ کے حسابات اور بینک کے اندراجات میں موافقت رہے اور فرق نہ آئے۔

الداعی الی الخیر

محمد رحمت اللہ ناظم دارالعلوم رحیمیہ بانڈی پورہ کشمیر پین: 193502 فون دفتر: 01957-225271

جاری کردہ: رمضان المبارک ۱۴۴۶ھ مطابق مارچ ۲۵ء ۲۰۲۵ء

NOTICE

This is an information for general public that the RC of my vehicle 2 wheeler bearing Registration No JK15 B-1661, my Cost has been Mistakenly Mentioned as 'Ganie' while as my Actual and correct Cost is 'Lone' Now i want to apply for its correction in this regard any person having any objection he/she may file the Objections in office of the Assistant Regional Transport Office Bandipora with in a period of seven days from the date of the publication of this notice, After that no objection shall be accepted.

Hilal Ahmad Lone.
S/O Mohd Sabir Lone.
R/O Gulshan pora Bandipora,
District Bandipora, jammu and

NOTICE

I, Mohammad Ayoub Bhat, father of Nasir Ayoub, am applying for the correction of my son's name and date of birth in his Aadhaar card (No. 2320 1064 9970). His name is incorrectly recorded as Mohammad Nasir Bhat, and his DOB as 10-09-2013, whereas his correct name is Nasir Ayoub, and his actual DOB is 08-09-2017. Objections, if any, may be raised with the concerned department within one week. After this period, no objections will be entertained.

Name: Mohammad Ayoub Bhat
Father of: Nasir Ayoub
R/O: Tilsara, Charari Sharief,
District Budgam

NOTICE

I, Sajad Ahmad Bhat, father of Zakir Sajad, am applying for the correction of my son's name and date of birth in his Aadhaar card (No. 4957 0629 9957). His name is incorrectly recorded as Zakir Ahmad Bhat, and his DOB as 09-03-2017, whereas his correct name is Zakir Sajad, and his actual DOB is 18-10-2019. Objections, if any, may be raised with the concerned department within one week. After this period, no objections will be entertained.

Name: Sajad Ahmad Bhat
Father of: Zakir Sajad
R/O: Tilsara, Charari Sharief,
District Budgam

Brilliant To See The Fearlessness Of Young Indian Players: Marcus Stoinis

Australian all-rounder Marcus Stoinis has been left supremely impressed by the quality of youngsters in the Punjab Kings squad as well as the Indian T20 set up on the sidelines of the IPL.

After the retirement of stalwarts Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravindra Jadeja, the depth of Indian cricket has ensured that T20 team has built on the success of the 2024 T20 World Cup courtesy the likes of Tilak Varma and Abhishek Sharma.

At Punjab Kings camp, rookies like opener Priyansh Arya have already made a mark even though it is early days in the IPL.

"There's great depth here (in Indian cricket). There always has been. And I think they're getting the chance to show their skills on a world stage," Stoinis told PTI.

"They are super confident. They've had almost the advantage of growing up with IPL, being under pressure from early stages in their career. It's brilliant to see how fearless they are with their cricket and especially (while playing for) Indian cricket (team).

"Some of the youngsters in the Punjab Kings camp who have never really played the IPL are very impressive," said the 35-year-old.

Stoinis returns to the franchise after almost a decade and is excited to work compatriot and head coach Ricky Ponting.

"A lot of Aussie boys here, which is nice for me. So it does feel at home," he said referring to the likes of Glenn Maxwell, Aaron Hardie and Josh Inglis.

"It was my second year in the IPL that

I moved to here. So yeah, it's all familiar. I love the IPL.

"It's a mainstay in the calendar. It's something we all look forward to and personally I look



forward to. It's exciting to have the opportunity to bring some success to this franchise," said the Perth based cricketer.

All phases of Kohli's career has served a purpose

Stoinis' connection with Virat Kohli goes back to their U-19 days when the Indian led his team to the World Cup title in 2008.

Stoinis said he remains in touch with the Indian superstar and has enjoyed tracking his remarkable career.

"We've known each other for a long time. We've got a mutual friend in Perth that has known him for a long time as well. So that's sort of how that relationship started.

"But yeah, what a great career it's been so far. It's definitely not finished. It seems like he's worn a few caps throughout his career in terms of being the young guy coming into an Indian team that forced his way in there at such a young age and showed such confidence in himself to crack into such a good team to then leading the team and almost changing the whole culture of Indian cricket and inspiring a lot of the young cricketers around India and around the world.

"And then a whole new phase of the fitness side of things as well that he inspired in the Indian set-up to now mentoring the new kids on the block. And he's got his family now as well.

"I think all of those phases have served a purpose, not only for himself, but as a mentor for the wider public and the cricket community. So always hats off to him, to be honest," added Stoinis.

Shreyas Iyer continues to evolve his game, says Kane Williamson

AHMEDABAD: India middle-order mainstay and Punjab Kings' captain Shreyas Iyer continues to "evolve his game" while "adjusting brilliantly" to challenges such as facing short balls, believes New Zealand stalwart Kane Williamson.

Iyer began his captaincy stint for PBKS with a match-winning 97 not out, studded with nine sixes and five fours off 42 balls, against Gujarat Titans in their IPL clash here on Tuesday.

Williamson, a former Gujarat Titans player, heaped praise on the right-handed Iyer for his adaptability.

"What stands out about Shreyas is how he continues to evolve his game," said JioStar expert Williamson.

"For a period, teams targeted him with short balls, but now, he's adjusting brilliantly – getting deeper in his crease, de-weighting his front leg, and dominating the short-pitched deliveries.

"What is most impressive is his ability to shift his weight forward again, making it difficult for bowlers who try the 'one-two' approach — going short, then full. He's now able to access all areas of the ground, which makes him such a formidable batter," Williamson added.

The New Zealand batting great termed Iyer's knock of 97 not out of "highest standard".

"It was a knock of the highest standard. From the very first ball, it was almost a highlight reel—he played the ball exactly where it was meant to be hit," he said.

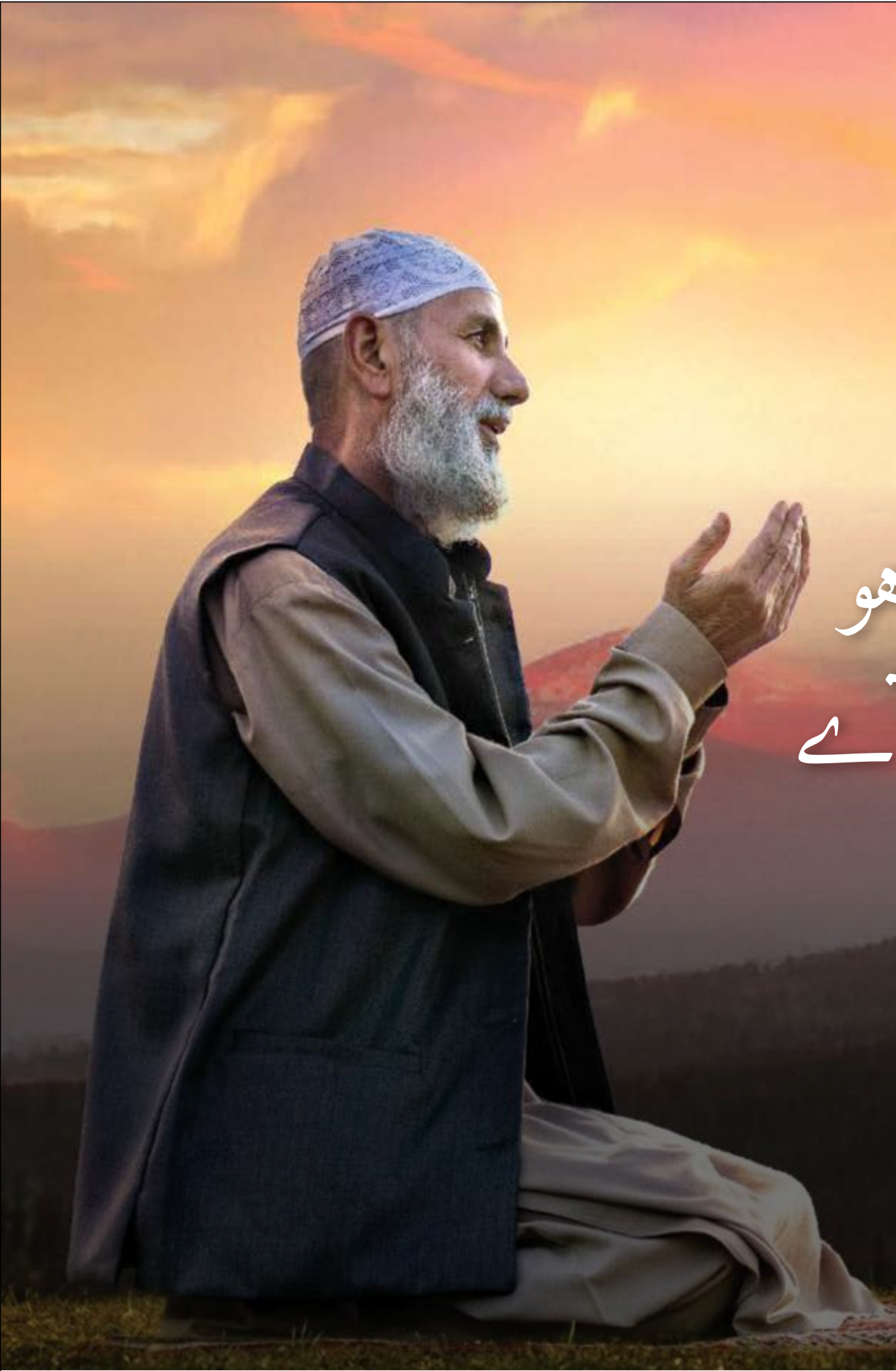
"Anything outside off stump, he looked to access the offside, and he even struck sixes over cover against some of the best seamers in the world. Then, to take on Rashid Khan as well—that's one of the toughest challenges in the game.


"As a leader, to step in at No 3, set the tone, and take on the opposition's biggest threats was remarkable. That innings was truly out of this world," Williamson added.

The Kiwi batter also praised Shashank Singh for his whirlwind knock of 44 not out off only 16 balls, which pushed PBKS' total beyond the reach of the Titans.



They are super confident. They've had almost the advantage of growing up with IPL, being under pressure from early stages in their career. It's brilliant to see how fearless they are with their cricket and especially (while playing for) Indian cricket (team).





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