

Maximum : 31°C  
Minum : 18°C  
Humidity : 48%  
SUNSET  
Today 07:46 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 05:24 AM

## News Digest

## CASO Launched Along Kathua Border

Jammu: Security forces launched a search operation on Friday following reports of "suspected movement" in the riverine areas along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua-Samba sector, officials said. Some people informed the police about suspected movement of two persons near the Ujjahnallah in KotePanu and Pundori hamlets, and they swung into action and launched the operation in the area, they said. The entire area was cordoned off and searches conducted for several hours, the officials said. In the last few years, terrorists have infiltrated into India. ● P-02

## Advocate Zahid Ali Booked Under PSA

Srinagar: Advocate Zahid Ali on Friday was booked under the Public Safety Act (PSA) and shifted to Srinagar's Central Jail, barely three months after a court here quashed his detention under the controversial law. Ali, the Chief Spokesperson of Jama'at-e-Islami, now banned, was picked up from his home in Nihama area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on June 30 and shifted to police station Kakpora, family sources said. He was later booked under the PSA and shifted to Central Jail. ● P-02

## Penalty Imposed On JKSRTC Driver

Jammu: The management Jammu and Kashmir Road Transport Corporation (JKSRTC) on Friday imposed a penalty on a driver for indulging into misappropriation of corporation revenue and negligence of duties. JKSRTC Managing Director, Angrez Singh Rana today issued an order today imposing a penalty of Rs 22,446 on a corporation driver for gross negligence of legitimate duties and ticket less travelling, an official spokesperson said. JKSRTC, he said imposed the penalty after ARTO Kishtwar- Doda submitted a report indicating that the driver was found indulging into the ● P-02

## LAWDA Demolishes Illegal Structures In City

Srinagar: The Lakes and Waterways Development Authority (LAWDA) authorities on Friday demolished several illegal structures during a demolition drive in several parts of the city here. The Enforcement Wing of LAWDA carried out a drive in Baghwanpora, Rainawari, Miskeenbagh and Shalimar during which a single storey, double storey and three-storey illegal constructions were demolished, an official spokesperson said. He said an anti-encroachment drive was also launched. ● P-02

## SKIMS Discharges 30 After Recovery

Srinagar: The authorities at the SKIMS hospital Bemina on Friday discharged 30 people after recovering fully from Covid-19 infection. According to an official spokesperson, 30 patients were discharged today after recuperating from COVID-19 and successfully testing negative prior to discharging. "With this the total figure of recovered patients has raised to 529 out of 640 COVID-19 positive patients admitted till date from April 2020, taking the overall recovery rate to 82.6 ● P-02

## Chargesheet Filed Against Yasin Malik In Baramulla Court

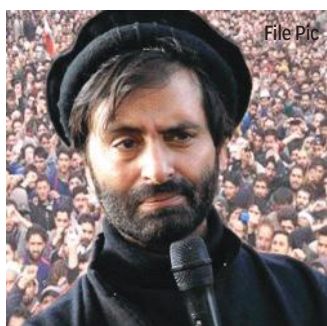
## Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday presented a chargesheet against separatist leader Mohammad Yasin Malik in a Baramulla court in connection with two cases registered against him at the Police Station Sumbal in Bandipora district.

Officials said that Police presented a charge-sheet against Malik in the Court of Sessions Judge Sanjay Parihar at Baramulla District Court through video conferencing.

Malik, they said appeared before the Court through video conferencing today and he was also informed about the charge-sheet which has been filed against him in Baramulla Court.

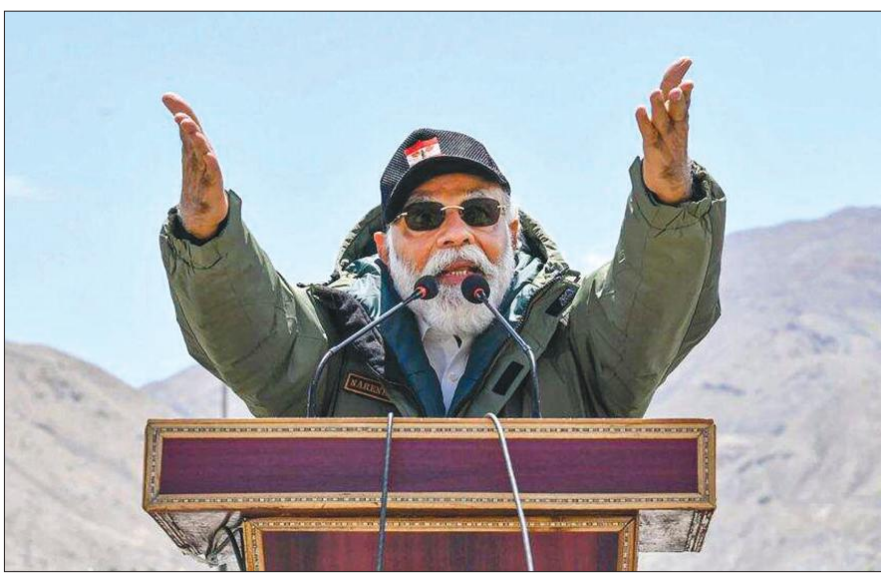
The officials said that two cases were filed against Malik in 2008 and



2010 for organizing anti-India rallies in Sumbal town of Bandipora district. While presenting the charge-sheet, when the judge gave Yasin Malik a chance to choose his lawyer, the separatist leader said that he would follow his own lead. However, the court did not approve his statement and directed the ● PAGE 02

## PM Modi Attacks 'Expansionist' China From Ladakh

‘India's Enemies Have Seen Fire And Fury Of Its Armed Forces’



PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi addresses the Indian troops during his visit to the forward post in Ladakh, Friday, July 3, 2020. (PTI)

## Press Trust Of India

LEH/NEW DELHI: In a clear message to China, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the era of expansionism is over and that India's enemies have seen the "fire and fury" of its armed forces as he made an unannounced visit to Ladakh, signaling India's firmness in dealing with the border row with the neighbouring country.

In an address to troops, Modi paid glowing tributes to the 20 Indian soldiers killed in the Galwan Valley clashes, and said tales of the bravery and valour of the armed forces are echoing in every part of the country.

"Bharat Mata's enemies have seen your fire and fury," Modi said in an apparent reference to

the military clashes between the Indian and Chinese troops, and asserted that bravery is a prerequisite for peace and that the weak can never accomplish it.

Modi's visit to Ladakh is seen as a strong message against China's aggressive posturing along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the region.

"We are the same people who pray to the flute-playing Lord Krishna, but we are also those who idolise and pray to the same Lord Krishna who carries the Sudarshana Chakra", he said amid chants of 'Vande Mataram'.

The prime minister said the world has taken note of India's strength due to the "exemplary bravery" of the armed forces in the recent weeks, adding history is proof that "expansionists

have either lost or perished.

"The era of expansionism has ended. This is the age of development. If someone becomes stubborn for expansionism, then it creates danger for world peace. History is witness that such forces have either been eliminated or forced to turn back. The entire world has made up its mind against expansionism," he said.

He further said: "Your courage is higher than the heights where you are serving today. When the safety of the country is in your hands, then there is a belief. Not only me, but the entire nation believes in you. We all are proud of you."

The prime minister, accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat and Army Chief Gen MM Naravane in the morning. Later, he interacted ● PAGE 02

■ WE ARE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO PRAY TO THE flute-playing Lord Krishna, but we are also those who idolise and pray to the same Lord Krishna who carries the Sudarshana Chakra', he said amid chants of 'Vande Mataram'.

## ‘We’re Bringing Modern Technology From Around World For Armed Forces’

On a surprise visit to Ladakh in the midst of heightened tension between India and China, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday told soldiers that modernisation of the armed forces is a priority and that the spending on border infrastructure has almost tripled.

In an address to troops, Modi said India is manufacturing critical weapons and bringing modern technology from around the world for the armed forces as the government is paying lot of attention for their requirement. "If India is enhancing its powers on land, air and water, then it is for the welfare of mankind," he said.

## Neither Side Should Complicate Border Situation: China

A s Prime Minister Narendra Modi undertook a surprise visit on Friday to eastern Ladakh to meet troops amid a bitter Sino-India military standoff, China said neither side should make any move that may complicate the border situation. Modi visited Leh where he interacted with personnel of the Army, Air Force ● P-02

"India is manufacturing modern weapons today. We are bringing modern technology from around the world for the armed forces. The spirit behind it is the same. If India is building modern infrastructure at a fast pace, then the message behind it is the same," he added.

Modi said the government

is paying a lot of attention to bring modern weapons for the armed forces.

"Now the spending on border infrastructure in the country has almost tripled. This has also led to speedy development of border areas including construction of bridges and laying of roads," he said. ● PAGE 02

## Covid-19: NEET, JEE Exams Put Off Till Sept

NEW DELHI: The HRD Ministry on Friday postponed crucial medical and engineering entrance exams NEET and JEE to September in view of the spike in COVID-19 cases.

The decision was taken following recommendations of a four-member committee set up to review the feasibility of conducting the exams in July.

"Keeping in mind the safety of students and to ensure quality education we have decided to postpone JEE and NEET examinations. JEE-Main examination will be held between September 1-6, while JEE-advanced exam will be held on September 27. NEET examination will be held on September 13," said Union HRD Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nihank'.

Following the announcement of a nationwide lockdown to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus, the competitive exams for engineering and medical admissions were first postponed on May 5.

The medical entrance exam National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) was scheduled for July 26, while the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE)-Mains for admission to engineering colleges was to be held from July 18-23.

JEE-Advanced, which is conducted for admission to Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), was earlier scheduled for ● P-02

## India Lodges Protest With Pak Over Ceasefire Violations

NEW DELHI: India has lodged a strong protest with Pakistan over "unprovoked ceasefire violations" by Pakistani forces along the Line of Control and the International Border with an aim to push militants into Jammu and Kashmir, official sources said on Friday.

They said 14 Indians have been killed and 88 sustained injuries in more than 2,432 incidents of ceasefire violations carried out by Pakistani forces till June this year.

The ceasefire violations are in contravention of the 2003 ceasefire understanding between the two countries, the sources said.

They said India has also conveyed its "strong concerns" at the continued support being extended by the Pakistani forces to cross border infiltration of militants, including by providing covering fire.

"We have registered our strong protest at the continued ● P-02

## Despite Note Ban, 370 Move, No Change In J&amp;K Situation: Sena

MUMBAI: The Shiv Sena on Friday said the 2016 demonetisation exercise, scrapping of Article 370 and bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir have done nothing to improve the security situation in the militancy-affected Union Territory.

The former BJP ally wondered why there is no peace in the newly-carved out Union Territory when there is a "strong" government at the Centre.

"Its status quo despite scrapping of Article 370 (that gave special status to J&K) and bifurcation of the erstwhile state.

"There is blood on the streets every day and there is loss of innocent lives. Despite demonetisation, there is no respite from militant activities and ● P-02

## Srinagar Can Never Be Militancy Free: IGP Kashmir

Says Militant Behind Bijbehara

Attack Killed In Malbagh Gunfight



## Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Claiming that the militants are on the run following hot pursuit by the state forces, the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir Vijay Kumar said on Friday that Srinagar can never be militancy free as the militants keep on visiting this capital city for various purposes.

Talking to the reporters on the sidelines of wreath laying function of a CRPF Head Constable Kuldeep Kumar killed in a late night encounter in Srinagar's Malbagh area on Thursday, the IGP Kashmir said that the militants were on run and were regularly changing their hideouts. The forces, he said launch operations to neutralize militants as soon as information is received.

"Srinagar is a city where militants come often. Sometimes they come for medical treatment, meetings or collecting funds. Srinagar can never be militant free. That will never be possible," he said, adding

"Militants will keep on coming here. And we will keep on carrying out encounters as and when we get information about the militants."

Terming the Malbagh encounter as a big success for the government forces, the IGP Kashmir said that Zahid Dass, the district chief of ISJK was a very "big criminal for us" as he carried a series of attacks, including the one at Bijbehara.

"Five militants were involved in this attack. Yawar Butt was killed in previous encounter on June 30. Three have been killed so far while two are still alive," he said.

Kumar said that Dass was involved in killing the PSO of Sajad Mufti and decamping with his rifle in November 2019. In April this year, the ISJK militant, he said shot dead a CRPF man in Goriwan with a pistol fire. "On June 26, he opened fired at CRPF in which a jawan and a six year old child were killed. On the same day, we filed a case against him. We tweeted his details ● PAGE 02

■ ON JUNE 26, HE OPENED FIRED AT CRPF in which a jawan and a six year old child were killed. On the same day, we filed a case against him. We tweeted his details on social media as well,"

## 4 More Covid-19 Deaths In Kashmir, J&amp;K Toll 121

## Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Four more Covid-19 patients succumbed to the deadly disease in Kashmir Valley on Friday, taking the fatality count across the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir to 121.

While three deaths were reported from Chest Diseases hospital, another was confirmed by the authorities at the SMHS hospital here.

An 80-year-old Covid-19 positive patient from Rajbagh Srinagar died at around 12:30 am at SMHS hospital, the officials said.

They said the octogenarian was admitted to the hospital on Thursday and had bilateral pneumonia and heart ailments. Earlier, a 70-year-old male patient from Baramulla died at CD hospital, the officials said.

They said the patient, who was shifted to the hospital on Thursday, was suffering from pneumonia, hypertension, diabetes and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Later evening, two more deaths were reported from the CD hospital. Among them was an 80-year-old from Chattabal areas of Srinagar and ● PAGE 02

## Covid-19 Crosses 8000 Mark In J&amp;K, 170 New Cases

Coronavirus cases on Friday crossed 8000 mark in Jammu and Kashmir as 170 more people, including 57 travellers, 10 Beacon personnel and five uniformed men, taking the number of people infected across the Union Territory to 8019. "170 new Covid-19 cases were detected in J&K. While 128 of them are from Kashmir, 42 are from Jammu," ● P-02

## HC Rules Out CAT's Jurisdiction Over J&amp;K Bank Hiring

## Agencies

SRINAGAR: Central Administrative Act (CAT) does not have the jurisdiction over selection process by J&K Bank regarding 1850 posts of Probationary Officers and Banking Associates, Jammu and Kashmir High Court ruled on Friday.

"It cannot be said that sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the CAT Act applies to the Bank or the instant recruitment process of the Bank," a bench of Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey said.

"Resultantly, it is held that the CAT does not have the jurisdiction under Section 14 in relation to the subject matter of controversy in the instant case; and, further, that this Court continues to have the jurisdiction in relation ● PAGE 02



## J&amp;K Bank Disbursed Rs 1100 Cr Under GECL Scheme: CMD

The Jammu and Kashmir Bank has disbursed over Rs 1100 Cr under the central government's Guaranteed Emergency Credit Line (GECL) scheme to the eligible borrowers strictly as per the regulatory guidelines, Chairman and MD R K Chhibber said here on Friday. ● P-02

## Govt Employee Booked Over ‘Seditious’ Social Media Post

## Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police on Friday booked a government employee for putting out 'highly seditious and provocative posts' on the social media

Tahir Nazir Shalla, an employee in government's education department was arrested after the cyber police found him misusing social media by posting "seditious and provocative" posts which are "highly prejudicial" to maintenance of law and order, a police spokesperson said.

"Besides, he was also running anti-national campaign on social media and tried to create false and fake narrative by spreading rumours with regard to the current security scenario of the Kashmir valley," he added.

Shalla, the police spokesperson



said has been shifted to Police Station Sopore where he remains in custody. "Case FIR No. 171/2020 under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Sopore and further investigation into the matter is going on," he said.

He added that police has taken serious note of misuse of social media platforms and registered a case against various users who defied the Government orders by spreading "false propaganda against ● PAGE 02



# Cong Leaders Slam Anupamkher For Quoting Sikh Guru's Words To 'Describe' BJP's Patra

**CHANDIGARH:** Punjab minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa and Congress MP Ravneet Singh Bittu on Thursday slammed actor AnupamKher, accusing him of using sacred words of Sikh Guru Gobind Singh to describe BJP spokesperson SambitPatra.

Kher had tweeted Sawa lakh se ekbhida dun while tagging Patra. His tweet came after Patra was being trolled on social media for posting a picture of a three-year-old boy sitting on the body of his grandfather who was killed in Jammu and Kashmir's Sopore on Wednesday.

In a statement here, Punjab cabinet minister Sukhjinder-Randhawa accused Kher of using the holy 'shabad' of Guru Gobind Singh "merely to please his political master SambitPatra .

He also charged Kher with hurting sentiments of the Sikh

community under a well thought conspiracy and said Sikhs will never tolerate it.

Randhawa also asked the ShiromaniAkali Dal to make their stand clear on the Kher's tweet besides demanding the intervention of the Akal TakhtJathedar.

This tweet of @AnupamPKher is highly derogatory, most condemnable. Sikhs r deeply hurt @Akali\_Dal\_@officeofssbadal @HarsimratBadal\_ @bsmajithia should make their stand clear I demand sacking of kher, his wife from BJP Request intervention of Jathedaar Sri Akal Takht sahib, Randhawa tweeted.

Taking strong exception to the Kher's tweet, Ludhiana Congress MP Bittu said in his tweet, How dare @AnupamPKher use sacred words of Guru Gobind Singh ji to describe the spokesperson of BJP.

It spoils the martial image of Sikhs. Bittu further termed it a bid by the RSS to dilute strong tenets of Sikhism . He said Prime Minister NarendraModi should tender an immediate apology and kick out Kher and his wife from the BJP.

Congress MLA Amrinder Singh Raja Warring also sought action against Kher. He asked who gave Kher the right to distort Gurbani while saying it was not a dialogue of his film. @PunjabPoliceInd& @MumbaiPolice this man is playing with religious sentiments of Sikh's. Kindly take immediate & appropriate action against him, Warring tweeted.

However, the actor, whose wife KirronKher is a BJP MP from Chandigarh, later sought an apology for his tweet. Activists of the Youth Congress here held a protest against Kher for allegedly hurting sentiments of Sikhs.

# Lightning Strikes Bihar Again, Kills 8; Assam Flood Situation Remains Grim

**NEW DELHI:** Lightning strikes killed eight people in Bihar on Friday and two minor boys drowned in a rainwater-filled lake in Maharashtra, even as the flood situation remained grim in Assam, claiming one more life and affecting over a million people in 20 districts.

Mumbai, meanwhile, received heavy rains with the IMD predicting intermittent moderate to heavy rainfall and "possibility of very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall at isolated places" on Saturday.

In Bihar, officials said in Patna that at least eight people were killed in lightning strikes on Friday, a day after 26 died in similar incidents in eight districts of the state.

The latest fatalities were reported from five districts, with Samastipur accounting for the highest number of three deaths. Two deaths were reported from

Lakhisarai, while one each died in Gaya, Banka and Jamui districts, sources in the Disaster Management Department said.

More than 100 people have died due to lightning strikes in the state in the last one week.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed grief over the deaths and ordered a payment of Rs 4 lakh as ex-gratia to next of kin of each deceased. Even though floodwaters are receding from a few districts of Assam, the overall situation remained grim with one more death being reported on Friday, while 13.3 lakh people remain affected across 20 districts, down from 22 Thursdays.

The fresh death, reported from Dhubri district, took the toll to 35, officials said, adding the cumulative death figures in flood and landslides have risen to 59.

The ASDMA said the affected districts are: Dhemaji, Lakhimpur, Biswanath, Chirang, Dar-

rang, Nalbari, Barpeta, Bongaigaon, Kokrajhar, Dhubri, South Salmara, Goalpara, Kamrup, Kamrup Metropolitan, Morigaon, Nagaon, Golaghat, Jorhat, Dibrugarh and Tinsukia districts.

The floodwaters have also killed 41 animals in Kaziranga National Park, a state bulletin said, quoting the DFO of the Eastern Assam Wildlife Division.

The flood has also affected 19,14,001 domestic animals and poultry across the state during the last 24 hours, it added.

Prime Minister NarendraModi assured full support to Assam in fighting the COVID-19 and flood crises.

PM NarendraModi has sanctioned ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each for next of kin of persons who lost their lives due to floods in Assam, from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF)," the PMO tweeted.

Meanwhile, in Maharashtra, two boys drowned in a rain-filled

lake in Udgir tehsil of Latur district on Friday morning, police said.

IndarjeetMachole and GovindBoyane, both 12 years old, entered the lake for a swim in Hanmantwadi area and drowned around 11am after getting caught in silt accumulated at the bottom, an official said.

The India Meteorological Department has predicted heavy rainfall for Bhopal and Indore on Saturday. Showers were witnessed in several parts of Madhya Pradesh since Thursday evening.

Up north, sultry weather conditions continued to prevail in Haryana and Punjab, with maximum temperatures hovering 3-7 notches above normal limits.

Chandigarh, the common capital of the two states, recorded a maximum temperature of 39.1 degrees Celsius, three notches above normal limits, according to the Meteorological Department in Chandigarh.

## PM Modi Attacks...

with personnel from the Army, Indian Air Force and the ITBP in Nimu. Located at 11,000 feet, Nimu is among the toughest terrains, on the banks of river Indus and surrounded by the Zaskar range.

In the afternoon, Modi visited a military hospital in Leh where he interacted with soldiers, who were injured in the Galwan Valley clashes and are undergoing treatment.

"Whether during the world wars or peace, the world has seen the victory of our brave soldiers and their efforts towards peace," Modi said in his address.

During his visit, the prime minister also said that in the last few years, several steps have been taken for the wellbeing of India's armed forces and to further strengthen India's security preparedness.

This includes ensuring availability of modern weaponry, increased border infrastructure, border area development and expanding the roads network, he said, and added that expenditure on border infrastructure has been enhanced three times.

The Indian and Chinese armies are locked in a bitter standoff in multiple locations in eastern Ladakh for the last seven weeks. The tension escalated manifold after 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a violent clash in Galwan Valley on June 15. The Chinese side also suffered casualties but it is yet to give out the details.

The prime minister also spoke at length about how the virtues of peace, friendship and courage have been a part of India's culture since time immemorial.

He recalled that India has always given a befitting reply to anyone who has tried to disturb the prevailing atmosphere of peace and progress.

He affirmed that India is committed to peace and friendship but this commitment to peace should not be seen as India's weakness.

Today India is becoming stronger, be it in naval might, air power, space power and the strength of our army, he said, adding modernisation of weapons and upgradation of infrastructure has enhanced the country's defence capabilities manifold.

He also said that the government is putting adequate focus on the requirements of armed forces.

In his address, Modi remembered all the "proud sons of Mother India" who made the supreme sacrifice at the Galwan Valley, adding those who were martyred belong to all parts of the country and "epitomised our land's ethos of bravery".

He affirmed that be it Leh-Ladakh, Kargil or the Siachen Glacier, be it the high mountains or the icy cold water that flows in the rivers, these are testimony to the gallantry of India's Armed Forces.

Recalling the greatness of Ladakh's culture as well as the noble teachings of Kushok Bakula Rimpoche, the prime minister described Ladakh as a land of sacrifice and a land that has given several patriots.

Modi affirmed that the people of India are inspired by the teachings of Gautama Buddha, for whom courage was linked to conviction and compassion.

While Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said Modi's visit to Ladakh and his interaction with the Army personnel have served as morale booster for them, BJP president J P Nadda tweeted "Veer bhogya v-sundhara. PM Narendra Modi's words give words to the emotion of 130 crore Indians and act as a great morale booster for our armed forces! True leadership in action!".

"The borders of the country have always been secure under the Indian Army," the defence minister said, and thanked Modi for the visit.

The situation in eastern Ladakh deteriorated after around 250 Chinese and Indian soldiers were engaged in a violent face-off on May 5 and 6. The incident in Pangong Tso was followed by a similar incident in north Sikkim on May 9.

## ‘We’re Bringing Modern...

of the biggest advantages of this is that now the goods reach you in a short time. The country is strengthening its armed forces at every level today," he added.

## Neither Side Should...

and ITBP. During his interaction, Modi, who was accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat and Army Chief M M Naravane, said the era of expansionism is over and that India's enemies have seen the "fire and fury" of its armed forces.

Reacting to Modi's visit, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian told reporters that, "China and India are in communication with each other through military and diplomatic channels. Neither side should make any move that may complicate the border situation."

India on Thursday said it expected China to ensure expeditious restoration of peace and tranquillity in the border areas in sync with provisions of relevant bilateral pacts.

The Indian and Chinese armies are locked in a standoff in multiple locations in eastern Ladakh for the last seven weeks. Tensions escalated after 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a violent clash in Galwan Valley on June 15. After several days of silence, China acknowledged it suffered casualties but is yet to give out the details.

At the briefing, Zhao also said that Beijing will take necessary measures to uphold the legitimate rights of its businesses in India following New Delhi's decision to bar Chinese firms from taking part in road projects and amid reports of delay in customs clearances of shipments of Chinese firms.

The Indian side should not have strategic miscalculation on China. We hope it will work with China to uphold the overall picture of our bilateral relations, he said.

## Covid-19: NEET, JEE Exams...

August 23.

Parents and students have been signing online petitions and conducting Twitter campaigns, requesting the government to postpone the engineering and medical entrance exams as well.

Parents of nearly 4,000 NRI students based in West Asia also filed a petition in the Supreme Court Wednesday demanding that NEET be postponed. They noted that there are no exam centres outside

India and international travel is still restricted due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Around nine lakh aspirants have registered for the JEE (main) exam, while 16 lakhs have registered for the NEET-Undergraduate exams. Raising concern over the worsening of the pandemic, candidates across the country have been demanding the postponement of the exams.

According to HRD Ministry officials, the committee felt that delaying the exams was inevitable since many test centres were located in containment zones and safety of the students was top priority of the government.

The delay, however, is likely to impact the academic calendar.

According to sources, the counselling for the two crucial exams will begin in October and freshers may begin classes by November end or December first week. However, a definite plan has not been drawn yet.

## India Lodges Protest With...

unprovoked ceasefire violations by Pakistan forces along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Boundary," said a source.

Despite these concerns having been shared, including through the channel of Director Generals Military Operations, the Pakistani forces have not stopped such activities, the sources said.

## Despite Note Ban, 370 Move...

circulation of fake notes," said an editorial in Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana'.

Referring to a recent shootout in Sopore in which a CRPF jawan and a civilian was killed, it said the picture of the civilian's three-year-old grandson sitting on the body of his grandfather was heart-wrenching.

"The little boy did not run away but was trying to wake up his grandfather. Some central ministers tweeted the picture on their Twitter handle.

"These ministers should understand that this picture can prove to be the central government's failure. Onus of this situation in the valley lies on the government .

"A child who doesn't know his grandfather is dead is trying to wake him up. Such pictures have come to the fore only in countries like Syria, Egypt, Somalia and Afghanistan," the Marathi daily said.

The picture has hurt the image of the country and also of the government at the Centre, it said.

Jawans saved the child, but what is his future?, the editorial asked and wondered if the government had any answer.

The Sena publication said despite the Centre scrapping Article 370 in J&K in August last year, soldiers continue to be martyred in terror violence and there is no "gharwapsi" (home coming) for displaced Kashmiri pandits.

"Last month, a Kashmiri pandit sarpanch was killed by terrorists," it said.

The editorial expressed concern over the rising tension on the borders with Pakistan and China.

"In the last six months, militant activities in Kashmir are on the rise. Even though our jawans have eliminated several militants, the number of martyred soldiers is also not less," the Sena said.

The editorial demanded that the government act against secessionists in Kashmir and Chinese in Ladakh.

## Srinagar Can Never Be...

on social media as well," he said.

Divulging more details about Malbagh encounter, IGP Kashmir said that Srinagar police got information about the presence of militants in the area following which a search operation was launched by police and CRPF.

"When searches started, militants opened fire at our jawans. In the firing one of our jawan was injured. Despite that, the jawan demonstrated courage and continued firing at the militant till he was neutralized," he said.

He said that it was not the militants carrying out strikes on the forces but the proactive action by the police and forces leading to the killing of militants.

"There were no militant attacks on forces in Srinagar. This is proactive action on our side. We pinpoint the information, CRPF and police cordoned off, militants fired on use, we retaliated and killed the militant," the senior police officer said.

Kumar also said that police has prepared a list of 12 top militants active in the Valley.

"Of them five are from Hizb, 3 from LeT and other four from Jaish-e-Muhammad," he said.

"I have always told you if there's no encounter in any districts, it doesn't mean that there are no militants there. Militants are being killed before they can establish their base in Srinagar," the IGP said, while replying to a query by a journalist.

Meanwhile, a police spokesperson in a handset issued here today said that keeping in view the prevailing pandemic due to COVID-19 and to ensure the safety of people from inherent risk of contracting the infection, the body of ISJK commander has been sent to Handwara for his burial & last rites after completion of medico-legal formalities.

"The nearest family members of the militant were allowed to participate in the last rites at Handwara," he said.

The police spokesperson also said that incriminating material including arms and ammunition were recovered from the site of encounter.

"All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe his complicity in other crimes. A case under relevant sections of law has been registered in PS Nigeen and investigation has been initiated," he added.

## 4 More Covid-19 Deaths...

a patient from Tarzoo Sopore.

"The septuagenarian was admitted on June 29. He was having COPD and hypertension," CD hospital, Medical Superintendent Dr Salim

Tak said.

With the four deaths today, 121 people so far have succumbed to the virus in J&K— 107 from the Valley and 14 from Jammu division. Srinagar, with 29 deaths tops the list of Covid-19 fatalities followed by 20 in Baramulla, 16 in Kulgam, 13 in Shopian, nine each in Anantnag & Budgam, eight in Jammu, six in Kupwara, four in Pulwama, two in Doda and one each in Bandipora, Udhampur, Kathua, Poonch and Rajouri districts. (With GNS inputs)

## Covid-19 Crosses 8000...

the officials said. Among fresh cases, 41 cases were reported from Srinagar followed by 24 each from Kupwara, 21 each from Anantnag & Baramulla, 13 from Jammu, 10 from Kathua, eight from Ganderbal, six from Samba, five each from Budgam & Kulgam, three each from Ramban, Doda & Rajouri, two each from Bandipora, Kishtwar & Udhampur and one from Shopian, they said.

According to officials, 101 more patients recovered and were discharged from different hospitals.

The cases detected on Friday included 57 people who had returned to J&K recently.

Besides it, 10 personnel from 108 RCC Trehgam in Kupwara, four CRPF troopers, a policeman from District Police Lines Baramulla and two babies and a doctor also tested positive for coronavirus today.

The number of confirmed cases has now reached 8,019 out of which 6,327 are in Kashmir, while 1,692 are in Jammu, the officials said.

There are 2,825 active cases of the coronavirus disease in J&K — 2,401 in Kashmir and 424 in Jammu — and 5,075 (3,821 from Kashmir and 1,254 from Jammu) patients have recovered, according to officials.

The J&K has witnessed 119 Covid-19 deaths (105 from Kashmir, 14 from Jammu) so far.

## Chargesheet Filed Against...

District Legal Services Authority to provide a lawyer for Malik.

The officials said that since Malik is currently in custody outside Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, he cannot pursue his case.

"The District Legal Services Authority of Baramulla should provide him a lawyer after which the matter can be heard," he said, adding that the next hearing of the case has been fixed for July 21.

Notably, Malik is currently lodged at Central Jail Tihar in Delhi under a different case. (KNO)

## HC Rules Out CAT's...

thereto to entertain this petition," he added.

Last week, the court had reserved its decision on the plea whether it or CAT has the jurisdiction over the matter.

J&K government through its Advocate General D C Raina had told the court that the CAT not the high court had jurisdiction over the matter.

The Advocate General had submitted that after the establishment of the CAT for the Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh, all the jurisdiction, powers and authority which were exercisable by High Court immediately before establishment of the CAT in relation to the matters enumerated thereunder, in terms of Sub-Section (1) of Section 14 of the CAT Act are exercisable by the CAT as the court of first instance. He had made specific reference to the words 'recruitment, and matters concerning recruitment' occurring in Clause (a) of Sub-section (1) of Section 14 and submitted that since the instant matter relates to recruitment in the Bank, declared as a public authority, all jurisdiction and powers and authority in relation thereto lies with the CAT.

AdvocateJehangir Iqbal Ganai, senior counsel, for the petitioners had submitted that the instant matter does not fall within the purview of sub-section (1) of Section 14, but is covered by sub-section (3) thereof, which exclusively refers to 'any local or other authority or corporation or society'.

However, he had submitted that the provision of sub-section (3) does not have an automatic application to local or other authorities or corporations or societies, but this provision is to be applied by the Central Government by notification.

"It is not that the Central Government has not issued any notification in exercise of the powers under sub-section 2 of Section 14 of the Act applying the provision of sub-section (3)," the court observed, "adding, " Certain documents / notifications issued by the Central Government, from time to time, in exercise of such power under sub-section (2) of Section 14 have been placed before the Court which depict that so far nearly 214 organizations, by their name, have been brought under the purview of sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the CAT Act; the J&K Bank, in any case, is not one amongst them." (GNS)

## J&K Bank Disbursed Rs...

Speaking to a delegation of Kashmir Traders & Manufacturers Federation (KTMF) led by President Mohammad Yaseen Khan today, Chairman and MD R K Chhibber pledged the bank's support to the business community and assured them that all the issues concerning the community shall be addressed within the framework of bank's operations while complying with the regulatory guidelines.

"As the flagship financial institution of the region, we are committed to support our customers and people at large in these critical times for its situations like these that not only help deepen our bonds with the borrowers but also reaffirm our systemic significance as basic enabler of the regional economy. The central government's GECL Scheme has been rolled out in full swing and we have already disbursed over Rs 1100 Cr to the eligible borrowers strictly as per the regulatory guidelines", the CMD asserted.

However, to include other businesses who did not qualify under GECL, the CMD said that the bank has come up with two specialised products titled 'J&K Bank Business Support Loan Scheme 2019-20' and 'J&K Bank Business Support Loan Scheme 2019-20 for Hotels and Guest Houses.

"Notably, these schemes have been devised to facilitate a smooth transition for businesses of the region from earlier disruptions followed by covid-19 lockdown to somewhat eased-out situation now when the demand has been picking up," he added.

Besides Khan, KTMF senior Vice President Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, Secretary General Bashir Ahmad Kongposh and a dozen of office bearers representing different districts of the valley called upon the J&K Bank MD here at the bank's headquarters.

The CMD led the bank's management team that included Executive Presidents Arun Gandotra, Sunil Gupta and Ghulam Nabi Teli, Presidents Chetan Pajjore and Dr Ashraf Ali, Special Secretary to CMD Karanjit Singh, and Vice President Manzoor Hussain.

Putting forth feedback and suggestions, the delegates highlighted the longstanding association of the business community with the premier financial institutions and discussed about the state of businesses in the UT since August followed by Covid-19 induced lockdowns.

Stressing upon the need to rehabilitate ailing businesses through sustainable and economically viable initiatives, the delegates requested the CMD to consider inclusion of small traders, who don't possess GST registration, in the GECL scheme to revive their businesses affected by the ongoing pandemic.

Regarding the concerns of delegation about branches shying away from One Time Settlements (OTS), the CMD assured them that the bank would look into the matter and assured them full support from the bank within the regulatory guidelines.

Furthermore, the delegation also requested for establishing more financial touch points like Automated Teller Machines (ATM) and Cash Deposit Machines (CDM) at prominent places of various districts in order to further facilitate the people of these areas regarding cash withdrawal and deposits. In response, the CMD directed the concerned officials of the bank to analyze the proposals as per the bank's standard procedure on fast track basis.

## Govt Employee Booked...

the Govt".

"Correct representation of facts pertaining to the incidents is our shared responsibility. General public are requested to cross check the facts before putting them in public domain and need not to pay heed to rumours spread by miscreants to disrupt the peace in the valley. Legal action will be initiated against violators," the police spokesperson added.

## CASO Launched Along...

through Hiranagar and Samba and carried out attacks on Army camps and police stations in Samba, Kathua, Jammu and Nagrota areas.

## AdvocateZahidAliBooked...

Police in its dossier mentioned that "Ali provoked the general public and released pro-independence/anti-India slogans, instigated people for stone pelting upon security forces and police deployment, besides being close associate of nonagenarian separatist leader Syed Ali Geelani and former chief of J&K Ghulam Mohammad Bhat".

Ali, who was also Political Bureau Head ofJamaat was earlier detained on March 22, 2019, a week before when Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) banned the outfit for involving in subversive and militant related activities in J&K. He was later released on April 11, 2020 after his multiple PSAs were quashed by court. (KNS)

## Penalty Imposed On ...

act of misappropriation of Corporation revenue and recommended action against him. "In view of magnanimity of offence which is punishable under Rule-17, the MD JKRTC imposed the calculated penalty of Rs 22,446/- (Twenty two thousand four hundred forty six) on the erring CB Driver recoverable from his salary. He will also furnish an undertaking to the effect that he will not repeat similar practice in future," the official spokesperson added.

## LAWDA Demolishes Illegal Structures In City

from Nehru Park Ghat to NishatGhat where people had raised barbeque shelters, view cutters and open air restaurants.

"These temporary shelters were removed and the items in the shape of tables, chairs, tripalsetc were seized by the demolition squad of this wing," the official spokesperson said.

"Moreover, a spontaneous night naka drive is presently going on against the tippers for ferrying illegal construction material in which several tippers have been seized by this wing and FIR's stand lodged," he added.

The spokesperson further said that the illegal building material dumped at a hotel inBoulevard was also seized with the help of Departmental JCB and trippers.

## SKIMS Discharges 30...

percent," he said.

He said that the patients admittedin these 3 months, included 34 COVID positive patients who had multiple ailments like Coronary Artery Disease, Hypertension, Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (COPD), Hypothyroidism, Stroke, Renal Failure and some other Comorbid conditions with Respiratory Distress.

"Out of these 35 patients, five could not fight due to COVID pneumonia and lost their life with a mortality rate of 0.7 percent for this institution, while 29 managed recovery with the efforts of the COVID Management Team headed by the Department of General Medicine," the official spokesperson said.

"The initial functioning started with 50 to 100 Tests a day and has been brought to daily capacity of more than 500 Tests a day with 24260 tests performed till date on samples taken from various centres across the valley as well as the testing done on admitted patients here before their discharge," he added.



# Div Com holds interaction with stakeholders on Dal conservation

Sought cooperation from all for restoring pristine glory of lake

SRINAGAR JULY 03: The Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole Friday held an interactive meeting with different stakeholders with regard to preservation and conservation of world famous Dal Lake.

Addressing the meeting, the Divisional Commissioner said that the world famous Dal Lake is called jewel in the crown of Kashmir and it is the responsibility of one and all to contribute for its preservation and restore its erstwhile glory.

He said the administration is taking concrete measures for preservation of the Dal and redressal of the problems of people associated with it.

The Div Com said that preservation of Dal Lake being a multidimensional issue comprising environmental, scientific, humanitarian, economic and legal re-

quires a joint effort from all stakeholders.

He said that the regulation of the existing commercial establishments including hotels, houseboats and residential areas needed to be seen in light of their functional needs as well as the conservation of the lake.

P K Pole appreciated the concern raised by the participants for initiating discussions which he said would be critically important for vision and formulation of strategy.

Meanwhile, Vice Chairman LAWDA, also spoke on the occasion and said that the preservation of the Dal Lake is the responsibility of Government but equally to be shared by all the stakeholders.

He said that various initiatives are being taken for mapping of encroachments, maintaining of desirable water

levels and regular flushing, strengthening of enforcement unit, choking of streams and canals, de-weeding and dredging operations, plantation drives to prevent soil erosion.

Besides suitable rehabilitation of the dwellers, facilities for smooth operation of business establishments including hotels and houseboats, beautification and creation of public facilities which would now be prioritized and followed-up one by one.

While putting forth their issues, the stakeholders thanked the Divisional Commissioner for inviting them and giving an opportunity to voice their concerns.


They also demanded that a viable sewage treatment systems is needed to

be put in place around the lake with the capacities to cater to the huge volume of sewage and urged the chair that all their genuine concerns may be addressed on priority.

During the interaction, experts also shared their experiences and put forth valuable suggestions for conservation and preservation of Dal Lake.

Vice Chairman LAWDA Tufail Mattoo, Director Tourism, Nissar Ahmad, Deputy Director Planning and other concerned officers were present in the meeting, while representatives of Dal Dwellers, Houseboat Association and other persons associated with Dal Lake also attended the meeting.


DIAL-EMMA




- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,2452222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311




RAILWAYS




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

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI  
CALENDAR

12 Zu al-Qa'dah  
1441

PRAYERS

FAJR

3: 40

ZUHR

12: 35

ASR

5:35

Magrib

7:50

ISHA

9:30

This Day In History

- 1927 - Sukarno and friends form the pro-Indonesian independence party, the PNI (Perserikatan Nasional Indonesia) in Batavia, Dutch East Indies
- 1942 - 1st American bombing mission over enemy-occupied Europe (WW II)
- 1942 - US air offensive against nazi-Germany begins
- 1946 - President Manuel Roxas was inaugurated as the 5th President of the Philippines and the first president of the Third Republic at the Independence Grandstand in Manila
- 1950 - Harry Truman signs public law 600 (Puerto Ricans write own constitution)
- 1950 - The first broadcast by Radio Free Europe.
- 1968 - Radio astronomy satellite Explorer 38 launched
- 1982 - 4th Space Shuttle Mission-Columbia 4 lands at Edwards AFB
- 1987 - Discovery moves to Launch Pad 39B for STS-26 mission
- 1987 - Imran Khan takes 300th Test Cricket wicket, only Pakistani to do so
- 1988 - US Navy shoots down Iranian civilian jetliner over Gulf, kills 290
- 1989 - Unmanned Russian Mig-23 crashes in Bellegem-Kooigem, Belgium (1 dies)
- 1994 - Russian manned space craft TM-18 lands
- 1997 - US space probe Pathfinder lands on Ares Vallis Mars
- 2006 - Space Shuttle program: STS-121 Mission - Space Shuttle Discovery launches at 18:37:55 UTC.
- 2006 - North Korea tests four short-range missiles, one medium range missile, and a long-range Taepodong-2. The long-range Taepodong-2 reportedly fails in mid-air over the Sea of Japan/ East Sea.
- 2009 - The Statue of Liberty's crown reopens to the public after 8 years, due to security reasons following the World Trade Center attacks.
- 2012 - Scientists at CERN's Large Hadron Collider announce the discovery of a new particle consistent with the Higgs boson
- 2015 - UNESCO grants World Heritage Status to vineyards in Champagne, France along with Singapore's Botanical Gardens, Diyarbakir Fortress (Turkey) and Maymand Caves (Iran)
- 2016 - NASA's Juno spacecraft successfully enters Jupiter's orbit.

From KO Archives

3 Kashmiri women among 1,000 nominated for Nobel prize

SRINAGAR - Three prominent Kashmiri women are among 91 nominated from India for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. They figure in the list of 1000 women from all over the world for the coveted nomination. According to reports, the three Kashmiris who had made to lie crucial stage are Parveena Ahanter, Nighat Shafi Pandit and Dilafoza Qazi. They have made a mark in various fields of social service and empowerment of women and children.

Parveena Ahanter, 48 is an extraordinary woman who has been living with the trauma of the custodial disappearance of her son. Over the past over a decade, she has become rallying force for similarly circumstanced women and eventually formed an organization by the name of Association of Parents of Displaced Persons to fight the pernicious human rights abuse. In her relentless crusade against injustice, she braves physical danger to her own life and remains undeterred by the perils that go with it.

Ahanter has been instrumental in building up social pressure against the government which was initially clueless as the exact number of those disappearing from custody. As a result of untiring efforts of APDP, the authorities finally acknowledged more than 3000 custodial disappearances and held out an assurance to call a halt to these. Having risen above her personal trauma, Ahanter is now a prominent human rights activist in Kashmir.

Born in 1951, Nighat Shafi Pandit is the chairperson of a leading non-governmental organization, Human Effort for Love and Peace (HELPE) Foundation, established in 1997 with the primary objective of organizing a social response to the growing destitution with particular emphasis on the education and healthcare of orphans, it prefers to call special children' and rehabilitation of widows and other indigent members of the society irrespective of their creed, colour, community or region....

Wife of a senior IAS officer and the chairman of Public Service Commission, Muhammad Shafi Pandit, she preferred to step out of the comfortable home to move about extensively in the rural communities in both Kashmir and Jammu regions with a view to making a difference in the lives of its targeted segments. Nighat Shafi is more, focused on the education of orphans and rehabilitation of widows and leaves no occasion to share their pain and distress. She is actively involved in the promotion of peace and harmony in the insurgency-hit region.

Dilafoza Qazi is yet another Kashmiri woman who is engaged in promotion of literacy among rural folks. Born in 1972, she runs an engineering college known as SSM college of engineering near the highway town of Pattan. She is also running several primary schools.

(Kashmir Observer, 04 July, 2005)

## Power shutdown

SRINAGAR, JULY 03: According to the Power Controller, Kashmir Province, in order to carry out 11KV works at TCI Gujar Basti the 33kv Khonmoh-SIDCO II Line shall remain shut on July 04 from 10 am to 5 pm. The power supply to the Recieving Stations-Khonmoh Old, Balhama Wiyun, TCI old shall remain affected on the aforementioned date.

Similarly, in order to provide reliable power supply to street lighting infrastructure from Budshah Chowk to Dalgate under PMDP, 33kV Line Nedous Tap Line shall remain shut on July 07 from 11am to 2pm. The power supply to areas fed from Receiving Station Nedous shall remain affected.

Likewise, in order to carry out construction/erection of 33kv lines for upcoming Receiving Station Batwina and 33kv Lines for GCET Safapora, 33kvArmy line of STD Ganderbal shall remain shut on July 04, 06, 08 and 11 from 10 am to 6 pm.

## CUK teaching departments hold webinars

Ganderbal: Central University of Kashmir (CUK), School of Education (SoE) organized a National e-Conference on "Challenges and Opportunities of Online Examination amid Covid-19" at its Green Campus here on Saturday.

In his welcome address Dean, SoE, Dr. Syed Zahoor Geelani, highlighted the difficulties faced by faculty and students amid Covid-19.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mehraj-ud-Din Mir congratulated the SoE for organizing the e-conference on the relevant theme which was the need of the hour. He informed the speakers and participants about the problems faced by the university and said the varsity has already switched over to the digital mode of teaching and learning. He also apprised them that CUK

is following student friendly approach with transparent and accountable mechanism not only in teaching and learning, but also in evaluation.

Speaker Prof. SK Yadav, former Head, Department of Teacher Education, NCERT in his presentation stressed that online examination needs to be emphasized as its importance has been highlighted by number of commissions and committees from time to time. He stressed that the examinations should be based on self-assessment and need to be more innovative.

"The hardships which we face in traditional examination in terms of accessibility, infrastructure, human resource can be overcome if we switch over to online mode."

## Div Com inspects proposed parking sites in Srinagar

SRINAGAR, JULY 03: In continuation to its efforts to address to the parking issues and de-congest Srinagar streets, the Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole today visited city parts on second consecutive day to inspect proposed parking sites in summer capital.

The Div Com visited M A Road, TRC, Polo View, Regal Chowk, Lambert Lane, Old Court Complex, Jehangir Chowk, Batmaloo, Barzulla, Rawalpura, Hyderpora, Bemina Shalteng, Qamarwari and other areas to inspect the proposed sites for car parking.

During his visit, the Divisional Commissioner asked the authorities to speed up the pace of all works being carried out for road widening to improve the traffic flow and to ensure sustain-

able decongestion in the city.

At Residency road near SBI parking, the Div Com was appraised by Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal Chowdhury, that work on enhancement of parking space is near to completion to accommodate large number of vehicles in it.

While inspecting proposed car parking site at Lambert lane, the Div Com directed for connecting SBI parking slot with Lambert lane parking site to create big parking chunk for the convenience of commuters as well as for better traffic regulation in the area

At old court complex Amira Kadal, the Div Com exhorted upon the concerned to ensure preservation of heritage and historical buildings while unused premises may be demolished to create parking space.

JAMMU & KASHMIR  
PROJECTS CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LTD.  
HAFT CHINAR, BEHIND SHERGARI POLICE STATION, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR

TENDER DOCUMENT  
FOR  
Providing and Fixing of Anti-Static (conductive) flooring and providing and laying of self levelling compound etc., at District Hospital Shopian.

Unit 12<sup>th</sup> JKPCC Limited Pulwama  
NOTICE INVITING TENDER


1.	NIT No and date	11/E-Tendering/DGM/Pul /JKPCC/2020-21 Dated 29-06-2020
2.	Name of work and estimated cost	Providing and Fixing of Anti-Static (conductive) flooring and providing and laying of self levelling compound etc, at District Hospital Shopian. (Balance works). Cost = Rs 5.48 lacs
3.	Number of covers	Double
4.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	29-06-2020
5.	Date and time of Publication of NIT online	30-06-2020 from 11:00 AM
6.	Start Date and time for downloading the NIT online	30-06-2020 from 11:00 AM
7.	Start Date and time for submission of bids online	30-06-2020 from 11:00 AM
8.	End date and time for submission of bids online	07-07-2020 upto 16:00 PM
9.	Date time & Place of opening of Bids Online	08-07-2020 at 13: 00 P.M in the office of Dy. General Manager J&KPCC Ltd. Unit-12th, Pulwama
10.	Cost of tender documents and pledged to	Rs 500.00 Financial Controller J&KPCC Ltd. A/c
11.	Cost of EMD and pledged to	Rs. 15000/- Dy. General Manager J&KPCC Ltd. Unit-12th, Pulwama
12.	Bid Validity	90 days
13.	Days for completion of the work	30 days
14.	Location of the Project with pin code	District Hospital Shopian
15.	Class of contractor	Principle Manufacturers/ Authorized Dealers /Experienced Firms
16.	Position of funds	Available
17.	Check list of documents required for bidder to be uploaded online	Registration with latest renewal, Pan Card, GST registration with latest return, EMD/ Receipt of cost of tender document, relevant experience certificate of similar nature of work issued by officer of the rank of Ex. Eng. or above.

On behalf of the Managing Director J&K PCC Ltd. E-tenders are invited from authorized dealers/ Experienced Firms /registered contractors of PWD/CPWD and registered piece workers of JKPC for Providing and Fixing of Anti-Static (conductive) flooring and providing and laying of self levelling compound etc, at District Hospital Shopian.

NIT No: 11/e-Tendering/DGM/Pul /JKPCC/2020-21 /1334-41  
Dated 29-06-2020

Sd/  
Dy. General Manager  
Unit-12th, J&KPCC Ltd.  
Pulwama

DIPK-NB-1138/20



ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.  
Tel: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.islamicuniversity.edu.in.

NOTIFICATION

Selection for the admission for PhD programme in Food Technology for year 2019-2020

Following NET/GATE qualified candidates are hereby informed that they have been short listed for interaction/presentation scheduled on 14/7/2020 (11:00 am) at Department of Food Technology for admission to PhD programme in Food Technology for the year 2019-2020.

Form No.	Name	Fathers Name	Permanent Address	Competitive examination
405946	Shemialah Fayaz	Fayaz Ahmad Shah	Opposite Sidco Phase - II Khonmoh	NET
405947	Mohsin Bashir Aga	Bashir Ahmad Aga	Khiram Bijbehara	GATE

The candidates who are not able to appear in person for the said interaction / presentation should inform the undersigned in advance through Email on ([hod.ft@islamicuniversity.edu.in](mailto:hod.ft@islamicuniversity.edu.in)) and their interaction / presentation shall be conducted through online mode on the same date.

No: IUST/FT/Ph.D-Admission/20/322  
Dated: 02-07-2020

Sd/-  
I/C Head, Department of Food Technology

"INDO - TIBETAN BORDER POLICE FORCE"  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
GOVT OF INDIA

RECRUITMENT OF MERITORIOUS SPORTS PERSONS TO THE POST OF CONSTABLE / GENERAL DUTY UNDER SPORTS QUOTA-2020 IN ITBP.

Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force invites online applications from eligible Indian citizens (Male & Female) to fill up the 51 vacancies of Constable (General Duty) Group- 'C' (non-gazetted and non-ministerial) under Sports Quota in the Sports disciplines as given below in the Level-3 in the Pay Matrix Rupees 21,700-69,100 (as per 7th CPC) & other allowances as admissible in the Force

S. No.	Discipline	MALE	FEMALE
1.	Boxing	Male	Female
2.	Wrestling	—	Female
3.	Kabaddi	Male	-
4.	Archery	Male	Female
5.	Volleyball	Male	—
6.	Sports Shooting	Male	Female
7.	Ice Hockey	Male	-

Note:-  
i) Vacancies may vary due to administrative reasons.  
ii) ITBP also reserves the right to cancel or postpone the recruitment at any stage without assigning any reason.  
2. Application Fee:- Rs. 100/- for Male candidates belonging to Unreserved (UR)/ Other Backward Classes (OBC) Category through the ITBP Recruitment website [www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in](http://www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in). Fees are exempted for females and candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) category.  
3. Applications from candidates will be accepted only through ONLINE MODE (No offline application will be accepted) on [www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in](http://www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in). For detailed information about pay & allowances, eligibility conditions', procedure of Filling online application form, recruitment procedure and tests etc., the applicants are advised to go through the advertisement appearing on the ITBP recruitment website i.e. [www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in](http://www.recruitment.itbpolicenic.in). Any further information/notification in respect to this recruitment will be made on the ITBP recruitment website only. Hence, applicants are advised to log in the ITBP recruitment website from time to time and also advised to go through eligibility criteria carefully before applying to avoid disappointment at later stage.

OPENING DATE FOR ONLINE APPLICATION IS 13/07/2020 AT 00:01 AM AND CLOSING DATE/ LAST DATE OF RECEIPT OF ONLINE APPLICATION IS 26/08/2020 AT 11:59 PM.

4. These vacancies are not open for physically challenged persons or ex-servicemen.  
5. ITBP reserves the right to make changes in sequence of the recruitment process as given in the detailed advertisement.  
DAVP 19143/11/0001/2021

DIG (Estt & Reitt)



KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

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NO HOLDS BARRED



“The power asymmetry between India and Pakistan in the former's favor, and the growing power imbalance between India and China in the latter's favor will continue to reinforce the inherent security dilemma of the triangle, justifying China-Pakistan collusion, in order to check-mate India's rise in the region

## Antifa: Will It Come To India?

If we have to stop the emergence of an Indian anti-fascist movement, then the political powers that be need to engage more with people and show commitment towards their welfare.

ASAD MIRZA

“The media outlets, analysts and academics sympathetic to Antifa argue that the group cannot be classified as a terrorist organisation as they say it is a vaguely defined protest movement that lacks a centralised command or organisational structure

The recent black protests in the United States have brought another player on the scene and media agenda. This is Antifa, which has been blamed as spearheading the protests in the US and several other European countries.

Now, what is Antifa? Simple enough, it is a short form of anti-fascists. Unsubstantiated historical evidence shows that Antifa is, in fact, highly networked, well funded and has a global presence. It has a flat organisational structure with dozens and possibly hundreds of local groups.

Antifa professes to establish a communist world order. And in the United States, Antifa's immediate goal is to bring about the demise of the Trump administration.

Security experts claim that Antifa in the United States and Europe employs extreme violence and destruction of public and private property to prod the police into a reaction, which subsequently demonstrates Antifa's claim that the government is 'fascist.'

On the other hand, some European governments use it for their own purposes also. Bettina Röhl, a German journalist, writing for Neue Zürcher Zeitung (New Zurich Newspaper, a Swiss-German newspaper published from Zurich, Germany) claims that Antifa is not only officially tolerated, but is being paid by the German government to fight the far right. She further asserts that out of cowardice, its members cover their

faces and keep their names secret. Antifa constantly threatens violence and attacks politicians and police officers. It promotes senseless damage to property amounting to vast sums.

Recently, U.S. Attorney General William Barr has blamed Antifa – as a militant movement – for the violence that has erupted at George Floyd protests across the United States. "The violence instigated and carried out by Antifa and other similar groups in connection with the rioting is domestic terrorism and will be treated accordingly," he said. Earlier, U.S. President Donald J. Trump had instructed the U.S. Justice Department to designate Antifa as a terrorist organisation.

The media outlets, analysts and academics sympathetic to Antifa argue that the group cannot be classified as a terrorist organisation as they say it is a vaguely defined protest movement that lacks a centralised command or organisational structure. Thus, according to them, it is a spontaneous response of the people, which happens when something out of the ordinary against the liberties of the people takes place. Mark Bray, an Antifa supporter in America and author of the book Antifa: The Anti-Fascist Handbook, asserts that Antifa "is not an overarching organization with a chain of command."

### What is Antifa's ideology?

In simpler terms, Antifa can be described as a trans-national rebellious

movement that endeavours, often with extreme violence, to subvert liberal democracy, with the aim of replacing global capitalism with communism. Antifa's stated long-term objective, both in America and abroad, is to establish a communist world order. In the United States, Antifa's immediate aim is to bring about the demise of the Trump administration.

Antifa claims to oppose 'fascism', a term it often uses as a widely critical or judgmental to discredit those who hold opposing political beliefs to it. The traditional meaning of 'fascism' as defined by Webster's Dictionary is 'a totalitarian governmental system led by a dictator and emphasising an aggressive nationalism, militarism, and often racism.'

Antifa started off in Germany and spread to other countries like Slovenia, Spain, Italy, France and the UK. However, after the fall of the East Germany it was discovered that the erstwhile state secret police Stasi used the Antifa in its fight against the far-right elements in Germany.

Now, this leads us to wonder whether the evolving situation in India, fulfils the Webster's definition or not? The protests, which shook the country beginning in November 2019, have been dubbed variously, but remember most of the protests across India were spontaneous and headless; they survived completely on the support of the common populace and students.

So, will it be possible for any move-

ment like Antifa to emerge in India? Doubts are expressed regarding such a scenario but the evolving conditions might lead to such a risk.

If we have to stop the emergence of an Indian Antifa, then the political powers that be need to engage more with people with sincerity and with concrete action taken to show sincerity and commitment to the people's welfare.

Recent events of the past have shown that the public is fast losing its trust in the government and its policies, as most of them are considered as anti-people, particularly the poor people.

In the current scenario, the government has to show more empathy to the common man on the street and win their trust and heart, if it wants to be seen as pro-people. Change of strategy to handle the prevailing Covid pandemic might give it a fair chance to project itself as pro-people and committed to the country's progress, making decisions that are in the best of interest of all, particularly the common man. Otherwise, the day is not far off when it may have to deal with the Indian Antifa.

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## The China-India-Pakistan Triangle

### Origins, Contemporary Perceptions, and Future

MONISH TOURANGBAM

Even as India and China find themselves embroiled in yet another border standoff at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), commentators have sounded alarm on how Pakistan could seek to utilize the situation. Concurrently, some have observed that China's transgression at the border is likely to push New Delhi closer to Washington, at a time when Sino-U.S. tensions are running high. A dyadic understanding of the security environment in Southern Asia, either through an India-Pakistan or India-China lens, is thus incomplete and does not account for the triangular dynamics that shape these interactions. To understand regional dynamics, it is critical to understand the India-Pakistan-China triangle and how it is impacted by the strategic chain, including the United States. The contemporary reality of these dynamics is grounded in an early Cold War history, and potential conflict scenarios involving these countries animate the geopolitics of Southern Asia.

### A Triangle Made in History

The India-Pakistan-China triangle is mired in a convoluted history of unresolved border disputes, with military confrontations between India and China at the Line of Actual Control (LAC), and India and Pakistan at the Line of Control (LoC) occurring intermittently. In 1947, Britain's hasty withdrawal from the subcontinent as a result of post-war decolonization led to a haphazard redrawing of political boundaries in Southern Asia, leaving some territory contested. The four wars that India and Pakistan have fought since 1947, the Sino-Indian Border War of 1962, and recurrent India-China and India-Pakistan conflicts at the LAC and LoC trace their genesis back to this protracted history. The military dimension of this triangle evolved in the years after the 1962 Sino-Indian Border War, when Beijing and Islamabad signed the border delimitation agreement in 1963. As part of this agreement, Pakistan handed over the Trans-Karakoram tract, a territory in Kashmir that India claimed, to China, turning the dispute into a trilateral one.

Further, during the 1965 India-Pakistan War, Pakistan felt betrayed by a lack of U.S. support, and chose to strengthen relations with China. Pak-

istan had expected the United States to tilt to its side, due to the 1954 U.S.-Pakistan mutual defense agreement and Pakistan's membership in U.S. engineered alliances like the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization and the Central Treaty Organization. However, during and after the 1962 war, the United States showed hitherto unseen willingness to aid and assist India's military against Communist China, making it prudent for China and Pakistan to join hands. Although Washington premised arming both Pakistan and India to achieve its Cold War objective to contain communism in Asia, neither side bought Washington's assurances that its military supplies were not meant to be used against each other. Although China did not provide any direct military help to its new friend Pakistan during the 1965 war, it did engage in a psychological assault against India, repeatedly accusing New Delhi of showing aggression on the India-China border, and threatening Chinese reprisal.

During and after the 1971 India-Pakistan War, the United States tilted towards Pakistan, because it needed Islamabad as a conduit to Beijing during the 1972 Sino-U.S. rapprochement talks. Beginning in 1979, Pakistan played a frontline role for the United States in Afghanistan, in the last Cold War tussle between the United States and Soviet Union. In this context, geopolitics trumped nonproliferation concerns as Washington ignored intelligence that China was helping Pakistan develop a nuclear bomb. These conditions were hardly conducive for a healthy Indo-U.S. relationship, despite efforts at finding convergent points during the Reagan presidency. After the Cold War, the subsequent rise of China as a global power, followed by that of India, shifted dynamics of the India-China dyad, leading to heightened Sino-Indian competition, and tightening Sino-Pakistan military ties. Meanwhile, the India-Pakistan relationship remained volatile, taking an even more sinister turn as cross-border terrorism emanating in Pakistan targeted India, becoming a lingering roadblock to normalizing ties.

### Conflict Scenarios

The regional postures of China, India, and Pakistan and the U.S. strategy in Southern Asia intend to maximize interest by capability enhancement,

either through internal or external balancing. This makes the security dilemma in the region more acute and creates the possibility of conflict, some scenarios of which are explored below.

### Two-front war

Since India's border disputes with China and Pakistan are still unresolved and Beijing and Islamabad have a close strategic and military partnership, India perceives any conflagration with either Pakistan or China as raising the specter of a two-front war. The Indian military establishment is overt in asserting its recognition of and readiness to face such an eventuality. For example, General Bipin Rawat, currently India's Chief of Defense Staff, while serving as the Indian Army Chief, commented, "The two-front is a real scenario. Much has changed from before in terms of our capabilities... The Army, Navy and IAF are now jointly very much prepared for such an eventuality." India's military preparedness for a two-front war involves developing its overall deterrent capability and credibility, advances in terms of acquisition and production of military equipment, recalibrating its military strategy, relevant training efforts to meet exigencies, and border infrastructure development. Infrastructure building in the border areas and the issue of terrain advantage has been a major source of contention, particularly, as seen in the current clashes between Indian and Chinese forces in eastern Ladakh, or in the earlier Doklam standoff.

While the Indian military establishment understandably projects its readiness, others are more skeptical. The case of Pakistan taking the opportunity of an India-China conflict and opening a second front at the LoC is seen as most probable. Other scenarios include China opening a second front at the LAC or in the Indian Ocean region in the event of an India-Pakistan conflict, or a more sinister case of a pre-planned China-Pakistan military assault against India. Indian Army Chief M M Naravane said earlier this year, "[...] Though it can take place at any level, Siachen and Shaksam Valley are the places where territory of these two countries meet. Threat of collusivity is maximum in the strategically important glacier which forces us to keep our possession." Talking about identifying a primary and

secondary front in such a scenario, he added, "For years, we have been focusing on western border on the basis of threats. Now, we have to rebalance our deployment towards northern sector." Irrespective of how probable such a scenario is, the perception of such a threat is likely to dictate both the reality and signalling of India's military preparedness.

### Conclusion

The India-Pakistan-China triangle is determined by relative national power and mutual threat perceptions, further complicated by the regional implications of the growing confrontation between the United States and China. Pakistan remains the most steadfast ally of China in India's neighborhood, while India remains the only country in the region that comes closest to competing with growing Chinese influence. The power asymmetry between India and Pakistan in the former's favor, and the growing power imbalance between India and China in the latter's favor will continue to reinforce the inherent security dilemma of the triangle, justifying China-Pakistan collusion, in order to check-mate India's rise in the region. Moreover, Chinese perceptions of a U.S. containment strategy that involves India additionally impacts the triangle. The broad mistrust and zero-sum perceptions in the triangle will continue to determine the probability of crises and conflict playing out at the LAC and LoC. Besides the more volatile responses and counter-responses over the disputed borders, differences will simmer at global forums over issues such as counterterrorism and nonproliferation, and over the regional security situation in Afghanistan. Despite attempts at diplomatic maneuvers and confidence building measures to arrest uncontrolled escalation and inadvertent conflict in the triangle, the complex dynamics of the India-Pakistan-China triangle, further reinforced by the role of the United States in the region, make conflict a regular phenomenon that has to be managed, rather than eliminated. (South Asian Voices)

(Monish Tourangbam is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geopolitics and International Relations at the Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Karnataka, India)



# Why Risk It? Wear A Face Mask When Stepping Outside

MICHAEL J. SPIVEY

One decade ago, medical professionals began suggesting that 'sitting is the new smoking'. Sitting for hours at a time does appear to be somewhat bad for you. But it won't murder you in a matter of days, the way Covid-19 can. We need to follow the lessons from other countries that have successfully brought their coronavirus infection rate down to low levels

Two decades ago, most restaurants in the US allowed cigarette smoking. If you ate in a smoky restaurant, you probably couldn't taste your food as well as you might like. If you worked in a smoky restaurant, you probably increased your chances of getting lung cancer. Over time, public action took place, especially by seeking health protections for restaurant workers. Now, most restaurants do not allow smoking. The majority of Americans are happy that we don't have smoking in restaurants and other public places now.

One decade ago, medical professionals began suggesting that 'sitting is the new smoking'. Sitting for hours at a time does appear to be somewhat bad for you. But it won't murder you in a matter of days, the way Covid-19 can. We need to follow the lessons from other countries that have successfully brought their coronavirus infection rate down to low levels. The single most effective measure - among many that work best when combined - is simply wearing a face-covering when in public. We need to make wearing a mask when you're in a public place as common as not smoking in restaurants and shops. We need to treat not wearing a mask in public as "the new smoking."

Right now in the US, while Covid-19 is spreading rampantly, when you



walk into a public place not wearing a mask, it is indeed a lot like smoking. You are endangering other people's lives. Would you walk into your local grocery store smoking a cigarette? Of course not. Then, during this pandemic, why would you walk in there without a mask? You genuinely could be infected with coronavirus right now and just not know it because you aren't feeling symptoms yet. Walking into a public place without a mask will spread that virus everywhere, infecting people you know and people you don't know,

democrats and republicans, liberals and conservatives, indiscriminately. This novel coronavirus is not treating this situation as political. And neither should you.

But some Americans are treating this situation as political. A recent study shows that counties with a large number of hyper-conservative news media viewers and listeners are exactly the counties that are refusing to take Covid-19 seriously. These are the counties where local governments are re-opening businesses too fully and too

quickly. These are the counties where a large proportion of the population is refusing to wear face-coverings when they go to populated areas (irrespective of any state or local mandates). And these are the counties where the sheriffs openly refuse to enforce state mandates for reducing the spread.

Other nations have brought down their Covid-19 cases, but America's case count is already rising again. In April, the US imposed measures that flattened the curve but didn't yet bring the curve downward. Then, many local governments removed those measures and fully reopened businesses. That's like the proverbial man with an umbrella in a rainstorm who says to himself, "I'm not getting wet. What do I need this thing for?" So, he closes it up and then is shocked to find himself suddenly getting wet.

When you refuse to wear a mask at work or at the grocery store, you are risking lives.

When we don't take care of one another, and we let our community down, that attitude spreads like a mental virus. We need to cooperate. We can't be fighting amongst ourselves when we need to be fighting as one against a virus that is trying its damndest to kill us.

Michael J. Spivey is Professor of Cognitive Science at the University of California, Merced.

## Calm Parents Have A Positive Effect On Kids

KYLE D. PRUETT

I was not expecting Tommy's father to say, "Doc, I'm not sure that a hyperactivity attention diagnosis is right. He's been a different kid in lockdown; he's calmer and doesn't need much discipline. His kindergarten teacher gives him projects online that he can't wait to do, and he's proud of what he does. We stopped his meds because he just doesn't need them." We wondered together whether the relief of not being in school -where he struggles constantly and often feels ashamed of losing control- was an unexpected bonus. "Are most of your patients doing OK, Doc?" Not really, I thought to myself. Most children are feeling a social ache from the absence of friends in their lives. They feel tested and anxious about what is happening to their world and their families. The ones who were suffering emotionally before Covid-19 don't share Tommy's silver-lining experience, and most of them are feeling anxious and sad about what they've lost.

Adults know and feel that this crisis is uniquely stressful; it's global, it lasts month after month and no one knows when it will end, which is all mostly incomprehensible for children. A recent British survey of preschool parents found that three-quarters

felt unable to balance work and childcare adequately in lockdown. They worried most about their own work, their children's screen time and their children's overall emotional health. While most children's emotional distress doesn't reach the threshold of requiring mental health intervention, we need to be vigilant about helping, and the earlier the better.

Here are four things that might require closer attention from caregivers and a possible discussion with a childcare provider, especially if they appear in clusters:

- Persistent changes in sleep patterns or appetites;
- Behavioural changes that seem out of character for a particular child, especially discouragement that lingers or motivation that seems to disappear

for longer and longer stretches;

- Increases in aggression above and beyond the typical sibling squabbles;
- Frequent tearfulness, especially the out-of-nowhere variety.

Whether or not your child fits into any of those categories, there are strategies we can all use to reduce the negative effects of the pandemic and prevent them from undermining the critical social supports and reassuring rhythms of everyday life, both important developmental building blocks.

- Set a routine that you review at the beginning of each day for eating, playing games, and exercising, doing any 'summer school' work (including games), screen time, personal hygiene, quiet time and bedtime.

Don't overdo it by being rigid, and be prepared to abandon your plans for a better schedule as the day evolves. It's starting and finishing together that matter.

- Consciously start your day with the intent to remain calm, and breathe. Parental calm is the best antidote to pandemic stress, and it is often in short supply. It helps children cope and parents to de-stress in the moment. If it's your natural temperament, you're lucky; if it's not, practice and breathe.
- When meltdowns come, give your children a moment to collect themselves as you (calmly) join them at eye level and label the feelings they are struggling with as best you can ("You feel frustrated about... angry with or hurt by . and you wish that ."). You're not their therapist; you are their chief 'understander'. When we are heard and understood, we all settle down.

Kyle Pruett is a Clinical Professor of Child Psychiatry at the Yale School of Medicine and Educational Advisory Board member for The Goddard School. -Psychology Today

## Weddings In The Time Of Coronavirus

The cap on the number of guests in marriages is a huge problem

VANAJA RAO  
Gulf News

The cap on the number of guests is a huge problem here when the family and close relatives add up to more than 50. The daunting task of weeding out people who don't need to be included is one fraught with debate and tension. Wedding cards inviting family and friends is no longer possible

The big fat Indian wedding is now a thing of the past. With the number of invitees being capped, the budget will hopefully not break the bank. However, there are some VIPs who get away with circumventing the rules.

For those who still want to go ahead with weddings despite the pandemic, there are new costs involved now. Wedding packages include thermal scanners, masks and PPE (personal protective equipment) kits. It kind of takes the fun out of the celebration but better to be safe than sorry.

Wedding planners are offering packages for as little as Rs150,000 which include bridal make-up, specially designed e-invites, photography, mehndi (henna), the mandap or wedding pavilion, vegetarian food for 50 guests, DJ music and a decorated car, among others.

The cost is attractive enough to bring tears of relief to any parent's eyes, especially the bride's mum and dad who normally suffer sleepless nights adding up the cost of getting their girl married.

The package also provides for masks of different colours for the bride and groom's side as well as hand sanitation stations.

PPEs will be provided to the members of the band in attendance and caterers and the venue will be thoroughly sanitized just before the event.

The wedding planners say they are able to cut costs because they will use just one photographer and cloth decorations will replace expensive floral décor.

Another major saving is on cost of lighting as most people are opting for daytime functions in view of travel curbs. Make-up and henna artists are willing to offer their services at half the usual price as they, too, have been affected by the lockdown.



I wonder how many people here will go ahead with their nuptials or will they wait for the end of the pandemic before they start making plans. In many cultures, including the Chinese and Hindu, auspicious dates for betrothals and weddings are very important.

Hindus consult astrologers to determine compatibility of the bride and groom. So, many families do not want to miss the boat as far as auspicious dates go.

A joke forwarded on a WhatsApp group summed up the situation hilariously. A man phones his friend to inform him about an impending marriage but, before the friend can anticipate an invitation, he quickly says that since only 50 guests are allowed, he will not be able to extend an invitation.

**On the waiting list**

However, in case of a cancellation, the friend is number one on the waiting list. The friend isn't mollified.

The cap on the number of guests is a huge problem here when the family and close relatives add up to more than 50. The daunting task of weeding out people who don't need to be included is one fraught with debate and tension. Wedding cards inviting family and friends is no longer possible.

I am sure the brides whose weddings are going ahead during the pandemic must not be happy about having to wear masks after an expensive session at the salon or home.

We've all heard about hiding our light under a bushel. Hiding a beauti-

fully made up face under a mask is also a shame. It isn't always easy to recognize someone when they are masked and I can imagine the confusion among guests and the hosts when they try to identify people.

Many hotels and resorts are facing a slew of cancellations and are forced to refund advances under the force majeure clause in most contracts.

Maybe it would be better to adopt a wait and see policy as far as weddings are concerned if you want to be free to invite as many people as you like without being afraid of hurting anyone's feelings.

Vanaja Rao is a freelance writer based in Hyderabad, India.





# New Infectious Strain Of Coronavirus Now Dominates Global Cases: Study

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have shown that a variation in the genome of the novel coronavirus has improved its ability to infect human cells, and has helped it become the dominant strain circulating around the world.

According to the research, published in the journal Cell, a variant of the novel coronavirus, named 'D614G', is more infectious in cell cultures under laboratory conditions.

"The D614G variant first came to

our attention in early April, as we had observed a strikingly repetitive pattern," said study lead author Bette Korber from the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the US.

"All over the world, even when local epidemics had many cases of the original form circulating, soon after the D614G variant was introduced into a region it became the prevalent form," Korber said.

The researchers, including those from the University of Sheffield in the UK, said D614G has a small but effective change in the 'spike' protein that pro-

trudes from the surface of the virus, which it uses to enter and infect human cells.

They said this variant has quickly taken over as the dominant strain soon after it first appeared, with geographic samples showing a significant shift in viral population from the original, to the new strain of the virus.

"We have been sequencing SARS-CoV-2 strains in Sheffield since early in the pandemic and this allowed us to partner with our collaborators to show this mutation had become dominant in

circulating strains," said study co-author Thushan de Silva, who led the analysis of data from Sheffield.

"The full peer-reviewed study published today confirms this, and also that the new D614G genome mutation variant is also more infectious under laboratory conditions," he added.

According to the scientists, the new strain is associated with higher viral loads in the upper respiratory tract of patients with COVID-19, meaning the virus's ability to infect people could be increased.

"Fortunately at this stage, it

does not seem that viruses with D614G cause more severe disease," de Silva said.

The researchers said it is possible to track the evolution of the novel coronavirus globally thanks to the viral sequence data made readily available by scientists from across the world.

They said geographic information from these samples enabled tracking of a highly recurrent pattern, where soon after D614G was introduced into a region it became the prevalent form.

According to the study, there

was a shift in the viral population from the original form to the D614G variant, occurring at every geographic level -- country, sub-country, county, and city.

"Currently tens of thousands of sequences are available through this project, and this enabled us to identify the emergence of a variant that has rapidly become the globally dominant form," Korber said.

The researchers cautioned that further laboratory analysis in live cells needs to be done to determine the full implications of the mutation.

They said the virus has a low mutation rate overall, adding that the D614G variant appears to have risen as part of a set of four linked mutations which may have arisen once and then moved together globally consistent variations.

"That this increase in infectivity was detected by careful observation of sequence data alone, and that our experimental colleagues could confirm it with live virus in such a short time," said Will Fischer from Los Alamos National Laboratory, a co-author author on the study.

## Herbal Beauty Tips For Summer

Dr. Shahnaz Hafeez Kawoosa

### Summer skin care

Summer is all about wearing summer outfits, enjoying fresh juices and exciting outings but the sun rays and heat can damage the skin. Summer skin care is more than just using a sunscreen while going out in the sun. The skin needs special attention as sun rays have harsh effects on all skin types. The sun can become rough and dull during this weather.

Here are a few tips to keep the skin hydrated and healthy during summer.

1. Mix 1 cup of strained cucumber juice, ¼ cup of coconut milk and ¼ cup of Aloe vera juice in a lidded container and refrigerate it. Use cotton to apply this lotion on the sun-exposed skin twice daily. The vitamins in cucumber help retain skin moisture. Coconut milk is rich in vitamins C and E. Aloe Vera possesses anti-inflammatory property.

2. Mix 1 tablespoon each of Aloe vera juice and honey. Apply the mixture on the face and sun-exposed skin. Leave it on for 15-20 minutes and rinse. Aloe Vera possesses anti-inflammatory property and also gives a cooling effect to the sun-exposed skin. Honey is a humectant that helps retain the skin's moisture.

3. Take ¼ cup of mashed



**SUMMER SKIN** care is more than just using a sunscreen while going out in the sun. The skin needs special attention as sun rays have harsh effects on all skin types. The sun can become rough and dull during this weather.

raw mango; add 3-4 drops of essential oil (e.g. olive oil), 2 table-

spoon of coconut oil, and ½ cup of sugar. Mix into a thick consistency. Apply this scrub on the hands, legs, back and face in circular motion and leave it for 20-25 minutes. Mangoes are rich source of vitamin A and BETA carotene that helps restore, rejuvenate and revive the skin. Coconut oil is a moisturizer and sugar is an exfoliant.

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## Covid-19 Highlights Need To Protect Domestic Abuse Victims, Help Get Their Lives On Track

Agencies

The global surge in domestic violence during coronavirus lockdowns highlights the need for companies to do more to protect victims and help them get their lives back on track, experts on the issue said on Thursday. Companies should offer women facing domestic abuse flexible working, extra leave so they can move home and sort out childcare, and consider relocating them to new jobs away from their abusers to keep them safe, they said in a report.

It is crucial that victims of domestic abuse do not lose their jobs as this could leave them trapped in violent situations, added Chiara Condi, founder of Led By HER, an organisation helping victims rebuild their careers.

The report published on Thursday compares laws and policies in six countries - Australia, New Zealand, Britain, France, Italy and Canada - aimed at protecting domestic abuse victims in the workplace.

Almost a third of women worldwide have experienced violence from a partner, according to the United Nations.

It has called for action to tackle a "horrifying" rise in domestic



abuse during the pandemic, exacerbated by economic strains and lockdown restrictions which have left many women isolated at home with abusive partners.

Domestic violence often impacts victims' performance at work, leads to absenteeism and disrupts careers, according to the report spearheaded by Led By HER and the Kering Foundation which works to combat violence against women.

But work can often be a sanctuary and lifeline for women suffering domestic abuse, they said.

"Being able to hold on to one's job and have a workplace that understands is really important," Condi added.

"If domestic violence impacts a woman's ability to perform her job and she's fired she will fall into even greater economic precarity which will make it even

harder for her to ever leave the cycle of domestic violence."

Women who experience domestic violence are more likely to do casual and part-time work, and their earnings are up to 60% lower than for other women, said the report that was supported by global law firm Dentons and the Thomson Reuters Foundation's legal pro bono network TrustLaw.

### LEGAL PROTECTION

Condi said companies needed to create a climate of trust where employees can speak in complete confidentiality about their issues without fear of repercussions or stigma.

"Domestic violence has gone up a lot because of COVID so more workplaces will have to consider what they're going to do for employees who have been affected," she added.

As lockdowns ease, Condi suggested that companies where staff are largely working at home could prioritise victims of domestic violence coming into the office.

The report urged governments to pass laws obliging all companies to safeguard women suffering domestic violence, rather than leaving it up to individual employers to draw up policies.

Laws in Australia, New Zealand, Italy and the Canadian province of Ontario provide protections such as flexible working and paid or unpaid leave, but France and Britain do not. Australia also protects victims against unfair dismissal. Ontario was the only jurisdiction studied that obliges employers to raise awareness of domestic violence and actively protect victims in the workplace. Safety measures may include screening victims' calls and emails, providing escorts between their workplace and car, offering parking near the entrance and relocating them to another job. "Making the workplace as safe as possible and ensuring that the employee has somewhere they feel secure ... is critical," the report said.

"The steps taken by the employer may be crucial first steps in helping the worker change their long-term situation."

## Researchers Discover New Strategy To Treat Brain Cancer Patients

Agencies

WASHINGTON D.C. - A team of investigators has uncovered a potentially promising strategy to target brain tumours -- isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH) genes, which are the most common brain tumours diagnosed in younger adults aged 18 to 45 years.

Led by investigators at Massachusetts General Hospital, the finding of their study are published in Cancer Discovery,

a journal of the American Association for Cancer Research.

Prior work by the group, led by Mass General's Daniel Cahill, MD, PhD, Hiroaki Wakimoto, MD, PhD, and Julie Miller, MD, PhD, revealed that IDH mutant gliomas have a metabolic weakness making them especially susceptible to treatments that lower NAD+ levels, a ubiquitous and vital metabolic molecule commonly thought of as the "currency of metabolism" in cells.

Also, previous work by other researchers found that chemotherapy activates an enzyme that stimulates NAD+ molecules to join together to make poly(ADP-ribose), or PAR, a key DNA damage signal. This PAR signal is a known susceptibility in IDH mutant gliomas.

Researchers also discovered that activation of the enzyme by chemotherapy causes available NAD+ to be critically depleted for the production of PAR in IDH mutant glioma cells, but



not normal cells.

These findings indicated that maintaining high PAR levels (and low NAD+ levels), in combination with chemotherapy,

may uniquely target IDH mutant glioma cells. Considering this, Hiroaki Nagashima, MD, PhD, research fellow and lead author, devised a new treatment strategy and tested it in tumour cells and animal models.

"We found that maximum effectiveness was achieved by combining two agents temozolomide, the chemotherapy most commonly used to treat patients with IDH mutant gliomas, with a drug that blocks PAR breakdown, known as a

PAR glycohydrolase inhibitor," said Dr. Cahill, a Neurosurgical Oncologist at Mass General and an Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medical School.

"We showed, for the first time, that PAR glycohydrolase inhibitors can be used to enhance the effectiveness of chemotherapy in tumours with metabolic weaknesses in the NAD+ pathway," said Dr. Wakimoto, an Associate Professor of Neurosurgery at Harvard Medi-

cal School.

Dr. Miller, an Instructor in Neurology and a Neuro-Oncologist at Mass General who treats patients with IDH mutant glioma, noted that PAR glycohydrolase inhibitors are a newly-emerging class of drugs.

"The long-term significance is that, based on our findings, they could be tested in individuals with IDH mutant gliomas, with a goal of hopefully improving outcomes in these patients," she said.



## Trial of Saudi officials in Khashoggi murder begins in Turkey

### Agencies

Istanbul: The trial in absentia of 20 Saudi suspects accused in the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in 2018, including two former aides to Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, began in Istanbul on Friday.

Khashoggi was an insider-



Cengiz was attending the trial alongside the UN special rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, Agnes Calamard, who has directly linked the crown prince to the killing, an AFP correspondent said.

Yasin Aktay, a close friend of Khashoggi and advisor to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's ruling party, was also in the courtroom.

Cengiz said she hoped the trial "brings to light the whereabouts of Jamal's body, the evidence against the killers and the evidence of those behind the gruesome murder."

"I will continue to pursue all legal avenues to hold Jamal's killers accountable and I will not rest until we get justice for Jamal," she told AFP before the trial.

Khashoggi was killed and dismembered at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on October 2, 2018 to obtain documents necessary for his wedding to Turkish fiancée Hatice Cengiz.

The suspects were charged with "deliberately and monstrously killing, causing torment," and prosecutors have issued arrest warrants for them.

Turkish prosecutors claim Saudi deputy intelligence chief Ahmed al-Assiri and the royal court's media czar Saud al-Qahitani led the operation and gave orders to a Saudi hit team.

## "Bubbles": How England Plans To Reopen Schools

### Agencies

London: All pupils in England will be expected to return to school in September as part of government plans unveiled on Thursday, which include dividing students into separate groups to limit the spread of COVID-19.

At present, only some students in certain year groups and the children of key workers are at school, depending on the area and set-up.

### "Bubbles"

Schools will be asked to maintain distinct student groups, known as bubbles, which strive to not mix with pupils in other bubbles. They could be the size of a class or a year group.

This makes it easier to pinpoint who needs to self-isolate if there is a positive case and will keep that number to a minimum, the education ministry said.

Officials acknowledge younger children will not be able to maintain social distancing and that could be challenging for everyone when using shared facilities such as dining halls, toilets and playgrounds.

### In Class

Seating arrangements should be changed so pupils are all facing forwards rather than face-to-face.

### Outside The Classroom

Assemblies involving more than one group of pupils should be avoided. Use of staff rooms will need to be minimised.

### Staggering Start Times

Schools should consider asking pupils in different "bubbles" to follow separate start and finish times but break times and free periods may be cut to ensure this does not reduce teaching time.

### If There Is A Positive Case

Small groups of students and staff may need to self-isolate for up to 14 days. If there are two or more cases in a two-week period, a greater number of pupils might have to stay home.

### Fine For Non-Attendance

"Unless there is a good reason for absence, then we'd be looking at the fact that we would be imposing fines on families," education minister Gavin Williamson said on Monday.



## 'China Under Xi Stepped Up 'Aggressive' Foreign Policy Towards India'

### Press Trust Of India

Beijing: China under President Xi Jinping has stepped up its "aggressive" foreign policy toward India and "resisted" efforts to clarify the Line of Actual Control that prevented a lasting peace from being realised, according to a report released by a US Congress appointed commission.

The armies of India and China have been locked in a bitter stand-off at multiple locations in eastern Ladakh for the last seven weeks, and the tension escalated after 20 Indian soldiers were killed in a violent clash in the Galwan Valley on June 15.

Under General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) Xi Jinping, Beijing has stepped up its aggressive foreign policy toward New Delhi. Since 2013, China has engaged in five major alterations with India along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), said a brief issued by US-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

"Beijing and New Delhi have

signed a series of agreements and committed to confidence-building measures to stabilise their border, but China has resisted efforts to clarify the LAC, preventing a lasting peace from being realised, said the report and was prepared at the request of the Commission to support its deliberations.

Authored by Will Green, a Policy Analyst on the Security and Foreign Affairs Team at the Commission, the report says that the Chinese government is particularly fearful of India's growing relationship with the United States and its allies and partners.

The latest border clash is part of a broader pattern in which Beijing seeks to warn New Delhi against aligning with Washington, it said.

After Xi assumed power in 2012, there was a significant increase in clashes, despite the fact that he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi several times and Beijing and New Delhi have agreed to a series of confidence-building mechanisms designed to mitigate tensions.

Prior to 2013, the last major border clash was in 1987. The 1950s and 1960s were a particularly tense period, culminating in 1962 with a war that left thousands of soldiers dead on both sides, according to the records of China's People's Liberation Army, the report said.

The 2020 skirmish is in line with Beijing's increasingly assertive foreign policy. The clash came as Beijing was aggressively pressing its other expansive sovereignty claims in the Indo-Pacific region, such as over Taiwan and in the South and East China seas, it said.

China is engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in both the South China Sea and the East China Sea. Beijing has built up and militarised many of the islands and reefs it controls in the region. Both areas are stated to be rich in minerals, oil and other natural resources and are vital to global trade.

China claims almost all of the South China Sea. Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan have counter claims over the area.

## China hopes India corrects actions against Chinese firms immediately

### Agencies

BEIJING: China's commerce ministry said on Thursday that it hopes India would correct its discriminatory actions against Chinese companies immediately after India banned Chinese mobile apps amid a border crisis between the two countries.

China has not adopted any restrictive or discriminatory measures against Indian products and services, Ministry of Commerce spokesman Gao Feng told reporters in an online briefing, adding that India's actions are in violation of World Trade Organisation rules.

Earlier this week, India

banned 59 Chinese mobile apps, including the wildly popular TikTok and WeChat, citing national security and privacy concerns just weeks after a deadly Himalayan border clash between the nuclear-armed neighbours.

An estimated 120 million Indians were TikTok users before the ban.

The apps "are engaged in activities ... prejudicial to sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of state and public order," the ministry of information technology said in a statement.

"The government of India has decided to disallow the usage of certain apps ... This

decision is a targeted move to ensure safety and sovereignty of Indian cyberspace."

The statement said the move was taken after several complaints were received by the ministry alleging theft of users' data and violations of user privacy.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has a huge social media profile, also threw his weight behind the campaign by closing his account on China's Weibo platform on Wednesday.

His photograph and 115 posts made over the past five years were deleted at the request of Indian authorities, the Chinese company said.

## Hong Kongers Clean Up Their Chat Histories In Face Of Security Law

### Agencies

Hong Kong: Hong Kongers are scrubbing their social media accounts, deleting chat histories and mugging up on cyber privacy as China's newly imposed security law blankets the traditionally outspoken city in fear and self-censorship.

China's authoritarian leaders enacted sweeping new powers on Tuesday -- keeping the contents secret until the last minute -- after more than a year of often violent protests in a financial hub increasingly chafing under Beijing's rule.

Certain political views such as wanting independence became outlawed overnight and legal analysts and rights groups warn the broad wording of the law -- which bans subversion, secession, terrorism and colluding with foreign forces -- will choke civil liberties and free speech.

and switched to a private account so that my employer will not be able to see future posts which they deem to be offensive to China or have breached the national security law," Paul, an employee of a large company whose management he described as "pro-Beijing", told AFP.

He said he would be "very careful" about posting in the future, fearing colleagues or even friends might report him, and asked not to be identified.

### VPNs and deleted chats

After the law came in, many Hong Kongers took to Twitter and other social media platforms such as Telegram and Signal to either announce their departure or share tips on internet safety.

"We will clear all the messages for your safety," one popular Telegram group used by pro-democracy protesters wrote. "Please



Despite assurances from Beijing that political freedoms would not be hindered, many Hong Kongers moved to delete digital references of their opposition to China's ruling Communist Party, which uses similar laws on the mainland to crush dissent.

"I changed my profile name

watch out for what you say."

One lawyer with pro-democracy leanings messaged an AFP journalist asking for their entire WhatsApp history to be deleted.

Another announced they were moving all communications to Signal, which they felt was a more secure messaging app.

## NZ mosque attacker sentencing to begin on August 24

### Agencies

Wellington: The sentencing hearing for an Australian man accused of killing 51 Muslim worshippers in New Zealand's worst mass shooting has been set to begin on August 24, the court said on Friday.

Brenton Tarrant pleaded guilty earlier this year to 51 charges of murder, 40 charges of attempted murder and one charge of committing a "terrorist act".

Justice Cameron Mander said the hearing is estimated to last three days, but it will take as long as is necessary.

Tarrant has been in police custody since March 15, 2019, when he was arrested and accused of using semiautomatic weapons to target Muslims attending Friday prayers at two mosques in the South Island city of Christchurch.

The attack was streamed live on Facebook and cited as providing inspiration for sev-



eral other attacks targeting religious groups around the world.

Tarrant had planned to fight the charges but changed his plea to guilty in March this year.

Justice Mander said arrangements will be made to allow victims and family members currently based overseas, and unable to travel to New Zealand, to view the sentencing remotely.

New Zealand borders remain shut for foreigners, and New Zealanders returning will have to stay in quarantine for 14 days, as the government looks to limit the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

## NEWS MAKERS

## Russian voters clear way for Putin to rule till 2036

Moscow: Russians opened the door to Vladimir Putin staying in power until 2036 by voting overwhelmingly for constitutional changes that will allow him to run again for president twice, but critics said the outcome was falsified on an industrial scale.

Moscow denies supplying arms to Taliban

Foreign Ministry said on Thursday that Moscow had never delivered weapons to the Taliban movement in Afghanistan, countering US allegations. AP

Official results published on



Thursday, after 99.9 per cent of ballots had been counted, showed that the former KGB officer, who has ruled Russia for more than two decades as President or Prime Minister, had easily won the right to run for two more six-year terms after the current one ends in 2024.

That means Putin, 67, could rule until the age of 83.

The Central Election Commission said 78 per cent of votes counted across the world's largest country had supported changing the constitution. Just over 21 per cent had voted against it.

Ella Pamfilova, head of the commission, said the vote had been transparent and that officials had done everything to ensure its integrity.

Opposition politician Alexei Navalny had a different view and called the vote an illegitimate and illegal show designed to legalise Putin's presidency for life.

A young Amazon delivery driver Derick Lancaster took to the Twitter to quit his job an abandoned a van full of packages at a Marathon gas station in Michigan state of the US.

Lancaster, who goes by the handle @ilderick tweeted about quitting his job as a delivery driver for Amazon and abandoned the van he drove for the company

## Amazon driver quits via Twitter, leaves van with packages on road

with the keys in the ignition.

"I quit amazon f-- that driving s--- i left the van on 12 mile and Southfield y'all can have that b---- and it's full of gas with the keys in the IGNITION," he tweeted.

After tweeting, Lancaster said he received "thousands" of comments and messages from other Amazon employees who expressed gratitude that he spoke up, reports FOX Business. "There were some people saying they

wish they have the courage to quit their job, but they have to stay for financial reasons. Some were saying they quit their job the next morning after they saw my video," he was quoted as saying.

Lancaster told he was frustrated with the long hours, number of deliveries and pay because he often pulled nearly 12-hour shifts to deliver more than 100 packages for \$15.50 per hour.

## OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER CITY DRAINAGE CIVIL DIVISION SMC SRINAGAR.

Phone/ Fax No. 0194-480569.E.mail: cecitydrainage456@gmail.com

### NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

e\_NIT NO. 03\_CDC\_SMC\_OF\_2020-2021

For and on behalf of the Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation, e-tenders affixed are invited on item rate basis from the **Registered / Approved Civil Contractors**, whose enlistment cards are valid in terms of standing rules, for the below mentioned work strictly as per the terms and conditions given hereunder:-

S.No.	Name of work	Estt. Cost of work incld. Depttl. Materials (Amt.in lakhs).	Earnest Money (CDR)	Class Of Contract	Time for completion	Cost of TD In the shape of e-challan	Head of Account
1.	Const.of 300mm dia pipe drain from H/o.Somullah and others to existing drain at Arfat lane Budshah nagar	9.27	18540=00	C&D	30 days	600=00	Demand
2.	Const.Of Pipe drain from Mir Medicos upto House of Nazir Ahmad near Bisati lane at 90ft Soura.	8.37	16740=00	C&D	30 days	600=00	demand

The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of quantities(B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per the schedule of dates given hereunder:-

01-	Date of Issue of tender Notice	1.7.2020
02-	Period of down loading of bidding documents/Sale of tender document.	2.7.2020 from 10 AM to 07.07.2020
03-	Bid Submission Start date	02.07.2020 from 10 AM
04-	Bid Submission End date.	07.09.2020 upto 4.00 PM
05-	Date and time of opening of Bids on line.	09.07.2020 at 10.30 AM. In the office of Executive Engineer CDC-SMC.
06	List of Soft Copies to be uploaded.	Scanned copy of Treasury challan(Cost of tender document)with S.No.of NIT/work. Scanned copy of CDR( Earnest Money) Scanned copy of GST/Registration and PAN Card. Scanned copy of Enlistment card with its validity.

01. All other terms and conditions shall remain unchanged as laid down in the detailed e-NIT/Tender Document issued for the work which can be down loaded from [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in)

02. The intending tenderers who may wish to submit his e-tender on line shall have to upload the following documents while submitting his tender on line:-  
i)GST No copy uploaded ii)Pan No uploaded iii) CDR uploaded iv)e-challan from Treasury in the shape of Cost of Tender documents. V)Photostat copy of Registration CARD.The cost of tender document in the shape of e-challan be credited to MH-0217 in favour of Executive Engineer City Drainage Civil Division SMC Srinagar.

03. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned on all working day upto 4.00 PM.

NO: CDC-SMC/788-815

Dated:01 /07/2020

DIPK-NB-1164/20

Sd/=  
Executive Engineer,  
City Drainage Civil Division Sgr.



## 20 Sikh Pilgrims Killed As Train Rams Into Bus In Pakistan's Sheikhupura

**LAHORE:** At least 20 Pakistani Sikh pilgrims returning from Nankana Sahib were killed when the driver of the mini-bus they were traveling reportedly tried to take a shortcut to avoid a shut railway crossing and rammed the vehicle into a passenger train in Pakistan's Punjab province on Friday, officials said.

The mini-bus carrying around 26 Sikh pilgrims, all from Peshawar, hit the Shah Hussain Express which was coming from Karachi to Lahore at a crossing near Sheikhupura district at around 1.30 pm, police said.

According to Rescue 1122 officials, at least eight people were injured in the accident, all of whom were shifted to District Headquarters Hospital, Sheikhupura, Dawn newspaper reported.

The gate at the crossing was closed and the driver apparently tried to take a shortcut instead of waiting for the gate to open, senior police officer Ghazi Sala-huddin told reporters at the crash site.

"Twenty passengers died that included women and children," he said.

The Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) spokesperson Amir Hashmi said the bus was carrying mostly Sikh pilgrims to Gurdwara Sacha Sauda in Farooqabad in the district.

Police have denied reports that the crossing was unmanned.

Pakistan Railways Chief Executive Officer Dost Ali Laghari has set up a committee comprising three senior officers to investigate the incident. It will present its initial report by Saturday "so that it can be determined which side was at fault", according to the press release.

"Action will be taken in accordance with the law against whoever is held responsible for this accident," the Railway's statement said.

The rescue teams reached the spot and shifted the injured to the district headquarters' hospital, a statement by the Railways Ministry said.

The railways said a divisional engineer has been suspended from service and an inquiry has been launched.

Railways Minister Sheikh Rashid has ordered authorities to take immediate action against those responsible for the accident.

Prime Minister Imran Khan expressed grief over the accident and directed authorities to provide the best medical aid to the injured.

## Scheduled International Flights Suspended Till July 31: DGCA

The aviation regulator DGCA said on Friday it was extending the suspension of scheduled international passenger flights in the country till July 31 but added that some international scheduled services on selected routes may be permitted on a case to case basis.

Scheduled international passenger flights were suspended in India on March 23 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Modifying its June 26 circular that stated that scheduled international passenger flights will remain suspended till July 15, 2020, the regulator stated on Friday it has decided to extend the deadline to July 31, 2020.

However, international scheduled flights may be allowed on selected routes by the competent authority on a case to case basis," said the circular by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Air India and other private domestic airlines have been operating unsched-



uled international repatriation flights under the Vande Bharat Mission, which was started on May 6 by the Central government. India resumed scheduled domestic passenger flights on May 25, after a gap of two months.

## Ladakhis Say China Occupied Indian Land, Pm Says Otherwise, Someone Is Lying: Rahul

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi took a veiled swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday over Chinese intrusions at the Line of Actual Control, saying while Ladakhis claim that China has taken their land, the PM says otherwise and someone is "lying".

"Ladakhis say: China took our land. PM says: Nobody took our land. Obviously, someone is lying," he wrote on a Twitter.

Gandhi also shared the voices of some Ladakhis in a video alleging that the Chinese have occupied Indian territory in Ladakh.



The former Congress chief's dig came on a day when Modi

visited Nimu, a forward location in Leh to interact with the personnel of the Army, Air Force and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), days after a face-off between Indian and Chinese troops in eastern Ladakh.

Accompanied by Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat, the prime minister reached Leh around 9.30am, sources said, adding that Modi was briefed by senior Army officers.

Gandhi had also accused the prime minister of "surrendering" Indian land to China and "lying" on the border standoff issue.



SPENDING LEISURELY HOURS amid raging pandemic this nomad group discusses world around them in central Kashmir mountain resort of Yusmsrg- KO Photo Abid Bhat

## Delhi Rioters Killed 9 People For Refusing To Shout 'Jai Shri Ram': Cops

Some of the rioters in the northeast Delhi riots of February used a WhatsApp group to coordinate with each other and killed nine Muslims after they refused to chant 'Jai Shri Ram', Delhi police has alleged in its charge-sheets filed in a court in Delhi.

The accused were part of a WhatsApp group—Kattar Hindut Ekta—that was created on February 25 to take revenge on Muslims, the charge-sheets said, adding that they used it to coordinate with each other and provide men, arms and ammunition to each other.

The creator of the WhatsApp group is still absconding, police said in the charge-sheets.

Kattar Hindut Ekta group was created on February 25 at 12.49pm. Initially, there were 125 members in this group; out of these 125, a total 47 had exited the group by March 8, it said.

The charge-sheets were filed before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Vinod Kumar Gautam on June 29 for the alleged bludgeoning to death of nine people—Hamza, Aamin, Bhure Ali, Mursalin, Aas Mohd, Musharraf, Akil Ahmed and Hashim Ali and his elder brother Aamir Khan.

During the investigation, it has been established that a group of Hindus comprising accused persons—Jatin Sharma, Rishabh Chaudhary, Vivek Panchal, Lokesh Solanki, Pankaj Sharma, Prince, Sumit Chaudhary, Ankit Chaudhary and Himanshu Thakur—along with other identified and unidentified rioters became active in Ganga Vihar/Bhagirathi Vihar area since the morning of February



25 to 26 midnight and bludgeoned nine Muslim persons to death and injured several persons in Bhagirathi Vihar and other areas, police said in the charge-sheet.

The final report further said, "It shows that they were actively involved in rioting and attacking other community people belonging to different religion i.e., Muslim and during riots they killed many people by attacking them."

Their modus operandi was, they used to catch the people and ascertain their religion by asking name, address and by their document i.e., identity card and they were forcing them to shout 'Jai Shri Ram' many times.

The person who was not saying 'Jai Shri Ram' and carrying Muslim identity papers, they were bluntly attacked and thrown into the main Ganda Nala (dirty drain), Bhagirathi Vihar, it said.

The court has put up the matter

for consideration on July 13.

According to the police report, one of the accused, Lokesh Solanki, on February 25, messaged in the WhatsApp group, "Brother Lokesh Solanki this side from Ganga Vihar area; if any Hindu need any backup, then do contact. We have men, arms and ammunition. I have just killed two Muslims in Bhagirathi Vihar area and thrown them in drain with the help of my team."

In the first case, on February 26, one Hamza was killed by the rioters while he was coming from Mustafabad to Bhagirathi Vihar about 9.15pm, police said.

He was then thrown in sewage near E Block, Bhagirathi Vihar. An FIR was lodged in this regard at Gokulpuri police station, in North East Delhi on March 3, it said.

In the second case, one Aamin was killed and thrown into a sewage on February 25 by the rioters near C Block, Bhagirathi Vihar.

## Yogi In The Line Of Fire After 8 UP Cops Killed In Kanpur Encounter

**LUCKNOW:** At least eight Uttar Pradesh police personnel, including a deputy superintendent of police, were killed in an encounter with criminals in Kanpur, officials said on Friday.

The encounter took place when the police team was approaching to arrest Vikas Dubey, a history sheeter facing 60 criminal cases, in Dikru village under Chaubeypur police station on the intervening night of Thursday and Friday, police said.

As the police team was about to reach the hideout of the dreaded criminal, a hail of bullets was showered on them from a building rooftop, leaving Deputy SP Devendra Mishra, three sub-inspectors and four constables dead, officials said.

Giving details of the incident, Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police H C Awasthi said the notorious criminal might have got an inkling of the impending raid.

He and his henchmen put up massive roadblocks to prevent the police personnel from proceeding towards their hideout. As the police team was caught unawares, the criminals fired at them from a building rooftop leading to the deaths, Awasthi said.

On getting information about the incident, additional DG (Law and Order), IG (Kanpur) and the senior



SP of Kanpur rushed to the spot, where a forensic team has started investigations. The forensic team will be joined by another team from Lucknow.

The Special Task Force (STF) of the Uttar Pradesh police has also been pressed into action, the DGP said.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath paid tributes to the slain policemen and conveyed his heartfelt condolences to their family members.

According to a spokesperson, he directed the police chief to take stringent action against the culprits and collect detailed report from the spot immediately.

Opposition hits back at Yogi government

Opposition parties in Uttar Pradesh, including the Congress and Samajwadi Party, lashed out at the Yogi Adityanath government over the killing of eight policemen, saying no one was safe in the state.

Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra took to Twitter to condole the deaths.

"Eight policemen were martyred while they went to nab criminals. I pay my condolence to the family of the martyrs. In UP, law and order has become very bad and criminals have no fear. From common man to policemen, no one is safe," she said.

## CITU Hold Protests Against Govt's Anti-Worker Policies

**SRINAGAR:** While maintaining social-distancing norms Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) Saturday held protests across Jammu and Kashmir to lodge their resentment against anti-worker and anti-people policies of the BJP government.

While demanding immediate halt to changes in labour laws, abrogating the rights won over after a struggle of 150 years among other demands, the protesters took serious note of the continuous aggressive attack on the workers' rights, ignoring all the joint representations to the Government on the matter.

The Government not only failed in getting its own orders and advisories implemented in regard to payment of wages to workers, no retrenchments to be carried during lockdown period, the CITU leaders said while addressing the protest rallies.

Instead, it withdrew its own decision in the face of the case in Supreme Court by the employers of some companies. The Government did not heed to the demand of cash transfer of Rs. 7500/- to all non-income tax paying households including unorganised labour (registered or unregistered) for the months of April, May, June, neither the demand for Government support to pay the wages of workers of MSMEs for these three months. Neither our demand for workers safe journey home paid attention to.

## CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR



کینسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

Website: www.cancersocietykashmir.org E-mail: cancersocietyofkashmir@gmail.com

Ref. No. CSK/83/2020/5426-33  
Dated: 01-JUL-2020

Subject: - Auction of old buildings.

## (Auction Notice)

For & on behalf of chairman Cancer Society Of Kashmir bids in sealed covers duly affixed with revenue stamp worthRs, 10- along with earnest money of Rs, 20,000/- in cash/CDR pledged to cancer society of Kashmir are invited from interested persons for dismantling of existing old buildings for as is basis situated at 4-Bagi Islam Colony Lalnagar Chanapora.

- Bids have to be quoted for existing structures excluding machinery equipment's, furniture fixture & other records etc.
- The last date of receipt of bids is fixed upto 08-07-2020 (Upto 04:00pm). Which shall be opened on same day at 04:30 pm.
- Interested persons/parties can visit the site during office hours on all working days from 10:00am to 4:00pm.
- The structures shall have to be dismantled & its material to be disposed off from the site within 10 days by the successful bidder.
- Earnest money in favour of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded/released after finalization of bids.

--sd--  
General Secretary.

4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora  
Srinagar 190 015TeleFax 0194-2441899/2430899

## Bollywood Choreographer Saroj Khan Passes Away At 71

Saroj Khan, a top Bollywood choreographer, died of cardiac arrest in a Mumbai hospital early Friday, her family said. She was 71.

The three-time National Award winner was hospitalized last Saturday after she complained of breathlessness. She tested negative for COVID-19, the Press Trust of India news agency said.

Khan choreographed more than 2,000 songs in her career spanning more than 40 years. Leading actresses including Madhuri



Dixit and Sridevi danced to some of the most popular songs Khan had produced.

Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar said she made dance look easy, almost like anybody can do it. "A huge loss for the industry," Kumar tweeted.

Khan started her acting career at the age of 3 in a

Bollywood film. She later shifted to choreography and got her break in 1974. She never looked back and created some of Bollywood's most popular film songs.

She won acclaim for songs in movies Mr. India, Chandni, Beta, Tezaab and Gulab Gang.

Khan was buried in a Mumbai cemetery on Friday, her nephew Manish Jagwani told reporters.

She is survived by her husband and three children.

## End Of An Era Madhuri Akshay Kareena Remember Choreographer Saroj Khan

**MUMBAI:** Bollywood woke up to the shock news of their beloved 'masterji' Saroj Khan's death on Friday, with actors Madhuri Dixit, Akshay Kumar, Kareena Kapoor and others remembering the role played by the veteran choreographer in their life and career.

Khan, the name behind some of the most famous songs in Bollywood such as "Dhak Dhak" and "Ek Do Teen", died of cardiac arrest early on Friday morning. She was 71.

Madhuri, one of the frequent collaborators of Khan, said she is saddened by the loss of her "friend" and "guru", who helped her realise her potential.

"I'm devastated by the loss of my friend and guru, Saroj Khan. Will always be grateful for her work in helping me reach my full potential in dance. The world has lost an amazingly talented person. I will miss you. My sincere condolences to the family. #RIPSAROJI" she tweeted.