



Maximum : 29°C
Minimum : 13°C
Humidity : 39%

SUNSET
Today 06:32 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:17 AM



News Digest

Unexploded Mortar Shells Defused

Jammu: Four unexploded live mortar shells fired by Pakistan army during the ceasefire violation along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district were detected and destroyed by the Army on Friday, official sources said. On the information provided by the villagers about unexploded mortar shells fired by Pakistan targeting Balakote hamlet along the LoC on Thursday, a bomb disposal squad team rushed to the area, they said. The team detected and destroyed the shells in the operation, ● P-02

Hideout Busted In Kupwara: Army

Srinagar: A militant hideout was busted in Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday and arms and ammunition recovered, the Army said. A search operation was launched on Friday afternoon in the Kandi forest area of Kupwara in north Kashmir based on a specific input, an Army official said. He said during the search operation, a hideout was busted. The forces recovered an AK 47 rifle, a grenade launcher and two hand grenades from the hideout, the official said. He said the search operation was in progress.

Police Arrests Four 'Gamblers' In Bandipora

Srinagar: Police in north Kashmir's Bandipora on Friday claimed to have arrested four gamblers in a raid in Saderkoot Payeen area of Ajas. Acting on an input, a team from Police post Ajas raided a gambling site at Saderkoot Payeen Ajas and apprehended four gamblers, a police spokesperson said Friday. He said an amount of Rs 6,250 besides playing cards were seized from the gamblers. The police spokesperson identified the accused as Abdul Majeed Dar and his brother Ali Mohammad Dar of SK Payeen, Mohammad Afzal Rather of SK Bala and Bilal Ahmad Ganie ● P-02

Man Held 12 Years After Road Accident

Jammu: A man wanted in a hit-and-run case for 12 years was arrested in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Friday, police said. Based on specific information, a police team conducted a raid in Chhaja village in tehsil Mankote and arrested accused Nazakat Hussain, they said. Hussain had been evading arrest since 2008 in a case of rash driving and causing hurt to people, the police said. A court had already issued an arrest warrant against him, they said. The accused was produced before the court after the completion of all legal formalities, they said.

Rs 65000 Fine Slapped On Brick Kiln Owners

Srinagar: The authorities on Friday slapped a fine of Rs 65,000 against five brick kiln owners who were found involved in selling bricks at exorbitant rates in south Kashmir's Pulwama district. Acting upon the instructions given by Deputy Commissioner Pulwama, Dr Raghav Langer a team comprising Assistant Controller Legal Metrology and officials from Revenue Department today conducted a surprise visit of brick kiln units which were selling bricks at exorbitant rates, an official spokesperson said. The team while inspecting

...SHOPIAN 'FAKE ENCOUNTER'

Army Admits 3 Slain Youth Were Rajouri Residents

Order Disciplinary Proceedings Against Troops For Exceeding AFSPA Powers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Army has found "prima facie" evidence its troops "exceeded" powers under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act during an encounter in Kashmir's Shopian district in which three men were killed in July this year and has initiated disciplinary proceedings, officials said on Friday.

On July 18, the Army claimed three militants were killed in Amshipura village in the higher reaches of south Kashmir's Shopian district.

Committed to ethical conduct during anti-militancy operations, the Army initiated an inquiry after social media reports indicated the three men were from Rajouri district in Jammu and had gone missing at Amshipura, said Col Rajesh Kalia, the defence spokes-



File Photo

Disciplinary Action Must Be Transparent: Omar

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah on Friday said the process of disciplinary action against those found guilty of killing three young men from Rajouri in an alleged fake encounter in Shopian should be transparent. "The families of the three murdered men had

person in Srinagar. The probe was completed in a record four weeks. The families of the three men

THE INQUIRY HAS BROUGHT OUT CERTAIN PRIMA facie evidence indicating that during the operation, powers vested under the AFSPA 1990 were exceeded and the Do's and Don'ts of Chief of Army Staff as approved by the Supreme Court have been contravened.

Naib Tehsildars Authorised To Issue Domicile Certificates

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Friday authorised Naib Tehsildars to issue domicile certificates to PRC holders and their family members across the Union Territory.

The decision regarding it was taken by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha during a meeting while reviewing the working of revenue department and the Aujaf, an official spokesperson said. He said that to speed up the process, LG announced to authorise Naib Tehsildars in addition to the Tehsildars for issuing Domicile certificate to all the PRC holders and their family members on priority.

"While enquiring about the status of delivery of domicile cer-



Domicile Certificate

tificates in the UT, the LG directed to complete all long pendency by 30th September, 2020," the officials spokesperson said.

LG's advisors KK Sharma and Farooq Khan; Chief Secretary, BVR Subrahmanyam; Principal Secretary Revenue Department and Inspector General of Registration Pawan Kotwal; Principal Secretary to LG, Nitishwar Kumar; CEO Board of Directors for specified Wakafs and specified Wakaf properties, Mufti Mohammad

Pak To Raise Kashmir At UNGA

ISLAMABAD: The all important general debate of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) will be commencing from September 22 in a virtual session with zero in-person participation from anyone from outside.

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan will take part in the General Assembly in New York and will be addressing it on September 25, as detailed by Pakistan foreign office spokesperson Zahid Hafeez Chaudhri during a weekly press briefing on Friday.

"The Foreign Minister will participate virtually in the high level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations," he said.

As per diplomatic sources, ● P-02

LG Directs PDD To Submit 'Winter Preparedness Plan' Within A Week

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Friday directed Power Development Department (PDD) to submit a winter preparedness plan in a week besides ensuring that no unscheduled power curtailment is made in the metered areas of the Union Territory.

According to an official spokesperson, LG conducted a meeting at the Civil Secretariat here on Friday to assess the preparedness of the Power Development Department for the ensuing winter season. ● P-02

14 More Coronavirus Deaths In J&K, Toll 968

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: A 21-year-old youth were among fourteen more people, who succumbed to coronavirus infection in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, taking the number of fatalities due to the virus in the Union Territory to 968.

While ten more Covid-19 deaths were reported from Jammu division, the remaining four, including a 21-year-old youth from south Kashmir were confirmed by officials here.

Regarding the youth, officials said, he was a resident of Ladoo Kulgam and was admitted to SKIMS Soura on September 11 after he

had fallen from height and turned out to be Covid-19 positive later.

"He had cardiopulmonary arrest at 2 am," a doctor at SKIMS Soura said.

A 56-year-old woman from Kaloosa Bandipora died at SKIMS Bemina where she was admitted on September 2, officials said.

A 58-year-old man from Dalgate, they said, was brought to SMHS hospital where doctors declared him brought dead and on testing he turned out to be covid-19 positive.

A 67-year-old man ● P-02



Covid-19 Crosses 60K Mark With 1330 New Cases

Coronavirus cases in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday crossed 60,000 mark as 1330 more people, including 70 travellers tested Covid-19 positive in the Union Territory.

While 658 fresh cases of coronavirus were reported from Kashmir Valley, the remaining 672 were confirmed by the officials from the Jammu division, officials said Friday. This is for ● P-02

Hurriyat Hails UN Chief's Kashmir Statement

SRINAGAR: Welcoming the statement of UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that India and Pakistan should take steps for 'positive' settlement of Kashmir issue, Hurriyat Conference (M) on Friday said that the onus of a peaceful resolution and an end to "human rights violations" in Jammu and Kashmir lies with the global body.

In a statement issued here, a Hurriyat spokesperson said that the UN should ensure India and Pakistan resolve the issue through dialogue as per the wishes of the people of Jammu and Kashmir so that the people are not "killed" and they live with dignity.

"The onus of a peaceful resolution and an end to human rights violations in J&K lies with it," the spokesperson said. ● P-02

Pvt Schools Warned For Collecting Capitation Fee

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The government on Friday directed all the private educational institutions of Jammu and Kashmir not to charge any admission fee from the students.

In an order issued, principal secretary to the government for school educational department and skill Development, Asgar Samoon also asked the private educational institutions to refund the amount to the parents which was collected by the management from November 2019 till date.

"The Fee Fixation Committee (FFC) was mandated to regulate the fee structure in private educational institutions in J&K and the committee has ordered inter-alia that



File Photo

private schools shall only charge tuition fee, annual fee, transport fee, voluntary special purpose fee or any other fee as may be approved by the FFC after following the due procedures. But shall not charge, in any manner, any other fee including admission fee," the order reads.

The order further states that the FFC requested that the ● P-02

In FOCUS

Swati Joshi

EVEN after the removal of Article 370 which was considered a "hurdle" in the development of Jammu & Kashmir, the Naya Kashmir still lags in Ease of Doing Business (EODB) and Export Preparedness Index (EPI).

Ease of Doing Business

J&K ranks 21st in the EODB rankings released by the Department of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). The ranking is based on the implementation of Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP).

The DPIIT started a reform exercise in 2014 to rank all states and union territories in India based on some reform parameters with the aim to create a business-friendly environment.

The first report titled "Assessment of State Implementation of Business Reforms" was released in September 2015 covering the findings of reforms implemented by States/ UTs under the Business Reform Action Plan (BRAP).

Similar reports of the ranking came out in 2006 and 2017-18.

The reforms cover 12 broad areas like labour regulation, land adminis-



KO File Photo Abid Bhat

tration, environment regulation, obtaining electric and water supply, etc.

For the rankings of 2019-20, the assessment is based only on the

feedback from service users and industries. The respondent data is

shared by the states through the BRAP portal.

The users are then surveyed by the DPIIT to determine the efficacy of the reforms.

Under BRAP 2019-20, feedback is only sought on those reforms, which has been implemented by the states and UT.

In 2017-18, Kashmir was put under the category of "aspirants" who have implemented less than 80 percent of reforms. The combine scorecard of reform evidence and feedback of J&K was 32.76 percent.

For BRAP 2019-20, out of 187 reforms proposed by New Delhi, 137

were implemented in the region.

Neighboring states of J&K- Himachal Pradesh (HP) and Punjab have implemented 175 and 178 reforms respectively. HP ranks 7th and Punjab ranks 19th in EODB.

However, the methodology used in the 2017-18 ranking is different from that of 2019.

The 2017-18 edition used state government and user feedback to compute the score, whereas in 2019 only business feedback (for whom the reforms were intended) was taken into account.

After the abrogation of Article 370, business stood still for a long time in Kashmir. Covid, in 2020, further dented it.

Tourism, handicrafts, and other retail businesses have incurred huge losses during the period, ● P-02

NEW DELHI: Google on Friday restored the Paytm app on its Play store after removing it for a few hours for violating its policy on sports betting activities.

The app was back on the Google Play store on Friday evening after the Softbank-backed Paytm removed the 'cashback' feature from a recently-launched game on the application.

"Update: And we're back!," Paytm said in a tweet.

On Friday morning, Google removed the Paytm app -- which facilitates use of wallet and payments bank services -- from the Play store.

However, users who had already downloaded the app could continue using the services.

"The app was blocked for violation of Play policies - a clarification of our policy was released earlier today ahead of the IPL tournament," Google said in an e-mailed response, adding that only the app availability on Play store was impacted.

Google, in a blog post earlier on Friday, had said it does not al-

low apps facilitating sports betting and will remove such apps from the Play store.

These policies are in place to protect users from potential harm, it added.

"We don't allow online casinos or support any unregulated gambling apps that facilitate sports betting. This includes if an app leads consumers to an external website that allows them to participate in paid tournaments to win real money or cash prizes, it is a violation of our policies," the blog post said.

Paytm founder Vijay Shekhar Sharma said the company has already removed the scratch cards which offered the cashbacks, complying with Google's concerns.

Stating that Google was not allowing it to acquire new customers by blocking Paytm's promotion, Sharma said India needs support for further growing the startup ecosystem.

"(Platforms like Google) are dominating platforms and with power comes responsibility. I be-

lieve that they should be responsible for this country's growth and startup ecosystem...India's ecosystem needs support, not stifling of innovation," he told news channel CNBC-TV18.

A Paytm spokesperson said the company had recently launched the 'Paytm Cricket League' on its consumer app for users to engage in their passion of cricket and get cashbacks.

"The game allows users to get player stickers after each transaction, collect them and get PaytmCashback. Cashback is legal in India and we strictly follow all rules and laws of the land.

"Unfortunately, Google believes this to be a violation of its policies and has unlisted the Paytm Android app from the Play Store," the spokesperson told PTI.

The spokesperson added that the cashback feature has been removed and confirmed that the app has been restored on the Play store.

Google, in its blog post, had said that when an app violates its policies, it notifies the developer



of the violation and removes the application from Google Play until the developer brings it into compliance.

"And in the case where there are repeated policy violations, we may take more serious action which may include terminating

Army Admits 3 Slain Youth...

from Rajouri who worked as labourers in Shopian had also filed a police complaint.

In a brief statement, the Army said the Shopian operation contravened the dos and don'ts of the Chief of Army Staff approved by the Supreme Court.

"The inquiry has brought out certain prima facie evidence indicating that during the operation, powers vested under the AFSPA 1990 were exceeded and the Do's and Don'ts of Chief of Army Staff as approved by the Supreme Court have been contravened.

"Consequently, the competent disciplinary authority has directed to initiate disciplinary proceedings under the Army Act against those found prima-facie answerable," the statement said.

It is not immediately clear how many Army men are being proceeded against.

The evidence collected indicates the three unidentified (militants) killed in Amshipura were Imtiyaz Ahmed, Abrar Ahmed and Mohammad Ibrar who hailed from Rajouri. Their DNA report is awaited.

"Their involvement with (militancy) or related activities is under investigation by the police," the statement said.

General Officer Commanding Lt Gen B S Raju had taken note of social media reports and initiated a probe into the incident. A general advertisement was published in local newspapers, asking people with any "credible information" about the case to step forward and share it with the court of inquiry instituted by the Army.

Relatives of the three youths, belonging to Dhar Sakri village in Kotranka of Rajouri area in Poonch, had lodged a written missing persons report in the local police station after they lost contact with them on July 17. The three were working as labourers in apple and walnut orchards in Amshipura.

The relatives said in their complaint that they had last spoken to the three on July 16 when they informed their families they had got a room in Amshipura.

The room was the site of the encounter two days later, the complaint stated.

Police is also probing the three youths' call details and why they jumped out of a window when an operation was launched at their rented accommodation, a police official said.

He added that their presence in around strategic places in Shopian since their arrival was also being investigated.

According to the rules, a Summary of Evidence will now be initiated against the erring Army personnel after which Court Martial proceedings will begin. The Army has been maintaining high standards of transparency and punishing officials whenever rules are violated, officials said. With inputs from PTI

Disciplinary Action Must Be...

continued to proclaim their innocence. Disciplinary action initiated by the army would suggest the army agrees with the families. The process must remain transparent & the guilty must face the full weight of the law," Omar tweeted.

He was reacting after the Army said it has found "prima facie" evidence its troops "exceeded" powers under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act during an encounter in Kashmir's Shopian district in which three men were killed in July this year and has initiated disciplinary proceedings.

On July 18, the Army claimed three militants were killed in Amshipura village in the higher reaches of south Kashmir's Shopian district. After the operation, two families from Rajouri claimed that the youth could be their relatives who had come to Shopian in search of work.

Woman Injured As Guns...

"At about 1630 hours today, Pakistan army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars along the LoC in Balakote sector," a defence spokesman said.

According to reports, a 34-year-old woman identified as Mehnaz Kouser of Sohala was injured in Pakistani firing. She was removed to the public health centre (PHC) Burthi for treatment.

Pakistan troops have violated the ceasefire agreement 31 times so far this month, officials said.

On Thursday, a soldier was injured in Pakistani firing in Balakote sector. An army personnel was killed and two others, including an officer, injured on Tuesday as Pakistani troops violated ceasefire by using heavy fire and mortar shells along the LoC in Sunderbani sector of Rajouri district, according to officials.

On September 2, a JCO was killed in ceasefire violation by Pakistani troops along the LoC in Keri sector of Rajouri. Earlier, Pakistani troops violated the ceasefire along the LoC in Gurez sector of Bandipora district, the defence spokesman said.

The Indian Army effectively retaliated. "Pakistan initiated an unprovoked ceasefire violation along the LoC at Kanthalwan in Gurez sector today morning by firing mortars and other weapons," defence spokesman Colonel Rajesh Kalia said.

There were no reports of any casualties so far.

Pak Summons Indian Diplomat

26-year-old Nusrat Kausar and 16-year-old Mukheel of Andrala Nar village.

The Indian forces "along the LoC and the Working Boundary (WB) have been continuously targeting civilian populated areas with artillery fire, heavy-caliber mortars and automatic weapons," it alleged.

It claimed that 18 people had died and 183 been injured in 2,280 ceasefire violations this year

The Indian side was called upon to respect the 2003 Ceasefire Understanding, investigate this and other such incidents of deliberate ceasefire violations and maintain peace along the LoC and the WB, the Foreign Office said.

Chinese, Indian Troops In...

three locations on the southern bank of the lake and one on the northern bank.

On the north bank, the troops are facing each other between Finger 3 and Finger 4 where warning shots were fired in the air by both the armies. On the south bank of the lake, the troops are only a few meters

apart at Spanggur Gap, Mukhpari and Rezang La.

China made the first provocative military moves, after which India too deployed its troops at these locations. At these two places, both the countries' troops have fired warning shots to intimidate each other.

The Chinese People's Liberation Army made attempts to occupy the area between Finger 3 and 4 earlier this month which led to the firing of around 200 shots in the air. Thereafter, both the armies are now a few hundred meters apart. The mountain spurs jutting into the lake are referred to as 'Fingers' in military parlance.

The PLA troops armed with spears and guns again tried to start a medieval-style fight similar to the June 14 clash at Galwan Valley, in which 20 Indian soldiers and an unknown number of Chinese soldiers died. In the confrontation, shots were fired for the first time in 45 years along the Line of Actual Control.

It was after External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi reached an agreement in Moscow that the situation has calmed down a bit at the borders.

India has asked China to completely withdraw its troops from Pangong Tso. But China has refused to budge.

Both the countries are engaged in the current four-month-long stand-off at the Line of Actual Control in eastern Ladakh. Despite several levels of dialogue, there has not been any breakthrough and the deadlock continues.

Chinese aggression started increasing along the LAC and more particularly in Galwan Valley since May 5. The Chinese side transgressed in the areas of Kugrang Nala, Gogra and the north bank of Pangong Lake on May 17 and May 18.

Govt's High-Power China...

At a nearly 90-minute meeting of the high-power China Study Group, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff Gen. Bipin Rawat and the three service chiefs also looked at further enhancing the vigil along the nearly 3,500-km-long Line of Actual Control (LAC), including in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim sectors, they said.

Army Chief Gen. M M Naravane briefed the meeting about the fresh face-offs between Indian and Chinese troops at both the north and south bank of the Pangong lake and elaborated on steps taken to effectively deal with such attempts, the sources said.

"The meeting of the China Study Group reviewed all aspects of the situation," said a source.

The meeting also deliberated on arrangements being made to maintain the current level of troops and weapons in all forward areas in eastern Ladakh and other sensitive high-altitude sectors in the harsh winter months when the temperature drops up to minus 25 degree Celsius. The sources said the meeting also briefly touched upon the main talking points to be raised by the Indian side at the next Corps commander-level talks which is expected to focus on the implementation of an agreement reached between foreign ministers of India and China at a meeting in Moscow on September 10.

"We will insist on early and complete disengagement of Chinese troops from all friction points. That is the first step for restoration of peace and tranquillity along the border," said a source.

The sources said the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) is yet to respond to the Indian Army's communication to it on holding the next round of the Corps commander-level talks.

"There is no date as of now as the Chinese military is yet to respond to it. The talks could take place sometime next week," a source said. The two sides have so far held five rounds of talks at the level of Corps commanders.

The sources said the situation remained tense at both the north and south bank of the Pangong lake area as well as at other friction points in eastern Ladakh.

There have been at least three attempts by the PLA to "intimidate" Indian troops along the north and south bank of Pangong lake area in the last three weeks where even shots were fired in the air for the first time at the LAC in 45 years.

External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava on Thursday said China should take forward the process for complete disengagement of troops from all friction points including at the Pangong lake area, and asked it not to make unilateral attempts to change the status quo.

He said both sides should focus on easing tensions in the friction areas by refraining from any actions that may lead to an escalation in the situation.

The assertion by Srivastava came in the backdrop of remarks by Chinese foreign ministry on Wednesday that it was for India to initiate the process to disengage and restore peace along the LAC.

Both sides reached a five-point agreement to resolve the border stand-off at a meeting between External Affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi on September 10 on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) meet in Moscow.

The agreement included measures like quick disengagement of troops, avoiding action that could escalate tensions, adherence to all agreements and protocols on border management and steps to restore peace along the LAC.

The situation in eastern Ladakh deteriorated after China unsuccessfully attempted to occupy Indian territory in the southern bank of Pangong lake on the intervening night of August 29 and 30.

India occupied a number of strategic heights on the southern bank of Pangong lake and strengthened its presence in Finger 2 and Finger 3 areas in the region to thwart any Chinese actions. China has been occupying the areas between Finger 4 and Finger 8. The mountain spurs in the area is called Fingers.

China has strongly objected to India's move. However, India has maintained that the heights are on its side of the LAC.

India has also rushed in additional troops and weapons to the sensitive region following China's transgression attempts.

Following China's fresh attempts to change the status quo in the southern bank of Pangong lake, India has further bolstered its military presence in the region.

Naib Tehsildars Authorised...

Farid ud Din; Commissioner Survey Land Records, Shahnawaz Bukhari and senior officers of Revenue and Awaqf were present in the meeting. During the review meeting, the official spokesperson said that the LG

was briefed in detail about the working and organizational structure of the Revenue Department.

"He was apprised about status of the first phase of ongoing process of scanning and settlement of land records in Jammu and Srinagar. The Lt Governor set timeline for digitization of all revenue records on speedy basis by September 30, 2020," the official spokesperson said.

"He also directed to complete the Cadastral survey under Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme (DILRMP) across all districts of the UT by the end of May, 2021," he added.

14 More Coronavirus Deaths...

from Aloochi Bagh here died, nearly a fortnight after he was admitted to CD hospital, one of the exclusive facilities for the management of the covid-19 patients in the Valley.

The deaths from Jammu among others include a 70-year-old from Arnia RS Pura, a 65-year-old man from Shatri Nagar Jammu, a 70-year-old woman from Janipur, a 70-year-old from Talab Tilloo, a 60-year-old Green enclave Rehari Jammu, an 83-year-old from Gandhi Nagar, a 60-year-old from Bakshi Nagar, an 84-year-old man from Nai Basti Satwari and a 52-year-old from same area.

With these deaths 968 people have succumbed to the virus in J&K so far. (With GNS inputs)

Covid-19 Crosses 60K Mark...

the fifteenth day in a row that cases have exceeded to over a thousand daily

Giving district wise breakup of the cases, officials said that Srinagar reported 237 cases, Budgam 62, Baramulla 64, Pulwama 41, Anantnag 60, Bandipora 65, Kupwara 52, Ganderbal 44, Kulgam 19, Shopian 14, Jammu 221, Rajouri 62, Udhampur 31, Kathua 42, Doda 86, Samba 53, Poonch 77, Ramban 47, Reasi 18 and Kishtwar 35.

Moreover, they said, 784 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals— 294 from Jammu Division and 490 from Kashmir valley.

Hurriyat Hails UN Chief's...

Expressing shock and grief over another "gruesome killing" of a woman during a gunfight in Batamalo area of the city on Thursday, the spokesperson said that the incidents of killing of Kashmiris by forces continues unabated for the past thirty years.

"As seen in media reports her family is inconsolable as they are unable to understand why she has been killed in this manner," the spokesperson added.

Pak To Raise Kashmir At UNGA...

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is gearing up to use the platform of the UN to rank up the India-Pakistan conflict along the Line of Control (LoC) with prime focus on the pertaining issue of Kashmir, which has escalated tensions since August 5, 2019, when J&K's special status was removed.

Sources also said that Imran Khan's address to the UNGA will be focused on what Islamabad calls Indian aggression along the LoC, India's ongoing "oppression" of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the imposed lockdown situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Khan will be calling upon the Indian government to immediately restore internet services in J&K, release all prisoners, especially the civil society members and journalists, remove Armed Forces Special Powers Act, Public Safety Act and other laws, and allow independent media and international human rights observers to visit the region to independently observe the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, the source maintained.

Khan will be calling on UN member countries to pressure India over Kashmir and ask the member states to push New Delhi on table talks with Pakistan over the Kashmir dispute.

Khan will also talk about the initiation of the Afghan dialogue process, highlighting Islamabad's efforts to ensure that the dialogue for Afghan peace becomes a reality. The Pakistan premier is also expected to drag India in it as well, calling it a 'spoiler', which intends to destabilise the peace process.

Khan is also expected to reaffirm Pakistan's all out alliance and support to China over its dispute with India.

LG Directs PDD To Submit ...

In the meeting, the official spokesperson said, the LG directed the officers concerned to ensure necessary advance procurement and decentralized distribution of critical components like transformers, poles, and other material for inaccessible and potentially snow bound areas in view of the upcoming winter season.

"He also directed for submission of a 'Winter Preparedness Plan' within a week. He also directed the officers to ensure no unscheduled power curtailment in the metered areas," the official spokesperson said.

Observing the need to ensure uninterrupted power supply in the Union Territory, Sinha directed to ensure quality check on the procurement of transformers and other critical equipment so that their shelf life remains longer.

"The LG directed that the long-pending projects be completed on priority. He also directed the officers to look into the high damage rate of transformers in the UT and to submit an action plan lower it to the national average," the official spokesperson added.

LC's advisors KK Sharma and Farooq Khan, Chief Secretary, BVR Subrahmanyam; Principal Secretary, PDD, Rohit Kansal; Managing Director JPDCI, Yasha Mudgal; Managing Director KPDCI, Mohammad Ajiz Asad; Chief Engineers and other senior officers attended the meeting, in person and through video conferencing.

Govt Forms LG Secretariat ...

follow-up and better coordination with the Administrative Departments and Deputy Commissioners as required for disposal of the representations or grievances received by Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat, as per an order issued here.

The Cell shall be headed by Shabir Hussain Bhat (KAS), Additional Secretary to the Government, GAD.

"The Cell shall segregate all the references, petitions sent from the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat into two categories: Grievances about

Google Play Developer accounts.

"Our policies are applied and enforced on all developers consistently," the blog post by Android Security and Privacy Vice President Product Suzanne Frey said.

There is often a surge in launches of such apps before major sporting tournaments like the IPL.

The latest season of the Indian Premier League (IPL) is scheduled to start from September 19 in the United Arab Emirates.

Meanwhile, SonamChandwani, Managing Partner at KS Legal & Associates, said, "Enforcement of compliance with Google's policies one day before IPL is scheduled to kickstart, is a preemptive attempt by Google to reinstate and remind developers of its stringent gambling policies."

She said in India, legislation puts a blanket ban on sports betting but fantasy sports is not illegal in most states.

"However, Google's policies will have an over-arching implication on apps in its Play Store.

"An undetermined implication would be the compliance of its policies by sports fantasy apps like Dream 11 and MPL that are not directly available on the Google Play Store platform but feature in advertisements and inducing similar effect on its user, eventually leading to a violation of its gambling policies," she noted.

In a statement, the Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS) said it had sought clarity from Google to ensure a level-playing field for all fantasy sports apps.

FIFS also said it has never asked for any company, such as MPL or Paytm, to have any negative repercussions whatsoever.

"We are here to protect all our members no matter their business size and treat all members/non-members the same..."

"In the past, FanCode and SportsTiger, sister brands of Dream11 and MyTeam11 respectively, were removed from the Google Play Store for violation of Google Play Store's policy as they were promoting their Fantasy Sports Apps," it added.

service delivery or non-performance of Government functions and small issues and other references," reads the government order.

The grievances about service delivery or nonperformance of Government functions/small issues shall be sent to the concerned Deputy Commissioners or Departments for resolution, it reads.

"These will also be entered in the J&K Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System."

The 'other references or petitions' will be forwarded to the concerned departments for consideration, it added.

The government posted Vikas Verma (KAS), awaiting orders of adjustment in the GAD, As Deputy Secretary, Nazir Ahmad Rather, also awaiting orders of posting in GAD as under Secretary, Mohammad Saleem Budoo, Head Assistant, Department of Tourism as Head Assistant and Nazar-ul-Islam, Junior Assistant, Department of Floriculture, Parks and Gardens Junior Assistant. (GNS)

Pvt Schools Warned For ...

private educational institution be directed not to charge admission fees in violation of the government and court orders.

"By virtue of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act 2019, the Right of Children to free and compulsory education Act, 2009 (Act) has been made applicable to the UT of J&K. No school or person while admitting a child, collects any capitation fee and subjects the child or his or her parents or guardian to screening procedure," the order reads. The order also states that any school or person, if in contravention of the provisions of sub-section (1) receives capitation fee, shall be punishable with fine, which may extend to ten times from the capitation fee charged.

"To subject a child to screening procedure, shall be punishable with fine which may extend to twenty five thousands rupee for the first contravention and fifty thousand rupees for each subsequent contraventions," it reads.

"It is hereby ordered that no private school or person while admitting a child shall collect any admission fee from any child or his or her parents or guardians and such fee and if already collected in violation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act 2009 from the date of its applicability—that is from 31.10.2019 shall be refunded with immediate effect otherwise action under section 13 of the ACT shall be initiated forthwith," reads the order—(KNO)

What Government Reports ...

which according to the estimates of the Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries (KCCI), is Rs 40,000 crores.

Export Preparedness Index 2020

J&K ranks at the bottom (36th) in the first EPI report prepared by the premier policy 'Think Tank' of the Government of India, NITI Aayog. The EPI is done to assess the readiness of the states in terms of their export potential. The readiness is measured based on four pillars (policy, business ecosystem, export ecosystem, and export performance), 11 sub-pillars and 55 indicators.

Gujarat at 75.19 emerged as the leading state followed by Maharashtra (75.14) and Tamil Nadu (64.93).

The scores of J&K in the four pillars are- policy pillar: 0, business ecosystem pillar: 14.92, export ecosystem: 5.63 and export performance pillar: 25.87.

Under the business ecosystem pillar, the sub-pillars like business environment, infrastructure, transport connectivity, and access to finance scored 7.82, 0, 48.29 and 3.56 respectively.

Some important indicators like labour reforms, number of investor summits, single-window clearance scored zero.

In the case of the export ecosystem, sub-pillars like export infrastructure, trade support and R&D infrastructure scored 9.83, 0, and 2.86 respectively.

Growth and Orientation and export diversifications sub-pillar under export performance scored 6.96 and 44.78 respectively.

According to the report, "There is a high scoring range amongst Indian states on the EPI where Gujarat has the highest score of 75.14 and Jammu & Kashmir with the lowest score of 12.27."

Since the report considers the data from 2016-17 up to 2018-19, J&K is being considered as a state and is grouped under the landlocked category.

Among the other landlocked states like Rajasthan, Telangana, Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Punjab, Assam, and Bihar, J&K has scored the least (12.27) in export preparedness. The report mentions that J&K needs to improve its performance under the policy and the export ecosystem pillars, considering that it "indicates a glaring paucity in both enabling and facilitating factors that could drive the states towards export-oriented growth."

As per the report, Kashmiri shawls have the highest Market Performance Index in J&K. It is exported to 44 countries and accounts for 17.8 percent of the share in the erstwhile state's total export.

Other items having high Market Performance Index are carpets, medicine put up for retail sale, shelled walnuts, basmati rice, yarn of polyester and derivatives of pyridine.

Unexploded Mortar Shells...

preventing any loss of life and damage to property in the area, they added.

Police Arrests Four...

of Dudwan Ajas. "They have been arrested and shifted to PS Sumbal where they remain in custody.Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated," the police spokesperson added.

Rs 65000 Fine Slapped...

and recording the statement of complainant came to conclusion that few brick kiln owners were found involved in overcharging thus violating orders issued by Deputy Commissioner Pulwama. The team imposed penalty on spot against the violators and said that strict action as per law shall follow.

Pertinent to mention here that DC Pulwama vide his office order No. 67 DCP /Brick Kilns/2020 dated14 .09.2020 has fixed rate of bricks as 21000 per 3000 bricks including all taxes except transportation.

NGDRS Launched in J&K

NGDRS switches existing manual system to online registration

- 1944 - Armistice between Finland and Soviet Union is signed. (End of the Continuation War)
- 1950 - Great Three acknowledge Bond government as only German government
- 1950 - UN reject membership of China's People Republic
- 1974 - Hurricane Fifi hits coast of Honduras; about 5,000 die
- 1974 - The KGB begin a large-scale operation to discredit Russian novelist Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn and cut his communications with Soviet dissidents
- 1975 - Indonesia sends troops to Portuguese East Timor
- 1981 - Satellites China 10 & 11 launched into Earth orbit by B-1 rocket
- 1984 - Britain & China complete a proposed agreement to transfer Hong Kong to China by 1997
- 1985 - 8.1 earthquake in Mexico City kills an estimated 10,000 and leaves 250,000 homeless
- 1988 - Israel launches 1st satellite, for secret military reconnaissance.
- 1989 - French DC-10 crashes near Niger, 171 die
- 1992 - UN Security Council votes 12-0 (3 abstentions) to dump Yugoslavia
- 2017 - US President Donald Trump addresses the United Nations vowing to "totally destroy North Korea" if threatens the US
- 2017 - 7.1 earthquake south east of Mexico City kills over 300
- 2017 - President Hassan Rouhani of Iran in his UN speech criticizes US President Donald Trump for his comments about Iran in his own UN speech

Dated 16.09.2020

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
IRRIGATION CONSTRUCTION DIVISION PAMPORE

for the below mentioned work

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | RCC jacketing of Delivery tank of Marwal Lift Irrigation | | | | | | | | |
| | Construction of cement (Kadlabal canal)on Nihama Khul of lift Irrigation Scheme | | | | | | | | |
| | Construction of Lining wall on Tilwani Dara and main canal of Marwal Lift Irrigation | | | | | | | | |
| | 6060' main canal Marwal of Irrigation SchemeMarwal. | | | | | | | | |
| | Improvements to low lift Irrigation Canal near Pump station MLIS stage II by way of RCC jacketing near land of Mohammad Qasim Ganie and others at village Suthsoo of Lift Irrigation Scheme Marwal. | | | | | | | | |
| | Construction of cement concrete channel on Nihama | | | | | | | | |

(Six itemsonly)

Terms and conditions:-

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, drawings, set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/downloaded from the Departmental Website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule given below:

| | | |
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| | | |

Bids must be accompanied with proof of cost of tender document in the shape of Treasury receipt/e Remittance) in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore (tender inviting Authority), and Earnest Security in shape of CDR /FOR from any schedule or nationalized bank pledged to Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore

The date and time of opening of Technical bids shall be notified on departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](#) and conveyed to the bidders mail message on their email address. The Financial bids shall be opened online on same website in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Construction Division Pampore (Tender Receiving Autho
The bid for the work shall remain valid for period of (90) days from the date of opening of bid.

DIPK-5923/20

Irrigation Construction Division,

The Curious Case Of Women’s Inheritance Rights In Kashmir

Ahymon Ayoub

“women are conditioned or (precisely) indoctrinated to forgo her property rights in the name of some constructed sense of feminine generosity and benevolence.”

Patriarchy, like any other forms of injustice feeds itself on the detritus of disinformation: by twisting the truths and realities. Unjust societies have a default embedded paraphernalia in place to reproduce themselves in new forms. Such societies incubate the culture of silence over telling issues to the point that they become non-existent or non-issues. One such issue which by the dent of our collective disservice has metamorphosed into a non-issue in Kashmir is the question of women’s property rights or the rights of inheritance. Women, over the ages have either been conditioned not to seek her share in property or the subject of women’s property rights has been stigmatised into non-existence.

Womenfolk today are challenging stereotypes and reclaiming their agency in realms which hitherto were monopolised by men. However, even in the present times, women seem to be inheriting genetic docility when it comes to the question of property rights. Inheritance rights of women guaranteed by Islam long usurped by the patriarchal ghost don’t even exist in name; nor is any data available on the subject which makes the case even worse.

While our society keeps strict and detailed manuals of expectations that women must fulfil without fail; educating them about their property rights in particular and other array of rights is apparently deigned subversive. In fact, women are conditioned or (precisely) indoctrinated to forgo her property rights in the name of some constructed sense of feminine generosity and benevolence. While women breaking the silence over the injustice is bound to offend the patriarchal sensibilities, this topic remains nearly untouched in routine conversations, Friday khutbas, public debates, media and every other platform which could prove to be icebreakers in this regard.

Islamic legislation in this respect is not only comprehensive but based on justice. It provides for the rights of inheritance for both men and women in a way that maintains social equilibrium. The force with which these rights were at first pronounced in Surah Nisa of Quran was subversive to the existing system of inheritance which was managed by men and favourable to men alone. As the verse goes, “men shall have a share in what parents and kinsfolk leave behind, and women shall have a share in what parents and kinsfolk leave behind, whether the property be small or large- a determinate share” (Qur’an, 4 : 7). Further in verse 32 of the same chapter, economic rights of both men and women have been ascertained as, “men shall have a benefit of what



they earn and women shall have a benefit of what they earn”.

The aforementioned verses are followed by many other allied verses which lay down the legal framework for inheritance. Surprisingly, in more cases than one, female heirs receive a larger share of property than their counterparts. It is a subject which escapes our notice partly because of tainted social-construction of the subject and partly owing to our fragmented and irresponsible understanding of religion. Islamic legislations aim at ascertaining the overall wellbeing of its adherents which by default includes economic well-being but the entire structure of rights has been foreshadowed by androcentric propensities of the society.

Islam came as a liberatory force for women and toppled male-controlled economic system of that period in favour of women. The whole concept of women’s rights of inheritance was alien to

the society of 7th century which adhered strictly to the system of male primogeniture.

Being a Muslim majority society, we seem to have deeply cultivated an unjust system against the equitable spirit of our religion. Unfortunately, lavishing our life-time earnings in ostentatious marriages still finds more meaning with us than upholding the rights of already marginalised section of our society. We have reversed the sacred law quite conveniently and established a system of injustice where women are devoid of cultural and economic capital guaranteed to them by their Maker.

.....
Ahymon Ayoub has completed her Masters in Sociology from Kashmir University and is a freelance researcher interested in topics related to Islam and Women

The Lost Word: Acedia

A forgotten word which is perfect to describe what we're feeling during the pandemic lockdown

Jonathan L. Zecher

With some communities in re-booted lockdown conditions and movement restricted everywhere else, no one is posting pictures of their sourdough. Zoom cocktail parties have lost their novelty, Netflix can only release so many new series. The news seems worse every day, yet we compulsively scroll through it.

We get distracted by social media, yet have a pile of books unread. We keep meaning to go outside but somehow never find the time. We’re bored, listless, afraid and uncertain.

What is this feeling?

John Cassian, a monk and theologian wrote in the early 5th century about an ancient Greek emotion called acedia. A mind “seized” by this emotion is “horrified at where he is, disgusted with his room ... It does not allow him to stay still in his cell or to devote any effort to reading”. He feels:

such bodily listlessness and yawning hunger as though he were worn by a long journey or a prolonged fast ... Next he glances about and sighs that no one is coming to see him. Constantly in and out of his cell, he looks at the sun as if it were too slow in setting.

This sounds eerily familiar. Yet, the name that so aptly describes our current state was lost to time and translation.

Noonday demon

Etymologically, acedia joins the negative prefix a- to the Greek noun kados, which means “care, concern, or grief”. It sounds like apathy, but Cassian’s description shows that acedia is much more daunting and complex than that.

Cassian and other early Christians called acedia “the noonday demon”, and sometimes described it as a “train of thought”. But they did not think it affected city-dwellers or even monks in communities.

Rather, acedia arose directly out the spatial and social constrictions that a solitary monastic life necessitates. These conditions generate a strange combination of listlessness, undirected anxiety, and inability to concentrate. Together



“Saying, “I’m feeling acedia” could legitimise feelings of listlessness and anxiety as valid emotions in our current context without inducing guilt that others have things worse.”

these make up the paradoxical emotion of acedia.

Evagrius of Pontus included acedia among the eight trains of thought that needed to be overcome by devout Christians. Among these, acedia was considered the most insidious. It attacked only after monks had conquered the sins of gluttony, fornication, avarice, sadness, anger, vainglory, and pride.

Cassian, a student of Evagrius, translated the list of sins into Latin. A later 6th century Latin edit gave us the Seven

Deadly Sins. In this list, acedia was subsumed into “sloth”, a word we now associate with laziness.

Acedia appears throughout monastic and other literature of the Middle Ages. It was a key part of the emotional vocabulary of the Byzantine Empire, and can be found in all sorts of lists of “passions” (or, emotions) in medical literature and lexicons, as well as theological treatises and sermons.

It first appeared in English in print in 1607 to describe a state of spiritual list-

lessness. But it’s barely used today.

Making like monks

As clinical psychology has reclassified emotions and mental states, terms like “melancholy” can sound archaic and moralising.

Emotional expressions, norms, and scripts change over time and vary between cultures. They mark out constellations of bodily sensations, patterns of thought and perceived social causes or effects.

Since these constellations are cul-

turally or socially specific, as societies change, so do the emotions in their repertoire. With the decline of theological moralising, not to mention monastic influence, acedia has largely disappeared from secular vocabularies.

Now, the pandemic and governmental responses to it create social conditions that approximate those of desert monks. No demons, perhaps, but social media offers a barrage of bad (or misleading) news.

Social distancing limits physical contact. Lockdown constricts physical space and movement. Working from home or having lost work entirely both upend routines and habits. In these conditions, perhaps it’s time to bring back the term.

More than a label

Reviving the language of acedia is important to our experience in two ways.

First, it distinguishes the complex of emotions brought on by enforced isolation, constant uncertainty and the barrage of bad news from clinical terms like “depression” or “anxiety”.

Saying, “I’m feeling acedia” could legitimise feelings of listlessness and anxiety as valid emotions in our current context without inducing guilt that others have things worse.

Second, and more importantly, the feelings associated with physical isolation are exacerbated by emotional isolation – that terrible sense that this thing I feel is mine alone. When an experience can be named, it can be communicated and even shared.

Learning to express new or previously unrecognised constellations of feelings, sensations, and thoughts, builds an emotional repertoire, which assists in emotional regulation. Naming and expressing experiences allows us to claim some agency in dealing with them.

As we, like Cassian’s desert monks, struggle through our own “long, dark teatime of the soul”, we can name this experience, which is now part of our emotional repertoire.

By Arrangements With
The Conversation

Covid-19 May Lead To Declines In Life Expectancy Globally, Study Finds

Press Trust Of India

The COVID-19 pandemic could cause a short-term decline in life expectancy in the severely affected areas of the world, unless the spread of the disease is contained, according to a study.

The research, published in the journal PLOS ONE, examined the impact of COVID-19-related deaths on life expectancy for four broad world regions across multiple rates of infection and age groups.

"Our study provides the first assessment of the potential impact of COVID-19 on period life expectancy according to a range of scenarios of prevalence rates over a one-year period," said Guillaume Marois, from the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Austria, who led the study.

Period life expectancy is a measure of the number of years that an average person may expect to live. Prevalence is the proportion of a particular population found to be affected by a disease at a specific time.

The researchers noted that improved healthcare, socioeconomic conditions, and education are among the key factors influencing our health and how long we live.

account the different fatality rates from the disease for different age groups. They then calculated the impact of COVID-19 on life expectancy by reconstructing life tables and life expectancies from the simulation and comparing them with those used for the inputs.

The study found that at very low prevalence rates, the COVID-19 pandemic would not affect life expectancy. However, at prevalence rates of only 2 per cent, the disease could cause a drop in life expectancy in countries where average life expectancy is high -- roughly around 80 years.



Life expectancy has been used as a measure of human development across regions and countries. The researchers built a model that simulates the probability of getting infected by COVID-19, the probability of dying from it, and the probability of dying from another cause for a period of one year, taking into

Baby Heartbeat Reveals The Stress Of Having A Depressed Or Anxious Mother

Agencies

Scientists have shown that the babies of mothers dealing with anxiety or depression exhibit physiologically stronger signs of stress than babies of healthy mothers when given a standard stress test.

These babies show a significantly increased heart rate, which researchers fear may lead to imprinted emotional stresses as the child grows up.

The interaction of mother and infant, especially in the early months of life, plays a huge role in healthy development. Some mothers, particularly those suffering from mood disorders such as depression, anxiety, or post-natal depression, have difficulties regulating infant's negative affection, which is believed to create insecurities in the children as they grow older.



Mood disorders (such as irritability, changing moods, mild depression) are common during the pregnancy and the post-partum period, occurring in 10-20% of women. The effect of "emotionally distant" mothers for infants was demonstrated in the famous "Still Face Test" (see notes), first devised in the 1970s; mothers were asked to playfully interact with their babies, and then spend a period where they "blank" all interaction, before resuming normal contact.

During the second phase (Still-Face episode) babies showed heightened negative emotionality as well as a reduction of social engagement and avoiding behaviours.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.101/MVD/ARTO/ANG Date:-18/09/020

NOTICE

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Irfan Faizan Bhat S/O Gh Mohd Bhat R/O Laripora Pahalgam (Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Bearing Regd. No.JK03C-7600 (Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.3586/MC/ANG. and Mr.Mohd Yousuf Magray S/O Mohd Shabir Magray R/O Hardturu(Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted Vehicle from party No 1st and 2nd. And Cancellation /Endorsement of hire purchase agreement with JK Bank Pahalgam. Before the case is disposed off on its merit, anybody have any objection regarding the proposed transfer Amy file his objection within(7) days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation / objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag


OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

NO.ARTO/MVD/ANG/2020/101 Date:-18/09/20

NOTICE

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Sabzar Ahmad Khanday S/O Sonaulah Khanday R/O Banipora Wande-velgam Kokernag Anantnag (Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Scooty Bearing Regd. No.JK03G-9043(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.Niill. and Mr.Jamsheed Ahmad Sheikh S/O Gh Nabi Sheikh R/O Peerpora Pehroo Anantnag(Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted Vehicle from party No 1st and 2nd. And Cancellation /Endorsement of hire purchase agreement with JK Bank Wande-velgam Anantnag.Before the case is disposed off on its merit, anybody have any objection regarding the proposed transfer Amy file his objection within(7) days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation / objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag



OFFICE OF THE ESTATES OFFICER

سرینگر میونسپل کارپوریشن

AUCTION NOTICE

Subject: Notice inviting offers/bids for allotment of contract for running of Municipal Car Parking Lot at Nehru Park.

Sealed tenders/offers are invited from the interested parties for the allotment of contract for running of Municipal Car Parking Lot at Nehru Park. The last date for the submission of tender applications is 03-10-2020 Upto 2:30 p.m. and the same shall be opened by the Tender Opening Committee on the same date at 3:00 p.m. in presence of the parties who may wish to remain available for this purpose. The other terms & conditions shall be as under:-

- The bidder is required to submit the Call Deposit Receipt of Rs. 50,000/- for the site pledged to the Chief Accounts Officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation along with the tender application without which no tender shall be accepted or entertained.
- The minimum reserve value fixed of the bid is 3,00,000/-
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit the bid amount in one go after which he will be allowed to run the Car Parking site.
- The term of the contract shall be for 01 (one) year only.
- The contractor shall have to collect the car parking fee from the general public as per the following schedule;

| S.No | Name of the vehicle | Fee per vehicle/per trip/per day |
|------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Tourist Bus big size | Rs. 100/- |
| 2. | Tourist Bus normal size | Rs. 75/- |
| 3. | School Bus/Mini Bus/Tempo Traveler | Rs. 50/- |
| 4. | Light Vehicle/Four Wheeler | Rs. 20/- |
| 5. | Scooter/Motor Bike/Auto Rickshaw | Rs. 10/- |
| 6. | Bicycle | Rs. 05/- |

- The orders of the Government issued from time to time shall have to be complied with by the contractor.
- The Competent Authority of the Corporation shall be having the right to accept or reject the bid/bids without assigning any reasons thereof.
- In case there is no response from the general public, the Corporation would be competent to allot the lot/site to the interested party on negotiation basis.
- No extension shall be granted in the term of contract after its expiry.
- The Corporation shall not be responsible for any shutdown, bandh or any disturbance during the contract period.
- The Car parking lot/site shall be run under the close supervision of Ward Officer concerned of the Corporation.
- For any theft or damage of any vehicle, Corporation shall not be held or be responsible.

Sd/-

Estates Officer
Srinagar Municipal Corporation

No.SMC/Est/614 Dated: 16-09-2020

DIPK-NB-2410/20

e of and Maintenance (O&M) and Operation on, Pulwama

nedpulwama@gmail.com

Tender Notice e-NIT NO: O&M/Pul/24of 2020-21, dated 16.09.2020

For and on behalf of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, E-tenders are invited from Class "A" electrical Contractors Registered in CPWD/MES/J&KPDD or other competent authority for the below mentioned work(s). The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bids online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below.

| Name of the work | Improvement of electrical network in Panchayat Halga Kangan, Mitrigam, Murran, Dadoora under the jurisdiction of O&M Sub Division Rajporaunder Back to Village Scheme |
|---|---|
| Estimated cost | Rs. 21.894 lacs |
| Cost of tender document | Rs 2000/-as Treasury Receipt/ Treasury Challan remitted to Major Head 0801-PDD at Treasury Pulwama favouring Executive Engineer O&M Division KPDCCL Pulwama. |
| CDR amount | Rs 43788/- -only pledged to Executive Engineer O&M Division Pulwama in the Shape of CDR. |
| Date of down load of tender document | From 17.09.2020 to 23.09.2020 (upto 14:00 hrs) |
| Last date for uploading of E-tenders | 23.09.2020 (up to 14:00 hrs) |
| Last date of submitting bids Hard Copy (Optional) | 23.09.2020 (up to 16:00 hrs) |
| Date of Opening of Technical Bids | 24.09.2020 (15:00 hrs) or as convenient to tender opening authority |
| Date of opening of financial bids of technically qualified bidders. | Any date convenient to tender opening authority after evaluation of technical bids in the office of undersigned. |
| Office where financial bids being opened | Office of the Executive Engineer, O&M Division Pulwama, Kashmir Pin Code 192301 Address near DC office Pulwama kashmir |

DIPK-NB-2388/20

--sd--
Executive Engineer
O&M Division Pulwama

No. O&M/Pul/2513-18 Dated 16.09.2020

Office Of The Member Secretary District Tuberculosis Control Society Srinagar

No: DTC/SGR/RNTCP/337 Dated:17-09-2020

The following candidates who have applied for the Contractual positions of Senior Treatment Supervisor and Tuberculosis Health Visitor under Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme and now National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme vide this office advertisement notice published in newspapers on 24th December-2019 are requested to attend the computer practical test at NIELIT formerly DOEACC at SIDCO Electronics Complex, Old Airport Road, Rangreth, Srinagar on the dates and time slots mentioned against each.

| FORM NO. | NAME | ADDRESS | POST APPLIED FOR | DEFICIENCY | EXAMINATION DATE | TIME SLOT |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------|
| TBHV---0001 | GOWHAR REHMAN | NOWPORA KHANYAR | TBHV | NIL | 22-09-2020 | 10:30 AM to 12: 30 pm |
| STS-0027 | AASIM FAROOQ | GAZALI ABAD HMT | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0062 | ABDUL ROUF | DALGATE SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0022 | ABID HUSSAIN DAR | KATHI MADAN ZADIBAL | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0024 | ADIL BASHIR SHAH | HAMZA COLONY ELAHIBAGH | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0004 | AFAQ AHMAD MIR | REPORA LAR GANDERBAL | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0044 | AFROZA AJAZ | DALGATE | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0037 | AFROZA MAHED | SEHPORA, GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0018 | AJAZ AHMAD CHOPAN | SHAHEED GUNJ | STS | MARKS CERT. N/A | | |
| STS-0031 | AJAZ AHMAD TANTRAY | HAKEEM GUND GANDERBAL | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0075 | ALIMA HASSAN | RAMOPORA CHATTABAL SGR | TBHV | NIL | 22-09-2020 | 01:30 PM to 03: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0039 | AMIR RASOOL BHAT | CHANPORA, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0037 | AQIB AHMED BHAT | HARWAN SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0047 | ARIF MAJEED BACHOO | RAINAWARI | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0048 | ASMA KHAN | 201, ROSE LANE CHANAPORA | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0007 | ASMAT BASHIR | SAFAPORA GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0029 | AZRA MEHRAJ | HAWAL, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0018 | AZRA MUSHTAQ | MUNWARABAD | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0015 | BASIT ALI MIR | GUND HASBI BHAT | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0017 | DR IRFAN GUL WANI | SAFAPORA GANDERBAL | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0012 | DR IRFAN KHAN | KHALLMULLA ALUSTENG GANDERBAL | STS | MARKS CERT. N/A | 22-09-2020 | 01:30 PM to 03: 30 pm |
| STS-0009 | FAISAL MUSHTAQ WANI | NATIPORA SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0016 | FAIZAN AHMAD MIR | IBRAHIM COLONY BEMINA | STS | MARKS CERT. N/A | | |
| TBHV---0065 | FARHANA | CHATABAL QAMARWARI | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0054 / STS---0023 | FARHEENA YOUSUF | YARMUQAM MANIGAM | STS / TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0036 | GHULAM JEELANI MIR | PAZAL PORA SHALIMAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0063 / STS---0003 | GOWHAR QADIR | HYDERPORA | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0009 | IKRA MAROOF | RANGPARISTAN | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0061 | INSHA NISSAR | MUNAWAR ABAD SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0057 | IQRA ALTAF | BATAMALOO | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0021 | IRAM JAN | BUCHPORA, SRINAGAR | TBHV | IST YR MARKS CERT | 23-09-2020 | 01:30 AM to 12: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0020 | JAHANGIR AHMAD SHAH | NUNER GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0035 / STS---0032 | JAVID AHMAD MALIK | BULBUL LANKER | STS / TBHV | MARKS CERT. N/A | | |
| TBHV---0042 | KHAITUL ABEED | BAGHI SUNDER BALA, KAKSARIE | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0014 / STS---0020 | MIR AJAZ | BATWANI WAKOORA | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0033 | MIR JAVEED IQBAL | NEW COLONY LALBAZAR SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0019 | MOHAMMAD OWAISE MIR | RAINAWARI SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0008 | MOHAMMAD SHAFI SOFI | KARANIHAMMA GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0013 | MOHAMMAD TASLEEM WANI | GUPT GANGA | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0007 | MOHSIN HABIB JALLU | SHAHEED GUNJ | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0002 | MOHSIN WANI | UMERHARE BUCHPORA | TBHV | NIL | 23-09-2020 | 01:30 PM to 03: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0025 | MUDASIR MAQBOOL | WANGANPORA, EIDGAH | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0046 | MUDASIRAH AHMAD | SAIDA PORA IDGAH | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0073 | MUKHTAR YOUSUF KHAN | YAR MUQAM MANIGAM GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0021 | MUNEEB AHMAD TIBAT-BAKAL | UMER COLONY LAL BAZAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0074 | MUZAMILLAH AKHTER | KHANMOH SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0056 | NADIA | UMERABAD HMT | TBHV | 10+2 CERT. N/A | | |
| STS-0002 | NAYEEM | NEW COLONY LAL BAZAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0045 | NAZIA JEELANI | CHANPORA, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0036 / STS---0035 | NISAR AHMAD BHAT | TULMULLA, GANDERBAL | STS / TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0034 | NUZHAT HUSSAIN | SHAHPOORA, GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | 23-09-2020 | 01:30 PM to 03: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0040 | PERVAIZ AHMAD | ABI KARPORA, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0013 | QURAT MANZOOR | BATMALOO SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0050 | REHANA MAQBOOL | TULMULLA GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0064 | RUKHSANA MOHI-UD-DIN | GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0043 | SABAHAAT BASHIR | BEMINA SHAMASABAD | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0058 | SABRINA ALI | ZAINDAR MOHALLA HABBA KADAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0031 | SAIMA ASLAM | PALPORA, SONWAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0051 | SAIMA FAYAZ | WANIPORA SALOORA GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0028 / STS---0029 | SAJID HAMID SHAH | SOLINA PAYEEN, SRINAGAR | TBHV / STS | NIL | 24-09-2020 | 01:30 AM to 12: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0019 / STS---0025 | SAJID MUSHTAQ | MUNWARABAD | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0068 | SAYEEMA | NOOR BAGH | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0066 | SEERAT-UN-NISA | HABAK NASEEM BAGH | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0049 | SHAFEEQA BANO | DARIBAL GANDERBAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0040 | SHAFQAT RAMZAN | KHOSHI PORA | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0038 | SHAH FAISAL | PATLIPORA BALA CHATTABAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0015 / STS0024 | SHAH SAIFULLAH | SURTEING RAINAWARI | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0006 | SHAISTA BASHIR | KHAJAPORA NOWSHERA | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0071 / STS---005 | SHAKEEL AHMAD KUNDOO | SHALBAF MOHALLA ANCHAR SOURA SRINAGAR | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0005 | SHAKEELA BANO | MOTI MOHALLA NISHAT | TBHV | NIL | 24-09-2020 | 01:30 AM to 12: 30 pm |
| STS-0026 | SHEIKH MUZAMIL MAJEED | BAGIMAHANAND GANDERBAL | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0030 / STS---0041 | SHOWKAT YOUSUF BHAT | MEHUJOR NAGAR, SRINAGAR | TBHV / STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0027 | SOFI IRFAN NAZIR | SOURA, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0034 | SUHAIB YOUSUF | BAGHWANPORA SATHU SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0039 | TAHREEM AFZAL | ZOWOORA SRINAGAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0011 | TAJALLA SHAH | BAGATI SHOOR, SOURA | TBHV | NIL | | |
| STS-0028 | TARIQ AHMAD WANI | LAL BAZAR | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0014 | TAUSEEF AHMAD | MULPHAG BURZAHAMA | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0001 | UMAR AFZAL | BRANE NISHAT | STS | NIL | | |
| STS-0008 | UMAR WASEEM KHAN | DANAWARI CHATABAL | STS | NIL | 24-09-2020 | 01:30 AM to 12: 30 pm |
| TBHV---0072 | YASIMA JAN | SHALBAF MOHALLA ANCHAR SOURA SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0017 / STS---0011 | ZAFAR AHMAD | SHUTRA SHAHI | TBHV / STS | SANITARY INSPECTOR II YEAR CERT. | | |
| TBHV---0076 | ZAHIDA GHULAM | SHALBAF MOHALLA ANCHAR SOURA SRINAGAR | TBHV | GEN NURSING CERT. TO BE SUBMITTED IN ORIGINAL FOR VERIFICATION | | |
| STS-0006 | ZAHOOR AHMAD | KANIMAZAR | STS | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0070 | ZAHOOR AHMAD YESWI | TARABAL NAWAKADAL | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0010 | ZAID MIR | HARWAN, SRINAGAR | TBHV | NIL | | |
| TBHV---0052 | ZEENAT REHMAN | MAISUMA SRINAGAR | TBHV | 10+2 MARKS CERT. N/A | | |

Besides the following candidates whose applications are found ineligible for the posts of Senior Treatment Supervisor & Tuberculosis Health Visitor are requested to attend this office on 21-09-2020 along with the desired documents due to which they are found ineligible failing which their claims if any shall not be entertained by this office after 21-09-2020.

| FORM NO | NAME | ADDRESS | NOT ELIGIBLE |
|-------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|
| STS-0010 | SAMEER NAZIR | MAGARMAL BAGH | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| STS-0030 | AAQIB NISAR MIR | DANAWARI CHATTABAL SGR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| STS-0038 | RIZWANUL HASSAN LONE | BUMLOORA GANDERBAL | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| STS-0042 | UMAR FAROOQ BHAT | BAGHI SUNDAR CHATABAL | DRIVING LICENCE / IST YEAR CERTIFICATE |
| TBHV---0003 | SHAZIA | MUNAWARABAD SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0004 | JUNAID LATEEF NERVERY | HABBA KADAL, SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0012 | ULFAT MAJEED | BRANE NISHAT | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0016 | SYED BARJEEN QURESHI | PATHER MASJID | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0022 | WASEEM HASSAN SHEIKH | WATLAR, LAR, GANDERBAL | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0023 | SHEIKH MUZAMIL MAJEED | BAGHIMAHANAND LAR | 12 TH CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0026 | SAIMA RASHID | PALPORA, NOORBAGH | MED. ASSTT. MARKS CERT. N/A |
| TBHV---0032 | MASRAT | FIRDOUSABAD, SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0033 | RIZWAN-UL-HASSAN LONE | BUMLOORA, GANDERBAL | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0041 | SHAHEENA MAJID | RAINAWARI, SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0053 | ZAHOOR AHMAD | KANIMAZAR SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0055 | IRSHAD AHMAD WANI | SINDBHAD GANDERBAL | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0059 | WAHEEDA RASOOL | PEERBAGH | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0060 | MASRAT FAROOQ | SHUNGLI PORA SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0067 | ZAHID AHMAD BHAT | BRANE NISHAT SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0069 | REHANA YAQOUB | BAR-BAR SHAH BAGHWAN PORA | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |
| TBHV---0077 | MUBASHRAH AKHTER | KNONMOH SRINAGAR | COMPUTER CERTIFICATE N/A |

District Tuberculosis Officer Srinagar
(Member Secretary)
District Tuberculosis Control Society
Srinagar

DIPK-5876/20

US likely to name Qatar as major non-Nato ally

Agencies

WASHINGTON: The United States hopes to move forward with naming Qatar as a major non-Nato ally, a status that provides foreign nations with benefits in defence trade and security cooperation, a senior official said on Thursday.

"We're going to move ahead, we hope, with designating Qatar a major non-Nato ally," Timothy Lenderking, the US deputy assistant secretary of state for Gulf affairs, told reporters in a conference call.

A number of officials, including US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Qatari Foreign Minister Sheikh Mo-

hammed bin Abdulrahman al Thani, met in Washington earlier this week.

try preferential access to US military equipment and technology, including free surplus material, expedited export processing and prioritised cooperation on training.

Currently 17 countries have MNNA status, including Kuwait and Bahrain, which hosts the US Navy's Fifth Fleet.

Qatar, host of the largest US military facility in the Middle East, has been locked in a dispute with Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Egypt since 2017.

US officials have recently expressed a desire to sell the F-35 stealth war plane to the UAE after it agreed last month



to normalise ties with Israel.

However, Israeli officials have objected, citing US policy for Israel to maintain a military advantage in the region.

to normalise ties with Israel.

However, Israeli officials have objected, citing US policy for Israel to maintain a military advantage in the region.

UN Asks Billionaires For Help As 270 Million People Face Starvation

Agencies

United Nations: UN food chief David Beasley called on the world's billionaires on Thursday to step up to help save some 30 million people he said are at risk of dying if they don't receive help from the World Food Programme.

Globally some 270 million people were headed toward the brink of starvation and WFP hopes to reach 138 million people this year, Beasley told the UN Security Council.

"We need \$4.9 billion to feed, for one year, all 30 million people who will die without WFP's assistance," Beasley said, noting that there are some 2,000 billionaires with a net worth of \$8 trillion and several made billions during the pandemic.

"I am not opposed to people making money, but humanity is facing the greatest crisis any of us have seen in our lifetimes," said the former South Carolina governor.

The combined wealth of America's billionaires jumped over 19% or by half a trillion since the outbreak of the novel coronavirus pandemic in the United States, according to a report published by the Institute

for Policy Studies (IPS) in June.

In the 11 weeks from March 18, when lockdowns started in some US states, Amazon.com Inc founder Jeff Bezos saw his



wealth soar by about \$36.2 billion, while Facebook Inc CEO Mark Zuckerberg's fortune surged by about \$30.1 billion. Tesla Inc Chief Executive Elon Musk's net worth also rose \$14.1 billion.

"It's time for those who have the most to step up, to help those who have the least in this extraordinary time in world history," Beasley said. "The world needs you right now and it's time to do the right thing."



Russia Approves 1st COVID-19 Prescription Drug For Sale In Pharmacies

Agencies

Moscow: Russia has approved R-Pharm's Coronavirus treatment for outpatients with mild to moderate COVID-19 infections and the antiviral drug could be rolled out to pharmacies in the country as soon as next week, the company said on Friday.

Coronavirus's approval as a prescription drug follows the green light for another Russian COVID-19 drug, Avifavir, in May. Both are based on favipiravir, which was developed in Japan and is widely used there as the basis for viral treatments.

R-Pharm's announcement is another sign Russia is pushing hard to take a global lead in the race against the virus. It is already exporting its COVID-19 tests and has clinched several international deals for supplies of its Sputnik-V vaccine.

R-Pharm's announcement is another sign Russia is pushing hard to take a global lead in the race against the virus. It is already exporting its COVID-19 tests and has clinched several international deals for supplies of its Sputnik-V vaccine.

R-Pharm said it received approval for Coronavirus after Phase III clinical trials involving 168 patients with COVID-19.

The drug was first approved for in-hospital use to treat COVID-19 in July, a government register showed.

Coronavirus's trial was comparatively small. The European health regulator on Friday endorsed the use of the steroid dexamethasone in the treat-

ment of COVID-19 patients after a study by UK researchers on several thousand patients.

R-Pharm has started talks with pharmacies about orders, the company's spokeswoman said, with Coronavirus supplies expected to be rolled out in the near future, possibly as soon as next week.

Coronavirus is made at R-Pharm's facility in Yaroslavl, about 300 km (186 miles) northeast of Moscow. Avifavir has been available in hospitals since June but has yet to be supplied to pharmacies.

Both are based on the active ingredient favipiravir, which is also the key component in Fujifilm Holdings Corp's antiviral drug Avigan, approved in Japan as an emergency influenza treatment in 2014.

Trials to test it against COVID-19 are ongoing around the world. Results of a Japanese study in July were inconclusive.

Global virus cases top 30 million, tally shows

Agencies

London: Confirmed cases of the coronavirus have topped 30 million worldwide, according to a Johns Hopkins University tally.

The worldwide count of known COVID-19 infections climbed past 30 million on Thursday, with more than half of them from just three countries: the US, India and Brazil, according to the tally kept by Johns Hopkins researchers.

The number increased by 10 million in just over a month; global cases passed 20 million on August 12.

The United States leads the by-country count with at least 6,675,560 reported cases, followed by India with at least 5,214,677 and Brazil at 4,455,



386, the numbers showed.

Individual numbers could vary as the university's tally sometimes lags behind country reports.

The US also leads in the number of deaths at 1,97,643, followed by Brazil at 1,34,935 and India with a death toll of 84,372, the tally showed. — AP

Pak to introduce legislation to curb rape, child abuse

Agencies

Islamabad: Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has said that his government will soon introduce three-tier legislation providing for the registration of sex offenders, exemplary punishment for rape and child abuse and effective policing.

Khan made the announcement while addressing a joint sitting of parliament after the passage of a number of Financial Action Task Force-related bills on Wednesday.

"Such incidents ruin the lives of victims and their families also have to suffer," he was quoted as saying by the Dawn newspaper.

Khan was referring to the gang-rape of a French-Pakistani woman in front of her three children near a highway in Lahore on September 9 which sparked widespread outrage.

One of the suspects wanted in the case was arrested on

Monday arrested and confessed to his crime.

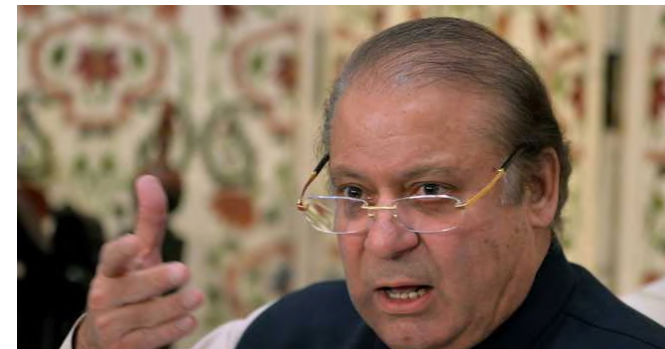
Noting that the main suspect in the gang-rape case was a history-sheeter, Khan said that global data indicated that such criminals were repeat offenders and therefore maintaining their data was important.

He said the legislation being prepared would not only provide for exemplary punishment for rape and child abuse offences but would also contain provisions for registration of sex offenders and effective policing, the report said.

He admitted that only a very small percentage of such cases were reported to police in the country.

Even after the arrest of offenders in rape and child abuse cases, their conviction is not easy in absence of proper prosecution and concrete evidence. For this reason, the bill being prepared would also provide for witness protection, he said.

Pakistan govt sends arrest warrants for Nawaz Sharif



Press Trust of India

Islamabad: The Pakistan government has sent arrest warrants through its mission in London for deposed prime minister Nawaz Sharif, who has been living in the UK for medical treatment, a media report said on Friday.

Sharif (70) has been in London since November last year after the Lahore High Court granted him permission to go abroad for four weeks for treatment.

The three-time premier, his daughter Maryam and son-in-law Muhammad Safdar were convicted in the Avenfield properties case on July 6, 2018.

Sharif was also sentenced to seven years in the Al-Azizia Steel Mills case in December 2018, but he was bailed out in both cases and also allowed to go to London for medical treatment.

He was given eight weeks to return but failed to come back due to health complications, according to his lawyer.

The Pakistan High Commission in London has received arrest warrants sent by the government for Sharif, the Dawn newspaper reported.

The documents were received on Thursday but the mission did not make an official comment on the development, it said.

However, sources confirmed to the newspaper that the mission had received the papers to serve the arrest warrants on Sharif, who has been living in London for treatment, the report said.

The sources added that all legal formalities and procedures would be followed.

Earlier, the assistant registrar of the Islamabad High Court (IHC) directed the foreign secretary to ensure production of the former prime minister before the court on September 22.

The secretary has been told to "cause the production of the appellant (Mr Sharif) through the High Commission of Pakistan in the United Kingdom" by 11 am on September 22.

The IHC earlier this week had issued non-bailable arrest warrants for Sharif while dismissing his application seeking exemption from personal appearance in the hearing of appeals against his conviction in the Al-Azizia and Avenfield properties references.

NEWS MAKERS

Twitter Tightens Security For Politicians And Journalists

San Francisco, United States: Twitter on Thursday said it is tightening security of high-profile politicians, campaigns and journalists as a "critical preventative step" ahead of the US presidential election.

Twitter will be implementing more sophisticated systems to detect suspicious activity and ramp up defenses intended to thwart hackers from taking over accounts, according to the social media platform popular with US President Donald Trump.

"Implementing these security measures is a critical preventative step," the tech firm's safety team said in a blog post.

Twitter maintained that it is "focused on keeping high-profile ac-

counts on Twitter safe and secure during the 2020 US election."

Accounts targeted for heightened security include federal and state politicians; political parties; candidates; presidential campaigns, and journalists who cover them.

Such accounts will be required to use strong passwords, and Twitter will enable a setting that requires confirmation by email or phone number to reset passwords.

Twitter also encouraged people managing those accounts to use two-factor authentication that requires a back-up validation, for example a confirmation code sent by text message, when logging in. The safety team said it was applying lessons learned from prior incidents.

"Great Leader, Loyal Friend": Trump's Birthday Wish For Modi

Washington: US President Donald Trump greeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his 70th birthday, praising him as a "great leader and loyal friend".

Trump was among a host of world leaders, including Russian President Vladimir Putin, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who wished PM Modi on his birthday and lauded him for strengthening ties with their countries.

"I would like to extend best wishes and a very happy 70th birthday to the Prime Minister of India, @narendramodi. Many happy returns to a GREAT LEADER and loyal friend!" Trump tweeted on Thursday.

the man charged was 20 years old.

The speed limit on that section of the highway is 110 kilometres per hour (68 mph), it added.

Police Sergeant Darrin Turnbull told CBC that he was "speechless" and had not seen such a case in his two-decade career -- "but of course the technology wasn't there".

the local force said in a tweet on Thursday.

"The car appeared to be self-driving, travelling over 140 km/h with both front seats completely reclined & occupants appeared to be asleep," it said.

According to Canadian public broadcaster CBC, the car was an electric Tesla model set to autopilot and

Driver Found Asleep As Self-Driving Tesla Car Breaks Speed Limit: Cops

Ottawa: A driver who allegedly set his car to autopilot and then took a nap as it broke the speed limit on a rural Canadian highway has been charged with dangerous driving, police said.

The incident took place near the town of Ponoka in Alberta province,

AI-Based Cameras Detect Rail Travellers With Fever, Without Masks



NEW DELHI: Technology has come to the rescue of the Indian Railways—operating 310 passenger, Mail and Express trains as of now across the country—in detecting passengers with coronavirus-like symptoms, as Artificial Intelligence-based surveillance cameras have so far detected 28 passengers with mild fever before they could get on board.

“Central Railway (CR) has taken several measures to prevent Covid-19 spread. In order to effectively scan the passengers for COVID-like symptoms, CR has set up a body screening facility (FebriEye) at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) and Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (LTT) in Mumbai,” CR spokesperson Shivaji Sutar told IANS.

It not only ensures contactless entry for travellers to avoid the spread of coronavirus but also helped detect 28 passengers whose body temperature was above normal.

“They were not allowed to travel by trains and advised to go for medical check-up and further necessary medical action,” he added.

The CR is using the FebriEye human body screening facility developed by Vehant Technologies, which is a thermal and vision camera that not only measures forehead temperature but also detects face mask and social distancing violations.

Sutar said that FebriEye cameras can cover a large area for scanning, which means these can detect and

record body temperatures of a number of people entering at once into a premise even while the prospective passengers are on the move.

Kapil Bardeja, CEO and co-founder of Vehant Technologies, said: “FebriEye has already been used successfully by the Indian Railways at their Mumbai HQ (Central Railway).” Besides, the system has been installed at Bilaspur, Raipur, and Guwahati (North Frontier Railway), he added.

Bardeja said that the equipment is reliable, and generates alerts for violation of any protocols on face masks. It is suitable for deployment in high-footfall areas.

He said that as per the standard operating procedure, passengers are screened with FebriEye before they are allowed to board trains. “Till date, over seven lakh passengers have been screened in Mumbai,” Bardeja said.

CR officials said that Febrieye is equipped with ‘Black Body’, a constant temperature source that ensures accuracy in body temperature readings up to plus or minus 0.3 degree Celsius.

“The device helps maintain a stable thermodynamic ambience. We are using AI- and CCTV- based software as it detects body temperatures and faces masks on a real-time basis, apart from social distancing,” Amid the nationwide lockdown, the Indian Railways had suspended train services from March 25. It started operating Shramik Special trains from May 1 to transport stranded migrant workers, students, pilgrims, and tourists.

The Railways started to run special air-conditioned trains from May 12 and 100 pairs of time-tabled trains from June 1. From September 12, the Railways also started operating 40 pairs of trains. --IANS

Harsimrat Kaur Badal's Resignation From Cabinet "Too Late": Farmers

AMRITSAR: Farmers across Amritsar called the resignation of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Harsimrat Kaur Badal from the Union Cabinet on Thursday as “very late” saying that the three farmers’ ordinances passed by the Centre will “destroy Indian farming”.

“Harsimrat Kaur Badal ji’s resignation has come very late. It’s to calm down anger of people. Even today, if Sukhbir Badal ji realises, then he should ‘gherao’ the Parliament with lakhs of his workers,” said Sarwan Singh Pandher, general secretary, Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee while speaking to ANI.

“The Modi government’s decision to pass three ordinances last night will destroy Indian farming and will allow corporates to rule over the farmers,” he added.

Gurbachan Singh Chabba, a farmer, said that the ordinances were passed by the Centre despite protests. “No matter what the government says, this bill is against



the farmers and the labourers. We do not want this bill. This bill is not in the interest of the farmer,” he said.

With regard to the resignation of Ms Kaur, he said there was “no point in her resignation which was too late” and should have been done “a long time back”.

President Ram Nath Kovind had accepted the resignation of the SAD leader from the Union Council of Ministers last evening.

Furthermore, the President has directed Narendra Singh Tomar to take the additional charge of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.



DAY OUT: An elderly Kashmiri woman carrying a wicker basket full of utensils on her head in Chatwrgam, Pulwama on Friday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

'New Rapid Covid-19 Test With Improved Sensitivity Developed'

Researchers have developed a new rapid test for the detection of the novel coronavirus that can be performed in less than an hour, and with minimal equipment, and “can detect nearly as many cases as the standard COVID-19 diagnostic.”

With further research, the scientists, including those from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the US, said the new test, known as STOPCovid, could be made cheaply enough so that people could test themselves every day.

In the study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, the researchers showed that the new test detected 93 per cent of the positive cases as determined by conventionally used COVID-19 diagnostic.

“We need rapid testing to become part of the fabric of this situation so that people can test themselves every day, which will slow down outbreak,” said study co-author Omar Abudayyeh from MIT.

The researchers hope the test could be further developed for use in point-of-care settings, such as doctors’ offices, pharmacies, nursing homes, and schools.

While other tests based on CRISPR



technology provide a method for the detection of viral pathogens, the scientists said these are more complex than the ones used in point-of-care testing.

They explained that such tests depend on an RNA extraction process and multiple liquid-handling steps that increase the risk of cross-contamination of samples.

“We developed STOPCovid so that everything could be done in a single step,” said Julia Joung, another co-author of the study from MIT.

“A single step means the test can be potentially performed by nonexperts outside of laboratory settings,” Joung said.

In the latest version of STOPCovid, reported in the study, the researchers incorporated a process to concentrate the viral genetic material in a patient sample by adding magnetic beads that attract RNA.

They said this step eliminates the

need for expensive purification kits that are time-intensive and can be in short supply due to high demand.

According to the researchers, this concentration step boosts the test’s sensitivity so that it now approaches that of the conventionally used PCR diagnostic method.

“Once we got the viral genomes onto the beads, we found that that could get us to very high levels of sensitivity,” said Jonathan Gootenberg, another co-author of the study.

The researchers tested STOPCovid on 402 patient samples -- 202 positive and 200 negative -- and found that it detected 93 percent of the positive cases as determined by the standard US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) PCR test.

They said the STOPCovid test works on samples taken using the less invasive anterior nasal swab.

The scientists are currently testing it with saliva samples, which they said may make at-home tests even easier to perform.

“The goal is to make this test easy to use and sensitive, so that we can tell whether or not someone is carrying the virus as early as possible,” said Feng Zhang, a co-author of the study from MIT.

Yogi Adityanath Govt Mulls Ordinance Against 'Love Jihad'

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has asked officials to formulate a strategy and bring an ordinance if required to prevent religious conversions in the name of love, an official said on Friday.

“It has been seen in the recent past that women have been made to convert in the name of love and marriage and later subjected to cruelty and even murder,” the official who did not wished to be named said.

“Taking a serious note of such incidents, the CM has directed that a concrete strategy be made to control such incidents,” he added.

“It has often been seen that this is being done in an organised manner,” he claimed. “If required, an ordinance can be brought for it,” he added.

The aim is to ensure that such crimes are checked and effective action is taken against the culprits. All this is being taken into consideration, he added.



In Kanpur, the police had recently set up a Special Investigation Team to look into reports of “love jihad”.

Last year, the Uttar Pradesh State Law Commission had submitted a report to Adityanath, suggesting a new law to check forcible religious conversions.

“The report was submitted along with a draft legislation, Uttar Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2019,” law commission secretary Sapna Tripathi had said.

The report was prepared after

going through pre and post-independence laws in the country and neighbouring countries like Nepal, Myanmar, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Pakistan besides keeping in mind court judgments.

“The commission is of the view that existing legal provisions are not enough to check religious conversions and on this serious matter, a new law is needed like in some other states,” the report said.

The 268-page report included newspaper clippings regarding forcible conversions, international covenants on the right to religion, anti-conversion laws in neighbouring countries and India.

It said states like Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Arunachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand had made special laws to ban conversions by force, fraud, marriage or allurements.

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Dubai Suspends Air India Flights For Bringing Covid-Positive Passengers

NEW DELHI: The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority has suspended Air India Express flights till October 2 for allegedly bringing passengers with COVID-positive certificates twice during the last couple of weeks, senior government officials said on Friday.

As per the UAE government rules, each passenger travelling from India need to bring original COVID-negative certificate from RT-PCR test done 96 hours prior to the journey.

“A passenger, who had a COVID-positive certificate dated September 2, travelled on Air India Express’ Jaipur-Dubai flight on September 4. A similar incident had happened with a passenger on one of the airline’s other Dubai flights previously,” said one of the officials.

Therefore, the Dubai Civil



Aviation Authority has suspended Air India Express flights from September 18 to October 2, the officials stated.

Both the incidents of passengers flying with COVID-positive certificates to Dubai from India on Air India Express flights happened during the last couple of weeks, the officials noted.

When asked about this matter, Air India Express said it is focusing on reducing the hardship of the passengers and it plans to operate its four Dubai flights, scheduled to operate from India on Friday, to Sharjah instead.

A PASSENGER, WHO HAD A COVID-positive certificate dated September 2, travelled on Air India Express’ Jaipur-Dubai flight on September 4. A similar incident had happened with a passenger on one of the airline's other Dubai flights previously," said one of the officials.

Map In Nepal's School Books Show Indian Territories As Their Own



KATHMANDU: Nepal has introduced new text books in the school curriculum that include the country’s revised political map showing three strategically-important Indian areas as part of its territory, amidst a border dispute with New Delhi.

India has already termed as untenable the “artificial enlargement” of the territorial claims by Nepal after its Parliament unanimously approved the new political map of the country featuring Lipulekh, Kalapani and Limpiyadhura areas which India maintains belongs to it.

The curriculum Development Centre, under the Ministry of Education, recently published the books with the revised map, information officer at the centre Ganesh Bhattarai told PTI.

The new books titled “Nepal’s territory and reading materials for border issues” for the 9th and 12th classes have a preface written by Education Minister Giriraj Mani Pokharel.

Nepal in May released the revised political and administrative map of the country laying claim over the three strategically important areas in Uttarakhand, more than six months after India published

a new map in November 2019.

Following the endorsement of the new map by the Nepal Cabinet, then government spokesperson and Finance Minister Yuvaraj Khattiwada told the media that the government had decided to update the schedule of the Constitution and school curriculum incorporating the new political map. India in its response said that it had already made its position clear on it.

“This artificial enlargement of claims is not based on historical fact or evidence and is not tenable. It is also violative of our current understanding to hold talks on outstanding boundary issues,” Ministry of External Affairs Anurag Srivastava had said. The Nepal government has also decided to issue coins with the inclusion of Kalapani area.

The government has instructed the Nepal Rastra Bank, the central bank of Nepal, to mint the coins with the revised map. An official at the bank, however, said that they had no immediate plan to mint the coin, though preparations are on to issue coins worth 1 and 2 with the inclusion of the new map within a year.

The India-Nepal bilateral ties came under strain after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated an 80-km-long strategically crucial road connecting the Lipulekh pass with Dharchula in Uttarakhand on May 8.

Nepal reacted sharply to the inauguration of the road claiming that it passed through Nepalese territory. India rejected the claim asserting that the road lies completely within its territory.

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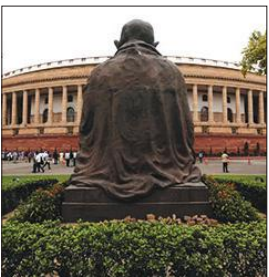
Parliament Passes Bill To Cut Salaries Of MPs By 30% Amid Cost Cuts Over COVID-19

NEW DELHI: Parliament today passed a bill to reduce for one year the salaries of MPs by 30 per cent “to meet the exigencies arising out of COVID-19 pandemic”.

Rajya Sabha passed the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020. It had got the approval of Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

The bill was introduced in the upper house by Parliamentary Affairs Pralhad Joshi on Thursday.

The upper house also passed the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020, which proposes to reduce the



salaries and allowances of ministers by 30 per cent for a year, to meet the exigencies arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minister of State for Home, G Kishan Reddy moved the bill.

Both the bills were taken up simultaneously and passed by voice vote.

Man Chants 'Modiji' For 24 Hours On PM Modi's Birthday; Live-Streams It On Youtube

Anmol Bakaya, a YouTuber with a few thousand followers, set out to create a record of sorts on Thursday (September 17), on the occasion of the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

On the day when the prime minister turned 70, Bakaya, in what he claimed as a mark of respect for the PM, live-streamed himself chanting ‘Modiji’ in his channel. If this does not sound all that impressive, the time he spent doing this will certainly impress you—Bakaya chanted the name of the prime minister for 24 hours, continuously.

In the live-stream, he wrote that he has been hearing a lot about PM Modi and he has immense respect for the prime

minister and for all that he has done for the nation. Bakaya said the live-streaming of chanting of the name of the prime minister is merely a gesture of appreciation. “In the past year I’ve heard a lot of things both positive & negative about our Honorable Prime Minister, but personally i just have immense respect for him and for all that he has done for our nation, my support for him is never ending and this is just a little gesture of appreciation and nothing more,” he wrote.

In the live-stream, the video of which isn’t currently available on the internet, Bakaya, who calls himself ‘The Accidental Bhakt’ on his Instagram handle, was seen sitting against the background which had im-



ages from mythologies and motivational quotes.

The act of ‘devotion’ evoked mixed response on social media, with some calling it a proof of “growing unemployment” in the country. Ironically, September 17 was observed as ‘National Unemployment Day’ by several youths to use Modi’s birthday to highlight the government’s economic policies,

which they claimed had failed to create jobs.

“Proof enough of growing unemployment and our youth getting mentally affected,” wrote one user.

“Personally promoting an unemployed person. Kindly like share and subscribe. Today even I became a revolutionary. All thanks to birthday boy,” wrote another.

“My goodness, I just asked him to drink water, I don’t know to feel sorry for him or proud, why would someone do this, it out of my mind,” asked a user.

“Can’t believe it for last 18 hours, this fellow has been chanting ‘Modiji’, approximately more than 86500 times!,” wrote a person who appeared to be keeping tab on the channel.

Defence Official Spying For Pak Held

CHANDIGARH: Haryana Police has arrested an employee of the Military Engineering Wing posted in Jaipur on the charges of passing information related to the Indian Army to Pakistan Military intelligence through WhatsApp and Facebook.

The arrested accused belongs to the Rewari district in Chandigarh.

According to an official release, upon getting information, a special team of Special Task Force (STF), Gurugram arrested the accused last night from bus stand in Dharuhera.

A case in this regard had been registered against him in police station Dharuhera under various sections. An investigation has been initiated in this case. Efforts are being made to gather information by interrogating the accused.

Complete information about the crime will be available after the police remand of the accused.

