



Maximum : 28°C
Minum : 10°C
Humidity : 31%

SUNSET
Today 06:07 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:30 AM



News Digest

Soldier Shoots Self Dead In Ganderbal

Srinagar- An army man committed suicide by shooting himself dead with his service rifle in Chittergul Kangan area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Monday night, officials said. They said the soldier identified as one Jagjeet Singh of 24 RR from Haryana, committed suicide inside an army camp in the district. A police officer confirmed the incident and said that the proceedings have been launched in this regard.

2 Quakes Hit Ladakh

Leh: A moderate-intensity earthquake of magnitude 5.1 shook Ladakh on Tuesday morning, officials said. There was no report of any casualty or damage to property due to the quake that struck at 5.13 am and lasted for a few seconds, the officials said. Another tremor of 4.4 magnitude hit the Union territory at 11.43 pm, according to the National Center for Seismology. Both the quakes were at a depth of 10 km, it added.

Forest Fire Triggers Blasts Along LoC

Jammu: A forest fire triggered several landmine explosions along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, officials said here. The fire started in a forest area across the border and rapidly spread to this side in Mendhar sector, the officials said. They said several landmines planted by the Army to prevent infiltration of terrorists from across the border exploded due to the heat. The fire was still raging and efforts are on to control it, the officials said, adding there was no report of any casualty.

Man Falls From Walnut Tree, Dies

Srinagar: An elderly man died on Tuesday after falling from a walnut tree in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. 65-year old man Muhammad Yousuf Shah was plucking walnuts from the tree in Banali area of Boniyar on Tuesday when he lost balance and fell on the ground, police sources said. The elderly man died on the spot due to the impact of the fall.

Woman Injured In Bear Attack

Srinagar: A woman was attacked and injured on Tuesday by a bear in Mattan area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. 58-year-old Naseema Begum was walking in an apple orchard in Mattan on Tuesday when a bear appeared from behind and attacked her, witnesses said. On hearing her screams, some people raised an alarm and managed to rescue her. **● P-02**

Biker Knocked To Death

Srinagar: A young motorcyclist on Tuesday was crushed to death by a speedy truck in Khudwani area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district. 26-year-old Ishfaq Ahmad Khan-dan of Sarandnoo was critically injured when his bike was hit by a speedy truck (JK03C-7004) near Khudwani on Tuesday, officials said. The injured youth was removed to the nearby hospital for treatment. **● P-02**

Modi Govt Brings 11 More Central Laws To J&K

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Centre has notified two orders specifying that 11 central laws will immediately come into effect in the union territory of Jammu and Kashmir while nomenclature of 10 state laws will be changed in view of the change of status of the erstwhile state.

In a 136-page notification, the home ministry said the two orders will be called as the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation (Adaptation of Central Laws) Second and Third Order, 2020.

The erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two union territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh - on August 5, 2019 through the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

Article 370, which gave special status to the erstwhile state, was also abrogated on that day.

Till then, the central laws were not implemented in



Jammu and Kashmir unless they were ratified by the state assembly. Besides, there were many state laws which were exclusively applicable only in Jammu and Kashmir.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by section 96 of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 (34 of 2019), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf, the Central Government hereby makes the following Order in respect of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir," the notification, signed by Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, said.

Among the central laws

which will now come into effect in Jammu and Kashmir are: The Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Act, 2019, The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, The Factories Act, 1948, The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1947.

Other central laws which will also be applicable in the union territory are: The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, The Pharmacy Act, 1948, **►PAGE 02**

WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, THE ACTS MENTIONED IN the schedule to this order shall, until repealed or amended by a competent legislature or other competent authority, have effect, subject to the adaptations and modifications directed by the said schedule, or if it is so directed, shall stand repealed.



A HEALTH WORKER taking nasal swab of a boy for Coronavirus test in Srinagar on Tuesday. Pic, Abid Bhat

NHPC To Suffer Rs 84.41 Cr Loss Due To SEWA-II Plant Shutdown

NEW DELHI: State-run hydro power giant NHPC on Tuesday said it will suffer a loss of Rs 84.41 crore due to the shutdown of 120 MW Sewa-II power station in Jammu and Kashmir till March 31, 2021.

"Anticipated financial loss due to shutdown will be Rs 84.41 crore," a BSE filing said.

Last week, the company had informed that the Sewa-II power station (120 MW) in the union territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir has been under complete shutdown from September 25, 2020, to March 31, 2021, for damage of head race tunnel (HRT).

The HRT carries water from intake to a power house for electricity. **● P-02**

Pak, China Building New Missile Sites Along Western Border

Agencies

NEW DELHI: The Chinese and Pakistan armies are reconnoitering the areas along the disputed India-Pakistan border to set up additional military infrastructure.

Indian Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal R.K.S. Bhadauria, had said on Monday that Pakistan and China have increased their bilateral exercises in the recent past.

"There is nothing to suggest collusive threat," he said on Monday during an annual press conference in Delhi and added that India is keeping a close watch.

The Indian military has for long flagged the threat of two-front war.

Soldiers Deployed Along LAC To Get American Rifles

Having already received and deployed the first lot of around 72,500 Sig Sauer assault rifles from the US for counter-terrorists operations, the new batch of these assault rifles would be given to the soldiers deployed on the front with China in **● P-02**

With the disputed borders with China and Pakistan active at the same point of time, the armed forces are stretched to the maximum.

A top official said: "Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) troops were also seen in joint reconnaissance in forward areas at Deolian and Jura in Pak-controlled Kashmir along with Pakistan's 12 infantry brigade as well as the Minimarg-based forces under Force Commander Northern Areas (FCNA), the division size formation of the Pakistan Army."

The official said that construction work for installation of surface-to-air missile **►PAGE 02**

Darbar To Close In Srinagar On Oct 30

SRINAGAR: The civil secretariat, which is the seat of the Jammu and Kashmir government, will close here on October 30 and re-open in winter capital Jammu on November 9 as part of the biannual 'Darbar Move', a practice started by Maharaja Gulab Singh in 1872.

The practice was started by the Maharaja 145 years ago to escape the extreme heat of Jammu during the summers and biting cold of winters in Srinagar.

The civil secretariat and other 'Darbar Move' offices, which observe a five-day week, will close in Srinagar on October 30, while the offices observing a six-day week will close the next day, an order issued by the government said.

It said all the offices will re-open at Jammu on November 9.

The civil secretariat and other 'Darbar Move' offices **● P-02**

J&K Govt Transfers 22 Police Officers

Amit Kumar Posted In- Charge DIG Central Kashmir

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday ordered transfer of 22 police officers including Amit Kumar (IPS) who has been posted as in-charge DIG Central Kashmir Range, against an available vacancy.

Kumar was hitherto posted incharge DIG Armed Jammu and his transfer along with others has been ordered by Principal Secretary to the Government, Shaleen Kabra. **● P-02**

Covid-19 Claims Mother-Son Duo, 15 Others In J&K, Toll 1272

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: As many as seventeen more people, including a mother-son duo succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, taking the number of fatalities due to the virus in the Union Territory to 1272.

According to the officials, a 75-year-old woman and her 34-year-old son from Dalgate died, days after they were admitted to the CD hospital here, one of the exclusive facilities for the management of covid-19 patients in the Valley. They said that a 54-year-

old man from Bolachipora Srinagar, who was admitted on September 11, died at SKIMS Soura.

Also, officials said that a 65-year-old man from Batamallo, who was admitted to SKIMS Soura on October 2 died at the hospital. Besides him, a 45-year-old woman from Aalikadal Srinagar who was admitted to the SKIMS Soura hospital on 25 September died this evening.

A 74-year-old man from Hazratbal Anantnag also died at tertiary care hospital here, 11 days after he was admitted there. **►PAGE 02**

Covid-19 Crosses 80K Mark With 738 New Cases

Coronavirus cases zoomed past 80,000 mark in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, as 738 more people, including forty-four travelers tested positive for the deadly infection taking the total number of people infected by the virus in the Union Territory to 80476. While Jammu division reported 290 new cases of Covid-19, the remaining 448 were detected from the Kashmir **● P-02**

How Can Someone Just Trespass Your House And Ransack It: Bhasin

KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: Well known journalist and Editor-in chief of the daily Kashmir Times Anuradha Bhasin Jamwal on Monday accused a political family of forcefully and illegally occupying her government flat allotted to her late father Ved Bhasin at Wazarat Road Jammu.

Bhasin took to her social media page on Facebook to detail her ordeal saying that residence was ransacked when she was away.

Talking to Kashmir Observer, Bhasin said the government flat belonged to her family for the last 50 years.



"I have been an authorised allottee of the government flat since 1999-2000. Before me, the flat was allotted to my father in 1969. Both allotments were done under the journalist category," she said. **►PAGE 02**

Jammu Admin Orders Survey To Identify Auqaf properties

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday ordered a detailed survey of all Auqaf properties in the Jammu division.

According to an official spokesperson, Divisional Commissioner, Sanjeev Verma in a virtual meeting on Tuesday asked the Deputy Commissioners of Jammu province to conduct a detailed survey of all Auqaf properties and submit the list of the assets within their respective districts.

The DCs, he said were asked to provide the detail of the assets in a prescribed format being provided to them. The Deputy Commissioners attended the meeting through a Video Conference.

"The meeting discussed in detail the procedure to be adopted for the exercise and the DCs were asked to include attestation of mutations, encroachments, recovery of arrears, acquisition and possession of Specific Auqaf properties in the survey report," the official spokesperson said.

"While instructing the DCs to identify and remove unauthorized construction/ encroachments of any nature, the Div Com said illegal structures built on the state land by way of encroachment should be removed expeditiously," he added.

Meanwhile, Verma also sought feedback from on B2V3 program from the DCs, the Official spokesperson said.

"The Div Com said that Back to Village programme is devised **►PAGE 02**

In FOCUS Meet Budgam Brothers Who Developed Alternative To Tiktok—Nuclear

Swati Joshi

Two brothers Mohammad Farooq Wani and Tipu Sultan Wani from Chadoora, Budgam has developed a mobile application for short video clips.

The mobile application named 'Nuclear' is an alternative to Tiktok, a popular Chinese app that was blocked by the government of India owing to "security" reasons amid LAC faceoff.

The application derives its name from the nuclear fission process.

In nuclear fission, nucleus of an atom splits into two or more small-

er nuclei and the chain goes on. Like nuclear fission, the application is made to go viral.

"This is not just a TikTok clone," said Tipu, adding, "We could have gone with the same design as TikTok and other clones in the market, but we opted for a more unique design to mark our product as an alternative and not as a clone to the blocked app."

Tipu told Kashmir Observer that they've used video compression and cache to load a video faster and quicker.

"This helps those who use this app in slow internet networks like 2G/3G as we have in Kashmir," he added.

He said that they've tried their



best to optimize the uploads and downloads but these factors are dependent on network speed and



are out of their hand. Nuclear uses the latest technology in Augmented Reality (AR) for its

mask and beauty filters. Currently, it is the only application in the Indian market with several filters and Virtual Reality (VR) backgrounds with its first release, claimed Tipu.

The brothers plan to add more filters and editing tools as the application would grow.

A user can upload, edit and add music to any video file between 5 seconds to 60 seconds in Nuclear.

To advertise the application further, the owners are planning to run a contest in coming days wherein people with more than 5000 followers could get a chance to earn Rs. 2000 worth voucher. **►PAGE 02**

Delhi Riots:whatsapp Group Promoted Enmity On Religion Ground, Says Charge Sheet

NEW DELHI: WhatsApp group "Kattar Hindu Ekta", created during the north east Delhi riots in February, allegedly promoted enmity between different groups on the ground of religion and acted in a way which was prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony, the Delhi police has said in its supplementary charge sheet filed before a court here. According to the chargesheet, the WhatsApp group was allegedly created on February 25 to take revenge from the Muslim community.

In the excerpts of the chats of the group filed in the charge sheet, one of the members alleged that RSS (RashtriyaSwayamsevakSangh) people have come to support them.

The police further furnished some chats of the group in the

charge sheet, in which the group members allegedly used communal slurs and talked about vandalising madrasas, mosques and killing of Muslims.

The police filed the supplementary charge sheet on September 26 before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate PurushottamPathak against nine persons in the case related to the alleged murder of Hashim Ali during the riots in Gokulpuri area.

"As per the chat of Whatsapp group, the accused persons... conspired to teach Muslims a lesson for attacking the Hindus. Equipped themselves with lathis,danda, sticks, swords, firearms etc and killed nine innocent Muslims persons including Hashim Ali and his brother Aamir Khan. It is prima facie revealed that there was a well hatched conspiracy amongst the accused persons.

"Same is also evident from the fact that in order to take revenge from Muslims some youths of that area who failed to perceive the bottomless stupidity of the propaganda, they as saviours of their community created a Whatsapp group. The group members lost their individuality and started working with mob mind. 'Jai Sri Ram' and 'HarHarMahadev' which are the sacred slogans and are attached to the victorious yelling, deaden their mind and paralyzed their creative nature. They planned the manner of committing offence of rioting, murder and other offences..." police alleged in the charge sheet.

In the supplementary charge sheet, police has booked the accused under sections 153-A (promoting enmity between different

groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language etc) and 505 (public mischief) of the Indian Penal Code for allegedly assembling to take revenge against the other community and targeting the victims on the basis of their religious identity.

The accused-- Lokesh Kumar Solanki, Pankaj Sharma, Summit Chaudhary, AnkitChaudhary, Prince, Jatin Sharma, Vivek-Panchal, RishabhChaudhary, Himanshu Thakur-- are currently in judicial custody in the case.

"During the investigation and from the report of retrieving data of seized mobile phones revealed that the above mentioned report/result of Whatsapp group 'Kattar Hindu Ekta', group, it is also clear that there are averments in respect of promoting enmity

between different groups on the ground of religion and acting in a way that are prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony," the charge sheet claimed.

They were earlier charge sheeted in June for the offences under 144 (joining unlawful assembly armed with deadly weapon), 147 and 148 (rioting), 149 (unlawful assembly), 302 (murder), 201 (causing disappearance of evidence), 427 (mischief), mischief by causing inundation or obstruction to public drainage), 435 (mischief by fire or explosive substance), 120-B (criminal conspiracy) and 34 (common intention) of IPC.

The offences entail a maximum punishment of death penalty.

The supplementary charge sheet said that the police has sent a letter to the concerned au-

thorities for obtaining the sanction required for prosecution for offences against the state and criminal conspiracy to commit such offence, which was awaited.

It said co-accused Monty Nagar, AvdeshMishra,Monu, Sahil, Shekhar, Mongli, Baba, Tinku and Vinay were to be arrested but their addresses could not be traced till now.

According to the charge sheet, some of the messages sent by the group members were "Do not give them flats on rent", "Their eyes are on our sisters, daughters, land", "We will burn everything of theirs like we burned the madrasa today", "Do not leave them, kill them".

They also allegedly discussed about arrangements of stones, bricks, pistols and talked about de-

molition of a madrasa by the mob of rioters, according to the excerpts.

It claimed that the mob turned rioters and allegedly murdered Ali by inflicting multiple injuries in a brutal manner and with a view to conceal the evidence, all of them in furtherance of their common intention threw his dead body in the drain.

"There cannot be any doubt that the accused who killed Hashim Ali were certainly up to their neck in the conspiracy and were thus very active members of the unlawful assembly," it said.

Communal clashes had broken out in northeast Delhi on February 24 after violence between citizenship law supporters and protesters spiralled out of control leaving at least 53 people dead and around 200 injured.

AS PER THE CHAT OF WHATSAPP GROUP, THE ACCUSED PERSONS... CONSPIRED TO TEACH MUSLIMS A LESSON FOR ATTACKING the Hindus. Equipped themselves with lathis,danda, sticks, swords, firearms etc and killed nine innocent Muslims persons including Hashim Ali and his brother Aamir Khan. It is prima facie revealed that there was a well hatched conspiracy amongst the accused persons.

Modi Govt Brings 11 More...

The Sales Promotion Employees Act, 1976, The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 and The Trade Unions Act, 1926.

The notification said an order has been issued for the change of names and certain words in some of the state laws enacted by the assembly of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

"With immediate effect, the acts mentioned in the schedule to this order shall, until repealed or amended by a competent legislature or other competent authority, have effect, subject to the adaptations and modifications directed by the said schedule, or if it is so directed, shall stand repealed.

"Where this order requires that in any specified section or other portion of an Act, certain words shall be substituted for certain other words, or the certain words shall be omitted, such substitution or omission, as the case may be, shall, except where it is otherwise expressly provided, be made wherever the words referred to occur in that section or portion," the notification said.

The changes in the state laws were made in the form of - "State" and "Government" substituting respectively "Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir" and "Government of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir" and for "whole of the State of Jammu and Kashmir" substituting "whole of the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir" and a few others issues.

The state laws where the changes were made include: The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000, The Jammu and Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000, The Jammu and Kashmir School Education Act, 2002, The Jammu and Kashmir Board of School Education Act, 1975, The Jammu and Kashmir Cooperative Societies Act, 1989, The Jammu and Kashmir Self-Reliant Cooperatives Act, 1999 and The Salaries and Allowances of Members of Jammu and Kashmir State Legislature Act, 1960.

Other state laws where the changes were made are: The Salary and Allowances of Leaders of Opposition in the State Legislature Act, 1985, The Jammu and Kashmir Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 and The Jammu and Kashmir Metropolitan Region Development Authorities Act, 2018.

One similar notification was issued by the central government with respect for UT of Jammu and Kashmir a few months ago.

Darbar To Close In Srinagar...

function in Srinagar for six months of summer and in Jammu, for the remaining six months of the year.

The 'Darbar Move' was continued by elected governments post-Independence in order to provide access to people of both the regions, by turns, to the seat of power in the state.

The government spends crores of rupees every year to shift voluminous records between the two capital cities twice a year, besides paying a similar amount as allowance for the several thousands of employees who shift base with the government.

There have been demands from various quarters to abolish the practice and set up permanent civil secretariats in Jammu and Srinagar so that people can get redressal to their problems round-the-year while saving substantial amounts of the public exchequer.

The COVID-19 pandemic delayed the 'Darbar Move' from Jammu to Srinagar this summer.

The government allowed Jammu-based employees to stay back in the winter capital while Srinagar-based employees were directed to report to work in May.

However, all employees were directed to report to work in July, two months after scheduled opening of the darbar in Srinagar.

J&K Govt Transfers 22 Police...

As per the order, Shiv Kumar Sharma, CO JKAP 8th Bn, has been transferred and posted as SSP, Traffic City, Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Sohail Munawar Mir, Principal PTS Manigam, has been transferred and posted as SSP CID SB Kashmir, vice Shokat Hussain Shah. Zahid Nasim Manhas, SSP, SSG, is transferred and posted as CO 1st Border Bn Jammu, against an available vacancy.

Zubair Ahmed Khan, SSP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as CO, IRP 6th Bn, vice Yougal Kumar Manhas.

Randeep Kumar, SSP, CID, SB Jammu, has been transferred and posted as SSP, SSG, vice Zahid Nasim Manhas .

Shokat Hussain Shah, SSP, CID, SB, Kashmir, has been transferred and posted as Principal PTS, Manigam , vice Sohail Munaw ar Mir .

Yougal Kumar Manhas, CO, IRP 6th Bn, has been transferred and posted as SSP (Tech), CID Hqrs , vice Paramvir Singh.

Rohit Baskotra, SP, SSG, is transferred and posted as SSP, CID SB Jammu, vice Randeep Kumar.

Amit Gupta, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as CO, IRP 16th Bn, against an available vacancy.

Suram Singh, Addl. SP Rural Jammu, has been transferred and posted as CO, JKAP 6th Bn, against an available vacancy.

Paramvir Singh, SP (Tech) CID Hqrs has been asked to report to Home Department for further posting.

Prabh Dayal Sharma, Addl. SP CID SB Jammu, has been transferred and posted as Dy. CO, IRP 15th Bn, against an available vacancy.

Sanjay Sharma, Dy. CO JKAP 8th Bn, has been transferred and posted as Addl. SP Rural, Jammu, vice Suram Singh.

Sheikh Faisal Qayoom, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as SP, SSG, vice Rohit Baskotra.

Sanjay Parihar, Addl. SP Ramban, has been transferred and posted as Addl. SP CID SB, Jammu, vice Prabh Dayal Sharma.

Ms. Rajni Sharma, Dy. CO IRP 15th Bn, has been transferred and posted as Addl. SP Ramban, vice Sanjay Parihar.

Shabir Ahmad, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as Dy. CO JKAP 5th Bn against an available vacancy.

Surinder Kumar, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as Dy.CO IRP 24th Bn against an available vacancy.

Ravail Singh, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as Dy.

CO JKAP 8th Bn, vice Sanjay Sharma. Pran Nath Pandita, SP, awaiting orders of posting, has been posted as Staff Officer to Addl. DGP CID, J&K. One post of SP from over all reserves is attached with CID Hqrs for the purpose of drawl of his salary, the order added.

Militant, Cop Killed In Ganderbal...

Special operations group (SOG) of police and CRPF laid a siege around Sugan village of Zainpora on Tuesday evening and started a combing and search operation, police sources said.

The militants hiding in the village, sources said opened fire when the search team started advancing towards the house where the militants are holed-up. The militants, police sources said also turned down surrender offer and engaged the state forces in firefight.

Meanwhile, sources said that the operation has been put off for a night in view of darkness. However, the cordon has further been tightened to thwart any attempt of militants to escape the dragnet. The search teams, sources said have also installed lights in the area to keep a close watch on the movement of the holed-up militants.

As per the sources two to three militants are believed to be trapped.

Pak Militant Led Nowgam...

a senior police official said on Tuesday.

"We have identified the militants behind the attack. They are from the Lashkar, led by a Pakistani militant named Saifullah. We are on the job and they will be neutralised soon," Inspector General of Police (IGP), Kashmir Zone Vijay Kumar said.

He was speaking to reporters after the wreath-laying ceremony for the two Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel, who were killed in the attack.

"Two militants came on a scooter, most probably from the Pampore side, and opened indiscriminate firing from an AK rifle," the IGP said. He admitted that the module of the Pakistan-based militant outfit had carried out an attack earlier in the Chadoora area of Budgam district as well, in which an assistant sub-inspector of the CRPF was killed.

"We are conducting operations and soon, they will be neutralised," the officer said.

Responding to a question on militants using two-wheelers to carry out attacks, Kumar said it is easy for the ultras to move around on motorbikes on roads where the vehicle movement is heavy.

"We cannot check every vehicle; vehicles are checked based on information mostly. Checking every vehicle will cause traffic jams," he said. The IGP sought to assure people, saying there is no need to panic and "the situation is under control".

On the use of virtual phone numbers by militants, he said this technology is a cause of concern but it has been used for subversive activities for years now.

"Virtual numbers have remained challenging since the beginning. It is challenging across the world. We are trying to find technological answers," Kumar said.

Covid-19 Claims Mother-Son...

Also, they said, a 26-year-old man from Kargil died at SKIMS Soura where he was admitted today.

Among others, the other victims from the Valley include a 75-year-old man from Alochibagh Srinagar, a 65-year-old woman from Mir Danter and an 82-year-old from Chogul Handwara.

Among eight fatalities from Jammu includes a 38-year-old from Rehari Jammu, a 25-year-old woman of Simbliwal Jammu and a 46-year-old Jagti Nagrota.

With these deaths, 1272 people have succumbed to injuries in Jammu and Kashmir including 877 from Valley and 395 from Jammu. (With GNS inputs)

Covid-19 Crosses 80K Mark...

Valley, officials said. Among the new cases, officials said included 12 security personnel, a baby and a doctor.

Giving district wise breakup, officials said, Srinagar reported 183 cases, Budgam 46, Baramulla 37, Pulwama 55, Kupwara 42, Anantnag 22, Bandipora 30, Ganderbal 20, Kulgam 4, Shopian 9, Jammu 91, Rajouri 27, Udhampur 14, Doda 26, Kathua 18, Poonch 12, Samba 29, Ramban 14, Kishtwar 31 and Reasi 28.

Meanwhile, 1706 more Covid-19 patients have recovered and discharged from various hospitals-- 1145 from Jammu Division and 561 from Kashmir Valley.

NHPC To Suffer Rs 84.41 Cr...

generation. The shutdown will cause tentative loss of 157.4 million units (MUs) in generation (design energy) and 35.61 per cent in NAFAP (Normative Annual Plant Availability Factor), it had stated.

The Sewa-II power station (3 X 40 MW) is a run-of-the-river project with a small pondage to harness the hydro power potential of river Sewa. It is located in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir.

The surface power house with installed capacity of 120 MW houses three units of 40 MW capacity each designed to generate 533.53 MUs in a 90 per cent dependable year with 95 per cent machine availability. All the three generating units of the power station were commissioned in June and July 2010.

The beneficiary states/UTs of this power station are Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Haryana, J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan and Chandigarh.

Pak, China Building New...

defence system is being carried out by the Pakistan Army and the PLA at Pauli Pir near Lasadanna Dhok in Pck.

"Approximately 120 Pakistan Army personnel and 25 to 40 civilians are working on the construction site," said the source, adding that the control room for the system will be located at the headquarters of Pck. "Ten PLA troops, including three officers, will be deployed at the control room," the source said.

"Similar constructions have also been reported at Chinar village and Chakothi village in Hattian Bala district of Pck," the source said.

It was further noticed that a road is being constructed by engineers from China from Jaglot to Gauri Kot and is likely to be extended till Gultari. The PLA troops were also observed in general areas of Jaglot with the Minimarg-based 80 infantry brigade of the FCNA.

Soldiers Deployed Along LAC...

Eastern Ladakh. A recent Defence Acquisition Council held by Prime Minister Narendra Modi government approved the acquisition of the second batch of around 72,500 Sig Sauer assault rifles from America under fast track procedures for the Army.

"The first lot of these assault rifles was provided to the troops deployed in the counter-terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir. The second lot of the guns would be for the troops deployed on the China front in Eastern Ladakh and other areas," government sources told ANI. The idea is to provide the best of equipment facing the enemy on the frontline, they said.

The new rifles will replace the existing Indian Small Arms System (Insas) 5.56x45mm rifles used by the forces and manufactured locally by the Ordnance Factories Board.

As per the plan, around 1.5 lakh imported rifles were to be used by the troops in the counter-terrorism operations and frontline duties on the Line of Control (LoC) and the newly-activated Line of Actual Control (LAC).

The remaining forces would be provided with the AK-203 rifles, which are to be produced jointly by India and Russia at the Amethi ordnance factory.

Amid the ongoing dispute with China over the boundary issue, the Indian Army is going to place another order of 72,000 Sig 716 assault rifles from the United States.

The Indian Army had been trying to replace their standard INSAS assault rifles for many years but the attempts failed due to one reason or the other.

Recently, the Defence Ministry placed an order of 16,000 light machine guns (LMGs) from Israel to do away with the shortage of these guns.

How Can Someone Just...

Bhasin said she got to know from her sources earlier that the Estates Department has canceled her allotment but nobody was confirming it. "I've receive no show-cause or allotment cancellation notice till date", she said.

Bhasin said she even sent a legal notice to the Estates Department to know the grounds on which her allotment was being cancelled, if that was the case, through speed-post. However, there is no response till date. "How can someone just trespass your house and ransack everything," Bhasin said. "These people were led by Imran Ganai, who's a brother of ex-MLC Shehnaz Ganai. He was sitting on my bed when I arrived there."

"My belongings were dumped in one-room and even breakable items were thrown around. We were shoved and pushed and had to fight back in self-defence," she added.

Kashmir Observer tried to reach Shehnaz Ganai and her brother for their comments on the story. But the repeated attempts yielded no response. Bhasin, meanwhile, said she is traumatised after the housebreak incident and that police is reluctant to lodge an FIR for "trespassing and theft".

"Even though the SHO himself saw how my belongings were ransacked and my valuables are missing, there is no response about my complaint," she said.

However, Nayat Ali, SHO Pir Mitha police station, told Kashmir Observer that it was a formal order from the Estates Department which was executed by the magistrate himself.

"Estates Department has allotted the flat to another party and both have occupied it now. The matter is in court now," Ali said.

Earlier, in a Facebook post, Bhasin said, they heard of similar eviction rumours with respect to the government accommodation housing their Kashmir Times office in Srinagar's Press Enclave.

"No official cancellation notice has been served to us there also, despite our staffers approaching the Estates Department," she said.

Jammu Admin Orders Survey...

to enable, strengthen and foster the pace of rural development. He asked the DCs to persuade the people to come forward and avail benefits of welfare schemes of the government to improve their socio-economic condition," the official spokesperson said.

Meet Budgam Brothers Who...

The duo has already created an alternative for China-based application SHAREit, 'File Share Tool' which has garnered a lot of positive response from the people.

The application has a rating of 4.1 on Google Play store and has crossed more than 10,000 downloads.

Tipu who completed his MBA in Human Resource (HR) from Bharathiar University, Tamil Nadu became interested in the field of software development because of his elder brother, Farooq who is a software engineer. After completing his MBA, he pursued Java and app management courses in Delhi.

A majority of work in the current app is done by Farooq who has his Masters in Computer Application (MCA) from Mewar University, Rajasthan.

Talking about the challenges faced by the duo in app development, Tipu said that the low-speed internet tampered their progress so they had to shift to Delhi to develop the software.

"Android Studio doesn't even open in 2G and the internet speed keeps fluctuating in Kashmir," he complained, adding, "The AR filters used in the app would not even open in 2G."

It took them around one month to release the product. "As there were fewer engineers available due to COVID, the app took some time to get approved through Google Play Store," Tipu said.

The developer believes that the government of India's move to block Chinese apps has helped to create new employment opportunities for people. "With people being encouraged to produce locally, we got the opportunity to showcase our talent to the world," said Tipu. He is also planning to expand the team, once traffic starts growing thereby creating job opportunities for others.

After developing an alternative, the brothers would be releasing updates within a month.

The new release would include user uploaded music files, searchable music files, live streaming, rewards (people could earn money for every video like or followers or shares they generate) and many more, Tipu concluded.

Woman Injured In Bear Attack...

from the clutches of the beast.

The bear, witnesses said ran towards the upper reaches. The injured woman, they said was taken to PHC Mattan for treatment. However, the doctors there referred her to district hospital Anantnag for further treatment. (KNT)

Biker Knocked To Death...

However, the doctors there declared him brought dead.

Local news agency CNS reported that police seized the truck and arrested its driver identified as Rafiq Ahmad Sheikh of Sopore. Meanwhile, police has registered a case and started further investigations in this regard.

E-mail: tariqbhat72@gmail.com



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SATHU PAYEEN BAGHWANPORA, BARBARSHAH, SRINAGAR, KMR.

J&K to complete Jal Jeevan Mission

‘Har Ghar Nal se Jal’ by 2022

Under Phase I, saturation achieved in Srinagar and Ganderbal

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: The Administrative Council (AC), which met here under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, approved the proposal of the Jal Shakti Department to modify the road map for ensuring 100% piped water supply in rural areas under Jal Jeevan Mission by December, 2022 owing to the COVID-19 pandemic induced delays.

It was informed that under Phase I, universal tap water coverage has been achieved in the districts of Srinagar and Ganderbal and the Department after observing all the codal formalities, has taken

up works in Reasi, and Samba districts which will be completed by 31st March, 2021. Completion of 1st phase of the mission will benefit 2,32,431 households in 1,087 Gram Panchayats across 99 blocks by providing them with functional household tap connections. Consecutively, the Department will also be taking up works in the districts of Poonch, Shopian, Pulwama, and Bandipora (phase II) which will be completed by August 2021.

Further, the Department has identified 1533 projects worth Rs 3760 crore which require retrofitting of water supply schemes. As such, efforts are underway

to utilize the existing skill sets of departmental experts to achieve faster execution under these projects through fast-tracked e-tendering, 3rd party monitoring and concurrent auditing.

The Administrative Council was also informed that to fast track execution of projects in the remaining 12 districts under phase II and III, the Department is appointing ‘Project Development and Management Consultant’ (PDMC), one each for Kashmir and Jammu province, which will supervise project execution, contract & project management, and bill verification; after creating a mechanism

for checks and balances at every stage of execution through Paani Samitis and experts/professionals as prescribed in the JJM guidelines.

Phase II will provide universal drinking water connections to 9 districts of Bandipora, Doda, Jammu, Kulgam, Kupwara, Poonch, Pulwama, Shopian, and Udhampur, whereas, phase III will cover 7 districts of Anantnag, Budgam, Baramulla, Kathua, Kishtwar, Ramban, and Rajouri.

The Jal Jeevan Mission will be completed in Jammu and Kashmir by December, 2022 ahead of 2024 timeline provided by the Government of India.

Need to preserve our culture, recognize the talent: Dr Sehrish
Releases “Kashmir Main Tarjumay ki Tareekh”

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 6: The Cultural Wing of Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR), Kashmir, today organized a cultural programme highlighting the importance of ‘Back to Village’ phase III here.

Director Information and Public Relations, Dr Syed Sehrish Asgar, while speaking on the occasion said that B2V3 is getting huge response from the people who are thronging the events with all enthusiasm.

“People have become quite aware of the government’s developmental efforts through its Back to Village programme and they are taking advantage of it,” she maintained.

Dr Sehrish, who was the chief guest on the occasion, stressed on the

need to organize cultural events on regular basis to keep it alive for the posterity. “Our composite culture and traditions are globally known and recognized and we need to preserve and conserve it with all our heart. Such cultural events aptly highlights our cultural heritage and traditional legacy,” she said.

Dr Sehrish said that the department couldn’t perform various planned events and activities due to COVID 19, however, said DIPR is playing a vital role in reviving cultural activities that have remained dormant due to the global crisis. She assured that more such cultural events would be organised in days to come.

She also highlighted the works of the artists of

the Valley saying that we have good talent and we need to hone these skills further.

Meanwhile, Dr Sehrish launched a book “Kashmir Main Tarjumay ki Tareekh” written by Jan Muhammad Azad.

Cultural activities including Kashmiri Mushaira, besides ghazals were presented during the function.

A galaxy of prominent and budding poets participated in the Mushaira who presented poetic verses touching all aspects of society enthralled the audience.

Joint Director, Information Kashmir, Haris Ahmad Handoo, Deputy Director Central Subash Dogra, Information Officers, other officials of DIPR and artists were present on the occasion.

District-wise quota under Credit Card scheme for artisans, weavers allotted

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 06 – Following the notification of new Credit Card Scheme for Artisans and Weavers by the Government, the Department of Handicrafts and Handloom, Kashmir, has allocated district-wise quota for sponsoring cases of prospective beneficiaries to the financial institutions in each district of Kashmir Division during the current financial year.

The district-wise allocation is based on existing craft-concentration centres in each district and the availability of practicing artisans and weavers. All artisans and weavers who are duly registered with the Handicrafts and Handloom Department and are involved in production and manufacturing processes shall be eligible for credit facility under the scheme.

The loans shall provide much-needed financial support and credit facility to artisans and weavers to ensure business continuity in the times of Covid-19 pandemic.

As per the orders issued by the Handicrafts & Handloom Department, Kashmir, a target of 500 artisans and 150 weavers has been fixed for Srinagar, 300 and 50 for Ganderbal and 600 and 150 for Budgam district in Central Kashmir. Similarly, in north Kashmir, a target of 300 artisans and 100 weavers has been fixed for Bandipora, 250 and 125 for Baramulla and 100 and 25 for Kupwara district. In south Kashmir, 400 artisans and 50 weaver beneficiaries in Anantnag shall be sponsored to financial institutions, 200 and 30 in Pulwama, 50 and 10 in Shopian and 100 and 10 in Kulgam district respectively.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Division (MED) Baramulla
Tele fax 01952234426 e-mail ID: executiveengineermdb@gmail.com
Short Term Tender Notice Inviting e-Tenders

No. MDB/e-Tender/2020-21/95 Date: -30-09-2020.
For and on behalf of the L&G J&K U.T, e-tenders in two (02) cover system are invited on item rate basis from the Original Equipment Manufacturers / Authorized dealers, registered and experienced firms, for the following work:

S. No	Description	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of Document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of Completion
1.	Manufacturing, Providing, Fitting and Testing of Heavy Duty Non Skid Chains for XIGMA make XG953 H Model and JCB LOADER 455ZX Model having tyre size 23.5-25 16 PR deployed at Snow clearance control room Dawer Gurez. Make: Las Zirh (Turkey) / Pewag / Thiele / Rud.	04.80	200.00	9600.00	25 days

The Bids consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of Materials (BOM), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be viewed/ downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the schedule given below:

01.	Contract	Manufacturing, Providing, Fitting and Testing of Heavy Duty Non Skid Chains for XIGMA make XG953 H Model and JCB LOADER 455ZX Model having tyre size 23.5-25 16 PR deployed at Snow clearance control room Dawer Gurez. Make: Las Zirh (Turkey) / Pewag / Thiele / Rud.
02.	Reference to NIT	NIT No. MDB/TS/e-tender/2020-21/95; Dated: -30-09-2020. Issued under Endorsement No MDB/TS/e-tender/2072-77 Dated: -30-09-2020
03.	Time of Completion of Contract	25 days
04.	Position of funds	Awaited
05.	Estimated Cost	Rs. 04.80 Lacs
06.	Cost of Tender Documents	Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five hundred only) in shape of e-challan / e-receipt pledged to Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla to be uploaded in the online bid. Bank: J&K Bank. Branch: T.P Baramulla. IFSC Code: JAKA0TESHIL Account No.: 021301020000051.
07.	Earnest Money	Rs. 1120.00 (Rupees Eleven thousand twenty only) in the shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.
08.	Online tender download / Start Date	03-10-2020 (06:00 PM)
09.	Online tender Submission End Date	12-10-2020 (06:55 PM)
10.	Submission of Hard copy (Successful bidder L1 only)	(Duly signed tender document and original EMD) To be Submitted only by the lowest bidder after opening of the financial bids.
11.	Date and time of opening of Technical Bid (online) (Cover 1 st)	13-10-2020 at 12:00 PM in office of Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.
12.	Date and time of opening of Financial Bid (online) (Cover 2 nd)	Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.
13.	Tender opening Authority	Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla.

Instructions to Bidders:
The Bids shall be uploaded in electronic format with digital Signature on the official website www.jktenders.gov.in in two covers.
1. Cover-I shall contain:-
Scanned copies of the Annexure "A" duly accepted / signed.
Scanned copies of valid GSTIN certificate.
Scanned copies of the Annexure "A" & "B" duly accepted/signed.
2. Cover-II shall contain:-
Price bid, as per BOQ uploaded by this department.
Any change in the BOQ is unacceptable. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
03. The department will not be responsible for delay in submission of bids due to any reasons.
04. The cost of tender documents is non-refundable and non-transferable.
No. MDB/TS/e-Tendering/2072-77
Date: -30-09-2020

DIPK-6868/20 Executive Engineer Mechanical Division Baramulla

DIAL-EMMA



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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
19 Safar
1442

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 06
ZUHR	12: 19
ASR	4: 29
Magrib	6: 12
ISHA	7: 31

This Day In History

- 1929 - Ramsay MacDonald is first British Prime Minister to address US Congress
- 1940 - World War II: the McCollum memo proposes bringing the U.S. into the war in Europe by provoking the Japanese to attack the United States.
- 1941 - German army occupies Viarna, USSR
- 1942 - US & UK government announce establishment of United Nations
- 1954 - Hassan el Hodeiby, leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, arrested in Egypt.
- 1971 - Northern Ireland Prime Minister Brian Faulkner meets with British Prime Minister Edward Heath; they agree to send an additional 1,500 British Army troops to Northern Ireland.
- Event of interest: Event of Interest
- 1976 - Hua Guofeng succeeds Mao as Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China
- 1977 - USSR adoption of the Fourth Soviet Constitution.
- 1981 - Hosni Mubarak becomes acting-president of Egypt
- 1986 - First edition of new British newspaper "Independent" published
- 1988 - Latvian flag raised in Riga for first time since annexation by USSR
- 1990 - Israel begins handing out gas masks to its citizens
- 1993 - Nobel prize for literature awarded to American Toni Morrison
- 1994 - China performs nuclear test at Lop Nor, PRC
- 1994 - Faud Guliyev appointed premier of Azerbaijan
- 1994 - Ingvar Carlsson forms Swedish government
- 2001 - The U.S. invasion of Afghanistan starts with an air assault and covert operations on the ground
- 2001 - Crude oil resumes flowing through the trans-Alaska pipeline after workers welded shut a bullet hole that caused 260,000 US gallons of oil to spill out.
- 2009 - A digital version of psychiatrist Carl Gustav Jung's 'Red Book' is published 48 years after his death and contains personal notes on his subconscious during the period in which he developed his principal theories.
- 2012 - 13 people are killed after a Sudanese military aeroplane crashes near Khartoum
- 2013 - Mulatu Teshome becomes president of Ethiopia
- 2013 - Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their work on transport systems in cells
- 2014 - Isamu Akasaki, Hiroshi Amano and Shuji Nakamura win the 2014 Nobel Prize in Physics for inventing blue light emitting diodes
- 2015 - US President Barack Obama apologises to Doctors without Borders President and the President of Afghanistan for the bombing of a hospital in Kunduz
- 2015 - Nobel prize in Chemistry awarded to Tomas Lindahl (Sweden), Paul Modrich (US) and Aziz Sancar (Turkey) for work on cells DNA repair
- 2016 - Colombia's President Juan Manuel Santos wins the Nobel Peace Prize for attempts to end conflict with FARC

From KO Archives

70-yr-old sets himself ablaze

Observer News Service

Srinagar- Overcome by his daughter's defiance, a 70-yr-old set himself and his house ablaze in Sopore village today. Muhammad Aabid Malla later succumbed to burn injuries.

Reports said that Sabir's daughter had opposed the match he had arranged for her. Unable to bear this rebel-lion, Sabir drenched himself and his two story home with petrol, climbed atop the building and set himself alight. The village Sopar Naghama some 7 kilometres from Handwara watched aghast as flames engulfed the man and his dwell-ing. Fire tenders rushed from Dangiwaicha prevented the blaze from spreading to the ground floor. Sabir who had sustained extensive burns passed away soon after.

Meanwhile there were reports of two youth and women trying to put an end to their lives in different parts of the Valley. Tired of his life Shiraz Ahmad Lone of Sahnora Pattan attempted suicide but was rushed to the hospital, where he is reported to be in a serious condition.

Saleema w/o Muhammad Shaban Bhat of Baran Pattan was rushed to hospital after she consumed some poisonous substance in a bid to put an end to her life. Doctors saved her life. (Kashmir Observer, October 07,2000)

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
R&B ELECTRIC DIVISION SGR
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS
NIT No: 49/e-tendering of 2020-21/R&B DATED: - 03.10.2020

For and on behalf of the LT Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Electrical Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Rs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs)	E/M (In Rs)	Time	T&D of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1. Providing of power supply to Lighting fixtures etc by way of Supply and installation of 100 KVA Distribution Transformer with allied accessories at Nil Nag Chadoora.	7.00 lacs	300	14000/-	15 days	14.10.2020	"A" Electrical

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	05-10-2020
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	06/10/2020 10.00 P.M to 13/10/2020 4.00 P.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	06/10/2020 from 10.00 P.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	13/10/2020 up to 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	14/10/2020 at 6.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Srinagar

1. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-
2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of E-Challan in favor of Executive Engineer (R&B) Electric Division Srinagar. (Tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR / FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Srinagar. (Tender receiving authority).
3. Bidder must read term/condition in tender document carefully.
AAA/ Accorded
Position of funds :- available
Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
(R&B) Electric Division
Srinagar

No. 49/e-tendering/ERB/1874-81
DIPK-6903/20

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

NOTICE

In continuation to the notification issued vide no. IUST/Acad/20/577 dated: 03-10-2020, all the candidates who have applied only for B.Sc. Nursing programme of IUST in response to the Admission Notification No. 1 Dated: 21.08.2020 are advised to submit the bank details online by clicking on the tab (update bank details) in admission portal available on University website www.islamicuniversity.edu.in from 8th to 15th October, 2020 for refund of the application fee.

Pertinent to mention that admission to B.Sc. Nursing programme of IUST shall be made through Common Entrance Test to be conducted by the Board of Professional Entrance Exams (BOPEE). Interested candidates can apply on BOPEE website before 08-10-2020.
No. IUST/Acad/admissions/20/583
Dated: 06-10-2020

Sd/-
Deputy Registrar Academics

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Troubled LoC

On Monday, a junior commissioned officer of the army was killed in heavy shelling by Pakistani troops along the Line of Control in Rajouri district. This was the fourth casualty in ceasefire violations in the past five days. Pakistani troops, according to the defence spokesman, opened fire and shelled mortars in forward areas in two sectors along the LoC in the twin districts of Rajouri and Poonch.

There has been a huge surge in ceasefire violations this year. According to data from the Ministry of Home Affairs, until July 2020 J&K has witnessed 2,952 ceasefire violations that has left 15 civilians and eight security forces personnel dead on this side. Pakistan, on the other hand, has blamed ceasefire violations on New Delhi. According to Pakistani foreign office data, the Indian side has committed 2,225 ceasefire violations this year, in which 18 people have died and at least 176 civilians have been injured.

Alongside the ongoing tension along the Line of Actual Control in Ladakh, a edgy LoC has made things very uncertain in the region. There's already talk of India having to face a two-front war with Pakistan also opening a separate front should hostilities break out between India and China. And the continuing violence along the LoC and the consequent killings of civilians and security personnel has the potential to lead to a serious escalation.

This is why there's an urgent need for a dialogue to address the current bitterness in relations with either or both the countries. The ongoing talks with China at the military and diplomatic level have so far borne little fruit. The stand-off at Ladakh continues so do the skirmishes along the LoC.

As far as China, there's hope when Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping will face each other virtually for the first time since the Galwan Valley incident during the BRICS Summit to be held on November 17. The two leaders who in the past have shared a close bond may arrive at an agreement to resolve the stand-off in Ladakh.

But for a real peace in the region, it is important that India and Pakistan talk. The relations between the neighbours have plunged to their lowest low following New Delhi's decision to revoke Article 370 of the constitution that granted J&K its autonomous status under India's constitution. So it has become difficult to resume the talks. But they can take place if the leaders of the two countries act statesmanly. This is critical for the regional peace that India and Pakistan talk and they should.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Game begins, again

History is beginning to repeat itself in Pakistan. Late last month, several Opposition parties, including the Pakistan People's Party and the Pakistan Muslim League (N), came together in Islamabad in an "all parties conference" pledging to remove the Imran Khan government via a "mass movement". But the real target, at least as articulated by PML(N) leader Nawaz Sharif in strong words as "a state above the state", was the military. A 26-point resolution adopted by the Pakistan Democratic Movement called on the "establishment", short-hand for the military, to stop meddling in politics and described the present government as "selected" by the military. The PDM has announced a plan of action for the coming months, including rallies — the first of these is set to take place in Quetta, the capital of Balochistan — that will culminate in a "long march" in January.

There is an undeniable churn in Pakistan once again, and the government of Imran Khan, whose symbiotic relationship with the Pakistan Army has been well advertised by no less than the prime minister himself, will have its hands full. This is not the first time in Pakistan's history that political parties are joining hands to remove an elected or selected government or a military ruler. This time, the protests are targeted against an openly hybrid civilian-military regime, for which the initial popular enthusiasm has begun to wear off. The PDM's choice of leader has been counter-intuitive, but perhaps it sidesteps the trickier choice between PPP leader Asif Ali Zardari and Nawaz Sharif, or their political heirs, Bilawal Bhutto Zardari and Mariam Nawaz. And while Maulana FazlurRehman leads an Islamist right-wing party inherited from his father, and has supported the Afghan jihad, and made deals with the military, he has also worked with the PPP and PML(N) in the past. Additionally, he would bring to the table his own credibility in religious conservative Pakistan, thus pre-empting the usual accusation against such alliances in the past, that they play to an American, Israeli or Indian script.

Last year, FazlurRehman led his own long march to the capital demanding that Imran Khan resign, and among the grounds he gave for this demand was that the government had been too soft on India over Kashmir, and opened the gates in Kartarpur Sahib. He will lead the rally in Quetta, where he has a large following among the Baloch Pashtun. Where this latest iteration of the "movement for democracy" is headed will be revealed as the game unfolds.

The Indian Express

Provincial Status to Gilgit-Baltistan

Why is the Pro- Azadi
Camp Silent?

Three years ago, when there was a talk that Islamabad was considering making Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) its fifth province, All Parties Hurriyat Conference vociferously condemned this move because of the extremely negative consequences it would have on the 'self-determination' movement.

In its joint statement of March 17, 2017, APHC made it clear to Islamabad that "Political destiny of Jammu and Kashmir is yet to be decided and any proposal to declare GB as the fifth province of Pakistan is unacceptable" and "Any such move tantamount to changing the disputed nature of Kashmir." It also warned Islamabad that "... any deviation in its stance about Kashmir and its geographical entity is improper and will prove detrimental for Kashmir cause." Besides the joint statement, senior APHC leaders also went on record to publicly express their personal concerns on this issue.

Jammu and Kashmir Democratic Freedom Party (JKDFP) president Shabbir Ahmed Shah disapproved of this move on the grounds that "it will have an adverse impact on the entire Kashmir dispute", and because "This will also give India a chance to make a stronger claim for this side of Kashmir and also weaken our case at the UN." He further maintained that "the merger of Gilgit-Baltistan will also have a significant implication on the demand for implementation of the United Nations resolutions which call for referendum in the state as it existed prior to the division in 1947."

In his letter to the then Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF) chairman Muhammad Yasin Malik mentioned that "If Pakistan imposes its sovereign writ over GB, India will then have a political and moral right to integrate Kashmir with it," adding that "With one stroke, Pakistan will be helping India to consolidate its writ on Kashmir". In his reply, Sharif told Malik that news of GB being made a province of Pakistan was due to "misperceptions and misinterpretation" and went on to say that "I would like to make it unambiguously clear that Pakistan is fully aware of the sensitivities attached to Gilgit Baltistan with regard to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute."

Even UJC chief and Hizbul Mujahideen supreme Syed Salahuddin who prefers not to talk on political issues lashed out at Islamabad, pointing out that "Such a step would impact the Kashmir dispute at the United Nations and give India a legal and moral pretext to lay claim on Kashmir". Noting that "Such an act on part of Pakistan will have serious ramifications on Kashmir issue as well as Kashmir centric UN resolutions (as) Pakistan's move will give India justification in taking over parts of Kashmir", the UJC chief suggested that "Instead of making Gilgit-Baltistan a province, the problems of the people there should be addressed on priority basis and corruption free administration should

be given to people there."

In his written reply to the JKLF chief, Sharif also reaffirmed Islamabad's traditional stand on Kashmir by saying, "I would like to assure you that Pakistan will never compromise on its principled stance on the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, which is based on the UN Security Council resolutions." And the very fact that the GB integration proposal fizzled out proves that Islamabad realised that the views being expressed by APHC and UJC chief regarding the irreversible damage this decision would cause to the 'self-determination' movement were hard facts that couldn't be overlooked.

This is why Islamabad's recent

"disastrous consequences" of granting GB provincial province status; firstly, it represents "a major shift" in Pakistan's Kashmir policy and secondly, by going ahead with this proposal, "Pakistan risks not only weakening its position and losing moral high ground but also demoralising Kashmiri people." The third and most serious fallout is that "This unfortunate and unwise move is particularly more detrimental in the context of India's 5 August 2019 aggression" as Islamabad will no longer be able to term this move "illegal."

There's a lot of weight in Gilani's view that by granting provincial province status to GB, "Pakistan



decision to revive the GB merger doesn't make any sense at all. When this issue was being discussed in 2017, former Vice Chancellor of the Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST), Kashmir and senior fellow at Center for Research and Policy Dr Siddiq Wahid had mentioned that making GB a province of Pakistan would only "further complicate the conflicted dispute," which he had rightly pointed out "is already wracked by, among other things, legal ambiguities."

Dr Wahid also raised two very important questions- one, "Can Islamabad act unilaterally over a region whose sovereignty is disputed?" And two, "If so, does this allow New Delhi to act unilaterally on issues concerning its half of the erstwhile ceasefire line that is now called the Line of Control?" He rightly summarised that "These questions, in effect, translate into creating yet another layer in the political debris of this complex conundrum."

What's surprising this time is that unlike 2017 when both the APHC and UJC leadership unanimously spoke up against the GB merger issue, the current announcement has evoked an unbelievably poor response. This makes one wonder as to what has changed so much in the last three years that GB's merger with Pakistan will not have an adverse impact on the self-determination movement? While Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Yasin Malik, Shabir Shah and other separatist leaders appear to have gone into hibernation, former APHC leader Syed Ali Geelani is the only voice that's spoken out against this move.

Geelani sahib's special representative Sayyid Abdullah Gilani has in a statement brought out three

is handing India a baton to beat it with," as "India would welcome this opportunity as a blessing in disguise and use it to justify its 5 August 2019 decision of revoking Kashmir's special status and its merger." As it is, Pakistan has already weakened its own stand that Kashmir is "disputed territory" ever since it ceded a portion of GB to China and this is why the UN and international community aren't taking Islamabad's repeated complaints calling New Delhi's August 5, 2019 move "illegal" seriously.

The saddest part is that even though Islamabad knows that its decision to grant provincial province to GB would harm the movement for self-determination, it's still going ahead with this proposal. Is it moving ahead just to please its "all weather friend" Beijing which doesn't want its ambitious CPEC project run into legal hurdles on account of it running through "disputed territory". Once GB becomes a province of Pakistan, Beijing has nothing to worry about and so its insistence that Islamabad goes ahead with this plan despite its negative fallout on the 'K' issue.

Thus, while Islamabad may keep talking about Kashmir being "disputed territory" and on its 'right to self-determination', but the reality is that the decision to make GB its province will legitimise New Delhi's August 5, 2019 action in J&K and so this move will have far reaching consequences for Kashmir's 'self-determination' movement. The silence of APHC leaders reflects complete absence of independent thinking.

Author is a New Delhi based Kashmir analyst and can be reached at: niloofar.queshi@yahoo.com



OBSERVER
MAIL

All letters intended for publication must include the writer's name and address, even if a pseudonym is used. Letters are edited as clarity, space and accuracy of expression require. Our publishing a letter does not mean we agree with everything or even anything in it. -EDITOR

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O.Box # 337, GP0, Srinagar-190 001
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Alert Today, Alive Tomorrow

Road accidents are very common these days. In fact, road accidents are one of the twelve most common causes of deaths in India, the ninth most common causes of premature deaths and 10th most common reason for disability according to the 2017 WHO Global Health estimates.

If we take into account Jammu and Kashmir, in particular, traffic discrepancies have been a major cause of death, injury and damage to property every year. In 2018 over speeding of vehicles was the main reason for road accident casualties here.

As per data available regarding the road mishaps which took place in parts of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir in the month of September, an accident occurred every day or every alternate day in the last month.

For over a decade, the government has made tall claims to prevent such incidents. However, the government's announcements have been confined to papers only. In April 2012, a committee headed by M Y Tarigami submitted a report to the government. It had come up with a slew of recommendations for the transport, traffic, R&B, and other departments

for curbing growing road accidents. It had found an increase in the number of vehicles, narrow and faulty roads, negligent driving, and ageing vehicles among the reasons for growing accidents in J&K.

The government, in 2015, had set up a 'Lead Agency' to act as the nodal agency to coordinate all activities relating to the road safety in J&K. However, nothing has been done in this regard so far. Similarly, the government has also failed to set up trauma centres along the highway.

Enforcement of traffic regulations and awareness regarding road safety

measures is essential for preventing road accidents. Awareness programmes should be organised with the active involvement of youth so that they can sensitise their parents and friends regarding road safety measures and regulations which can help in improving the traffic management system of J&K. In order to reduce fatalities and deaths, effective post-crash response shall be of a greater help as such creating a network of Trauma Health care facilities on National and State highways.

Amir Altaf
aamiraltaf16@gmail.com

Students of Grief and Grit

As students in Kashmir take exams amidst a pandemic, one can't help but compare this new challenge and connect it with the trajectories of grief and grit that encapsulates the essence of being a student in Kashmir

AHYMON AYOUB

“In our world of permanent siege, where we carry survivor's guilt as our identity badges, the sight of these children writing their papers appeared liberating. I couldn't help but see it as an act of resilience.

Breaths rising from my muffled mouth settled as fog on my glasses as I walked in through the corridor; the foul odour of isopropyl thickening with each step I took inwards. The familiar, huge white walls of the school peppered with paintings and artefacts hand-made by students contrasted against the luminous black freshly-mopped floor still reeking of an anti-bacterial. The vacuity of this colossal structure caused by the year-long absence of the students and teachers was expecting a little compensation – students. Although just to take their one-day entrance exams. The school, albeit in a different way, was set to host children again.

As I was getting my gloved hands sprayed with another layer of sanitizer in the hallway, the uneasy surroundings quietly let the water of memories loose; the nostalgia of last fun days at my high school shortened by what news channels preferred to call 'unrest', almost superimposed the present.

Seating arrangements for the students were in compliance with the distancing norms. A handful of students who were to come in, took half of the day to trickle in, given the timing differences to avoid junction. Fatigue and anxiety of being a student in Kashmir decorated their eyes as they twiddled their admit cards and drew imaginary graphs on the desks.

My own bygone situation appeared more bearable now, in the face of their tangle of tribulations of competing in a national-level exam on unreliable bandwidth; the load of lockdowns since last year, the pandemic crises and the DNA of uncertainty that leeches us on a regular basis.

Evaluating, I calculated that



“Although suffering had changed in form across generations, it unified all of us. Our measurement of time is in terms of pain.

in my time, my dependence on the internet had been only close to a naught, and I didn't have to go through consecutive years of lockdown. I had only witnessed intermittent hartals and occasional crack-downs and spent evenings telling cracker bursting from firing shots.

Secretly, however, I wanted to achieve a higher position on the pedestal of sufferings while drawing parallels between two strangled epochs. Sufferings are our achievement, after all. Nevertheless, I chose to balance my opinion — “it is all the same”, I thought. Although suffering

had changed in form across generations, it unified all of us. Our measurement of time is in terms of pain.

Talking of time, the clock was ticking close to the exam timings and I was handed a basket with a sealed packet of question papers and OMR sheets, some envelopes, a spritz sanitizer, a dozen of masks and some stationery. The students rubbed their hands together and said small prayers under their breath as I was breaking open the brown parcel. I wished them well after distributing the sheets.

As they started writing their papers, I again time-travelled in reverse to the days when I took my postponed board exams for the first time. Little did I know then that 'unrests' were going to strike throughout all the forthcoming academic

calendars.

In our world of permanent siege, where we carry survivor's guilt as our identity badges, the sight of these children writing their papers appeared liberating. I couldn't help but see it as an act of resilience.

I shifted my focus outward, to the cooing of free birds beautifying the fall. In some uncalled ecstasy, I rose up and screeched the dried-up black marker on the white board with a “Best of Luck”.

The author has completed a Masters in Sociology from University of Kashmir and is a freelance researcher interested in topics related to Islam and Women

Coping in Coronavirus Pandemic

NICK HASLAM

The pandemic has posed unprecedented challenges. Many of us have lost work, gained carer responsibilities and grappled with social isolation. Experts have warned of a looming wave of mental illness as a result.

Research suggests they're largely correct. Surveys point to rates of depression, anxiety and suicidal thinking substantially higher than in previous years.

But over time, people have changed how they have responded to the threat of COVID-19. Google searches have shifted from the harm of the pandemic itself to ways of dealing with it, such as exercising and learning new skills.

This pivot points to a new focus on coping with COVID-19.

Many ways of coping

Coping is the process of responding effectively to problems and challenges. To cope well is to respond to the threat in ways that minimise its damaging impact.

Coping can involve many different strategies and it's likely you have your own preferred ones. These strategies can be classified in many ways, but a key distinction is between problem-focused and emotion-focused strategies.

What's the difference?

Problem-focused coping involves actively engaging with the outside world. This might mean making action plans, seeking further information about a threat, or confronting an adversary.

Emotion-focused coping, in contrast, is directed inward, attempting to change how we respond emotionally to stressful events and conditions, rather than to change them at their source.

Effective emotion-focused strategies include

“We should be able to assess how well we are coping with the pandemic by judging how we're going compared to our previous normal



meditation, humour and reappraising difficulties to find benefits.

Less effective emotion-focused strategies include seeking distractions, denial and substance use. Although these tactics may stave off distress in the short term, they neither address its causes nor prevent its longer term effects.

Which is best?

Neither of these coping strategies is intrinsically more or less effective than the other. Both can be effective for different kinds of challenges.

Problem-focused strategies are said to work best when we can control the problem.

However, when we face an immovable challenge, it can be better to adjust our response to it using emotion-focused strategies, rather than battling fruitlessly against it.

Coping strategies during the pandemic Physical activity and experiencing nature can offer some protection from depression during the pandemic. One study even points to the benefits of birdwatching.

But there's more evidence around coping strategies to avoid. Rising levels of substance use during the pandemic are associated with greater distress.

Eating too many snacks and accessing too much

ering a few things.

Your coping is relative to your challenge

The pandemic may be shared, but its impacts have been unequal.

If you live alone, are a caregiver or have lost work, the pandemic has been a larger threat for you than for many others. If you've suffered more distress than others, or more than you did last year, it doesn't mean you have coped less well — you may have just had more to cope with.

Negative emotions can be appropriate

Experiencing some anxiety in the face of a threat like COVID-19 is justified. Experiencing sadness at separation from loved ones under lockdown is also inevitable. Suffering does not mean maladjustment.

In fact, unpleasant emotions draw our attention to problems and motivate us to tackle them, rather than just being signs of mental fragility or not coping.

We should, of course, be vigilant for serious problems, such as thoughts of self-harm, but we should also avoid pathologising ordinary distress. Not all distress is a symptom of a mental health problem.

Coping isn't just about emotions anyway

Coping isn't all about how we feel. It's also about action and finding a sense of meaning and purpose in life, despite our distress. Perhaps if we've sustained our relationships and done our jobs passably during the pandemic, we have coped well enough, even if we have sometimes been miserable.

“The pandemic may be shared, but its impacts have been unequal. If you live alone, are a caregiver or have lost work, the pandemic has been a larger threat for you than for many others.

COVID-related media have also been linked to higher levels of stress and depression. So these should be consumed in moderation.

How can I tell if I'm not coping well?

We should be able to assess how well we are coping with the pandemic by judging how we're going compared to our previous normal.

Think of yourself this time last year. Are you sleeping poorly or experiencing fewer positive emotions and more negative emotions now?

If the answer to any of these questions is “yes”, then compared to your previous normal, your coping may not been as good as it could be. But before you judge your coping critically, it's worth consid-

Coping with COVID-19 has been an uneven contest

Social distancing and lockdowns have left us with a reduced coping repertoire. Seeking emotional and practical support from others, also known as “social coping”, is made more difficult by pandemic restrictions. Without our usual supports, many of us have had to cope with one arm tied behind our backs.

So remember to cut yourself some slack. For most people, the pandemic has been a unique challenge. When judging how well we've coped we should practise self-compassion. Let's not make things worse by criticising ourselves for failing to cope better.

*In an arrangement with
The Conversation*

Social Media Abuse Drives Girls Off Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat: Global Study

Agencies

Online abuse is driving girls to quit social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, with nearly 60% experiencing harassment, a global study showed on Sunday. One in five girls and young women has abandoned or cut down on using a social media platform after being targeted, with some saying harassment started when they were as young as eight, the survey by girls' rights group Plan International showed. "Girls are being silenced by a toxic level of harassment," said the organisation's chief executive, Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen.

Attacks were most common on Facebook, where 39% of girls polled said they had been harassed, followed by Instagram (23%), WhatsApp (14%), Snapchat (10%), Twitter (9%) and TikTok (6%). The charity, which will share the report with social media companies and lawmakers around the world, said the abuse was suppressing girls' voices at a time when the COVID-19 pandemic was increasing the importance of communicating online.

It called on social media companies to take urgent action to address the issue and urged governments to pass laws to deal with online harassment. The study found reporting tools were ineffective in stopping the abuse, which included explicit messages, pornographic photos and cyberstalking. Nearly half of girls targeted had been threatened with physical or sexual violence, according to the poll. Many said the abuse took a mental toll, and a quarter felt physically unsafe.

"It is time for this to stop. Girls should not have to put up with behaviour online which would be criminal on the streets," the report said. Facebook and Instagram said they used artificial intelligence to look for bullying content, constantly monitored users' reports of abuse and always removed rape threats. "Keeping women safe on our apps is critical and we invest heavily in keeping abuse off our platforms," said Cindy Southworth, head of women's safety at Facebook.

She said Facebook was working with Plan International to better understand how it can support young women around the world. Twitter said it also used technology to catch abusive content and has launched tools to improve users' control over their conversations. The survey polled 14,000 girls and young women aged 15 to 25 in 22 countries including Brazil, India, Nigeria, Spain, Thailand and the United States. Albrechtsen said activists, including those campaigning for gender equality and on LGBT+ issues, were often targeted particularly viciously, and their lives and families threatened.

"Driving girls out of online spaces is hugely disempowering in an increasingly digital world, and damages their ability to be seen, heard and become leaders," she added. In an open letter to Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Twitter, girls from around the world called on social media companies to create more effective ways to report abuse. "We use (your platforms) not just to connect with friends, but to lead and create change. But they are not safe for us. We get harassed and abused on them. Every. Single. Day," they wrote. "As this global pandemic moves our lives online, we are more at risk than ever." Plan International also urged the companies to do more to hold to account those behind such abuse, and to collect data on the scale of the problem.



THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SGR. ATTENTION PLEASE

The Candidate whose Photograph is above reports that he/she lost his/her Date of Birth certificate/s having the following description:-

- 1.ROLL NO:-103208
- 2.Class :-10TH
- 3.Year and Session:-Oct.Nov (2010)
- 4.Registration No:-N09400110015
- 5.Name:-YASIR YOUSUF BHAT
- 6.Mothers Name:-SHAHNAZA AKHTER
- 7.Fathers Name:-MOHAMMAD YOUSUF BHAT
- 8.Date Of Birth:-01/01/1995
- 9.Residenc:-BONA DIALGAM ANANTNAG (KMR)

Now the Candidate has applied for issuance of DUPLICATE DITE OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE/S. Before the case will be processed under rules, if somebody have any kind of objection in this regard he/she shall approach the office of the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice after expiring date no objection shall be entertained. (Besides, the above losted "DITE OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE" is /are be besecated as (CANCELLED)

Sd/ Assistant Secretary Certificates,KD

MJA

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.2005/MVD/ANG Date:-06/10/020

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one Mr.Dilnaz Akhter W/O Gh Hassan Khan R/O Brinty Dialgam Owner of Vehicle No.JK03H-2304 for Hire Purchas Cancellation with JK Bank Khanabal Anantnag. Now it is therefore notified for General information that objection if any to the proposed cancellation / Endorsement of Hire Purchase Agreement shall be filled in writing in the Officer of ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the publication of this notice in Daily Kashmir Observer News Paper.

Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag

MJA

Covid-19 Infects Majority Of Bad Dreams: Study

Agencies

Scientists used artificial intelligence to help analyse the dream content of close to a thousand people and found that the novel coronavirus had infected more than half of the distressed dreams reported.

The study was published in the journal Frontiers in Psychology.

The researchers crowdsourced sleep and stress data from more than 4,000 people during the sixth week of the COVID-19 lockdown in Finland. About 800 respondents also contributed information about their dreams during that time - many of which revealed shared anxiety about the pandemic.

"We were thrilled to observe repeating dream content associations across individuals that reflected the apocalyptic ambience of COVID-19 lockdown," said lead author Dr Anu-Katriina Pesonen, head of the Sleep & Mind Research Group at the University of Helsinki.

"The results allowed us to speculate that dreaming in extreme circumstances reveals shared visual imagery and memory traces, and in this way, dreams can indicate some form of shared mindscape across individuals," added Pesonen.

"The idea of a shared imagery reflected in dreams is intriguing," she added.

Pesonen and her team transcribed the content of the dreams from Finnish into English word lists and fed the data into an AI algorithm, which scanned for frequently appearing word associations.

The computer built what the researchers called dream clusters from the "smaller dream particles" rather than entire dreams.

Eventually, 33 dream clusters or themes emerged. Twenty of the dream clusters were classified as bad dreams, and 55 per cent of those had pandemic-specific content.

Themes such as failures in social distancing, coronavirus contagion, personal protective equipment, dystopia, and apocalypse were rated as pandemic specific.

For example, word pairs in a dream cluster labelled "Disregard of Distancing" included mistake-hug, hug-handshake, handshake-restriction, handshake-distancing, distancing-disregard, distancing-crowd, crowd-restriction and crowd-party.

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Tasaduq Ali S/o: Ghulam Hassan Bhat R/o: Wahadatpora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04D 3541 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J & K Bank B/U Parnewa.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1582 Dated 06-10-2020

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

MCB

Public Notice

I have lost my Driving License bearing DL No: JK0120040038531 Somewhere. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/ her objection in the office of the RTO Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Ayoub Dar S/o Abdul Aziz Dar R/o Alamdar Colony Lal Bazar Srinagar

F.S.H

Office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer, Shopian

Whereas an application has been received from one Shri Mehmda Wani W/o Peerzada Mohd Shafi R/o Hergam Shopian Owner of the vehicle No JK 22 0011 for cancellation of Hire PURchase Agreement with M/S JK Bank HR Shopian Now it is therefore. Notified for general information that objectioins if any, to the proposed cancellatin of Hire Purchase Agreement shall be filled in writing in the office of Assistnat Regional Trasnpot Officer Shopian whthin ap period of seven (7) days fro the publication of this notice in the daily Kashmir Observer

No : ARTO/SPn/2020/2344 Dated 05-10-2020

S/D Asst Regional Transport Officer Shopian

TRS

FIRST SCHEDULE FORM N.D

{See rule 97(3) of the Jammu and Kashmir Motor Vehicle Rules, 1991}.

Form of Notice to be published in Newspaper by the Successor to the permit-holder. It is hereby informed for the knowledge of public that Shri Ali Mohd Wani owner of the motor Vehicle No. JK04A 8864 Covered by permit No. 447/CC/Bud has expired on 21-04-2009.

I Shri Gh Mohd Wani S/o Ab Rahim. Address Poshker Khag Budgam being the Successor to the possession of the above-mentioned vehicle/permit intend to use the permit and accordingly, I have applied to the appropriate authority / Regional Transport Officer / Regional Transport Authority for the transfer of permit in my name. Any person having any claim or objection in this regard, should within 15 days from the publication of this notice, bring such fact to the notice of Regional Transport Office/ Regional Transport Authority Budgham.

MCB

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Abdul Qayoom Wani S/o: Abdul Aziz Wani R/o: Ompora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E 9102 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J & K Bank B/U Ompora.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1585 Dated 06-10-2020

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

MCB

The Jammu And Kashmir Board Of School Education

NEW CAMPUS, BEMINA NOTIFICATION

Subject:-Acceptance of Registration Returns of Class 9th for the Academic Session 2018-19, through offline mode alongwith submission of Permission- cum-Admission Forms by the eligible candidates for appearing in the ensuing Secondary School (Class 10th) Annual/Regular,2020 Examination.

In order to safeguard the academic interests of the candidates, who could not submit the Registration Returns for the Academic session 2018-19, in view of the unprecedented circumstances, it is hereby notified for information and follow-up of all the concerned, that the eligible candidates of the Affiliated Academic Institutions of Kashmir Division including District Kargil, shall be allowed to submit the same as per the below indicated schedule:

S.No.	Description	Last date	Applicable fee
01.	Submission of Registration Returns (through offline mode) of left out students who were on-roll for the Academic Session 2018-19 in Class 9 th , including eligible candidate falling under the category of underage / eligibility/ Migration cases ,and are eligible to appear in the Secondary School (Class 10 th) Annual / Regular,2020 Examination	12 th October, 2020	Rs.1,000/- per candidate in addition to normal prescribed fee
02.	Submission of PCA Forms (offline) for Secondary School (Class 10 th) Annual/Regular,2020 Examination		Rs.840/- (for candidates with 5 subjects) Rs.1010/- (for candidates with 5+ subjects)

Besides, those Affiliated Academic Institutions in whose favour the facilities have been released late by the General Section shall also submit the Registration Returns and Examination Forms as per the above schedule. However, the late fee of Rs.1000/- shall not be applicable to them.

Note:

- The concerned candidates/ Institutions shall approach the respective District/Tehsil Offices of the BOSE for submission of the Registration Returns and Examination Forms, through offline mode within the above notified last date, after which no claim shall be accepted whatsoever.
- The Concerned District/ Tehsil Offices of the BOSE shall compulsorily transmit the same to the Registration Section, latest by 13th October,2020 till 03:00 P.M.

No:-F(JSE/R/PCA.)KD/20 Dated:- 5th October,2020

Joint Secretary Registration/Examinations Kashmir Division

Royal Springs Golf Course Cheshmashahi Srinagar

Fresh e-NIT No. 31 of 2020-21 Dated 05.10.2020

For and on behalf of Secretary Royal Springs Golf Course, Cheshmashahi, Srinagar e-tenders (In single cover system) invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible suppliers/dealers Regd. With UTI J&K for each of the following item/work,

S. No	Name of work	Est. cost (Rs in lacs).	Earnest money/ Bid Security (In Rs)	Cost of tender document (in Rs	Time of Completion	Class of contract	Major Head of Account
1.	Annual Maintenance Contract for AC Installed various locations at RSGC Srinagar	2.46 Lakhs	4920/= in Shape of CDR/FDR in favour of Turf Manager RSGC	250/= Non Refundable in shape of DD in favour of Secretary RSGC or Bank Challan SB-1234J J&K Bank Brain Branch Nishat Srinagar	Full Financial year	Suppliers/dealers	5452-Toursim

Position of Funds: Demanded
Special conditions :-

- In case the offered bid is below 60% of the advertised cost or more, such bid / bids will be out rightly rejected.
- In case more than one bidder have quoted equal bid amounts or bids are found to a "Tie" Ist lowest will from draw of lots.

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	05.10.2020 1:00 PM
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 05.10.2020 to 12.10.2020 (2.00PM)
3.	Bid submission Start Date	05.10.2020 4:00 PM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	12.10.2020 4:00 PM
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids(Online)	13.10.202011:30 AM in the office of Turf Manager RSGC Srinagar

General Conditions:

- The successful bidder shall submit original Demand Drafts/CDR and copies of Registration Certificate and PAN/GST No. in person within two days from the opening of the bids failing which proceeding as warranted under rules shall be initiated in the matter.
- The bidders will provide email ID and complete postal address including cell numbers.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Bids
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)
- Deductions of Taxes shall be made from the bills of contractors on gross amount of the bills as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery, as admissible under rules.
- Defect Liability period (DLP) shall be one year calculated from the date of completion of work, if after physical completion of work in all respects, any defect/imperfection in the work done by the contractor becomes apparent on account of bad workmanship or use of sub-standard materials or on any other account within a period of one year, the contractor shall make the same good, at his own expenses. If the Department deems it proper to restore the damages / defects through other agency, the expenses incurred therein shall be recovered from payment amount that may be due to contractor at any time or from the security deposit. The Security deposit of the contractor shall not be refunded before the expiry of (DLP).
- The CDRs in respect of unsuccessful & untendered bidders shall be released only after depositing of Demand Draft in original (cost of Tender Document) in the office of Turf Manager RSGC
- In case the IRREVOCABLE POWER OF ATTORNEY is executed by the successful contractor in favour of any other person or Bank, the same shall be entertained subject to acceptance by the competent authority.

DIPK-NB-2801/20

Turf Manager Royal Springs Golf Course Srinagar.

No:- RSGC/TM /2020-21/155-157 Dated:- 05.10.2020.

Coronavirus Can Spread Indoors In Air Beyond 6 Feet: Top US Health Body

Agencies

Washington: US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on Monday said COVID-19 can spread through virus lingering in the air, sometimes for hours, acknowledging concerns widely voiced by public health experts about airborne transmission of the virus.

The CDC guidance comes weeks after the agency published - and then took down - a similar warning, sparking debate over how the virus spreads.

In Monday's guidance, CDC said there was evidence that people with COVID-19 possibly infected others who were more than 6 feet away, within enclosed spaces with

the ground, which resulted in the six-foot social distancing rule. Aerosol droplets are much smaller still, and can remain suspended in the air, like smoke.

While CDC stresses close-contact transmission is more common than through air, a group of U.S. scientists warned in an unrelated open letter published in medical journal Science on Monday that aerosols lingering in the air could be a major source of COVID-19 transmission.

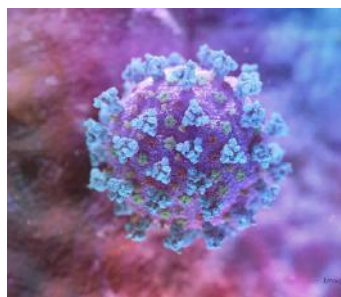
"The reality is airborne transmission is the main way that transmission happens at close range with prolonged contact," the researchers said in a press call.

Viruses in aerosols can remain in the air for seconds to hours, travel more than two meters and accumulate in poorly ventilated indoor air, leading to superspreading events, the researchers said.

Since individuals with COVID-19 release thousands of virus-laden aerosols and far fewer droplets while breathing and talking, the scientists said the focus must be on protecting against airborne transmission.

They also said that public health officials should clearly differentiate between droplets ejected by coughing or sneezing and aerosols that can carry the virus to greater distances.

Public health officials must highlight the importance of moving activities outdoors and improving indoor air, along with wearing mask and social distancing, the letter said.



poor ventilation.

Under such circumstances, CDC said scientists believe the amount of infectious smaller droplet and particles, or aerosols, produced by the people with COVID-19 become concentrated enough to spread the virus.

The CDC has long warned of transmission through small droplets that shoot through the air and generally fall to

Limited Umrah pilgrimage resumes after coronavirus hiatus

Agencies

Riyadh: Saudi authorities have partially resumed the year-round Umrah pilgrimage after a seven-month hiatus over the coronavirus pandemic, allowing a limited number of people to perform the rituals in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina with strict observance of health protocols.

The kingdom allowed citizens and residents to start performing Umrah as of October 4 at 30 percent capacity, or 6,000 pilgrims a day, and said the pilgrimage for Muslims from abroad would start on November 1.

The Saudi worshippers and pilgrims were seen on Sunday circling Islam's holiest site — the Kaaba at the Grand Mosque in Mecca — and visiting the Prophet's Mosque in Medina, with health precautions in place, including masks and social distancing.

Last week, the Saudi Hajj minister announced that the Umrah would be revived in three phases and the number could increase from 6,000 per day in the first stage to 60,000

in the last.

The minister underlined that in all the said phases each group of 20 or 25 pilgrims would be accompanied by a health worker, and medical teams would be on the ground in case of an emergency.

The Umrah, the pilgrimage that can be undertaken at any time, usually attracts millions of Muslim pilgrims and worshippers from across the world each year but it was suspended in March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Last year, Saudi Arabia hosted some 19 million Umrah pilgrims from countries around the globe.

The Saudi interior ministry said on Sunday that the decision to resume the pilgrimage was in response to the "aspirations of Muslims home and abroad" to perform the ritual and visit the holy sites.

"The Umrah would be allowed to return to full capacity once the threat of the pandemic has abated," the ministry added, stressing that until then, the health ministry would fully monitor countries from which pilgrims are allowed to enter.



White House Blocking Rules For Emergency Release Of Covid Vaccine: Report

Agencies

Washington: White House officials are blocking new federal guidelines for the emergency release of a coronavirus vaccine, including one that would likely ensure that no vaccine could be authorized before the November 3 presidential election, the New York Times reported on Monday.

The US Food and Drug Administration submitted the

guidelines to the Office of Management and Budget more than two weeks ago, but they stalled with White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, the Times reported, citing people familiar with the approval process.

An administration official told Reuters that the approval process was still pending and denied any Election Day connection.

The FDA is seeking other avenues to ensure that vac-

cines meet the guidelines, the Times reported.

"A main sticking point has been the recommendation that volunteers who have participated in vaccine clinical trials be followed for about two months after the final dose before any authorization is granted," the Times reported, citing a senior administration official and others familiar with the situation.

With Eye On China, Pompeo Meets 'Quad' Partners India, Japan, Australia

Agencies

Tokyo: US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on Tuesday visited Tokyo to meet with some of Washington's closest allies in Asia, Japan, Australia and India, to shore up support against what the United States says is China's dangerous and growing regional influence.

The visit, which was supposed to include trips to Mongolia and South Korea, was cut short after President Donald Trump was diagnosed with COVID-19. It is Pompeo's first trip to East Asia since July 2019 and comes as ties between the United States and strategic rival China are at their worst in decades.

The one-day visit includes a meeting of foreign ministers of the Quad grouping of nations: the United States, Australia, India and Japan.

While Washington has been looking to build support among Asian allies against Beijing, analysts have said China's neighbours want to avoid a direct confrontation because of economic ties.

Following a meeting between Pompeo and his Australian counterpart, Marise Payne, the US State Department said the two discussed worries about

China's regional "malign activity" - language likely to elicit a response from Beijing.

"The Secretary and the Foreign Minister also discussed their shared concerns regarding the People's Republic of China's malign activity in the region," a State Department official said in the statement.

However, Payne's statement did not even mention China.

"Whether it is individual human rights, market-based economies, countering disinformation or building greater resilience into our supply chains, our common values and interests mean we share a vision for a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific," she said on social media.

When Pompeo met Japan's foreign minister he said new Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga was a "force for good" and would strengthen the relationship between Washington and Tokyo. He was due to meet Suga later on Tuesday. China has denounced the Quad as an attempt to contain its development.

Regional Rival

The Quad meeting is unlikely to yield a specific action plan, although the gathering

itself may serve as a warning to China and play to its fears that the grouping might one day grow into a formalised structure like NATO, experts have said.

Washington and Beijing, the world's top two economies, are at loggerheads over a wide range of issues from Beijing's handling of the coronavirus to its imposition of a new security law in Hong Kong and ambitions in the South China Sea.

Most Asian allies have been pleased with Washington's toughness toward their regional rival China, but have not so eagerly welcomed Trump and Pompeo's highly charged recent rhetoric and remain wary of going too far in antagonising China.

Part of the problem for Washington's Asian allies is their dependence on China for trade. China was the top destination for Australian exports in 2019, the No.2 destination for Japanese exports and the No.3 destination for Indian exports, according to IMF direction of trade statistics compiled by Refinitiv.

Japan told the United States it would like to deepen cooperation in the field of cyber security, according to a statement from Tokyo's foreign ministry.

Saudi Prince Condemns Palestinians for 70 Years of 'Failures'

Agencies

JERUSALEM- Saudi Arabia's former intelligence chief and ambassador to the United States, Prince Bandar bin Sultan bin Abdulaziz, slammed the Palestinian leadership for criticizing the decision of some Gulf Arab states to normalise relations with Israel.

In an interview with Saudi-owned Al Arabiya television aired on Monday, the senior member of the House of Saud labeled the Palestinian authorities' criticism a "transgression" and "reprehensible discourse".

Palestinian leaders are "failures" who have consistently missed opportunities for a settlement with Israel and who are aligning themselves with the enemies of Saudi Arabia, Bandar said.

"This low level of discourse is not what we expect from officials who seek to gain global support for their cause. Their transgression against the Gulf States' leadership with this reprehensible discourse is entirely unacceptable," Bandar bin Sultan said.

Bandar served as the Saudi ambassador in Washington for over 30 years, as well as in several high-level intelligence

positions after his return to Riyadh. He led Saudi Arabia's security services from 2012 to 2014, also directing the Saudi National Security Council for over a decade.

In scathing statements



Bandar discussed the history of Saudi-Palestinian relations. He harshly criticized the Palestinian leadership for what he deemed to be repeated missed opportunities to reach an accord with Israel, and for taking Saudi aid while ignoring Saudi political counsel.

"There is something that successive Palestinian leadership historically share in common: They always bet on the losing side, and that comes at a price," Saudi prince said.

The UAE agreed a historic deal to normalise relations with Israel in August, and Bahrain followed suit in September.

Israel under Diplomatic Fire over Arms to Azerbaijan

Agencies

Baku: A major supplier of arms to Azerbaijan, Israel has come under diplomatic fire from Armenia over the struggle between the Caucasus neighbors in dis-

operated by Azerbaijani carrier Silk Way, took off from Ramon Airport, located near the Ovda military base, on the eve of the outbreak of hostilities.

Beyond this single example, Azerbaijan has a long track re-



puted Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenia only opened an embassy in Tel Aviv on September 17, but Yerevan recalled its ambassador barely two weeks later, citing weapons sales to Azerbaijan.

While Israel's president on Monday spoke with his Armenian counterpart and attempted to smooth the waters, the Jewish state's weapons exports to Baku will be difficult to give up.

The diplomatic rift came shortly after press reports, based on data from flight tracing site Flightradar 24, cited the takeoff of an Azerbaijani cargo plane from southern Israel.

The site said the aircraft,

cord of buying Israeli arms -- to the extent that Iran in 2012 summoned the former's ambassador to voice its concerns.

And while the Israeli defense ministry does not publish details of sales by country, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev in 2016 said his country had bought \$4.85 billion in defense equipment from the Jewish state (4.1 billion euros at current prices).

Israeli media say that Israel's Elbit Systems sold Azerbaijan armed drones -- weaponry which has shifted the military balance in the decades-old dispute in which Armenian fighters long held the advantage of manning mountain outposts.

NEWS MAKERS

Donald Trump is back at White House - without a mask

Bethesda: President Donald Trump staged a dramatic return to the White House Monday night after leaving the military hospital where he was receiving an unprecedented level of care for COVID-19. He immediately ignited a new controversy by declaring that despite his illness the nation should not fear the virus that has killed more than 210,000 Americans — and then he entered the White House without a protective mask.

Trump's message alarmed infectious disease experts and suggested the president's own illness had not caused him to rethink his often-cavalier attitude toward the disease, which has also infected the first lady and several White House aides, including new cases revealed Monday.

Landing at the White House on Marine One, Trump gingerly climbed the South Portico steps,



removed his mask and declared, "I feel good." He gave a double thumbs-up to the departing helicopter from the portico terrace, where aides had arranged American flags for the sunset occasion. He entered the White House, where aides were visible milling about the Blue Room, without wearing a face covering.

The president left Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, where his doctor, Navy Cmdr. Sean Conley, said earlier Monday that the president

remains contagious and would not be fully "out of the woods" for another week but that Trump had met or exceeded standards for discharge from the hospital. Trump is expected to continue his recovery at the White House, where the reach of the outbreak that has infected the highest levels of the U.S. government is still being uncovered.

Still, just a month before the election and anxious to project strength, Trump tweeted before leaving the hospital, "Will be back on the Campaign Trail soon!!!" And in case anyone missed his don't-worry message earlier, he rushed out a new video from the White House.

"Don't be afraid of it," Trump said of the virus. "You're going to beat it. We have the best medical equipment, we have the best medicines." His remarks were strong, but he was taking deeper breaths than usual as he delivered them.

This 28-Year-Old Just Became A Billionaire. Some Luck Was Involved

Thomas Healy was secretly arranging a deal to turn his Texas-based truck electrification startup into a publicly traded company when the coronavirus pandemic struck.

The crisis halted many transactions, but not the one between special-purpose acquisition vehicle Tortoise Acquisition Corp. and Hylilion Inc., which Healy founded in 2015.

The company created from the merger -- Hylilion Holdings Corp. -- began trading Friday in New York after shares in Tortoise surged more than 300% ahead of a shareholder vote last month. Healy's stake is now worth more than \$1.4 billion, making him one of the world's youngest self-made billionaires. Still, the 28-year-old knows luck was involved.

"We were fortunate on timing," said Healy, the firm's chief executive officer. "If we were trying to close right when the stock market was on that downswing, we might have been having different discussions."



There is growing skepticism of the blank-check phenomenon as such deals have proliferated in recent weeks. SPACs are now getting scrutiny from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which wants to ensure investors are receiving appropriate disclosures about insiders' pay structures.

Hylilion slipped 0.9% to \$39.16 on Monday after slumping 12% in its first full day of trading on Friday.

Bloomberg spoke with Healy ahead of his ringing the opening bell on Monday to start trading on the New York Stock Exchange. Comments have been edited and condensed.

Trump Tweets 15 Times From Hospital In 30 Minutes

Washington, United States: Donald Trump's doctors were to decide Monday whether he is recovered enough to leave hospital and continue Covid-19 treatment at the White House, as the president signalled his determination to return to the election campaign with an early morning tweetstorm.

Conflicting official updates since Trump's hospitalization on Friday have created confusion over his health, but his chief of staff said the 74-year-old's condition had improved overnight, raising hopes he could be discharged during the day.

"We are still optimistic that based on his unbelievable progress and -- and how strong he has been in terms of his fight against this Covid-19 disease, that he will be released," Mark Meadows told Fox News. "But that decision won't be made until later today."

Trump's Covid-19 diagnosis has upended the White House race less than a month from polling day -- and cast a harsh spotlight on the president's much criticized management of the pandemic which has claimed over 200,000 American lives.

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