

The report says that police arrived at the spot and to prevent law and order situation from worsening, used batons and tear smoke shells to disperse the angry protestors. Meanwhile, hospital **» PAGE 02**



# ‘Khoje-E-Digar’ Observed, Devotees In Large Number Throng Shrine, Attend Special Prayers

Mubashir Aalam Wani

**SRINAGAR:** ‘Khoje-e-Digar’, the 400 year-old tradition at Khan-qah-i-Naqshbandiya was on Wednesday observed at the revered shrine of Hazrat Khawaja Syed Bhauddin Naqashband (RA) in the old city area of Srinagar.

A large number of devotees thronged the revered shrine to-day where they offered Asr (Digar) prayers. The special prayers at the revered shrine is being held annually on 3rd Rabi-ul-Awal of the Islamic Calendar at Asar Salah.

However, unlike previous years, the head cleric of Jamia Masjid Mirwaiz Umar Farooq who continued to remain under house detention couldn't address the gathering during the special prayers while Molana Syed Taib Hussain Shah Kamli addressed the gathering today.

It is worth mentioning here that over the past 100 years, Mir-waizeen have been addressing congregational gatherings at the shrine.

Witnesses said that devotees in large number attended the special prayers today, “Not only in the shrine premises but the roads outside the shrine also remained flooded with the devotees,” they informed.

Special prayers were also held



to seek mercy of Allah from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Soon after the congregational Asr prayers culminated, the Imam recited Awraad-e-Asriya, (a booklet comprising verses of repentance and faith), the great sufi saint used to recite along with his hundreds' of disciples 700 years ago at Bukhara in to-days Uzbekistan.

Hazrat Khawja Naqshband (RA) was born in 718 AH at Qasr-i-Arifan, a village in Bukhara. A shrine is dedicated to him at Khawaja Bazar in Srinagar, where one of the great saints of Naqsh-bandi order, Hazrat Moinudin Naqshband (RA) is laid to rest along with his wife and two sons.

## Div Com Seeks Land...

Court directions in letter and spirit. Pole, he said stressed on constitutioning of district level teams to prepare all required details on 'war footing'.

"He instructed that details shall be provided through prescribed format with proper identities of the illegal occupation, beneficiaries of Roshni Act, payments made, defaulters and status of the land at present," the official spokesperson said.

"He said that details of land occupation not covered under Roshni Act shall also be submitted besides all DCs shall ensure translation of documents, records wherever required and asked for accordingly," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, Pole also asked DCs to ensure putting of required information or details on their websites, besides scanning and digitization of documents at the earliest.

Emphasizing on coordinated efforts to be made by all concerned to ensure all details are submitted within the given timeline, the Div Com, official spokesperson said also instructed DCs to submit reports on encroachments removed so far and present status of the land.

"Stressing on launching an intensified anti-encroachment drive in all districts, the Div Com instructed concerned to ensure all encroached state land is retrieved from the offenders," he added.

According to the official spokesperson the meeting was attended by DCs, Director Land Records, ADCs, CEOs of Gulmarg, Pahalgam and Sonamarg Development Authorities, ACRs, ACR Nazool, Tehildars and other concerned while DCs and ADCs and Revenue officers of districts attended the meeting through videoconferencing.

## 4G Ban In J&K Extended...

constituted by the Supreme Court held its meeting to consider the continuation or otherwise of the directions regarding regulation of the Internet Services in the context of the views expressed by security agencies and administration of J&K, especially related to the security aspects, the border security and the concerns on account of public order," the order.

"The Committee noted that the internet speed related restrictions are not posing hindrance to COVID Control measures, access to educational programmes and carrying out of business activities," it adds

The matter, the Principal Secretary said, has been further considered in the meetings of the State Level Committee, in light of the observations of the Special Committee and assessment about the impact of the trial of opening up of high speed internet connectivity.

"Various measures taken by the Government, especially during the recent past, to empower people have not gone down well with the separatist and (militant) organizations, aided and abetted from across the border. There have been multiple instances of attacks on the security forces, political workers, etc. to subvert these initiatives and the political process which has been set in motion."

The Principal Secretary said that there are apprehensions regarding misuse of the data services by the "anti-national elements, among other acts, for carrying out various activities inimical to the public order apart from misleading the youth to join (militant) ranks, which necessitates taking of pre-emptive measures, including imposition of restrictions on availability of internet commensurate to the gravity of the situation."

Subsequently, the government ordered that the high speed mobile data services in the districts of Ganderbal and Udhampur shall continue to be made available while in rest of the districts, the speed be restricted to 2G only.

The Principal Secretary said that restrictions shall remain in force till November 12 or unless modified earlier. The IGPs, Kashmir and Jammu have been asked to ensure communication of these directions to the service providers forthwith and their implementation in "letter and spirit."

## JKCA Scam: Dr Farooq Faces...

against the government or musters courage against its divisive politics will be hounded and summoned," it said.

Terming these ED summons "calculated coercive measures", Dar said that it is aimed at curtailing Farooq Abdullah's efforts to weave unity among mainstream political parties in JK.

Calling the repeated ED summons as pressure tactics, he said, "What is it that ED forgot to ask during the six hours it interrogated an 83-yr-old Member of Parliament?"

The government and its agencies, the spokesperson said, has no consideration for a law-abiding citizen who is severely immuno compromised and diabetic.

"Abdullah being treated like this is a proof that the BJP is not even interested in a face-saving act and is completely comfortable with being seen as a bully by the nation," he said.

He said that the "only way to get a clean chit these days is to surrender ones ideology and join the BJP. We've seen this story play out from Assam to Karnataka, from West Bengal to Andhra Pradesh but Dr Abdullah is not going to surrender to the BJP, come what may."

Later in the day, NC leaders passed a resolution strongly condemning "vindictive and coercive" action against the party President.

"We resolve that we strongly condemn the vindictive/ coercive action against party president Dr Farooq Abdullah. We stand fully with our leader and his unity mission in J&K. Our resolve to fight for the rights of people of J&K is undeterred by such action," reads the resolution.

The last round of questioning took place four days after Jammu and Kashmir's mainstream political parties, including the NC and the PDP, met at Abdullah's residence and formed the People's Alliance for 'Gupkar Declaration'.

The agency's case is based on an FIR filed by the CBI, which booked former JKCA office-bearers, including general secretary Mohammed Saleem Khan and former treasurer Ahsan Ahmad Mirza.

The CBI had also filed a charge sheet in 2018 against Abdullah, Khan, Mirza as well as former JKCA treasurer Mir Manzoor Gazanfer Ali and former accountants Bashir Ahmad Misgar and Gulzar Ahmad Beigh for the "misappropriation of JKCA funds amounting to Rs 43.69 crore" from grants given by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) to promote the sport in the erstwhile state between 2002 and 2011.

After Monday's questioning, the People's Alliance, a newly-formed conglomerate of mainstream political parties, had condemned summoning of Abdullah and termed it as part of vindictive politics

practised by the Centre to kill dissent and disagreement across the country.

The alliance, which came into existence to carry forward the 'Gupkar Declaration' seeking restoration of status quo of the erstwhile state as it existed on August 4 last year through constitutional means, said such "tactics" will not dampen the conglomerate's resolve for restoration of statehood and special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

Condemning the ED action, it said such actions were part of vindictive politics practised by the central government to kill dissent and disagreement across the country and in present case to silence the genuine demand for reversal of unilateral and unconstitutional decisions of August 5, 2019 under which the state was bifurcated into union territories -- Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir -- and the special status guaranteed under Articles 370 and 35-A of the Constitution were abrogated.

## LG Ducks Question On...

"The Constitution and laws have given rights to institutions to act and I do not have anything more to say on this," he told reporters, when asked about the fresh ED summons to the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister.

Abdullah appeared before the ED on Wednesday, second time this week, for questioning in connection with a money-laundering probe into an alleged multi-crore-rupee scam in the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA).

The 83-year-old former Union minister was questioned for over six hours in the case on October 19.

After the questioning on Monday, Abdullah had said he was not worried and would cooperate in the probe.

Monday's questioning took place four days after Jammu and Kashmir's mainstream political parties, including the NC and the PDP, met at Abdullah's residence and formed the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration.

ED officials said Abdullah's statement will be recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) as in the past. He was questioned for the first time in the case in July last year in Chandigarh.

## RSF 'Shocked' Over Sealing...

Wednesday. "The Jammu and Kashmir administration no longer even bothers to provide a legal facade to the actions it takes to attack the free press. We ask India's supreme court to intervene in this flagrant violation of article 19 of the constitution," he added.

The RSF statement further said that the government officials evicted journalists from Kashmir Times office and then sealed the premises. The RSF said it was by this 'reprisal' against a leading regional daily.

"The eviction was carried out by representatives of the regional government's estates department, who arrived unannounced, expelled the newspaper's employees without presenting any justifying documents, and then placed seals on its entrance," the RSF said.

The RSF statement quoted Kashmir Times executive editor Anuradha Bhasin calling the closure of the newspaper's office as "vendetta for speaking out."

"All our office infrastructure, including computers, printers, generators and so on, are locked inside to prevent us from producing our print edition in Srinagar," she told RSF.

Bhasin told RSF that she was evicted in a similar manner a few weeks ago -- without being served any cancellation and eviction notices -- from the apartment the government had allotted to her in 2000.

"Locks to my flat were broken, as I was not staying there, and the new [tenants] were given charge of the place along with my belongings, including valuables and important documents that have not still not been given to me," she said.

According to the RSF statement, Bhasin thinks she was paying the price for her determined defence of a free press in Jammu and Kashmir since the region's autonomy was revoked in August 2019 and, in particular, for the petition she filed with India's supreme court challenging the simultaneous decision to disconnect the region's telecommunications.

"Since then, the state government stopped all advertisements to Kashmir Times, she told RSF.

One of the oldest English-language publications in the Kashmir Valley, the Kashmir Times is widely respected, so its eviction from its Srinagar office had stunned many of the region's journalists, the watchdog said.

"I started my journalistic career at this newspaper, which has traditionally been fiercely independent," Athar Parvaiz told RSF. "The atmosphere encouraging fearless journalism at the Kashmir Times has always been great and I benefited enormously while working there."

"Many of the journalists based in Jammu and Kashmir started their careers at the Kashmir Times," said Syed Ali Safvi, another of its former reporters. "Over the years it has given voice to the voiceless and established itself as an institution you could trust. It is really painful to learn that its office has been sealed."

India is ranked 142nd out of 180 countries in RSF's 2020 World Press Freedom Index.

## Cabinet Approves Adoption...

was not available in Jammu and Kashmir in the "pre-370 period", Javadekar said, referring to Article 370 of the Constitution that was abrogated last year. The article gave special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The promise made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Jammu and Kashmir and Home Minister Amit Shah in Parliament now stands redeemed, he said.

This will help the people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the village, block and district levels, he said.

According to the minister, the process for local body polls would start soon. he said. According to the minister, the process for local body polls would start soon.

## ‘Watershed Moment’ In J&K’s ...

and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Wednesday expressed his gratitude to the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi for paving way for the establishment of all three tiers of Panchayati Raj Institutions and strengthening the grassroots democracy in the Union Territory.

According to an official spokesperson, LG observed that a major and final legal requirement towards strengthening the grass-root democracy and the bottom-up approach towards planning and execution

has been fulfilled and the historic step shall result in direct representation of people in the district level body through direct elections to 14 seats in the District Development Council.

"A proper system of checks and balances through membership of directly elected members, Block Development Council chairpersons and MLAs in the District Development Council which will ensure that the most genuine demands and needs of people are met," Sinha, as per official spokesperson said.

He said that after the adaptation of J&K Panchayati Raj Act, 1989, every district will have a district development council having jurisdiction over the entire district excluding municipal areas.

"Every DDC will now have 14 directly elected members' i.e 280 directly elected BDC members in the whole UT. The Council shall consist of the directly elected members, the Chairpersons of all BDCs and members of the Legislative assembly from the district," the official spokesperson said.

"Moreover, any person whose name is included in the electoral of any Halqa Panchayat of the district can nominate himself as a candidate for election to District Development Council," he added.

After this development, he said every DDC will now have a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson who shall be elected by directly elected members of BDC. Further, he said there shall be reservations for SC/ ST amongst the directly elected members on the basis of the proportion of the population. One-third of seats under direct election will be reserved for women.

"Five Standing Committees, one each for Finance, Development, Public Works, Health and Education, and Welfare will now be constituted in every District Development Council," the official spokesperson said, adding "The ADDC will be the CEO of the DDC. The DDC will be responsible for the formulation of development programmes and speedy development and economic upliftment of the area of the district under its authority."

He further said that the DDC will review the progress and achievements of development plans and schemes in the district and ensure adequate legal backing to devolution of functions to the DDC.

"Specific functions will be assigned to DDC in schedule III of the Act. The DDC will also supervise the functioning of Panchayat Halqas and BDC and will receive and consolidate their plans at the district level," he added.

Pertinently, the Government of J&K has also notified the rules for the constitution of the DDC and the process of delimitation of constituencies for DDC has already been set in motion in all the 20 districts.

## Coronavirus Claims 5 More...

85-year-old woman from Ram Bagh here died at SMHS hospital, two days after she was admitted there.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 940 in Valley and 464 in Jammu region.

Srinagar district with 337 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (240), Baramulla (137), Budgam (90), Pulwama (79), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (71), Kulgam (46), Bandipora (42), Rajouri (45), Doda (42), Shopian (35), Ganderbal (31), Kathua (30), Udhampur (27), Samba (25), Poonch (22), Kishtwar (14), Ramban (12), and Reasi (7). (With GNS inputs)

## 624 New Cases Include 21...

positive for Covid-19 in Jammu division, officials said.

Giving district wise details, they said, Srinagar reported 176, Budgam 29, Baramulla 63, Pulwama 14, Kupwara 37, Anantnag 21, Bandipora 15, Ganderbal 18, Kulgam 16, Shopian 7, Jammu 112, Rajouri 14, Udhampur 14, Doda 15, Kathua 6, Poonch 9, Samba 12, Kishtwar 38, Ramban 8 and Reasi 0.

Moreover, they said, 655 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals-- 367 from Jammu Division and 288 from Kashmir Valley.

## 14 Cops, 26 Security Men...

Singh said the number of casualties of security personnel was lower this year than the last year.

"I think it is a relief for us that we have minimised the loss of security forces' lives while fulfilling our duties," he said.

He said the security forces will intensify anti-militancy operations in the coming days.

Earlier, in his address to the policemen, the DGP said about 6,000 policemen have lost their lives fighting militancy in Jammu and Kashmir.

"From September 1, 2019 to October 31 2020, 40 security forces personnel, including 14 policemen, were killed in militancy and other violence related incidents in the union territory," the DGP said.

The Police Commemoration Day is observed since October 21, 1959 when ten CRPF men lost their lives fighting Chinese forces in Ladakh.

## Students Left Out In PG...

the Vice Chancellor. We were told to wait till October 19th. Since then, we haven't heard anything," they said.

"Despite performing very well in the entrance test, we are at the risk of losing the opportunity to gain admission in KU. We urge the Vice Chancellor to intervene and save our career," they added.

KU Vice Chancellor was unavailable for a comment. When this reporter made repeated attempts to reach out to Director Admissions KU, Professor Farooq Mir he did not attend the phone calls. However KO is waiting for a response from the university and the story will be updated as and when KU authorities respond.

## Enraged Attendants Ransack...

authorities refuted the allegations of negligence and said that the woman had developed pancreatic complications which can prove fatal sometimes.

## HC Asks Govt To ‘Immediately’...

contradiction to the disposal of private property is that it should be for public purpose and in public interest.

"Disposal of public property partakes the character of a trust. Public purpose would be served only by getting best price for such property so that larger revenue coming into the coffers of the State administration can be utilized for beneficent activities to sub-serve public purpose, namely, the welfare State".

For getting the best price, the court while referring to a judgment by the Delhi high court, said the public property should be put to

public auction or by inviting tender with open participation i.e. ensure maximum public participation and a reserve price. "This also ensures transparency and such an auction would be free from bias or discrimination and thus beyond reproach."

The private negotiations should always be avoided as it cannot withstand public gaze and cast reflection on the Government or its official and is also against social and public interest.

"In exceptional cases, the authorities may depart from public auction or tender process and even dispose of the property at lower price than the market price or even for a token price. However, resort to this process can be taken only to achieve some defined constitutionally recognized public purpose, one such being to achieve the goal set out under Part-IV of the Constitution of India," the court added. (GNS)

## Govt Approves Scheme To...

Transfer (DBT) into their bank account, it added.

This will provide an effective marketing platform for apple growers and will facilitate the employment generation for the local people. It will ensure remunerative prices for apple, resulting in the overall income enhancement of farmers in J&K, the statement said.

According to the government, procurement will be undertaken by the central procuring agency NAFED through the state-designated agency Directorate of Planning and Marketing, Department of Horticulture, and Jammu and Kashmir Horticulture Processing and Marketing Corporation (JKHPMC).

The constituted Designated Price Committee of last season will be continued for the fixation of the price of various varieties and grades of apples for this season also. The Union Territory administration of J&K will ensure the provision of basic amenities in the designated mandis.

Smooth and continuous implementation of the procurement process will be monitored by the constituted Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary at the central level and constituted implementation and Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary at the UT level, it added.

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha thanked Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and the Union Cabinet for approving MIS for procurement of apples in the Union Territory saying that the move will ensure optimum prices to the farmers and give necessary fillip to the economy.

"The scheme is a great relief for apple growers. It will provide a comprehensive insurance cover against any obstacle thus helping in stabilizing the income of the Apple farmers. It will also address all issues related to marketing and transportation, in addition, to provide optimum returns to apple growers" LG said, as per an official spokesperson.

He said that the LG also observed that the government is committed to take forward the Horticulture sector as it will contribute to the betterment of livelihood of apple growers.

## Indian Army Returns Soldier ...

after he had "strayed" across the Line of Actual Control (LAC), an incident that comes amid a massive deployment of troops by the two militaries in the region following the border standoff since May.

"According to the relevant agreement between China and India, the Chinese PLA soldier, who went missing while helping local herdsmen find the lost yak near the China-India border on Sunday, has been returned to the Chinese border troops by the Indian Army early on the morning of October 21, 2020 a statement by the Chinese Ministry of Defence said here.

The Indian Army said in a statement on Monday that the soldier, a Corporal in the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA), has been identified as Wang Ya Long and he will be returned to the Chinese military at the Chushul-Moldo border point after completion of formalities.

"China hopes that India will hand over soon the Chinese soldier who got lost in China-India border areas on the evening of October 18 when helping local herdsmen retrieve a yak at their request," said Senior Colonel Zhang Shuili, spokesperson for the Western Theatre Command of the PLA said in a statement on Monday night.

## Govt Sets Up Winter Secretariat...

Department shall make suitable arrangements in the Civil Secretariat including heating arrangements, telephones/internet etc. for smooth functioning of the Winter Secretariat, Srinagar. (GNS)

## 2 Cops Held Over Inter-State...

from outside to enter Jammu and Kashmir illegally after taking money from them, a police team in civvies caught a special police official (SPO) on duty red-handed while he was seeking a bribe from people to let them enter the Union Territory on Tuesday night, the officials said.

An ASI was also arrested by the police and both were taken to a police station for questioning, they added.

An order of suspension for the in-charge inspector has been issued and a probe against the deputy superintendent of police (DySP) launched, the officials said.

Confirming the news, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Kathua-Shailendra Mishra said an ASI and an SPO have been arrested and the suspension of the in-charge inspector has been ordered.

So far, the police have arrested 15 persons, including some police personnel, for allowing people from outside to enter Jammu and Kashmir illegally via the Lakanpur inter-state border terminal on taking money from them, in spite of the COVID-related restrictions since March.

## Man Found Dead In Anantnag...

son of Barkatullah of RakhiBrah.

"Police has registered a case and initiated investigations in this regard," they added.

## Ladakh Records One More...

They said 75 COVID-19 patients were discharged from health facilities in Leh and 11 others in Kargil after successful treatment, bringing down the active cases in the region to 841 - 690 in Leh and 151 in Kargil.

So far, 4,787 patients have been discharged after being recovered in Ladakh, the officials said.



# LG Tells Police on Commemoration Day 'Don't touch innocents, don't spare culprits'

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 21: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today laid floral wreath at the Martyrs' Memorial at Armed Police Complex, Zewan on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day-2020.

The Commemoration Parade is observed every year across the country on October 21 as a mark of respect and remembrance of martyrs, who laid down their lives in the line of duty.

Saluting the valour of the brave-hearts, the Lt Governor said that jawans of our police and all security forces are the epitomes of bravery and courage.

Police Commemoration Day is the day to remember the 10 jawans of Central Reserve Police Force who sacrificed their lives while protecting the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the nation against the Chinese forces at Ladakh on October 21, 1959. The day is also dedicated to fallen heroes of Jammu and Kashmir Police who have laid down their lives in the line of duty.

"On this day, I bow to the great martyrs who fought till their last breath to protect the sovereignty and integrity of the country.

Their supreme sacrifice will be eternally etched in the memory of people of J&K and the Nation. We salute our immortal heroes and their unparalleled courage", the Lt Governor maintained.

The Lt Governor praised the Police force for doing a commendable job, especially on the anti-militancy front.

Lt Governor asked police and security forces to go all out in neutralizing the threats. "Don't touch the innocents and don't spare the culprits", he added.

"If people sleep at ease, it is because of our police and security forces who work tirelessly to protect the J&K UT from the evil forces and militants who are supported by our neighbour", the Lt Governor maintained.

There is a need to take stories of bravery and sacrifice of our policemen to our future generations so that they acknowledge the sacrifices of our martyrs, he said.

Our security personnel discharge their duties with utmost dedication and courage despite challenging situations and facing all odds. 684 Shaurya medals in the last two years itself speaks about the courage of our

JKP Jawans. Despite personal responsibilities, police personnel are working as a friend and a protector for the common people, he continued.

"Today is an emotional day for me personally. This day fills my heart with emotions", said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said, 'although we cannot repay the loss of a beloved family member, we can try to facilitate family members of the martyrs through education, employment and other relief measures. It is my responsibility to take welfare measures for our policemen and their family members.'

Nothing can fill the space of the broken hearts of the NoK's of martyrs, yet financial and other assistance may minimize their miseries. Ex-gratia relief of Rs 8.00 cr has been extended to NoKs of martyr police personnel and SPOs during the current year. The Government also extends compassionate appointments to the eligible NoK's of martyrs, besides departmental welfare measures, he added.

Speaking on some recent reforms, the Lt Governor observed that the ex-gratia relief of policemen and SPOs has been increased since

2018 and other pay disparities have also been resolved.

It is a proud moment for me that JKP has attained top position across the country in community engagement, he said. He also called upon the jawans of JKP to participate in Fit India Movement and encourage others as well.

The Lt Governor also lauded the female officers of Police and other Security Forces and termed them as true examples of women empowerment.

DGP, J&K, Dilbag Singh read out the names of policemen who laid down their lives in the line of duty, while the parade presented 'Shok Shastra'. The arms are reversed and a two-minute silence is observed in the honour of the departed souls.

"Nation will always remain indebted to our brave soldiers who laid down their lives for the sovereignty and integrity of the nation and for providing a safe and secure environment for our people," he said.

On the occasion, a Blood Donation Camp was organized by the Police Hospital, where the Lt Governor interacted with the donors.

## 94 FBO's booked for not obtaining Registration Certificate under FS&SA

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 21: To bring food businesses within the ambit of Food Licensing and Registration System (FLRS), a special drive has been initiated by Food & Drugs Administration Kashmir against those involved in running food businesses without obtaining registration certificate here.

During the first two days of drive, 94 cases have been filed in the competent court against those Food Business Operators (FBOs) who were found running their business without registration certificate.

A butcher shop at Qamarwari found violating sanitary and hygienic requirements was also sealed on the spot.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Food & Drugs Administration Shakeel-u-Rehman has directed all Food Business operators of J&K to obtain license /Registration otherwise action under relevant provisions of Food Safety & Standard Act shall be initiated against them.

It is pertinent to mention that FBOs having turnover up to 12 lac need to obtain Registration Certificate and those having turnover above that shall have to obtain license.

## Prompt disposal of Public Grievances

## Admin Secretaries, DCs nominated as Nodal officers

SRINAGAR: Government of Jammu Kashmir Union Territory today nominated Administrative Secretaries and Deputy Commissioners as the nodal Officers for facilitating speedy disposal of representations/ grievances received by Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

The Nodal Officer will coordinate with the 'Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat References Monitoring Cell' established in the General Administration Department for expeditious follow-up and better coordination with the Administrative Departments/Deputy Commissioners as required for disposal of the representations/ grievances received by Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat.

## Lawyer Deepika Rajawat Receives Death Threats for Rape Cartoon

Jammu: Deepika Singh Rajawat, the lawyer-activist who shot to fame in 2018 after taking the high profile case of Kathua rape and murder victim, is in the firing line this time for allegedly posting a controversial Navratri cartoon on micro-blogging site twitter.

The lawyer had earlier faced immense hate for representing the 8-year-old victim from the Bakarwal nomad community in Jammu. And now, Rajawat is facing heat for sharing her views on rape during the festival of Navratri.

A section of social media users is demanding the arrest of Rajawat, for posting a controversial cartoon on her Twitter handle on Monday night.

"Irony", captioned Deepika Rajawat while posting the cartoon showing a man touching the feet of a woman (presumed to be a goddess) during Navratri and the same man holding both the legs of a woman during the rest of the days. The cartoon was simply captioned, "Irony".

The situation became even tenser on Tuesday night when an angry mob reportedly gathered outside Rajawat's Jammu residence and demanded her arrest.

"Alert: Several right-wing organisations have been staging angry protests outside my residence. Law enforcement agencies must intervene immediately to



The lawyer had earlier faced immense hate for representing the 8-year-old victim from the Bakarwal nomad community in Jammu.

avert the untoward incident. In view of slander n threats—both online n offline Im afraid that the frenzied mob can attack me any time (sic)" she tweeted on Wednesday afternoon.

Later the lawyer said that the mob was openly issuing death threats, even after the police arrived to clear them.

Rajawat first shot to fame in 2018 after she took up the case of the 8-year-old rape-murder victim from Kathua, an incident that caused outrage and calls for justice. The culprits were shielded by powerful politicians from the right wing Hindu parties.

Since then, she has gained international recognition and awards including the "Humanitarian 2018 Award" at the 16th Annual Festival of Mothers by Trinjan in Canada. One reason for the laurels she was showered with was the constant stream of abusive messages and threats, of rape and murder, she had faced while arguing the case. Rajawat, however, was dropped by the Kathua rape victim's family in November last year. The family said they had decided to drop their lawyer Deepika Rajawat as she has barely been available at the court hearings.

## JKAP welcomes Gol's announcement on MIS

SRINAGAR: Apni Party on Wednesday welcomed the union government's approval for extension of Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for apple procurement in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) for the current season 2020-21.

In a statement issued here, Javid Hassan Baig, spokesman of the Party said that the Apni Party had vehemently raised this demand with the top leadership of the country. "It is appreciable that the Central government has conceded our party's demand and approved extension of MIS which will benefit lakhs of families across Jammu and Kashmir," he added.

آری کی گمشدگی  
میری گاڑی تاویزہ زیر نمبر JK19-1182 کی آری کا قبضہ کرنے سے انکار ہوا  
تک سکتی ہوں کہ جو کہ بال احمد راہیر گاڑی چلا رہا تھا اب اس کی ڈیڑھ  
کانٹن طلب ہے اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی غلطی اعتراض ہو تو وہ  
سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض ARTO Office Ramban کے دفتر میں  
پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
المشتر۔  
AB Aziz S/O Gh Rasool R/O Gool Ramban

اطلاع عام  
میری ڈیڑھ زیر نمبر N12420290040 کی کپڑا ہوں  
گئی ہے اب اس کی ڈیڑھ کانٹن طلب ہے اس ضمن میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو  
کوئی غلطی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض پرنسپل گورنمنٹ  
بائیسکولری اسکول ہواگے کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی  
بھی غلطی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
المشتر۔ زاہدی الدین شیخ ولد غلام محمد الدین شیخ ساکنہ محکمہ میر بازار راجست ہواگے  
MJA

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Syed Akbar S/o: Syed Mohammad Mosvi R/o: Pallar Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C-7575 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Balgarden..

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 officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.851  
Dated 12/03/2020 Assistant Regional Transport officer  
Budgam Kashmir  
MCB



## GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE, KASHMIR, SRINAGAR.

Tel-0194-2474234 Fax-0194-2482032- email: kashflori@rediffmail.com

## NOTICE

Late Ali Mohammad Bhat S/o Mohammad Subhan Bhat R/o New Theed Harwan, Srinagar was working in the Department of Floriculture Kashmir as Gardener and passed away on 04/10/2019 (death in harness). Now his daughter namely Ms. Shayista Ali has applied for compassionate appointment in terms of SRO-43 against the post vacated due to death of her father.

If anybody, has any objection to her appointment in the Department, he/she may file the objections in person or through an authorized agent in the office of Director Floriculture, Kashmir, Emporium Garden, Srinagar within a period of 07 (seven) days from the date of publication of this notice, afterwards no objection shall be entertained.

DIPK-7783/20

Sd/= (Mubashir Rafiq)  
Deputy Director (HQ)  
Floriculture Department,  
Kashmir

## Government of Jammu & Kashmir MECHANICAL HOSPITAL & CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR (Phone No: 0194-2496089, E-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in) Website: www.medkmr.or (Short Term)

NIT No: MHCHD/TS/2020-21/173

Dated: 21.10.2020

## SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Date of sale of tender documents.	From 22.10.2020 to 30.10.2020 (2.00 P.M)
Last date of receipt of Tenders.	02.11.2020 upto 2PM.

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, sealed tenders affixed with Rs.5/- revenue stamps are invited from the registered firms/Govt. Contractors for the below mentioned work:

S. No	Description of work.	Estimated cost in Rupees	Amount of Earnest Money, in Rs.	Cost of TD in Rs.	Time of completion	Position of Funds
1	Fabrication of Mild steel Oxygen cylinders trolley for shifting of 7 CUM capacity oxygen cylinders from COVID wards to oxygen plant of Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.	91500/-	1800/-	200/-	07 Days	Available as communicated by Intending Department
2	Replacement of door sill along with allied works for 'SCAN' make lift installed at IPD section of Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.	15200/-	300/-	200/-	07 Days	Available as communicated by Intending Department

The tender must be accompanied with the requisite earnest money deposit in the shape of CDR/ FDR drawn from any scheduled/national bank and pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, MH&CH Division, Srinagar. The tenders found without earnest money shall be rejected out rightly at the time of opening of tender.

The tender document can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours against cost mentioned above, in the form of IPO/Demand Draft or Cash Payment. Tender documents shall be issued subject to production of certificates to the following effect:

- Latest Sales tax clearance certificate/or as applicable as per new GST rules.
- J&K State Sales Tax Registration Certificate/ GST registration certificate.
- Documentary proof of having successfully executed similar nature of job in Government or Semi-Government Department.

The tenders should reach the office of undersigned on 02.11.2020 upto 2 P.M and shall be opened on the same day or any subsequent date convenient to the undersigned in presence of the tenderers who may be present on the spot.

The envelope containing tender should properly be superscripted with Tender Notice no, Name of work and Name of tenderer.

DIPK-7797/20

NO: - MHCHD/TS/4974-80

Sd/- Executive Engineer  
Mechanical Hospital & Central Heating Division,  
Srinagar.

Dated: 21-10-2020

## DIAL-EMMA



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

## AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



## RAILWAYS

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



## HIGHWAY STATUS



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



## HIJRI

## CALENDAR

04 Rabi-ul-Awwal

1442

## PRAYERS

FAJR 5:19

ZUHR 12:16

ASR 4:13

Magrib 6:55

ISHA 7:14

## This Day In History

- 1721 - Tsar Peter the Great becomes "All-Russian Imperator"
- 1746 - Princeton University (NJ) received its charter
- 1797 - Andre-Jacques Garnerin makes 1st parachute descent from a balloon in Paris
- 1799 - Russia leaves second anti-French Coalition
- 1812 - Duke of Wellington seizes Burgos, Spain
- 1861 - 1st telegraph line linking West & East coasts completed
- 1862 - Battle at Old Fort Wayne, Indian Territory
- 1879 - Thomas Edison perfects carbonized cotton filament light bulb
- 1897 - World's first car dealer opens in London
- 1913 - Explosion at Dawson NM coal mine kills 263 mine workers
- 1928 - China expels all Russian instructors & civil servants
- 1946 - 2 British ships sink near Albania
- 1948 - Egyptian flagship King Farouk sunk by Israel
- 1953 - Laos gains full independence from France
- 1954 - West Germany joins North Atlantic Treaty Organization
- 1956 - Great Britain performs nuclear test at Maralinga Australia
- 1961 - 75,000 Flemings demand equal rights & Flemish language in Belgium
- 1962 - Cuban missile crisis: US President John F. Kennedy addresses TV about Russian missile bases in Cuba and imposes a naval blockade on Cuba, beginning the missile crisis
- 1964 - French philosopher and author Jean-Paul Sartre refuses Nobel prize
- 1964 - US performs underground nuclear test at Hattiesburg, Mississippi
- 1966 - USSR launches Luna 12 for orbit around Moon
- 1973 - Israeli troops reconquer mountain Hermon
- 1973 - Security Council Resolution 338-cease fire to Yom Kippur War
- 1975 - Soviet spacecraft Venera 9 soft-lands on Venus, becoming the first lander to return images from the surface of another planet
- 1975 - Turkish diplomat shot to death in Vienna
- 1975 - World Football League disbands after the Week 12 of their second season
- 1978 - Pope John Paul II is inaugurated as Pope
- 1981 - US national debt tops \$1 trillion
- 1981 - USSR performs underground nuclear test
- 1989 - Red Khmer occupies Pailin in Cambodia
- 1992 - Space Shuttle STS 52 (Columbia 13) launches into space
- 1993 - Russian cosmonaut Aleksandr Serebrov makes record 9th space walk
- 1997 - Coldest World Series game Marlins vs Cleveland (38°F)
- 1997 - Compaq testifies Microsoft threaten to break Windows 95 agreement if they showcased a Netscape icon
- 2006 - Panama Canal expansion proposal is approved by 77.8% of voters in a National referendum held in Panama
- 2008 - India launches its first unmanned lunar mission Chandrayaan-1.
- 2008 - Google Play is launched, the official app store for the Android operating system
- 2018 - Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison makes a public apology to victims of child sexual abuse in institutions

## From KO Archives

## Court orders JKB debtor's arrest

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR-The additional district judge, bank cases, Srinagar, has ordered the arrest of an alleged debtor of the Jammu and Kashmir bank ltd and recovery of Rs 36,14,943.25 from him. In an order dated October 18, re-turnable on or before November 20,2000, the judge directed the station house officer (SHO), police station, Nishat, to arrest Ghulam Rasool Vakil s/o Munshi Abdul Majid Vakil of Vakil Manzil, 4th bridge, Zainakadal, Srinagar, at present residing at Ishber. Nishat (alongwith two more judgement debtors).

According to the order,Vakil was adjudged by a decree of the court in suit No 84 of 1990 dated 3.6.1999 to pay to the bank Rs 8,67,552.25 which he failed to pay to the decree holder. Adding Rs 27,34,583 as interest from the date of suit till October 20,1999 and Rs 12,808 as costs allowed, the total adds up to Rs 36,14,943.25 now. The judge directed the SHO to bring the debtor before the court unless he pays to him the decree amount.

(Kashmir Observer, October 22, 2000)



## KASHMIR OBSERVER

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### K O V I E W

## US polls countdown

**A**s countdown begins to US presidential election, the world is sitting with fingers crossed. Though Democratic candidate Joe Biden has some edge over the incumbent Donald Trump, the latter can still emerge as the winner. But the stakes for the US and the world in the win or loss of either of the candidates are too big to not become a subject of global interest. If Biden wins, there are certainly going to be some marked policy readjustments in how the US has dealt with the world under Trump.

In the US, there is now a growing realization that the president's erratic and irrational behaviour is not only creating difficulties for America at home but also making the world a fraught place. The ongoing trade war with China, sudden decisions to pull out troops from Afghanistan and Syria, all have combined to create a very dangerous state of affairs. Also, Trump's antipathy towards multilateral institutions that have anchored the global stability after the second world war, his protectionist approach towards the economy and pursuit of an isolationist policy for America have threatened to unhinge the world.

If re-elected to office, Trump is unlikely to change his course. His approach to China has threatened to start a new cold war. On the other hand, new geo-political alignments are taking place. China and Russia are moving ever more closer and challenging US hegemony. The Trump's combative approach is alienating a lot many countries and allies. This is not a happy state of affairs for the world to be in. And under Trump's presidency things are unlikely to change anytime soon, if Trump retains presidency.

But as for India, Trump has been invariably good. Earlier this year, Trump's visit kept India riveted to television for three days. It was Trump's second visit to India in five years. And since 2001 when Bill Clinton made his game-changing trip, there have been five US presidential visits to India - including the one by George W Bush - all contributing to a deepening India-US relationship. One of the salient achievements of the Trump's visit was the signing of the \$3 billion worth defence deals, including the purchase of what Trump said were the "most feared weapons".

Interestingly, Trump didn't publicly raise Kashmir as was widely anticipated. In past, the visiting US presidents have often mentioned Kashmir in their interaction with media. So, India would want Trump to win. However, relations with India have become too important to the US to be significantly affected by the change of presidency. But yes, there's a hope that under Biden, the US will reassume its global leadership role. More than anything, the current dire state of global economy needs the major powers to unite rather than drift apart.

### OTHER OPINION

## Get the vaccine strategy right

**O**ver the past week, India's top leaders and officials have proffered more clues about when and how the country plans to begin vaccinations for Covid-19. Mass volumes are likely to begin shipping around March, if the trial and the approval process follow projected timelines. The first shots will likely be administered as the country heads into the next summer.

Among the clues into India's strategy is a crucial confirmation by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi himself. On Monday, the PM said a vaccine delivery system was in the works and it will utilise the upcoming national digital health ID — an initiative that he first announced during his Independence Day speech. This is crucial for two reasons. First, it appears to address how authorities will administer and track the coronavirus immunisation of possibly each of the country's 1.3 billion-plus citizens. The process, unprecedented in scale for any democracy, needs to be precise, efficient and quick. A viable vaccine is likely to be in two doses, with a predetermined gap in between.

Second, it will mark the rollout of one of the world's most ambitious public health management systems — the National Digital Health Mission. The idea behind the programme is to digitise the health records of citizens. Its benefits, especially in the context of the coronavirus immunisation, are clear, for it will provide easy access to standardised data. But its rollout in the context of the pandemic can also be controversial. India is yet to adopt a personal data protection legislative framework, and if access to a Covid-19 vaccine is made contingent on signing up for a national health ID, the programme becomes virtually mandatory. Till now, officials have said that sign-ups are voluntary. To be sure, the specifics of the vaccine delivery are still not final. These details will need to balance legal, ethical and, ultimately, public health considerations before they are set in stone. Getting the vaccine strategy right is critical for the entire edifice of the recovery process from the pandemic.

Hindustan Times



# New Labor Laws

HILAL MANZOOR WAGAY

“These legislations will definitely make industrial strikes more difficult, enhancing a company's powers of retrenchment may push unemployment rates higher, especially at a time when millions of workers have been out of work since the Covid-19 outbreak

**W**ork is not only part of everybody's daily life but is crucial to one's dignity, well-being and development as a human being. Economic development does not include only creation of jobs but also comprises working conditions in which one can work in freedom, safety and dignity. In order to develop economy, the government (both central and state) had time and again passed, a number of legislations to create new jobs and concomitantly provide favorable working conditions for overall development of the labors. As Labor is a Concurrent Subject and both Central Legislature and State Legislature can make laws, more than forty labor legislations existed in India. Overlapping and confusion was unavoidable in such circumstances.

Therefore, in order to lessen complexity, to provide ease of compliance and for accountability and transparency beneficial for both employers and workers, new reforms were long-awaited. Recently, Parliament passed the three labor code bills – the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020; the Industrial Relations Code, 2020; and the Code on Social Security, 2020 – merging 24 central labor laws in a major boost to Labor sector.

#### The Industrial Relation Code, 2020

This code mostly combines three codes i.e. Trade Union Act, 1926, Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 and Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

The new laws have allowed companies with up to 300 workers to fire workers or shut plants without the prior approval of the government. Hitherto, prior approval had been required. However, Firms with more than 300 workers need to still apply for approval.

The rules and regulations (also called Standing Orders) with respect to holidays, workers classification, paydays, wage rates etc. was made mandatory for the establishment with up to 300 workers, the number earlier was 100 workers.

New rules for hiring and firing of labor in mid-sized and large industries were introduced, this new legislation makes retrenchment easier. The prior permission of government for retrenchment, layoff and closure applied to establishment with up to 300 workers.

It also declared that Fourteen days' notice before strike should be given by the employee. However, this notice will remain

valid for 60 days. Flash strikes are now outlawed.

This code also prohibits any sort of strike and lockdown during the pendency of matter before any tribunal and also prohibits strike after 60 days of order passed by tribunal.

If there are more than one trade union in any establishment, the Sole Negotiation Union status will be given only to such trade union which comprises the 51% of the employees as members, the number earlier was 75%.

#### Code on Social Security, 2020

This code combines nine earlier codes which mostly relates to retirement, social Security and employee Benefits i.e. The Employees Compensation Act 1923, the Employees State Insurance Act 1948, The Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952, The Employees Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act 1959, The Maternity Benefit Act 1961, The Payment of Gratuity Act 1972, The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act 1981, The Building and Other Construc-

“More than forty labor legislations existed in India. Overlapping and confusion was unavoidable in such circumstances. Therefore, in order to lessen complexity, to provide ease of compliance and for accountability and transparency beneficial for both employers and workers, new reforms were long-awaited.

tion Workers Cess Act 1996 and the last but not least The Unorganized Workers Social Security Act 2008.

This code for the first time introduced comprehensive social security to workers of Unorganized Sector.

It lays emphasis that the Government from time to time formulate and notify suitable welfare schemes relating to Provident Fund, Employment Injury Benefit, Housing, Educational Scheme for Children etc.

The definition of employees has been expanded to include more workers like, Inter State Migrant Workers, Gig Workers, Platform Workers, Film Industry Workers etc.

New gratuity period for working journalists are now 3 years instead of earlier 5 years.

It also declares that Central government can reduce employer's or employee's contribution (under Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance) for a period of three months in case of a pandemic, endemic and national disaster.

#### Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020

This code replaces 13 labor laws related to Safety, Health and working conditions of labors and alike. Some of the codes replaced were Factories Act 1948, Dock Workers Act 1986, Contract Labor Act 1970, Inter-state Migrant Workers Act 1979 etc. The main aim of this code is not only to regulate employment but also to regulate health, safety and favorable working conditions of employees.

Under this, definition of factory was expanded, now any premises with more than 20 workers (where electricity is used) and 40 workers (where electricity is not used) can be called factory.

Applicable to contractors who employee more than 50 workers, it also removed earlier manpower limit on hazardous conditions. However, Maximum daily work limit was fixed to 8 hours per day. It also states that women can work in any establishment and it's the employer's responsibility to provide adequate safeguard.

Additionally, state and central

government have to maintain the record of inter-state migrant workers. Workers earning more than eighteen thousand per month can be treated as Inter State migrant workers and can benefit under public distribution system, building cess, insurance and provident fund.

No doubt, the revolutionary majors had been introduced via these legislations, by allowing industries flexibility in hiring and retrenchment. On the one hand, these legislations were introduced to bring ease of compliance to the industry and investment push for India and more importantly to create more jobs when unemployment is on its peak. But on the other hand, these legislations will definitely make industrial strikes more difficult, enhancing a company's powers of retrenchment may push unemployment rates higher, especially at a time when millions of workers have been out of work since the Covid-19 outbreak.

The author is an Advocate,  
Delhi High Court



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

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## Accept Stammering

**I**nternational Stammering Awareness Day (ISAD) is celebrated on October 22 worldwide. The day is designated to bring up public awareness of the issues faced by millions of people – one percent of the world's population – who stammer. In India too, millions of people are confronting the challenge of stammering. It creates trouble for education, inter-

personal relationships, social activities, and finding employment. Our society recognizes that every individual must speak fluently. Stammers are isolated and many times judged incapable of jobs and marriage.

Our community keeps giving unsolicited advices to people who stammer. This kind of advice does not assist them and instead makes their

life more complicated. The need of the hour is that people should accept stammering as human diversity and accept it extensively. If you are communicating with anyone who stammers, listen to them patiently, give them time to speak, and do not make any assumptions or make them uncomfortable.

Exclusive equal opportunities

and full participation may empower people who stammer in society. At the same time, the people who stammer should frankly accept stammering and talk to more people and remove the fear of stammering.

Amit Singh Kushwaha  
amitsk68@gmail.com



Literary Ecriture

# The Poetics of Resistance Music

Huzaifa Pandit

MC Kash, a young rapper from Kashmir, similarly employs the genre of rap to protest. A particularly suggestive sample of his work is his song 'I protest' which voices the ground level reality of living in a conflict zone. MC Kash exemplifies the tendency of protest music to be resident in a very personalized political experience. The song 'I Protest' for example was written as a response to the 2010 uprising.

In the recent times, Kashmir has seen a flourishing of artistic expressions, among which music has emerged one of the prominent expressions of a besieged people. Music is one of the most universal forms of expression that transcends the boundaries of nation and region, and has often been employed to crystallize expressions of resistance. Resistance Songs have often been employed to negotiate with power structures in an attempt to make space for the counter-narrative. However, Resistance Music is not a linear or a single category as is presumed. Infact, the genre has atleast two paradigms of the genre - the Militant Songs and Protest Songs. The Spanish term 'Nueva Cancion or Nueva Trova' is loosely translatable as militant song.

In her introduction to the book 'Militant Songs Movement in Latin America: Chile, Uruguay, and Argentina', Pablo Vila draws attention to the complexity of the politicized music-making in Latin America in the twentieth century. She draws attention particularly to the term militant suggesting that "because militant prefigures without determining or narrowing it, (it is) a committed political position". She argues that these songs offer a broader paradigm of resistance as they are not merely restricted to adopting an oppositional position. Rather, they performed a broader function including but not limited to offering tidings of a "scientifically secured" better future through Marxism, or asking for concrete political actions like encouraging people to vote for Popular Union's candidates in 1973 Chilean Elections. As Vila notes the songs denounced (in the double sense of making public and alerting about) a situation." (Vila 3). The militant songs incorporate a diversity of subjects, e.g. in the Chilean context openly political songs such as El Pueblo Undo Jamas Sera Vencido (The people united will never be defeated), to combination of political reality with romantic elements, as Recuerdo Amanda. These songs serve as a reminder in popular memory as references to a time in which "dreams of liberty and social transformation confronted military dictatorships throughout Latin America." (Ureva 298). In this category comes, Mehjoor's poem put to music like: Come, O Gardner would be a perfect example of this paradigm, since it imagines a truly postcolonial state where the ideals of freedom and dignity reign supreme.

Protest songs or Protest music, on the other hand, has a restricted scope as it adopts a deliberately confrontational position. There is no universally agreed definition of a protest song, since the genesis and evolution of the song have been frequently entrenched in situational contexts completely diverse and far from each other. Yet, if a definition were sought, it wouldn't be amiss to define a protest song as a "creative endeavor undertaken under the conditions of authoritarianism..... that creates a multitude of cultural clues and points of reference to help define a societal sense of common



Credits: Unsplash

identity, the injustice the community suffered, and the need for social mobilization to remedy the undesirable." (Payer-hin 6) Byerly reasons that protest songs are able to create this mobilization owing to the immense power manifest in music. She writes:

Music is the ultimate local and international communicator, transcending language barriers and undermining censorship unlike any other medium of protest.... It has the ability to initiate, motivate, collaborate, communicate, instigate, nurture, dispute, repulse, and reconcile. It is an unparalleled site for creativity and expression—containing infinite options for the configuration of melody, harmony, lyrics, languages, code-switching, rhythms, style, genres and forms. It is malleable and transposable, and can transform itself with chameleon-like agility, from being militaristic and confrontational to progressive and inclusive, jarring and accusatory to serene and conciliatory, discordant and dissonant to melodious and harmonious. (Byerly 230-31)

True to the intricate nature of Music, protest music and songs have sprung up in diverse situations across the world. While as protest songs have been sung all over the world, resistance movements for decolonization have found it particularly useful. During the Mau Mau uprising in Kenya against British colonial regime in 1952, several songs were composed that spoke of the Kenyan desire for independence, and the need to rally together. A famous song 'aria meendirie nyumba yaao' (Those who sold their people) by Nyagiko, praises those engaged in the fight against the British and simultaneously denounces the local corroborators who side with the colonists:

We agreed to carry this log together  
And when we reached the middle of the river  
Those who ran away and sold their people

And burnt our houses  
Now their children are like those of Goliath  
.....  
Let us praise those of us in Nyan-darua forest  
Dedan Kimathi and General Ma-thenge  
General Kago and General Waru-ingi

Our people have you forgotten  
The Gikuyu proverb that  
One cannot eat what he has not sweated for? (Kab ra and M tahi 65)

The song follows all the characteristics typical of resistance poems, outlined by Harlowe, including a simplicity of form, expression and a committed political standpoint. It also functions as a framing device in the sense intended by the social psychologist Bert Klandermans in his essay "The Social Construction of Protest and Multi organizational Fields". He suggests social activism necessitates framing, which he defines as "assign meaning to and interpret relevant intended to mobilize potential adherents port, and demobilize antagonists." He observes framing occurs through three ways (a) denouncing state of affairs is due to some specific indignation), (b) constructing a politically consciousness or a sense of who "we" are in our affliction), and (c) providing a sense exaggerated - projection of the chances of the movement to succeed." (Klandermans 80). The first stanza reminds the people of their collective resolve to fight, and denounces the betrayal of some local corroborators. The poem uses the term "Goliath" to refer to the children of these 'betrayers' to indicate the ill-gotten wealth acquired by them. However, the term is also a reminder of the failure such collaboration is doomed to suffer, as Goliath eventually lost to the frail David. The final stanza too refers back to the first stanza, reminding the people of the necessity of

fighting. The proverb reminds the people that decolonization can only be achieved through a struggle, and fruits of freedom can be enjoyed only by those who strive for it. It can also be read as a warning to the antagonists suggesting they are excluded from collective consciousness since they have made no contribution in its evolution.

MC Kash, a young rapper from Kashmir, similarly employs the genre of rap to protest. A particularly suggestive sample of his work is his song 'I protest' which voices the ground level reality of living in a conflict zone, as well as the despair, and disgust at the apathy and cruelty of oppression:

I protest Against the things you have done, for a  
Mother who lost her son!  
I protest, I will throw stones and neva' run! I protest until my freedom has come!  
I protest, for my brother who's dead! I protest against the Bullet in his Head!  
I protest, I will throw stones and neva' run! I protest until my freedom has come! (Kash)

MC Kash exemplifies the tendency of protest music to be resident in a very personalized political experience. The song 'I Protest' for example was written as a response to the 2010 uprising. Suvir Kaul comments "MC Kash's combination of protest and remembrance, indictment and memorialization, anger and sorrow, is a powerful testimonial to the Kashmiri suffering that shapes its politics today." (Kaul 109). The refrain 'I protest' itself acquires a great emotive force since it appears after cataloguing the different manifestations of state tyranny that include targeted killing, suppression of symbolic forms of resistance like stone pelting, and adds to the element of defiance by promising to stand ground, and not flee thereby asserting his belongingness as well as the right to protest. His personal journey is immediately intertwined with the larger historical process external to him, yet thoroughly internalized. Thus, he emerges as a paradigm of protest song. In both forms, thus, resistance music emerges as a natural ally of resistance poetry, and demands that future theorists and historiographers of Kashmir pay as much attention to it, as they do to resistance literature to understand how it contributes to the narratives of resistance.

Huzaifa Pandit is the author of the recently published Green is the Colour of Memory, which won the first edition of Rhythm Divine Poets Chapbook Contest 2017. He holds a PhD on poetry of resistance from University of Kashmir

# The Achiever's Dilemma

KAREN ANN MONSY

Have you ever been pushed - really pushed - to achieve something? A grade, a medal, a supply order, a position, a certain number on the scales. The 'top' has always been designated the place 'to be': the ultimate goal. our individual Everests, if you will. But after the celebrations die down and the back-slapping has ceased, there's almost a sense of anti-climax, because what follows is the inevitable question: what next? Where do you go when you're already at the top? Sardonic replies suggest "there's no other way but down, of course" - but consistent achievers beg to differ. To paraphrase Loren Allred in her utterly captivating The Greatest Showman vocal performance, the achiever's bent is this: it's never enough. There's always more that can be done.

US-based Dr Carl Beuke says as much in his Psychology Today post, when he notes that high achievers are "often marked, unsurprisingly, by a strong motive to achieve". It was certainly a unanimous perspective among all the folks we spoke to for this piece: all their lives, they can attest to a constant desire to succeed.

Jordanian expat Helen Al Uzaizi recalls how, even when she was at school, she wanted to "do more" than the other kids and "go beyond what was expected". It might come as a bit of a surprise, therefore, that the CEO of Bizworld UAE (who was also named one of the 50 Most Influential Women in the Arab World by Arabian

Business last year) was an average student who struggled through both school and university. If there's anything she's learnt over the years, it's that attitude is everything. "I don't consider myself to be 'at the top'," she says, self-effacingly. In fact, she adds, throwing in an altogether alternate perspective: "There's no such thing as 'the top'. There's always going to be someone better than you, and the only thing that can keep you grounded, despite achievements, is having the humility to acknowledge that you don't know it all - and that there's always something to learn."

The road to where she is today has been "very twisted, with lots of ups and downs". The 37-year-old says she can't think of a single year that "wasn't a rollercoaster" - but she has learnt to embrace the journey. "When you're younger, the rollercoaster feels like a hurdle. But as you grow and appreciate the learning you get from each experience, you see it as an opportunity to explore something new. Personally, I've come out stronger each time, with a lot more insight into who I am and what I can do to impact the community and society. So, now, I look forward to the next rollercoaster."

A triathlete and mountain climber too, Helen puts her multiple achievements down to being extremely goal-driven. She has her 'big dream' all written down - to, some day, build a school that offers quality progressive education that's accessible to all and not just the elite few. In the meantime, she's okay to keep "falling, trying and learning".

On the subject of the latter, Helen re-

veals she's also going back to university this year, having enrolled at the London School of Economics to study international development. Talk about an admirable direction? "You're never too big to learn,"

Where do you go when you're already at the top? Sardonic replies suggest "there's no other way but down, of course" - but consistent achievers beg to differ.

she counters. "People try too hard to be perfect. But the minute we realise we can do more, we can achieve more; the world then becomes a better place, because everyone is striving to do better. Without that, all you have is a complacent society with no one trying to effect any change."

#### No room for fear

Aside from being open to learning new things, achievers are able to keep climbing up the proverbial ladder because they're also not afraid to take risks or to fail. Trying to avoid failure - which, if we're being honest, is what many of us are content to do - is not the goal. "You cannot be successful if you're scared. You have to

be ready to take on new challenges. The best part is the process also teaches you to manage stressful situations over time. So, for us, we don't call it failure - whatever goes wrong is just another step in learning.

#### Great expectations

For many achievers, the motivation comes from personal gratification. But there's no denying the pressure that builds up from the weight of expectations once you've set the bar high. Society, inevitably, expects you to go higher - or be relegated to the dusty pedestals of has-beens.

#### The world is your oyster

When people look for a new goal, they usually move in an upwardly mobile or vertical direction. One look at British expat Katie Pattison-Hart's CV reveals it's possible to diversify into completely different sectors too. One of the faces behind Citizen's 'My Better Starts Now' campaign, she hails from a corporate banking background, having been the director of a finance house - at which point she decided to take a break and pursue a completely different adventure: crossing the Atlantic.

#### 4 Habits of Successful People

1. Don't be afraid of discipline. Daunting as it sounds, a routine is critical to the lives of achievers - and often, that includes being an early riser. Dr Rohit always makes it a point to start his day by 4.30am and plan his day well. "Once you have a routine, you won't waste time. Instead, you'll be calculating how to make your day as productive as possible, an

attitude that will only help you get ahead in this competitive world." It also means you'll be able to ensure a work-life balance, adds the surgeon, who sets aside an hour for himself every morning and hits the gym as early as 5.30am.

2. Figure out your core values. Katie says it's important to first figure out the beliefs you want to build your foundation on before you start visualising where you want to be in the next 5-10 years. "When you have the headline of what your vision looks like, you can break it down to daily actions - all of which should add value to the end goal. Then, when opportunities come along, you'll be in a better position to accept or decline. Without that foundation, you'll find yourself constantly wavering and dealing with internal struggles."

3. Know your goals. "I've been writing my goals for the next year on December 27 every year for the last eight years," reveals Helen. "And I make sure my annual goals are all aligned with my 'BIG' goals. It's what helps me stay focused. Of course, life does get in the way at times - but having a vision for myself and where I want to be ensures I stay on track."

4. Surround yourself with the right people. Ever heard of the phrase, "Show me who your friends are, and I'll tell you who you are"? Whether you like it or not, Reem says we are all susceptible to the influence of those we keep company with - which is why she always makes sure she's surrounded by the right people. "You become like the people you're around," she says simply.



# Study Reveals Role Of Sleep Deprivation In Unwanted Thoughts

### Agencies

Lack of sleep significantly impairs human ability to stop unwanted and unpleasant thoughts from entering the mind, a new study reveals.

The authors of the study say the findings could have implications for people suffering from psychiatric conditions associated with unwanted thoughts - such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and schizophrenia.

The study, from the University of York, tested the ability of participants to suppress intrusive thoughts when they were either sleep deprived or well rested. Sleep deprived participants suffered an increase in unwanted thoughts of nearly 50 percent compared to those who had a good night's sleep.

"In everyday life, mundane encounters can remind us of

unpleasant experiences. For example, a car driving too fast on the motorway might cause us to retrieve unwanted memories from a car accident many years ago. For most people, thought intrusions pass quickly, but for those suffering with psychiatric conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder, they can be repetitive, uncontrollable, and distressing," Lead author of the study, Dr Marcus Harrington, from the Department of Psychology at the University of York, said.

"It is clear that the ability to suppress unwanted thoughts varies dramatically between individuals, but until now the factors that drive this variability have been mysterious. Our study suggests sleep loss has a considerable impact on our ability to keep unwanted thoughts out of our minds," added Harrington.

For the study, sixty healthy



participants learnt to associate faces with photographs of emotionally negative scenes (such as an image from a war zone) or neutral scenes (such as an image of a cityscape).

The following morning, after a night of either sleep or total sleep deprivation, participants were shown the faces and asked to try to suppress thoughts related to the scenes with which they were paired.

Compared to the sleep group, the sleep deprived participants had much more difficulty keeping unwanted thoughts of the emotionally negative and neutral scenes from their minds. While the task became easier with practice for the rested participants, for those who had gone without sleep, thought intrusions remained consistently high.

The sleep group's success at suppressing unwanted thoughts caused them to view the negative scenes more positively after the suppression task, and they also showed a reduced sweat response when the negative scenes were presented. In contrast, the sleep deprivation group's failure

to keep unwanted thoughts out of mind meant that they did not experience this positive change in their responses.

"This study offers an important insight into the impact of sleep on mental health. Besides post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, our findings might have implications for our understanding of other disorders linked to sleep disturbances, such as obsessive-compulsive disorder and schizophrenia," Senior author of the study, Dr Scott Cairney, from the Department of Psychology at the University of York, said.

"The study also suggests that the onset of intrusive thoughts and emotional disturbances following bouts of poor sleep could create a vicious cycle, whereby upsetting intrusions and emotional distress exacerbate sleep problems, inhibiting the sleep needed to support recovery," added Cairney.

# Pandemic Driving Children Back To Work, Jeopardising Gains

### Press Trust of India

The coronavirus pandemic is threatening the future of a generation of the world's children, depriving them of schooling and sending them to work. Across the developing world, two decades of gains against child labour are eroding.

With classrooms shuttered and parents losing their jobs, children are trading their ABC's for the D

of drudgery: Reading, writing and times tables are giving way to sweat, blisters and fading hopes for a better life.

Instead of going to school, children in Kenya are grinding rocks in quarries. Tens of thousands of children in India have poured into farm fields and factories. Across Latin America, kids are making bricks, building furniture and clearing brush, once after-school jobs that are now full-time work.

These children and adolescents are

earning pennies or at best a few dollars a day to help put food on the table.

"Child labour becomes a survival mechanism for many families," says Astrid Hollander, UNICEF's head of education in Mexico.

Governments are still analysing how many students have dropped out of their school systems, but with school closures affecting nearly 1.5 billion children around the world, UNICEF estimates the numbers could be in the millions.

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT  
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ANANTNAG

No.101/3030/MVD/ANG Date:-20/10/020

NOTICE

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Gulzar Ahmad Lone S/O Ab Rehman Lone R/O Shankerpora Anantnag(Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Bearing Regd. No.JK03C-1684(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.2222/GC/ANG, and Mr.Shabir Ahmad Dar S/O Bashir Ahmad Dar R/O Fatehpura Ganderbal Srinagar(Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted Vehicle from party No 1st and 2nd. And Cancellation /Endorsement of hire purchase agreement with Nil.Before the case is disposed off on its merit, anybody have any objection regarding the proposed transfer Amy file his objection within( 7) days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation / objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

MJA Assistant Regional  
Transport Officer Anantnag

GOVERNMENT OF UT JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PCD (PHQ) J&K SRINAGAR  
INVITING E-TENDER NOTICE  
e-NIT No/EE-PCD/PHQ/62/2020-21 Dated:- 20-10-2020

Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K JAMMU/ SRINAGR on behalf of The President of India invites tenders by e-tendering on item rate basis from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K Govt. / CPWD / Railways and other State / Central Governments for the following works.

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Estimated Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of document (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time Allowed for completion	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Repair / renovation of Quarter No 02 Block- NGO at Gulshan Ground Jammu	PCD (PHQ) J&K, Srinagar	2.50 lacs	300/-	5000/-	30 days	28-10-2020	"A" & "D"

1. Date of Publishing 20-10-2020 at 1630 hours.

2. The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 1700 hours on 20-10-2020

i. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> from 21-10-2020 to 27-10-2020 upto 1600 Hrs. The bids received will be opened at 1100 hours on 28-10-2020 on line.

ii. The complete bidding process will be on line.

iii. Technical bids of bidders shall be opened on line in the office of Executive Engineer PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/ Srinagar on 28-10-2020 at 1100 Hrs.

iv. The lowest bidder i.e. L1 shall be intimated to deposit the original copy of required earnest money in shape of CDR/ FDR and hard copies of all relevant documents as mentioned in clause 2 of general instructions to the bidders within three days from opening of financial bids.

v. The cost of tender documents should be submitted by the bidder in shape of treasury challan / receipt and upload the same.

3. Bid documents can be seen at and downloaded from the website <http://jktenders.gov.in> Bid documents contain qualifying criteria for bidder, specifications, bill of quantities, conditions and other details.

4. The site for the work is available. The intending bidders are strongly advised to inspect the site of work before bidding.

5. Bids must be accompanied by bid security in column 6 of the table payable at Jammu/ Srinagar pledged in favour of Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/Srinagar. Bid security will have to be in form of CDR / FDR and shall have to be valid for six months or more after last date of receipt of Bid. The cost of downloaded tender documents shall be in form of treasury challan/ receipt.

i. Financial Bids will be opened on line in the office of the Executive Engineer, PCD PHQ J&K Jammu/Srinagar. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

6. The bid for the work shall remain open for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids. If any bidder / tenderer withdraws his bid/tender before the said period or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid, the said earnest money shall stand forfeited.

7. No Engineer of Gazetted rank or other Gazetted Officer employed in Engineering or Administrative duties in an Engineering Department of the Government is allowed to work as a Contractor for a period of two years after his retirement from Government service, without permission of the Government. This contract is liable to be cancelled if either the contractor or any of his employees is found any time to be such a person who had not obtained the permission of the Government as aforesaid before submission of the tender or engagement in the Contractor's Service.

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer  
PCD (PHQ) J&K Srinagar.

DIPK-7755/20

No:-e-NIT/EE-PCD/PHQ/2020-21/4827-33  
Dated: 20-10-2020.

# Office of the Tehsildar Budgam

Assami-wise statement of applicant in whose favour ownership rights respect of occupied state land was approved

S. No	Name of Village/ Halqa	Name of Beneficiary With Parentage	Residence	Survey No	Area under occupation	Kind of soil	Status of Land	com	Resi	Agri	Inst	Date since when occupation	Date of confirmation of ownership rights	Date on which decided by committee	NO & Date of the sanction	Value of land decided by committee	% a ge rebate allowed	Cost actually deposited by applicant	TR No. & Date
1	Samina	Ali Mohd Bhat S/o Ishaq Bhat Gh Hassan S/o Mohd	Bemina	2249	01	03	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/8	DCB/SQ	115		115	
2	S. Abad	Mh. Akber S/o Mh. Yousef & Mst Zoona D/O Mali	Sebden	290	03	1 1/2	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	310		310	
3	DO	Mh Rafiq S/o Mh Sultan	S. Abad	do	01	14	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	170		170	
4	Gubd Hanjik	Ab Aziz Wani S/o Abdullah Wani	Hajibagh	55	03	17	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	385		385	
5	DO	Gh Mohd Hajam S/o Gh Ahmad	DO	DO	03	10	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	350		350	
6	DO	Ab Rashid S/o Ahad Hajam	Hakermullah	do	04	00	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	400		400	
7	Gubd Hanjik	Habib Bhat S/-L/O Ahad Wani	Gubd Hanjik	do	02	10	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	250		250	
8	DO	Mst. Mugli S/o D/o Satar Wani	Hajik	DO	02	07	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	235		235	
9	DO	Gh Rasool , gH, hASSAN & Ali Ss/o Ab Rahman Sofi	DO	DO	02	00	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	200		200	
10	DO	Ab Rashid Wani S/o Abdullah Wani	DO	DO	01	10	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	150		150	
11	kakeken maran	Ahad S/o Ismaiel & Mast Fazi D/o Ahad	x	46min	05	08	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	540		540	
12	Dharmun	Gh Mohi-ud-din S/o Satar Bhat	Dharmun	995 min	02	21	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	270		270	
13	do	Ab Gani Wani S/o Mohad Wani	DO	2 2 6 0	002	00	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	200		200	
14	Hajibugh	Rustum Sofi S/o Lassi Sofi	Hajibagh	3779	00	10	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	50		50	
15	Hanjik	Nazir Ahmad S/o Rahman Dar	Hanjik	171 MIN	02	00	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	200		200	
16	DO	Gh Rasool S/o Qasim Bhat	do	do	00	11	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	55		55	
17	do	Hassan Bhat S/o Qasim Bhat	do	do	00	11	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	55		55	
18	Dharmun	Gh Mohi-ud-din s/o Kabir	Dharmun	861	09	18	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	990		990	
19	do	Khazir Mohd S/o Satar	DO	866	02	13	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	265		265	
20	Hakermullah	Mohd Subhan S/o Abdul Rashid	Hakermullah	61 Min	00	04	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	20		20	
21	do	Gh Nabi S/o Ahad Hajam	do	do	00	15	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	75		75	
22	Gund Hanjik	Mohd Sultan S/o Ab Gani Wani	Hanjik	56 Min	03	15	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	375		375	
23	Do	Mohd Shafi S/o Qasim Sofi	DO	DO	02	13	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	265		265	
24	hANJIK	Gh Mohd , Nazir Ahmad S/o Rahim Dar	do	3 7 8	03	07	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	335		335	
25	do	Mustafa Dar S/o Rahman	do	do	00	15	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	75		75	
26	DO	DO	DO	DO	02	00	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	200		200	
27	Gund Hanjik	Habib Wani S/o Ahad Wani	S. Abad	56 Min	04	08	Abi Awal			Agri		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	440		440	
28	Humhama	Nazir Ahmad S/o Fateh Mohd Humhama	Humhama	487 Min	00	16	Madni		Resi	-		Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ	340000		340000	

DIPK-7804/20

DIPK - To be continued



How A Trump Defeat Could Challenge Xi Jinping, Kim Jong Un, Saudi Prince

Agencies

Washington: If Donald Trump is forced from the White House in the November election, he won't be the only loser. Though many governments would likely celebrate the end of the most unconventional and at times chaotic U.S. presidency of modern times, others will have reason to miss it. For the leaders of Turkey, North Korea and Israel, the ledger has been almost entirely positive. Trump's ejection would confront them with immediate challenges. The scorecard for countries like China is more nuanced. Even so, what the mostly authoritarian winners from Trump's four years in office have in common is a fear his departure would spell the return of a more conventional U.S. foreign policy. That could see the U.S. mending alliances and promoting



the universality of values such as democracy and human rights, or the fight against climate change. "This president embraces all the thugs in the world," Trump's opponent Joe Biden said at a recent town hall event, as he sought to highlight the political divide.

Kim Jong Un

No relationship with the U.S. changed more under Trump than North Korea's. What began with mutual threats and insults morphed into a sometimes bizarre love-in as Kim and Trump met three times and exchanged more than two dozen letters,

showcasing their "mysteriously wonderful" chemistry. Still, the radically different U.S. approach has also failed to secure North Korea's denuclearization. Kim unveiled a huge new intercontinental ballistic missile on Oct. 10 that appears capable of delivering multiple nuclear warheads. Biden has said he won't meet without preconditions, making any rapid lifting of the sanctions that have tipped North Korea's economy into its worst recession for two decades less likely. Mohammed bin Salman Trump set the tone for his approach to international relations in Saudi Arabia, choosing Riyadh for his first foreign visit in 2017. He was greeted by a huge image of his own face projected onto the facade of the palatial hotel where his delegation stayed. The Saudi Crown Prince made important gains, above all Trump's withdrawal from the



Taliban Ambush Kills At Least 25 Afghan Security Personnel

Agencies

Kunduz, Afghanistan: At least 25 Afghan security force personnel were killed in an ambush blamed on the Taliban in the northeast of the country, officials said Wednesday. "Fighting is still continuing and the Taliban have also suffered heavy casualties," Jawad Hejri, a spokesman for the governor of

Takhar province told AFP. Takhar provincial health director Abdul Qayoum confirmed the incident but said 34 security personnel had been killed - including the deputy police chief of the province. "These security forces were on their way for an operation in the district when they were attacked by the Taliban," said Hejri. "The Taliban had taken posi-

tions in the houses around the area. They ambushed our forces who were there for an operation against the enemy." The Taliban have so far not commented on the attack. It comes as spiralling violence across Afghanistan imperils ongoing peace talks between the hardline group and the government in Qatar.

At Least 11 Afghan Women Killed In Stampede Near Pakistan Consulate

Agencies

Jalalabad: At least 11 women were killed Wednesday in a stampede at an Afghan football stadium where thousands of people had gathered to apply for Pakistani visas, authorities said.

The incident unfolded at the stadium in Jalalabad city, the capital of eastern Nangarhar province, after large crowds assembled in a bid to

dium which led to the tragic incident," Khogyani said. Khogyani and provincial hospital spokesman Zaher Adel put the death count at 11 women, while Nangarhar provincial council member Naser Kamawal said 15 people had died and 15 more were injured. Eyewitness Abdul Ahad said women had been given priority to stand at the front of the crowd. In ultra-conservative Afghanistan it is cus-

pectant mothers among those who were in the crush. "Some had miscarriages," the traumatised woman told AFP, declining to be named. "One who had been trampled gave birth there. We helped her but her baby was dead. (The mother) was injured, but alive." Seeking medical visas Pakistan's embassy in Kabul expressed "deep grief and sadness" over the incident. "The embassy remains committed to ensure smooth and effective management of visa applicants at our end," a statement read.

"We seek the understanding and cooperation of Afghan people and authorities for better and secure management of the Afghan visa applicants." Thousands of Afghans from Nangarhar and other nearby provinces had arrived since the early morning to apply for medical visas or to visit relatives, and hundreds of policemen had been deployed at the stadium to control the crowds.

Hours after the incident, relatives were seen carrying the dead in coffins from a mortuary in Jalalabad. Many Afghans travel to neighbouring Pakistan every year, often for medical or educational purposes, while millions have taken refuge there over the past few decades to escape war and poverty in conflict-racked Afghanistan.



secure travel permission after the nearby Pakistani consulate resumed services following a seven-month hiatus due to the pandemic.

To avoid overwhelming the visa centre, applicants had been directed to Jalalabad's nearby football stadium to hand over passports and paperwork, provincial governor's spokesman Attullah Khogyani told reporters.

"Unfortunately this morning tens of thousands of people had come to the football sta-

Mosques In French Cities Under Police Protection After Threats

Agencies

Paris: French Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin said on Wednesday he had asked local authorities to put mosques in the cities of Bordeaux and Beziers in southwestern France under police protection following threats or acts of violence.

"Such actions are unacceptable on the soil of the Republic," the minister said in a post on Twitter on Wednesday.

France bleu radio reported on its website late on Tuesday that leaders of the Ar-Rahma mosque in Beziers had filed a complaint with police following hate messages on Face-

book, including a call to set the mosque on fire. The threats come just days after a Chechen teenager beheaded a French history teacher for showing caricatures of the Prophet Mohammad in class in a middle school northwest of Paris. France bleu displayed a Facebook message, which has since been deleted, urging that homage be paid to the murdered teacher by torching the Beziers mosque. Prime Minister Jean Castex told parliament on Tuesday that France was in need of a law against endangering the lives of others via social media networks.

Karabakh conflict  
Diplomatic efforts underway as 2nd truce falls apart

Agencies

Baku: The foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan have arrived in Russia to discuss their countries' dispute over the South Caucasus region of Nagorno-Karabakh, days before heading to Washington for separate meetings with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, as heavy fighting over the region is in its fourth week. The two Caucasian countries said their top diplomats were in the Russian capital, Moscow, on Wednesday. Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Jeyhun Bayramov arrived in Moscow for "consultations with the Russian side," the Azeri Foreign Ministry said in a statement. His Armenian counterpart, Zohrab Mnatsakanyan, was set to meet with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov "to discuss the situation in Karabakh and the implementation of a ceasefire agreement," said Armenian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Anna Nagdalyan. It was not clear if the two diplomats would meet Lavrov jointly or separately. The pair will also meet Secretary Pompeo in separate meet-

ings in Washington on Friday. They have ruled out a trilateral meeting there. The US State Department has not made a statement on the meeting. Russia has so far brokered two humanitarian ceasefires to bring an end to the deadly conflict that erupted over Karabakh in September. Moscow's efforts for peace, however, failed to stop the fighting as both Yerevan and Baku violated the ceasefires. Russian President Vladimir Putin continues efforts "to prevent further escalation of hostilities and resume talks to settle the Nagorno-Karabakh problem by political and diplomatic means as soon as possible," the Kremlin said on Tuesday. Putin also discussed the issue in a telephone conversation with his French counterpart, President Emmanuel Macron. "The leaders stressed their readiness to continue close coordination between Russia and France as co-chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and within the United Nations Security Council," the Kremlin said, referring to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

US Sues Google In Biggest Antitrust Case In Decades, Explores Breakup

Agencies

Washington: The US sued Google on Tuesday, accusing the \$1 trillion company of illegally using its market muscle to hobble rivals in the biggest challenge to the power and influence of Big Tech in decades.

The Justice Department lawsuit could lead to the break-up of an iconic company that has become all but synonymous with the internet and assumed a central role in the day-to-day lives of billions of people around the globe. Such an outcome is far from assured, however, and the case is likely to take years to resolve.

The lawsuit marks the first time the U.S. has cracked down on a major tech company since it sued Microsoft Corp for anti-competitive practices in 1998. A settlement left the company intact, though the government's prior foray into Big Tech anti-trust - the 1974 case against AT&T - led to the breakup of the Bell System. The federal government's complaint against Alphabet Inc's , which alleges that Google acted unlawfully to maintain its position in search and search advertising on the internet, was joined by 11 states. "Absent a court order, Google will continue executing its anticompetitive strategy, crippling the competitive process, reducing consumer choice, and stifling innovation," the lawsuit states.

The government said Google has nearly 90% of all general search engine queries in the United States and almost 95% of searches on mobile.

Attorney General Bill Barr said his investigators had found Google does not compete on the quality of its search results but instead bought its success through payments to mobile phone makers and others.

"The end result is that no one can feasibly challenge Google's dominance in search and search advertising," Barr said. When asked on a conference call if the department was seeking a breakup or another remedy, Ryan Shores, a Justice Department official, said, "Nothing is off the table, but a question of remedies is best addressed by the court after it's had a chance to hear all the evidence."



NEWS MAKERS

Linking terrorism to Islam shows ignorance: Imam of Egypt's Al-Azhar

The grand imam of Egypt's Al-Azhar Islamic Center, Sheikh Ahmed el-Tayyeb, has blasted individuals who link terrorism to Islam, following Islamophobic remarks by French President Emmanuel Macron and the recent murder of a French teacher.

According to AhlulBayt News Agency (ABNA) on Wednesday, Tayyeb tweeted that linking terrorism to Islam was a sign of ignorance.

Tayyeb's statement comes following the beheading of French school teacher Samuel Paty on Friday after he showed his students blasphemous cartoon images of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH).

The grand imam of Al-Azhar also condemned the incident in a joint statement read out to an interfaith gathering of Muslims, Christians, and other religions in Rome's Capitol Square attended by the leader of the Catholic Christians, Pope Francis, on Tuesday.



In the statement, Tayyeb emphasized that the religion of Islam was opposed to criminal activities and was innocent of terrorist crimes. He also emphasized that insults against religions in the name of free speech were not condoned, as they provoked hatred.

"I emphasize that insulting religions and attacking their sacred symbols under the banner of freedom of expression is... an open invitation to hatred," the grand imam of Al-Azhar said.

Meanwhile, President Ma-

cron was scheduled to attend a memorial in honor of the dead teacher at Sorbonne University, posthumously presenting him France's highest award, the Legion d'Honneur.

Macron vowed on Tuesday to intensify a clampdown on extremists. "Our fellow citizens expect actions," he said during a visit to a Paris suburb.

A number of people, including two underage minors, have already been handed over to a court investigating the happenings leading to the killing.

Jamal Khashoggi Fiancee Sues Saudi Prince In US Over Murder

Washington: The fiancee of journalist Jamal Khashoggi sued Saudi Arabia's crown prince and other officials Tuesday in a US court, seeking damages for his brutal murder in Istanbul two years ago.

Turkish citizen Hatice Cengiz and the human rights group Khashoggi formed before his death, Democracy for the Arab World Now (DAWN), is pursuing Mohammed bin Salman and 28 others for damages over the October 2, 2018 killing of the US-based writer.

Cengiz claims personal injury and financial losses over Khashoggi's death, while DAWN said its operations and objectives were hampered by the loss of its founder and central figure.

"The ruthless torture and murder of Mr. Khashoggi shocked the conscience of people throughout the world," the suit said. "The objective of the murder was clear - to halt Mr. Khashoggi's advocacy in the United States, principally as the executive director of plaintiff DAWN, for democratic reform in the Arab world."

Khashoggi was killed inside Saudi Arabia's Istanbul consulate and his body dismembered and disposed of by a team of Saudis allegedly directed by right-hand men of



the crown prince.

After global expressions of outrage over the case and pressure from the United States and Turkey, 13 Saudis were tried in Riyadh and sentenced to stiff prison terms.

But two top royal aides, deputy intelligence chief Ahmed al-Assiri and the royal court's media chief Saud al-Qahtani, were exonerated, despite links to the murder.

Both of the aides, those convicted in Saudi Arabia for the murder, and others tied to the plot were named in the lawsuit.

Cengiz and DAWN said they filed the suit in Washington federal court because they saw no chance for justice in Saudi Arabia, known for its opaque courts, and Turkish legal experts said the civil case would not go forward while Ankara pursues a criminal case over the murder.

Shadowy AI Service Turns Thousands Of Women's Photos Into Fake Nudes

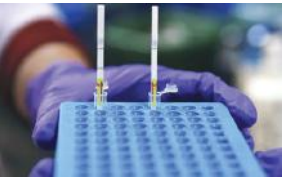
An artificial-intelligence service freely available on the web has been used to transform more than 100,000 women's images into nude photos without the women's knowledge or consent, triggering fears of a new wave of damaging "deepfakes" that could be used for harassment or blackmail.

Users of the automated service can anonymously submit a photo of a clothed woman and receive an altered version with the clothing removed. The AI technology, trained on large databases of actual nude photographs, can generate fakes with seemingly lifelike accuracy, matching skin tone and swapping in breasts and genitalia where clothes once were.

The women's faces remain clearly visible, and no labels are appended to the images to mark them as fake. Some of the original images show girls younger than 18.



# Fast, Cheap Coronavirus Paper Test To Be Soon Available Across India



**NEW DELHI:** A fast and cheap paper-based coronavirus test will soon be available across India, with scientists hopeful it will help turn the tide on the pandemic in one of the world's worst-hit nations.

India has recorded more than 7.5 million infections, second only to the United States, and the outbreak has spread from densely packed megacities like Mumbai to rural communities with limited medical services.

The locally developed Feluda, named for a detective in a famous Indian novel series, resembles a home pregnancy paper-strip test and delivers results within an hour.

Researchers are optimistic that its low cost and ease of use can help stem the pathogen's spread in poor and remote areas.

"This test doesn't require any sophisticated equipment or highly trained manpower," said co-creator Souvik Maiti, a scientist at New Delhi's CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB).

"There are lots of remote parts of India where you do not have any sophisticated laboratories... (The test) will be much

easier to deploy; it will have much more penetration."

India currently diagnoses Covid-19 with either RT-PCR tests, which are highly accurate but require advanced lab machinery, or antigen tests, which can give results in just a few minutes at a limited cost but with significantly lower accuracy.

Feluda, like other inexpensive paper-based tests being developed in other countries, claims to combine the accuracy of the PCR test with the accessibility of the antigen kits.

It uses the gene-editing technique CRISPR-Cas9, which recently earned its inventors Jennifer Doudna and Emmanuelle Charpentier the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Feluda has been granted government regulatory approval and Health Minister Harsh Vardhan said last week it could be rolled out in the next few weeks by Tata Group.

If made available within that timeframe, India will be one of the first countries in the world to begin mass use of such a test.

The price has not been released, but some reporters said it could cost around 500 rupees (\$6.80) -- around a fifth of what a PCR test costs in New Delhi.

The current prototype requires a PCR machine for processing, but scientists are working on a saliva or self-swabbing version that can be used at home, co-founder and IGIB scientist Debajyoti Chakraborty said.

# Sanjay Dutt Announces Recovery From Cancer On His Kids' Birthday, Says Best Gift For Them

**MUMBAI:** Bollywood star Sanjay Dutt on Wednesday announced that he has come out "victorious" from his cancer battle and thanked fans and well-wishers for their unwavering support in this journey.

The 61-year-old actor shared the news in a statement on Twitter on the occasion of his children's birthday. Shaahran and Iqra who turned 10 today.

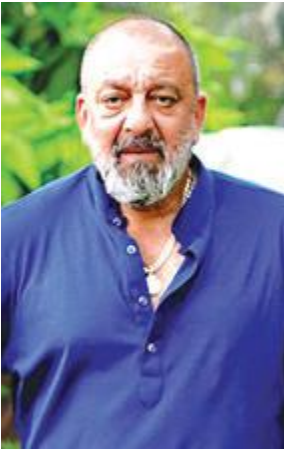
"The last few weeks were very difficult time for my family and me. But like they say, God gives the hardest battles to his strongest soldiers. And today, on the occasion of my kids' birthday, I am happy to come out victorious from this battle and be able to give them the best gift I can. The health and well being of our family," Sanjay Dutt said.

The news comes days after a family source told PTI that the actor had responded "very well" to the medical treatment for cancer.

In August, Sanjay Dutt had announced that he would be taking a break from his professional commitments to focus on medical treatment, amid speculation that he was battling lung cancer.

The actor, in his statement, further thanked friends and family for being his source of strength.

"This wouldn't have been possible without the unwavering faith and support from all of you. I am eternally grateful to my family, friends and all the fans who have stood by me



and been my source of strength through this trying time. Thank you for the love, kindness and the countless blessings that you have sent my way," he said.

Sanjay Dutt, who was undergoing treatment at a hospital here, also extended his gratitude to the team of doctors and medical staff.

"I am especially grateful to Dr Sewanti and her team of doctors, nurses and the medical staff at Kokilaben Hospital who have taken such good care of me in the last few weeks. Humbled and grateful," he added.

The actor, who was last seen in "Sadak 2", opened up about his cancer diagnosis for the first time last week in an Instagram video shared by celebrity hairstylist Aalim Hakim.

He is gearing up for the shooting of his next, "KGF: Chapter 2", in November. The period action film, starring Yash, marks Sanjay Dutt's Kannada debut. PTI



**UP IN ARMS:** In order to press for their pending employment demands, dailywagers staged a massive protest rally in Srinagar on Wednesday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

# 1.16 Lakh Infants Died From Air Pollution In India Last Year: US Study

**NEW DELHI:** Air pollution killed 476,000 newborns in 2019, with the biggest hotspots in India and Sub-Saharan Africa, according to a new global study which said that nearly two-thirds of the deaths came from noxious fumes from cooking fuels.

More than 116,000 Indian infants died from air pollution in the first month of life, and the corresponding figure was 236,000 in Sub-Saharan Africa, according to the State of Global Air 2020.

The estimates were produced by the US-based Health Effects Institute and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation's Global Burden of Disease project.

The authors wrote they relied on a growing body of evidence linking mothers' exposures during pregnancy to air pollution with the increased risk of their infants being born too small (low birth weight) or too early (preterm birth).

These conditions are associated with



serious complications and already account for the vast majority of neonatal deaths in both regions.

The new analysis estimated what percentage of those deaths came from ambient and household air pollution.

"An infant's health is critical to the future of every society, and this newest evidence suggests an especially high risk for infants born in South Asia and sub-

Saharan Africa," said Dan Greenbaum, President of HEI.

"Although there has been slow and steady reduction in household reliance on poor-quality fuels, the air pollution from these fuels continues to be a key factor in the deaths of these youngest infants," he added.

Overall, the report found that air pollution led to 6.7 million deaths worldwide in 2019, making it the fourth leading cause of death behind high blood pressure, tobacco use, and dietary risks.

The authors added that while the Covid-19 pandemic had led to significant societal and personal costs, "many countries around the world have experienced blue skies and starry nights, often for the first time in many years" -- but these gains were short lived.

"Nonetheless, the blue skies have offered a reminder of what pollution takes away," it said.

# People Buying Tanishq Products To Make A Point: Ad Maker

**NEW DELHI:** More people have seen the now-withdrawn Tanishq advertisement as the controversy also created a "movement" where many are buying Tanishq products to take a stand, the advertisement campaign's creator said on Tuesday.

The ad showed realities and, after the controversy, a silent majority of people has started speaking out against a vocal minority, according to Amit Akali, Managing Partner and Creative Head of "Whats Your Problem", the agency behind the advertisement campaign.

In an interview to PTI, he also asserted that no one would have expected the backlash because "communal harmony is the centre of our fabric".

Nevertheless, on withdrawing the advertisement, he termed Tanishq as a "brave" company that considered safety of employees in the face of the controversy.

The 120-billion dollar Tata Group chose to withdraw the 55-second Tanishq advertisement, which shows a Muslim mother-in-law caring for her pregnant Hindu daughter-in-law, in the wake of a furore online and displeasure among certain groups for alleged communal tones.

"People are going out there and telling us that we will not let this film get deleted, they are sharing the film on their own even though it has been removed. Or there is a movement where people are buying Tanishq and showing us the



any country," he said, pointing out that this is contrary to the behavioural phenomenon called "spiral of silence".

Spiral of silence refers to a large part of the majority staying silent because this is a way of life for them but there is a vocal minority which keeps speaking, he said.

Making it clear that the intent behind the campaign was just to show cultural realities that gel well with a brand's promise, and not political at all, Mr Akali said the broader "Ekatvam" or unity campaign of Tanishq will continue.

Stating that the society sided with Tanishq because the message resonated with it, he said "more people have seen the message than if it wasn't removed".

He said the advertisement which ran into the controversy was part of a broader campaign called "Ekatvam", wherein the jewellery brand has tied up with 1,000 craftsmen across 15 cultures of India to launch a collection.

On the Tata Group company withdrawing the advertisement, Mr Akali backed Tanishq terming the client as a "brave" company which took the stance of employee safety in the face of the controversy.

"I would have taken exactly the same decision if I would have been in the client's shoes. Nothing is more important than the safety of an employee. It is a brave client and the client took a stance for the safety of its employees," he said.

# "Principle Of Self-Determination Misused": India Slams Pak At UN

**UNITED NATIONS:** In a thinly-veiled reference to Pakistan, India said the principle of self-determination continues to be "deliberately misinterpreted and misused" by a particular nation and it was not established by the UN to be used as a justification for undermining the territorial integrity of any member state.

"Since the principle of self-determination, as considered on the agreed agenda of this committee, continues to be deliberately misinterpreted and misused by a particular delegation, it is pertinent to highlight once again that the United Nations has established the principle as a vehicle for the worthy cause of decolonisation of the 17 Non Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs) on the agenda of this committee, and not as a justification for undermining the territorial integrity of any member state," India said in a statement on "NSGTs and decolonisation."

India said it strongly believes for pursuing a pragmatic approach towards decolonization would surely lead to fulfilment of legitimate wishes of the people of NSGTs.

"We must also strive to enhance cooperation with international agencies and actors and channelize resources for the 17 NSGTs. This would surely



enable them to build capacities in their just and noble quest towards achieving long-cherished goals," the statement said.

India said that as a former colony, it has always been in the forefront of the struggle against colonialism and apartheid since its own independence over seven decades ago.

Since the creation of the United Nations, more than 80 former colonies have gained their independence and joined the family of United Nations. "However, the process of decolonization that began with our own independence remains unfinished," it said on Tuesday.

In 2011, the General Assembly had to proclaim the current decade, 2011-2020, as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, a period which is coming to an end this year. India noted that there still remain 17 NSGTs, which are in various stages of the decolonization process on the agenda of this committee.

"We need to step up our efforts to conclude this long-drawn process," India said.

# SC To Examine If Educational Institutions, Varsities Fall Under Consumer Law



The Supreme Court has agreed to examine the question as to whether an educational institution or university can be sued under the consumer protection law for deficiency in services, saying there have been "divergent views" of the top court on the issue.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud, Indu Malhotra and Indira Banerjee has admitted an appeal filed by Manu Solanki and other students of a medical course against Vinayaka Mission University at Salem in Tamil Nadu, alleging deficiency in services.

"Since there are divergent views of this Court bearing on the subject as to whether an educational institution or University would be subject to the provisions of the Consumer Protection Act 1986, the appeal would require admission. Admit," the top court said in its order of October 15.

It asked lawyer Soumyajit, appearing on behalf of caveator university, to file the response within six weeks to the appeal filed against a decision of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC).

The university has relied upon apex court judgments in the Maharashtra Dayanand University and in the PT Koshy cases to say that these verdicts have held that the education is not a commodity and educational institutions are not providing any kind of service.

Hence, in matter of admission and fees, there cannot be a kind of service and therefore,

there cannot be a question of deficiency of service to be adjudicated upon in consumer forum or commissions.

The students, however, cited other judgments in which it has been held that educational institutions would come within the purview of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986. Solanki and eight other students of the a medical course of the university had sought a compensation of Rs 1.4 crore each alleging deficiency in service and on account of "loss of social standing, academic years, career opportunities, mental and physical agony".

They alleged the university induced them to take admission in the course on a false assurance that it had all the requisite approvals from the authorities.

The students were admitted in the offshore programme in 2005-2006 comprising of two year study in Thailand and two-and-a-half year study in the university here, the plea said.

The students were assured that they would be getting their MBBS final degree conferred by the university and recognized by the Indian Government and Medical Council of India. However, after two years of study in Thailand, the students were informed that they should continue their course at Thailand and would be conferred a Foreign Medical Degree and should subsequently appear for screening test in India, the plea alleged.

The students said they suffered loss of career opportunities as the National Board of Examination said that their qualification was "not a primary medical qualification since the Degree is not recognized by the Medical Council of India or the Council of Thailand".

## NEWS MAKER

# COVID Patient Escapes From AIIMS, Husband Files Missing Report To Mislead

**NEW DELHI:** A 20-year-old woman, who had tested positive for coronavirus at AIIMS in Delhi, allegedly escaped from the hospital, even as her husband filed a missing person's complaint despite knowing her whereabouts, the police said on Wednesday.

According to the police, the woman went to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on October 18 as she was unwell. She got herself tested for the infectious disease and was found positive.

The hospital staff asked her to get admitted to the dedicated COVID centre, but she escaped from there, they said.

Meanwhile, the woman's husband filed a police complaint alleging that his wife has gone missing, the police said.



During the course of the investigation, it was found that the woman, after leaving the hospital, managed to reach her rented house in south Delhi's Zamrudpur village. Fearing that she would be caught, she left for her maternal house, a senior police official said.

"Her relatives, however, said that she had not reached her maternal house," he said.

The police said the woman's husband was aware that she was COVID positive and had escaped from AIIMS. He filed the missing person's complaint to mislead the police.

A case has been registered under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code for "disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant" and "negligent act likely to spread infection of disease dangerous to life" at the Greater Kailash Police Station.

"The matter is being investigated and teams have been formed to trace the couple," Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Atul Kumar Thakur said.

Once the woman is traced, more details will be clear, he said.

# 15 Sent To Life In Prison, Fined In 24-Year-Old Triple-Murder Case In UP's Fatehpur

**FATEHPUR, UP:** A court has sentenced 15 people to life imprisonment in a triple-murder case in Uttar Pradesh's Fatehpur district.

District Government Counsel Sukhdev Gupta on Tuesday said, "Additional District and Sessions Judge Ajay Kumar sentenced 15 accused to life imprisonment on Monday and also slapped a fine of 15,000 on each of them in a triple-murder case that was reported 24 years ago."

The incident took place on August 6, 1996 near a private bus stand in the Khaga area of the district, when a group of people demanded 20 as "goonda tax" per unit operation of private buses and another group said they will

levy the tax and started firing, which led to the death of Sunil Singh, Ramniranjan Singh and Rakesh Singh," Mr Gupta said.

On the basis of complaints from the members of the first group, murder and attempt to murder cases were lodged against 18 people, while the other group got an attempt to murder case registered against eight people, the government lawyer said.

The court acquitted eight accused for lack of evidence. Fifteen members of the second group were held guilty by the court, Mr Gupta said.

Of the fifteen accused of the second group, two died during the course of the hearing, while one was acquitted, he added.



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