



Maximum : 19°C
Minimum : 05°C
Humidity : 35%

SUNSET
Today 05:33 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:56 AM

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News Digest

DDC Polls To Be Held On Dec 1

Srinagar: The State Election Commission on Friday announced the dates for conduct of elections to the District Development Councils (DDCs) in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. According to the notification issued here today November 16th is the last date for filling of nominations, Nov 17th for scrutiny of nominations and Nov 19th for withdrawal of candidature, an official spokesperson said. "Similarly, December 1st will be the polling date from 7am to 2.00pm and will also be the date of counting after the conclusion of the poll in" **● P-02**

Newborn's Body Dumped At Hospital

Srinagar: The body of a newborn on Friday was found abandoned at a hospital in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district. According to the reports, police recovered body of a newborn that was abandoned by unidentified people inside the bathroom of Trauma hospital Kangan on Friday morning, news agency CNS reported. The body was found by some attendants, who informed the police instantly. A police officer said that a case has been registered in this regard and further investigations have been started.

Leopards Kill 40 Sheep, Goats In Ramban

Banihal: At least 40 sheep and goats were killed in an attack by leopards in a mountainous area of Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district, officials said on Friday. A group of leopards entered the animal sheds of Gulzar Ahmad Chandail and Farooq Ahmad Chandail in Gundi Gagra village in Gool sub-division of the district Thursday night, range officer of wildlife department Ramban Mansoor Ahmed said, adding they killed at least 40 sheep and goats inside the structures. Ahmed said a team of wildlife department officials has been dispatched to the **● P-02**

Man Stabbed To Death In Handwara

Srinagar: An elderly man was on Thursday allegedly stabbed to death by his neighbour in a village in Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. 65-year-old Abdul Jabbar Dar was allegedly stabbed to death by his neighbour Farooq Ahmad in Pohrupeth village of Handwara on Friday evening, local news agency KNS reported. Quoting family sources, the report says Dar was going to get his cow back from orchards when he was stabbed near Sagipora Bus stop. They alleged the same **● P-02**

Elderly Man Hit By Scooty, Dies

Srinagar: An elderly man on Friday was killed after being hit by a two-wheeler in Ganderbal district of central Kashmir. Khazir Mohammad Bhat of Nuner Ganderbal was critically injured after being hit by speedy scooty on Friday afternoon, reports said. He was removed to the nearby hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him brought dead on arrival. Meanwhile, police arrested the scooty rider and have registered a case in this regard

Guns Fall Silent In Pampore After 18 Hours, 2 Militants Killed

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two Pakistani militants of Lashkar-e-Taiba were killed while another laid down his arms during an 18-hour-long encounter with state forces in Pampore town of Pulwama district, officials said Friday.

The anti-militancy operation resumed in the wee hours on Friday after being suspended by the combined forces on Thursday night due to darkness, a police spokesperson said. He said in the firefight that started this morning, one holed-up militant was killed.

"However, the opportunity to surrender was yet again offered to the other trapped militants, as a result of which one of them laid down his arms and surrendered before the joint forces," the police spokesperson said, adding "The militant in injured condition was removed to hospital for treatment."

The police identified him as Khawar Sultan Mir of Drangbal locality of Pampore associated with LeT.



Soldiers stand guard near the encounter site in Pampore on Friday. Pic, Abid Bhat

Civilian Injured At Encounter Site Succumbs

A civilian who was critically injured during initial stage of the encounter in Pampore area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district on Thursday evening, succumbed to his injuries on Friday morning, officials said. **● P-02**

The police spokesperson further said that the third holed-up militant was killed in the afternoon by the state forces. He said two bodies of militants, believed to be Pakistani nationals of LeT were retrieved from the encounter site.

"Incriminating materials including arms & ammunition recovered from the" **▶PAGE 02**

HOWEVER, THE OPPORTUNITY TO SURRENDER WAS yet again offered to the other trapped militants, as a result of which one of them laid down his arms and surrendered before the joint forces."

People's Alliance Holding Third Meet In Jammu Today

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) is holding its third round of meeting in the winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday to chalk out strategy for the fight for special status restoration besides taking a final call on participation in the upcoming District Development Council (DDC) polls.

According to the reports, PAGD President Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar Abdullah, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti, Awami National Conference (ANC) senior Vice-President, Muzaffar Ahmad Shah have reached Jammu to attend

the third round of meeting scheduled to be held at NC Patron's Bathindi residence in Jammu on Saturday afternoon.

While Mehbooba was shown black flags by members of right wing groups at the Jammu Airport on her arrival on Thursday, MP Farooq and his son were given a rousing welcome by the party workers on their arrival.

According to sources, the PAGD leaders will also hold consultations on the announcement of eight-phase polls to 20 district development councils (DDCs) in the Jammu and Kashmir starting from November 28.

"The PAGD will also take Jammu based leadership on board.

We Joined Gandhi's India, Not BJP's: Dr Farooq

In his first political rally here since the abrogation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status last year, former chief minister Farooq Abdullah on Friday said he won't die until constitutional rights of the people **● P-02**

Govt Follows BJP Agenda, Not Constitution: Mehbooba

The former chief minister and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti on Friday said that the government doesn't follow the **● P-02**

Deliberations will be held on the fallout of special status revocation and a strategy will be formulated to strengthen the ongoing movement launched by PAGD," sources said.

CPI (M) leader Mohammad Yusuf Tarigami, who is convenor of the alliance, told a local news agency KNO that the deputations will start arriving at Farooq's residence from 10:00 AM. **▶PAGE 02**

Jammu Admin Seeks Details Of Land Transferred Under Roshni Act

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The administration in Jammu on Friday sought details of land transferred under the recently revoked Roshni Act besides other encroachments on the state land in the winter capital.

Chairing a meeting via video-conferencing, Divisional Commissioner Jammu, Sanjeev Verma directed all the Deputy Commissioners of the division to submit details of transferred land under Roshni Act and other encroached state land in the district, an official spokesperson said. Verma, he said asked the DCs to share number of beneficiaries in whose

favour the land has been transferred, total number of land, whether it is residential or agriculture, occupation of the beneficiary and other details

"The Divisional Commissioner directed the DCs to submit details in prescribed format regarding land transferred under Roshni Act in their respective districts," the official spokesperson said.

The Divisional Commissioner, he said also directed the DCs to share details of other state land encroached in their respective districts.

"He directed them to cancel all mutations of illegally encroached land from the revenue record and upload the details on" **▶PAGE 02**

War With China Can't Be Ruled Out: Rawat

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) is facing "un-anticipated consequences" for its misadventure in eastern Ladakh because of the "firm and strong" responses by the Indian armed forces, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat said on Friday.

In an address at a virtual seminar, Gen Rawat said the situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh remained tense and that India's posturing has been "unambiguous".

"The situation along the LAC in eastern Ladakh remains tense and the People's Liberation Army is facing unanticipated consequences for its misadventure in Ladakh because of firm and strong responses by Indian forces," Gen Rawat said.



"Our posturing is unambiguous. We will not accept any shifting of the Line of Actual Control," he asserted. Talking about the overall security calculus, Gen Rawat said border confrontations, transgressions and unprovoked tactical military actions spiralling into a larger conflict

No Party Can Ever Afford To Restore Article 370: Jitendra

NEW DELHI: No political party in India can ever afford to restore Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, Union minister Jitendra Singh on Friday said as he alleged that the bogey of autonomy or self-rule is raised by certain opposition leaders only when they are out of power.

Taking a strong exception to utterances by some of the leaders of "so-called" mainstream Kashmir-centric political parties like the PDP and the National Conference, he said unsubstantiated assertions made by these leaders are only motivated by a desperate attempt to hold back the ground which is fast slipping from under their feet.

"No political party in India can ever afford to restore back Article

370 and the unsubstantiated assertions made by these leaders are only motivated by a desperate attempt to hold back the ground which is fast slipping from under their feet," Mr Singh told PTI.

He also dared the Congress to make its stand clear on the issue, saying if it has the courage and conviction, it should go for the ensuing District Development Council (DDC) elections in Jammu and Kashmir with the slogan that it will restore Article 370 if voted to power at the Centre.

Mr Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel, alleged that the bogey of autonomy or self-rule is raised by the leaders of National Conference and other Jammu and Kashmir-based political parties **▶PAGE 02**

Hajj 2021: Online Application Process To Start From Today

NEW DELHI: The Haj Committee of India has issued the action plan for Haj pilgrimage 2021 with precautionary measures in place due to coronavirus pandemic. The guidelines will be issued soon.

The online application process for Haj 2021 will start on November 7 that will continue till December 10. The last date to submit the medical certificate is January 1, 2021.

According to the action plan, the last date to deposit the first instalment of fee will be March 1, 2021 while the last date for the same will be April 30, 2021.

The pilgrims will also be vaccinated on May 15-16, 2021 at the vaccine camp. The first batch of pilgrims will depart for **● P-02**

J&K Bank Posts Rs 50 Crore Profit In Q2

Net NPAs Down To 3.03 %, Advances In J&K Up By 15 %

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Jammu & Kashmir Bank on Friday reported a stand-alone net profit of Rs 44 crore in the second quarter ended September of the current fiscal year.

The state-owned lender had posted a net loss of Rs 916.81 crore during the same quarter a year ago. Sequentially, net profit grew multi-fold from Rs 6.50 crore in April-June 2020 quarter.

Total income fell to Rs 2,194.47 crore in July-September from Rs 2,262.94 crore in the same quarter of 2019-20, J&K Bank said in a regulatory filing.

Asset quality improved as gross non-performing assets (NPAs) fell to



8.87 per cent of the gross advances at the end of September 2020 from 10.64 per cent at the end of September 2019.

In absolute terms, gross NPAs stood at Rs 6,317.09 crore as against Rs 7,473.29 crore a year ago.

Similarly, net NPAs declined to 3.03 per cent (Rs 2,023.32 crore) from 4.48 per cent (Rs 2,942.04 crore) a year ago. **▶PAGE 02**

J&K Reports 5 More Corona Deaths, Toll 1526

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least five more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, taking the number of fatalities due to the deadly infection in the Union Territory to 1526.

Kashmir Valley reported three more deaths due to Covid-19, while two others succumbed to the infection in the Jammu division, officials said Friday. The three victims from the Valley were residents of Srinagar. Among them were a 65-year-old woman from Lal Bazar, 84-year-old from Natipora and 78-year-old from Naseem Bagh here.

The two victims from Jammu division included one from Kathua and another from Ramban—a 72-year-old from Banihal area of the district.

14 CRPF Men, 33 Travelers Among 581 New Cases

Jammu and Kashmir reported on Friday 581 fresh cases of novel coronavirus, including 33 travelers, 14 CRPF men and seven minors, taking the total number of people infected by the virus in the Union Territory 97805. While 353 new cases of coronavirus were detected from Kashmir valley, the remaining 228 were confirmed by the **● P-02**

Officials said that the septuagenarian died at CD hospital Srinagar, of the exclusive facilities for the management of the Covid-19 patients, a day after he was admitted.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 1526 in J&K—1011 in Valley and 515 in the Jammu region. Srinagar district with 373 deaths

tops the list followed by Jammu (265), Baramulla (147), Budgam (94), Pulwama (83), Kupwara (73), Anantnag (76), Rajouri (48), Kulgam (48), Bandipora (47), Doda (48), Shopian (35), Ganderbal (35), Udhampur (32), Kathua (33), Samba (25), Poonch (23), Ramban (18), Kishtwar (15), and Reasi (8). (With GNS inputs)

Jamia Masjid Imam Urges LG To Set Free Mirwaiz

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Dozens of members of Anjuman Auqaf, Jamia Masjid on Friday staged a peaceful protest in the old city of Srinagar demanding immediate release of Hurriyat Conference (M) Chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq.

According to reports, dozens of Anjuman Auqaf members after offering congregational Friday prayers assembled outside Jama Masjid and staged a peaceful protest seeking release of incarcerated Chief Mirwaiz Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq so that he resumed his duties at the Grand Mosque as the Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir.

Carrying placards and banners, the protesters denounced the continued house detention of Mirwaiz,

who is also head of the Anjuman Auqaf Jama Masjid.

Earlier, Auqaf Vice-President and Khateeb-o-Imam Jama Masjid Syed Naqshbandi popularly known as Imam-e-Hai Friday requested Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to immediately release Kashmir's head priest Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, who continues to remain under house detention since August 5, 2019.

Delivering the Friday sermon at Jama Masjid, Imam-e-Hai said that since August last year, Mirwaiz continues to remain under house arrest and as such is not able to perform his religious duties.

"Mirwaiz is not only a political leader but a religious preacher as well. Confining him to the" **▶PAGE 02**

Ladakh Standoff: Indian And Chinese Armies Hold 8Th Round Of Military Talks

NEW DELHI: The Indian Army on Friday strongly insisted on early disengagement of troops by China from all the friction points in eastern Ladakh at the eighth round of Corps Commander-level talks between the two sides that primarily focused on a roadmap for restoration of peace and tranquillity in the region, according to people familiar with the developments.

The talks began at around 9:30 am in Chushul on the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh and ended at 7 PM, they said.

"The Indian side insisted on early restoration of status quo ante of

April and comprehensive disengagement of troops by China from all the friction points to resolve the row," said one of the persons cited above.

When asked about the six-month-long military standoff, External Affairs Ministry Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said at a media briefing that both sides continue to maintain close communication at the military and diplomatic levels to achieve complete disengagement along the LAC.

"The two sides are guided by the leaders' consensus to jointly safeguard peace and tranquillity in the border areas. We will continue to maintain the dialogue with the

Chinese side to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution to the current situation along the LAC in eastern Ladakh," he said.

In the last few days, the top military brass of India held a series of meetings where the overall situation in eastern Ladakh was reviewed and it was decided to press for comprehensive disengagement of the troops at talks with China.

The seventh round of Corps Commander-level talks took place on October 12 during which the Chinese People's Liberation Army(PLA) pressed for withdrawal of Indian troops from a number of strategic

heights around the Southern bank of Pangong lake. However, India maintained that the disengagement process has to start simultaneously at all the friction points.

Nearly 50,000 Indian Army troops are currently deployed in a high state of combat readiness in various mountainous locations in eastern Ladakh in sub-zero conditions as multiple rounds of talks between the two sides have not yielded concrete outcome to resolve the standoff. China has also deployed an equal number of troops, according to officials.

The standoff between the two sides erupted in early May.

Last week, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said ties between India and China have come under "severe stress" and that the agreements inked by both sides on management of the border must be respected "scrupulously" in their "entirety" to restore normalcy in relations.

The Indian delegation at the eighth round of military talks was led by Lt Gen PGK Menon, the newly-appointed Commander of the Leh-based 14 Corps.

Naveen Srivastava, Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the Ministry of External Affairs, was also part of the Indian delegation.

At the seventh round of talks, both sides had agreed to maintain dialogue and communication through military and diplomatic channels to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution for disengagement "as early as possible".

India has all along been maintaining that the onus is on China to carry forward the process of disengagement and de-escalation at the friction points in the mountainous region.

Following the sixth round of military talks, the two sides announced a slew of decisions including not to send more troops to the frontline, refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground and

avoid taking any actions that may further complicate matters.

The sixth round was held with a specific agenda of exploring ways to implement a five-point agreement reached between Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi at a meeting in Moscow on September 10 on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation(SCO) conclave.

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

Guns Fall Silent In Pampore...

site of encounter have been taken into case records for further investigation and to probe their complicity in other crimes," he said. "In this connection a case under relevant sections of law has been registered and investigation has been initiated," he added. The police spokesperson also urged people to cooperate with police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared of all the explosive materials, if any.

Pertinently, the encounter started on Thursday evening when a team of army's 50RR, Special Operations Group (SOG) of police and paramilitary CRPF launched a cordon and search operation in Lalpora village of Pampore after receiving specific input about the presence of militants. Meanwhile, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar has congratulated the joint team of state forces for showing utmost patience and exhibiting professionalism, which resulted in saving the life of a local "misguided youth". "The local misguided youth are always welcomed to return to mainstream. This year has been successful as many of them are returning and has reiterated his appeal to them to shun the path of violence," Kumar added.

Civilian Injured At Encounter...

They said that the civilian namely Abid Ahmad Mir (22 year old) son of Abdul Hamid resident of Meej Pampore succumbed to his injuries this morning at SMHS hospital.

The other civilian namely Kifayat Ahmad, who was also injured at the encounter site, is undergoing treatment at Bone and Joints hospital Srinagar and is stable.

Two civilians were injured during the initial exchange of firing at the encounter site.

Pertinently, two militants were killed while another surrendered during the encounter that lasted for 18 hours.

Biden On Verge Of Victory...

The focus on Pennsylvania, where Biden led Trump by nearly 7,000 votes, came as Americans entered a third full day after the election without knowing who will lead them for the next four years. The prolonged process added to the anxiety of a nation whose racial and cultural divides were inflamed during the heated campaign.

With his pathway to reelection appearing to greatly narrow, Trump was testing how far he could go in using the trappings of presidential power to undermine confidence in the vote.

On Thursday, he advanced unsupported accusations of voter fraud to falsely argue that his rival was trying to seize power in an extraordinary effort by a sitting American president to sow doubt about the democratic process.

"This is a case when they are trying to steal an election, they are trying to rig an election," Trump said from the podium of the White House briefing room.

Biden spent Thursday trying to ease tensions and project a more traditional image of presidential leadership. After participating in a coronavirus briefing, he declared that "each ballot must be counted."

"I ask everyone to stay calm. The process is working," Biden said. "It is the will of the voters. No one, not anyone else who chooses the president of the United States of America."

Trump showed no sign of giving up and was back on Twitter around 2:30 a.m. Friday, insisting the "U.S. Supreme Court should decide!"

Trump's erroneous claims about the integrity of the election challenged Republicans now faced with the choice of whether to break with a president who, though his grip on his office grew tenuous, commanded sky-high approval ratings from rank-and-file members of the GOP.

That was especially true for those who are eyeing presidential runs of their own in 2024.

Maryland GOP Gov. Larry Hogan, a potential presidential hopeful who has often criticized Trump, said unequivocally: "There is no defense for the President's comments tonight undermining our Democratic process. America is counting the votes, and we must respect the results as we always have before."

But others who are rumored to be considering a White House run of their own in four years aligned themselves with the incumbent, including Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., who tweeted support for Trump's claims, writing that "If last 24 hours have made anything clear, it's that we need new election integrity laws NOW."

Trump's campaign engaged in a flurry of legal activity to try to improve the Republican president's chances, saying it would seek a recount in Wisconsin and filing lawsuits in Pennsylvania, Michigan and Georgia.

Judges in Georgia and Michigan quickly dismissed Trump campaign lawsuits there on Thursday, when Trump still held a small edge in Georgia — though Biden was gaining on him as votes continued to be counted. The same was true in Pennsylvania, where Trump's lead had slipped to about 18,000 votes — and the race is destined to get tighter. One reason is that elections officials were not allowed to process mail-in ballots until Election Day under state law. It's a form of voting that has skewed heavily in Biden's favor after Trump spent months claiming without proof that voting by mail would lead to widespread voter fraud.

Mail ballots from across the state were overwhelmingly breaking in Biden's direction. A final vote total may not be clear for days because the use of mail-in ballots, which take more time to process, has surged as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Trump campaign said it was confident the president would ultimately pull out a victory in Arizona, where votes were also still being counted, including in Maricopa County, the state's most populous area. The AP has declared Biden the winner in Arizona and said Thursday that it was monitoring the vote count as it proceeded.

"The Associated Press continues to watch and analyze vote count results from Arizona as they come in," said Sally Buzbee, AP's executive editor. "We will follow the facts in all cases."

Trump's campaign was lodging legal challenges in several states, though he faced long odds. He would have to win multiple suits in multiple states in order to stop vote counts, since more than one state was undeclared.

Some of the Trump team's lawsuits only demand better access for campaign observers to locations where ballots are being processed and counted. A judge in Georgia dismissed the campaign's suit there less than 12 hours after it was filed. And a Michigan judge dismissed a Trump lawsuit over whether enough GOP challengers had access to handling of absentee ballots

Biden attorney Bob Bauer said the suits were legally "meritless." Their only purpose, he said "is to create an opportunity for them to message falsely about what's taking place in the electoral process."

People's Alliance Holding...

"The meeting of the alliance will be held in the afternoon," he said. He said different issues including the forthcoming (DDC elections as well as by-elections for Panchayats and Urban Local Bodies will be discussed in the meeting.

Pertinently, this will be the third meet of mainstream conglomerate since its formation last month. After Jammu meet, PAGD is scheduled

to hold a convention in Srinagar on November 17.

On October 24, six mainstream parties of J&K gave a formal shape to Gupkar Declaration of August 4, 2019 by announcing formation of People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) to fight for the restoration of erstwhile state's semi-autonomous position. (With agency inputs)

We Joined Gandhi's India,...

of the erstwhile state are restored and dared the BJP to respond to his questions rather than "misleading the country" and making "false promises".

"I will not die until the rights of my people are given back.... I am here to do something for the people and the day I will finish my work, I will leave this world," the National Conference (NC) president told his party workers who packed the Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan here ahead of a scheduled meeting of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) on Saturday.

"We will fight for our rights and identity and will not be cowed down," he said and asked "what was our fault?"

Taking a dig at the JK unit of the BJP, he said those setting ablaze his effigies should remember that "it was Farooq Abdullah" who along with BJP stalwart A B Vajpayee represented India in Geneva and silenced the opponents.

"I am not afraid of BJP. I am not armed with lathi or stone, let them come to me and reply to my questions which they will not," he said, adding his party never took decisions on the basis of religion and region.

Continuing his attack, he said "Those who claim to be the champions of Hindu cause and challenging us, let them do a favour to this country by going to the borders and show their power to the enemy rather than to the citizens of the country. We have done it when the NC stood against the tribal raid and saved Srinagar from being captured in 1947."

The National Conference workers, especially the party's youth leader Maqbool Sherwani, had misled the Pakistan Army disguised as tribal raiders in Baramulla to enable Indian Army land in the state.

It was 84-year-old Abdullah's first political meeting in Jammu since the abrogation of Article 370, which accorded Jammu and Kashmir special status, and bifurcation of the state into union territories in August last year.

Mainstream political parties in Jammu and Kashmir, including the NC and the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), formed the PAGD last month for the restoration of the special status of the erstwhile state as it existed before August 5 last year and also to initiate a dialogue between all stakeholders on the issue.

Abdullah, accompanied by his son and former chief minister Omar Abdullah, arrived here this afternoon, their first visit to the region in over a year.

The Abdullahs, along with other political leaders in Kashmir, were detained under the Public Safety Act and released this year.

He accused the BJP of adopting its agenda as the "country's agenda" and said "nation is bigger than the party and don't think that India is yours alone."

He said many governments have come and gone and "you have to go one day as well" and pointed out to the elections in the US.

Abdullah said US President Donald Trump was also making noises and now he is moving to courts to challenged election results.

"He (Trump) is going out and so will be you one day," he said.

Abdullah, the sitting parliamentarian from Srinagar, said his party had never differentiated between Jammu, Ladakh and Kashmir and always considered them a single entity.

"We have never thought that Jammu, Ladakh and Kashmir are separate from each other. We could not be able to take the people of these regions on board at the time of the formation of the PAGD due to the urgency of the situation and now we are here," Abdullah said.

He said the parties have joined hands to pitch for the restoration of Article 370, Article 35A and throw away the "black laws" which were implemented in Jammu and Kashmir beyond Lakanpur — the gateway to the erstwhile state bordering Punjab.

Referring to him being called as 'Pakistani' and 'Chinese' supporter, Abdullah said it was the National Conference founder Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah who told the people that "this is our way and not that side" while joining India in 1947.

"We joined Mahatma Gandhi's India and not the BJP. The India where all religions are equal and every citizen whether rich or poor gets equal treatment and the only red line is that we have to respect each other, irrespective of our religion and choice of food and drink," he said.

The former chief minister said he had never thought of any other country as his nation. "When I was not here, people started searching me where is Farooq Abdullah who can save JK," he said, referring to him being called to fight elections in 1996 in JK at a time when militancy was at its peak.

"Some used to say that the National Conference was finished but the people knew that it was the National Conference which alone could save JK at that time. Nobody was looking for BJP," he said, amid thundering applause and slogan shouting by party workers.

He said he was not afraid of anyone. We have faced you in the past and ready to face you again and Insha Allah (god willing) we will emerge as victorious.

Referring to the new land laws, Abdullah accused the BJP of making false promises to the people of JK. "Where have your promises of protection to the land and jobs gone after the abrogation of special status. Today, the unemployed are on the roads and so are the daily wagers who are waiting for their services to be regularised," he said.

The NC Patron also accused the BJP of using Kashmiri Pandits as vote bank and said the community is still waiting for their return and rehabilitation in the valley.

Abdullah also said that the real development in Jammu and Kashmir would come when there will be a people's government.

"For 28 years, they are saying that Kashmiri Pandits will be taken back to their homes in the valley. They are in power for more than five years but they are still waiting for the day of their return," Abdullah said.

He accused the BJP of spreading hatred among communities and asked "how long will you use them as vote bank"

"You have always used them," Abdullah said.

"People are the real fountain of power. When there will be elections, bring forth the people who can help the masses and are not self-centric, he said, adding the real development will come to J-K when there will be people's government and all rights of the people restored."

Asserting that the National Conference is not "anti-national", he said those who are hurling such wild allegations should check their vision.

"We are not the ones whom you could buy or make them to tear apart their clothes," he said, referring to a BJP leader who tore his shirt to claim that he is a nationalist to the core.

"How many more you will buy (in J&K). I know there are some elements in NC as well. I have seen a lot (in politics) and the day is not far when another group will come and they will buy you as well," he said.

He asked the party workers to remain steadfast and united to thwart such conspiracies.

"We have to remain cautious as they are trying to divide us on the basis of religion and region.... This nation is strong as people from different backgrounds, regions, climates and languages are one. A Madrassi, a Bengali, a Maratha who are not habitual to below 30 degrees Celsius is guarding Ladakh sector in minus 30 degrees Celsius," he said, adding

"we are together and one because of our nation".

He said the BJP cannot be "my master and I am not afraid of them.

Asking his party workers to be patient in the face of abuse by opponents, he said they can burn his effigy and abuse him because it is a weapon of the weak and the strong replies with patience and a smile.

"As long as your party is strong, nobody can force you down, he said, asking people not to worry though there will be attempts to create confusion and divide them.

"Those who are accusing us of being Pakistanis are in reality the ones who are supporting Pakistan. If something wrong happen, they would be the first to chant Pakistani slogans, he said.

He said National Conference workers do not tear clothes to demonstrate nationalism.

Abdullah also appealed to the people of Jammu not to burst firecrackers on Diwali festival to reduce air pollution amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Govt Follows BJP Agenda, Not...

administration but the agenda of Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) across the country

Addressing party workers in Jammu today, Mehbooba said that the current dispensation in New Delhi were beating drums on abrogation of Article 370, but fails to provide benefits to the people and eradicate the poverty on the ground.

"Keeping in view of poverty in the country, the government instead of going for a lockdown they should have taken steps that would have suit the poor nation," she said, adding that on the day of calling for 'Thali Bajao', Prime Minister should have informed people to get ready for lockdown so that the poor nation could have prepared themselves for the period.

Mehbooba also said that she has reached Jammu to talk to the people like her father Late Mufti Muhammad Sayeed was doing as the then chief minister.

"Beating drums on abrogation of Article 370 was the only thing the present regime is doing. However, it has failed to bring some respite to the people from poverty," she said, adding that the special status to J&K was given by Maharaja Hari Singh, but the present regime has demolished the constitution.

PDP chief also stated that the BJP government in centre was following its party agenda rather than country's constitution—(KNO)

No Party Can Ever Afford To...

only when they are out of power.

He said the leadership of National Conference must explain to the people of Jammu and Kashmir why Farooq Abdullah did not find it appropriate to resign as chief minister when the autonomy resolution put forward by his government in the erstwhile state of J&K was summarily rejected by the then Vajpayee government at the Centre.

Jammu Admin Seeks Details...

websites of the respective districts," the official spokesperson said. Meanwhile, Verma also directed the DCs to hold meetings with concerned officials and finalize stamp duty rates of the immovable property in the districts.

War With China Can't Be ...

friction" with the two nuclear-armed neighbours (Pakistan and China) poses a danger of regional strategic instability with the potential for escalation.

He also suggested that the two countries with whom India had fought wars are increasingly acting in cohesion.

The Chief of Defence Staff said the "unabated proxy war" unleashed by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir accompanied by "vicious" anti-India rhetoric have taken the ties between the two countries to a new low.

"The surgical strikes after the Uri attack and Balakot air strikes have delivered a strong message that Pakistan no longer enjoys the impunity of pushing militants across the LoC under the nuclear bogey," Gen Rawat said at the seminar organised by the National Defence College.

He said the new Indian template to deal with militancy has injected ambiguity and uncertainty in Pakistan, adding India will confront militancy with a firm hand.

The Chief of Defence Staff said despite internal problems, failing economy, international isolation and vitiated civil-military relations, Pakistan will continue to "profess" that Kashmir is their "unfinished agenda".

"And their Army will continue to raise the bogey of an existential threat from India to justify their disproportionately large strength and need for funds to maintain its war fighting capabilities," said Gen Rawat.

IAF Helped India Ward Off...

dissuading the adversary to a large extent, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria said on Friday.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) chief also said that the Balakot air strikes in Pakistan clearly demonstrated that air power could be put to sophisticated use and create a space for action below the conventional threshold. Air Chief Marshal Bhadauria was speaking at an online seminar organised by the National Defence College.

"Over the past few months, the proactive deployment of our offensive capabilities in response to developments in eastern Ladakh, both in terms of deployment of air assets as well as rapid airlifting of Army combat elements, demonstrated the IAF's operational readiness today," he said without elaborating.

He said the deployment also reflected the capability and the nation's resolve to use air power if the need arises.

"It is our belief that our pro-active action and strong posture was instrumental in dissuading the adversary from making further attempts..We remain hopeful that the peace and stability will be restored along the LAC through ongoing dialogue," he said.

The IAF has deployed almost all its frontline fighter jets like Sukhoi 30 MKI, Jaguar and Mirage 2000 aircraft in the key frontier air bases in eastern Ladakh and elsewhere along the Line of Actual Control(LAC). The newly inducted fleet of Rafale jets has also been carrying out sorties in eastern Ladakh.

On the Balakot strikes, he said militant organisations will have to think "hard" before making any further attempts to carry out attacks.

Indian warplanes pounded a Jaish-e-Mohammad(JeM) training camp on February 26 last year, nearly two weeks after the Pulwama attack in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed.

"The air strikes in February last year by Indian Air Force targeting militant infrastructure at Balakot clearly demonstrated that air power could be put to sophisticated use and create a space for action below the conventional threshold," Bhadauria said.

Talking about the overall security scenario, he said there has been a transformation of the security paradigm in recent years.

"Our definitions of national boundaries have shifted beyond the classical definition of land border, shore lines etc. We cannot remain chained to the old concepts of fronts — two fronts, one front. The nature and scope of warfare itself has expanded," he said.

In Indian defence parlance, the two front conflict refers to hostilities along the country's western and northern borders.

The Chief of Air Staff said the induction of modern platforms and acquisition of nice capabilities has bolstered the IAF's combat capabilities

across the entire spectrum of warfare.

"The ongoing transformation is aimed at adding agility to our combat fleets. However, practitioners of air power are mindful of the fact that besides providing a host of kinetic and non-kinetic response options against an adversary, a strong and capable air force plays a much larger role in ensuring deterrence and avoiding conflict in the first place."

Speaking on the occasion, Vice Chief of Army Staff S K Saini said India's unsettled borders have been its biggest security challenge.

"The possibility of conflict over territorial disputes with China and Pakistan will continue to remain an important factor in our defence planning," he added.

Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh said the Indian Navy remained poised for rapid response in any situation.

"For the Indian Navy, operating farther and outward from Indian shores, in step with our country's national interests, is a strategic imperative and necessity," he said.

He said the aim of Indian Navy is to be first responder' and preferred security partner' for the Indian Ocean littorals.

Haji 2021: Online Application...

Saudi Arabia on June 26, 2021 and the last flight will take off on July 13, 2021. The return plane will begin from August 14, 2021.

A total of Rs 2,100 crore were refunded to 1.23 lakh pilgrims who could not go for Haj in 2020 due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Saudi Arabia has also refunded around Rs 100 crore to pilgrims for Haj 2018-19. As an average around two lakh Indians go for the Haj pilgrimage every year.

J&K Bank Posts Rs 50 Crore ...

On a consolidated basis, the bank posted a net profit of Rs 44.39 crore during the quarter under review. It had reported a net loss of Rs 918 crore in the year-ago quarter and a net profit of Rs 7.30 crore in the preceding quarter ended June of this fiscal.

Total consolidated income fell to Rs 2,197.24 crore during the quarter from Rs 2,263.66 crore in the year-ago period.

The consolidated financial statement include results from JKB Financial Services (subsidiary) and J&K Grameen Bank (associate).

However, it does not include the financial statement of Jammu & Kashmir Asset Reconstruction Ltd in which the bank has a subscribed capital of Rs 98 lakh and the Government of J&K of Rs 1.02 crore, the bank said.

"The promoters i.e. J&K government and J&K Bank are yet to release their respective shares towards the subscribed share capital of the company. In the meantime, the promoters have decided to wind up the company and in turn the bank has approached the Registrar of Companies," the lender said.

J&K Bank said it restructured 28 accounts for an amount of Rs 35.74 crore as of September 2020 under the "relief for MSME borrowers exempted or registered under the Goods and Services Tax".

For select borrower accounts covered under the provisions of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), against a total outstanding of Rs 3,932.23 crore, the bank had made provision of Rs 3,666.06 crore, it added.

With regard to moratorium provisions between March-August due to the pandemic, the lender said it made provision of Rs 295 crore at the end of September 2020.

On the accounts not declared NPA, the lender said it made provision of Rs 89.07 crore.

"As per the Government of India scheme, the difference between compound interest and simple interest to eligible borrowers from March 1, 2020 to August 8, 2020 amounting to Rs 21.53 crore has been credited to their respective account by November 5, 2020," J&K Bank said.

Besides, the lender said that in as many as three accounts, involving amounts of Rs 368.71 crore, the resolution period has been extended for the half-year ended September 2020.

Commenting upon the financial results of the bank, Chairman and MD Rajesh Kumar Chhibber said, "Despite difficulties we have come out with promising numbers. These Q2 results certainly reflect the trend of turn-around that J&K Bank has scripted on YoY basis."

"With improving financial indicators, posting net profit of Rs 43.93 Cr after the quarterly loss of Rs 916.82 Cr last September, is quite encouraging for us as we move ahead on the envisaged trajectory of growth towards institutional excellence. For all this I thank the entire J&K Bank family for putting in best of their efforts as always, our Board of Directors for their generous guidance and our promoter and major shareholder i.e. the Government of J&K UT for their continuous support and all other stakeholders for reposing their trust in this premiere financial institution of the region", he added.

The bank's board of directors at its meeting appointed Mohmad Ishaq Wani as an additional director on the board of the bank with effect from November 6, 2020.

Shares of J&K Bank on Friday closed 0.35 per cent higher at Rs 14.32 apiece on the BSE.

14 CRPF Men, 33 Travelers...

officials from Jammu division.

Giving district wise details, officials said Srinagar reported 169 cases, Baramulla 58, Budgam 29, Pulwama 13, Kupwara 37, Anantnag 12, Bandipora 9, Ganderbal 20, Kulgam 2, Shopian 4, Jammu 92, Rajouri 12,Udhampur 22, Doda 11, Kathua 9, Poonch 8, Samba 10, Kishtwar 20, Ramban 23 and Reasi 21. Moreover, officials said that 632 Covid-19 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals— 293 from Jammu Division and 339 from Kashmir Valley.

Jamia Masjid Imam Urges LG...

four walls of his house tantamount to direct interference into the religious affairs," he said.

By not allowing him to address people on Friday's and other auspicious days including Eid-e-Milad un Nabi (SAW), sentiments of thousands of people stand hurt badly," he added.

DDC Polls To Be Held On Dec 1...

respect of vacant Sarpanch/ Panch constituencies, unless notified otherwise," he added.

He further said that the counting for the rest will be done on 22nd December unless notified otherwise and elections would be completed on 24th December.

Leopards Kill 40 Sheep,...

panchayat Kali Masta from Ramban to take stock of the situation.

He said there is no provision of any kind of compensation for livestock killed in a wild attack in the wildlife division, Kishtwar.

Man Stabbed To Death...

person had also attacked him last year and left him critically injured. The family demanded strict action against the accused person. Meanwhile, the report quoted a police officer as saying that the accused has been arrested and a case has been registered in this regard.

Mid-night blaze causes damage to Srinagar's Pathar Masjid

Srinagar: Mid-night blaze caused partial damage to the historic Pathar Masjid in the old Srinagar.

They said that the fire broke out in Pathar Masjid, which is a Mughal era stone masjid, located near Zainakadal Srinagar. An official said that in the fire incident, the pulpit of the masjid got fully damaged and since the masjid is built of stone, fire didn't cause much effect.

"Fire service vehicles reached the spot well on time and doused the blaze," an official said, adding that the short circuit has been found as the primary reason for the blaze. "Police and locals also helped in dousing the flames," they said.

Pertinently, Pathar Mosque, locally known as Naev Masheed is a Mughal era stone mosque built on the orders of Empress Noor Jehan. It is



located on the left bank of the River Jhelum, just opposite the shrine of Khanqah-e-Maula.

The mosque has some distinct features that separates it from the rest of the mosques in Kashmir. Unlike other

mosques, it does not have the traditional pyramidal roof. Furthermore, the mosque has nine mehraabs (arches), with the central one being larger than the others.

Woman Among 2 Dead, 3 Injured in Kupwara Accident

Srinagar: In a tragic road accident two persons including a woman were killed on Friday, while three others were injured, when a private vehicle had a head on collision with a truck in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

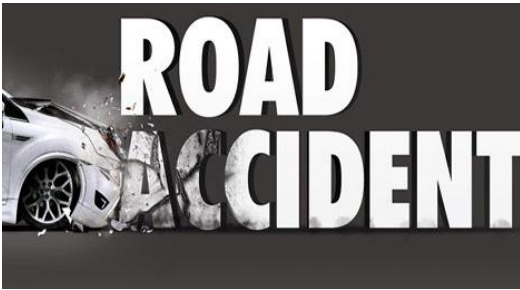
Reports said that a private vehicle bearing registration number CH03A-2071 collided with a truck JK03-8559 met with an accident near Hatmulla village of Kupwara district.

The officials said, "The driver of the vehicle, identified as Shabir Ahmad Deedar son of Saifullah of Kupwara died on the spot, while four others were critically injured and were shifted to hospital."

"One among the injured Jana Begam wife of Mohammad Younus Khatana of Ucher Magam Handwara succumbed to the injuries,

while she was being treated in the hospital," the officials added.

"Meanwhile, the other three injured in the mishap, identified as Dawood Ahmad Khtana son of Younus Ahmad Khatana, Ghulam Rasool Khatana, residents of Ucher Magam and Masrat Begum wife of Ashfaq Ahmad of Shatwari Nag-



rii have been shifted to SDH Kupwara," said the officials adding that a case regarding the accident has been filed by the police and investigation has been set in motion.

Kin of Cop Missing Since Ramban Mishap Stage Protest

Srinagar: The family members of a police operator, who went missing in August this year, after the vehicle he was travelling in plunged into Chenab River near Ramban, staged a protest in Srinagar, demanding a rescue operation to trace him.

According to news agency KDC, the family members of the missing police operator Altaf Ahmed Rather son of late Abdul Qadeer Rather a resident of Sheerpora Patan, who had gone missing after the vehicle, he was travelling in had plunged into Chinab River, shot of 5 kilometers from main town Ramban, assembled in Press colony Srinagar and staged a protest, demanding him to be traced.

The vehicle, a Tempo Traveler had plunged into

the river, while on its way from Jammu to Srinagar on August 31, 2019 and the said police operator, who was travelling in it, is missing since then, without a trace.

The niece of the missing police operator Gousia Sofi, while talking to reporters said that her uncle was on duty, when he went missing, but no effort was made by the authorities to trace him dead or alive.

She said, "We have met all the higher ups in the Police Department, but no one have shown any interest in helping us."

We even went to Ramban to request police to launch a rescue operation to find my uncle, who said that they cannot do anything till the water flow in the river is not stopped," she said.

'Neuro-scientific evidence helps crack criminal cases'

Ganderbal, Nov 6: Presidential Fellow, Harvard University and Executive Director, Education and Outreach for MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Law and Neuroscience USA, Prof. Francis X. Shen, has said the neuro-scientific evidence is being used in the adjudication of criminal cases in the US and Europe where experts in brain sciences are called to testify in the courtroom.

Addressing the participants during a workshop organised by the School of Legal Studies, Central University of Kashmir (CUK) through online mode, Prof. Francis spoke on the relationship between brain science and law—a new emerging field known as legal neuroscience or neuro-law. He also discussed in the light of some case citations, various nuances

and niceties of this emerging field and highlighted how these cases have the potential to change the landscape of the criminal justice system in general and juvenile justice system in particular.

Prof. Francis also spoke about three bedrock principles for understanding how law and neuroscience will develop in the coming years. In the first principle, he emphasized on the need to take a broad definition of both law and neuroscience. In the second principle, he contended that the role that neuroscience plays in law and law plays in neuroscience research and neuro-technology-development have to be understood. In the third principle, he advised that we should be patient and be prepared for significant changes along the many dimensions of law and neuroscience.

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((Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir))

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

(R&B) CONSTR. DIV. NO. IST SGR

e-NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No.86/e-tendering /CD-Ist/8750-67DATED_05-11-2020

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other states /UT/Central Governments for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In rupees)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rupees)	Time of Completion (calendar days)	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Repair / Replacement of damaged and missing sanitary items/ fittings, incl restoration of other allied works in Block F, Radiology department / Administrative Block and Govt. Medical College Srinagar.	1,67,000/-	200/-	3340/-	20 days	12-11-2020	DEE class	2059-M&R

Position of AAA/TS:-Accorded

1. Position of Funds:-Available.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	05-11-2020
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 06.11.2020 10:00 A.M to 11.11.2020 4.00 P.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	06.11.2020 from 10:30 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	11.11.2020 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	12.11.2020 at 11:00AM in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division No. Ist Srinagar.

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

Note:-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading the softcopy. Any short fall found in the soft copy shall result in rejection of Bid.

Note: As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectarat Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd.07-06-2018 which reads as under:-

a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared it lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.

b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by introducing E-challan/ or simply uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.

c) Similarly, instead of insisting on actual Call Deposit Receipt, a copy of same duly pledged to the concerned department should be uploaded by the tenderers. However before allotting the work or issuing the supply order, the original CDR should be obtained and kept on record.

No86/e-tendering/CD-Ist/_8750-67

DATED_05-11-2020.

Executive Engineer,

R&B Construction Division No. Ist

Srinagar

DIPK-8568/20

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of Deputy General Manager

Housing Board Unit-I Srinagar

Email ID: dgmhousingunit1@gmail.com

Contact No: (0194) 2476895

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No. 06 of 2020-21 Dated: 03/11/2020

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lt. Governor, J&K UTE-tenders (in two cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Regd. Contractors for the below mentioned works:-

S. NO	Name of the work	App. Cost In Lacs	E. Money / Bid Security In Rupees	Cost of Documents In Rupees	Time of Completion	Class of Contract	Authority of Approval/ Head of Account
	Construction of P.H.C at Kandiwara Kokernag Anantnag (Balance Work) Part A	74.50	1,49,000/-	1600/-	2 Working Seasons	"AAY"	Health Sector
	Construction of NTPHC at Hatigam at Anantnag. (Balance Work) Part A	77.75	155500/-	1600/-	2 Working Seasons	"AAY"	Health Sector
	Construction of NTPHC at Mandkpal Pampore Pulwama Kashmir above slab level.	76.20	152400/-	1600/-	2 Working Seasons	"AAY"	Health Sector

The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, Bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website <https://jktenders.gov.in> as per the scheduled date given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	03-11-2020
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 04-11-2020 06:00PM. Upto 16-11-2020 06:00 P.M.
3	Bid Submission Start Date (online)	04-11-2020 06:00P.M.
4	Bid Submission End Date (online)	16-11-2020 06:00 P.M.
5	Date & Time of Opening of bids Online.	18-11-2020 at 11:00 A.M. in the office of the Deputy General Manager Housing Board Unit-I Srinagar

Note: - The CDR of Successful bidder shall be deemed to be forfeited upon failure to furnish the required additional performance security within five working days from the date of award of contract.

1. The cost of bidding document must be credited in the following account through cash, RTGS/ NEFT and the proof of the same must be uploaded.

Name of the Bank: J & K Bank Ltd.

Branch: Rawalpore branch

Account Title: DGM, J&KHB UNIT 1

Account Type: Savings

Account No: 0361040500004285

IFSC Code: JAKAORAWWAL

Swift Code: JAKABBINRSGR

2. The earnest money shall be pledged to DGM, JKHB UNIT 1 Srinagar and the proof of the same must be uploaded.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site <https://jktenders.gov.in> and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site by the Deputy General Manager Housing Board Unit-I Srinagar

3. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of technical bids.

All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)

NO: - HB-Ist/Sgr/1657-66

Dated: - 03/11/2020

DIPK-NB-3564/20

SD/-

Dy. General Manager,

Housing Board Unit-I, Srinagar.

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI

CALENDAR

20 Rabi-ul-Awwal

1442

PRAYERS

FAJR

5: 30

ZUHR

12: 14

ASR

3: 55

Magrib

5: 36

ISHA

6: 57

This Day In History

- 1918 - United Press erroneously reports WWI armistice had been signed
- 1931 - Chinese People's Republic proclaimed by Mao Zedong
- 1940 Tacoma Narrows (Galloping Gertie) Bridge collapses, Wash
- 1941 - British air attacks on Berlin, Mannheim & Ruhrgebiet
- Communication
- 1944 - Franklin D. Roosevelt is re-elected President of the United States for a record fourth term,
- 1951 - Constitution of Jordan passes
- 1954 - US spy plane shot down North of Japan
- 1956 - Suez Crisis ends with a ceasefire as the United Nations Emergency Force is established at instigation of Canadian diplomat Lester B. Pearson and UN Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld
- 1957 - Cold War: The Gaither Report calls for more American missiles and fallout shelters.
- 1967 - Surveyor 6 launched for soft landing on Moon
- 1984 - STS 51-A launch scrubbed because of high shear winds
- 2000 - Controversial US presidential election that was later resolved in the Bush v. Gore Supreme Court Case
- 2000 - Hillary Clinton is elected to the US Senate, becoming first US First Lady to win public office and while still the First Lady
- 2001 - The supersonic commercial aircraft Concorde resumes flying after a 15-month hiatus.
- 2002 - Iran bans advertising of United States products.
- 2004 - War in Iraq: The interim government of Iraq calls for a 60-day "state of emergency" as U.S. forces storm the insurgent stronghold of Fallujah.
- 2015 - Sierra Leone is declared free of Ebola by the World Health Organization (death toll 4,000)

From KO Archives

Probe Ordered In Sikh Massacre

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

S

RINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government today ordered, a judicial probe into the Chittisinghpura massacre in which 35 Sikhs were gunned down during President Bill Clinton's visit to India in last March. This follows in-dictment of SOG and CRPF personnel by the two commissions that probed the killing of protesters at Barakpore and the massacre of Amarnath yatris at Pahalgam.

Announcing the decision at a crowded press conference at his residence, the chief minister Dr Farooq Abdullah, immediately after chairing a cabinet meeting, said here today that the judicial commission headed by Justice

S R Pandian, which probed the Barakpore firing on April 3 on demonstrators protesting the disappearance of five local youths, had indicted three SOG personnel of Jammu and Kashmir police and four CRPF jawans.

Similarly, the chief minister said, a three member commission, headed by Lt Gen J R Mukharjee of the XV corps and comprising the principal secretary, home, and the deputy commissioner, Anantnag, which inquired into the shooting incident on an Amarnath pilgrims camp at Pahalgam on August 1 in which 23 devotees were among 53 people killed, has indicted five CRPF personnel for using excessive force besides some police officials for dereliction of their duty. Dr Farooq said the government had decided to register murder cases against the three SOG personnel indicted by the Pandian commission and a special team would be constituted to prepare cases against them in a court of law. They have been immediately placed under suspension. The cases relating to the CRPF personnel would be referred to the centre for appropriate action.

The indicted SOG personnel include ASI Ashok Kumar, head constable, Kishen Kumar, and sergeant constable, Chaman Lai. The CRPF personnel indicted are: com-mandant, RP Roy; besides PC Handi, Sham Kumar and S Limberkar.

Stating that his government has accepted the report of the two panels "in toto", Dr Farooq said it had decided to order fresh probe into the Chittisinghpura massacre and subsequent Pathribal incidents by Justice Pandian. "Since all the three cases are linked to one another, we are going to request Justice Pandian to conduct an inquiry into Pathribal and Chittisinghpura incidents also," Abdullah said. Law minister, P L Handoo will visit Chen-nai to request Justice Pandian to investigate the causes that led to the two incidents as he was the right person to head the inquiry. About the recommendation of Justice Pandian commission for reinstatement of the then senior superintendent of police, Anantnag, Farooq Khan, and the SHO, Achhabal, Gaaanfar Ali, the chief minister said the matter would be put on hold in view of the inquiry into Pathribal and Chittisinghpura incidents. The inquiry into the latter would also address the apprehensions of the Sikh community, he added.

The chief minister said the Pandian report had recommended compensation of Rs two lakh to next of kin of each of the dead and an equal amount to the two injured. Others injured have been recommended a compensation of Rs 25,000 and Rs 10,000. He said the next of kin of the dead had already been paid Rs one lakh each and the remaining Rs one lakh would be paid to them soon.

(Kashmir Observer, November 07, 2000)

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Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobsvserver.net

NO HOLDS BARRED



Propriety and principled statecraft
demand that New Delhi refrain from forcing its vision of
development on the newly created Union territory as this
might lead to instability again, while all other priorities take
a backseat. The Centre should instead conduct legislative
assembly elections and let people have a say in their future.

The Second Sale Deed of J&K

Several other states like Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Mizoram enjoy similar
protections in the form of several constitutional or statutory safeguards

BASIT AMIN MAKHDOOMI

Having said this all, even the newly created Union territory of Ladakh is being considered for special status under the Sixth Schedule, thereby extending constitutional safeguards to its culture, jobs and land ownership rights. All these aforementioned instances provide ample breeding ground for the population of Jammu and Kashmir to be concerned about the selective manner in which the Centre has removed these protections while others continue to enjoy them uninterrupted.

The recent gazette notification, issued by the Ministry Of Home Affairs (MHA), has in one fell swoop, removed all preconditions for the purchase and sale of land in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

While the notification has created an uproar in Kashmir, with the Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) openly castigating the notification as unacceptable and nefarious in nature, Jammu too has expressed grave concerns about this move by the Centre.

Former chief minister Omar Abdullah in an interview went as far as to say, "This adds to the fear of demographic changes. Today's order has made it clear that they want to wipe out the character of a Muslim majority state. The people of Jammu would be more unhappy with this land ownership system. Before it impacts the people of Kashmir, it will impact people in Jammu."

While repealing the J&K Land Alienation Act, 1938 and Big Landed Estate Abolition Act, 1950, the notification makes amendments to the Land Grants Act, 1960 and the Agrarian Reforms Act, 1976 by removing the "Permanent Resident" requirement for the sale and purchase of land in J&K. Repealing the landmark Big Estates Abolition Act was a rather ironic move as the Act, which conferred land rights to the tillers in Jammu and Kashmir, was believed to be one of the most progressive pieces of land reform ever initiated in India.

The prerequisite of being a "state subject" for the sale and purchase of land was the result of a long and pressing demand by the people of Jammu and Kashmir, which the erstwhile maharaja had agreed to, keeping in mind the disadvantaged socio-economic backwardness of the local populace in the region. By scrapping this requirement, the Centre has added insult to the injury already inflicted on the people in the state.

How the demand for state subjects arose

The incorporation of these protectionist provisions can be traced back to an agitation led by Kashmiri Pandits, who were far more educated and politically conscious in comparison with the Muslim majority community in the princely state of J&K.

The Kashmiri Pandits were opposed to the hiring of Punjabis in the state administration, a trend which had been initiated by the first maharaja of the state, Gulab Singh, when he had appointed a Punjabi khatri named Dewan Jawala Sahai to an important post in his government. Dewan Sahai later went on to become prime minister under the Dogra rule.

During this time, Jammu and Kashmir recorded a massive influx of Punjabis, who started to occupy almost all the high ranking positions in the Dogra government. As their sway in the administrative setup increased, extensive land



grants were extended to the Punjabis as they were placed on important chairs of trusts. Cementing their influence in areas of authority and occupation of land, the Punjabis began to dominate commerce as well.

Concerned by this wave of immigration and fearing relegation to the margins, Kashmiri Pandits raised a banner of revolt. Their agitation was actively supported by the Hindu Dogras of Jammu as they were the first to reap the benefits of modern education, long before Muslims in the Valley became politically conscious.

While in Jammu, the agitation was more forceful and sprouted into a full-fledged Dogra vs Punjabi controversy, in Kashmir, the Kashmiri Pandits managed to acquire subtle assistance from the British officers in their opposition to 'outsiders'. After a long and arduous agitation, Maharaja Hari Singh introduced the state subject law on April 20, 1927. The definition of the term "state subject" was a broad one, which conferred equal representation to all the sections of the population be it the Kashmiris, Dogras or Punjabis.

It was this state subject law which manifested in the form of 'permanent residents' after Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India and continued to protect the land and labour rights of the local population. The post-independence period also ushered in new challenges for the local populace which found itself caught in a conflict and earned the unwanted sobriquet of being a "nuclear flashpoint".

The prevalence of conflict further buttressed the case for uninterrupted protection of jobs and land rights, as had been granted by the maharaja, keeping in mind the disadvantaged socio-economic position of the state vis-à-vis the rest of the country. The removal of the protection for land rights that people in the state previously enjoyed might spell

doom and the local population will not be able to fend off the big land sharks from outside Jammu and Kashmir.

Constitutional safeguards other states enjoy

Jammu and Kashmir is not the only state which confers protection to the land and jobs of the local populace. Several other states also enjoy similar protections in the form of constitutional or statutory safeguards.

The state of Himachal Pradesh, under several laws, restricts the sale and transfer of land to its 'bonafide residents' - those who have resided in the state for a period of 20 years. However certain exceptions can be made by the state while making land transfers to outsiders, considered on a case-by-case basis.

In 2019, the Supreme Court, while deciding a petition on the state of Meghalaya, ruled that the indigenous population have full rights over their land and resources and recognised their sole right to grant permission for mining. Like Meghalaya, several other states, under the Sixth Schedule of the constitution, enjoy similar protections with regard to their land rights.

Similarly, under Article 371-F of the constitution, the people of Sikkim enjoy discretionary powers with regard to the purchase of the property in the state. The laws are even harsher in the tribal areas of Sikkim, where only tribals can purchase the land falling in these belts. Once again, exemptions can be made for the establishment of designated industrial belts for regulated penetration of benefits of industrialisation.

In Nagaland, the people with protections derived from Article 371-A are free to determine the conditions of who can and cannot purchase or transfer land other than its 'indigenous inhabitants'. Likewise, under Article 371-G of the constitution, the Mizoram legislative assembly is conferred with special privileges to restrict and regulate the

ownership and transfer of land rights in the state.

Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and 10 other states falling under the Fifth Schedule of the constitution have been bestowed with discretionary powers with regard to imposing restrictions on the transfer and purchase of the lands in the respective states keeping in view the local tribal populations.

Having said this all, even the newly created Union territory of Ladakh is being considered for special status under the Sixth Schedule, thereby extending constitutional safeguards to its culture, jobs and land ownership rights. All these aforementioned instances provide ample breeding ground for the population of Jammu and Kashmir to be concerned about the selective manner in which the Centre has removed these protections while others continue to enjoy them uninterrupted.

Backtracking on promises

The Centre has argued that these safeguards were roadblocks for peace, progress and development in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Central government has also maintained that the removal of these "impediments" would encourage investment, this even as it, in the same breath, it continues to support these safeguards in states which enjoy constitutional safeguards under Article 371 and several other provisions.

The Centre had previously, on multiple occasions, assured the people of J&K that their jobs and land rights would be protected at any cost and that the state would have a better domicile policy than anywhere else in the country.

Immediately after Article 370 was revoked, PM Modi promised the people of J&K that they would witness the dawn of a new politics, prosperity and development and every commoner in J&K expected him to stick to his words. Propriety and principled statecraft demand that New Delhi refrain from forcing its vision of development on the newly created Union territory as this might lead to instability again, while all other priorities take a backseat. The Centre should instead conduct legislative assembly elections and let people have a say in their future.

More than two centuries ago, in 1846, Maharaj Gulab Singh executed the Treaty of Amritsar with the British East India Company, whereby Kashmir was sold to him in lieu of seventy five lakh nanakshahi rupees and he carved out the princely state of Jammu and Kashmir. This treaty is infamously remembered as the "Sale Deed" of Kashmir. Let us hope the Centre rethinks what locals will see as the second sale deed of J&K, where the inhabitants of the land have no say in shaping their destinies.

The Wire

No End in sight for Rohingya crisis

BEENISH ASHRAF

An estimated 730,000 Rohingyas had crossed into Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh three years ago in order to flee persecution in Myanmar's Rakhine State. Although the Rohingyas, who are currently residing in Bangladeshi camps as refugees, wish to return to their homes in Rakhine State, very little has been done to create a safe environment for their return.

The challenges facing the Rohingya people, described by the United Nations as "the most persecuted minority in the world," have unfortunately continued following their arrival in Bangladesh.

How it all began

Before their mass exodus to Bangla-

desh in 2017, the Rohingya people were the largest Muslim group in Myanmar. Majority of them used to reside in Myanmar's Rakhine State. According to various estimates, they numbered around one million.

Myanmar's government has dismissed the Rohingyas as a "stateless" people within Myanmar. They have, therefore, been denied citizenship.

Even before the 2017 mass exodus, the Rohingyas had been forced to leave Myanmar in a number of ethnic cleansing efforts by the Myanmar army and extremist Buddhist groups.

However, Myanmar's military and Buddhist extremist groups' efforts to drive the Rohingyas out of Myanmar reached the height in the latter half of 2017. In August of the same year, the military and militias attacked Rohingya villages in Rakhine State. They burnt homes. They brutally tortured and killed

many Rohingya civilians.

Compelled by the circumstances, hundreds of thousands of Rohingyas started to flee their villages. They began their journey to Bangladesh, believing that a foreign land would be safer than Myanmar.

At present, more than a million Rohingya refugees are living in camps situated in Bangladesh, with an estimated average population of 100,000 people per square mile.

Among the refugees living in the camps, almost 50 percent are children and there are more women than men. They have been living in makeshift shelters made of bamboo and plastic sheets. Understandably, any structures made of such materials are likely to be intolerably hot in the summer, exposed to winds and rains during the monsoon season, and extremely cold in the winter.

The Rohingyas are bound to work secretly outside the camps, as they are not allowed to legally work and cannot leave the camps without permission.

What's next?

Many attempts were made by the Bangladeshi government and civil society groups as well as the international community so that the Rohingyas living in Bangladesh could safely return to their homes. However, these repatriation efforts failed continuously, as Myanmar repeatedly failed to create a safe and secure environment for the Rohingyas on their side of the border.

Many experts strongly believe that Myanmar's military-controlled government has so far made every effort to discourage the Rohingyas from returning home. Hence, attempts to begin a safe and dignified repatriation process have failed, as refugees refuse to go back,

fearing more violence.

In 2019, many local, national, and international non-government organizations called for human rights for all to be recognized in Rakhine State. They also emphasized that the Rohingya refugees should have a role in deciding the conditions for their return to Myanmar. However, there is no end in sight for this crisis and a peaceful solution is unlikely to arrive anytime soon.

The author is a member of the Global Affairs Writers' Association. She is the author of a number of articles about human rights, humanitarian crisis, cultural hegemony, digital media and information war. Her articles have been published on Oped Column Syndication, Foreign Policy News, International Policy Digest and OnLine Opinion (Australia), among others.

Catharsis: Fighting Depression

ABID HUSSAIN RATHER

It is really an irony that most people don't know how to express their inner conflicts and get relief from stress. When one is able to relieve inner stress through catharsis, one feels like ones heavy heart slowly lightens. We find the stress fading away and feel inner happiness

Catharsis is the process of releasing, and thereby providing relief from, strong or repressed emotions. It is actually the process of purification and purgation of emotions particularly, pity and fear which brings about spiritual renewal or release from tension. It is an emotional release which is linked to a need to relieve unconscious conflicts. If a person doesn't give a proper vent to these conflicts, these conflicts may burst out in the form of anger or may remain inside in the form of depression which may ultimately result in some psychological disease and even suicides.

When we are unable to express our feelings and emotions at different occasions we get mentally stressed because these unexpressed feelings get stored in our subconscious mind. Catharsis can take place in different ways in different types of people. Everybody expresses their feelings and inner thoughts in their own ways. Some write poetry and some prose to express their feelings. Painting and sculpturing are other ways to express our feelings. Some express their feelings through anger and some prefer silence. We often see some people talking to themselves or some times tears come out of our eyes unconsciously. Some people like loneliness and prefer to stay alone. They hate congestions and noisy places. Sometimes these inner conflicts may result in hating ourselves. These are the different ways of catharsis and it depends upon an individual in which mode he may express his inner feelings and relieve himself from stress and tension.

It is really an irony that most people don't know how to express their inner conflicts and get relief from stress. When one is able to relieve inner stress through catharsis, one feels like ones heavy heart slowly lightens. We find the stress fading away and feel inner happiness. Hopes get renewed.

We need to take care of our mental health because it directly affects our physical health. Catharsis is very essential for mental health. We should learn to live life fully and enjoy the moments of happiness, whole heartedly. Whenever we feel some sort of grief or sorrow we should never hide it inside us, rather we should express it and share it with people close to us. Whenever we feel bad or get hurt by the actions or



words of somebody, we should complaint to them in a positive way rather than storing those hurt sentiments inside us. Whenever we need any kind of help from somebody, we should openly request for help and whenever somebody helps us we should thank him by heart. If we find some sort of goodness in some person we should openly praise them.

We should prefer the profession we love rather than forcefully involving ourselves in that work in which we are not interested. Positive thinking is necessary to live a stress-free and happy life. We should never indulge ourselves in negative thoughts.

When we bury our positive and negative feelings inside us and keep them carrying inside our subconscious mind, it results in mental stress and uneasiness in life. When we live with unsaid sorrows,

complaints, hate, love, littleness, affection, and faults these things become a burden on us and snatch our happiness and comfort.

If a person finds it difficult to open up, express and positively deal with their emotions, they need psychological counseling. Our mental stress doesn't only affect us but can also indirectly affect people who are related to us. It is important for us as a community to take care of our mental health to ensure that we grow well as a society.

The author is a columnist and teaches Geography at GDC, Kulgam. He can be reached at rather1294@gmail.com

Hues of Muslim Modest Fashion Industry

Par Nadda Osman

We are coming to the end of September. The fashion houses, designers, models and bloggers who spent early autumn at the fashion weeks in Paris and New York, London and Milan, have almost packed up and gone. New collections have been shown and analysed, their offerings seeping into the industry, introducing new trends or building on existing ones.

This year, the modest movement continued to exert its influence both on and off the catwalk, as show attendees found evermore creative ways to cover up.

Modest fashion is a loosely defined look derived from the clothing and style worn by Muslim women. It's a concept with no strict rules beyond the obvious, and differs from individual to individual, depending on how they interpret religious guidelines. Predominant modest styles include layering, loose silhouettes, higher necklines and outfits that don't accentuate the shape of the body.

Even though modest clothing has not been a feature of the mainstream fashion industry or of advertising campaigns, Muslims have huge spending power when it comes to clothing.

According to a report by Thomson Reuters, Muslim clothing and footwear expenditure is expected to reach \$484 billion by 2019, accounting for 14.4 percent of global spending.

But some observers now question the fashion industry's current interest in modest clothing.

From street to fashion runway

Modest fashion first emerged in 2011, when Muslim bloggers and influencers, including Dina Torkia and Amena Khan in the UK and Ascia AKF in Kuwait, countered stereotypes of Muslim women as being oppressed and showed that modest dress need not be boring.

The trend had started in Indonesia and Malaysia, where a lucrative market for modest fashion had existed and was showcased as the norm by bloggers such as Dian Pelangi

The profile of the movement is most evident on runways at major shows, where the increasing number of modest influencers, designers and models demonstrate how significantly the market has grown and how it is in turn shaping the mainstream.

One notable presence at New York Fashion Week in early September was IMG Models' Halima Aden, representing Harpers Bazaar and Calvin Klein. The Somali-American model, who was born in a Kenyan refugee camp and has appeared on the cover of British Vogue, initially made headlines for wearing a hijab during a Miss Minnesota beauty pageant.

In New York, Aden wore a striped cape and matching trousers to the Harper's Bazaar Icons party, while at the Calvin Klein show she went with tailored white trousers, paired with a high neck polo knit and a black long-line jacket.

In Milan, where she represented Max Mara, Aden wore a polka-dot trench coat with a matching headscarf and dark sunglasses, tying in with the theme of women and power, inspired by Greek mythology.

Speaking to Vogue Arabia, she said that modest fashion is not just a passing trend. "It's not just a way of dress, it's a way of life... as the origins are often from religious beliefs, it's a



But many bloggers and influencers are wary of the mainstream's embrace of modest. Instead, they want to reclaim a movement they fear is being monopolised by fashion brands as a way of bolstering politically correct credentials and entering into the Muslim market.

trend that here to stay".

The rise of the blogger

Among fashion show audiences, the number of journalists, influencers and bloggers with an interest in modest clothing has likewise risen.

Zaynah Ahmed, a British-based blogger and modest fashion influencer who boasts more than 100,000 followers on Instagram, says she started posting her looks on social media because she wanted to show people that they don't have to be boring in their fashion choices if they want to be modest. "I wanted to show that it's possible to look good, feel good and still be completely covered up," she says.

According to Ahmed, social media has been a key tool in the increasing access for bloggers and modest fashion influencers on the circuit.

"It's great that we're being recognised in the mainstream industry," she told MEE. "Social media and the rise of modest fashion bloggers has shown the industry how much influence we have, hence they now collaborate with us to reach the Muslim market.

"If it wasn't for the bloggers and social media I don't think we would have that many modest options to choose from in shops. They now cater for us".

Bloggers are also appearing in front of the camera. Dolce & Gabbana announced fashion and beauty blogger Ruba Zai as the face of its new campaign

for a collection of luxury abayas and scarves in 2017. Zai, who has amassed more than one million followers on Instagram and is of Afghani descent, shared images of the shoot in Morocco on her social media accounts.

Zai regularly makes videos for her YouTube channel of over 400,000 subscribers, ranging from makeup looks to how to style a hijab.

Speaking to NOS, Zai said: "I received an email from Dolce & Gabbana saying that Stefano likes my style and wants to work with me... it was truly a dream come true.

"For other hijabis, whether they are influencers or not, it shows that anything is possible, even with a hijab"

Reclaiming the modest movement

But many bloggers and influencers are wary of the mainstream's embrace of modest. Instead, they want to reclaim a movement they fear is being monopolised by fashion brands as a way of bolstering politically correct credentials and entering into the Muslim market.

The financial potential is there: Middle Eastern visitors to the UK spend more than any other demographic on clothes, the Financial Times reported back in 2014. Visitors from Kuwait averaged £4,000 (\$5,229) per visit while Qatari tourists spent around \$3,920. Most of that money went on high-end fashion

ion brands, which in turn has influenced how the industry now sells itself.

Dina Torkia, the Cardiff-based author of the recently published Modestly, said in 2016 - just before modest went mainstream - that she "can't help but feel incredibly overwhelmed, possibly even a tiny bit insulted by the [D&G] collection".

She added: "Muslim women in the form of bloggers, designers and stylists have been taking centre stage for a good few years, showing the world that modesty and style can coincide with faith with barely a nod of applause or recognition, until D&G fancies putting their stamp all over a very traditional Middle Eastern style and claim its originality."

Zaynah, who started posting her modest outfit looks in 2013, told MEE: "They are cashing in on Muslims as it's a known fact that as a Muslim community we have a large expenditure on fashion and they are taking full advantage of this.

"It feels nice that we can walk into shops and actually find more than one item which is modest, but they're not doing this for us, they're doing this for their profits."

Reina Lewis is Professor of Cultural Studies at London College of Fashion and the author of Muslim Fashion: Contemporary Style Culture. She decided to write about Muslim fashion as she believes that after 9/11 too much media attention focussed on stereotypical orientalist images of Muslim women, such as the mystery behind the veil.

"What I saw was that Muslims were increasingly being asked to declare themselves as good, 'moderate', Muslims, versus bad, 'extremist', Muslims," she told Historie de Mode.

Lewis said that Muslim fashion refers to a particular cohort of young women in Muslim-minority countries who cover their heads, often with a headscarf, and were doing this through participation in mainstream fashion cultures.

She said that Islamic branding and Muslim marketing were now growth areas.

"The fashion industry has disregarded Muslim women as fashion consumers for a long time and it is now beginning to wake up to that. On one hand, Muslims are very pleased to be marketed to, on the other hand I think we are going to see more critical responses to that as well."

Stories from Arabia: Bridging the gap

Modest and Arabian fashion influence continued through to London Fashion Week in mid-September, where designers from the Middle East showcased their collections.

Stories From Arabia is a fashion platform: this year it represented eight designers at London Fashion Week, featuring a plethora of embroidered designs, Moroccan-style kaftans, fluid silhouettes and beaded gowns.

Inspirations included the third-century Queen Zenobia of the Palmyrene Empire in modern-day Syria, 17th-century architecture and Moroccan art and textile design.

Jalila Elmastouki, its founder, told Fabuk Magazine earlier this year that the platform "creates that bridge between Arabia and the Western World to change the way people think about the region and to support Arab designers by making their work accessible to a British audience".

Middle East Eye

Eco Friendly Constructions Helpful In Covid Era: Dr Hiranandani

(Sponsored Feature)

SRINAGAR: For the first time in India the entire segments of the Construction Sector have joined hands to give unified & environment friendly houses and buildings to the buyers keeping in mind that the price should not go up while thrusting on the total cohesion among various aspects involved in the construction sector. Through a virtual launch event this Monday 26th October "FOCUS "Forum Of Critical Utility Services, the first in India & Global, this neo construction sector federation takes to become a reality, Chief Guest Dr Niranjan Hiranandani, co-founder & MD. Hiranandani Group of Cos, President of National Real Estate Development Council, NAREDCO & ASSOCHAM in his speech said " thrust should be given for a total environment friendly structure with minimum usage of the vari-

ous utilities along with critically controlling the price factor, this is all the more relevant in the wake of the current Global Corona Virus pandemic situation" he added. Dr. Hiranandani stressed upon the long-awaited need for such a body and pledged his support to the President Mr. V Suresh & the members of FOCUS. He also drew attention to the of the values of quality, reliability, resilience, sustainability & timely completion of projects that FOCUS should help achieve and referred to it as a boon to the Construction & Building Industry. He also emphasized the importance of post occupancy maintenance of services and good Asset & Facility Management processes. The paramount need for this association arose from the growing demand for well-founded information, standards and best practices to create synergy

among Indian Critical Utility Services Sectors. FOCUS is the only forum or platform in India and possibly the world, addressing the holistic needs of all Critical Utility Services together. The Forum of Critical Utility Services (FOCUS) is a body that is being described by its President Mr. V Suresh (the past Chairman & Managing Director of HUDCO & President Indian Green Building Council IGBC) as coming together of all the vital branches of the building construction industry to design, create, execute, deliver & maintain its critical utilities. The launch of this institution is touted to be a Global Initiative. The bodies that are set to work together as a single unit on the platform of FOCUS are Architecture, Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC, Safety, Fire, Security, Illumination, Vertical Transportation, IBMS & IT, Solid Waste Management & Facility Management. Speaking earlier



on the occasion he stressed the need for strict adherence to the quality norms as per the international standard and that would help us not only in better deliv-

er within the country but at the same time help us in securing overseas business. Vice President FOCUS, Mr. Ashish Rakheja also a Leading Consultant, Board Member ASHRAE-USA) stressed on the importance of resilience as the setback to our buildings is a set back to our infrastructure and this in turn is a setback to our economy. He pointed out to the India Today statistics that India had lost around US\$80 Billion in the last 20 years to Natural Disasters. The advantage of FOCUS shall address all the three phases viz. pre, construction and operation phase of any project. FOCUS, Secretary General, Mr A L Narasimhan said that Building Information Management, Artificial Intelligence with central command facilities shall help compliance. In the process, safe & secure working of all subsystems and their inter dependence gets highlighted. The Capex and Opex issues shall thereafter come into play for the Owner, Builder and User of the premises. He further said it would work for a com-

mon good by improving ways of working, skills for clients, customers, owners and occupiers by improving overall quality of life. He said FOCUS would help sectors to develop resiliency, build capabilities, develop human resources, skills and move towards achieving and sustaining excellence and to become a partner in growth of the Indian economy. Mr Ravi Shankar Thandavan, Chairman, Policy & Advocacy, FOCUS, iterated that once this organization comes in full swing, the domestic construction will be able to avoid many of the unwanted goods. With FOCUS, the Indian critical utility services sector is sure to set off a new benchmarks in the areas of productivity, safety and quality by improving ways of working, skills and standards and become centers of excellence by 2030, and to set a distinguished hold on the global map.

Depression, Anxiety Are More Frequently Diagnosed In Women: Study

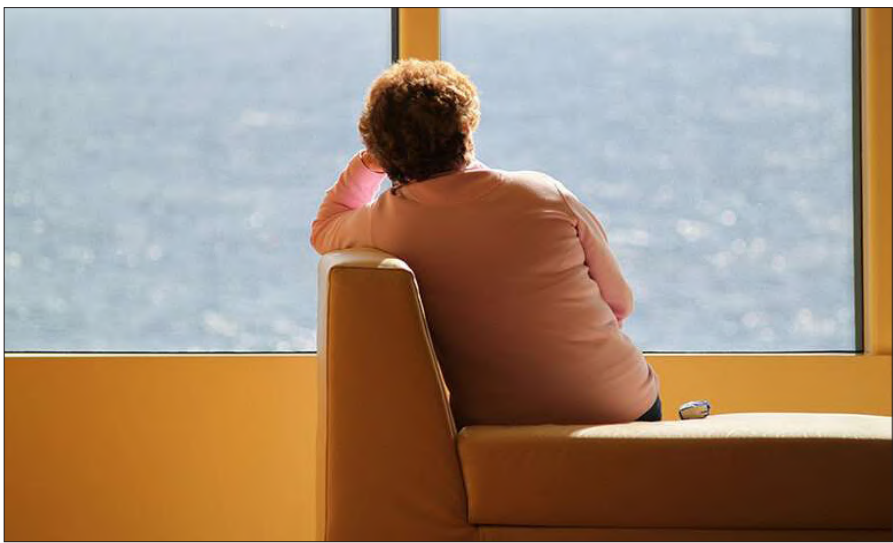
Agencies

Women are more frequently diagnosed with depression and anxiety and the taking of prescribed psychotropic drugs is also significantly higher among them, suggests a new study. Gender is a significant determining factor in mental health and in how it is managed by the healthcare services, according to recent studies conducted on the basis of health questionnaires completed in the Basque Autonomous Community (2018) and in Spain (2017), and on the Spanish sample corresponding to the European Health Survey (2014).

The UPV/EHU's research group OPIK, Social Determinants of Health and Demographic Change, is a multidisciplinary group comprising research personnel in the field of social and health sciences; it explores the social factors influencing health and disease in the population, social inequalities in health and the policies that have the potential to modify these social determinants in the interests of improving the health of the population.

What stands out in the analysis of these three databases is the higher prevalence of poor mental health among women of all ages and across all social groups; in addition, there is a multiplier effect due to the accumulation of experiences of inequality. This reality also appears to be unequal in terms of the age and socioeconomic level of the patients.

Amaia Bacigalupe, one of



the authors of the study, asserts that "women are more frequently diagnosed with depression and anxiety and the taking of prescribed psychotropic drugs is also significantly higher, even if there is no difference with men with respect to mental health equality, diagnoses and frequency of visits to healthcare centres.

"All this could point to the existence of a medicalisation process of mental health in women, but interpreting its origin is complex since the processes involving the high prevalence of diagnosis and overprescription undoubtedly play a role, but maybe also due to infra-diagnosis and lower prescription rates in men". Bacigalupe adds that these aspects should be tackled in greater depth in future studies.

Reducing gender inequalities

The research group highlights the fact that reducing gender inequalities in mental health will need to be the result of policy inter-

vention on various levels. "There is a clear relationship between the degree of gender inequality in society and gender inequalities in mental health," says Amaia Bacigalupe.

"So all those policies designed to combat the discrimination endured by women on the labour market, in the responsibility for domestic and care work, in the use of time and, generally, relating to those that empower women on the basis of their greater political representation and making them more socially visible, will exert a positive effect on the reduction in mental inequalities between men and women".

Another aspect highlighted in the study is the need to make commitments starting from an institutional level and geared towards curbing the medicalisation of everyday malaise from a clear gender perspective. "In the field of mental health in which the medicalisation of malaise is especially common, far

from addressing the cause of the problem, some problems of a social origin end up receiving psychiatric or psychological treatment," said the researcher in the Department of Sociology 2 at the UPV/EHU.

According to the study, it would also be necessary to encourage spaces for reflection in the clinical setting designed to help to collectively deconstruct certain aspects that have become natural in gender binarism and which have underpinned the definitions of psychopathology and its current treatment. Bacigalupe also says that "the actual incorporation into clinical practice of the biopsychosocial model, as well as the implementing of strategies to promote health and emotional well-being from a community health approach based on assets, could prevent the over-pathologization and over-medicalization of everyday malaise once a global view of how the social context influences health is acquired".

Study Evaluates Effectiveness Of Different Face Mask Materials When Coughing

Agencies

To determine what type of mask material is effective for trapping the ultrafine particles which may contain viruses such as SARS-CoV-2, a team of researchers tested t-shirts, socks, jeans, and vacuum bags in a novel study.

The researchers, from the University of Cambridge and Northwestern University, tested the effectiveness of different fabrics at filtering particles between 0.02 and 0.1 micrometres - about the size of most viruses - at high speeds, comparable to coughing or heavy breathing. They also tested N95 and surgical masks, which are more commonly used in healthcare settings.

Previous studies have only looked at a small selection of fabrics when the wearer is breathing normally when particles are expelled at a lower speed. Studying more fabrics and testing them at higher speeds provides a more robust evidence base for the effectiveness of fabric masks.

The results, reported in the journal BMJ Open, show that most of the fabrics commonly used for non-clinical face masks are effective at filtering ultrafine particles. N95 masks were highly effective, although a reusable HEPA vacuum bag actually exceeded



the N95 performance in some respects. As for homemade masks, those made of multiple layers of fabric were more effective, and those which also incorporated interfacing, which is normally used to stiffen collars, showed a significant improvement in performance. However, this improvement in performance also made them more difficult to breathe through than an N95 mask.

The researchers also studied the performance of different fabrics when damp, and after they had gone through a normal washing and drying cycle. They found that the fabrics worked well while damp and worked sufficiently after one laundry cycle, however, previous studies have shown that repeated washing degrades the fabrics, and the researchers caution that masks should not be reused indefinitely. "Fabric masks have become a new


necessity for many of us since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic," said first author Eugenia O'Kelly from Cambridge's Department of Engineering.

"In the early stages of the pandemic, when N95 masks were in extremely short supply, many sewers and makers started making their own fabric masks, meeting the demands that couldn't be met by supply chains, or to provide a more affordable option," added O'Kelly.


While there are numerous online resources that help people make their own masks, there is little scientific evidence on what the most suitable materials are.

"There was an initial panic around PPE and other types of face masks, and how effective they were. As an engineer, I wanted to learn more about them, how well different materials worked under different conditions, and what made for the most effective fit," said O'Kelly.

For the current study, O'Kelly and her colleagues built an apparatus consisting of sections of tubing, with a fabric sample in the middle. Aerosolised particles were generated at one end of the apparatus, and their levels were measured before and after they passed through the fabric sample at a speed similar to coughing.



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer
Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
Nirvachan Bhawan, Rail Head Complex Jammu
Phone No: 0191-2477519 Fax No - 0191-2477389 Email ID: ceo-jk@nic.in
"Greater participation for a Stronger Democracy"



Notification
JAMMU, DATED THE 07th NOVEMBER, 2020

Whereas, Section 12 (1) of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 & Section 19 (1) of the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act, 2000 envisage filling of vacant seats in Municipal Corporations and Municipal Councils/Committees respectively, whenever such vacancies occur;

Whereas, Chief Electoral Officer, after necessary preparatory works in this regard, has announced the schedule of election to vacant seats in Urban Local Bodies in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 9 and Section 282 of the Jammu & Kashmir. Municipal Corporation Act, 2000 and the Jammu & Kashmir Municipal Act 2000, respectively, the Chief Electoral Officer, J&K hereby appoints the following dates with respect to the conduct of elections for vacant seats in respect of Municipal Corporation and Municipal Committees, shown in the Annexure appended to this notification:-

- the 7th November, 2020 (Saturday) as the date of issuance of the Gazette Notification.
- the 16th November, 2020 (Monday) as the last date for making nominations.
- the 17th November, 2020 (Tuesday) as the date for the scrutiny of nominations.
- the 19th November, 2020 (Thursday) as the last date for withdrawal of candidature.
- the 1st December 2020 (Tuesday) as the date on which a poll, if necessary, shall be taken from 07:00 a.m. to 02:00 p.m.
- the 22nd December, 2020 (Tuesday) as the date of counting, unless notified otherwise.
- the 24th December, 2020 (Thursday) as the date before which the election shall be completed.

Encl: - Annexure

Sd/-
(Hirdesh Kumar) IAS
Chief Electoral Officer,
UT of Jammu & Kashmir

No. 2173/CEO/ME/2020/1041-58
DIPK-NB-3587/20

Dated: 07 -11-2020

ANNEXURE

To notification dated 07.11.2020 of Phase – II Municipal By-Elections, 2020

S. No.	Name of the District	Municipal Corporation/Council/Committee	Ward Numbers
1	Baramulla	Municipal Committee Kunzer	5,7
2	Srinagar	Municipal Corporation Srinagar (P)	18, 46
3	Budgam	Municipal Committee Beerwah	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13
4	Pulwama	Municipal Committee Tral	1,2,4,6,7,8,9,12,13

Jammu & Kashmir Small Scale Industries Development Corporation Limited (SICOP)

(A J&K Government Undertaking)

2nd floor, Sanat Ghar building Bemina Srinagar
Email: aimavijay@gmail.com
E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the Managing Director of Jammu & Kashmir Small Scale Industries Cooperation Limited, online tenders are invited from reputed contractors who are registered with CPWD/MES/PWD of appropriate class in India.

E-NIT	Name of work	Adv.cost of work Rs.in lac)	Earnest money(in lacs)	Class of contract	Cost of tender document	Time of completion	Position of AA
10 of 2020 Dated:03-11-2020	Providing and fixing of chainlink fencing at Industrial Estate Ari Goripora Ganderbal.	81.50 lacs	1.63lacs	"A" Class civil	2500.00	30 working days	Accorded
11 of 2020 Dated:03-11-2020	Providing and fixing of chainlink fencing at Industrial Estate Barsoo Ganderbal.	43.30 lacs	0.866 lacs	"A & B" Class civil	2000.00	30 working days	Accorded
12 of 2020 Dated:03-11-2020	Providing and fixing of chainlink fencing at Industrial Estate Kohistan Ganderbal.	71.90 lacs	1.438 lacs	"A" Class civil	2500.00	30 working days	Accorded
13 of 2020 Dated:16-10-2020	Providing and fixing of chainlink fencing at Industrial Estate Kunan Poshpora Kupwara.	55.80 lacs	1.116 lacs	"A" Class civil	2500.00	30 working days	Accorded

Terms and Conditions:

The tender documents for the above job can be seen on the website www.jktenders.gov.in from 03-11-2020 (1200Hrs) onwards. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website from 03-11-2020 (1200Hrs) onwards. The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on website www.jktenders.gov.in from 03-11-2020 (1200Hrs) upto 23-11-2020 (1630Hrs) only. The uploaded Pre-Qualification bids in the first instance on the website will be opened on 24-11-2020 (1200Hrs). In case of holiday on the date of opening of bid, bids will be opened on the next working day. The financial bids of only those firms shall be opened who qualify in pre-qualification bid, intimation in respect of opening of financial bids shall be notified separately. Cost of tender documents (in shape of demand draft) shall be deposited within two days positively in the office General Manager Projects, SICOP Sanat Ghar Bemina Srinagar after opening of the tender(CDR's shall not be released without depositing tender document fee) The Corporation shall not be responsible for any delay due to any reason. The advertised cost shown above is inclusive of 10% SICOP service charges and other taxes as admissible. The Managing Director J&K SICOP reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason. Complete bidding process will be online (price bid not to be submitted in physical form).

Sd/-
General Manager Projects
SICOP Kashmir

DIPK-NB-3578/20

WHO sees 'explosion' of Covid-19 cases in Europe

Agencies

COPENHAGEN: The World Health Organisation (WHO) said on Thursday said it was observing an "explosion" of coronavirus cases in Europe and warned of a "tough time" ahead as mortality rates rose.

"We do see an explosion... in the sense it only takes a couple of days to have over the European region an increase of one million cases," WHO's regional director for Europe Hans Kluge said.

Kluge, who was wearing a mask even as he was interviewed over a webcam meeting, also said the mortality rate could be seen rising "little by little".

"It's going to be a little bit of a tough time, we need to be honest on that," he said.

In spite of the rapidly rising cases, Kluge cautioned that closing schools should be seen as a last resort, especially in light of there being "no reasons to say that schools are a main driver of the transmission".

"We need to keep the schools open really until last because we cannot afford a Covid-19 lost generation," Kluge said.

However, the regional director also said that the "sta-

tus quo is not an option" and called for "proportionate targeted measures", which could be scaled up.

Kluge stressed that governments should take into account two things: Coherence, so people see that we don't flip-flop, and... predictability, so people know if this threshold is being reached, this is what is going to happen."

He called for the widespread use of face masks.

"With general mask wearing and strict control of social gatherings we can save 266,000 lives by February in the whole European region," Kluge said.

WHO Europe spans 53 countries, including Russia and countries in Central Asia, and on Thursday reported a total of over 12 million cases in the region, with nearly two million in the last seven days.

While managing the Covid-19 pandemic was the immediate concern, Kluge also said there were lessons to learn in case an even more dangerous virus were to appear.

"Imagine that Covid was as easily transmitted as measles, or imagine that Covid was as lethal as Ebola... We need to take this chance to be better prepared for the future," he added.

UN experts concerned over deteriorating health of Saudi activist on hunger strike

Agencies

Washington: UN experts have expressed grave concern over the rapidly worsening health condition of jailed Saudi women's right activist Loujain al-Hathloul, who has been on hunger strike since



last week, demanding her immediate release.

The UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) said in a statement on Thursday that Hathloul's deteriorating health was "deeply alarming."

The committee then voiced outrage over charges against her, saying they were related to the activist's human rights work and contacts with foreign journalists and diplomats.

"Human rights defenders have the right to communication with the UN, and they should do so free from fear or retribution of any sort," the rights experts pointed out.

Saudi Arabia had assured the committee in February this year that Hathloul's trial would take place a month later, but the hearing has been postponed several

times since then, according to Thursday's statement.

The experts then appealed to King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to help ensure Hathloul's release.

Loujain was among more than a dozen activists arrested in May 2018, and held on suspicion of harming Saudi Arabia's interests and offering support to hostile elements abroad.

At the time, international rights groups reported the detention of prominent female campaigners among the detainees, who had previously campaigned for the right to drive and an end to the kingdom's male guardianship system.

Some were later released, but activists have said several of the women were held in solitary confinement for months and faced torture and sexual harassment.

Saudi Arabia overturned the world's only ban on female motorists on June 24, 2018. The lifting of the prohibition followed a sweeping crackdown on prominent women's rights activists, who had staunchly advocated for the right to drive.

Saudi authorities have arrested dozens of activists, bloggers, intellectuals and others perceived as political opponents ever since Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman became Saudi Arabia's de facto leader in 2017, showing almost zero tolerance for dissent even in the face of international condemnations of the clampdown.



US Networks Pull The Plug On Trump's Live Address Due To 'Lies'

Agencies

Washington: Several US TV networks late on Thursday halted live coverage of US President Donald Trump's first public appearance since election night after concluding that the president was spreading disinformation.

Trump unleashed a flood of incendiary and unsubstantiated claims in a 17-minute address, insisting that Democrats were using "illegal votes" to "steal the election from us."

Democratic candidate Joe Biden responded to the declarations in a tweet saying "no one is going to take our democracy away from us. Not now, not ever."

The US, he continued, "has come too far, fought too many battles, and endured too much to let this happen."

Trump tried to commandeer the nation's airwaves after a day when the slow drip of vote counting revealed his leads in battleground states of Pennsylvania and Georgia dwindling.

"OK, here we are again in the unusual position of not only interrupting the president of the United States but correcting the president of the United States," said broadcaster MSNBC anchor Brian Williams, as the network quickly ended its live coverage.

NBC and ABC News also pulled the plug on their live coverage of Trump.

After ABC ended its coverage, the network's White House correspondent, Jonathan Karl, also said there was no evidence of illegal votes.

"What he seems to be frustrated by is... that it takes time to count votes," Karl said. "It's always taken time to count votes. But especially in this election."

What we saw tonight is a president who believes that at the end of the day, when all the votes are counted, the election is not going to go his way, so he's trying to plan an alternate route to retain the White House

CNN kept Trump on the air, but a chyron displayed under him said, "Without any evidence, Trump says he's being cheated."

Anchor Jake Tapper looked weary when it was over.

"What a sad night for the United States of America to hear their president say that to

falsely accuse people of trying to steal the election, to try to attack democracy in that way with this feast of falsehoods," he said. "Lie after lie after lie. Pathetic."

On Fox News Channel, commentators Bill Bennett and Byron York said that just because Trump did not allege specific instances of irregularities doesn't mean there haven't been any. But the president and his lawyers need to present evidence, they said.

"What we saw tonight is a president who believes that at the end of the day, when all the votes are counted, the election is not going to go his way, so he's trying to plan an alternate route to retain the White House," said Fox White House correspondent John Roberts.

CBS News' John Dickerson said Trump's speech "felt like kind of a deflated recitation."

All eyes are on tight races in the battleground states of Nevada, Georgia, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Arizona as ballot counts continue.

Thousands of people have protested across the country after Trump launched legal challenge calling to stop what he claimed counting of 'illegal votes'.

Trump's supporters have converged in front of polling centres calling to stop the counting process.

Biden wins more votes than any other presidential candidate in US history

Press Trust Of India

New York : Democratic nominee Joe Biden has won more votes than any other presidential candidate in the US history, shattering a record set by former President Barack Obama, according to a media report.

As of November 4, Biden had got over 70.7 million votes, more than anyone who has ever run for president, the National Public Radio (NPR) reported.

This count includes 300,000

more votes than what Obama got in 2008, which was the previous record. Biden surpassed the popular vote record of 69,498,516 set by Obama in 2008.

Biden, in a tight electoral vote fight to the White House against incumbent President Donald Trump, is 2.7 million votes ahead of the Republican leader in the popular vote. His lead is growing as counting picks pace in key battleground states.

NPR said millions of votes are still being tabulated across

the country, including in California, which has reported 64 per cent of the votes counted.

Trump was also nearing Obama's record with 67.32 million votes as of Wednesday. Given that over 100 million votes were received through early voting and mail-in ballots, NBC News reported that there were at least 23 million votes still to be tallied, giving Biden an opportunity to further increase his vote tally.

'Young generation under attack': Afghans shaken by Kabul carnage

Agencies

Kabul: Sami Mahdi, a professor at the Kabul University, is shaken by the killing of his students by gunmen on Monday. He has just returned after laying them to rest but their memories still remain fresh.

He recalls the dreams and aspirations the students shared with him: Some were getting an education to better Afghanistan or fight for women's rights, while others just wanted a secure life in a country racked by 20 years of bloody conflict.

But those dreams were cut short when gunmen attacked Kabul University and indis-

throughout our meeting, I was in awe of his determination," Mahdi, who teaches Conflict Resolution and Negotiations, told Al Jazeera.

"He told me his family was telling him to get out of the country because it is not safe, but he smiled and said: 'I am not going anywhere, I will stay here.'"

Yet again Afghanistan lost a promising group of students after attackers went on a rampage through the sprawling campus firing indiscriminately in the worst attack on the elite university.

The assault on Monday started after two attackers entered the university's training centre - located at the two-



criminally shot and killed 22 students and teachers.

Among them was Mohammed Rauf Arif, 23, who visited Mahdi's office a few weeks before his death.

"He was telling me, one day he will be capable enough to do something for his country. And

storey Law Faculty building - throwing grenades and firing bullets in classrooms.

It took six hours for the Afghan forces to end the gun battle after they killed the attackers. An affiliate of ISIL (ISIS) claimed the attack that left 22, including 18 students, dead.

Aspirin To Be Tested As Potential COVID-19 Drug In UK Study

Agencies

Painkiller aspirin will be evaluated as a possible treatment for COVID-19 in one of Britain's biggest trials, which will assess whether it might reduce the risk of blood clots in people with the disease.

The scientists behind the RECOVERY trial, which is looking into a range of potential treatments for COVID-19, said it would include the drug, which is commonly used as a blood thinner.

"There is a clear rationale for believing that it (aspirin) might be beneficial, and it is safe, inexpensive and widely available," said Peter Horby, co-chief investigator of the trial.

Patients infected with the coronavirus are at a higher risk of blood clots because of hyper-reactive platelets, the cell fragments that help stop bleeding. Aspirin is an antiplatelet agent and can reduce the risk of clots, the RECOVERY trial's website said on Friday.

At least 2,000 patients are expected to randomly get 150 mg of aspirin daily along with the usual regimen. Data from those patients will be compared with at least 2,000 other patients who receive the standard COVID-19 treatment on its own, the website showed.

Small daily doses of aspirin has been found to reduce

the risk of certain cancers. As a blood thinner, it increases the risk of internal bleeding, and taking too much over a long period of time has been associated with kidney damage.

Other treatments being tested in the RECOVERY trial include common antibiotic azithromycin and Regeneron's antibody cocktail that was used to treat US President Donald Trump's COVID-19 symptoms.



Unlike Gilead's remdesivir, which has been approved as a COVID-19 treatment in the United States but has shown poor results in a large World Health Organization trial, aspirin is a generic drug, making it much cheaper. The RECOVERY trial was the first to show that dexamethasone, a steroid which is also cheap and widely available, could save lives of people severely ill with COVID-19.

It also showed that the anti-malarial drug hydroxychloroquine, once touted by Trump, was of no benefit in treating COVID-19 patients.

US Elections 2020: Donald Trump Says, "Twitter Is Out Of Control"

Washington: While the US awaits the final results of the votes cast on November 3, President Donald Trump on Friday attacked Twitter for being "out of control" and claimed that he could "WIN the Presidency of the United States with LEGAL VOTES CAST".

Taking to Twitter, Trump said, "Twitter is out of control, made possible through the government gift of Section 230!"

In another tweet, he alleged that the observers were not allowed to "do their jobs" and hence the votes cast during this time should be "determined to be ILLEGAL VOTES".

"I easily WIN the Presidency of the United States with LEGAL VOTES CAST. The OBSERVERS were not allowed, in any way, shape, or form, to do their job and

therefore, votes accepted during this period must be determined to be ILLEGAL VOTES. US Supreme Court should decide!," Trump said.

"So now the Democrats are working to gain control of the US Senate through their actions on John James, David Perdue, and more. Would end the filibuster. 'Life', 2A, and would pack and rotate the court. Presidency becomes even more important. We will win!," he added.

This is not the first time Trump has demanded the votes cast be considered illegal.

During a press conference on Thursday (local time), Trump said: "If you count the legal vote, I easily win. If you count the illegal votes, they can try to steal the election from us...I have already won many critical states... massive victories in Florida,

Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, to name just a few. We won these and many other states despite historic election interference from big media, big money, and big tech... We won by historic numbers."

On Thursday (local time), Trump's election campaign filed a new lawsuit against Philadelphia election officials for allegedly violating their due process rights by blocking the observation of ballots in the city.

Earlier, Trump's election campaign had filed a lawsuit to stop ballot counting in Michigan and Pennsylvania and to prevent the counting of absentee ballots in Georgia that it claims arrived after the deadline on Election Day.

This comes as Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden leads Trump in several states including Arizona and Nevada.

New Zealand's Jacinda Sworn In For Second Term

Wellington, New Zealand: New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern was sworn in for a second term Friday, as final election results showed her landslide victory was even bigger than previously thought.

The charismatic leader and her ministers made their oaths of office in English and Maori during a ceremony at Wellington's Government House.

"I would say simply that sitting at this table is Aotearoa New Zealand," Ardern said, gesturing to her gathered team, in which women and Maori are strongly represented.

"They collectively represent a range of different perspectives, huge talent, enormous experience and, as you would expect in any time of crisis, a huge commitment to serving this country."

Ardern, 40, leveraged her success battling Covid-19 into an unprecedented majority at



the October 17 election, leading her centre-left Labour Party to its biggest win since World War II.

Final results released Friday showed Ardern won 50.1 percent of the vote, up from 49.0 on election night, giving her 65 seats in the 120-strong parliament, rather than 64.

The main opposition National Party saw its seats re-

duced from 35 to 33, prompting campaign director Gerry Brownlee to step down as deputy party leader.

Ardern said she had a clear mandate for reform, although her priorities were containing Covid-19 and rebuilding the virus-damaged economy.

'Incrementalist' reform

The pandemic is one of a string of emergencies that tested Ardern's leadership during a torrid first term, after she rode to an unexpected victory in 2017 polls on the back of a wave of support dubbed "Jacinda-mania".

Newsbeep

She displayed both empathy and decisive action on gun control after a white supremacist gunman killed 51 Muslim worshippers in the Christchurch mosques attack last year.

Ardern again found herself comforting a shocked nation when a volcanic eruption at White Island, also known as Whakaari, killed 21 people and left dozens more with horrific burns.

While praised for her crisis management, Ardern was criticised during her first term for failing to deliver on key promises such as improving housing affordability, protecting the environment and reducing child poverty.

NEWSMAKERS

Covid Pandemic A Watershed Moment In History Like World War II: PM Modi



NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that the COVID-19 pandemic will remain a watershed moment in history, just like World War II (WWII).

The Prime Minister was speaking at the India-Italy Virtual Summit with his Italian counterpart Giuseppe Conte.

"COVID-19 pandemic will remain a watershed moment in history, just like WWII. We will have to adapt ourselves to the post-Corona world. We will have to be ready for the oppor-

tunities and challenges arising out of it," PM Modi said.

The Prime Minister paid condolences on behalf of the people of India for the losses due to COVID-19 in Italy.

"I express my condolences on behalf of all the people in India, for the losses due to COVID-19 in Italy. When other countries of the world were still getting to know of Coronavirus and trying to understand it, you were suffering from it," PM Modi said.

He said, "You swiftly and successfully brought a very difficult situation under control. You also consolidated the entire country."

"I hope that after the COVID-19 situation improves, we will get an opportunity to welcome the Italian Members of Parliament, in India," he added.

WhatsApp Takes On Google, Alibaba In India's Phone Payment Battle

MUMBAI: WhatsApp on Friday entered an increasingly tense battle between multinational giants such as Google and Alibaba for a chunk of India's fast growing digital payments market.



The Facebook-owned firm said it was launching Whatsapp Pay just hours after it was given permission by the country's payments regulator. India is the messenger firm's biggest market with some 400 million users.

The Facebook-owned firm said it was launching Whatsapp Pay just hours after it was given permission by the country's payments regulator. India is the messenger firm's biggest market with some 400 million users.

WhatsApp Pay -- which allows people to send and receive money through the messaging platform --was launched in Brazil in June but was quickly suspended because of competition objections raised by the central bank. Authorities have since indicated that it will be allowed there.

Facebook chief Mark Zuckerberg said in a video statement accompanying the India launch that the move would boost "innovation" in payments.

Zuckerberg also hailed India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) which is used in the country of 1.3 billion people to manage payment apps, with more than 140 Indian banks part of the network.

UPI is also used by Alphabet Inc's Google Pay, Walmart's

PhonePe and Alibaba-backed Paytm, which dominate India's digital payments market.

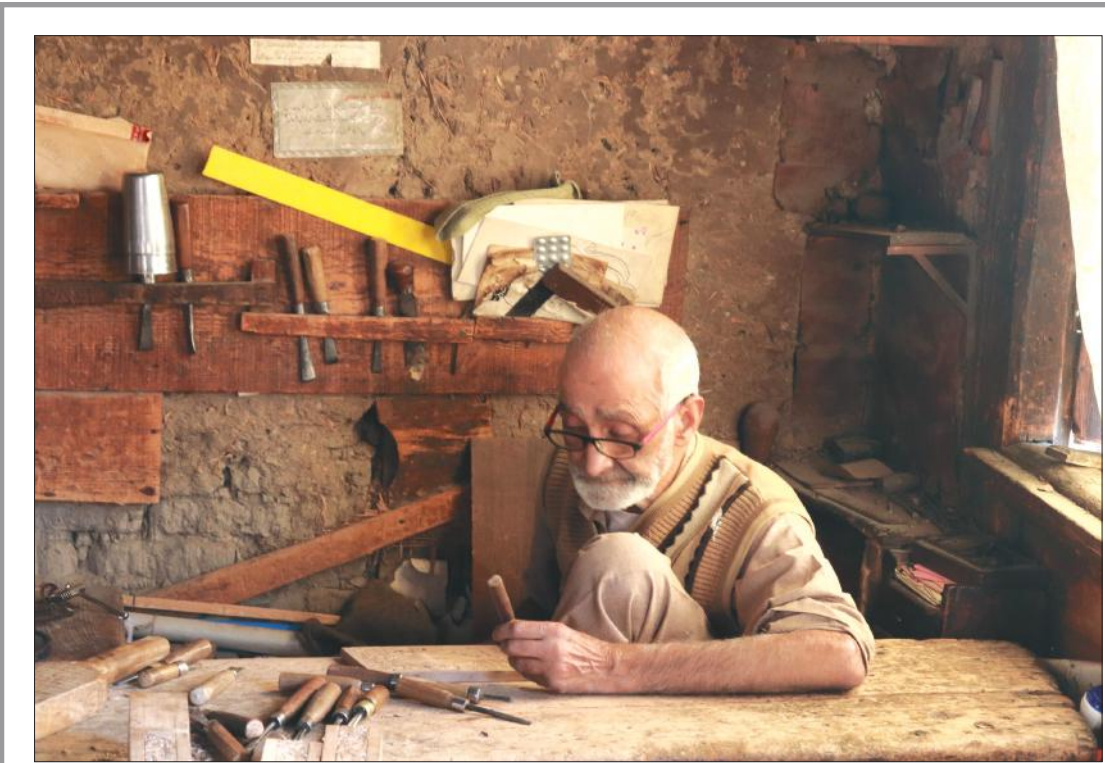
"India is the first country to do anything like this," said Zuckerberg of the network.

India's UPI processed more than two billion transactions in October and 1.8 billion the previous month. The stakes are high for all the competitors as the digital payments market was worth about \$75 billion in 2019 and is expected to rise past \$500 billion by 2025.

WhatsApp has linked up with five Indian lenders including State Bank of India, the largest public sector institution, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and Jio Payments Bank to roll out the service.

The National Payments Corporation of India has put a cap of 20 million users of the Whatsapp service in the first phase. All must have a debit card and a bank account.

The American firm has been waiting for two years to launch its service, testing pilot payments for about a million customers.



A CRAFTSMAN working on a wood carving product at his workshop in Srinagar on Friday.

Hanuman Chalisa At Mosque: BJP Leader, Maulvi Made To Sign Rs 5-Lakh Bond Each

BAGHPAT : Police here have made a local BJP leader and a maulvi sign a bond to ensure there is no untoward incident following the recent recitation of the Hanuman Chalisa at a mosque.

According to police, they are liable to pay Rs 5 lakh each if any untoward incident takes place.

The maulvi has also been told by his community leaders to go home for a few days till the controversy dies down, according to police.

On Tuesday, BJP's district executive member Manupal Bansal had recited the Hanuman Chalisa at a mosque in Baghpat's Vinaypur village and telecast it on social media.

The incident followed a similar act at



a Mathura temple, where two Muslim men offered namaz recently.

However, Khakhda police station Anil Kumar Singh here said the situation is normal at Vinaypur village after the incident.

He said maulvi Ali Hasan, who gave permission for the recitation of the Ha-

numan Chalisa, has been sent home for a few days and refuted reports of his "removal" from the mosque following a meeting by a Muslim community.

However, the SHO said they got BJP leader Manupal Bansal and the cleric sign a bond of Rs 5 lakh each.

Meanwhile, Manupal Bansal said reports of the Ali Hasan's "removal" from the mosque were wrong.

He tried to give a message of brotherhood, Bansal said.

He said the BJP and the Jansakha Foundation, of which he is the national vice-president, had nothing to do with the incident.

"It was my personal decision," Bansal said. PTI

Gangster's Rate List Post Goes Viral! Rs 55000 For Murder, 1000 For Threats

This is a story, straight out of a believe it or not list! A Muzaffarnagar-based gang has put-out a rate for their services in a brazen display of disregard of the rule of law. In the advertisement, a youth can be seen brandishing a pistol in his hand with the rate list juxtaposed with his photo.

This list carries the rates of the services, this youth is offering to give along with a contact number. This rate prescribed on the list is for beating, injuring,

killing and even threatening.

The advertisement mentions Rs 5000 for beating, Rs 10000 for injuring and Rs 55000 for killing a person. The advertisement further said that services could also be taken for occupying the land.

It also boasted of having its own arms along with the country-made pistols.

According to a media report, the police swung into action as soon as the post went viral. It has already identified

the youth, this report said. This youth is reported to be a resident of Chowkda village of Charathaval police station area.

The media report further said that the local police is already investigating the matter, quoting an official. The official has assured of appropriate action, this news report said.

Muzaffarnagar is a district in Western Uttar Pradesh (UP) which is also called the Sugar Bowl of India.

Will Continue Our Fight For Special Status: Omar

JAMMU: Asserting that the fight for restoration of Article 370 and Article 35A would be taken to a logical conclusion, National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Friday accused the BJP of misleading the country over the constitutional safeguards to Jammu and Kashmir.

He also questioned the promised new phase of development in the erstwhile state after the abrogation of its special status and said "every citizen of Jammu and Kashmir is unhappy with the August 5, last year decision".

Omar was addressing party leaders and workers at the Sher-e-Kashmir Bhawan here, his first in more than a year.

The former chief minister also claimed that the decision had pushed the "people with separatist leaning" further away from the mainstream and also triggered a spike in the number of youths joining militancy.

"We are here to talk on your behalf and nobody will ask you to come on the roads. You have conveyed your resentment and we will be your voice as our fight is not for a particular party, region, religion or family. This fight is for our future and identity," he said.

"This is the fight of all of us and we know some will come in open and some will remain on our back but we will not backtrack and will emerge successful in this fight," Omar said amid thunderous applause by his workers.

The NC leader said if the identity and future of the people cannot be saved, nothing can be left behind.

Attacking the BJP for snatching the rights guaranteed under the Constitution to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, Omar asked, "Where is the promised new phase of development and what happened to the notion that the separatism will finish and all the diseases will be cured."

"The people with anti-India ideology had not come close but had gone far away, while the youth whom we tried to bring back from the path of militancy are joining militancy in large numbers. In 2011-14 (during NC-Congress rule headed by Omar), militancy-related incidents were at lowest ebb and so the youth joining militancy. But today, the number of

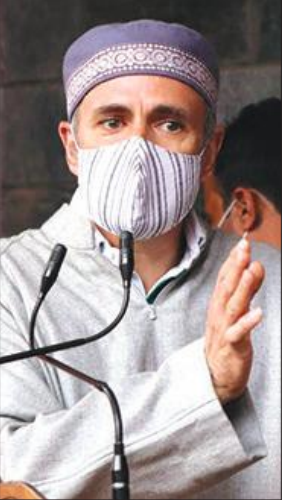
youth joining militancy is much more," he claimed.

Accusing the BJP of misleading the country over Article 370 before its abrogation, he said it was claimed that there is no development, employment and people are facing starvation while the separatists are outnumbering the nationalists.

"Unfortunately, we are in times of a fight between falsehood and truth...the people of J&K were promised of new phase of development and new land laws were introduced on the pretext of setting up industries," he said and challenged Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to prove that Article 370 was a hurdle.

"If you (Sinha) have time, go to Kathua (in Jammu region) and stop at Baribrahmana....Setting up of industries did not need removal of Article 370, he said.

Accusing the BJP of having



different yardsticks in different states, he said the BJP-led Haryana government recently assured the people of the state that 75 per cent jobs there will be reserved for them and the same is the case in Himachal Pradesh and many other parts where no outsider can buy land.

"BJP has done this to J&K because it wanted to avenge the 2014 election results when it failed to achieve its goal of winning 45+ seats," he said and claimed that the BJP's propaganda machinery had no parallel in the world.

On Article 370, he said, "It was not Pakistan's constitution which had given us this safeguard. This was the basis of J&K accession with the Union of India and had it not been there, the structure would not have been there as well."



CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

کینسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

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

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

7 نومبر: کینسر قومی جانکاری دن

کینسر، چند مفید باتیں، نشانیاں اور احتیاطی تدابیر

☆ ہندوستان میں کینسر کے مریضوں کی تعداد 20 سے 25 لاکھ تک پائی جاتی ہے۔

☆ سالانہ 7 سے 9 لاکھ تک کے مریض ڈائیکلووز ہوتے ہیں یعنی 8 سے 10 مریض ہر گھنٹہ میں اس مہلک مرض کا شکار ہوتے ہیں۔

☆ کینسر جو ہات اموات میں دوسرے درجہ پر آتا ہے۔

☆ کینسر عام طور پر بہت دیر تک خاموش رہتا ہے اور جب بھی اس بیماری کے علامات شروع ہوتے ہیں تو بیکانی حد تک بڑھ چکا ہوتا ہے۔

☆ اس مہلک بیماری کی ابتدائی مرحلہ میں جانچ اس کے علاج و معالجہ کیلئے بہت کارآمد اور مفید ثابت ہوتا ہے۔

وجوہات اور خطرانی عنصر

..... یہ مہلک بیماری تقریباً 70 فیصدی غلط رہن کن اپنانے سے ہوتی ہے۔

..... جس میں سگریٹ یا تمباکو نوشی غلط کھانے پینے کے عادات مثلاً چربی دار غذا، زیادہ تھلا ہوا غذا (Fried Food) موٹاپا، آرام دہ زندگی، شراب نوشی اور چند سائی برائیاں شامل ہی۔

..... چند viruses اور کیمیائی chemical اجزاء بھی کینسر کا باعث بن سکتے ہیں۔

..... ہمارے کشمیر میں اُبھلتی لڑکی چمکین چائے، سوگی بزر یاں، تیز مرچ مصالحہ دار سائیں، واڑہ دان بھی کسی حد تک خطرانی عناصر میں شامل ہوتے ہیں۔

..... تمباکو نوشی دو تہائی (2/3rd) کینسر میں وجوہات کا سبب رہتا ہے

کینسر نشانیاں اور علامات

☆ مسلسل کھانسی اور سگریٹ دھوا کو پینے والے کی آواز میں تبدیلی آتا۔

☆ بغیر دھم نہ یا اور کسی دھماے (drifice) سے خون جاری رہتا۔

☆ آنسوؤں یا ہضم کی عادت میں اچانک قبض یا اسہال کا بار بار نمودار ہونا۔

☆ کسی بھی جگہ زخم جو دیر تک خشک نہ ہو رہا ہو۔

☆ پستانوں یا چھاتی میں گھٹلی کا پیدہ ہونا۔

☆ بغیر کسی وجہ کے جسم کا وزن گھٹنا یا بھوک کم ہو۔

☆ مچھلی (mole) یا مہا میں تبدیلی آتا۔

کینسر کے بچنے کی تدابیر اور احتیاط

..... سگریٹ اور تمباکو نوشی سے پرہیز کریں..... زیادہ چربی اور روغنیات کے استعمال سے اجتناب کریں..... گوشت کا کم استعمال کریں..... تازہ ہری سبز یاں اور میوہ پھل کا زیادہ سے زیادہ استعمال کریں..... روزانہ ورزش کیا کریں اور خوب پانی اور خوب پیا کریں..... سوگی بزر یاں، تیز مصالحہ جات (دورہ اور پھرہ) زیادہ مرچ وغیرہ کے استعمال سے احتیاط کریں..... اُبھلتی ہوئی لڑکی کو اور تیزوٹوں چائے استعمال نہ کریں..... شراب اور دوسری نشلی چیزوں کا استعمال نہ کریں..... یادرہیں کہ کسی بھی خطرانی عنصر کے پیدا ہوتے ہی ماہر ڈاکٹر سے جانچ کروانا بہت ہی ضروری ہے اور سو مند بھی کیونکہ کل از وقت کینسر سے بچنے کا یہ واحد طریقہ ہے۔

مزید جانکاری حاصل کرنے کے لئے رابطہ کریں

کینسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

4، باغ اسلام کالونی لال نگر چھانہ پورہ سری نگر فون نمبرات: 2441899 , 2430899

NATIONAL CANCER AWARENESS DAY 07th NOVEMBER

- There are 2-2.5 million cases of Cancers prevalent in India at any point in time
- 7.9 lac cancers are detected each year in India on an average 8-10 cancers detected daily.
- Cancers are increasingly being detected everyday in India and in our State.
- Cancers are the 2nd leading cause of death in India that is likely to double by 2015 and triple by 2030.
- More than 2/3rd (70%) cancer burden is related to life style factors, hence preventable.
- More than 1/3rd cancers (2 out of every 5) are tobacco related and other due to faulty diet habits and social habits.
- The unhealthy lifestyle that increases risk of cancers is tobacco consumption (cigarette smoking ,Hokka smoking. Chewing tobacco etc) increased consumption of animal fats and oils, refined foods, spicy and hot foods, hot boiling tea, sun dried vegetables and smoked fish, sedentary life ,style obesity, alcohol consumption or un-necessary exposure to X-ray or toxic chemicals and some specific infections (Hepatitis B. Human papilloma virus).
- The early the cancer is detected the better is the cure rate and prognosis.
- Most of the cancers are silent for long time and gives no initial warning.
- Once cancer produces evident symptoms and signs, it is already in advanced stage and usually difficult to treat .
- 2/3rds of cancers are detected in advanced stage; treatment of any cancer in advanced stage is difficult , prolonged and expensive.
- Cancers can be prevented by adopting healthy life style like regular use of fresh green leafy vegetables and fruits, regular exercise, plenty of fluids, consumption of dried fruits in small quantities, maintain optimal wait, avoidances of tobacco in any form, excess consumption of red meat, wazwaan, animal fats, hot and spicy foods, hot boiling salt tea, sun dried vegetables, pickles, alcohol, in addition females always to breast feed there baby, have healthy sexual practices and minimum use of hormones.

• Cancer **caution** get your self checked by a doctor if you have any of these (warning signs)

- » Change in bowel or bladder habits.
- » A wound that doesn't heal.
- » Unusual bleeding or discharge from any natural orifice or wait loss.
- » Thickening or lump in breast or elsewhere.
- » Ingestion difficulty in swallowing.
- » Obvious change in wart or mole.
- » Nagging cough or hoarseness of voice.

Get free booklets/pamphlets on different cancers from

CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora Srinagar 190 015

Tele-Fax 0194-2441899/2430899

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