



P3 CITY

NON-LOCAL BEGGARS CREATE NUISANCE IN CITY HOSPITALS

Although begging is prohibited in public and religious places within the jurisdiction of Srinagar city, the non-local beggars have created a nuisance in the government run hospitals of

P6 FATHER, FORCED TO HEAVEN

The Elgar Parishad held in Pune District in January 2018, also known as the infamous Bhima-Koregaon meet that ended in violence, has seen its first casualty. On Monday, 84-year-old Stan Swamy breathed his last in Bombay's Holy Family Hospital. Although reluctant to



P12 OUTPOST

YUSUF KHAN IS DEAD, LONG LIVE DILIP KUMAR

The overwhelming response to the iconic actor's departure on social media is a testament to his charm which transcended all boundaries of space and time



Quote!
The standard you walk past, is the standard you accept
— David Hurley

NEWS DIGEST

Govt To Start Post Covid Care Clinics

SRINAGAR: The director health services Kashmir on Wednesday directed all chief medical officers, medical superintendents and block medical officers to start Post-Covid care clinics with immediate effect. In an order issued here, director health services has said that in order to cater the patients with Post-Covid medical issues and complications, all the CMOs, MSs, and BMOs are enjoined upon to start special Post-Covid Care Clinics with immediate effect in all the healthcare institutions under their administrative control.

Rs 5.5L Fine Slapped On SOP violators

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday said that it has recovered a fine of Rs 5,51,420 from 4612 people across the Valley for violating coronavirus related rules and guidelines. In a statement issued here, a police spokesperson said that continuing its efforts to curb the outbreak of 2nd wave of Coronavirus, during the last 24 hours police have realized fine to the tune of Rs 5,51,420 from 4612 people throughout the Kashmir valley for violating the various guidelines and rules regarding Covid-19. "Besides, 7 vehicles were also seized in Shopian for [More On P10](#)

Ladakh Logs Eight New Covid Cases

LEH: The Union Territory of Ladakh reported eight new coronavirus cases, taking the infection tally to 20,137, officials said on Wednesday. Out of the total positive cases, four were reported in Leh and four in Kargil. Ladakh reported discharge of 24 patients on Tuesday. Out of which 18 patients were discharged in Leh and 6 in Kargil. With this, the total number of Covid active cases in Ladakh has come down to 200 including 168 in Leh and 32 in Kargil district. [More On P10](#)

LG Launches PDD Web Portal

SRINAGAR: In order to make the services of Power Development Department easily accessible to the people, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday launched the Web Portal of Electrical Inspection Wing, Jammu. Highlighting the key features of newly launched portal, the LG observed that the initiative would make the electrical inspection process more convenient for the public. The whole end-to-end process, that is, right from the application stage, depositing inspection fees, fixing date of inspection to the issuance of fitness certificate has been converted into online mode, Sinha said, as per an official spokesperson. [More On P10](#)

Top Hizb Commander Arrested, Killed In Firefight: Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Wednesday declared that a longest surviving Hizbul Mujahideen militant commander was killed in an encounter in Kralgund area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district. Me'rajudin Halwai alias Ubaid of Khushhal Mattoo locality of Sopore was detained by a joint team of police and SSB at a checkpoint at Watyen, Handwara on Tuesday when he was behaving in a suspicious manner as the vehicles were being checked for enforcement of Covid appropriate behaviour, a police spokesperson said Wednesday. He said that Ubaid was



File Photo: Abid Bhat

immediately shifted to the nearest police post for questioning after a grenade was recovered from his possession during frisking. During questioning, the police spokesperson said that the detained man identified himself as an active militant commander of Hizbul Mujahideen. "During further questioning, on his [More On P10](#)

No Internet Shutdown Today, July 13: IGP

Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir zone, Vijay Kumar Wednesday said internet services won't be snapped on July 8 and July 13 but police will increase its surveillance to ensure peace remains intact. Talking to a selected group of reporters in Srinagar, the IGP said though some requests are pouring in that the internet should be snapped given the fact that an online portal from across [More On P10](#)

PAGD Flays ED Summon To Elder Mufti

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A day after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) issued a summons to the mother of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti over a case filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) on Wednesday termed the action as a part of "vindictive policies to suppress dissent". "The summoning of widow of former Union Home Minister, late Mufti Mohammad Syed, by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) is highly [More On P10](#)

LG Directs PDD To Minimize AT&C Losses

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Putting a spotlight on improvement in the power supply position in Jammu & Kashmir and to provide uninterrupted and reliable electricity supply to all, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday directed the Power Development Department (PDD) to introduce strict and innovative measures in order to meet various challenges in fulfilling energy needs of the people. Chairing a high-level meeting to review the power



scenario in J&K, Sinha enquired about the way forward and future deliverables planned by the Power department, an official spokesperson said. The LG, he said, directed the PDD to adopt an action-oriented approach to streamline the

Calls For Identifying Unexplored Tourist Spots

Srinagar: Emphasizing on providing a unique experience to tourists and increasing their foot-fall, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday passed directions to prepare a comprehensive future plan for promoting the tourism sector in J&K, and identifying new, unexplored tourist spots. While taking a review meeting of the Tourism Department here at Civil Secretariat, the Lt Governor observed that the UT is bestowed with abundant natural [More On P10](#)

Tourists Beat Up Govt Employees In Tangmarg

2 Doctors Injured In Assault, Police Files Case

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A group of tourists from Mumbai allegedly attacked two doctors and two other government employees on covid-19 duty for not giving them "negative report" for the covid-19, purportedly underhand, in Sub District hospital Tangmarg on Wednesday.

Official said that at least sixteen tourists comprising seven male and nine female members entered Sub-District Hospital Tangmarg and sought covid-19 negative report without undergoing the required test for visiting some tourist destination in the area. On refusal by the staff on duty, they said, [More On P10](#)

Night Flights At Srinagar, Jammu Airports Soon: GoI

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Civil Aviation said on Wednesday that efforts were afoot to complete the lighting project at the earliest at the Srinagar airport to facilitate flights during low visibility round-the-year through concerted coordination with Indian Air Force. In a meeting chaired by the Union Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Wednesday,

Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Pradip Singh said that to improve night-visibility at the Srinagar Airport, efforts are afoot to complete the lighting project at the earliest which would facilitate flights during low visibility round-the-year through concerted coordination with Indian Air Force. "Similarly, the ongoing airstrip repair works at Jammu Airport will be [More On P10](#)

4 More Die of Covid, 280 New Cases In J&K

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday recorded 280 fresh COVID-19 cases, taking the infection count to 3,17,761, while four deaths raised the toll to 4,349, officials said.

Of the fresh cases, 131 were from the Jammu division and 149 from the Kashmir division of the union territory, the officials said.

They said Srinagar and Reasi districts recorded a maximum of 49 new cases [More On P10](#)

RBI Imposes Penalty On J&K Bank, 13 Others

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday said it has imposed penalties on SBI, Bank of Baroda, IndusInd Bank, Bandhan Bank and 10 other lenders for contravention of various regulatory norms, including on lending to NBFCs.

The penalty imposed on the 14 banks totals Rs 14.5 crore, with a maximum Rs 2 crore fine on Bank of Baroda. As per a release, Rs 1 crore penalty has [More On P10](#)

Delimitation Talks Continue For Second Day



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Delimitation Commission continued its deliberations with political parties and election officials on Wednesday as part of its exercise to redraw assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

The commission members visited Pahalgam in Anantnag district where they interacted with political leaders from the south Kashmir region, the officials said.

Several delegations met the commission and reiterated the views of their respective parties which had met the panel members here on Tuesday.

Upon their return to the summer capital of the union territory, the commission members held a meeting with the district election officers of Kashmir, the officials said.

The commission -- led by Justice (ret'd) Ranjana Prakash Desai -- arrived here on Tuesday [More On P10](#)

THE COMMISSION MEMBERS VISITED Pahalgam in Anantnag district where they interacted with political leaders from the south Kashmir region, the officials said.

When Dilip Kumar Visited Kashmir To End The 'Curse Of Childlessness'

Zaid Bin Shabir

A rotary-dial telephone rang the Rather residence of Dalgate amid the political rumblings of 1975. Srinagar was full of speculations and fearing political tensions, many high-end tourists had cancelled their bookings. But that call would confirm one quiet arrival in Gulmarg.

The caller sounded akin to a quint-essential Kashmiri: "Please come back to Gulmarg. You're required to host Dilip Kumar and Saira Banu."

Once the Dalgate man reached Gulmarg, he got introduced to a brutal reality that had forced the first Indian superstar and his wife to bow under the shade of the transcendental journey of Kashmir.



Dilip Kumar along with Saira Banu with their Kashmir host in 1975. KO Photo by Special Arrangement.

Decades later, inside his Sanat Nagar residence—where the moth-eaten monochromes are shushing down the surrounding dampness, Abdul

Dilip Kumar Laid To Rest

KO Web Desk

Indian cinema icon, Mohammed Yusuf Khan alias Dilip Kumar, was laid to rest in a suburban cemetery amid full state honours here on Wednesday evening. Khan's body was kept at his Bandra home a few hours for people to pay their last respects even as huge crowds assembled outside to [More On P10](#)

Ahad Rather, a former Deputy Director Tourism, turns nostalgic about

Mohammed Yusuf Khan aka Dilip Kumar.

Abdul Ahad recalls the virtuous actor as a "worthy ambassador of honour", who would've given everything for the peace and tranquility that he once experienced in Kashmir.

"This photo-frame is from the time when I came to know about the obscure but ethical man lying behind the garb of a superstar," Abdul Ahad recalls while pointing towards a specific photo from 1975.

That year, after reaching Gulmarg, Abdul Ahad received another call, this time from the thespian himself: "Salam Ahad Sahib. It's me, Mohammed Yusuf. Can you please accompany us [Saira Banu and Dilip Kumar] to Baba Reshi?"

"I had no hunch that the duo wasn't going there to pay respect but for something more valuable and important, that maybe, except me no other individual knew about," Ahad made a disclosure of the secret shrine visit years later, on the demise of Dilip Kumar, at 98.

Before the 1975 Indira-Abdullah accord would renew political tensions in the region, Dilip Kumar would usually spend his vacations with Saira Banu in Kashmir, frequently staying at Srinagar's Oberoi Palace, Pahalgam's Hotel Natarajan and Gulmarg's Highland Park. "Those vacations were usually planned in secret as Dilip Kumar wished for tranquility in Kashmir rather than the same buzzer of Mumbai that followed him [More On P10](#)



ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے
 ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض آراہنہ ڈی ڈی ڈی میں لکھ کر ڈپٹی ایس ایس ڈی کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 محمد حسین شاہ کساڑ ولد محمد حیات شاہ کساڑ
 RNA
 سائنس برادری ایگنس

اطلاع عام
 ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ دوران سفر اپنی گاڑی سے ہر ذی ذوق سے واپس آ کر ہمیں سٹیج ڈیپارٹمنٹ کی حلقہ چوکام بلاک چھترگل کیس پیگ ہو گئی ہے۔ اب اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی اطلاع ہو اس بارے میں تو بارے میں ہر بائی کر کے ہمیں اطلاع کریں۔ پناہت بیکری حلقہ چوکام بلاک چھترگل۔
 RNA
 رابطہ نمبر: 9596239356

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag
 Whereas a joint application has been received by this office from Mr Zubair Ahmad mangnoo S/o Gulam Rasool Mangnoo R/o Mir Malidan Doru Anantnag (Party no ist) as transferor (seller) owner of the vehicle tata sumo bearing registration No JK03A 7963 (commercial /non-commercial) covering under R/p No 1520/Mc/ ANG and Mr Mansoorahmadmir S/o Bashir ahmadmir R/o BulBulNowgam Anantnag (party no 2nd) as transferee (purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted vehicle from party no 1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with J&K Bank Doru Anantnag Before the case is disposed off on its merits, anybody having any objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within 7 days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation/objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.
 No: 101/8111/Mvd/Ang
 Dated: 07/07/2021
 Assistant regional Transport Officer Anantnag
 RNA

Public Notice
 I have applied for the issuance of "D Class" Contractor Card . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Lalpora within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Mohammad Ramzan Rather
 S/O Ab Salam Rather
 R/o Barzulla Tehsil Karhama
 BMG

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir
 NOTICE
 Whereas an application has been received from one. Shri : Mohd Jamal Hajam S/o: Noor Mohd Hajam R/o: Raiyar Khansahib Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C-5259 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K State Co operative Bank B/U Budgam. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper . No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.965 Dated 07/07/2021
 Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir
 mcb

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.
Office Of The Executive Engineer, (Jal Shakti) Phe, Mechanical Rural Division, Sgr.
GIST of e-Tender.
 E-N.I.T. No:- PHE/MRD/TS/ 23 of 07/2021
 For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Short term e-tenders are invited in two cover system on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered for similar nature of works with J&K Govt., Railway and other State/Central Government Organizations for the following work:-

| Sr. | Nature of Work | Name of the Water Supply Scheme | Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs) | Class of Contractor | Cost of Tender Doc. | Time of Completion | Programme |
|-----|--|--|-------------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| A | Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of Open Well Submersible NONCLOG (Raw water Pumping unit) and allied works | Chattergam 1 st | 3.00 | GST Reg. of Electrical/ Mechanical Nature of work | 200/= | 15 days | M&E (Capex) |
| B | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Pumping Equipment and allied works | Baginder Lasjan Stage 1 st | 2.71 | | 200/= | 15 days | M&E (Capex) |
| C | Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Submersible Pumping Equipment and allied works | Humhama (for Ganai Mohala) and Sheikhpura (Well.No.07) | 1.77 | | 200/= | 15 days | M&E (Capex) |
| D | Supply installation testing and fitting of Open Well Horizontal (submerged) pumping unit | Ompora Police Colony Budgam | 1.056 | | 200/= | 15 days | M&E (Capex) |

 AAA :Accorded
 ACCORD OF ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL No:-PHE/MCN/Works-28 of 02/2021 Dated:17-02-2021
 Critical Dates/Information.

| | | |
|----|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. | Publishing Date | 06-07-2021 (5:00 PM) |
| 2. | Period of Downloading of Bids | 06-07-2021 (5:00 PM) to 26-07-2021 (5.00 P.M) |
| 3. | Period of Submission of bids | 06-07-2021 (5:00 PM) to 26-07-2021 (5.00 P.M) |
| 4. | Date of opening of Tender/Timing | 27-07-2021 at (11:00 A.M) |

 5. Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer, (Jal Shakti) PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar
 Document Cost : Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Challan/receipt shall be deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar (at Saddar Treasury Srinagar) (The firm shall specify the e-NIT No. & name of work for which applied)
 6. Bid Validity Period: 180 Days
 7. The bids can be downloaded or uploaded on www.jktenders.gov.in
 8. Instead of EMD the firm has to furnish "Bid Security Declaration" format of the declaration is mentioned in the Bid Document
 9. Note:- The tenderer who is declared as LI after opening of price bid will deposit 3% of the Estimated cost of the work before allotment is issued in his favour.
 No:- PHE/MRD /TS/796-801
 DT:- 06-07-2021
 Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar.
 DIPK-4212/21

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ساگام
 مضمون درخواست منجانب: عادل گلزار و ناصر گلزار پسران غلام محمد مغلوساگام
 ار ہامہ ضلع انت ناگ بمبرادعطا ٹی RBA سرٹیفکٹ
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیلاگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل ہے۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------|---------|
| 01 | غلام محمد مغللو مادہ عبدالحمید | 56 سال | سرکاری ملازم | 57531/= |
| 02 | ویدہ اختر زوجہ غلام محمد | 52 سال | = | 24103/= |
| 03 | عادل گلزار پسر غلام مغللو | 30 سال | دوکانداری | 5000/= |
| 04 | ناصر گلزار پسر غلام مغللو | 26 سال | Private Dentist | 5000/= |
| 05 | صمیم گل زوجہ عادل گلزار | 28 سال | = | = |

 سطور کنبہ 105 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت شائکس با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درج اول۔
 درخواست منجانب: فاطمہ بیگم زوجہ ام بخش گوجر کھٹانہ گوجر ساگام مضمون شیخ پورہ ضلع انت ناگ
 بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ
 اشتہار نمبر اولہ آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کارروائی ہے۔ پیواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے سکونت پذیر ہے اور اس سال کے پوجال بلکل بکروال ہے اور سرٹیفکٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| 01 | عبدالرشید ولد اختر محمد روانی | 62 سال | پیشہ | LPC |
| 02 | نسیرہ بانو زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 60 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | شمشادہ اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 30 سال | تعلیم | |
| 04 | رضوان اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 26 سال | = | |
| 05 | شاکر احمد ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 24 سال | = | |
| 06 | دانش رشید روانی ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 21 سال | = | |

 سطور کنبہ 106 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

Correction of Name
 It is information for general public that in my passport the name of my mother is wrongly entered as Rafiqia while her actual name is in adhar as Rafiqia Bano. Now I want its correction. In this regard if any body having any objection may contact passport office Srinagar within a period of Seven (7) days. After that no objection entertained.
 Qamar Ali
 S/o Aijaz Hussain Dar
 R/o Ichigam Budgam.
 MCB

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ساگام
 مضمون درخواست منجانب: کفایت یوسف وابدیق یوسف اولاد اولاد محمد یوسف بٹ ساگام
 دجال ضلع انت ناگ بمبرادعطا ٹی RBA سرٹیفکٹ
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیلاگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل ہے۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| 01 | محمد یوسف بٹ ولد محمد رمضان | 45 سال | مزدوری | |
| 02 | سمسا سیکینہ زوجہ محمد یوسف | 44 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | صبرینہ یوسف زوجہ محمد یوسف | 22 سال | تعلیم | |
| 04 | آفرینہ یوسف زوجہ محمد یوسف | 20 سال | تعلیم | |
| 05 | کفایت یوسف ولد محمد یوسف | 18 سال | تعلیم | |
| 06 | ابدیق یوسف زوجہ محمد یوسف | 18 سال | = | |

 سطور کنبہ 105 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت شائکس با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درج اول۔
 درخواست منجانب: فاطمہ بیگم زوجہ ام بخش گوجر کھٹانہ گوجر ساگام مضمون شیخ پورہ ضلع انت ناگ
 بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ
 اشتہار نمبر اولہ آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کارروائی ہے۔ پیواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے سکونت پذیر ہے اور اس سال کے پوجال بلکل بکروال ہے اور سرٹیفکٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| 01 | عبدالرشید ولد اختر محمد روانی | 62 سال | پیشہ | LPC |
| 02 | نسیرہ بانو زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 60 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | شمشادہ اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 30 سال | تعلیم | |
| 04 | رضوان اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 26 سال | = | |
| 05 | شاکر احمد ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 24 سال | = | |
| 06 | دانش رشید روانی ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 21 سال | = | |

 سطور کنبہ 106 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ساگام
 مضمون درخواست منجانب: اقراء جان ونصرت جان دختران غلام قادر گنائی ساگام
 ار ہامہ ضلع انت ناگ بمبرادعطا ٹی RBA سرٹیفکٹ
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیلاگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل ہے۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| 01 | غلام قادر گنائی ولد محمد عظیم گنائی | 60 سال | مزدوری | |
| 02 | شہنازہ بانو زوجہ غلام قادر گنائی | 55 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | مدا احمد گنائی ولد غلام قادر گنائی | 30 سال | تعلیم | |
| 04 | بذیل احمد گنائی ولد غلام قادر گنائی | 27 سال | بے روزگار | |
| | اقراء جان دختر غلام قادر | 21 | تعلیم | |
| | نصرت جان دختر غلام قادر | 19 | = | |

 سطور کنبہ 105 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت شائکس با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درج اول۔
 درخواست منجانب: شاکر احمد روانی ولد عبدالرشید روانی ساگام مضمون شیخ پورہ ضلع انت ناگ
 بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ
 اشتہار نمبر اولہ آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساگل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کارروائی ہے۔ پیواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ اس سال کنبہ دھڑا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے سکونت پذیر ہے اور اس سال کے پوجال بلکل بکروال ہے اور سرٹیفکٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ اس سال کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کنبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------|------------|-------|
| 01 | عبدالرشید ولد اختر محمد روانی | 62 سال | پیشہ | LPC |
| 02 | نسیرہ بانو زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 60 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | شمشادہ اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 30 سال | تعلیم | |
| 04 | رضوان اختر زوجہ عبدالرشید روانی | 26 سال | = | |
| 05 | شاکر احمد ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 24 سال | = | |
| 06 | دانش رشید روانی ولد عبدالرشید روانی | 21 سال | = | |

 سطور کنبہ 106 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروضات معروضات پیش کرے۔ معیاد گذرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
 RNA
 نائب تحصیلدار

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION ANANTNAG
 E-NIT NO :- 05 OF 2021-22 DATED: 06-07-2021
 FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR, E-TENDERS ARE INVITED FROM APPROVED AND ELIGIBLE CONTRACTORS REGISTERED WITH UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR/CENTRAL GOVT. ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS:-

| S.No. | Name of Work | Adv. Cost (Rs. in Lacs) | Class of Contractor | Cost of Tender document | Time of completion |
|-------|---|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Construction of BO's Hut at Co. 35/LDR (Pahalgam) of Social Forestry Range Anantnag | 13.00 | "B&C" | Rs. 1100/= | 45 calendar days |

 THE E-NIT CONSISTING OF QUALIFYING INFORMATION, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, SPECIFICATIONS, BILLS OF QUANTITIES, (BOQ) SET OF TERMS & CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT AND OTHER DETAILS CAN BE SEEN/DOWNLOADED FROM THE WEBSITE WWW.JKTENDERS.GOV.IN.
 Position of Funds: 50% Available
 Position of AA: Accorded
 Position of TS: Accorded
 Receiving/ Opening Authority: Tender Opening Committee
 Publishing Date:- 06-07-2021
 Download Start Date:- 07-07-2021 from 06:00PM
 Bid submission Start Date:- 07-07-2021 from 06:00 PM
 Bid submission End Date:- 13-07-2021 upto 06:00PM
 Date of opening of Technical Bids through online:- 14-07-2021 at 02:00 PM In the office of the Divisional Forest Officer Social Forestry Division Anantnag, Khanabal, Anantnag, Kashmir
 Date of opening of Price Bids: To be opened (online) at any convenient date & time after complete evaluation of technical bids received.

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <https://jktenders.gov.in>
- The date for opening of Technical & Financial bids online shall be opened as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406- Forest and Bid Security Declaration in shape of Proforma enclosed at Annexure "A". The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of bids.
- As per rule 171 of GFR-2017, Performance Security shall have to be deposited by successful bidder to the order of 3% of the value of contract and if there are compelling circumstances, performance security in excess of three percent may also be demanded.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website jktenders.gov.in
- To participate in bidding process bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per Information Technology Act Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e. Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD duly renewed for the current financial year 2021-22, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. Treasury receipt/Challan (cost of Tender Document) and Bid Security Declaration in shape of Proforma enclosed as Annexure "A" in Tender Document.
- The successful bidder has to produce Valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The tender accepting Authority however reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed document.

 No:- DFO/SF/ANG/ACctt/2021-22/281-86
 Dated:- 06-07-2021
 Shamma Roohi, (ACF)
 Divisional Forest Officer,
 Social Forestry Division
 Anantnag
 DIPK-4194/21

World Passes 4 Million Covid Deaths As Delta Variant Fuels Fresh Outbreaks



Agence France-Presse

GENEVA: More than four million people have now died of Covid-19 infections, the WHO said on Wednesday, as many richer nations prepared to loosen restrictions even as countries in Asia battle surging infections.

Indonesia has become a global hotspot, with hospitals having to turn away patients, authorities forced to import oxygen supplies and a record 1,040 deaths reported on Wednesday. "The world is at a perilous point in this pandemic," said WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, calling the four-million figure an underestimate of the true toll.

He said some countries with high vaccination coverage were "relaxing as though the pandemic is already over", while others have seen sharp spikes in cases because of highly-transmissible variants and a "shocking inequity" in access to vaccines. Indonesia is one country being hit hard.

The government has expanded restrictions across the archipelago following earlier clampdowns on the capital Jakarta and some other areas.

"We need to pay attention to the availability of hospitals," said senior minister Airlangga Hartarto.

The new restrictions apply to dozens of cities and extend across the vast nation of nearly 270 million people, which has been hammered by the highly infectious Delta variant that was first detected in India.

Delta-fueled outbreaks have also led to the imposition of restrictions in Australia, including in its biggest city Sydney where lockdown orders on more than five million residents were on Wednesday extended by at least another week.

"This Delta strain is a game changer, it's extremely transmissible," said Gladys Berejiklian, premier of New South Wales state, of which Sydney is the capital.

Australia has largely kept its outbreaks in check since the pandemic began, but the government is under increasing pressure over the slow rollout of vaccines.

"It's still scary that the virus is out there," said Menno De Moel, 44, at a vaccination centre in Sydney where he was getting his first shot.

"Hopefully this is going to be the last lockdown, but on the other hand anything that is needed, needs to be done."

Olympic impact

The Tokyo Olympics, already delayed by a year, also remain plagued by coronavirus fears, with authorities and organisers trying to find ways to safely host one of the biggest sporting events in the world just over two weeks before it begins.

Officials announced Wednesday that the Olympic torch relay had been scrapped on Tokyo's roads to prevent crowds.

And with infections on the rise, the government is expected to extend restrictions this week that will likely affect the number of fans that can attend Olympic events.

But in London, the Euro 2020 football tournament's semi-finals and final are set to be held this week with 60,000 fans permitted at Wembley Stadium, despite Britain facing a new surge in infections.

Mass vaccinations, however, have stopped a resultant surge in hospital admissions or deaths.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has announced the end of most virus restrictions, such as face masks and indoor social distancing, in England. Other UK nations -- Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland -- are moving more slowly.

'Obnoxious' anti-masks
As some countries peel back Covid restrictions, the WHO sounded alarm over a lack of funding to fight the pandemic.

It said Tuesday its global appeal for funding for coronavirus vaccines, treatments, diagnostics and equipment was still \$16.8 billion short -- almost half its total needs.

Even in wealthier nations with successful inoculation programmes, authorities are wary of a resurgence and have kept some restrictions in place, such as the requirement for face masks on flights in the United States.



POLITICS

Iran Hosts Taliban Talks With Afghan Officials As U.S. Exits War

Agencies

Iran is hosting talks between senior Taliban negotiators and officials from the Afghan government, as the militants make rapid territorial gains ahead of the complete withdrawal of U.S. forces.

The Taliban said its delegation was led by Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanekzai, deputy head of the movement's political office in Qatar, where months of formal peace talks between the Afghan adversaries appear to have stalled.

Iran's semi-official Tasnim news agency on Wednesday published video of the meeting chaired by Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif in Tehran, without naming any of the Afghans present.

"Iran is ready to help in the process of dialog between different factions in order to resolve the current conflicts and crises in Afghanistan," Tasnim quoted Zarif as saying. The Taliban's Mohammad Suhail Shaheen, another of the group's negotiators, said discussions would "touch on the current situation of the country and exchange views on a peaceful solution of the issue."

Iran's long border with Afghanistan places it on the front lines if fighting escalates and triggers a refugee crisis. The two countries have deep historical and cultural ties, and Iran is already home to almost 3 million displaced Afghans, according to the United Nations.

While Iran is a majority Shiite power in the Middle East, officials in the government of Afghan President Ashraf Ghani in 2018 accused Tehran of ramping up support for the Sunni

militant Taliban in retaliation for the Trump administration's decision to reimpose sanctions on the Iranian economy.

The Taliban has made a rapid advance in Afghanistan's northern provinces, forcing tens of thousands of families to flee their homes. Afghan forces, no longer backed by U.S.-led NATO troops, have often had to retreat, at times into neighboring countries like Tajikistan.

The U.S. has handed Bagram Airfield -- their largest military base -- back to the Afghan government as part of its plan to completely exit the country by Sept. 11 after two decades of war.

The Biden administration has asked three Central Asian nations to temporarily house at least 9,000 Afghan civilians who worked with American forces and could be targeted by the Taliban.

IRAN IS READY TO HELP IN THE PROCESS OF DIALOG between different factions in order to resolve the current conflicts and crises in Afghanistan,"

Barrage Of Rockets Fired At Airbase Housing US Troops In Iraq

Agencies

At least 14 rockets have hit an airbase in western Iraq that is hosting US and other international forces, slightly wounding at least two people, according to the United States-led military coalition in the country.

US Army Colonel Wayne Marotto, spokesman for the international operation, said in a Twitter post on Wednesday the rockets had landed on Ain al-Asad base in Anbar province and its perimeter.

"Two personnel sustained minor injuries. Damage still be assessed," he said in a later Twitter post, updating an initial statement of three minor injuries.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for Wednesday's attack.

The US accuses Iranian-backed militia groups of launching regular rocket attacks against its troops in Iraq.

Some 2,500 US soldiers are deployed in Iraq as part of an international coalition to fight the ISIL (ISIS) armed group.



TWO PERSONNEL SUSTAINED minor injuries. Damage still be assessed," he said in a later Twitter post, updating an initial statement of three minor injuries.

They have been targeted almost 50 times this year.

The latest incident came two days after at least three rockets landed on Ain al-Asad, without causing casualties.

Iraqi military sources quoted by Reuters news agency said a rocket launcher fixed

China Appoints New General To Head The PLA's Command Bordering India



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Chinese President Xi Jinping's move promoting Xu Qiling to the rank of General to head the PLA's Western Theatre Command overseeing the Indian border makes him the third commander to head the force after standoff along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh began in May last year.

Observers say General Xu's promotion has also sparked speculation over the fate of his predecessor General Zhang Xudong.

Xi, who is also Chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) -- the overall high command of the People's Liberation Army, promoted 59-year-old Xu to the rank of General -- the highest rank for officers in active service in China, state-run Xinhua news agency reported on Monday.

The promoted officers are Commander of the PLA Southern Theatre Command Wang Xiubin, Commander of the PLA Western Theatre Command Xu Qiling, Commander of the PLA Army Liu Zhenni and Commander of the PLA Strategic Support Force Ju Qiansheng.

While announcing the promotion of Xu to the rank of General, Xinhua in its report referred to Xu as the Commander of the PLA's Western Theatre Command suggesting that he replaced General Zhang.

Xu was appointed to head Western Theatre Command ground forces on June 5 last year.

Xu is the third General to head the Western Command after the eastern Ladakh tensions began in

May last year.

General Zhang was appointed on December 19 last year to head the command amid the Ladakh standoff with India replacing Gen. Zhao Zongqi, 65, who retired.

Gen. Zhao headed the Western Theatre Command during the 2017 Doklam standoff where the Indian army stood up against the PLA plan of laying a road close to the Indian border in the area claimed by Bhutan. The Ladakh standoff also happened under the watch of Gen. Zhao.

Regarded as the rising star in the PLA, Xu was one of the young generals promoted by Xi after he took the helm of the PLA in late 2012.

India and China were locked in a military standoff at multiple friction points in eastern Ladakh since early May last year.

However, the two sides completed the withdrawal of troops and weapons from the North and South banks of Pangong Lake in February following a series of military and diplomatic talks.

The two sides are now engaged in talks to extend the disengagement process to the remaining friction points.

India has been particularly pressing for disengagement of troops in Hot Springs, Gogra and Depsang. According to military officials, each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the LAC in the sensitive high altitude sector.

There was no visible forward movement in disengagement of troops in the remaining friction points as the Chinese side did not show flexibility in their approach to this issue at the 11th round of military talks.

Russia Races Tom Cruise And Musk For First Movie In Space

Agencies

Six decades after Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human to orbit Earth, earning Moscow a key win in the Cold War, Russia is again in a space race with Washington.

This time though the stakes are somewhat glitzier.

On October 5, one of Russia's most celebrated actresses, 36-year-old Yulia Peresild is blasting off to the International Space Station (ISS) with film director Klim Shipenko, 38.

Their mission? Shoot the first film in orbit before the Americans do.

If their plan falls into place, the Russians are expected to beat Mission Impossible star Tom Cruise and Hollywood director Doug Liman, who were first to announce their project together with NASA and Space X, the company of billionaire Elon Musk.

"I really want us to be not only the first but also the best," Peresild told AFP, with the clock ticking down to the planned October 5 blast-off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.

The Call -- the Russian project's working title -- was announced in September last year, four months after the Hollywood project.

But apart from its grand ambitions, little is known about the film.

Doctor who? Its plot, which has been kept



under wraps by the crew and Russia's space agency, has been revealed by Russian media outlets to feature a doctor dispatched urgently to the ISS to save a cosmonaut.

Nor has The Call's budget been disclosed. But it's no secret that travel to space is a costly business: one seat on a Soyuz rocket to the ISS usually costs NASA tens of millions of dollars.

Hinting at the film's aesthetic direction, one big name on the credit list is Konstantin Ernst, the 60-year-old head of the overtly Kremlin-friendly Channel One television network.

Ernst has stage-managed some of the most important moments in Russia's recent political history and of President Vladimir Putin's career: military parades, inaugurations, the opening ceremony of the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi.

Dmitry Rogozin, the outspoken head of Russia's Roscosmos space agency, will also feature when the credits roll in theatres throughout the country.

Trump Told Chief Of Staff, 'Hitler Did Good Things': Book

Agencies

The former US President Donald Trump has left the White House but he still manages to stay in the spotlight. This time, it is yet another book controversy.

In a recent revelation, Trump once told his then-chief of staff, John Kelly, that "Hitler did a lot of good things".

Since leaving the White House, Trump has been having a hard time deflecting the troubles coming his way in form of statements made by him and recorded by some journalist or writer.

This shocking statement has been recorded by Michael Bender of the Wall Street Journal in his new book titled, 'Frankly, We Did Win This Election'.

The incident, reportedly, took place while Trump was on a visit to Europe to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of the first world war. During a few relaxing moments, Kelly was explaining to Trump "which countries were on which side during the conflict" and "connected the dots from the first world war to the second world war and all of Hitler's atrocities".

This was when Trump insisted that Hitler "did a lot of good things". As per sources, quoted by Bender,



Kelly was quick to dismiss Trump's statements and he "told the president that he was wrong, but Trump was undeterred". Trump, reportedly, justified his statement by stressing Germany's economic recovery during the 1930s under Hitler's rule.

"Kelly pushed back again," Bender writes, "and argued that the German people would have been better off poor than subjected to the Nazi genocide."

As per the book, Kelly stood his ground opposing Trump and told the former reality TV star "you cannot ever say anything supportive of Adolf Hitler. You just can't."

This incident took place at the same time when Trump had landed himself in trouble by allegedly calling US troops who died in the war "losers" and "suckers".

Trump has, however, denied all claims. The book, meanwhile, is due to release on July 13, 2021. Media organisation, the Guardian, has obtained a copy of the book in advance.

NEWS MAKERS

American Airlines Delays Flight By A Day After 30 Students Refuse To Wear Masks

Agence France-Presse

WASHINGTON, UNITED STATES: An American Airlines flight from North Carolina to the Bahamas was delayed by a day after around 30 teenagers refused to wear masks, local media said Tuesday.

Flight 893 was scheduled for take-off from Charlotte Douglas airport late Monday but only left the tarmac on Tuesday morning, with the troublemakers still on board.

An initial delay of several hours was caused by mechanical problems, but when the plane was finally ready to leave arguments broke out between the crew and a group of youths who refused to comply with federal rules that all passengers must wear masks on board flights to fight the spread of Covid-19, local channel WSOC-TV reported.



"It was bad. First, they were yelling. They were cursing. They were being very obnoxious," witness Malik Banks told the station.

The group of around 30 teens were high school students from Boston celebrating their graduation. They ended up agreeing to wear a mask the next day, after spending a night at the airport. Police made no arrests, local media reported.

The incident reflected a general decline in civility on board planes,

according to US carriers. Unions and industry federations last month called on the Department of Justice to take a more systematic approach to prosecuting violent incidents on board flights.

Since January 1, 2021, there have been 3,271 incidents involving passengers reported, including 2,475 linked to passengers refusing to wear a mask, according to a press release from the Federal Aviation Administration published on Tuesday.

Thousands Flock To See 23-Month-Old Dwarf Cow "Rani" In Bangladesh

Agence France-Presse

CHARIGRAM, BANGLADESH: Thousands of people are defying a nationwide coronavirus lockdown in Bangladesh to see Rani, a 51-centimetre (20-inch) tall cow whose owners claim it is the world's smallest.

The 23-month-old dwarf cow has become a media star with scores of newspapers and television stations throwing the spotlight on the tiny bovine at a farm near Dhaka.

Pictures of Rani on social media platforms have set off a tourist frenzy.

Despite a nationwide transport shutdown because of record coronavirus infections and deaths, people are flocking in rickshaws to the farm in Charigram, 30 kilometres (19 miles) southwest of Dhaka.

"I have never seen anything like this in my life. Never," said Rina Begum, 30, who came from a neighbouring town.

Rani is 66 centimetres (26 inches) long and weighs only 26 kilograms (57 pounds)



but the owners say it is 10 centimetres shorter than the smallest cow in Guinness World Records.

M.A. Hasan Howlader, manager of Shikor Agro farm, used a tape measure to show dozens of onlookers how Rani dwarfs her closest rival Manikyam, a cow in the Indian state Kerala that currently holds the world record.

"People come long distances despite the coronavirus lockdown. Most want to take selfies with Rani," Howlader told AFP, adding Guinness World Records had promised a decision in three months.

"More than 15,000 people have come to

see Rani in the past three days alone," he said.

"Honestly speaking, we are tired." Guinness World Records said Manikyam, from the Vechur breed, was 61 centimetres high in June 2014.

Rani is a Bhutti, or Bhutanese, cow which is prized for its meat in Bangladesh. The other Bhattis on the farm are twice Rani's size.

"We did not expect such huge interest. We did not think people would leave their homes because of the worsening virus situation. But they have come here in droves," the manager said.

Sajedul Islam, the government's chief vet for the region, said Rani is a product of "genetic inbreeding" and was unlikely to become any bigger.

Islam said he had told the farm to restrict the tourist influx. "I told them they should not allow so many people to crowd the farm. They may carry diseases here that threaten Rani's health," he said.

Bandipora Trio Acquitted After 31 Years In Theft Case

Observer News Service

BANDIPORA: A local court in Bandipora Wednesday acquitted three persons, accused of house trespassing at night, theft and causing hurt to deter public servants from discharging their duties, after almost 31 years.

The court of judicial magistrate 1st class (JMJC) acquitted the three accused Abdul Raheem Lone son of Nebir Lone, Yusuf Lone son of Jabbar Lone and Shaban Lone son of Rasool Lone, all residents of Athwatoo village of Bandipora in cases under section 332, 380 and 457 RPC of police station Bandipora.

The judgement announced by JMJC Bandipora, Towfeel Ahmad Mir stated that four among the five witnesses have died during the trial of the case, while the remaining one turned hostile and deposed nothing incriminating against the accused persons.

The judgement stated that in light of the facts and circumstances, the court has no option but to acquit all the accused for want of evidence and the accused persons are acquitted of all the offences under sections 332 (Voluntarily causing hurt

to deter public servant from his duty), 380 (Theft in a building, tent or vessel) and 457 (Lurking house-trespass or house-breaking by night in order to commit offence punishable with imprisonment) RPC.

"From perusal of file, it transpires that out of five listed witnesses only one prosecution witness (PW-03) has been recorded. While all other four witnesses have expired. Prosecution evidence was closed on 17-04-2021," reads the judgement.

It reads that the prosecution witness (PW-03) whose statement has been recorded has turned hostile and has deposed nothing incriminating against the accused persons. "In both examination-in-chief and cross examination, PW-03 has stated that he has no knowledge about the occurrence and even he does not know anything about the case."

The judgement reads that in the light of above said facts and circumstances this court has no option but to acquit all the accused for want of evidence. "Accordingly, accused persons are acquitted of all the offences under sections 332, 380, 457 RPC. Their Bail and surety bonds shall stand discharged.



COUNTRY LIFE: A woman making her way through the meadow of Tosa Maidan in Central Kashmir's Budgam district. KO Phot Abid Bhat

Suicide Not A Solution To Temporary Setbacks In Life: Maulana Qasmi

'Everyone Including Parents Have A Role To Curb Menace Of Suicides'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Rector of Darul Uloom Raheemiyah, Bandipora, Maulana Mohammad Rehmatullah Qasmi Wednesday said suicides are Haram in Islam and temporary setback in life should not be taken as a failure.

He said almighty Allah has created every human being with a purpose. One cannot take his life with his own will, Maulana Qasmi said.

He said that the Islam has clearly instructed not to offer the funeral prayers of the ones who end their own life. The



purpose, he said, is that people may refrain from committing this sin.

Maulana Qasmi said suicide has never been an option to overcome the setbacks of life. "Being a part of the society

every individual should play their role by trying to counsel people who have been going through mental health issues.

Terming the wave of suicides in Kashmir a cause of serious concern, Maulana Qasmi said the intervention of parents can also play a key role to curb the menace.

Maulana Qasmi said parents should keep a note of the daily happenings of their children. The parents should know what triggers such extreme emotions in their children. He said that the system also needs to play a proactive role to curb the menace.

Concerned Citizens' Group To Share Kashmir Visit Details In Delhi

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A delegation of Concerned Citizens' Group led by former Indian Finance Minister

Yashwanth Sinha Wednesday met former Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti at her Gupkar residence here in Kashmir capital Srinagar.

The Group was on a three day visit in Kashmir and before leaving back to New Delhi, the delegation called on Mehbooba Mufti.

Sinha said that he will share details about his Kashmir visit in New Delhi. "Yes, we met Mehbooba Mufti today and yesterday we had interactions with a cross section of people includ-

ing journalists, human rights groups, politicians, civil society members. We will prepare a report and share the details in the coming days," Sinha said.

Sources said that during the meeting with Mehbooba Mufti, there was a threadbare discussion on the current situation in Kashmir.

They said Mehbooba Mufti expressed anguish over the BJP led central Government's approach towards Kashmir. She justified her party's decision of staying away from delimitation exercises and also informed the delegation about the continuous imprisonment of political prisoners in different jails of India. (Agencies)

Thieves Steal Flock Of Sheep In Shopian

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: Thieves stole a flock of 20 sheep from a cowshed during the intervening night of July 6 and 7 at Mugalpora village of south Kashmir's Shopian district.

Ghulam Mohiuddin Wani son of Noor Muhammad Wani registered a complaint at a lo-

cal police station claiming that thieves stole over 20 sheep from his shed located at Mugalpora Keegam village of Shopian.

Off late, the residents said that the incidents of cattle theft have gone up in the area.

A police official said that the department has taken cognisance of the complaint and registered a case to investigate the incident.

UP Labourer Hangs Self In Budgam

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: A young non-local labourer working at a brick kiln was found hanging from a tree on Wednesday in Bonhama village of Central Kashmir's Budgam.

Police officials said that the

deceased has been identified as 27-year old Aklesh Pal son of Brinder Pal, a resident of Uttar Pradesh.

The locals spotted his body and informed police. Police have taken cognisance of the incident and started investigations.

Man Booked For Duping People In Investment Fraud

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Crime Branch Kashmir Thursday produced Challan in against Bashir Ahmad Kichloo, son of Ali Mohammad Kichloo, a resident of Dooru in south Kashmir's Anantnag. Kichloo is presently a resident of Baghi Mehtab in Srinagar.

A statement of CB Kashmir said that the case was registered after a written complaint was submitted to Crime Branch Kashmir. The complainant alleged that the management of private company "Surbhi Agro Tech Limited Company" with its Head Office at 296 Industrial Area Phase 1 Panchkula Haryana had opened its branch office at Anantnag in March 1998.

"The company collected



huge amount from the investors. However, in April 1999 the Company closed down its office at Panchkula Haryana and Anantnag Branch faced the same fate and thereby duped the investors of their hard earned money. Accordingly a Case FIR No. 52/2005 U/S 420 RPC was registered in Police Station Crime Branch Kashmir."

The statement said that the during investigation it surfaced that Bashir Ahmad Kichloo

THE COMPANY COLLECTED HUGE AMOUNT FROM THE investors. However, in April 1999 the Company closed down its office at Panchkula Haryana and Anantnag Branch faced the same fate and thereby duped the investors of their hard earned money.

FCS&CA Initiates Measures To Streamline Ration Distribution

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs has initiated a slew of measures for streamlining the public distribution system in J&K, and as a part of this effort, updation of 634 more PoS devices from offline to online mode for the July distribution cycle has been made for making the distribution process further transparent and credible.

To reach out to the most vulnerable sections of the society, it was informed that both the provincial heads of the Department have been instructed to immediately launch special drive to reach out, identify and issue ration cards and food-grains to the weakest and vulnerable sections of the society including street dwellers, hawkers, laborers, migrant laborers, physically challenged and specially-abled etc.

"Subject to the target ceilings under NFSA, weaker and vulnerable sections of the society,

including those whose incorporation has been directed by the Supreme Court of India will be included on priority basis through this special drive," the Department's spokesman said, adding that the provincial heads will further devise a fool-proof mechanism to provide ration under portability or through other acceptable arrangement to NFSA-registered migrating nomadic families after their proper data mapping.

The spokesman said following some complaints regarding ineligible beneficiaries figuring in AAY/PHH categories, the Directors have been asked to re-verify all such cases immediately where complaints are received through media, from public, on the basis of information provided by the elected public representatives or by other Government Departments, in accordance with the applicable norms and ineligible beneficiaries, if any, be weeded out immediately.

Positivity Rate Declines Below One Percent In Ganderbal: DC

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Kritika Jyotsna Wednesday said that the overall positivity has witnessed a massive decline in the district and at present the positivity rate is just 0.79 percent.

She said that this week about 13000 tests were done and the overall positivity rate has come down to 0.79 % which was 1.5 % last week. She said that last week 7000 tests were conducted at Covid Care Centres and only 11 persons were tested positive who were sent to home isolation and all of them are stable.

Regarding active positive cases, the DC said that currently 176 cases are active in the district while 41 containment zones are still notified in the district and 59 % active cases are from these zones, she added.

She said that positive indicators with regard to pandemics are improving every passing day which is an encouraging trend for all and to further improve our positive indicators, she again appealed to people of the district to continue following Covid appropriate behavior besides wearing face masks, avoid unnecessary gathering in markets and other public places.

Two Injured In Sumbal Road Mishap

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two persons were injured in a road mishap on Srinagar-Bandipora road at Naninara area of Sumbal on Wednesday.

A Police official said that an Alto car collided with a three wheeler resulting in the injuries to two persons.

He said that soon after the inci-

dent the injured duo Mehraj-uddin (65) a resident of Srinagar and Mohammed Maqbool of Naninara were taken to CHC Sumbal for treatment.

However one Mohammed Maqbool was shifted to Srinagar hospital in critical condition, he added.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the incident and started investigation.

Two 'Notorious' Drug Peddlers Arrested In Budgam

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: The Jammu and Kashmir Police in Budgam Wednesday arrested two "notorious drug peddlers" in Budgam and recovered contraband substances from their possession.

A police spokesperson said that at a checkpoint established at Wathoora, a police party intercepted a person roaming in "suspicious condition" and arrested him.

During checking, 300 grams of heroin were recovered from his possession.

He was identified as Younis Manzoor aka Sahil son of Manzoor Ahmad Waza, a resident of Wathoora.

Upon his revelation, the police spokesperson said, another drug

peddler was arrested from Wathoora. He was identified as Nasir Farooq Sofi son of Farooq Ahmad Sofi, a resident of Wathoora Chadoora.

During checking, the spokesperson said, 200 grams of heroin were recovered from his possession.

Both the persons have been shifted to police station where they remain in custody.

"The initial investigation suggests that these drug peddlers were going to sell the heroin among the youth of the area. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 106/2021 under relevant sections of law stands registered in Police Station Chadoora and further investigation set into motion. More arrests and recoveries are expected."

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost RC of my vehicle truck bearing registration No JK13A 7959 now i want to apply its duplicate .If Anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection office of the ARTO Pulwama within the period of 7 days. After That no objection shall be entertained.

Name: FAYAZ AHMAD DAR
S/O: AB GANI DAR

R/O: THAJIWARA ACHABAL ANANTNAG

RNA

COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE ANANTNAG

Present Mr Naseer Ahmad Dar

- Mudasira Akther W/O Late Parvaiz Ahmad Kohli
- Arsalan Parvaiz Son Of Late Parvaiz Kohli
- Khushboo Parvaiz D/O Parvaiz Ahmad

Both Minors Through Their Mother Mudasira

R/O Hutmurahmattan

V/S Public At Large

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas an application for succession certificate has been moved by petitioner (s) in respect of an amount of Rs38,00,000 in the name of deceased Parvaiz ahmad kohli S/O Mohd Hafiz Kohli R/o Thana mandi present hutmurah Hence Objections if any are invited from all and Sunday to the aforesaid claim ,by or before next date of hearing i.e14/07/2021 falling which matter shall be determined on merits.

Issued under my hand seal of the court on 06/07/2021

Principal District judge Anantnag

RNA

COURT OF PRINCIPAL DISTRICT JUDGE ANANTNAG

Present Mr Naseer Ahmad Dar

- Mst Khatri W/O Late Nazir Ahmad Sheikh
- Majid Ahmad Sheikh
- S/O Late Nazir Ahmad Sheikh
- Rafiqian D/O Late Nazirahmad R/O Doonipawang

V/S PUBLIC AT LARGE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas an application for succession certificate has been moved by petitioner (s) in respect of an amount of Rs60,128 in the name of deceased Nazir Ahmad sheikh S/O Gull Mohd-Sheikh R/o Doonipawa Hence Objections if any are invited from all and Sunday to the aforesaid claim ,by or before next date of hearing i.e14/07/2021 falling which matter shall be determined on merits.

Issued under my hand seal of the court on 06/07/2021

Principal District judge Anantnag

RNA

| نمبر شمار | نام افراد کتبہ | عمر | پیشہ | آمدنی |
|-----------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------|-------|
| 01 | محمد اقبال ولد سونو اللہ ناترے | 47 سال | سرکاری ملازم | LPC |
| 02 | گفتہ زید محمد اقبال | 44 سال | گھریلو کام | |
| 03 | گول اقبال ولد محمد اقبال | 18 سال | زیر تعلیم | |
| 04 | اقراء اختر محمد اقبال | 16 سال | زیر تعلیم | |

سٹورکبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور آمدنی کے سلسلے میں LPC کے کلبید درخواست دہی ہوئی ہے لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروض ہو جاتا ہے۔ عینا گزرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار RNA

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Address fears

The delimitation commission, led by Justice (retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai is in Jammu & Kashmir on a four day visit to interact with political parties and officials for their inputs about redrawing new constituencies in the Union Territory. Except for the PDP, all other parties have chosen to meet the commission. The exercise, the PDP said, was pre-planned and aimed to realise the "political vision of a particular party".

But the delegations of the other parties have met the commission. This includes the National Conference which until recently had boycotted it, terming the exercise illegal as it was as, according to the party, it stemmed from the revocation of Article 370 and the subsequent J&K Reorganization Act that was currently facing challenge in the Supreme Court.

In their interactions with the commission, the Valley based parties have expressed their apprehensions about the exercise. They have sought transparency in how the commission goes about redrawing the constituencies and which the commission has promised it would do.

A five-member delegation of the National Conference, the largest J&K party, that met the commission has told it that the exercise should have been undertaken after the assembly elections. The party also termed it as an "unconstitutional exercise" based on the Reorganisation Act, which has been challenged in the Supreme Court.

However the misgivings about the commission aren't limited to the political parties, the people at large have deep suspicions. They believe that the effort is geared to grant more seats to Jammu, something that would reduce the political weight of the Kashmir Valley in a future Assembly. And the commission should address such apprehensions.

Incidentally, the visit of the commission follows immediately after the much hyped meeting of the prime minister Narendra Modi with the J&K leaders. The meeting turned out to be more of an interaction of the PM and the home minister Amit Shah with the J&K leaders than an effort to resolve the issues currently facing the former state. Both the PM and the HM stayed true to their ongoing approach towards J&K. They were not inclined even to restore the statehood in the near term. Instead, the statehood would follow "at an appropriate time," once the delimitation exercise has been completed and the elections within the union territory framework have been held. This could set the stage for the restoration of statehood. But no one is sure if the statehood to be granted would be full or a truncated one where the real power would vest in the governor.

It is in this context that the role of the delimitation commission assumes a profound significance. The outcome of the exercise has the potential to alter the political complexion of J&K.

O T H E R O P I N O N

An Uneven Field

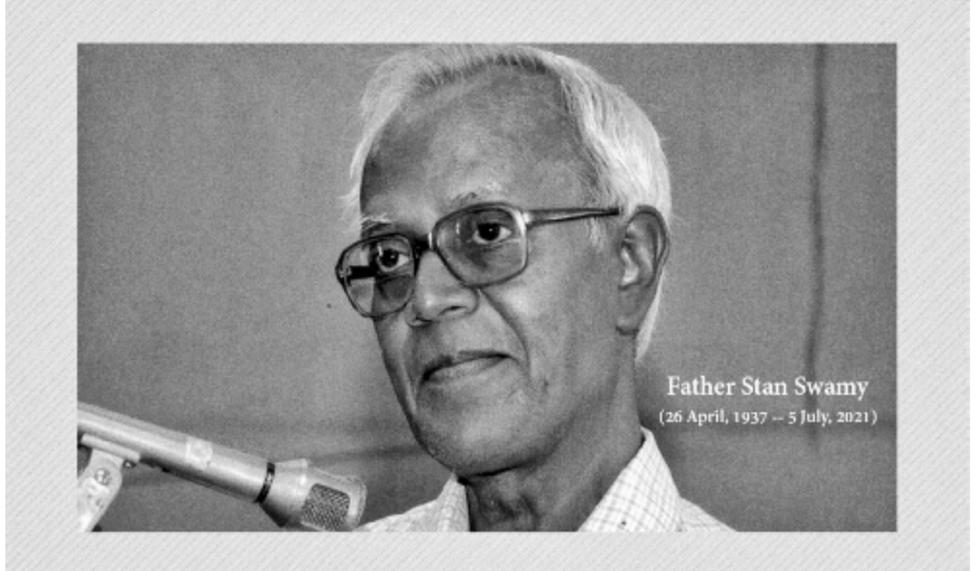
The government has argued that the draft e-commerce rules — on Monday, the ministry of consumer affairs postponed the deadline for comments and suggestions on the proposed consumer protection rules from the earlier target date of July 6 to July 21 — seek to protect the interests of consumers, curb unfair trade practices, and encourage free and fair competition. It goes without saying that measures designed to elicit greater cooperation from e-commerce firms, ensure greater responsiveness to issues of consumer welfare, are welcome. As such, rules that require the appointment of a chief compliance officer and a resident grievance officer to ensure that consumer grievances are settled in a timely manner are steps in the right direction. But the proposed rules also seek to harden considerably the regulatory architecture in the online retail space, restrict the room for manoeuvre that e-commerce companies have, and create more ambiguity over their operations, without imposing similar constraints on their traditional brick and mortar competitors.

There are specific points of concern. The draft rules call for putting in place a fall-back liability clause. According to this, e-commerce firms will be held liable in case a seller on their platform "fails to deliver goods or services due to negligent conduct" causing a loss to the consumer. But this raises a question: If an e-commerce firm exerts no sway over the inventory, then can it be held responsible for the actions of the seller? Similarly, there is also ambiguity over flash sales. The ministry first noted that "only specific flash sales or back to back sales which limit customer choice, increase prices and prevent a level playing field are not allowed." While it later elaborated that it will not regulate flash sales, it is puzzling how sales limit consumer welfare. Where is the cost-benefit analysis? Another rule that deals with related party transactions has caused much consternation. Under this, related parties of an e-commerce platform cannot be sellers on that platform. Contrary to expectations, doing so would tend to limit, not enhance, consumer choice on the platform.

Considering that such restrictive rules do not apply to the brick and mortar stores, which engage in discounts, end of season sales, and special tie-ups with manufacturers, imposing such restrictive regulations on e-commerce platforms lends credence to the charge that the rules were designed giving greater weightage to the interests of traditional retailers, rather than consumers, or small and medium sellers on the platforms. Vagueness in some of the terms employed in the rules, which leaves room for discretion in implementation, also raises apprehensions of greater regulatory intervention. These concerns need to be addressed. Policy should aim to reduce information asymmetry, facilitate competition, and bring greater transparency in pricing. In trying to enhance consumer welfare, it should not end up decreasing it.

The Indian Express

Father, Forced to Heaven



R. RAJ RAO

‘Maharashtra’s Taloja Jail, where most of the Bhima-Koregaon detainees are lodged, is a crumbling jail that houses over 3000 inmates, although the jail has a capacity to accommodate only 1400 prisoners

The Elgar Parishad held in Pune District in January 2018, also known as the infamous Bhima-Koregaon meet that ended in violence, has seen its first casualty. On Monday, 84-year-old Stan Swamy breathed his last in Bombay’s Holy Family Hospital. Although reluctant to go to hospital, Swamy preferred the private Holy Family Hospital to the government-run JJ Hospital.

Swamy’s death has sparked outrage, both in India and abroad. The Congress’s Rahul Gandhi and the CPM’s Sitaram Yechury have called the death "state-sponsored murder". The UN and the EU have condemned the death. The media too has come down heavily on the government for its cruelty to Swamy. Rajdeep Sardesai, Editor-in-Chief of India Today TV, said that the state has "blood on its hands." Sreenivasan Jain of NDTV 24x7 believed that Swamy’s death was caused "by a combination of abuse of state power and judicial apathy." He called the death "a failure of the criminal justice system." Even former Supreme Court judges are appalled by Swamy’s death. Justice Madan B. Lokur, writing in The Wire, says, "The entire episode leaves behind a feeling that Stan Swamy was virtually thrust [with] a sentence of death, without charges being framed against him, and without a trial." Advocate Vrinda Grover said, "The whole country needs to question Stan Swamy’s death; his work was against corporate interests." Activist and economist Jean Dreze held, chillingly, that "the death was allowed to happen on purpose, to send a message to other activists."

Soon after the Maha Vikas Aghadi took over the reins of the Maharashtra government in November 2019, the centre transferred the Bhima-Koregaon case from the Pune Police to the National Investigation Agency (NIA), fearing that the state government would go soft on the activists arrested in the case. Since then, the NIA has been consistently refusing bail to the activists, even though many of them have been struck with Covid and with other illnesses. Of the 16 activists arrested in the case, including Hany Babu, only one, the poet Varavara Rao, has been granted bail for a period of six months. Rao’s bail will shortly be coming to an end. Another activist, Gautam Navalakha, was given house arrest by the court in lieu of jail.

According to the NIA, the principal reason for refusal of

bail to the activists is that they are "Urban Naxals" who have Maoist links. However, evidence from an independent US-based agency has shown that the alleged correspondence found in the computers of Stan Swamy, Varavara Rao, Rona Wilson and others, including a plot to assassinate Prime Minister Modi in a Rajiv Gandhi-style suicide-bombing attack, was actually malware planted in their devices to incriminate them. The activists have repeatedly denied any knowledge of how the 30-odd offending emails landed in their computers. In Swamy’s case, even searches conducted by the cops in his Ranchi office revealed nothing.

In a video released in October 2020, Stan Swamy said he was interrogated in jail for 15 hours over 5 days. He called his arrest a pogrom launched by the state to punish activists, poets, writers and students who dissented with the government’s policies. He said that of all the seditious emails attributed to him, only one innocuous email that he wrote to Sudha Bhardwaj, another activist arrested in the case, was genuine. All the other emails were manufactured. However, Swamy declared that he would not be a silent spectator to what went on in the country, and that he was ready to pay any price to put an end to the abuse of state power.

Indeed, the price Swamy paid was his life. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death." But Swamy died without committing any sin. On the contrary, he was a missionary and a Jesuit priest, who worked for the welfare of poor adivasi tribals in Jharkhand State. The very fact that Swamy was a Jesuit priest is enough to prove that he could not at the same time be a Maoist. Maoism is a radical Marxist ideology, and the Marxists abjure religion, with Marx famously calling religion "the opium of the people."

Adivasis, incidentally, are invisible to the ruling dispensation, who only seem to have an eye for corporate giants.

Neither the Prime Minister nor the Home Minister have condescended Swamy’s death. Wouldn’t it have magnanimous on their part to spare a word for him, like so many others in civil society, even though his ideology was diametrically opposed to theirs?

Besides being inflicted with Covid, Stan Swamy also suffered from Parkinson’s Disease. His hands constantly trembled. The Bombay High Court observed that Swamy had a hearing problem. In

Swamy’s own words, he could neither write nor walk, and had to be fed by others. Yet he was denied even a straw sipper by the Taloja Jail, where he was incarcerated.

Maharashtra’s Taloja Jail, where most of the Bhima-Koregaon detainees are lodged, is a crumbling jail that houses over 3000 inmates, although the jail has a capacity to accommodate only 1400 prisoners. The only in-house doctor in the Taloja Jail is an ayurvedic doctor. But the NIA, perhaps in order to punish the activists, has refused to transfer them to other, more hospitable jails, although many of them are seriously in need of medical attention.

Like Varavara Rao, had Stan Swamy been released on bail, he would have perhaps survived. Rao too has been stricken with Covid and has very weak eyesight. (So much so, he is unable to read the 50 poems written by him that Maithri and I have co-translated from the Telugu).

The draconian Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) under which Swamy was arrested has a conviction rate of just 2%. Recently, the Delhi High Court granted bail to student activists Natasha Narwal, Devangana Kalita and Asif Iqbal, arrested after the anti-CAA Delhi riots of February 2020. Last week, the NIA Court also acquitted Akhil Gogoi, arrested under the UAPA. Yet, Justice V. K. Ayer’s view that bail should be the rule and jail the exception has not been followed in the case of most of the Bhima-Koregaon activists, none of whom has so far been convicted. Nor has the other view of the courts, that undertrials should be housed in jails close to their places of residence, so that friends and family can visit them, been followed in Swamy’s case. Even if Stan Swamy had to be jailed, he would have liked to be housed in a prison in Ranchi rather than in Maharashtra.

Alas, not just in life, but even in death, Stan Swamy hasn’t been taken to his beloved Ranchi. According to reports, his funeral will be held in Bombay itself.

I would like to end with a tweet posted by Youth Congress Spokesperson, Latoya Ferns:

Today, the flag in my heart flies at half-mast.

May Stan Swamy’s soul rest in peace.

Views expressed in the article are the author’s own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

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Reach Out and Reconcile

It takes just a moment, or should one say, a conspiracy to spoil relations between communities. Given the recent events, it seems to be the case between Sikhs and Muslims of Kashmir. Several narratives have emerged, and the two communities are accusing each other of transcending the boundaries of harmony. Social media has become a platform for these narratives and counter-narratives. One tweet high-

lighted the historic wrongs done to Muslims by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, and another one raised the matter of lack of Muslim conversions in inter-religious marriages.

The unfortunate thing, however, is that the seeds of discord were sown by leaders for their political gains in Punjab. While some sane voices did emerge to reveal the real motives behind these macabre tactics of communalization and politicization

of events, they mostly remained unheard. Thus, the forces of division, to a large extent, emerged victoriously.

Sikhs and Muslims have lived in harmony for decades in Kashmir. They share the history and pain of victimization at and in difficult times, they have stood by each other. In present circumstances, they need to build upon their legacy of solidarity and defeat the evil forces hoovering over Kashmir. They need to un-

derstand that tensions can emerge between different groups in any society, and matters can be resolved amicably. Acknowledging that few hearts might have turned soar after the recent events, but the path to reconciliation is open; reach out and reconcile. After all, Guru Nanak Ji had Mardana, a Muslim, as one of his companions.

Suhail Ahmad Khan
skhan737662@gmail.com



The First Khan

Kashmiris on the tragedy king of Bollywood
Dilip Kumar's death at 98 in Mumbai

KO Web Desk

In the news of his demise that made silence envelop one-and-all in grief, many also reminiscenced Dilip Kumar's melodic hold on languages. Commenting on Dilip Sahab's poetic proficiency in urdu, Author Journalist Gowhar Geelani tweeted, "Yusuf Khan aka Dilip Kumar was an amazing actor. The manner in which he spoke Urdu. His pronunciation. His pauses. His dialogue delivery. Oh yes, his looks too (Yusuf)!"

A young Yusuf Khan in Peshawar set out to cross-over to the other side and unwittingly set his golden foot in Bamba, the city of dreams. The winds of magic of the place couldn't help but direct themselves to welcome the groom of Hindi film industry. Undoubtedly, he had more to offer to it than it could ever offer to him. Dilip Kumar is responsible for single-handedly metamorphosing the entirety of Bollywood's trend and traits in theatre. He brought to it his individuality and modernised it with his craft adding substance to shadows.

Perhaps, this explains why the name that glides from each tongue to mark the paragon of Hindi Film Industry, will always be Dilip Kumar. The indelible effects of his work on generations of mind is such that for many, cinema began with the defiant and doting Salim in Mughal-e-azam (1960).

Inarguably, he brought together two nations split in enmity through the association he lent to both. Infact, his love did not just fade boundaries but also created a confluence of odd lovers. Kashmiris were never behind in expressing their adoration and adulation of the great Dilip Kumar. The thespian comes up in conversations of many octogenarians who had the privilege of hosting him at their shops and boutiques on the Residency Road. Infact, Saira Bano, hsi wife, recounts how she would often see him reading away his nights under a lamp in a cottage in Kashmir's Dachigam.

Therefore, understandably, his death at the age of 98, shook Kashmiris with grief as much as the rest. While many spent their morning hearing personal histories of people who had encountered him in real life, others took to the internet to partake in mourning his death and celebrating his life.

Author and historian Khalid Bashir Ahmad, commemorated the news, by sharing an excerpt from his book, "Kashmir: Looking Back in Time" recalling the raging popularity of Dilip sahab in Kashmir: "Dilip Kumar's films would run packed houses in Kashmir. As elsewhere, he had a huge fan following in the Valley. Even the reruns of his movies would go houseful. Films like Devdas, Mughal-e-Azam, Naya Daur, Deedar, Aan, Leader, Dil Diya Dard Liya and Aadmi would keep on returning year after year to a huge response. In 1970, when Gopi was released at the Palladium for an All India premier, Lal Chowk wore a festive look with buntings and colour posters of the film fluttering everywhere, and a huge gathering of Kumar fans jostling each other to reach the ticket window. Dilip Kumar and his wife, Saira Banu, who was his co-star in the movie, also came to the Palladium to watch the film. They had a tough time to wade through the river of fans including men with long grey beards, dying to have a glimpse of their favourite actor or shake hands with him. "A beaming Kumar shook hands and exchanged pleasantries with some of them", recalls Javed Azar, a former resident of Amira Kadal"

With the song, "Shamay Gham ki Kasam, Aaj Ghanghee Hai Hum, Aa bhi Ja Meray Sanam", teasing him into grief, Journalist Peerzada Ashiq also took to social media to express his grief, "The thespian who stirred our emotional beings with his talkative pauses and silences is no more. Muhammad Yusuf Khan aka Dilip Kumar is a milestone of my childhood: As kid his 'Gopi' made me laugh, his act in 'Footpath' and 'Dastaan' made me grim for days together, in 'Karma' he left me agitated and 'Aan' changed the rules of romance", he said in a Facebook post.

In the news of his demise that made silence envelop one-and-all in grief, many also reminiscenced Dilip Kumar's melodic hold on languages. Commenting on Dilip Sahab's poetic proficiency in urdu, Author Journalist Gowhar Geelani tweeted, "Yusuf Khan aka Dilip Kumar was an amazing actor. The manner in which he spoke Urdu. His pronunciation. His pauses. His dialogue delivery. Oh yes, his looks too (Yusuf)!"

Mazdoor. Devdas. Naya Daur. Aan. Mughal-e-Azam. Kranti. Saudaagar. You name it. Rest in peace, Yusuf sahab!"

Engineer Malik Manzoor ul Haq gave everyone a sweet look into the past by sharing a

vintage vignette captioned, "Innalilahi wa Innalilahi Rajaoan. Every soul has to taste death, Bollywood legend, Tragedy King from Peshawar to Bombay passed away. An old memory, Govt Medical College Srinagar, Kashmir 1964 Batch. My Uncle Dr. G.H. Malik hand folded on right side of Dilip Kumar"

Similar photos also made rounds on the internet which showed DK's Kashmir connection.

A rare picture from the National Conference archives showed Sher-i-Kashmir with Dilip Kumar. Shared by a twitter user, it is from Nyla Ali Khan's collection:

Speaking of NC archives, former Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah, in an interview with media fondly remembered his close association with Dilip Kumar and reiterated the love and willingness he showed towards Kashmir.

Former CM and senior congress leader also took to twitter and said, "Me and my wife are deeply saddened by the demise of Dilip Kumarji."

The legendary actor was a very close family friend and well-wisher.

I know that words are of little solace at such times. However, our heartfelt condo-



When Mufti Mohammad Sayed (then CM) met Dilip Kumar in Mumbai and urged him to shoot all the upcoming films in Kashmir, renowned cartoonist BAB wrote in his famous cartoon the next day as Wesye Gulan Aamaye Bahaar, Az Saale Antan Dilip Kumar

lences to Saira Banuji. May Almighty give strength and courage to Sairaji to bear this irreparable loss.

We also pray for the eternal peace of the departed soul of Yousuf Sahib"

Recalling a PDP's Mufti Muhammad Syed's tete e tete with Dilip Kumar in 2015, Shakir Parray, a twitter user tweeted, "When Mufti Mohammad Sayed (then CM) met Dilip Kumar in Mumbai and urged him to shoot all the upcoming films in Kashmir, renowned cartoonist BAB wrote in his famous cartoon the next day as Wesye Gulan Aamaye Bahaar, Az Saale Antan Dilip Kumar"

Perhaps, the most fitting tribute to DK from Kashmir albeit a succinct was from RJ Nasir, who was able to capture the significance of the passing away of this icon. He tweeted, "Bollywood passes away. Rest in Peace Yousuf Sahab"

Study suggests smart tech is not making people dumber

“We're not solving complex mathematical problems with pen and paper or memorizing phone numbers in 2021”

Agencies

According to a new University of Cincinnati research by social/behavioural expert Anthony Chemero, while there are plenty of negatives associated with smart technology, there is also a positive side to it.

“Despite the headlines, there is no scientific evidence that shows that smartphones and digital technology harm our biological cognitive abilities,” says the UC professor of philosophy and psychology

who recently co-authored a paper stating such in *Nature Human Behaviour*.

In the paper, Chemero and colleagues at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management expound on the evolution of the digital age, explaining how smart technology supplements thinking, thus helping us to excel.

“What smartphones and digital technology seem to do instead is to change the ways in which we engage our biological cognitive abilities,” Chemero says, adding “these changes are actually cognitively

beneficial.”

For example, he says, your smartphone knows the way to the baseball stadium so that you don't have to dig out a map or ask for directions, which frees up brain energy to think about something else. The same holds true in a professional setting: “We're not solving complex mathematical problems with pen and paper or memorizing phone numbers in 2021.”

Computers, tablets and smartphones, he says, function as an auxiliary, serving as tools that are good at memorization,

calculation and storing information and presenting information when you need it.

Additionally, smart technology augments decision-making skills that we would be hard-pressed to accomplish on our own, says the paper's lead author Lorenzo Cecutti, a PhD candidate at the University of Toronto.

Using GPS technology on our phones, he says, can not only help us get there but lets us choose a route based on traffic conditions. “That would be a challenging task when driving round in a new city.”

Chemero adds: “You put all this technology together with a naked human brain and you get something that's smarter...and the result is that we, supplemented by our technology, are actually capable of accomplishing much more complex tasks than we could with our un-supplemented biological abilities.”

While there may be other consequences to smart technology, “making us stupid is not one of them,” says Chemero.



Continuous sleep loss has impact on mental, physical wellbeing

Agencies

The findings of a new study suggest that all it takes is three consecutive nights of sleep loss to cause your mental and physical wellbeing to greatly deteriorate.

A new study published in *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* looked at the consequences of sleeping fewer than six hours for eight consecutive nights - the minimum duration of sleep that experts say is necessary to support optimal health in average adults.

Lead author Soomi Lee, assistant professor in the School of Aging Studies at the University of South Florida, found the biggest jump in symptoms appeared after

42 per cent had at least one night of sleep loss, sleeping 1 and a half fewer hours than their typical routines. They recorded their mental and physical behaviors in a diary for eight consecutive days, allowing researchers to review how sleep loss causes wear and tear on the body.

Participants reported a pile-up of angry, nervous, lonely, irritable and frustrated feelings as a result of sleep loss. They also experienced more physical symptoms, such as upper respiratory issues, aches, gastrointestinal problems and other health concerns.

These negative feelings and symptoms were continuously elevated throughout consecutive sleep loss days and didn't return to baseline



just one night of sleep loss. The number of mental and physical problems steadily got worse, peaking on day three.

At that point, research shows the human body got relatively used to repeated sleep loss. But that all changed on day six when participants reported that the severity of physical symptoms was at its worst.

“Many of us think that we can pay our sleep debt on weekends and be more productive on weekdays,” Lee said. “However, results from this study show that having just one night of sleep loss can significantly impair your daily functioning.”

Data provided by the Midlife in the United States study included nearly 2,000 middle-aged adults who were relatively healthy and well-educated. Among them,

levels unless they had a night sleep of more than six hours.

About one-third of U.S. adults sleep less than six hours per night. Lee says once that becomes a habit, it's increasingly difficult for your body to fully recover from lack of sleep, continuing the vicious cycle of worsening daily well-being, which could impact one professionally.

A previous study led by Lee found losing just 16 minutes of sleep could impact job performance. Her previous findings also show that minor sleep loss can decrease daily mindfulness, which is a critical resource for managing stress and maintaining healthy routines.

Lee says the best way to maintain a strong daily performance is to set aside more than six hours to sleep every night.

How a virtual placenta could help with early detection of at-risk babies

Agencies

None of us would be here without our placenta, the remarkable fetal organ that nourished and sustained us before birth. But despite its importance, the placenta is among the least studied organs and we don't fully understand how it grows and functions.

This is problematic, because in one in ten pregnancies, the placenta functions poorly, leading to pregnancy disorders such as fetal growth restriction (FGR), when a baby's growth slows dramatically or stops. Across Australia and New Zealand, this affects more than 30,000 pregnancies each year, and growth-restricted babies are four times more likely to be stillborn.

Modern ultrasound imaging tools and new technologies such as fetal DNA testing in maternal blood cannot yet predict which pregnancies are at risk of fetal growth restriction until after the baby's growth slows down.

To help improve early detection and prediction of at-risk pregnancies, we have developed a virtual placenta - a computer-based representation of the organ - by piecing together a wide range of clinical and laboratory data from pregnancies that go well and those that don't.

The placenta has several functions. It delivers nutrients and oxygen from the mother's blood to the baby, removes wastes from the baby back to mum, and produces important hormones that adapt mum's body to pregnancy. Maori have always understood its value, referring to the placenta as the *whenua*, which nourishes the baby as the *whenua* (land) nourishes the people. We know there are some important factors, including smoking, that can affect a baby's growth. But pregnancy disorders can occur in



healthy women with no risk factors, and in a culture where mothers are often quick to blame themselves, it's important for women to know that growth restriction hardly ever occurs because of something they did or did not do.

The most common way to estimate fetal growth is by a tape measure on mum's stomach, but the technique is only 10% sensitive, and even less so in patients who carry more body fat. More than half of the babies struggling to grow well are not detected before delivery.

Virtual organs to detect health issues

We need to do better at detecting fetal growth issues. The earlier doctors know these babies are at risk, the better. While treatment options are currently limited, doctors can monitor the pregnancy more closely and make informed decisions about when to deliver.

This is not straightforward, as both the mother's and baby's physiology can change quickly in pregnancy, and we can't ask pregnant mothers to have more tests, or ul-

trasounds, or to undergo procedures that might put the pregnancy at risk (like using radiation in a CT scan).

The virtual placenta allows us to look more closely at pregnancy without adding to the burden of tests an expectant mother needs to undergo, and without costing the healthcare system an excessive amount.

Virtual organs, or indeed virtual humans, are not a new concept. For several decades scientists have been combining anatomical knowledge with the principles of physics to predict how changes in anatomy affect organ function. An example includes how changes in blood vessels affect how hard a heart has to pump to circulate blood around the body.

Simple virtual pregnancy models have guided the interpretation of ultrasound since the start of routine use in pregnancy in the 1980s.

Virtual clinical trials are also emerging where it is possible to experiment on a computer-based organ to predict outcomes before new treatments are trialled on real people. This reduces animal testing and the cost of clinical trials.

Earlier detection of problems

The placenta is like a dense forest of trees. The baby's blood vessels are inside the branches of these trees, while blood from mum's uterus flows around the outside. How blood flows in both these circulations is critical for good exchange.

Only recently has technology allowed virtual placentas to include the detail of this blood flow and exchange, which can't be measured directly. This is allowing scientists to make strides towards understanding how features of the placentas that restrict a baby's growth show up in imaging like ultrasound or MRI.

Finding cost-effective ways to predict and detect fetal growth restriction will go a long way to helping our smallest babies.

Predicting which pregnancies are at risk in early pregnancy is especially important, as this is when the placenta is growing rapidly, and therapies delivered in early pregnancy are more likely to bolster placental function. For example, simple and safe therapies such as aspirin are effective at reducing fetal growth restriction, but only if started before 16 weeks of pregnancy.

As we cannot predict FGR in early pregnancy, much of what we know about restricted growth in utero comes from studies in late pregnancy, and assessment of placentas after delivery. Applying our anatomical understanding of earlier stages of placental development allows us to virtually “turn back the clock” and consider early contributors to poor placental function, and how we can measure these by ultrasound.

We hope to use this knowledge to develop new ways to predict at-risk pregnancies, so we can help prevent growth issues, and give all babies a better start to life.

(The Conversation)

‘Commercial video games could help treat mental health issues’

Agencies

Popular video games have the potential to provide low-cost, easy access, effective and stigma-free support for some mental health issues, researchers at Lero, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Software, have found.

The team at Lero, a world leader in connected-health research, said video games could be used where conventional therapies are not available because of cost or location, or as an

addition to traditional therapeutic treatments for depression or anxiety.

Lero researcher Dr Mark Campbell said there is mounting scientific evidence supporting the efficacy of commercial video games to improve mental health outcomes after the team reviewed existing academic research on the impact of video games on mental health issues, particularly depression and anxiety.

“It is worth considering commercial video games as a potential alternative option for the improvement of various aspects of mental health globally,” Lero researcher Dr Mark Campbell said.

Dr Campbell led a team attached to the University of Limerick's Health Research Institute and Physical Education & Sport Sciences department to publish their latest research paper *Gaming your mental health: A narrative review on mitigating depression and anxiety symptoms via commercial video games* in academic journal *JMIR Serious Games*.

Dr Campbell said commercial video games are freely available or available for a one-time relative low cost and there are an estimated 2.7 billion video gamers worldwide.

“The overall accessibility and pervasiveness of commercial video games within modern society positions them as an invaluable means of reaching individuals with mental health disorders, irrespective of age and sex, and with limited access to mental health care, particularly relevant during the current COVID-19 pandemic,” he said.

Lead author on the paper Magdalena Kowal explained how Virtual Reality (VR) video games have great potential in treating mental health issues.

“These are well-suited for the implementation of cognitive behavioural techniques for the treatment of depression and anxiety disorders in the future. Given the immersive nature of VR technology and the controllability of the virtual environment, it could be particularly well-suited for use in exposure therapy,” she said.

Shahid Afridi Says It Has Become Too Easy To Play For Pakistan



Press Trust of India

KARACHI: Former Pakistan captain Shahid Afridi feels playing for the national team has become way too easy and the players should only be picked after spending at least a couple of seasons in domestic cricket.

Speaking at a function, Afridi hit out at the selection policy adopted for the national team for red and white ball formats.

He was particularly critical of the way players were changed and debuted in the Pakistan white balls squads.

"It has become so easy to play for the national team whereas in the past playing for the Pakistan team was the ultimate for any professional cricketer," Afridi said.

He said the pathway into the Pakistan team had become so easy that even players with little domestic cricket exposure were rushed into the side and then dropped and shunned in the same way.

"That is why our performances are not consistent with the amount of cricket we play in Pakistan."

The popular all-rounder felt that each player must be given at least two or three years exposure in the domestic circuit before he is considered for the national squad.

"Why have we made it so really easy for players to represent their country. I am sad to see that a play-

er gives one or two good performances in domestic cricket or the PSL and he is in the national team."

"What is this? You should make your cricketers play domestic cricket," Afridi said.

Afridi felt that batsmen and bowlers needed at least exposure of two to three years before selectors could judge their talent, temperament and ability to cope with pressure.

"The real difference playing international cricket is how strong a player is mentally to handle all the pressures that come in international matches and that includes the criticism and glare of the media and fans."

"We must now judge the difference between just talent and mental strength of a player," Afridi added.

The former captain said that when a player appears in domestic cricket for two or three years, selectors and coaches get a chance to judge his temperament. He also called for the selectors and coaches to not shun players after a few chances if he failed to perform.

"If you give a chance to a player and he doesn't perform, he should be sent back into domestic cricket. Don't make playing for Pakistan so easy. Players must know the value of international cricket. I am totally against players coming into the side on just one or two performances," he added.

Angelo Mathews Opts Out Of India Series As Players Sign Tour Contracts



Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: Senior batsman Angelo Mathews on Wednesday pulled out of the upcoming limited-overs series against India citing personal reasons as Sri Lanka Cricket announced that 29 of the 30 players short-listed for the assignment had signed their contracts.

The 34-year-old Mathews was not a part of the squad that toured England recently and last played the Test series against Bangladesh in April. The India series comprising three ODIs and as many T20s begins here on July 13.

"Sri Lanka Cricket wishes to announce that 29 players, out of the 30 members nominated by the Cricket Selectors to be considered for the White-Ball Series against India, have signed the Tour Contract," said the SLC in a statement.

Angelo Mathews, who was included in the respective 30-member squad, requested Sri Lanka Cricket to relieve him from National Duties, owing to personal reasons, until further notice."

Sources, however, told PTI that Mathews, the seniormost among the current crop of players, and Test captain Dimuth Karunaratne were excluded from the contracts that were offered on Wednesday morning.

An unhappy Mathews has reportedly written to the SLC administration stating that he is considering retirement. He is

expected to make a formal announcement of his intentions in a few days.

What the SLC did on Wednesday was to offer contracts on the basis of each tour, a source said.

"There will be no annual contracts as the immediate need was to sign players for the series against India," he said.

The source said that all players who had previously refused to sign contracts did sign them on Wednesday after they were given a July 8 deadline.

Under the SLC's performance based pay plan, 24 of the leading players had been offered contracts under four categories.

In the categories released, only six players were in category A and their annual pay ranged between USD 70,000 to 100,000.

Reports said all-rounder Dhananjaya de Silva and wicket-keeper Niroshan Dickwella were offered the highest pay grade of USD 100,000 each.

Players felt the plan lacked transparency and the proposed pay would be much lower than the approved scales of the Federation of International Cricket Association (FICA).

The players had flown to England for the limited overs tour without signing national contracts. Sri Lanka lost all their matches in England barring a

rained out game.

Premier UT League: J&K Bank, Kashmir Avengers Win Matches



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In the ongoing Premier UT Football League 2020-21 (2nd Phase) two matches were played on Wednesday at the Synthetic Turf Ground, TRC in Srinagar.

In the first match, a 2:30 pm kick off, J&K Bank XI took on SWFC Ushkura Baramulla. The match started with an offensive display as both teams attacked each other half. The SWFC boys played with confidence in the beginning but could not withstand the pressure exerted by the experienced Bank team. The match ended with J&K Bank defeating SWFC Ushkura by 5 goals to nil.

In the second match of the day, a 4:30 pm kick off, Kashmir Avengers FC went head-to-head with Iqbal FC Kaloosa Bandipora. The match seemed evenly balanced in the beginning. Both the teams tried their best to find an opening but it was Kashmir Avengers FC who got the breakthrough in the 27th minute. After successfully converting the team goal, the Avengers maintained the slender lead till the end of the 1st half.

The 2nd half began with Iqbal FC Kaloosa trying hard to equalize while Kashmir Avengers sought to add more to their goal tally. However it was Iqbal FC who struck in 75th minute and scored the equal-

izer. But Iqbal FC's joy was short lived as the Avengers created a beautiful move and doubled their lead. The final score was 2-1 in favour of Kashmir Avengers FC.

The Premier League will continue today as well with two matches scheduled to take place at the Synthetic Turf, TRC. In the first match Dar Sports Kupwara take on Etihad FC Pulwama at 2:30 pm. While in the second match, Shopian FC will lock horns with Ferrari Lions Ganderbal at 4:30 pm.

The Premier UT League 2020-21 (2nd Phase) is organized by the Jammu & Kashmir Football Association (JKFA) in collaboration with Jammu & Kashmir Sports Council (JKSC).

DYSS Shopian Organizes Volleyball Match

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The District Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) on Wednesday organized a friendly volleyball match at the Mini Secretariat Ground, Arhama Shopian.

In a statement the DYSS said the match was played to provide an opportunity to local youth for showcasing their talent.

The match was played between JKA Police of District Shopian and employees of Youth Services and Sports Department, Shopian.

Additional District Development Commissioner Shopian, Mohammed Yousuf Mir was the chief guest on the occasion.

"The ADC while highlighting the importance of the sports said that volleyball has traditionally been a popular game of Kashmir region and is followed passionately by people of all ages across Kashmir Valley," the statement said.

"He appealed youth of the district to come forward and par-



ticipate in such sports events for physical fitness, development of sportsmanship spirit and display their talent.

"The response of employees of different departments was overwhelming and the event witnessed active participation of officers and employees of different departments. They appreciated the efforts of the DYSS for constructively engaging the youth of the district

in sports and requested that more such sporting events should be organized in the district," it added.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer, Shopian, Gurmukh Singh, Joint Director Planning, Khursheed Ahmad Khatana, District Information Officer, Shopian, Showkat Ahmad Khan besides other senior officers from different departments were present on the occasion.

Football Fan Dilip Kumar Had A 'Run-In' With Spectators During Rovers Cup Final

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Legendary actor Dilip Kumar was an avid football lover, shared a deep connection with one of Kolkata's big three legacy clubs, Mohammedan Sporting, and was a huge fan of the great Chuni Goswami.

From a treasure trove of anecdotes, two incidents stand out. Legend has it that when Goswami announced his international retirement in 1964 in Mumbai, two "special fans" requested him to change his decision.

The gentlemen in question were Kumar and Pran -- two Bollywood icons who would not miss a match at the Cooperage if Goswami was playing.

Another story involved Kumar having a "run-in" with rival supporters during the final of an erstwhile premier tournament.

One of India's enduring film legends, Kumar died at a Mumbai hospital on Wednesday after prolonged illness. He was 98.

Circa 1980, a familiar face during the Rovers Cup whenever Mohammedan Sporting played in the premier tournament, Kumar was invited as a chief guest for the 1980 final between his favourite club and East Bengal.

The Mohammedan Sporting captain of the match, Victor Amalraj, recalled how the Bollywood icon "got annoyed and was about to leave the stage before things were brought under control."

"Back then, the Raj Kumar-Rajesh Kumar film Maryada was a big hit. Some rival supporters started chanting Raj Kumar's name at the half-time that made Dilip Saab very annoyed," recollected the for-

mer India skipper Amalraj while talking to PTI from Hyderabad.

"He stood up from the stage and told their supporters, 'you should have called Raj Kumar then, why did you invite me'. He became so annoyed but the situation was soo brought under control," Amalraj said about the final in which they were declared joint-winners following a 1-1 stalemate.

The Indian football community remembers him as someone who took an active interest in the game, often watching the matches from the stands.

Amalraj continued, "I cannot forget that day. He was a very simple human being and we were so lucky to have seen him, photographed with him in person."

"He was a big sports lover and followed all the Mumbai nd on lubs and would be present whenever Mohammedan Sporting played in Kolkata or in Mumbai," Amalraj, who was accorded the 2019 Shant-e-Mohammedan, the club's Lifetime Achievement Award, said.

Former India Defender Subrata Bhattacharya, who was also a part of the Indian side that played in the 1984 AFC Asian Cup, was "fortunate" to have a few meetings with the legend of hindi cinema.

"Dilip Kumar was extremely passionate about football. On the field, when he'd come to a game as a chief guest, you don't get to talk much. But I had met him a few times off the field as well, and he used to love to discuss the game with us," informed Bhattacharya.

"I remember he used to be a frequent visitor in the Rovers Cup games. He had also come to the Santosh Trophy Final in Kashmir (1978-79)."

Virat Kohli Retains 5th Spot, KL Rahul Climbs To 6th In ICC T20I Rankings

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Indian skipper Virat Kohli retained his fifth position while wicketkeeper-batsman KL Rahul gained one spot to be in sixth place in the latest ICC T20I rankings.

With 762 points, Kohli is behind England's David Malan (888 points), Australia white-ball skipper Aaron Finch (830), Pakistan captain Babar Azam (828) and New Zealand opener Devon Conway (774).

Rahul, who has 743 points, and Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell have climbed a rung each to be placed sixth and seventh respectively.

Rahul and Kohli are the only two Indians to feature in the top-10 among batsmen. No Indian features in the top-10 among bowlers and all-rounders in the latest T20I rankings.

In the ODI rankings, Kohli and vice-captain Rohit Sharma remained in the top five, occupying the second and third spots respectively, behind Azam.

Indian pace ace Jasprit Bumrah, the lone bowler from the country in the top 10, dropped a spot to sixth place, while Ravindra Jadeja remained in the ninth position in the all-rounders' list.

England all-rounder Chris Woakes reached a career-best third position among bowlers after a fine show against Sri Lanka in the three-match ICC Men's ricket World Cup Super League series.

Woakes, who grabbed six wickets in two matches, including a haul of four for 18 in the first ODI, has advanced four slots in the list led by New Zealand's Trent Boult with Bangladesh's Mehidy Hasan Miraz in second place.

Woakes' previous best was fourth position attained in September last year. He is also up one place to third among all-rounders after

overtaking team-mate, Ben Stokes. Other England fast bowlers David Willey and Tom Curran, too, have gained in the latest men's weekly rankings update.

Willey has moved up 13 places to 37th position after a 'Player of the Series' effort of nine wickets that included a haul of four for 64 in the second match, while Curran's four wickets in two matches saw him advance 20 places to 68th position.

England's 2-0 series win, which helped them to the top of the CWC Super League Standings also sees Test captain Joe Root move up two places to 13th position with a series-topping aggregate of 147 runs and white-ball skipper Eoin Morgan inching up from 26th to 25th.

For Sri Lanka, captain Kusal Perera is up one place to 41st after scoring 82 runs in the series, while Dhananjaya de Silva has gained 10 slots to reach 74th position.

In the men's T20I rankings, South Africa's Quinton de Kock has advanced nine places to 13th after aggregating 255 runs in their five-match series against the West Indies.

Aiden Markram is up 23 places to 19th position while George Lindie (up 30 places to 43rd) and Lungi Ngidi (up 25 places to 56th) are among the bowlers to gain after their 3-2 win.

For the West Indies, Evin Lewis is up one place to ninth position after finishing with 178 runs. Nicholas Pooran has gained 20 places to reach 87th position while Shimron Hetmyer is up 15 places to 99th.

All-rounder Dwayne Bravo has moved from 95th to 44th among bowlers after finishing with 10 wickets in the series while Obed McCoy has moved up 65 places to 53rd with nine wickets.

Italy Beats Spain On Penalties, Reaches Euro 2020 Final



Agencies

LONDON: Jorginho converted the decisive penalty kick on Wednesday to give Italy a 4-2 shootout win over Spain and a spot in the European Championship final.

The midfielder took a trademark hop at the end of his run-up before rolling the ball into the bottom corner.

The match had finished 1-1 through extra time. Federico Chiesa scored for Italy with a curling shot in the 60th minute but Alvaro Morata equalized for Spain in the 80th.

Morata missed the next-to-last kick in the shootout, giving Jorginho the chance to win it.

Italy will be back at Wembley Stadium for the final on Sunday against either England or Denmark.

Argentina Advances On Penalties To Copa Final Against Brazil

Agencies

BRASILIA: It will be Lionel Messi's Argentina against Neymar's Brazil in the Copa America final on Saturday at the historic Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro.

Argentina won its semifinal against Colombia 3-2 on penalties after three saves by goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez. Regular time ended 1-1 at the Man Garrincha Stadium in Brasilia on Wednesday.

"Dibu is a phenomenon. We trusted him," Messi said after the match, in a reference to Martinez' nickname.

"It was an objective to play all the matches and now we will try to win this final."

Argentina hasn't captured a major title since 1993 when it won Copa America. On that occasion, the team eliminated Colombia on penalties 6-5 in the semifinal after a goalless draw.

Brazil beat Peru 1-0 on Monday to advance to the final. The Selecao has never lost a Copa America final at home and has won five out of six matches so far. Neymar said after the semifinal he wanted to meet his Barcelona mentor Messi at the decider.

"Both of us are in the final, I know Neymar said it because we are friends and he wanted me to be there too," Messi said.

"It will surely be very close and difficult. We are aiming high, we managed to get the first objective of playing the final, playing all matches. Now we are aiming higher than ever, we are going to seek that Copa."

It took Argentina only seven minutes to open the scoring. Rodrigo de Paul found Messi in the penalty box with a through pass.



The star earned his fifth assist in the tournament with a pass to Lautaro Martinez, who put the ball in the right corner past Colombia goalkeeper David Ospina.

A more aggressive Colombia, led by Juan Guillermo Cuadrado, hit the bar and the post in the first half before it leveled in the 61st minute with Luis Diaz, who received the ball on the left of Argentina's box shot almost with no angle to beat Martinez.

Argentina reacted after 67 minutes when ngel di Mar came into the match, replacing Nico Gonzalez. The winger created several opportunities including one in the 80th minute that ended with Davinson Sanchez saving a finish by Lautaro Martinez on the goal line.

The last big opportunity in regular time came with Messi hitting Ospina's right post in 81st minute from short range.

Martinez saved the shots taken by Sanchez, Yerry Mina and Edwin Cardona in the shootout. Messi converted his opportunity from the spot and was one of the most joyous players in the celebrations.

He seeks his first major title with Argentina against favorites Brazil.

Rodrigo de Paul missed his shot, but Leandro Paredes and Lautaro Martinez netted their chances for Argentina in the shootout. Cuadrado and Miguel Borja scored from the spot for Colombia.

In tears, Martinez said after the match he wanted to face the Brazilians in the final in the Maracana Stadium.

"This is a matter of luck, today it was mine. Brazil is a great team, the favorite," Martinez said.

"But we have a great coach, we have the best player in the world and we will try to win it, he said.

"We have nothing to regret," Colombia coach Reinaldo Rueda said. He had also reached the semifinal with Chile in 2019 and lost.

"Now we have to wait for football to give our effort back so we can give some joy to the Colombian people some other time."

ANGELO MATHEWS, WHO WAS INCLUDED in the respective 30-member squad, requested Sri Lanka Cricket to relieve him from National Duties, owing to personal reasons, until further notice."

Top Hizb Commander

disclosure multiple CASOs were launched by Police, Army, CRPF and SSB in which at village area Pazipora Renan Kralgund Handwara, when CASO was started, the said militant tried to pinpoint the location where he had kept his arms and ammunition," the police spokesperson said.

He claimed that upon reaching the disclosed hideout location, Ubaid picked up his hidden AK-47 rifle and started firing indiscriminately upon the joint search party which led to an encounter.

"In the ensuing fire-fight the said militant got killed. Incriminating material, arms & ammunition including one AK-47, 04 magazines, power bank, blanket, medicines, etc were recovered from the hideout," he added.

Divulging more details about the slain militant commander, the police spokesperson said that he was an A++ militant and was group commander of HM, active since 2012. He said that Ubaid had a long history including attacks on police and state forces, besides civilian atrocities and several cases were registered against him.

Listing major attacks carried out by Ubaid, he said, the slain Hizb commander was involved in killing of SPO Mudasar Ahmad Dar, Sarpanches Khazir Mohammad Parray and Habib Ullah Mir besides attack on Panch Zoonia Begum. The police spokesperson also blamed the slain Hizb commander and his associates for killing four policemen and taking away their three rifles from Hygam area of Sopore on April 26, 2013 and killing of Hurriyat activists and former militants, including Sheikh Altaf-ur-Rehman, Khurshheed Ahmad Bhat, Mehraj-ud-Din Dar and Aijaz Ahmad Reshi.

"Besides, he was involved in attacks on various establishments including attack on Hotel Heemal Srinagar," he said.

"The killed militant was well acquainted with modern means of communication by which he would communicate with other militants and plan & execute different militant activities on ground. He was instrumental in motivating and recruitment of youth into militant ranks besides raising funds for promotion of militancy activities," he added.

The police spokesperson further said that a case under relevant sections of law has been registered in this regard and investigations have been initiated.

According to police, Ubaid was a diploma holder in computer applications and had also been responsible for misusing social media & new methods of communication for militancy.

No Internet

the LoC has published posters calling for strike on July 8 and July 13.

"A police party went to Syed Ali Geelani's house to confirm whether he had called for any strike, but family members denied and termed posters on Geelani's name as fake," Kumar said.

He said that police won't snap the internet but surveillance will be increased to keep anti-social and anti-peace elements at bay on July 8 and July 13.

"Since August 5, 2019, there has been no civilian killings in Kashmir which has frustrated the people across. So anti-peace elements may try to foment trouble on July 8 and July 13, but we are ready to foil all such attempts," he said.

July 8 marks the anniversary of young Hizb commander Burhan Wani who was killed on this day at Anantnag district in an encounter. July 13 is observed as martyrs' day across J&K to remember 22 people who were killed in 1931 during Dogra rule.

Big Cabinet

reshuffle of the council of ministers, Kiren Rijju, Raj Kumar Singh, Hardeep Puri, Mansukh Mandaviya, G Kishan Reddy, Parshottam Rupala and Anurag Singh Thakur were elevated as cabinet ministers.

Rijju, a prominent face from the northeast in the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, was the minister of state (independent charge) in the Ministry of Youth and Sports before the rejig. He was also an MoS in the minority affairs ministry.

A former Union home secretary, Singh was the MoS with independent charge in the power and new and renewable energy ministries. He was also an MoS in the Ministry of Skill Development.

A surprise pick during a cabinet expansion in 2017, Puri, a former diplomat, was given two important portfolios -- housing and urban affairs and aviation -- in the BJP-led government's second term.

As the housing and urban affairs minister, he has been piloting the Central Vista project, the pet project of the Modi government which is slated to revamp a considerable portion of the Lutyen's Zone in Delhi.

When the government was facing an intense attack over the Central Vista project, Puri took on the Opposition strongly while defending the initiative.

Son of BJP veteran from Himachal Pradesh Prem Kumar Dhumal, Thakur was the minister of state in the ministries of finance and corporate affairs. He has often hit out at the critics

of the government inside and outside Parliament.

Wednesday also saw a big surgery in the government leading to the axing of several heavyweight ministers holding key portfolios.

Health Minister Harsh Vardhan was in the firing line because of perceived mismanagement of the Covid second wave which took a toll of millions of lives.

Harsh Vardhan had been widely criticised for the ensuing situation as the Health Ministry is seen as the nodal ministry for management of the Covid situation and vaccine administration.

Among the senior ministers, Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', Chemicals and Fertiliser Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda, and Labour and Employment Minister Santosh Gangwar have also resigned.

Law and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and I&B and Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar have also put in their papers, while Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot has been appointed as Governor of Karnataka.

4 More Die of

each while Doda district recorded 36 such cases.

The number of active cases has dropped to 3,439 in the union territory, while 3,09,973 patients have recovered so far, the officials said.

The mucormycosis (black fungus) infection tally in the union territory remains unchanged at 30 with no further addition, they said.

RBI Imposes

been imposed each on Bandhan Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, Central Bank of India, Credit Suisse AG, Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, Karnataka Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, South Indian Bank, The Jammu & Kashmir Bank, and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank.

The penalty imposed on the State Bank of India is Rs 50 lakh.

Giving details, the Reserve Bank of India said scrutiny in the accounts of the "companies of a Group" was carried out and it was observed that the banks had failed to comply with certain provisions.

Notices were issued to the banks, advising them to show cause as to why a penalty should not be imposed for non-compliance with the directions/contraventions of provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The penalties have been imposed for non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by the RBI on 'Lending to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)', 'Bank Finance to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)', 'Loans and Advances - Statutory and Other Restrictions', and 'Creation of a Central Repository of Large Common Exposures - Across Banks', among others.

The RBI, however, said penalties have been imposed based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the banks with their customers

PAGD Flays

humiliating and there are not enough words to condemn such coercive acts," PAGD spokesperson, Mohammad Yousof Tarigami said in a statement issued Wednesday.

"She is an old and frail lady and summoning her is nothing but pressure tactics of the government. Irony is that the summons was issued just hours after the PDP declined to meet the visiting Delimitation Commission," he added.

He further said that PAGD strongly condemns the issuance of summons to former Union Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's widow and demanded that such "vindictive measures" must be put to an end immediately.

On Tuesday, hours after the PDP announced its decision to stay away from the proceedings of the Delimitation Commission, the ED served a notice on the mother of its president Mehbooba Mufti asking her appear at the agency's office here on July 14 in connection with a money laundering case.

Tarigami, who is also a senior CPI (M) leader, said that the muzzling the voices of dissent by using probe agencies against political opponents was unacceptable.

"This is nothing but part of vindictive policies to suppress dissent and disagreement and to silence the genuine demand for the reversal of unilateral and unconstitutional decisions of August 5, 2019," he said.

LG Directs PDD

According to the official spokesperson, the LG also reviewed various components of the power sector and passed specific directions on minimizing AT&C losses. He also directed the officials to take pre-emptive measures for reducing the AT&C losses to bare minimum.

"Stressing on effective patrolling of feeders, the LG directed for taking strict action against officials responsible for the feeder losses. He said that the LG also directed for fixing criteria of 50 % weight-age in Annual Performance Reports of the officers with respect to the feeder losses

He further said that the LG

emphasized on putting dedicated focus on real-time monitoring of power consumption, increasing revenue realization, improving billing efficiency, reduction of Power cuts, and addressing the issue of low voltage.

"Deploy competent manpower and establish a comprehensive plan for cities and towns with high power consumption. Take remedial measures for ensuring utilization of power infrastructure to their full capacity," Sinha said, as per the official spokesperson.

He said that the LG emphasized on strengthening the power connectivity in the far-flung areas and called for reaching out to even the extremely remote and inaccessible areas with electricity. He also instructed the department to prepare a comprehensive plan for effective power connectivity in the vicinity of Shri Amarnathji shrine.

He further said that while suggesting the department to explore all the modalities and taking innovative steps for improving the efficiency of field functionaries, the LG called for incentivizing the field staff for their better performance.

"This will not only enhance the quality of work on ground, but will also help in improving the revenue generation," the LG said, as per the official spokesperson.

He said that the LG also laid special emphasis on making advance arrangements in the wake of any future vagaries and asked the department to get ready in advance for the winters and start their preparations from 20th July.

"For making the system more transparent and efficient, monitoring shall be done at all levels. Principal Secretary, PDD shall hold the meetings of XENs individually," Sinha said, as per the official spokesperson.

The LG, he said, also instructed the PDD to rope in professional experts for power purchases. He asked the officials to mention the subsidy provided by the Government on electricity bills for the information of consumers.

"As a follow-up to the directions passed in previous meetings regarding Unique Identification numbers for Transformers, the Lt Governor asked the officials for preparing History Cards of transformers with all technical details like damages, repairs, replacement, etc to ensure effective utilization of inventory and stores," he said.

During the meeting, the official spokesperson said that the LG also enquired about the Power purchases, energy availability, distribution plan, upcoming projects, overall working of the Power Development Department, besides various schemes and programmes being implemented by the department for further improvement and augmentation of power scenario in the UT.

"The chair was also briefed about several key issues pertaining to languishing projects, transmission capacity, providing uninterrupted power supply, transmission and distribution," he said.

"The Lt Governor asked the department to focus on up-gradation and replacement of old and obsolete infrastructure to keep up with the emerging requirements," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department briefed the chair about the overall power scenario and power potential in J&K.

Calls For Identifying

beauty and breathtaking landscapes, an official spokesperson said. The LG, he said, asked the officers of the tourism department for developing various tourist circuits across the UT, laying special focus on adventure tourism, trekking activities, pilgrimage sites, water sports and other popular ventures.

"The Lt Governor laid thrust on ensuring easy access to the tourists at all tourist places, with proper mobile connectivity, ATM facilities and other utilities for hassle free and memorable experience of the visiting tourists," the official spokesperson said.

Sinha, he said, directed the concerned officers to develop state-of-the-art facilities by coordinating with other agencies for full utilization of tourism infrastructure by which the tourists coming for pilgrimage at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi and other religious places also visit other important tourist destinations.

He further said that the LG also directed for high level of inter-departmental coordination for coherent efforts and asked the Tourism Department to integrate its efforts with Culture department while organizing mega Literary, Arts and Sufi festivals in J&K.

"Similarly, coordinate with the Forest Department for identifying more trekking routes," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

He said that the LG directed for proper maintenance of tourism properties so that they remain in impeccable condition throughout the year.

Ensure that forest huts, tourist accommodations and stays are utilized properly," the LG said, as per official spokesperson.

"Lay special focus on revenue generation, work in collaboration with Mission Youth, extend handholding of youth for financial and other requisite

support, so that they can earn livelihood in the tourism sector, and at the same time offer best facilities to tourists," he added.

Giving impetus on developing the tourism sector of Jammu region, the LG, as per the official spokesperson directed the Tourism department to launch special drive to promote Jammu tourism circuit.

"He further directed for organizing a 3-months long festival in Jammu to popularize various tourist destinations," he said, adding "Instructions were also passed for developing all the requisite tourism facilities at Mantalai so that the tourists can witness the beauty of this less explored destination.

For developing the tourist places located in remote and far flung areas, the official spokesperson said that the LG directed the tourism authorities to build tourism infrastructure through convergence mode for the convenience of the visiting tourists. He gave examples of annual Machail Mata Yatra held in Kishtwar and other similar religious and tourist spots in remote places.

"Pay special attention to maintain cleanliness at such tourist places and ensure sustainable development without disturbing the ecological balance," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

He further said that the LG also sought detailed status of the working of Jammu & Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation JKTCDC and various regional Tourism development authorities.

"He directed them for regular updating of their websites providing latest relevant information for tourists and taking all required measures to tap the full potential of tourist sites," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

He said that the LG also enquired about Cruise boat in Dal Lake to be launched soon by JKTCDC. He exhorted the officers of Tourism Department to ensure that tourism projects make visible impact and further asked them to construct public utilities and toilet facilities at all tourist places.

"Plan accordingly so that benefits of government schemes are availed by all stakeholders and beneficiaries," the official spokesperson quoted LG as saying.

During the meeting, he said, a PowerPoint presentation was given by Sarmad Hafeez, Administrative Secretary, Tourism Department in which he apprised the chair about the initiatives in pipeline viz. Launching of Cruise in Dal Lake by JKTCDC, engagement of consultants/event management agencies, Integrated web portal, capacity building of stakeholders under Industrial policy, upgradation of JKTCDC properties, Helicopter Safari services, Prepaid services for pony walis, Basic Life Skills (BLS) training for adventure activities, opportunities for start-ups under Mission Youth, and upcoming Gurez Festival.

"Earlier, the Lt Governor was apprised about the various initiatives taken by the department to promote tourism activities after the 1st and 2nd Covid Wave receded," the official spokesperson said.

Delimitation Talks

on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir to interact with leaders of political parties and officials to gather "first hand" inputs on the conduct of the mega exercise to redraw constituencies and carve out new ones in the UT.

All major political parties have met the commission and submitted memoranda of suggestions and demands to how to carry out the delimitation exercise in Jammu and Kashmir.

However, PDP and ANC decided not to be part of the exercise with Mehbooba's Mufti's party saying that there was a perception that the outcome of the process was preplanned.

The parties which met the Delimitation Commission included the National Conference, Congress, CPI (M), Apni Party and the People's Conference.

They urged the delegation to carry out the exercise in a free, fair and transparent manner so that the unity and integrity of Jammu and Kashmir is safeguarded.

While the majority of the parties suggested that population should be the main criteria for reorganisation of constituencies, the People's Conference and the CPI (M) demanded that the census figures of 2011 should be the benchmark for the exercise.

Tourists Beat

seven male tourists attacked the staff, injuring two doctors—Dr Aayaz Ahmad and Dr Tahir (officer), Akhbar Bhat (Health worker) and Irfan Ahmad Reshi (teacher, on covid-19 duty). Later police reached the spot and were investigating the matter.

"The police have also filed a case under relevant section of the law," a local news agency quoted an unnamed police officer as saying.

Night Flights At

completed this week followed by installation of lights by the month end to enable operation of night flights at Jammu Airport," Singh said, as per an official spokesperson.

Chief Secretary, J&K, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Advisor to LG Ladakh, Umang Narula, and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare also participated in the meeting in which Bhalla reviewed the implementation

of various schemes in Civil Aviation, Agriculture and Horticulture sectors in the two Union territories of Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

During the meeting, the official spokesperson said that detailed deliberations were held on the possibility of operationalizing commercial flights at night hours at the airports of Srinagar and Jammu by incorporating suitable facilities and arrangements.

"J&K Chief Secretary apprised the Union Home Secretary that infrastructural and technical facilities exist at Srinagar Airport to operate flights up to 10:00 pm. However, during winter months visibility is greatly reduced causing interruptions to air connectivity," he said.

He further added that it was also informed that the Ministry of Civil Aviation is planning to establish international air connectivity through the Srinagar Airport which currently operates international flights for Hajj pilgrimage only.

When Dilip Kumar

everywhere," Ahad says while remembering the noble soul. "But somehow locals would get to know and barge his temporary shelter."

The retreat was equally boosting the hotel industry as many locals who wished for Dilip Kumar's single glimpse would book hotels for days, sometimes returning back with a Rs 10 note with the superstar's signature and selling them in Srinagar for more than Rs 150.

Sitting inside the Plymouth car, Abdul Ahad, Dilip Kumar and Saira Bano journeyed towards Baba Reshi. "I could see something on the face of the celebrated, childless couple," Ahad recalls the wistful memories. "It was hope."

On reaching Baba Reshi, Saira Bano stepped out in absolute reverence and haste. She was wearing a pure silk saree worth Rs 20,000, Abdul Ahad recalls, and yet she walked like a mystic in search of something her fate had long deprived her of.

"Dilip Kumar was informed by someone that any couple that was longing for a child should pay visit to Baba Reshi in Kashmir," he recalls. "It wasn't a misplaced notion. Hundreds of couple after years of longing for a child had enjoyed the essence of parenthood, soon after paying a visit to Baba Reshi."

Following the same steps, the couple had drifted towards Baba Reshi to end their wait.

"I could see their longing for a child," says the octogenarian Ahad. "The lawn of Baba Reshi was full of dirt as it had rained for a few hours before our arrival. Saira Ji passed directly through that pile of dirt, soiling her expensive saree and crying her heart out over her denied motherhood."

She went on towards the 'Dab'—a mini balcony, more like a window opened up with a ledge to the outside—of the shrine.

The legend has it, the woman who paints that 'Dab' with mud would soon be blessed with a child. "Saira Banu did the same," the chaperone of the celebrated couple recounts. "It was as if her sense of learned helplessness was fully developed. She was ready to go to any length to break the jinx of her motherhood."

Almost immediately, on the other side of the lawn, Dilip Kumar was standing near the donation box of the shrine. "He was stuffing around ten to fifteen thousand rupees, all in cash, from the small gap of the donation box, trying to turn the screw of his destiny," Abdul Ahad recounts.

"But alas, being parents was never in their fate," Ahad rues.

However, years before his demise, Dilip Kumar said that he and his wife—now his widow—Saira Banu had no regrets about being the childless couple.

"It would have been great if we had our own kids," Dilip Kumar had said. "But we have no regrets. We are both submissive to the will of God. As for incompleteness, I must tell you that neither Saira nor I can complain of a lack of contentment. It is enough for us that we have our families to share our happiness and our small dismays with. Mine is a large family, with so many nieces and nephews and their families of growing kids speaking the language of today, which is as bewildering as it is befitting the times they are living in. Saira's is a small family comprising her brother Sultan and his kids and

grandchildren. We feel we are lucky to be there for them when they need us."

However, Abdul Ahad is privy to the couple's secret shrine visit to end the curse of childlessness. "They were the king and queen of the Indian cinema then," Ahad says. "But then, as they say, Kabhi kisi ko mukammal jahan nahi milta."

Rs 5.5L Fine Slapped

violating Covid norms," he said. He further said that the special drive against the violators of Covid-19 guidelines and rules continued throughout all the districts of Kashmir Valley to ensure that people adhere to SOPs and guidelines envisaged by government to curb COVID-19 pandemic.

Ladakh Logs Eight

Ladakh has registered a total of 204 Covid deaths with the worst-hit Leh accounting for 146 fatalities followed by 58 in Kargil district.

The union territory has recorded nearly 98 percent recovery as 19,733 persons out of the total 20,129 Covid patients have been cured, they said.

LG Launches

"This will also ensure the issuance of fitness certificate in a time specific schedule, thus enabling the commissioning of installations for public use within the given timeframe," he added.

The official spokesperson further said that Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department informed that the applicant can log in to www.eijammu.in and apply for the inspection process.

"Time-bound procedure has also been established wherein approval/denial shall be conveyed to the applicant through the website within 12 days," he said.

He further added that the initiative also aims at rectifying the shortcomings pointed out by the Electrical Inspection Agency within specified period in respect of a consumer after which the e-fitness certificate shall be issued by merely going through the rectified photographs uploaded by the applicant, without the need for re-inspection, thereby saving time.

"For avoiding any electrical hazard/danger to life and property a provision has been kept for the public to upload picture of any unsafe electrical installation, if they notice in their area, for immediate rectification by the utility staff, it was informed," he added.

Dilip Kumar

catch a glimpse of the legendary star before his final journey.

Among those who visited and consoled with his wife Saira Banu were ministers and film stars.

Later, his body was ceremonially draped in the national Tricolour by a Mumbai Police contingent, and taken in procession to the Juhu Muslim Cemetery with scores of people lined up on both sides of the roads to bid a tearful adieu.

At the cemetery, many other top Bollywood personalities had gathered for his final 'deedar', awaiting the funeral cortege brought by the police and his family members.

After the traditional rituals and prayers and the state protocols, the thespian was laid to rest as many of the mourners cried and others fought back their tears.

A stunned nation woke up to learn of the demise of Dilip Saab - as he was popularly known in the film industry where he strode like a colossus for over 6 decades.

Making the shocking announcement, Dilip Kumar's close aide Faisal Farooqui, said that he breathed his last around 7.30 am at the Hinduja Hospital following bouts of old-age related illnesses.

Top people from all walks of life including President R.N. Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, Congress President Sonia Gandhi, party leader Rahul Gandhi, mourned his passing, even as social media was flooded with grief and admiration for the legend.

Besides, two Bharat Ratnas Lata Mangeshkar and Sachin Tendulkar, Amitabh Bachchan, Shahid Rafi - son of legendary singer Mohammed Rafi who crooned many songs for the late actor - and other prominent Bollywood personalities mourned his demise and recalled his contributions to the film industry.

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER KASHMIR

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Sheikh Hilal S/o Sheikh Mohammad Amin R/o Saalora Ganderbal (Transferor) of Santro bearing registration No. JK014-0455 chasis No: 646878 Engine No: 556654 Model 2005 in favour of Altaf Ahamd Mir S/o Ghulam Qadir Mir R/o Beehama Ganderbal (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No. representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

NOJK-RTOK 1643
Dated: 03/07/2021

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

6 MW Solar Power Plant To Come Up At Pampore Soon"Govt.



KO NEW DESK

SRINAGAR: Rohit Kansal, Principal Secretary, Power Development Department said that the establishment of 6 MW Solar Power Plant at Pampore is in the offing, besides the department is also planning to revive the 10.5 MW Heritage Power project -MOHRA at Baramulla to mitigate the power crises.

He informed this to Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Wednesday, while reviewing the functioning of the power department.

He said, the PDD is catering to 20,46,623 consumers with around 18,000 MU energy input to fulfill the power requirement in J&K, he added.

Putting a spotlight on improvement in the power supply position in Jammu & Kashmir and to provide uninterrupted and reliable power supply to all, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha directed the Power Development Department to introduce strict and innovative measures in order to meet various challenges in fulfilling energy needs of the people.

The Lt Governor was chairing a

high-level meeting to review the Power scenario in J&K, wherein he enquired about the way forward and future deliverables planned by the Power Development Department.

The Lt Governor directed the Power department to adopt action-oriented approach to streamline the power transmission and distribution system, besides putting in place a quality control system and setting long term strategy for providing quality power with good mix of different sources of power to the consumers.

While reviewing various components of the Power sector, the Lt Governor passed specific directions on minimizing AT&C losses.

Take preemptive measures for reducing the AT&C losses to bare minimum, the Lt Governor directed the officials.

Stressing on effective patrolling of feeders, the Lt Governor directed for taking strict action against officials responsible for the feeder losses. He further directed for fixing criteria of 50 % weight-age in Annual Performance Reports of the officers with respect to the feeder losses.

Air Cargo Facilities To Boost J&K's Agriculture And Horticulture: Govt



KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: The Union Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, on Wednesday chaired a high level meeting to review the implementation of various schemes in Civil Aviation, Agriculture and Horticulture sectors in the two Union territories of Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Chief Secretary, J&K, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Advisor to LG Ladakh, Umang Narula, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Pradip Singh and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, the Home Secretary reviewed the status of high density horticulture plantations and its speedy transportation to wider markets.

It was informed that to facilitate the marketing of agricultural and farm products of the northeastern and Himalayan states/UTs, the 'Krishi-Udan

CHIEF SECRETARY, J&K, DR. ARUN KUMAR MEHTA, ADVISOR TO LG LADAKH, UMANG NARULA, SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION, PRADIP SINGH AND JOINT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING.

Scheme' was recently launched.

The scheme aims to benefit the local farmers by providing 50% freight subsidy for air transportation of the perishable products. This would enable shipment of perishable products from Jammu and Kashmir to other parts of the country.

Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, Chief Secretary, J&K, said that in view of the national highway widening project being undertaken by NHIDCL, air transportation of perishables from the Union territory provides relief to the stakeholders associated with agriculture and allied activities. He assured augmentation of air cargo facilities through enhanced coordination between UT administration and Central Government to establish end-

to-end linkages.

It was decided that a committee consisting of representatives from J&K Government, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, will be constituted to examine modifications in the existing scheme to cater to the needs of J&K.

Further, it was informed that the UT Government has recently signed a MoU with Go Airlines for subsidised air transportation of vegetables and fruits from Jammu and Kashmir, of which the first consignment of Srinagar's cherry and Jammu's litchee was dispatched to Dubai and Mumbai, respectively.

The meeting also discussed extension of these facilities and schemes to the Union territory of Ladakh

FM Talks To Italian Counterpart On Key Global Economic Issues

NEW DELHI: Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday interacted with the Minister of Economy and Finance of Italy, Daniele Franco.

The virtual interaction took place ahead of the third meeting of G20 finance ministers and central bank governors which is scheduled on July 9 and 10, 2021, under the Italian G20 presidency. This will be the first in-person Finance Track meeting since February 2020.

"Ahead of the Third #G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting, Union Finance Minister Smt @nsitharaman virtually interacted with H.E. Daniele Franco, Minister of Economy and Finance, Italy and discussed matters of global economic importance," said a tweet by the Finance Ministry.

The upcoming meeting of the G20 finance ministers gains significance amid the severe second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic which has hit India hard. Further prospects of a global recovery and unprecedented low interest rates across countries leading



to concerns of inflation are also major issues.

According to information on the G20 website, its members will progress their discussions on issues related to international economy and global health, and on the efforts geared towards economic recovery and promoting a more sustainable growth.

Ministers and governors will also touch upon the link between the digital revolution and productivity, support to the most vulnerable countries, international taxation matters, financial sector issues, and financing the green transition, said a statement on the website.--IANS

RBI Imposes Penalties On 14 Banks For Various Rule Violations

Agencies

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on July 7 imposed monetary penalties on 14 banks including Bandhan Bank, Bank of Baroda and State Bank of India (SBI) for various rule violations, the central bank said in a press release. These 14 banks include public sector banks, private banks, foreign bank, Co-operative banks and one small finance bank.

The violations include non-compliance with certain provisions of directions issued by RBI on 'Lending to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)' 'Bank Finance to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)' and 'Loans and Advances - Statutory and Other Restrictions', the RBI said.

This is probably the highest number of banks receiving RBI monetary penalties on a single day for various rule violations. According to an industry source, the RBI penalties on these banks are mainly linked to banks' dealings with crisis-ridden Dewan Housing Finance Corporation (DHFL) and its group companies. "These violations are mainly related to DHFL," said the source.

The RBI release said a scrutiny in the accounts of the companies of a group was carried out by the RBI and it was subsequently observed that the banks had failed to comply with provisions of one or more of the aforesaid directions issued by RBI and/or contravened provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the RBI said. The group mentioned here is mainly DHFL. Further, notices were issued

to the banks advising them to show cause as to why penalty should not be imposed for non-compliance with the directions/contraventions of provisions of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the RBI said. Following its examination, the RBI concluded that violations warrant imposition of monetary penalty on fourteen banks, the RBI said.

Violations also pertain to rules on 'Creation of a Central Repository of Large Common Exposures - Across Banks', 'Reporting to Central Repository of Information on Large Credits (CRILC)', 'Operating Guidelines for Small Finance Banks' and for contraventions of provisions of Section 19(2) and Section 20 (1) of Banking Regulation Act, 1949, the RBI said.

Other banks upon which the monetary penalties have been imposed include Bank of Maharashtra, Central Bank of India, Credit Suisse, Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, Karnataka Bank, Karur Vysya Bank, Punjab and Sind Bank, South Indian Bank, The Jammu and Kashmir Bank and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank.

The quantum of penalties ranges from Rs 50 lakh to Rs 2 crore each. The penalties have been imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of section 47 A (1) (c) read with sections 46 (4) (i) and 51 (1), of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, as applicable, the RBI said.

Further, this action is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the banks with their customers, the RBI said.

Petrol Breaches Rs 100/Litre-Mark In Delhi

Agencies

Petrol price on Wednesday crossed the Rs 100-a-litre mark after fuel prices were increased in line with firming international oil trends. Petrol price was increased by 35 paise per litre and diesel by 23 paise a litre, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

In Delhi, petrol now costs Rs 100.21 a litre and diesel is priced at Rs 89.53 per litre. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi hit out at the government as petrol prices crossed the Rs 100-a-litre mark in Delhi, charging that the Modi government runs on "tax extortion". "Your car may run on petrol or diesel, Modi government runs on tax extortion," Gandhi tweeted in Hindi, using hashtag 'TaxExtortion'.

Delhi is the last of the metro cit-



ies to see petrol rising above the Rs 100-a-litre mark. Mumbai, Chennai, Hyderabad and Pune already have prices above that mark.

Kolkata also saw petrol prices climbing over Rs 100 per litre on Wednesday.

In Mumbai, a litre of petrol costs Rs 106.25, in Chennai Rs 101.06 and in Kolkata, Rs 100.23.

For diesel, it is Rs 97.09 in Mumbai, Rs 94.06 in Chennai and Rs 92.50 in Kolkata.

Prices had remained unchanged on Tuesday after two consecutive hikes on Monday and Sunday.

With Wednesday's hike, prices have now been raised on 33 of the past 62 days.

Twitter India Interim Grievance Officer Quits

Agencies

NEW DELHI: Twitter's interim resident grievance officer for India has stepped down, leaving the micro-blogging site without a grievance official as mandated by the new IT rules to address complaints from Indian subscribers, according to a source.

The source said that Dharmendra Chatur, who was recently appointed as interim resident grievance officer for India by Twitter, has quit from the post.

The social media company's website no longer displays his name, as required under Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021.

Twitter declined to comment on the development.

The development comes at a time when the micro-blogging platform has been engaged in a tussle with the Indian govern-



ment over the new social media rules.

The government has slammed Twitter for deliberate defiance and failure to comply with the country's new IT rules.

The new rules which came into effect from May 25 mandate social media companies to establish a grievance redressal mechanism for resolving complaints from the users or victims.

All significant social media companies, with over 50 lakh user base shall appoint a grievance officer to deal with such complaints and share the name and contact

details of such officers.

The big social media companies are mandated to appoint a chief compliance officer, a Nodal Contact Person and a resident grievance officer.

All of them should be resident in India.

Twitter in response to the final notice issued by the government on June 5 had said that it intends to comply with the new IT rules and will share details of the chief compliance officer.

In the meantime, the micro-blogging platform had appointed Chatur as interim resident grievance officer for India.

Twitter now displays the company's name in the place of grievance officer for India with a US address and an email ID.

According to a government official, the company has lost legal protection as an intermediary and will be legally held responsible for all content posted by its users on the platform.

Fitch Cuts India Growth Forecast To 10%, Says Rapid Vaccination To Support Revival

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Fitch Ratings on Wednesday cut India's growth forecast to 10 per cent for the current fiscal, from 12.8 per cent estimated earlier, due to slowing recovery post second wave of COVID-19, and said rapid vaccination could support a sustainable revival in business and consumer confidence.

In a report, the global rating agency said the challenges for banking sector posed by the coronavirus pandemic have increased due to a virulent second wave in the first quarter of the financial year ending March 2022 (FY22).

"Fitch Ratings revised down India's real GDP for FY22 by 280bp to 10 per cent, underlining our belief that renewed restrictions have slowed recovery efforts and left banks with a moderately worse outlook for business and revenue



generation in FY22," it said.

Fitch believes that rapid vaccination could support a sustainable revival in business and consumer confidence; however, without it, economic recovery would remain vulnerable to further waves and lockdowns.

It said localised lockdowns during the second wave kept economic activity from stalling to levels similar to those during 2020, but disruption in several key business centres has slowed the recovery and dented

Fitch's expectations of a rebound to pre-pandemic levels by FY22. India's economy contracted 24.4 per cent in June quarter of 2020.

Fitch views India's rebound potential to be better than most comparable 'BBB-' peers because it does not expect a structurally weaker real GDP growth outlook. However, there is a risk that India's medium-term growth could suffer if the business and consumer activity were to experience scarring

from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The agency estimates India's medium term growth potential at about 6.5 per cent.

Stating that vaccination is key for business revival and relief measures would only provide interim support, Fitch said the low vaccination rate makes India vulnerable to further waves of the pandemic.

"Only 47 per cent of its 1.37 billion population was fully vaccinated as of July 5, 2021. This poses risks to the prospects of a meaningful and sustainable economic recovery," it added.

Indian economy contracted by 7.3 per cent in fiscal 2020-21 as the country battled the first wave of COVID, as against a 4 per cent growth in 2019-20.

GDP growth in current fiscal was estimated to be in double digits initially, but a severe second wave of pandemic has led to various agencies cut growth projections.

Farmers Gear Up For Protest Against Fuel Price Hike

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: Large contingents of farmers have started arriving at protest sites in preparation for their agitation Thursday against fuel price hike, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) said on Wednesday. "At the call of Samyukt Kisan Morcha, protests will be organised across India tomorrow (July 8) from 10 am to 12 noon for two hours against the hike in diesel, petrol and cooking gas prices," the umbrella body of over 40 farm unions said.

The protestors will reach designated public locations with any means of transport including scooters, motorcycles, tractors, cars, buses, trucks and also with empty gas cylinders, it said.

On Wednesday, the petrol prices in Delhi as well as Kolkata crossed the Rs 100 a litre mark.

The SKM has demanded that the fuel prices be halved with immediate effect.

It has also appealed to the protestors to keep the demonstration

peaceful and on the roadside, without blocking any pathways.

"This is an issue that affects every section of the society, and SKM appeals that farmers, labourers, youth, students, women, employees, shopkeepers, transporters, traders and others be part of these protests everywhere," the body said.

The SKM has also planned fresh rounds of protests during the monsoon session of the parliament scheduled later this month, when 200 protestors will agitate everyday outside the Parliament building reiterating their demands of repealing the three farm laws and a legal guarantee for Minimum Support price (MSP).

Over the last seven months, thousands of farmers from different parts of the country have been protesting at Delhi borders against the new farm laws which, they claim, will do away with the MSP system and leave them at the mercy of big corporations.

The government, however, has been protecting the laws as major agricultural reforms.

Elgar Case Accused On Hunger Strike In Jail Over Stan Swamy's Death

Agenceis

MUMBAI: Ten accused in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case went on a one-day hunger strike in the Talaja jail in neighbouring Navi Mumbai on Wednesday to protest against what they termed as an "institutional murder" of co-accused Jesuit priest Stan Swamy.

They also demanded action against officials of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which is conducting a probe into the Elgar Parishad case, and former superintendent of the Talaja jail.

Stan Swamy, 84, was arrested by the NIA from Ranchi in October 2020 under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) and lodged at the Talaja Central Jail in Navi Mumbai.

He suffered a cardiac arrest and died at a Mumbai hospital on Monday in the middle of his fight for bail on health grounds.

The Elgar Parishad case is related to inflammatory speeches made at a conclave held in Pune on December 31, 2017, which, the police claimed, triggered violence the next day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial located on the outskirts of the western Maharashtra city.

The police had claimed the conclave was organised by people with alleged Maoist links.

The other accused in the case termed Stan Swamy's death an "institutional murder" and held the "negligent jails, indifferent courts and malicious investigating agencies" responsible for it.

As a mark of protest, 10 of the co-accused in the case - Rona Wilson, Surendra Gadling, Sudhir Dhawale, Mahesh Raut, Arun Ferreira, Vernon Gonsalves, Gautam Navlakha, Anand

Teltumbde, Ramesh Gaichor and Sagar Gorkhe - went on a one-day fast in the Talaja jail on Wednesday.

They informed about the protest to their family members, who released a statement saying all Elgar case prisoners have blamed the NIA and the Talaja jail's former superintendent Kaustubh Kurlekar for the death of Father Stan Swamy.

They believe that "the separation of Stan Swamy from them is a deliberate institutional murder," the release said.

The statement alleged that the NIA and Kurlekar never missed a single opportunity to "harass" Stan Swamy, whether it was the "ghastly treatment" inside the jail, the haste to transfer him back from hospital to jail or even protesting against trivial things like a sipper (which Stan Swamy required due to his medical conditions).

"It is these that have caused the death of Stan Swamy and therefore, for this institutional murder, NIA officials and Kurlekar should be tried under Section 302 (murder) of the Indian Penal Code," the statement said, while demanding a judicial inquiry into his death.

The statement said the family members of the accused will submit these demands to Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray through the Talaja jail administration.

It also said that though these accused were lodged in different barracks, they met on Tuesday and shared their memories of Father Stan Swamy, and also observed a two-minute silence as a mark of tribute to him.

Three women accused in the case- Sudha Bharadwaj, Shoma Sen and Jyoti Jagtap - are currently lodged at the Byculla prison in Mumbai.

Yusuf Khan is Dead, Long Live Dilip Kumar



Agenceis

The overwhelming response to the iconic actor's departure on social media is a testament to his charm which transcended all boundaries of space and time

One of Bollywood's most iconic and revered actors, Dilip Kumar passed away at the age of 98, from prolonged illness.

His death sparked a wave of tributes rushing in from the film industry, political fraternity, sportspersons and fans.

Kumar, who was born Mohammed Yusuf Khan on December 11, 1922, changed his name soon after venturing into the industry to spare himself his stern father's criticism.

With Dev Anand and Raj Kapoor, Dilip Kumar was one of the three most legendary and marketable actors, who defined the golden age of Indian cinema from the 1940s to the 1960s.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed deep shock and sor-

row at the death of the actor. She prayed for the eternal salvation of the departed soul and expressed sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Prime Minister Of India Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Pakistan Imran Khan both paid tribute to the late actor on twitter.

The widespread pouring of condolences on social media platforms is essentially a testament to Dilip Kumar's charm which transcended all boundaries. He was beloved across the subcontinent till his death.

Over the span of his five-decade career, he was given the nickname of 'The Tragedy King' owing to a sense of melancholy and gloom that pervaded most of his roles.

He is often hailed as the 'First Khan' of Bollywood, paving way for a long list of future Khans to dominate the industry.

Kumar ventured into Bollywood with his debut 1944 film Jwar Bhata, which was produced by Bombay Talkies

His other notable films are

Andaz (1949), Aan (1952), Daag (1952), Devdas (1955), Azaad (1955), Mughal-e-Azam (1960), Gunga Jamuna (1961), and Ram Aur Shyam (1967).

Kumar took a five-year hiatus from 1976 to 1981. He made his comeback with 1981 film Kranti.

Dilip Kumar was in a long relationship with Bollywood diva Madhubala but the duo never married.

In 1966 actress Saira Bano and Dilip Kumar tied the knot. They had been living ever since in Bandra, Mumbai till his death.

The actor held the Guinness World Record for bagging the most film awards by an Indian actor. He had received eight Filmfare Awards for Best Actor, a Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award, a Special Recognition Filmfare Award among others.

If adjusted to inflation, Kumar starrer historic drama Mughal-E-Azam remains the highest-grossing film in India.

Dilip Kumar's extraordinary contribution to the film industry will be remembered for ages to come.

Akali Dal Wants 5 Seats Reserved For Sikhs In Jammu and Kashmir Assembly

Agenceis

Chandigarh: The Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) has urged the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission to reserve five seats for members of the Sikh community in the Legislative Assembly.

Senior party leader and former MP Prof Prem Singh Chandumajra handed over a letter written by SAD President Sukhbir Singh Badal in this regard to Delimitation Commission Chairman Justice (retired) Ranjana Prakash Desai in Srinagar on Tuesday.

The SAD has urged the Commission to "favourably" consider reserving three seats for the Sikh community in Jammu and two seats in Srinagar.

"The Commission assured to consider the demand sympathetically," SAD said in an official release.

"Several times, including at the time of partition of the country, promises were made to the Sikh population of Jammu and Kashmir that counter checks would be created in the democratic process to ensure their social and economic well being. It was even proposed that a definite number of seats would be reserved for members of the Sikh community in the Jammu and Kashmir legislature on the pattern of that done for the Anglo Indian community in parliament and state assemblies. Sadly, the then Congress government did not honour any of the promises made to the Sikh community post-partition," said

Sukhbir Badal in his communique to the Delimitation Commission.

Asking the Commission to right this "historical wrong", Mr Badal said reservation of seats for Sikhs in the Jammu and Kashmir would ensure the "voice of the community was taken into consideration while making executive decisions."

He said Sikhs in Jammu and Kashmir had been complaining for a long time that they were being left behind in the development process because there was no reservation for Sikhs in jobs in Jammu and Kashmir "despite their minority status".

"All these issues, including reservations in educational institutions, can be taken up once the Sikhs have a say in governance," the SAD President added.

Meanwhile, Mr Chandumajra while apprising the Commission members about issues, said the Sikh community had a rich historical and cultural association with Jammu and Kashmir.

"Despite many upheavals, including the partition of the country and horrendous events like the mass killing of members of the Sikh community in Singhpora, the community continues to remain an inseparable part of Jammu and Kashmir," Mr Chandumajra briefed the Commission.

As per the release, the SAD delegation informed the Commission that it had held discussions with the Sikh community of Jammu and Kashmir and that the community also wanted a say in governance.

Year Post 'Ghar Wapsi', Jyotiraditya Scindia Rewarded For Giving MP to BJP



Agenceis

BHOPAL: More than a year after playing a key role in installation of a BJP government in Madhya Pradesh, Jyotiraditya Scindia was rewarded with a berth in the Union Cabinet, a familiar terrain for the Raja Sabha member who had served as a junior minister in the Congress-led UPA government.

Scindia (50) resigned from the Congress and joined the BJP in March 2020 and his move triggered a chain of events which finally culminated in the collapse of the Kamal Nath government just 15 months after its formation, paving the way for the saffron party to assume power which it lost towards the end of 2018.

On joining the BJP, he was made a Raja Sabha member, while Shivraj Singh Chouhan came back as the chief minister. The scion of the former royal family of Gwalior had started showing signs of restlessness after the Congress high command chose veteran Kamal Nath over him to take over as the chief minister in December 2018.

Things came to a head when Scindia warned of "hitting the streets" against his own party-led government if promises made to people in the manifesto were not fulfilled. The then chief minister Kamal Nath's retort that Scindia was free to carry out his threat to launch an agitation, finally proved his undoing.

Born on January 1, 1971, and educated in Harvard and Stanford institutions, Scindia has traversed a long way after contesting his maiden election as a Congress candidate in 2002, a bypoll in the Guna Lok Sabha constituency, which was held because of the sudden death of his father, Madhavrao Scindia, in a plane crash.

In 2007, he was inducted into the UPA government and remained a part of the Union Cabinet till 2014 by serving as a minister of state for communi-

cations, commerce and industry and power. In 2014, he was again elected from Guna, his traditional seat for a fourth time but lost from the constituency in the 2019 Lok Sabha polls to BJP candidate KP Yadav, who was once close to him.

Scindia was the face of the Congress campaign in his capacity as the chairman of the poll campaign committee during the 2018 assembly polls in Madhya Pradesh. However, when the party came to power in the state after a drought of 15 years, the coveted post of chief minister went to Nath.

After that he also lost the Lok Sabha polls from Guna and since then, he was not feeling comfortable with the Congress leadership in the state, sources close to him said.

"While in the Congress, Scindia once paid a courtesy visit to Shivraj Singh Chouhan (then he was not CM) and that was the first indication of Scindia hobnobbing with the BJP," his close aide Pankaj Chaturvedi said.

Then came the big act - 22 Congress MLAs loyal to Scindia, including six ministers, resigned from their assembly's membership and topped the Congress government. The BJP rewarded his loyalists by inducting most of them into the cabinet of Chouhan.

A majority of them later won assembly bypolls necessitated by the mass resignations of Congress MLAs. In the run-up to the bypolls in Madhya Pradesh, when Scindia was asked about the 'political coup' and when he had taken the final call to topple the Congress government, he told PTI, "When Nath asked me to hit the road and that was the final call."

Scindia was the second member from his clan to pull down a Congress government in Madhya Pradesh, decades after 'Rajmata' Vijaya Raje Scindia toppled the "anti-people" Congress government in the state, Chouhan earlier said.

The entire Scindia family is now part of one party (BJP), Chouhan had said.

WHILE IN THE CONGRESS, SCINDIA once paid a courtesy visit to Shivraj Singh Chouhan (then he was not CM) and that was the first indication of Scindia hobnobbing with the BJP."

Imran Khan Recalls Dilip Kumar's Generosity

Agenceis

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan on Wednesday condoled the death of Indian cinema icon Dilip Kumar, saying he can never forget his generosity in helping to raise funds for a trust to set up cancer hospitals in his mother's memory.

Kumar, India's enduring film legend through the decades, died at a Mumbai hospital in the morning after a prolonged illness. He was 98.

"Saddened to learn of Dilip Kumar's passing, I can never forget his generosity in giving his time to help raise funds for SKMTH when (the) project launched. This is the most difficult time - to raise (the) first 10% of the funds & his appearance in Pak & London helped raise huge

amounts," Khan tweeted. "Apart from this, for my generation Dilip Kumar was the greatest and most versatile actor," he said.

Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centres are state-of-the-art cancer centres located in Lahore and Peshawar.

SKMCH&RC, Lahore was the first project of the Shaukat Khanum Memorial Trust, which was the brainchild of the cricketer-turned-politician Khan. The inspiration to build the hospital came after his mother, Shaukat Khanum, succumbed to cancer in 1985.

Kumar was born on December 11, 1922 at his family home in the Qissa Khawani Bazaar area of Peshawar.

The Pakistan government has already declared his native house

NEWS MAKERS

Born In Tibet, Have Been Longest Guest Of India, Feel Proud: Dalai Lama

Agenceis

Hyderabad: Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama today said he is the "longest guest" of India, who would never cause any trouble to his host.

In a virtual interactive session with GV Prasad, Co-Chairman and Managing Director of Dr Reddy's Laboratories and others, Dalai Lama said India which practices "Ahimsa and Karuna" (non violence and compassion) stands as a role model for other countries.

"As I always mentioned, India is my home. I was born in Tibet. But most of my life was spent in this country... I really feel proud that I am a guest of the Indian government. I think I am the longest guest of the Indian government. But at least that guest will not create a problem," he said.

He remarked that religious harmony in India was remarkable and there is "free media."

Describing India as a secular country, the Tibetan leader in exile said he has been promoting "Ahimsa and Compassion", which are intrinsic values of Indians that have been followed over thousands of years.

"With over a billion population, India is a perfect example of religious harmony. It is not because of any political reasons, but it is because of its people. Some of the countries need to follow India's principles of religious harmony," he said.

Dalai Lama advised the medical fraternity to be more compassionate while discharging their duties. Wishes poured in from around the globe on the occasion of his 86th birthday on Tuesday.

Thanking everyone, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi for their wishes, Dalai Lama said he was determined that he must live at least 110 years.

5G Roll Out: Court Grants Week To Juhi Chawla To Deposit ₹ 20 Lakh Fine

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Wednesday granted a week to Bollywood actress Juhi Chawla and two others to deposit 20 lakh in costs imposed on them for abusing the process of law by way of their lawsuit challenging 5G wireless network technology.

"The court is shocked at the conduct of the plaintiffs," Justice JR Midha said as he observed that Ms Chawla and others were "not even willing to gracefully deposit the costs".

The judge was hearing three applications moved by the actor for refund of court fees, waiver of costs and replacing the word "dismissed" in the judgement with "rejected".

The court's reaction came after Ms Chawla's counsel, Senior Advocate Meet Malhotra's, after withdrawing the application for waiver of costs, said that costs would either be deposited in a week or ten days, or legal remedies against the same would be taken.

"On one hand you move frivolous application and on the other hand, you withdraw the application and plaintiffs are not even willing to gracefully deposit the costs," the court said.

The court stated that it, in fact, took a lenient view when it imposed costs of 20 lakh on Ms Chawla and others and did not initiate contempt proceedings.

"I was shocked... This court took a lenient view and did not issue contempt when case was made out... I was totally inclined. You say court had no power to impose costs (but) court has the power to issue contempt," the court said as it took



strong exception to the application.

Mr Malhotra clarified that the stand was not that the costs would not be paid, and did not even pressing the application for its waiver.

"It is unintended... Today also, this is my instruction that nobody said that they wouldn't. I saw what happened (in the judgement). I fully understand," he said.

The court recorded Mr Malhotra's statement that he sought a week's time to deposit costs and that recourse may be taken to avail legal remedies.

The application for refund of court fees was also withdrawn by Mr Malhotra. Advocate Deepak Khosla, appearing for Ms Chawla and others, informed that the court fee had already been paid.

"I'm yet to see a person in my judicial career a person who is not willing to pay court fees," the judge remarked as the application was dismissed as withdrawn.

"Let bygones be bygones," Mr Malhotra urged the court.

The court ordered that the third application seeking rejection of plaint would be placed before Justice Sanjeev Narula after the deposit of court fees.

Mr Malhotra argued that plaint, which