

# KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday 13 July | 02 Zil Hajj | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 163 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

www.kashmirobserver.net • twitter.com / kashmirobserver • facebook.com/kashmirobserver • Postal Regn: L/159/KO/SK/2014-2016



P3 CITY

## SRINAGAR RESTAURANTS TO OPEN FOR DINE-IN WITH 50 PERCENT CAPACITY

With a decline in Covid-19 positive cases, the deputy commissioner Srinagar, Mohamed Aijaz Asad on Monday issued fresh orders for all restaurants in the...

P6

## THE RESURGENT TALIBAN

The US President Joe Biden in a speech on Thursday 8 July announced that the U.S. military would complete its withdrawal from Afghanistan by August 31, nearly two weeks before his earlier deadline of September 11, announced in April. The U.S. pull-out...



P5 STATE

## 'DON'T GO NEAR CHENAB RIVERBANKS'

As per advisory issued by the Baghliar Hydroelectric Project, the general public of district Ramban is informed to refrain from going near the banks of River Chenab. "Due to rise in temperature and continues raining, the



**Quote!**  
Success is getting what you want, happiness is wanting what you get.  
— W. P. Kinsella

## NEWS DIGEST

### Militant's Body Found In Rajouri

**SRINAGAR:** The body of a suspected militant has been recovered from a river in Rajouri's Sunderbani area after which it has been taken into possession by the government forces, reports said. The body of a militant was seen floating over Daddal rivulet by locals who informed police after which police and army rushed to the spot and body was fished out, officials told local news agency KNO. "Locals informed that body of a man is floating on" [More On P10](#)

### Electric Shock Kills Auto Driver

**SRINAGAR:** A man died on Monday after receiving electric shock in Humhama area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. 28-year-old Manzoor Ahmad Dar of Mohanpora, Ompora received electric shock when he was loading some goods in his auto rickshaw near JK Public School Humhama, reports said. Dar was removed to Srinagar's SMHS hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him dead, reports said.

### Arms Cache Recovered In Keran Sector

**SRINAGAR:** Army has recovered a cache of arms and ammunition along the Line of Control (LoC) in Keran Sector of north Kashmir's Kupwara district, reports said Monday. The soldiers of Army's 2 Sikh Regiment during night patrolling in the general area of Googerdor in Keran Sector recovered 2 AK-56 rifles and its 6 magazines, 177 rounds of AK-47 assault rifle, a pistol and 28 bullets of Chinese pistol, news agency KNT reported while quoting police sources. Shortly after the recovery, army launched a [More On P10](#)

### Ladakh Logs 9 New Corona Cases

**LADAKH:** The Union Territory of Ladakh reported nine new covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours, according to a bulletin released by the local Directorate of Health Services. It said that eight cases were reported in Leh and one in Kargil. No death from Covid-19 was reported in Ladakh yesterday, it said. Also 14 patients were discharged, ten in Leh and four in Kargil, according to the bulletin. With this, the total number of COVID-19 active cases in Ladakh has come [More On P10](#)

# IMD Issues Orange Alert In J&K

Heavy Rains Likely To Trigger Landslides, Flash Floods



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Zaid Bin Shabir

**SRINAGAR:** The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday issued an orange alert for Jammu and Kashmir for Tuesday warning of heavy rains that could trigger flash floods and landslides in several parts of the Union Territory. Deputy Director, Meteorological Department, Mukhtar Ahmed told Kashmir Observer that the IMD has four colour-coded warnings

based on the intensity of an extreme weather and on the basis of it, the department places the valley in an ascending order of green, yellow, orange and red.

"J&K has been placed at an orange level that warns people of heavy and very heavy rainfall that could lead to Landslides and Flash floods," he said.

The IMD department, he said, has issued an orange weather warning of heavy to very [More On P10](#)

### Cloudburst Triggers Flash Flood In Ganderbal

Several residential houses and roads were damaged by a flash flood triggered by a cloudburst that hit central Kashmir district of Ganderbal in the wee hours on Monday. Official sources [More On P10](#)

### Flood Control Dept Asks Officials To Stay Alert

The irrigation and flood control (I&FC) department on Monday directed all the divisional engineers of the department in [More On P10](#)

### 11 People Trapped In Flash Floods Rescued

Eleven people were rescued on Monday following flash floods in Kathua district of Jammu region where heavy rains disrupted normal life and inundated several areas, officials said. Eleven people belonging to a nomadic [More On P10](#)

**THERE ARE CHANCES OF LANDSLIDES** at few vulnerable spots of Jammu-Srinagar and Srinagar-Leh National highway and also a moderate risk of flash floods in Ramban, Rajouri, Udhampur, Jammu and Ganderbal districts of the UT."

## Landslide Shuts Banihal Highway Briefly

Observer Monitoring Desk

**SRINAGAR:** Traffic on Srinagar-Jammu highway on Monday was temporarily suspended after heavy overnight rains triggered a landslide in Samroli leaving hundreds of vehicles stranded on both sides.

According to reports, fresh landslides triggered by overnight incessant rains hit Samroli area along the 270-km Srinagar-Jammu highway on Monday morning leaving hundreds of vehicles, including trucks carrying essentials to the Valley stranded. The National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), reports said, swung into action and put into service sophisticated machines and men to clear the landslides. [More On P10](#)

## Won't Contest Polls Until Both Constitutions Are Made Applicable To J&K: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

**JAMMU:** Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president Mehbooba Mufti said on Monday that she will not contest elections until both the constitutions of India and the erstwhile state are made applicable to Jammu and Kashmir.

"Personally, it (abrogation of article 370 and 35-A) is a very emotional for me. I contested the first election taking oath under the constitutions of India and state. I took both flags in my hands. Until both constitutions will not be (existing) together (in J&K), I have said I will not personally contest elections," the former chief minister told reporters here.



Replying to a question on contesting elections and becoming a chief minister, she said the PDP has several capable people and not just Mehbooba Mufti alone.

Mufti also criticised the Jammu and Kashmir administration over its decision to sack sons of Hizbul Mujahideen chief Syed Salahuddin from government services, [More On P10](#)

## NIA Arrests 3 Youth For 'Peddling' ISIS Propaganda

Press Trust Of India

**SRINAGAR:** The National Investigation Agency has arrested three people from South Kashmir for allegedly being involved in a conspiracy of the banned terrorist organisation ISIS to radicalise and recruit impressionable youths in India to wage violent jihad against the State.

The NIA spokesperson said on Monday that the three --Umar Nisar, Tanveer Ahmad Bhat and Rameez Ahmad Lone -- all from Achabal in Anantnag of South Kashmir, were placed under arrest on Sunday night after the agency carried out searches at



seven places.

The case was registered by the NIA on June 29 under various sections of the Indian Penal Code and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

ISIS terrorists operating from various conflict zones along with ISIS cadres in India, by assuming pseudo-online identities, have created a network wherein ISIS-related propaganda material is disseminated for radicalising and recruiting members to its fold.

In this connection an India-centric online propaganda magazine 'the Voice of Hind' (VOH) is published [More On P10](#)

## No Covid-19 Death In J&K After 4 Months

Firdaus Ali

**SRINAGAR:** No coronavirus related death was reported in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, even as 448 more people recovered from the deadly infection compared to 228 new cases of virus detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

For the first time in almost 16 weeks, no death caused by coronavirus was reported across J&K on Monday, officials said, adding that 155 new cases, the lowest in nearly four months were detected.

They said 113 fresh cases of virus were reported from Kashmir Valley while the remaining 42 were detected across the Jammu division thus taking the total number of people infected since [More On P10](#)

# 'Review Darbar Move Order': Jammu Traders Petition Raj Bhavan

Augib Javeed

From last few days, a number of political and social activists under the leadership of Sunil Dimple, president "Mission Statehood"—a movement for the restoration of statehood for Jammu and Kashmir—held peaceful protest appealing government to reconsider the decision of stopping Darbar Move practice and end the "uncertainty, unrest" among the traders and transporters of Jammu.

"I want to remind the government that Darbar Move was once stopped by earlier governments but traders and transporters from Jammu united and the mass agitation took place and the government had to withdraw the order," Dimple told Kashmir Observer.

"This is the 150-year-old bond of love between the two regions. We appeal Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to kindly review the order."

Thousands of employees working in civil secretariats, with headquarters in Jammu and Srinagar, would move along with their families twice every year. While Srinagar served as the summer capital, Jammu was the winter capital.

Over the years, the practice boosted Jammu, economically. A number of Kashmiris would travel to the winter capital along with their families to escape the harsh winters — thus furthering the business of Jammu traders.

But last month, LG Sinha drew curtains over the age-old practice of shifting capitals between Srinagar and Jammu. Following Raj Bhavan's directive, the Jammu and Kashmir administration cancelled residential accommodations of Darbar Move employees in Jammu and Srinagar on June 30, 2021.

"Employees shall vacate their government residential accommodation under occupation



within 21 days from the date of issuance of this order," reads the order of the J&K Estates Department.

Although the prominent traders from Jammu—including those affiliated with the Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI)—have

largely maintained a silence on the move, the common businessmen are foreseeing a big loss.

Come winter, said Vimal Gupta, President Raj Tilak Road Traders Association, and Jammu will face the "huge loss" when Kashmir-based employees

wouldn't move to Jammu with their families.

"Government claimed that around Rs 200 crore will be saved by this move but they didn't bother about our business of thousands of crores," Gupta said. "We give government more than Rs 200 crore through taxes

generated with the Darbar Move business. We fail to understand how the centuries-old tradition was ended so suddenly, without even consulting the concerned parties."

Not only traders, Gupta said, but hotels, restaurants, transporters and other stakeholders will be equally and badly affected by this move.

"We do very less business in summers and await winters, so that Kashmiris would come in droves and do some shopping, take rooms on rents, etc but the latest move has come as the rudest shock," he said. "We don't have any leader who will talk on our behalf. The BJP leaders think that even if they don't work for people's welfare, Prime Minister Modi will still ensure their win in elections."

Apart from economy, the new move will hit the centuries-old "unique relationship" between the people of two capitals,

believes Baldev Khullar, another Jammu-based trader leader.

"It'll widen the gap between two capitals," Khullar, the six-time president of Raghunath Bazar Traders Association, said. "Who'll come to Jammu, if this Darbar Move will be stopped in this sudden manner? Even tourists prefer to visit the valley rather than Jammu — be it in summers or winters. The current regime even failed to mobilise the pilgrims for Mata Vaishno Devi here."

Most of the traders in Jammu aren't able to speak openly due to pressure, he said. "But they'll know the price of silence during winters when there'll be no Kashmiri shoppers around."

However, Arun Gupta, President, JCCI, told Kashmir Observer that the said order hasn't come from the government. "We believe that the age-old bond between the two capitals should not be broken," he said, [More On P10](#)





To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

Tuesday| 13-07-2021

از نیابت دیالگام با اجلاس جاوید احمد سید صاحب نائب تحصیلدار۔  
مضمون درخواست منجانب: صیب الہی ولد غلام نبی جام ساکنہ کاڈ ضلع انتہ ناگ  
بمراو عطا کی RBA سرٹیفکٹ  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیالگام با  
اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈ اریا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر پڑا میں پیش  
کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ  
سائل کا کنبہ دھندھا کٹن کشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور سائل کا کنبہ  
بذیل ہے۔  
نمبر شمار نام افراد کنبہ عمر پیشہ آمدنی  
01 ظریف زوہیر مرحوم غلام نبی 48 سال پیشہ  
02 رداون الہی دفتر غلام نبی 24 سال زرعیہ  
03 مصیب الہی ولد غلام نبی 21 سال =  
04 صیب الہی ولد غلام نبی 18 سال =  
05 عربیت نبی دفتر غلام نبی 16 سال =  
اسٹورکنبہ 05 افراد چھتقل ہے۔ اور کنبہ کا پانچا دینی 13,331 روپیہ تک  
سے لہذا از بر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ  
سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروض ہو جات پیش کرے۔ میجا وگڈر نے بعد کوئی  
عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
RNA نائب تحصیلدار

ٹھیکہ داری کا رڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے  
برخاس و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ منظر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کا رڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے  
میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض آریائی ڈویژن تاحضی  
گڈر کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میجا وگڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
فاروق احمد نیاجار ولد غلام رسول نیاجار ساکنہ اوہڈ ورہ  
RNA  
COURT OF PRINCIPAL  
DISTRICT JUDGE ANANTNAG  
Present Mr Naseer Ahmad Dar  
Gulshana Akther W/o Late Ab Majeed Sheikh R/o Khanabal Anantnag (Applicant) V/S 1. Bashir Ah Sheikh s/o Sonullah Sheikh 2. Mubeena Akther D/o Sonullah Sheikh R/o Khanabal Ang Public at large (Non applicants)  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Whereas an application for succession certificate has been moved by petitioner (s) in respect of an amount 96423 in the name of deceased Ab Majeed Sheikh S/o Sona Sheikh R/o Khanabal; Anantnag Hence Objections if any are invited from all and Sunday to the aforesaid claim ,by or before next date of hearing i.e 17/07/2021 falling which matter shall be determined on merits .  
Issued under my hand seal of the court on 12/07/2021  
Principal District judge Anantnag  
RNA

از عدالت ایگزیکٹو سٹریٹ دیوال (تحصیلدار انتہ ناگ)  
با اجلاس  
درخواست منجانب: طارق احمد سٹریٹ دیوال (تحصیلدار انتہ ناگ)  
لک کے کوئی از او پورہ انتہ ناگ  
بغرض از بر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ  
سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروض ہو جات پیش کرے۔ میجا وگڈر نے بعد کوئی  
عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
RNA  
از نیابت دیالگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار اسراگام  
مضمون درخواست منجانب: سبیل احمد نیاجار ولد عبدالرشید گانی ساکنہ بلوار ہامہ ضلع انتہ ناگ  
بمراو عطا کی RBA سرٹیفکٹ  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیالگام با اجلاس  
منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈ اریا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر پڑا میں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس  
بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنبہ دھندھا کٹن کشتہ  
پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور سائل کا کنبہ بذیل ہے۔  
نمبر شمار نام افراد کنبہ عمر پیشہ آمدنی  
01 عبدالرشید گانی ولد عبدالعزیز 45 سال مزدوری  
02 مسماہ پشیم با نوز وید عبدالرشید 44 سال کھریلکام  
03 سبیل احمد گانی ولد عبدالرشید 18 سال زرعیہ  
04 مڈل احمد گانی ولد عبدالرشید 13 سال =  
05 فو زید رشید دفتر عبدالرشید 11 سال =  
06 توفیق احمد عبدالرشید گانی 05 سال =  
اسٹورکنبہ 06 افراد چھتقل ہے۔ اور کنبہ کا پانچا دینی 13,331 روپیہ تک  
سے لہذا از بر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ  
سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معروض ہو جات پیش کرے۔ میجا وگڈر نے بعد کوئی  
عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
RNA نائب تحصیلدار

اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی  
واڈی کے نامور شہری نوک گلوکار غلام محمد کا  
10 جولائی بروز منیجر وار منقصر علالت کے بعد اس  
دارفانی سے کوٹ کر گئے۔ مرحوم کا ماصاحب  
محکمہ اطلاعات کے شعبہ تمدن میں ملازمت  
کرتے تھے۔ مرحوم کے ایصال ثواب کیلئے  
اجتماعی فاتحہ خوانی کل منی 13 جولائی 2021،  
بروز منگل وار کو منی 10 بجے بانی مقبرہ وانا  
مزار کا کدل سرنگ میں انجام دی جائیگی۔  
inf سولاداران: فرزندان

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
RURAL ENGINEERING WING ANANTNAG**  
E-Tender Notice No: 16 of 2021-22 Dated: 09-07-2021  
(CALL – II)  
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Of Union Territory Of J&K, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-  
S. No Name of Work Estimated/ Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs) Cost of TD Class of Contract Time Major Head  
1. Construction of Fencing Near Graveyard Goripora Block Qazigund 2.90 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sransoo  
2. Construction of Steps/ Irrigation Ladh/ Crossing Padapora Block Qazigund 2.90 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sransoo  
3. Construction of Road from Ab. Majeed Malik H/O Mohd. Ishaq Lone and others Block Qazigund 2.99 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sransoo  
4. Construction of Road Astanporawith Crossing from Main Road to H/O Mohd. Yaqoob Khanday at Sangran Block Qazigund 3.00 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sangran  
5. Construction of Road from H/O Fayaz Ahmad Lone to L/O Ali Mohd. Sheikh at Sangran Block Qazigund 3.00 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sangran  
6. Construction of Earth Filling Near Ziyarat Shareef Syed Jaffar at Bunsangran Bar-zloo Block Qazigund 3.80 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Sangran  
7. Improvement of Dawook Ladh at Panzath A Block Qazigund 5.00 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Panzath A  
8. Improvement of Herdal Ladh at Panzath A Block Qazigund 4.80 200.00 DEE 30 days Back to Vil-lage - III Panzath A  
Position of A/A: Accorded  
Position of T/S: Accorded  
Position of Funds: Available with BDO  
The Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) as per schedule of dates.  
1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice 09-07-2021  
2. Online Bid submission Start Date 17-07-2021 from 4:00 PM  
3. Online Bid Submission End Date 29-07-2021 upto 04:00 PM  
4. Date & time of opening of Online Bids 04-08-2021 at 11:00 AM or any convenient day in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag  
5. Note: Hard copy of original Tender Document Fee Receipt, Bid Security Self Declaration Form and other relevant documents in original shall be deposited before opening of online bids.  
Special Condition:  
Only the eligible contractor of respective Panchayat Halqa shall take part in the tendering process in light of the Government Order No. 251-FD of 2020 Dated: 17-09-2020. Bidders must upload a certificate from concerned Block Development Officer of residence proof that he/ she is residing in the respective panchayat. After opening of the tender if the rates quoted by the lowest bidder is found to be high and value of work is more than the advertised amount, he/ she is advised to negotiate his/ her quoted rates with the department/ offer his/ her consent within five days after opening of the tenders, failing which the work shall be put to fresh tenders as no allotment shall be made beyond the advertised amount.  
The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division Anantnag (tender receiving authority).  
The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids  
The LI is required to deposit an EMD @ 3% of advertised value in the shape of CDR in favour of allotting authority (Executive Engineer REW Anantnag) at the time of finalization of allotment/ agreement with the Department  
Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.  
Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [www.jktenders.gov.in](http://www.jktenders.gov.in) to acquaint bid submission process.  
To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.  
The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.  
6.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.  
6.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original / photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically/ by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.  
6.6. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents in soft copies with the technical bid and no documents in terms of Hard Copies shall be entertained.  
All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)  
No. REW-A/WS/NIT/2021-22/1732-1741  
Dated: 09-07-2021 DIPK-4524/21  
-Sd- Executive Engineer Rural Engineering Wing Anantnag

ٹھیکہ داری کا رڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے  
برخاس و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ منظر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کا رڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے  
میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض آریائی ڈویژن تاحضی  
گڈر کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔ میجا وگڈر نے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔  
فاروق احمد نیاجار ولد غلام رسول نیاجار ساکنہ اوہڈ ورہ  
RNA  
COURT OF PRINCIPAL  
DISTRICT JUDGE ANANTNAG  
Present Mr Naseer Ahmad Dar  
Gulshana Akther W/o Late Ab Majeed Sheikh R/o Khanabal Anantnag (Applicant) V/S 1. Bashir Ah Sheikh s/o Sonullah Sheikh 2. Mubeena Akther D/o Sonullah Sheikh R/o Khanabal Ang Public at large (Non applicants)  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Whereas an application for succession certificate has been moved by petitioner (s) in respect of an amount 96423 in the name of deceased Ab Majeed Sheikh S/o Sona Sheikh R/o Khanabal; Anantnag Hence Objections if any are invited from all and Sunday to the aforesaid claim ,by or before next date of hearing i.e 17/07/2021 falling which matter shall be determined on merits .  
Issued under my hand seal of the court on 12/07/2021  
Principal District judge Anantnag  
RNA

COURT OF PRINCIPAL  
DISTRICT JUDGE ANANTNAG  
Present Mr Naseer Ahmad Dar  
Gulshana Akther W/o Late Ab Majeed Sheikh R/o Khanabal Anantnag (Applicant) V/S 1. Bashir Ah Sheikh s/o Sonullah Sheikh 2. Mubeena Akther D/o Sonullah Sheikh R/o Khanabal Ang Public at large (Non applicants)  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
Whereas an application for succession certificate has been moved by petitioner (s) in respect of an amount 96423 in the name of deceased Ab Majeed Sheikh S/o Sona Sheikh R/o Khanabal; Anantnag Hence Objections if any are invited from all and Sunday to the aforesaid claim ,by or before next date of hearing i.e 17/07/2021 falling which matter shall be determined on merits .  
Issued under my hand seal of the court on 12/07/2021  
Principal District judge Anantnag  
RNA

Government of Jammu and Kashmir  
**Office of the District Sheep Husbandry Officer  
Mini-Secretariat Ganderbal**  
Tele/Fax No.- 0194-2416040(email :- dshogbl@gmail.com)

ADVERTISEMENT NOTICE  
Applications on prescribed format are invited from interested persons or sheep/goat breeders of district Ganderbal for establishment of sheep/goat units under various schemes for the financial year 2021-22, shown in Annexure 'A' to this notification. Detailed information about the schemes is available on Sheep Husbandry Department's website <http://ksheephusbandrykashmir.nic.in/> and can also be enquired from this office.  
IMPORTANT DATES:  
> Date of commencement for issuance of application forms: 10-07-2021  
> Last date of receipt of applications: 31-07-2021  
HOW TO APPLY:  
> The application forms can be received from the following offices on working days during office hours:  
a) Office of the undersigned (Room no. 357, Mini Secretariat Ganderbal)  
b) Office of the Sheep Development Block Officer, Haripora  
> The application forms, duly filled in all respects along with relevant documents shall be received by Office of the District Sheep Husbandry Officer, Ganderbal (Room no. 357, Mini Secretariat Ganderbal) only up to 31-07-2021.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR ALL SCHEMES:  
1. Applicant must be within the age group of 18-60 years desirably. Although unemployed youth will be given preference.  
2. Beneficiaries/households who have already availed benefit under any income generation scheme of Sheep Husbandry Department are not eligible.  
3. Applicant can apply for availing benefit under one scheme/component of the scheme only.  
4. More than one application shall not be entertained from same household.  
5. The number of units (fresh) shall be subject to availability of funds. In case the number of applications exceed the number of units sanctioned for the district, the selection will be made through draw of lots procedure.  
6. Applications of individuals who have been blacklisted by the department in the past shall be rejected.  
7. The final allotment of units shall be subject to techno feasibility report of the concerned authorities.  
(Note: The application forms can also be downloaded from official twitter handle of Sheep Husbandry Department Ganderbal @DSHOGanderbal)

Sd/-  
District  
Sheep Husbandry Officer Ganderbal

S.No	Name of	Salient features	Eligibility	Terms & Conditions
1	Integrated Sheep Development Scheme (ISDS) : a) Es-tablishment of 25 sheep/ goat units under participa-tory mode	25 sheep/ goats shall be provided to the beneficiary free of cost, and from 3rd year of establishment the department shall retrieve 5 ewes/does from each breeder for the next five years. The progeny to be received should be 1.5 to 2 years of age with a minimum body weight of 25 kgs.	i. Any individual/ group of individuals/ self help groups/co-operative society/farmer producer organization (efforts will be made to cover 20% SC/ST and 10% women beneficiaries) ii. Applicant must have sufficient land holding, infrastructure, fodder/grazing and manpower resources available to maintain the unit on organized pattern.	The selected beneficiary: i. Shall be provided unit after executing an agreement (as per prescribed format) to the effect that the beneficiary will return 5 ewes/does out of progeny to the department as the case may be from 3rd year for next 5 years. ii. will furnish an affidavit duly attested by 1st class magistrate as per the prescribed format iii. will submit guarantee statement as per prescribed format will insure animals from 2 <sup>nd</sup> year onwards till he/she is in contract with the department
	b) Es-tablishment of Sheep/ goat units on 50% subsidy mode (25-200 ewes/does)	Sheep/goat unit would mean a unit of min 25 sheep/goats. The subsidy is fixed for 1 unit of 25 animals. However if an entrepreneur sets up multiple units of 25 sheep/goat (max limit being 8) he/she shall be accordingly entitled to subsidy in multiples of that available to single unit of 25 sheep/goat ii. 50% of the unit cost as total eligible subsidy with a ceiling of Rs. 1.00 lac per unit (25 sheep/goats) whichever is less, and maximum subsidy ceiling of Rs. 8.00 lacs or 8 sheep/ goat units iii. the total cost of unit also includes livestock insurance for 1st year iv. Beneficiary can opt for bank loan facility by depositing 10% marginal money. In such case the eligible subsidy amount will be released to lending bank as back end subsidy.	i. Any individual/ group of individuals/ self help groups/co-operative society/farmer producer organization (efforts will be made to cover 20% SC/ST and 10% women beneficiaries) ii. Applicant must have sufficient land holding, infrastructure, fodder/ grazing and man power resources available to maintain the unit on organized pattern	The selected beneficiary will: i. will furnish an affidavit duly attested by judicial magistrate as per the prescribed format ii. insure the animals from 2 <sup>nd</sup> year onwards.
	c) Es-tablishment of Shearing units	i. Shearing unit would mean a unit comprising of one shearing machine, genset & shearing spares required to undertake the activity. ii. The beneficiary can purchase shearing equipment from any registered company/ authorized dealer/ distributor, sole manufacturer within or outside UT of J&K. iii. Once the beneficiary has procured the shearing unit, 50% of the unit cost as total eligible subsidy with a ceiling of Rs. 0.75 lac per unit, whichever is less, shall be released in favour of the concerned beneficiary. iv. Beneficiary can opt for bank loan facility by depositing 10% marginal money. In such case the eligible subsidy amount will be released to lending bank as back end subsidy.	Any individual of district Ganderbal (trained in Machine Sheep Shearing (MSS) or intending to undergo training in MSS)	The machinery / equipment should be certified as per requisite safety/ quality standards and subsidy shall be released as fixed per unit by the department regardless of prices as long as specifications prescribed are met.
2.	d) Rash-triya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) e) Es-tablishment of 25 sheep/goat units on participa-tory mode (Fresh/ retrieval)	25 sheep/ goats shall be provided to the beneficiary free of cost, and from 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of establishment the department shall retrieve 5 ewes/does from each breeder for the next five years. The progeny to be received should be 1.5 to 2 years of age with a minimum body weight of 25 kgs.	Unemployed youth, marginal/ small farmers with less livestock holdings having: Minimum wherewithal viz, land, shed, livestock etc Experience/ knowledge of the trade Desire to undergo mandatory training in livestock management & record keeping at one of the departmental sheep breeding farms for one week.	The selected beneficiary: i. shall be provided unit after executing an agreement that he/she will not sell the basic livestock upto five years, abide by instructions/technical advice of the department with regard to scientific management of the farm and return 5 ewes/does per year out of progeny to the department from 3rd year for next five years. ii. will submit guarantee statement as per prescribed format iii. will insure the animals till he/she is in contract with the depart-ment iv. nominate the dependent who will be responsible for continua-tion of the scheme in case of his/her death
	f) Es-tablishment of sheep units under Backyard sheep farming (fresh/ retrieval)	10 ewes shall be provided to the beneficiary free of cost, and from 3 <sup>rd</sup> year of establishment the department shall retrieve 2 ewes from each breeder for the next five years. The progeny to be received should be 1.5 to 2 years of age with a minimum body weight of 25 kgs.	Gujjars and chopans having meager livestock (10-15 sheep) and infrastructure; and must be associated with rearing of livestock	The selected beneficiary: i. shall be provided unit after executing an agreement that he/she will not sell the basic livestock upto five years, abide by instructions /technical advice of the department with regard to scientific management of the farm and return 2 ewes per year out of progeny to the department from 3rd year for next five years. ii. will submit guarantee statement as per prescribed format iii. will insure the animals till he/she is in contract with the department iv. nominate the dependent who will be responsible for continua-tion of the scheme in case of his/her death

DIPK-4516/21  
Sd/-  
District  
Sheep Husbandry Officer Ganderbal

DISCLAIMER: KASHMIR OBSERVER MAKES EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THE INFORMATION CARRIED IN DISPLAY/ CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS, APPEARING IN THE NEWSPAPER IS CORRECT. HOWEVER THE NEWSPAPER TAKES NO RESPONSIBILITY NOR DOES IT NECESSARILY ENDORSE THE CONTENTS OF THESE ADVERTS. THE READERS ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO VERIFY THE CONTENTS BEFORE ACTING THEREUPON. MANAGEMENT





WOMEN GOLFERS getting training in Kashmir's first Golf Training Academy.

KO Photo Abid Bhat

## DC Srinagar Sets 20 Days Deadline For Completion Of Lasjan Grade Separator



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Mohamad Aijaz Asad Monday Monday set a deadline of 20 days for the completion of Lasjan Grade Separator.

He issued the directions while undertaking a visit to Panthachowk bypass to inspect the on-going work on Lasjin (Athwajan) grade separator.

The Deputy Commissioner was informed that 80 percent work on the project has been completed, while black topping has been done on 40 percent of the Flyover.

The DC directed the concerned

executing agency to remove all bottlenecks, if any, within 5 days. He asked them to speed up the pace of work so that project is completed at an earliest.

The DC sets deadline of 20 days for making Lasjin (Athwajan) grade separator on NH-44 ready for movement of vehicular traffic.

The DC said that the project is of great public importance which is being strictly monitored by LG administration for earliest completion. He said as soon as the Flyover is completed it will prove helpful towards overcoming traffic jams besides ensuring smooth plying of traffic on the highway.

## Srinagar Restaurants To Open For Dine-in With 50 Percent Capacity



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** With a decline in Covid-19 positive cases, the deputy commissioner Srinagar, Mohamed Aijaz Asad on Monday issued fresh orders for all restaurants in the district, directing them to open for in-dine at 50 percent of the total capacity.

In an order, District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) Srinagar stated that all restaurants shall be al-

lowed to open for in-dine from 07:00 am till 08:00 pm for non-check-in customers and till 10.00 p.m. for in-house/resident guests at 50 percent of total capacity and only for such customers who are vaccinated or are carrying a negative RT-PCR or RAT report of 48 hours prior.

"The owners/staff/managers of the establishments shall ensure strict compliance to the COVID appropriate behavior. Restaurant owners shall

maintain a register at the entry point to record vaccination status of the visitors. Tehsildar concerned shall inspect such registers on daily basis. Any deviation/non-compliance shall be responsibility of owners/managers of such establishments," reads the order.

It reads that the enforcement squads already constituted shall ensure compliance of these directions by all restaurant owners within their jurisdictions and shall initiate proceedings in case of violation/non-compliance.

The order further reads that weekend curfew from Friday 08:00 pm till Monday 07:00 am and daily night Curfew from 08:00 pm till 07:00 am next day shall continue to remain in force in the district.

It also stated that only 50 percent of the shops in indoor shopping complexes/Malls shall be allowed to open at a particular time as per the schedule al-

**THE OWNERS/STAFF/MANAGERS OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS** shall ensure strict compliance to the COVID appropriate behavior. Restaurant owners shall maintain a register at the entry point to record vaccination status of the visitors.

## Vaccination Picks Up Pace In Srinagar

Agencies

**SRINAGAR:** The Covid vaccination process in summer capital Srinagar is picking up pace as around 25 percent of the population has been vaccinated in the first 12 days of this month.

Around 58 percent of the people above 45 age group were vaccinated till June end and Srinagar was the worst performer in J&K.

However, in the last 12 days, Srinagar district has picked up the pace in the vaccination pro-



cess and around 25 percent people above 45 were vaccinated in the last 12 days.

Still around 17 percent people are yet to get vaccinated in the district and officials are hopeful

that it will be completed in the next few days.

Top health officials said that people in Srinagar were more hesitant in taking vaccination as compared to the people of other districts.

"Now hesitancy is very less due to which the vaccination process has been ramped up and in next few days the population above 45 age will be covered," an official said.

J&K has already missed two deadlines to vaccinate all above 45 age groups.

## Artificial Intelligence Workshop Concludes At NIT



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** A week-long virtual workshop on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Solution for Optimum Utilisation of Power and Energy concluded on Monday at the National Institute of Technology, (NIT) Srinagar.

Director NIT Srinagar, Prof. (Dr.) Rakesh Sehgal hailed the efforts of the department for providing a special slot for participants that boosted their morale and confidence. It also served them in multiple ways so that they were able to share their knowledge and experience, he said.

"It was a successful program which was conducted in a nice manner. All the participants have gained a lot from this workshop, which was the purpose of the program to spread the knowledge or sharing the resources," Director NIT Srinagar said.

Dean Research & Consultancy, NIT Srinagar, Prof. G.A. Harmain congratulated the EE department for organizing such events on relevant topics.

Prof. Harmain said humans have the ability to train the machines on the basis of past data then the machines can act much faster and even much efficient way.

He said there can be supervise learning, un-supervise learning, or reinforce learning but there are situations where

super wise learning will not be choice or possibility.

Prof. Harmain said although we have got Artificial Intelligence and other technologies, where we are able to work with a better system, we have observed even in the United States supposedly till now number one in terms of its human resource, there were cyber attacks. In Mumbai also power was shut for consecutive 12 hours last year and therefore when we are using this element of AI, he said.

Prof. Harmain said most students and faculty members have a notion that cyber attacks have become easier than they would have if AI was not there.

Coordinator of the event, Prof. Aijaz Ahmad Zargar said apart from professional knowledge, the students should also be imparted with additional skills like Artificial Intelligence Technique, data scenes. He said simple B.Tech or M.Tech cannot provide them jobs in the market.

He said Department of Electrical Engineering will run such programs in the future as these programs are the need of the hour.

Earlier during the session, Dr. Rohit Bhakar, MNIT Jaipur talked about Power System Flexibility in RE Rich Grids, while the second session on Motivation and spirituality was hosted by Dr. Dhammapal Sahebrao Bhamare.

During the session, the participants hailed the efforts of the EE department of NIT Srinagar for conducting webinars on relevant themes. They expressed their gratitude to coordinators of the event.

**IT WAS A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM** which was conducted in a nice manner. All the participants have gained a lot from this workshop, which was the purpose of the program to spread the knowledge or sharing the resources,"

### DIAL-EMMA



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

### AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈

### RAILWAYS



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

### HIGHWAY STATUS

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

## This Day in History

- 1643 - Battle at Roundway Down: Royalists beat parliamentary armies
- 1835 - Swedish-American inventor John Ericsson files for a patent for his screw propeller design
- 1854 - In the Battle of Guaymas, Mexico, General Jose Maria Yanez stops the French invasion led by Count Gaston de Raousset Boulbon
- 1882 - 200 die as train derailed near Tcherny, Russia
- 1911 - Great Britain and Japan renew their alliance of 1902 for another four years; the reason Japan joins WWI on the Allies side
- 1935 - US-Russian commerce treaty takes effect
- 1943 - Greatest tank battle in history ends with Russia's defeat of Germany at Kursk, almost 6,000 tanks take part, 2,900 lost by Germany
- 1953 - Battle of the Kumsong River begins - last major battle of the Korean war.
- 1960 - US Democratic convention nominates JFK as presidential candidate
- 1962 - 500 Indonesian parachutist land on New-Guinea
- 1963 - Indian government announces it will cut last remaining links with South Africa by refusing landing facilities to South African aircraft
- 1969 - Russia launches unmanned Luna 15 to Moon
- 1978 - Albania drops diplomatic relations with People's Republic of China
- 1980 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalitinsk USSR
- 1982 - Iran launches first attack into Iraq
- 1992 - The Tripartite Alliance, consisting of the African National Congress, South African Communist Party and Congress of South African Trade Union, outlines a mass action plan for August
- 1995 - Space shuttle STS-70 (Discovery 20), launches.
- 2011 - Mumbai is rocked by three bomb blasts during the evening rush hour, killing 26 and injuring 130
- 2012 - China's economic growth drops to 7.6%, its lowest level for three years
- 2014 - FIFA World Cup Final: Mario Götze scores an extra time winner as Germany beats Argentina 1-0 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2014 - FIFA World Cup Awards: Lionel Messi (golden ball), James Rodriguez (golden boot) and Manuel Neuer (Golden gloves)
- 2015 - Greek Credit Crisis: Eurozone agrees conditional deal to lend €86bn over 3 years if Greece passes reforms.
- 2016 - Theresa May is elected Prime Minister of the United Kingdom by Conservative Party MPs

## From KO Archives

*Hurriyat Wants Center To Set Date For Talks*

Initiative Lies With Delhi: Umar

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR** - Chairman of the moderate faction of the Hurriyat Conference, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Tuesday said that his group was ready to talk to New Delhi but was upto the latter to decide about the venue and the date for such a meeting.

Talking to reporters, at Martyrs' cemetery, after an extra ordinary meeting of the Hurriyat Conference, Umar said that his party was ready to open a free and frank dialogue with New Delhi but added that initiative for this had to be taken by the centre. "We are willing to resume talks with the Prime Minister. If the government is serious about the dialogue process, it should fix the date and venue for the next round of talks," he said.

Umar also indicated that the -separatists would not stick to their earlier demand that New Delhi issue a fresh invitation to them for talks, saying instead they were awaiting "a communication from Delhi that would indicate the date and venue of the proposed meeting" with the prime minister.

"We don't insist on a renewed invitation by the Indian government, but since the meeting is likely to be held in Delhi, the government must communicate to us the date and venue of such a meeting," he said.

If Manmohan Singh, however, "wants to talk with us in Kashmir, we can fix the date and venue... In case the government cannot decide Hurriyat would be ready" to make arrangements, he said.

Arguing that the Indo-Pak thaw and reconciliation process could "not bring lasting peace in the sub-continent" unless the Kashmir issue was resolved to the satisfaction of the people of the state, the separatist leader said the talks should be "Kashmir-centric".

He said that Hurriyat talks with the centre would be on the same pattern on which two rounds of talks were held with the erstwhile NDA government. The proposed talks, he said, would be aimed to find some amicable resolution of Kashmir, outside the ambit of the constitution and on the basis of triangular talks as the Hurriyat has been pleading for.

Umar disclosed that Hurriyat executive will be having a meeting with the migrant Kashmiri Pandits at Srinagar on July, 19. The meeting will discuss the possible return of migrants to their respective homes, he said adding that Pandits were part and parcel of Kashmir's rich and glorious history and without them Kashmir was incomplete.

Meanwhile, for the first time in recent years, the Hurriyat leaders led by Mirwaiz visited the 'martyrs graveyard' at Naqshband Sahib in downtown Srinagar a day ahead of the July 13 incident of 1931 marking the beginning of Quit Kashmir Movement, after a joint meeting of the amalgam's executive committee.

Umar tried to dispel the impression that the sacrifices of martyrs in 1931 had already borne fruit in the end of the autocratic maharaja's rule. "An impression is being created that the sacrifices of the martyrs of 1931 had already fructified. The mission of those martyred in 1931 is still incomplete. We reiterate (our determination) to carry that mission forward to its logical conclusion," he said.

"We feel Kashmir is a political problem whose solution can only be found in accordance with the aspirations of the local people."

(Kashmir Observer, 13 July, 2005)

## Admin Not Allowing Us To Pay Homage To July 13 Martyrs: NC

Agencies



**SRINAGAR:** The National Conference (NC) accused the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday of using dilly-dallying tactics

of not allowing the party leaders to pay homage to the July 13, 1931 martyrs, who were killed in firing by the Dogra Army outside the Srinagar Central Jail.

The NC said it had sought permission from the administration to offer "Fateha" (special prayers) and floral tributes at the Mazar-e Shohada (martyrs' graveyard) in the Khawaja Bazaar area of the city on Tuesday.

"However, the administration, till Monday evening, has not responded to our repeated calls," NC spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar said in a statement.

The party took strong exception to the measure and decried the "dilly-dallying tactics" of the government, calling it unfortunate.

Dar said the party has decided to refrain from holding a big commemorative function at the spot because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the related standard operating procedure (SOP).

The People's Democratic Party (PDP) also said it has sought permission from the Srinagar district administration, but there has been no response from the authorities so far.

In a letter written by party secretary Abdul Hammed Kohsheen to the Srinagar district magistrate, the party said a delegation intends to visit the martyrs' graveyard and seeks permission and a time slot for the visit.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
R&B ELECTRIC DIVISION SGR**  
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS  
NIT No: 53/e-tendering of 2021-22/R&B DATED: - 10.07.2021  
For and on behalf of the LT Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Electrical Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No.	Name of Work	Est. Cost (In Rupees/lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rs)	Time	T&D of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1	Electrification and CCTV cameras at EVM warehouse in the premises of District Administration complex Putwama (Ground floor and first floor).	6.00 lacs	300.00	20 days	19.07.2021	"A" Class Electrical

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12-07-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	12/07/2021 10.00 A.M
3.	Bid submission Start Date	12/07/2021 from 10.00 A.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	19/07/2021 up to 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	19/07/2021 at 6.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division Srinagar.

02. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division, Srinagar (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Electric Division, Srinagar (tender receiving authority).

03. All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below) . The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/ within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.

04. Bidder must read term/condition in tender document carefully.  
AAA/TS = Accorded  
Position of Funds = Available

Executive Engineer,  
(R&B) Electric Division  
Srinagar

No. 53/e-tendering/ERB/1022-29  
DIPK-4545/21



China Vows Retaliation After US Blacklists Companies



Agencies

BEIJING:--China on Sunday said it would take "necessary measures" to respond to the US blacklisting of Chinese companies over their alleged role in abuses of Uyghur people and other Muslim ethnic minorities. The Commerce Ministry said the US move constituted an "unreasonable suppression of Chinese enterprises and a serious breach of international economic and trade rules". China would "take necessary measures to firmly safeguard Chinese companies' legitimate rights and interests," the ministry's statement said. No details were given, but China has denied allegations of arbitrary detention and forced labour in the far western re-

gion of Xinjiang and increasingly responded to sanctions against companies and officials with its own bans on visas and financial links. The US Commerce Department said in a statement on Friday that the electronics and technology firms and other businesses helped enable "Beijing's campaign of repression, mass detention and high-technology surveillance" against Muslim minorities in Xinjiang. The penalties prohibit Americans from selling equipment or other goods to the firms. The United States has stepped up financial and trade penalties over China's treatment of Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities, along with its crackdown on democracy in the semi-autonomous city of Hong Kong.

Egypt Upholds Life Sentences For 10 Muslim Brotherhood Figures

Agencies

Egypt's highest appeals court has upheld the life sentences of 10 leaders of Egypt's outlawed Muslim Brotherhood, including the group's head, the state-owned MENA news agency reported. The ruling on Sunday upheld the 2019 conviction by a Cairo criminal court of all 10, including the group's leader, or supreme guide, Mohamed Badie, of charges related to killing policemen and organising mass jail-breaks during Egypt's 2011 uprising. That revolt culminated in the overthrow of longtime ruler Hosni Mubarak.

The defendants were found guilty of helping about 20,000 prisoners escape, and of undermining national security by conspiring with foreign armed groups – the Palestinian group, Hamas, and Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah. Meanwhile, the Court of Cassation acquitted eight middle-rank leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood, who were sentenced earlier to 15 years in prison. All of the sentences, which the court considered on appeal, are final. Sunday's rulings upheld the latest of several life sentences for Muslim Brotherhood leaders. They had gone on trial several times since the crackdown on the group in 2013 following the military coup that deposed Egypt's first democratically elected president, the late Mohamed Morsi.

Morsi had hailed from the group's ranks. His one-year rule had proven divisive and provoked nationwide protests. The coup to overthrow Morsi was led by now-President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, who outlawed the Brotherhood in late 2013 and has overseen a wide-ranging crackdown, jailing thousands of its supporters. Tens of thousands of Egyptians have been arrested since 2013, and many have fled the country. Morsi himself was a defendant in the prison-break case, but he col-



**TENS OF THOUSANDS** of Egyptians have been arrested since 2013, and many have fled the country. Morsi himself was a defendant in the prison-break case, but he collapsed in a courtroom and died while appearing in a separate trial in the summer of 2019.

lapsed in a courtroom and died while appearing in a separate trial in the summer of 2019. Last month, the Court of Cassation upheld the death sentence for 12 people involved in a 2013 protest, including several senior Muslim Brotherhood leaders. Philip Luther, Amnesty International's research and advocacy director for the Middle East and North Africa, said at the time that the death sentences "cast a shadow over the country's entire justice system". Egypt has become the world's third most frequent executioner, Luther said, adding that at least 51 men and women have been executed in 2021 so far. Similarly, other rights groups in Egypt and abroad have denounced the trials and death sentences as a mockery of justice. The Muslim Brotherhood, founded in Egypt in 1928, calls for Islam to be at the heart of public life. It established itself as the main opposition movement in Egypt despite decades of repression, and has inspired spinoff movements and political parties across the Muslim world. But it remains banned in several countries including Egypt for its alleged links to "terrorism".



Afghan security personnel stand guard along the road amid ongoing fights between Afghan security forces and Taliban fighters in Kandahar on July 9, 2021. (AFP)

Taliban Surround Central Afghan City Of Ghazni – Officials

KABUL: Taliban fighters have surrounded the city of Ghazni in central Afghanistan, taking over civilians' homes to fight security forces, officials said on Monday, the latest urban center under threat from the insurgents. The offensive was the latest on a provincial capital as the Taliban make a fresh push to surround cities and gain territory, emboldened by the departure of foreign forces. "The situation in Ghazni city is very critical...the Taliban use civilian houses as hideouts and fire upon the ANDSF (Afghan security forces)," said Hassan Rezayi, a member of Ghazni's provincial council. Violence has surged in the country since US President Joe Biden announced in April that American troops would withdraw by Sept. 11, ending 20

years in Afghanistan. The US general leading the war in Afghanistan, Austin Miller, is to relinquish command on Monday, in a symbolic end to America's longest conflict. Peace talks between the Taliban and the government have nominally been continuing in Qatar's capital but officials say they are making little progress. Clashes between the two sides are also continuing in the southern province of Kandahar where the Taliban traditionally have had a strong presence, locals said. Ghazni is on the main road between Kabul and Kandahar city. "Since the past four days, armed Taliban are attacking... Kandahar city from the western direction," said Hamidzai Lalay, a former Member of Parliament who is fighting with armed men against the Taliban in Kandahar. "Afghan security forces, including special forces, are fighting the Taliban and trying to push them back." Fawad Aman, a spokesman for the Ministry of Defense said the situation in Kandahar was "completely under control of ANDSF" which had carried out air and ground operations in recent days. So far, the Taliban has not been able to hold provincial capitals but they have put pressure on Afghan security forces to respond to offensives around the country. On Sunday, security forces, with the help of air strikes, repelled an assault by Taliban fighters on Taluqan, the provincial center of a key northern province bordering Tajikistan. Last week, Taliban fighters entered the capital of the western province of Badghis, seizing police and security facilities and attempting to take over the governor's office before special forces pushed them back. -REUTERS

**THE SITUATION IN GHAZNI CITY IS VERY CRITICAL...THE** Taliban use civilian houses as hideouts and fire upon the ANDSF (Afghan security forces), this makes the situation very difficult for the ANDSF to operate against the Taliban,"

India Evacuates Dozens Of Diplomats, Security Staff From Kandahar Consulate

India has evacuated about 50 diplomats and security personnel from its consulate in Kandahar, the former Taliban bastion in southern Afghanistan, after days of intense fighting, officials and a security source said. "The Consulate General of India has not been closed. However, due to the intense fighting near Kandahar city, India based personnel have been brought back for the time being," India's Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement. "This is purely a temporary measure until the situation stabilises. The consulate continues to operate through our local staff members."

A security source said about 50 Indian personnel, including some six diplomats, have been evacuated from the consulate. It was still unclear whether they were brought to Kabul or evacuated to New Delhi. The insurgents claimed this week that they now control 85 percent of Afghanistan, much of it seized since early May when US-led foreign forces began their final withdrawal from



**THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA** has not been closed. However, due to the intense fighting near Kandahar city, India based personnel have been brought back for the time being,"

the country. The Taliban also clashed with government forces this week on the edge of Kandahar city, the capital of Kandahar province, where the Taliban movement was born. China evacuates 210 nationals Last week Russia announced it had closed its consulate in the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif. Earlier this month China also evacuated 210 nationals from the country. The Taliban's rapid gains have seen their fighters capture key border crossings and even attack a provincial capital. The US withdrawal is now more than 90 percent complete, the Pentagon announced this month, and President Joe Biden said Thursday the US military mission would end on August 31. AFP

Pakistan Stands Firm Against Allowing US Access To Bases: Minister

Agencies

Pakistan's Interior Minister Sheikh Rasheed said on Sunday Islamabad's firm opposition to allowing the United States access to its airbases amid the hasty withdrawal of American forces from neighboring Afghanistan. "Pakistan aspires for peace in Afghanistan," Rasheed said on Sunday during a press conference held in the major city of Rawalpindi, insisting that the government and opposition parties stood on the same page regarding the issue, local Geo TV network reported. "No superpower can ignore Pakistan [...] there is no pressure on us," the minister further emphasized, reiterating that Islamabad would not provide bases to any country for carrying out operations in Afghanistan. "It is important, not only for Pakistan, but the entire region to initiate talks with the Afghan Taliban," Rasheed also noted while underlining that his country would accept any government that has the backing of the Afghan people.

Prime Minister Imran Khan insisted earlier this month that Islamabad would never again partner with the US in war, pointing out that his country had also suffered so much as a result of America's so-called war on terror in Afghanistan. Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan says his country would never again partner with the United States in war, stressing that Islamabad has suffered so much from the US's so-called war on terror in Afghanistan. "Pakistan could be partners with the United States in peace but never in conflict," Khan said during the National Assembly's budget session on July 1 as he questioned the previous administration's decision to join the US war in Afghanistan. "When we gave so many services,



did they (the Americans) praise us or acknowledge our sacrifices? Instead, they called us a hypocrite and blamed us. Instead of appreciating us, Pakistan was bad-mouthed," Khan underlined. The US was defeated in Afghanistan and tried to shift the blame of its defeat on Pakistan, the premier said, noting that Islamabad had sacrificed 70,000 people and wasted \$150 billion in the so-called war against terror. According to GEO TV, Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff General Qamar Javed Bajwa also declared in a press briefing earlier this month that the country would not give the US access to its airbases if the government stands against it. He made the remarks after attending a military and intelligence briefing to parliamentarians on national security and the Afghanistan situation. Also last month, Khan stressed in an op-ed column written for prominent US daily The Washington Post that Pakistan can no longer afford to make a mistake by hosting another US military base purportedly to be used for attacks against militants in Afghanistan. Pakistan "has suffered so much from the wars in Afghanistan" and learned many lessons from its previous mistakes, he wrote. "In order to avoid further conflict, US bases will withdraw from Pakistan. On the other hand, Pakistan is ready to be a partner for peace in Afghanistan with the United States."

Nepal's Supreme Court Orders Appointment Of Sher Bahadur Deuba As Prime Minister

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA



**NEW DELHI:** In a landmark verdict, Nepal's Supreme Court on Monday directed President Bidya Devi Bhandari to appoint Nepali Congress chief Sher Bahadur Deuba as prime minister by Tuesday and reinstated the dissolved House of Representatives for the second time in five months. A five-member Constitutional Bench of the Supreme Court led by Chief Justice Chandra Shumsher Rana issued the verdict stating that President Bidya Devi Bhandari's decision to dissolve the lower house upon a recommendation of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli was an unconstitutional act, delivering a major blow to the veteran Communist leader who was preparing for snap polls. The bench issued a mandamus to appoint Sher Bahadur Deuba as the Prime Minister by Tuesday. Sher Bahadur Deuba, 74, has served as the prime minister on four occasions. The court also ordered summoning a new session of House of Representatives at 5 PM on July 18. Chief Justice Rana also said that the bench has concluded that party

whip does not apply when lawmakers take part in the voting to elect new Prime Minister as per Article 76(5) of the Constitution. The bench comprising four other senior-most justices -- Dipak Kumar Karki, Mira Khadka, Ishwar Prasad Khatiwada, and Dr Ananda Mohan Bhattarai -- had concluded hearings in the case last week. President Bidya Devi Bhandari had dissolved the 275-member lower house for the second time in five months on May 22 at the recommendation of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli and announced snap elections on November 12 and November 19. Last week, the Election Commission had announced the schedule for mid-term elections despite the uncertainty over polls. As many as 30 petitions, including one by the opposition alliance led by the Nepali Congress, were filed against the dissolution of the House by the President. A petition was filed by the Opposition parties' alliance with the signature of 146 lawmakers demanding the reinstatement of the lower house of Parliament and the appointment of Deuba as the prime minister. Nepal plunged into a political crisis on December 20 last year after President Bhandari dissolved the House and announced fresh elections on April 30 and May 10 at the recommendation of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli, amidst a tussle for power within the ruling Nepali Communist Party (NCP).

NEWS MAKERS

Billionaire Richard Branson Reaches Space In His Own Ship

**TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES (US):** Swashbuckling entrepreneur Richard Branson hurtled into space aboard his own winged rocket ship Sunday in his boldest adventure yet, beating out fellow billionaire Jeff Bezos. The nearly 71-year-old Branson and five crewmates from his Virgin Galactic space tourism company reached an altitude of about 53 miles over the New Mexico desert – enough to experience three to four minutes of weightlessness and see the curvature of the Earth – and then safely glided back home to a runway landing. "Seventeen years of hard work to get us this far," a jubilant Branson said as he congratulated his team on the trip back. Branson became the first person to blast off in his own spaceship, beating Bezos by nine days.

He also became only the second septuagenarian to depart space. (John Glenn flew on the shuttle at age 77 in 1998.) With about 500 people watching, including Branson's wife, children and grandchildren, a twin-fuselage aircraft with his space plane attached underneath took off in the first stage of the flight. The space plane then detached from the mother ship at an altitude of about 8 ½ miles and fired its engine, reaching the edge of space. The entire flight up and back aboard the sleek white ship, named Unity, took just under 15 minutes. Virgin Galactic conducted three previous test flights into space with crews of just two or three. The flamboyant, London-born founder of Virgin Atlantic Airways



wasn't supposed to fly until later this summer. But he assigned himself to an earlier flight after Bezos announced plans to ride his own rocket into space from Texas on July 20, the 52nd anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing. Branson, who has kite-surfed the English Channel and attempted to circle the world in a hot-air balloon, denied he was trying to beat Bezos. Another one of Branson's chief rivals in the space-tourism race among the world's richest men, SpaceX's

Elon Musk, arrived in New Mexico to witness the flight, wishing Branson via Twitter, "Godspeed!" Bezos likewise sent his wishes for a safe and successful flight, though he also took to Twitter to enumerate the ways in which he believes his company's rides will be better. Bezos' Blue Origin company intends to send tourists past the so-called Karman line 62 miles above Earth, which is recognized by international aviation and aerospace federations as the threshold of space. But NASA, the Air Force, the Federal Aviation Administration and some astrophysicists consider the boundary between the atmosphere and space to begin 50 miles up. The risks to Branson and his crew were underscored in 2007, when a rocket motor test in California's Mo-

jave Desert left three workers dead, and in 2014, when a Virgin Galactic rocket plane broke apart during a test flight, killing one pilot and seriously injuring the other. Ever the showman, Branson insisted on a global livestream of the Sunday morning flight and invited celebrities and former space station astronauts to the company's Spaceport America base in New Mexico. R&B singer Khalid was on hand to perform his new single "New Normal" – a nod to the dawning of space tourism – while CBS "Late Show" host Stephen Colbert served as the event's master of ceremonies. Virgin Galactic already has more than 600 reservations from would-be space tourists, with tickets initially costing USD 250,000 apiece. Blue Origin is waiting for Bezos' flight before announcing its ticket prices. AP

Whatsapp's Disappearing Messages Come To IOS

Agencies

WhatsApp is launching self-erasing messages and media for iOS after releasing the feature on Android in June, according to WABetaInfo. The beta version 2.21.140.9 is available on Testflight. The update will allow users to send message, photos and videos that automatically self-destruct after being viewed. Users will be able to see a timer icon. The sender will be notified when the media has been viewed by the recipient. However, users can take screenshots without the sender being notified. Moreover, Users can't stop the sender being notified once the media has been viewed re-

ports WABetaInfo. WhatsApp is hoping to improve the quality and privacy of conversations on the app as users contemplate jumping to rival applications. WhatsApp lost millions of followers after announcing its new terms of services which allowed parent company Facebook and its divisions to collect user data, including phone numbers and location. While WhatsApp stalled to launch the update due to use backlash, it later decided to go ahead with the new privacy policy. However, users are encouraged to read it at "their own pace" and WhatsApp will also display a banner providing additional information.



## Dismissal Of Govt Employees Arbitrary: Soz

### Move Unconstitutional, Unethical: EJAC

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Senior Congress leader Prof. Saifuddin Soz Monday called the dismissal of 11 government employees from their services as arbitrary and as an act of revenge.

In a statement, Soz said that the J&K Lt. Governor's administration has arbitrarily and illegally dismissed 11 employees from Kashmir and this illegal action will not stand the test before any court of law.

"The government has violated the basic legal requirement of not giving the dismissed employees a chance to explain their position, before their dismissal. The LG administration has closed the doors to any conciliation and reconciliation with the Kashmiri employees. This illegal action will necessarily deepen the political unrest in J&K State," he said.

He said that the moot point is that the government is seen by the people as an entity that is unreasonable in its attitude to people and completely hostile towards the civilian population.

"The government has shown to the world that it is totally shorn of any commitment to the principles of Governance," Soz said.

Meanwhile, taking exception to the government's decision of sacking 11 employees for their alleged involvement in anti-national activities, President Employees' Joint Action Committee, Fayaz Ahmad Shabnum related the decision with indemnity and chastisement that bemoans the magnanimity of the democratic setup.

He pleaded the authorities to reconsider their decision and asked them to take into consideration the larger interests of the families of the people sacked. He further retorted that the constitution must be honoured

and legal jurisprudence must be given its due while dealing with such sensitive matters.

In a statement issued from his office, the President Employees' Joint Action Committee said that it is a condition that shall have disastrous and destructive effects on the society. People, especially the intelligentsia of the society, usually get absorbed in government jobs and hence the foundation of a stronger democracy is further strengthened, with special reference to this part of the world, being the largest democracy. It is when the most able minds from the society are hired by the government, the nation progresses not only by leaps and bounds but rather exponentially. No nation can thrive by suppressing its own working class and by making them perpetually feel insecure. The recent decision by the government is being viewed as unilateral and unjust besides being illogical and partial.

Meanwhile, Hurriyat Conference (M) also expressed dismay and denounced the dismissal of 11 government employees by the JK administration.

In a statement, Hurriyat said that more than twenty people have so far been removed from services in this whimsical manner, contrary to all norms of justice and fairness, under the guise of being a "threat to the security of the state". Those dismissed are mostly unaware of the exact nature of the charges against them leave alone getting a chance to contest them.

In times of COVID when economic hardship faced by people is on the rise, the rulers of the land are least thoughtful of the consequences such harsh actions will have on those dismissed and their families, the statement said.



**A MAN HOLDS HIS HORSE WHILE CROSSING** a wooden bridge over Doodh Ganga river in Doodpathri on Monday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

## Protest Against Use Of 'Substandard Material' In Uri Road Construction

### Villagers Demand Probe

Agencies

**URI:** The residents of border township, Uri Monday demanded an impartial probe into the alleged use of "substandard material" in the construction of Salamabad-Channa road. The villagers staged a protest demonstration and said that the construction work be stopped immediately and an investigation carried out.

The residents said, "The use of substandard material like mud and stones excavated from nearby streams is used in construction of roads." The road is being constructed under PMGSY.

Not only the residents but the social organisations of Uri have also demanded that an officer should immediately inspect the material and level of the road to prevent loss of government capital.

The project is worth Rs. 4 crore and was approved in the year 2016.



Image for representation

"The contractor is laying mud instead of gravel excavated from nearby Stream," said a local Sameer Ahmad.

He questioned whether the macadamisation could be done on the soil on which the people had expressed their displeasure with the officials of the Public Works Department and the conditions laid down in the DPR were not being complied with.

"Bulldozers are being used day and night for this purpose and the work is not going according to the rules and regulations. And that's why there's

a layer of big, sharp rocks on the road. Due to heavy rains, this road has turned into a muddy lane and there will be a loss of crores of rupees to the national exchequer," Abdul Gaffar, an elderly resident said.

Meanwhile locals asked Deputy Commissioner Baramulla and other officials to pay attention to the work.

Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Bopinder Kumar said, "Investigation over the use of substandard material on the road is going on and the guilty will not be spared."

**BULLDOZERS ARE BEING USED DAY AND NIGHT FOR THIS** purpose and the work is not going according to the rules and regulations. And that's why there's a layer of big, sharp rocks on the road. Due to heavy rains, this road has turned into a muddy lane and there will be a loss of crores of rupees to the national exchequer,"

## Positivity Rate Witnesses Increase In Ganderbal

Observer News Service

**GANDERBAL:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Kritika Jyotsna Monday said that Covid Positivity rate has shown a slight jump as compared to last week in the district.

The DC said this during a routine press briefing to present an overall situation of the Covid-19 in the district, besides the covid containment and mitigation measures employed so far in the district.

The DC said that in the last few weeks the positive indicators with regard to pandemic were improving drastically,



but this week a slight jump has been seen in the overall positivity rate which is not an encouraging sign.

While appealing the general public to follow Covid Appropriate Behavior (CAB) strictly, she said that Covid Pandemic is not over yet adding that it

has been observed that people are seen without observing social distancing and wearing face masks especially at tourist spots viz. Manasbal and Sonamarg that remain overcrowded during weekend days due to which the positivity rate has increased in the district.

She said that to regulate the crowd at these tourist destinations, the joint teams have been constituted.

The DC again appealed to the people of the district to continue following CAB besides wearing facemasks, to avoid unnecessary gatherings in markets and other public places.

## Two Boys Including A Minor Drown In Lolab

Agencies

**KUPWARA:** Two boys including a minor drowned in separate incidents in Lolab area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Monday. Bodies of both have been recovered.

Reports said that a 10-year-

In another incident, a 15-year-old boy identified as Asif Ahmad Khan son of Ashiq Ahmad Khan, a resident of Chandigam, drowned in a pond – Budd Sarr.

Rescue operation was launched culminating in the retrieval of body from the water body.

Meanwhile, people in the



Image for representation

old boy drowned in a pond – Nulle Sar – at Divar Lolab area while taking bath. He was identified as Yawar Manzoor Ganai son of Manzoor Ahmad Ganai.

His body was retrieved and taken to a nearby health facility. The doctors there declared him dead on arrival.

A police official said that the body was handed over to the family after the completion of necessary formalities.

area urged the district administration to erect fencing around the ponds immediately.

"These open ponds have become a cause of concern to the inhabitants as each day youths and children assemble to take bath inside without any safety measures," a senior citizen said.

A group of local residents urged the district administration to fence the water bodies to avert any future tragedy.

## Physically Challenged Sarvjeet Shines In Class 12 Exams

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** Board Exams have always been regarded as test of students learning abilities with an opportunity to weigh their competence in academic sphere.

For annual exams particularly, few students remain attached with their books, make good notes, finding fool proof revision techniques and ace the actual exams. For others it's a period of more confinement and less outings.

Although the level of intelligence and learning skills of students come in play to score big on occasions like board exams but handful of others face challenges which are more difficult than exams. One such example is of Sarvjeet, who has overcome his physical disability to excel in exam with his strong determination and self-belief.

Sarvjeet, a student of Vir Savarkar Higher Secondary School, Basohli town is born with deformities of fingers on both hands and feet. He is eldest of two siblings born to Chowkidar father and Craft Teacher mother, both serving as daily wagers in ITI Basohli. But 85%



physical disability could not stop Sarvjeet from scoring 97% marks in Class 12th in Humanities (Arts stream) with the distinction of standing at position in Jammu province.

With his unparalleled commitment, Sarvjeet has mastered the art of writing clean and clear even by holding pen with the grip of two hands.

Crediting his success to a regular study regime, timely revision coupled with constant support of parents. Sarvjeet said his teachers and staff of the school also contributed to his success.

Sarvjeet now want to become a IAS or JKAS officer to serve people and also do something for physically challenged persons to make their life a little comfortable.

## DC Kupwara Asks Officers To Ensure Arrangements On Eid

Observer News Service

**KUPWARA:** The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Imam Din today convened a meeting of concerned officers to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth celebration of upcoming Eid-ul-Adha, here.

The Additional District Development Commissioner Kupwara, Nazir Ahmad Lone, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Handwara, Nazir Ahmad Mir, Sub Divisional Magistrates of Karnah and Sogam, district and sectoral officers were present in the meeting.

The DC directed the concerned officers to ensure all arrangements are in place as assigned to them earlier on June 30 through an order.

He said that it was collective responsibility of all stakeholders including Imams of Masajid, Officers and all of us to disseminate awareness regarding maintenance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour even if district Kupwara is expected to be declared Green zone within days, adding that special medical teams shall be deployed on the festive occasion for



covid sampling and vaccination.

He directed Power and Jal Shakti Departments to ensure uninterrupted power and water supply during the festive occasion as per the directive of LG.

The DC asked the Chief Animal Husbandry Officer to keep 2 fair price shops open to the public for sale of poultry birds. He was informed that 80,500 poultry birds are available with the department for sale at District Veterinary Hospital, Salkoot Kupwara and Mobile unit at Handwara at the rate of Rs138 per kg.

He directed concerned officers to ensure that market checking squads are acting strictly as per law in the markets across the district to maintain the price line and availability of essential commodities. He was also informed that rice and other essential goods are available in sufficient quantities in the district including far flung areas of Karnah, Keran and Machil.

## DG Horticulture Holds Meeting With Allied Depts

**SRINAGAR:** Director General Horticulture Ajaz Ahmad Bhat Monday chaired a meeting at Directorate of Horticulture Rajbagh Srinagar.

In order to bring all the fruit crops under the ambit of crop insurance scheme, the Scale of Finance was revised/reduced.

As such meeting was convened by Director General Horticulture

Kashmir with allied Departments and Banks to recommend the measures to the Administrative Department which could address impact of reduction in the Scale of Finance (SoF).

During the meeting all the Departments and banks put forth their suggestions regarding mitigation of impact of reduction in Scale of Finance.

## 'Landmark Day': Tributes Paid To July 13 Martyrs

Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** Jammu & Kashmir Awami Action Committee (AAC), Monday paid tributes to the Martyrs of July 13, 1931 on their 90th martyrdom anniversary.

A statement of AAC said that a prayer meeting was held at the party's central office Mirwaiz Manzil Rajouri Kadal, in keeping with covid protocols, in which party members paid glowing tributes to the martyrs of 13th July and to all the martyrs since then who have sacrificed their lives for the "realisation of the aspirations and rights" of the struggling people of J&K.

"This day was the watershed moment in the contemporary history of J&K, when 22 Kashmiris were killed in cold blood by the rulers of the day leading to the launch of the political agitation by the people of Kashmir for the realisation of their political and economic rights and aspirations," AAC

said in the statement.

It is a day when the party and people of J&K by remembering and honouring the sacrifices of the martyrs, renews its commitment to the realisation of their will and aspirations -politically and through peaceful means of conflict resolution, for which these martyrs laid down their precious lives, it added.

"This year due to Covid-19 pandemic and the two-year-long house arrest of the AAC Chairman Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Dr Moulvi Muhammad Umar Farooq, the congregational tributes and march to Martyrs' Graveyard to pay tributes to July 13, 1931 martyrs, is suspended."

Peoples' Conference led by the former separatist Sajjad Gani Lone, while remembering the martyrs of 13th July 1931, said that the greatest tribute to the martyrs will be an honest acknowledgement from the age old political parties and its leaders as to whether they



have really respected their sacrifices or not.

"The greatest ever tribute to the souls of the martyrs of 1931 will be the honesty of those Kashmir based leaders and political parties, who claim to be the sole representatives of the people of Kashmir, in acknowledging whether they have actually respected the sacrifices of the martyrs, who immortalised their courage by rendering sacrifices or not. It is our humble appeal to these leaders and parties that before offering tribute to the martyrs of 1931, they should put a hand on their heart and tell the people whether they have ever really paid respect to

their sacrifices or not. This will be the biggest tribute for the martyrs of 1931", party's leader Basharat Bukhari said.

Meanwhile, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Party President, Member of Parliament Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Vice President Omar Abdullah on Monday paid glowing tributes to the martyrs of 1931 calling the day a landmark in the history of Jammu and Kashmir.

While recalling the sacrifice of the 13 July martyrs, the leaders said the day is an important landmark in the history of Jammu and Kashmir which will never go out of sight. He stated the implications of the day thickened over time and resulted in the transformation of the state from a feudalistic to a democratic one. "The brave men who laid their lives on 13th of July 1931 belonged to a generation of wisdom, and vision. They saw in darkness and despair, a vision for the

forthcoming generations; they envisioned a society free from bondage, discrimination and oppression," he said.

"Every year we remember the supreme sacrifice of the martyrs of 13 July 1931 and the idea behind remembering them is not merely an act of reminiscing past, and memorializing. On the day, we should reiterate our commitment to the ideals of our revered martyrs, whose every drop of blood is sacred to us. Sher-e-Kashmir too has galvanized his life and mission with the supreme sacrifice of the martyrs that marks the shift from stoicism to dynamism. I on this day pay my earnest tributes to all the martyrs who laid their lives on that day to secure a new dawn of freedom for future generations. The martyrs of 1931 will continue to be a beacon of light for us and for the coming generations. Every single drop of their blood is sacred to us," he said.



## KASHMIR OBSERVER

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the  
Kashmir Observer LLP  
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001  
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider  
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja  
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304  
Editorial: (0194) 2502327  
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobserver.net

### K O V I E W

## School reopening can wait

**T**he Jammu and Kashmir administration announced that all educational institutions will remain closed for “in-person and on-campus teaching” to the students till July 31 in view of the prevailing Covid -19 situation.

Closing the schools is a good decision. In April, several schools across the Valley had witnessed cases of infection prompting the government to shut down all educational institutions.

At this time, reopening the schools runs the grave risk of exposing children to the infection. Schools lack the adequate infrastructure to protect the children. It would also be impossible to make the students follow the safety precautions. This is therefore not the conducive time to reopen schools. Government should wait for the contagion to be completely reigned in before children could go back to school. Considering the pandemic is not going to go away any time soon and we might even see a fresh spurt in the cases, the government should wait for more time before allowing the schools to reopen.

But as things stand, it is unlikely that the schools could be reopened this year. More so, with many experts predicting the third wave and which incidentally is expected to infect children. The government's priority therefore should be to expedite vaccination. It is only when there is 100 percent vaccination and the pandemic has effectively been controlled, can it be possible to reopen schools. The fact is while a large section of population has so far been vaccinated, it would be some time before the target of complete inoculation is achieved. This would also involve making the vaccination mandatory for all. This is necessary to combat the vaccine hesitancy among a small section of population.

It is true that schools had been closed since mid-March last year when Coronavirus was declared a pandemic around the world. This was barely fifteen days after the schools had reopened following seven-month closure in the wake of the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019. This had already taken a massive toll on education in Kashmir. More so, in Kashmir where the schools have now been closed for over two years. Education has been the worst victim of the lingering political turmoil and now that of the pandemic. A virulent third wave of the Covid-19 has made education a tricky trade-off between re-opening schools and the health of children. But given the existing situation, it is important that the schools remain closed for now.

### O T H E R O P I N O N

## The Method in Modi's Rupture

**C**abinet reshuffles are largely driven by political considerations – the desire to reward allies; the need to accommodate lateral entrants into a party that is in power; and the importance of focusing on a region headed for polls and sustaining a party's core political appeal. The sweeping reshuffle effected by Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi in his Cabinet, which saw 36 new faces being inducted into the council and seven junior ministers being promoted, does all this. For instance, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has succeeded in many states by consolidating the traditionally fragmented Hindu vote across other backward classes (OBCs), and by focusing on the scheduled caste and scheduled tribe (SC/ST) vote. Of the 77 ministers in the council (excluding the PM), 27 are from OBCs and another 20 from SCs/STs.

**But it also does more.**  
It does more because the reshuffle has seen 12 ministers, of which six were of Cabinet rank, being dropped, including some, it is widely believed, for reasons related to performance. Among them are two ministers who were pretty much in charge of the government's outreach to media, and their exit may well have to do with the overall unhappiness in top government circles over the emerging narrative on India.

It does more because it has consciously sought to lower the average age of the council. After the changes, 14 members of the council, including six of Cabinet rank, are younger than 50. The decision to induct or promote some of these young leaders also seems to have been done with an eye on the future, especially in states such as Gujarat and Telangana. And it does more because at least some of the choices made are unconventional and based on leadership and administrative abilities, educational background, or expertise.

The second Modi government just completed two years in office in late-May. But many of its plans, including an ambitious one to make India a \$5-trillion economy, have run aground due to Covid-19; and the perception is that it has not managed the pandemic well. It needed to take corrective action, and also be seen to be taking corrective action, and the change in the health and labour ministries is seen as just that (it's probably as much of an acknowledgement that can be expected from this government that things could have been managed better on both fronts). It needed to have, and been seen as having, a team that could turn things around, and the induction of new faces, including some surprising choices, is perhaps aimed at this.

*Hindustan Times*

**Provincial capitals and Kandahar or Mazar-e-Sharif are likely to fall, possibly within a year. After that, Kabul itself will be in danger. The capital may hold, at least for a while, but the government and its allies will struggle to survive, with little chance of regaining what has been lost**



**T**he US President Joe Biden in a speech on Thursday 8 July announced that the U.S. military would complete its withdrawal from Afghanistan by August 31, nearly two weeks before his earlier deadline of September 11, announced in April. The U.S. pull-out from Afghanistan, will end the US's longest overseas war which cost the lives of around 2,300 US troops and \$825 billion monetarily- is a result of the February 2020 agreement that the Trump administration negotiated with the Taliban in Doha, Qatar.

In his latest speech, Biden strongly defended his decision to pull U.S. military forces out of Afghanistan, saying the Afghan people must decide their own future, rather than sacrificing another generation of Americans in an unwinnable war. Biden called on countries in the region to help bring about an elusive political settlement between the warring parties. He said the Afghan government should seek a deal with the Taliban to allow them to coexist peacefully.

And this is what has proved to be the red herring amongst the neighbouring and regional countries. Most of the countries have reacted in a guarded manner over the advances of the Taliban forces in Afghanistan since May, who now controls 162 districts in Afghanistan.

In reality the chaotic and unpredictable conditions in Afghanistan will have a significant impact on the regional geo-politics. For starters, the Iranians have started fishing in the troubled waters by inviting the Taliban leadership for talks in Teheran.

#### Iranian Initiative

The Taliban-Iranian talks began in January this year, as part of Iranian efforts to broker peace between the Afghan government and other factions. The latest round of intra-Afghan talks began on Wednesday, the morning of 7th July by a speech from Iranian foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who warned that the continuation of conflicts between the government and the Taliban will have 'unfavourable' consequences for Afghanistan, noting that a return to the intra-Afghan negotiations is the 'best solution'.

Earlier, Saeed Khatibzadeh, spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry, had said that Taliban is part of the reality in Afghanistan and they are also talking to the Afghan government. During the recent meeting, Zarif discussed the prospect of Afghan people forming an all-inclusive government, including Taliban.

#### Pakistan's Alarm

Pakistan's Prime Minister Imran Khan in an op-ed in The Washington Post on 9 June sounded hurt by the accusations of the govern-

ment in Kabul naming Pakistan as inciting violence in the country.

He further wrote that he would like Pakistan to be 'a partner for peace in Afghanistan', which may have ideated from the Indian outreach to the Taliban.

#### UK's Concern

The UK it seems is more worried about the presence of Al Qaeda and Daesh elements in Afghanistan and not with the Taliban advances. Sir Alex Younger, former head of MI-6 has cautioned about the terrorism threat to Britain rising, following the US withdrawal and has further said the threat from terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda and Daesh would grow if the UK turns its back on Afghanistan.

But the UK's Chief of Defence Staff, General Sir Nick Carter, who served several command tours in Afghanistan, believes the Taliban leadership may have learnt from their earlier mistakes. He maintains that if the Taliban expect to share power, or seize it, then they will not want to be seen as international pariahs. Wiser heads amongst the Taliban, especially those who attended the recent peace negotiations, may well argue for a clean break with Al Qaeda in order to secure international acceptance.

#### India's Outreach

Indian officials recently met with the Taliban delegation in Doha. This marks a marked policy shift in India's approach to Afghanistan and Taliban. Besides showing maturity of the policy makers and strategists, the move may accelerate the transition from a non-existent relationship to the inception of a diplomatic engagement, whilst acknowledging Taliban as a critical component of future Afghanistan.

Though Indian policy makers will also be worried about the security threat from the pro-Taliban Pakistani outfits, yet they may have weighed the advantage of engaging with the Taliban and also considered that in future the Taliban might be able to assert pressure on forces inimical to India.

India has always called for 'an Afghan-led, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled process', and as such, the strategic move to engage with Taliban broadly demonstrates a regional security imperative for India and its efforts to minimise Islamabad's influence.

#### Taliban psyche: American view

The Americans have always wondered what fuels the Taliban to fight against a huge military machine despite the odds. Though in reality, this has not led to any effort to try to understand the Taliban's psyche and their commitment.

However, an American, Carter Malkasian has tried to discuss this in his new book The American

War in Afghanistan: A History. Malkasian analyses the Taliban advantage in inspiring Afghans to fight. He opines that their call to fight foreign occupiers, steeped in references to Islamic teachings, resonates well with Afghan identity and psyche.

He says that for Afghans, jihad — more accurately understood as 'resistance' or 'struggle' than the caricatured meaning it has acquired in the United States — has historically been a means of defence against oppression by outsiders, part of their endurance against invader after invader. The Taliban were able to tie themselves to religion and to Afghan identity in a way that a government allied with non-Muslim foreign occupiers could not match.

The very presence of Americans in Afghanistan trod on a sense of Afghan identity that incorporated national pride, a long history of fighting outsiders and a religious commitment to defend the homeland. The Taliban's ability to link their cause to the very meaning of being Afghan was a crucial factor in America's defeat.

He further says that the Taliban exemplified something that inspired, something that made them powerful in battle, something tied to what it meant to be an Afghan. They cast themselves as representatives of Islam and called for resistance to foreign occupation. Together, these two ideas formed a potent mix for ordinary Afghans, who tend to be devout Muslims but not extremists.

Now, with the Taliban overrunning districts in the north, they will likely press their attack, further emboldened by US departure over the next few weeks. Afghan soldiers and police will suffer from the same morale problems that have plagued them for two decades. Provincial capitals and Kandahar or Mazar-e-Sharif are likely to fall, possibly within a year. After that, Kabul itself will be in danger. The capital may hold, at least for a while, but the government and its allies will struggle to survive, with little chance of regaining what has been lost.

The world it may seem is bound to sit at the same table with Taliban, once they embrace political identity and become part of the political establishment, and this may mark a peaceful future for Afghanistan.

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

*Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He was also associated with BBC Urdu Service and Khaleej Times of Dubai. He writes on Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. Email: asad.mirza.nd@gmail.com*



### OBSERVER MAIL

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

### MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

## The Heat Wave in Kashmir

**S**ince years now, we have been joking and cursing summers in Kashmir. Every year is the same tale of rising temperatures. This year too, Kashmir is witnessing high temperatures and alien heat. However, what needs to be done

is to identify the cause of this rise.

We can't overlook the elephant in the room. Climate change is a reality and has been showing its presence through erratic weather patterns, unusual precipitation trends, melting glaciers and rising temperatures.

Ours is an abundant ecosystem which needs to be nurtured. We must make proactive sustainable and environmental friendly choices. We cannot go on abusing the environment and expecting it to nurture us in return. How we treat the environment

is how the environment will treat us. An onslaught on the health and life of the environment is also an onslaught on our health and life.

*Shafiq Mehmood  
Shafiqmehmood@rediffmail*



# Future of Work

Javaid Iqbal

Teachers in Kashmir are poorly trained, with a system of examination that rewards rote learning. Unfortunately, grades have become the primary element to predict students' prospects. A college professor once asked my cousin's friend to prepare a PowerPoint without anyone ever teaching her how to make one, and the results were not flattering

THE Coronavirus pandemic has disrupted labor markets worldwide. Millions of people have lost their jobs. As the economy is getting back on track, at least in developed countries, the pandemic has shown us the power of technologies and new ways to use data. Automation, along with the COVID-19 recession, is creating a double whammy for employees.

The pandemic has supercharged the adaptation of e-commerce and the swift operation of Automation and AI technologies. The cost of automating an industry is also declining. A robot that costs \$1 million in 2020 might only cost \$1,000 in 2030.

The World Economic Forum reported that Automation would eliminate 85 million jobs by 2025 and create new 97 million jobs. It emphasized the need for "reskilling" and "upskilling" for the workforce. According to America's Bureau of Labour Statistics, 65 percent of children starting school today will face jobs that don't exist yet. Data has become a critical asset for every economy, and professionals with data literacy are more appealing to prospective employers than ever before.

When Steve Jobs introduced the iPhone to the world, no one could have foreseen that it would completely disrupt the Hotel or Taxi industries in less than a decade. While it took the Industrial Revolution several generations, the AI revolution might happen within the span of just one generation. Moreover, the AI technologies will destroy a significant advantage that developing countries had: supply of cheap labor. As a result, India may not grow like South Korea, Singapore, or even China.

Despite India's rapid economic growth in the last decade, the level of unemployment has also been rising. Currently, India is recording the highest number of unemployed youth. The scourge of unemployment has been brutal, especially on the educated youth. According to a report based on a survey of 160,000 households and released this year by the Azim Premji University's Centre for Sustainable Employment, a person with a graduate level of education is more than twice as likely to not find a job compared with the national average. The report also states that women are more likely to be unemployed compared to men.

UNICEF head Henrietta H Fore has warned that by the year 2030, half of South Asian youth will not be able to find a decent job for the lack of skills.

One of the reasons for this is that India's education system is unable to meet the demands of its technology-driven economy. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), India is staring at 29 million skill-deficit by 2030. According to a survey by Aspiring Minds, employers said 80 percent of Indian engineering graduates did not meet the minimum requirements of the companies looking to hire them. Coursera released its annual Global Skills Report 2021 about the state of skills in 100 countries and ranks India 67th globally. On technology and data science, it does not fare any better at rank 66th globally.

According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) figures, J&K has a 16.2 percent unemployment rate, which is the second-worst among states/union territories in India. Since the post abrogation of Article 370, followed by the continuous lockdown to combat the COVID pandemic, lakhs of jobs have been lost in the Kashmir region. For 8000 class IV posts, the J&K service selection board received 5.4 lakh applications, with many of them with master's degrees.

Teachers in Kashmir are poorly trained, with a system of examination that rewards rote learning. Unfortunately, grades have become the primary el-



Python and coding can be learned here. Python is a high-level programming language used for general-purpose software engineering. Python also has a strong community around machine learning, data modeling, data analysis, and artificial intelligence (AI), with extensive resources and libraries built for these purposes.

ment to predict students' prospects. A college professor once asked my cousin's friend to prepare a PowerPoint without anyone ever teaching her how to make one, and the results were not flattering.

To compete in the future, students in Kashmir need to be creative and communicate their ideas. Unfortunately, people conflate communication skills with speaking English. Communication means how you can make your point or make people understand your ideas, along with teamwork and empathy, especially as we work with people with different cultural and educational backgrounds.

In India, only 22% of schools have internet facilities, according to the Educational Ministry. While among government schools it's only 12% and only 30% had computers.

The current culture demands that individuals have various skill areas to collaborate effectively with people belonging to different cultures. The only option left for students is to upskill themselves as they cannot wait for government intervention, and online education can help. But, Online education is not a silver bullet, and not everyone cannot use it. As many as 80% of Indian students couldn't access online schooling during the lockdown, and many might not return to classrooms when they reopen, according to a recent study by Oxfam, which shows the digital divide between rich and poor and also between rural and urban areas.

Students have access to unlimited topics and global experts in niche subjects in online educa-

tion – something otherwise not affordable or imaginable to many. These programs allow students belonging to different educational and social backgrounds to learn without any self-consciousness. With increased access and low-cost data, consumers in tier 2 and tier 3 cities are getting online to learn new skills to improve their livelihoods.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology has free playlists on YouTube that cover topics like Science, Arts, and Computer science which can be accessed here. In addition, Harvard courses that are viewed by millions of students can be found here. At the same time, Stanford university courses can be found here.

Python and coding can be learned here. Python is a high-level programming language used for general-purpose software engineering. Python also has a strong community around machine learning, data modeling, data analysis, and artificial intelligence (AI), with extensive resources and libraries built for these purposes.

If you think you may be interested in one of the most versatile finance degrees available. Aswath Damodaran teaches corporate finance and valuation at the Stern School of Business at New York University and MBA courses which can be found here.

These courses can help add value to any degree that our students are pursuing.

*The Writer Javaid Iqbal is an Economist and a Fellow at Harvard Public Health Review*

## ‘Green Living’: Why I Grin And Bear It

Allan Jacob



The thought has now been planted in me, but it hasn't sprouted into action yet. Sustainable living needs action — not jargon, that I find more toxic than what we keep throwing at nature. Those who preach and promote this way of life haven't understood how remote it remains to the underprivileged in developing and under-developed nations: the poor and the farmers for who life is a daily struggle that is consumed by dual issues of survival and sustenance.

On the other side of the power equation are those for who the world has given enough. Since earth has become unsustainable for the living, they seek greener planets and plot fantastical journeys to space and beyond. The likes of Jeff Bezos and Richard Branson are okay burning up tons of rocket fuel that add to atmospheric pollution. And we laud their achievements.

They can be forgiven on the polluted, smoky trail to greener goodness. There

will be peace on earth once the rich have ravaged the earth of its resources.

For me, it's been a clash, a dilemma between sustenance and sustainability; and the hypocrisy of our age is showing; the stench of warped development is visible in the way we have brought this pandemic upon ourselves. Call me a socialist if you will, but I am a natural at saying things the way they should be said.

Saving the earth sounds nice and fits

well with corporate social responsibility, but I find it uncharitable when rich, or developed countries and corporations tell the former colonised lot, and the poor, about carbon footprint. This, after they have trampled upon their earth's natural resources and left a footprint we will find hard to erase for generations.

So, what should our personal lega-

On the other side of the power equation are those for who the world has given enough. Since earth has become unsustainable for the living, they seek greener planets and plot fantastical journeys to space and beyond. The likes of Jeff Bezos and Richard Branson are okay burning up tons of rocket fuel that add to atmospheric pollution. And we laud their achievements

cies on sustainability be? The answers begin at home. Our less will add more years to the blue planet: from the food we eat, to the garments we wear, to the cars we drive, to the ways we package our possessions. Use them longer and use them with care. Eat slowly and chew your home-cooked food well.

We will survive longer by ridding ourselves of plastic packaging and those plastic expressions and statements.

*Khaleej Times*



# ‘When bosses are rude, how employees interpret their motives makes a difference’

Agencies

A new UBC Sauder School of Business study showed that depending on how employees understand their boss' motivation, employees can feel anger or guilt, and consequently, react differently to abusive supervision.

The findings of the study were published in the 'Journal of Applied Psychology'.

Former Apple CEO Steve Jobs was a famously harsh corporate leader, one who pushed his employees to extremes to achieve the company's lofty aims.

But while many aspiring leaders still believe that the "tough love" approach is effective, the new study from UBC Sauder showed that, even when abusive leadership is meant to push employees to new heights, it can land them in deep lows in the long term.

Abusive supervision -- which includes behaviours like yelling at employees, giving them the silent treatment, or putting them down in front of their coworkers -- has long been linked with psychological distress, increased turnover, and decreased performance.

But a key question hadn't been properly examined: do employees respond differently when their supervisor's abuse is motivated by different reasons?

For the study, titled 'The Whiplash Effect: The (Moderating) Role of Attributed Motives in Emotional and Behavioral Reactions to Abusive Supervision', researchers conducted three studies on three continents.

For the first, which involved 1,000 soldiers and officers in the Chinese military, subordinates filled out surveys about the supervision they experienced, the emotions they felt, and how they responded.

The second was a laboratory experiment that involved 156 students and employees at a large American university.



There, participants were given different roles as subordinates in a consulting firm, and were subjected to different forms of supervision -- some abusive and some non-abusive -- and were given hints about their supervisors' motivations.

They were also given the opportunity to participate in deviant behaviours against the supervisor, or engage in more positive "organisational citizenship behaviours," or OCBs (helpful actions that go beyond an employee's contract, such as assisting a co-worker with a project, or participating in workplace charity drives).

A third study had 325 employees and

supervisors at a Swedish luxury car company fill out daily surveys for three weeks -- for the subordinates, about the abusive supervision they experienced and the emotions they felt, and for the supervisors, about the OCBs and deviant behaviours they observed.

Across all three studies, the researchers found that when employees think their supervisors' abusive actions are motivated by a desire to inflict harm, they are more likely to feel angry.

When subordinates believe their leaders are prodding employees to improve performance, however, they are more likely to feel guilt.

"When you feel like your supervisor is pushing you really hard, it's abusive, and you feel angry. But when they want to motivate you and improve your performance, employees have a strong feeling of guilt," explained UBC Sauder Assistant Professor Lingtao Yu (he, him, his), who named the study after the Oscar-winning film Whiplash, which follows an abusive band teacher and a student he's pushing to extremes.

"They think, 'Maybe there is a gap between what I do and what they expect. Maybe there's room for me to improve,'" added Professor Yu.

Those different emotions, in turn, lead

to different behaviours. Employees who feel their bosses are "out to get them" are more likely to engage in devious or destructive behaviours and less likely to engage in more positive organizational citizenship behaviours, or OCBs.

Those who feel their leaders are pushing them to do better are less likely to act deviously and more drawn to positive corporate behaviours.

"People feel there's something they've done, or that they haven't done enough, so it's not entirely attributed to the other person. They may take some responsibility," explained Professor Yu, who co-authored the study with University of Minnesota Professor Michelle Duffy.

"So, guilt will actually trigger more prosocial behaviors, because the employee wants to do something to rebuild the relationship with the supervisor," added Professor Yu.

The findings are especially important given that, according to previous research, a third of US employees are estimated to experience abusive supervision, and 45 per cent of Europeans can recall an instance when they were either the target of supervisory abuse or observed it.

The study also found people's feelings of guilt don't last, so Professor Yu emphasised that while the results-driven form of abusive supervision can sometimes have short-term benefits, in the long run it simply doesn't pay -- especially since abusive leadership can cost companies millions in lawsuits, health expenses, and productivity loss.

"Even if you have good intentions, you still want to be more mindful about your leadership behaviour -- and there are many other tools you can use to stimulate your employees' performance," he said.

"Abusive leadership should not be the one you choose," he concluded.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir  
**OFFICE OF THE ZONAL EDUCATION OFFICER**  
**CHARA RI SHARIEF, BUDGAM-191112**  
email:- zeocharisharief@gmail.com  
Advertisement Notice No. 001 of 2021

Applications on devised format ( Annexure A to this notice ) are invited from eligible candidates for engagement as Seasonal E.Vs in Behaks on temporary basis for session 2020-21 for a period of six months / till prescribed period/ season which ever is earlier for below mentioned twenty Behaks. The applications complete in all respects along with attested credentials should reach this office within seven days from the publication of this notice. No application will be entertained after the cutoff date.

List of Behaks:

S.No.	Name of Behak	Category	Proposed No. of E.Vs to be engaged
1	Gratnadi	ST	1
2	Drakdolan Payeen	ST	1
3	Drakdolan Bala	ST	1
4	Panjikori	ST	1
5	Bargah	OBC	1
6	Gagadraval	OBC	1
7	Palnad	ST	1
8	Sangam bala	ST	1
9	Sangam Payeen	ST	1
10	Bajad Thambri	ST	1
11	Hamkhal	OBC	1
12	Churkhal	ST	1
13	BaranDub	OBC	1
14	Naidkotha	ST	1
15	Chakyadi	ST	1
16	Salam Naka	ST	1
17	Doba	ST	1
18	Jaharnadi	ST	1
19	Darwan Kotha	OBC	1
20	Gujar Basti	ST & OBC	1

The advertisement notice is subject to the terms and conditions of the scheme and approval from the competent / higher authorities ( Other details can be had from the ZEO office during office hours )  
No. ZEO/Ch/ Estt/21/855  
Dated:- 12-07-2021

DIPK-4586/21

ANNEXURE A.  
Advertisement Notice No. 001 Dated:- 12-07-2021

1. Behak applied for .....

2. Name of the Candidate .....

3. Parentage .....

4. Permanent Residence .....

( permanent residence certificate to be attached )

5. Present Residence .....

6. Qualification .....

7. Category ..... ( General/ ST. )

8. Whether belonging to habitation / behak applied for .....

9. ( Yes / No , proof to be submitted )

10. Mother Tongue of the candidate .....

11. Previous experience if any ( in years ) .....

( Proof to be given in terms of order no. and date. )

Declaration:  
I hereby declare that the particulars mentioned above are true and correct to the best of my knowledge and nothing has been concealed thereof. Further more if upon the verification of the credentials / information any thing contradictory to the information submitted is found, I would be personally responsible for cancellation of my candidature.

Signature of Candidate

Zonal education Officer  
Charar-i- Sharief

(( Government of Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir ))  
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MUFFASIL(R&B) DIVISION BUDGAM**  
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS  
( Modified as per Circular No. A/Misc(2018)-III-895/J Dt.22-12-2020  
Issued by Finance Department ).  
NIT No.60/e-tendering / MDB/2021-22/5164-84 DATED. 10-07-2021

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

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (In rupees)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)	Time of Completion (cal- endar days )	Class of Contract	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Construction of tile path/lane 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase from H/O Gh. Mohammad Bhat to Manzoor Ahmad Naraspora Ward No 5	1.82 lacs	200/-	15 days	DEE	Devolution Grants 2021-22
2	Construction of tile path from H/O Gh. Mohi-ud-din Sheikh to H/O Mir Mohammad Shahbaz and others.ward No 5.	1.93 lacs	200/-	15 days	DEE	Devolution Grants 2021-22
3	Construction of lane near H/O Ali Mohammad Parray via Abdul Salam Nadaf to Ab. Gani ward No 9	1.20 lacs	200/-	15 days	DEE	Devolution Grants 2021-22
4	Construction of tile path from H/O Haji Abdul Rehman Ganie H.O Firdous Ahmad Dobi Ward No 1.	1.95 lacs	200/-	15 days	DEE	Devolution Grants 2021-22

1. Name of the Project Authority: .....

2. Reference of Authorization Letter: .....

3. Arbitration Liability..... Nil

4. Position of AAA/TS:- Accorded

5. Position of Funds:- Available.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	10.07.2021 4.00 PM
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	10.07.2021 10:00 4.00 P.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	10.07.2021 from 4.00 P.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	26.07.2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	27.07.2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-  
Note :-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected .  
Note: As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Sectarat Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd.07-06-2018 which reads as under :-  
a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st Lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.  
b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by introducing E-challan/ or simply uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/Receipt.  
Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/ in favour of Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam (tender inviting authority).  
1. All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money deposit (EMD) as per the circular of Finance Department ( Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below ).  
2. The 1<sup>st</sup> lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 02 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.  
3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam (tender receiving authority).  
4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

No: 5164-84.  
DATED: 10.07.2021.

DIPK-4537/21

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer,  
Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam.

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ساگام

مضمون درخواست مناجاب : آصف رفیق وریش راجہ پیران محمد رفیق چو بان ساکنہ بلازار باہر ضلع انتہ ناگ

برمرو اعطائی RBA سرٹیفکٹ

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیاگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر پڈامیں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنڈیڈھ حذا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پزیر ہے اور ساکن کا کنڈیڈ بڈیل ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام افراد کنڈیڈ	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
01	محمد رفیق ولد غلام رسول چو بان	44 سال	مزدوری	4000
02	مسماۃ علیہ زوجہ محمد رفیق	42 سال	گھریلو کام	
03	اصغر رفیق ولد محمد رفیق	22 سال	زیر تعلیم	
04	رمیش رفیق ولد محمد رفیق	22 سال	=	

اسٹور کنڈیڈ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور کنڈیڈی ماہانہ ملتی بعد از LPC ہوگی۔ 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 معذوبت پیش کرے۔ مینا گڈرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار

از نیابت دیاگام با اجلاس جاوید احمد حکیم صاحب نائب تحصیلدار۔

مضمون درخواست مناجاب : محمد عارف ڈار ولد محمد رفیق ڈار ساکنہ سڈورہ خلع انتہ ناگ برمرو اعطائی RBA سرٹیفکٹ

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیاگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول بیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر پڈامیں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنڈیڈھ حذا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پزیر ہے اور ساکن کا کنڈیڈ بڈیل ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام افراد کنڈیڈ	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
01	محمد عارف ڈار ولد محمد رفیق ڈار	23 سال	زیر تعلیم	NIL
02	محمد رفیق ڈار ولد رفیق ڈار	54 سال	ملازم	LPC
03	سلیم باگوزہ محمد رفیق	53 سال	گھریلو کام	
04	محمد عاشق ڈار ولد محمد رفیق	22 سال	دوکار	

اسٹور کنڈیڈ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور کنڈیڈی ماہانہ ملتی بعد از LPC ہوگی۔ 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 معذوبت پیش کرے۔ مینا گڈرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار

JAMMU & KASHMIR ENERGY DEV. AGENCY  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Tawanai Ghar SDA Colony Bemina Srinagar  
Tele : 0194-2490269 (S) 0191-2546495 (J)  
Fax : 0194-2490239(S) Email : jakeda-jk@nic.in

TENDER FOR HIRING OF STORE PREMISES FOR JAMMU AND KASHMIR  
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (JAKEDA), BEMINA, SRINAGAR

No.:-ST/EDA/K/Sgr/2021/tender/614

Dated: 08 /07/2021

JAKEDA invites offers for hiring suitable premises suitable for JAKEDA Store on rent having approximate Covered area of 6000 square feet, from the legal owners / power of attorney holders. The amount of rent payable for the premises taken on lease will be as per the JKPW(R&B)D Rules and the same shall be fixed and paid in accordance with the Government of J&K instructions in force. The interested bidders may submit the offer in the Regional Office, JAKEDA at Bemina, Srinagar by or before 26.08.2021 (3:00 pm). The offers shall be Opened on 27.08.2021 (11:00am). The offers shall be submitted in two parts, viz. (i) Technical Bid mentioning covered area & photographs along with other relevant documents and (ii) Financial/ Price Bid. No tender shall be accepted / entertained beyond the specified date /time. This office reserves the right to accept or reject any tender in part or full or without assigning any reasons thereof. The bidder should refrain from indicating the rent and other financial details in the technical envelope and if they do so, the bid will be summarily rejected. The Bidder should raise any doubt/query regarding the tender document on EMAIL: [darshameem463@gmail.com](mailto:darshameem463@gmail.com) or may contact Shujat Abbas, Junior Assistant (Mobile No. 8851437629), JAKEDA.

Sd/-  
( M. A. Malik)  
Dy. Chief Executive Officer  
JAKEDA

DIPK-NB-1742/21



## Middle Class Consumption Will Create \$15 Trn Indian Economy: Adani



Agencies

**NEW DELHI:-** Consumption by India's middle class will help create a \$15-trillion economy in two decades and give businesses opportunity for growth, said Gautam Adani, chairman of Adani group, on Monday as he rejected "reckless, irresponsible reporting" about the company's shareholding in June.

Adani, who was addressing shareholders of the group's flagship, Adani Enterprises, India's target to be a five-trillion-dollar economy in four years should not be doubted. "I personally see it as an inconsequential question. History has shown that, out of every pandemic crisis, there emerges several learnings – and I believe that India and the world are wiser as we go through this pandemic," he said.

"India will be 5 trillion-dollar economy--and then go on to be a 15 trillion-dollar-plus economy over the next two decades. India will emerge as one of the largest global markets, both in terms of consumption size and market cap," Adani said. "

"There will be bumps along the road, as has been the case in the past, and is expected to be the case in the future. However, there cannot be any doubt that the large-middle class that will ever exist, augmented by an increase in the working age and consuming population share, will have a positive impact on India's growth very much in line with the demographic dividend India enjoys."

For the Financial Year 2021, the

consolidated EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization) of the group's listed portfolio was over Rs 32,000 crore: a year-on-year growth of 22 percent. "All the Adani stocks generated returns over 100 percent – and our businesses ensured that we returned close to Rs 9,500 crore to you, our equity shareholders. This is a 166% increase in profit after tax on a year-on-year basis," he said.

Talking about the recent drop in share prices, Adani said the group's focus is on creating long-term sustainable value. "Recently, a few media houses indulged in reckless and irresponsible reporting related to administrative actions of regulators. This caused unexpected fluctuations in the market prices of Adani stocks. Unfortunately, some of our small investors were affected by this twisted narrative in which some commentators and journalists seemed to imply that companies have regulatory powers over their shareholders and that companies can compel disclosure. In the long term, such diversions will not impact us," he said.

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) had become an integrated ports and logistics company. In financial Year 2021, APSEZ crossed a landmark after its share of India's port-based cargo business rose to 25% and the container segment market share grew to 41%. It continued to diversify further, with LNG & LPG business in Mundra added to the portfolio and LNG operations being added in Dhamra. "No other company in the world runs a port business of such scale and reach," he said.

Adani Green Energy, in 2020, became the largest solar company in the world. "Last month, following the acquisition of SB Energy's five-gigawatt portfolio, at an enterprise valuation of about \$3.5 billion, we caught up to our renewables target of 25 gigawatts a full four years ahead of schedule. I know of no other organisation in the world that has accelerated its renewables footprint as rapidly as the Adani Group."

## Bangladesh One Of Major Engines Of Growth In Region: Foreign Secretary

Agencies

**NEW DELHI:** Bangladesh is one of the major engines of growth in the region with rapidly improving socio-economic indicators and there are many areas in which India has learnt from this neighbour and will continue to do so, Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla said on Monday.

In his remarks at the signing ceremony of the MoU on establishing the Bangabandhu Chair at the Delhi University, Mr Shringla said Bangladesh's founding father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman understood that Indians and Bangladeshis have a shared future and was a strong proponent of India-Bangladesh friendship and brotherly ties.

"I am happy to note that we have, together, built on that vision. India and Bangladesh continue to attach a very special importance to their bilateral relations. By any indicator, the bonds between our two nations are marked by a rare degree of closeness, substance and understanding," the foreign secretary said.

Two of the major pillars of Indian diplomacy -- Neighborhood First and Act East policies-- find common ground in our work with Bangladesh, Mr Shringla noted.

The fact that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's first foreign visit since the Covid pandemic has been to Dhaka, speaks for itself, he said.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman led a great battle for freedom and also created a nation, Mr Shringla said.

"Whether one calls him Bangabandhu or the father of the nation, there is no doubt that one is referring to a very major historical figure who literally shaped the destiny of nations," the foreign secretary said.

Noting that Sheikh Mujibur Rahman also laid the foundations for his country's growth and development, Mr Shringla said Bangladesh is today one of the major engines of growth in the region with impressive economic expansion rates and rapidly improving socio-economic indicators.

"There are many areas in which we have learnt from Bangladesh and will continue to do so," he said.

Mr Shringla said 2021 is a very special year for India-Bangladesh relations.

Prime Minister Modi had mentioned during his visit to Bangla-

desh in March, this year marks a "Triveni" -- the commemoration of Mujib Borsho; the 50th anniversary of diplomatic ties and the Golden Jubilee of the Liberation War of Bangladesh, he noted.

Mr Shringla said Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was all the more remarkable for being a strong voice against radicalism and extremism of any kind.

"His message of friendship and moderation has a special resonance in today's world where a pandemic has accentuated fault-lines and divisions," he said.

"Bangabandhu is revered in India. His struggles, his accomplishments and his values continue to inspire. The establishment of the Bangabandhu Chair in this special year of "Triveni", is therefore a fitting tribute to this great leader, his life and his work," Mr Shringla said.

With the signing of the MoU on the Bangabandhu Chair, one of the most significant commitments made during the PM's visit stands fulfilled, he said.

"I take this opportunity to felicitate the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) under the stewardship of the President and Director General for establishing this Chair at such short notice," he said.

"I would request ICCR to also consider the possibility of establishing an Indian Chair in Bangladesh in future," Mr Shringla said.

Today's event also draws attention to a happy coincidence as next year, Bangladesh will continue with the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of its independence, while India will celebrate the 75th year of its independence, the foreign secretary said.

"It will be an occasion for us to reflect, and draw satisfaction from our common journey thus far. It will also be an occasion to imagine and develop a vision for our shared journey ahead," Mr Shringla said.

## Advisor Khan Discusses Revival Model For JKHPMC With A Mumbai Based Consultancy Firm



KO NEWS DESK

**SRINAGAR:** Representatives of a Mumbai based consultancy firm today called on Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan at Civil Secretariat here to discuss the modalities for revival of J&K Horticulture Produce and Marketing Corporation (JKHPMC).

These representatives of M/s Darashaw briefed the Advisor about the progress with regard to the "Revival Plan" of JKHPMC. The Mumbai based consultancy firm has been engaged by JKHPMC for formulating a holistic

plan for the revival of the corporation's erstwhile facilities like Apple Grading & Packing Houses and Walnut Hulling Centers.

MD JKHPMC, Shafit Sultan was also present on occasion.

Dr. Srivastava, former faculty member of IIM, Ahmadabad and now an hort/agri infrastructure expert with M/s Darashaw informed Advisor Khan that they are working on a comprehensive & realistic plan and several models including PPP are being envisaged to be recommended to JKHPMC for establishment of multi modern facilities like CA

Stores, Incubation Centers and Integrated Apple Pack Houses & Walnut Hulling Centers.

Advisor Khan urged the consultants to work out a plan that is locally viable.

Advisor Khan impressed upon them that the horticulture industry is one of the mainstay of rural areas and happens to be a major contributor in our economy. He adds that, if properly, channelized and effectively implemented the corporation would be one of the most successful models of business and value addition in the UT.

## Tourism Deptt To Promote Rural Tourism Across Kashmir: Dr. Itoo

Agencies

**SRINAGAR :-** The Department of Tourism is initiating several steps to promote rural tourism across Kashmir Division.

This was stated by Director Tourism J&K, Dr. GN Itoo while chairing a meeting in this regard. The meeting was attended by Deputy Director Tourism Registration, Deputy Director (M&W) and other senior officials of the department.

Speaking during the meeting, Director Tourism said that J&K has vast potential in the rural tourism sector and there is dire need to assess on spot feasibility and tourism potential of these areas.

Dr. Itoo maintained that the rural areas need to be selected as new sites of attraction for the tourists so that the rural people



are benefited from the process of tourism. He added that rural tourism is one of the important options before us to strengthen the rural economy.

The Director delved upon the officers that under rural tourism,

villages can be designed in such a way that fresh and non-polluting environment, traditions, village handicraft, village folk dance and music, painting and sculpture, history of the region, nature of local work and technology use, architecture, education system, religion, dress, leisure activities and other related things can attract tourists from outside.

Dr. Itoo further highlighted that the department is identifying, exploring and developing so far hidden tourist destinations to provide tourists with more options for recreation.

He added that many new trekking routes have been opened in rural and far off areas of Kashmir so that the local populace of these areas is benefited which in turn will improve their economic conditions.(KNS)

**DR. ITOO FURTHER HIGHLIGHTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT** is identifying, exploring and developing so far hidden tourist destinations to provide tourists with more options for recreation.

## Amazon Suffers Massive Outage Globally, Including India

**NEW DELHI:** Amazon online store suffered a global outage on Monday, including in India, as users tried to place orders but could not access the product detail page.

According to website outage tracker Downdetector, the online store of ecommerce giant suffered an outage that began early Monday morning around 7 am.

While 65 per cent users reported problems with opening website, 23 per cent had issues with log-in and 12 per cent with check-out.

Amazon said that the company was working to resolve the issue.

"Hi guys are you able to see any product details on Amazon India website today. Trying to order a few things but not getting the product details page. Tried a dozen different products same issue! Amazon India broken or a bug?," a user said in a tweet.

In May, Amazon suffered a brief outage in some parts of India, affecting its website and



shopping experience for several users. The website was up and running after about two hours of partial outage.

Downdetector showed a massive spike in problems on Amazon.in, mentioning that the most problems faced by the Indians during the outage were logging into the website and checking out.

Last year in November, Amazon Web Services (AWS) which is the Cloud arm of the commerce giant suffered a huge outage in the US region affecting several websites and apps and the recovery took a couple of hours.

## World Gold Council, GJEPC Ink Pact To Promote Gold Jewellery In India

**NEW DELHI:** The World Gold Council and Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) have igned an agreement to promote gold jewellery in India this year, according to a statement.

Under the terms of the agreement, both the partners will jointly fund a multi-media marketing campaign that would aim to increase awareness, relevance and adoption of gold jewellery among Indian consumers, especially millennials and the new generation, GJEPC said in the statement on Monday.

Citing a report, it said although young women are active gold jewellery consumers, their future purchase intent could be higher.

This is especially true in the urban areas and could be achieved if the gold jewellery trade could tap into consumers' desire for self-expression and prestige, the council said. "This finding presents an opportunity for the gold industry

to work collectively to make gold jewellery more relevant and contemporary, leading to a consequential shift.

This joint partnership will work to make gold jewellery more relevant and desirable through an evocative multi-media campaign," it added.

Somasundaram PR, Regional CEO, India, World Gold Council, said both the bodies will work together on a campaign that amplifies a universal message about gold in one's life whilst positioning Indian hand-made jewellery in a modern context.

Colin Shah, Chairman, GJEPC, said the objective is to develop a sustainable model for an industry-led initiative to drive growth for gold jewellery in the market and drive consumption in India.

"I believe that, while there is a renewed interest in hand-crafted gold jewellery, we need creative solutions to match the contemporary women's aesthetic sensibilities," Shah said.

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار گلترہ  
درخواست متقاضی محمد رمضان نیما را دہ نوہ نیما رسا کت و ٹڈمروہ  
نسبت حصول RBA بکن بشیر احمد نیما را  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان اہدہ میں درخواست سائل دفتر بذمیں زیر کار دہی ہے اس سلسلے  
میں نیواری ملحقہ سرپرست پورٹ شمولہ یکار و طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ  
سائل موضح ڈٹڈمروہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کسمہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے  
1: محمد شریف 53 مزدوری  
2: رانی نسیم 50 گھر بیوکام  
3: نیما را احمد 18 زیر تعلیم  
4: ارشاد احمد 16 زیر تعلیم  
اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کسمہ نہیں ہے سائل کے کسمہ کی ماہوار آمدنی 4000  
ہے سائل کیلئے اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا  
اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر بذمیں پیش کرے معیاد کرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا  
اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار aji

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار گلترہ  
درخواست متقاضی محمد رمضان نیما را دہ نوہ نیما رسا کت و ٹڈمروہ  
نسبت حصول RBA بکن بشیر احمد نیما را  
معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان اہدہ میں درخواست سائل دفتر بذمیں زیر کار دہی ہے اس سلسلے  
میں نیواری ملحقہ سرپرست پورٹ شمولہ یکار و طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ  
سائل موضح ڈٹڈمروہ میں رہائش پذیر ہے اور کسمہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے  
1: محمد رمضان نیما را دہ نوہ نیما را 40 مزدوری  
2: زیر نسیم 35 گھر بیوکام  
3: ارشاد احمد 22 زیر تعلیم  
4: بشیر احمد 19 زیر تعلیم  
5: سوینی 20 گھر بیوکام  
6: جہزہ 18 گھر بیوکام  
7: سائل 17 زیر تعلیم  
اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کسمہ نہیں ہے سائل کے کسمہ کی ماہوار آمدنی 9000  
ہے سائل کیلئے اجرا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا  
اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر بذمیں پیش کرے معیاد کرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا  
اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار aji

**Office of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission FOR J&K And Ladakh**  
Regd. Office: Railway Road, Ambedkar (Panama) Chowk, Jammu 180016  
Email Secretary-jercjkl@gov.in Phone 0191-2470160

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)  
Tender-ID: 2021\_JERC\_637892\_1  
(Tender invited through e-Tendering mode only)

e-Tender on behalf of the Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for J&K and Ladakh is invited in two part: bids on the CPP Portal <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app> from established, reputed and experienced consulting firms for Assisting the Commission in Discharging its Various Regulatory Functions under the Electricity Act, 2003 as per Section 4, Scope of Work/ Term of Reference (TOR).

Brief Details of Tender:

Item Description	EMD (Rs.)	Cost of tender document
Appointment of Institutional Consultants for Assisting the Commission in Discharging its Various Regulatory Functions under the Electricity Act, 2003, Electricity Rules, National Tariff Policy, National Electricity Policy & National Electricity Plan as per Section 4, Scope of Work/ Term of Reference (TOR).	Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rs. One lac) as cost of tender document to be submitted in the form of FDR payable in favour of Secretary, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh.	Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. Ten thousand) in the form of DD in favour of Secretary, Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh.

Critical Dates of Tender

Sr No	Particulars	Date	Time
1	Publishing Date	12-07-2021	03:00 PM
2	Document Download /Document Sale Start Date	12-07-2021	05:00 PM onwards
3	Document Download /Document Sale End Date	07-08-2021	Up to 05:00 PM
4	Clarification Start Date	13-07-2021	10:00 AM onwards
5	Clarification End Date	23-07-2021	Up to 05:00 PM
6	Pre Bid Meeting Date	26-07-2021	03:00 PM
7	Bid Submission Start Date	27-07-2021	10:00 AM onwards
8	Bid Submission End Date	07-08-2021	05:00 PM
9	Opening of Technical Bids	09-08-2021	11:00 AM
10	Opening of the Financial bid	Shall be communicated to technically successful bidders through mail	

The interested persons/parties/firms may download the Request for Proposal (RFP) containing terms and condition of Bid from CPP Portal <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> or Commission website [www.jercjkl.nic.in](http://www.jercjkl.nic.in) and submit their Bid by or before 07.08.2021 up to 05:00 PM on the CPP Portal <https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app>

Sd/-  
(V.K. Dhar)  
Secretary, JERC.

DIPK-4593/21



## J&K Police, NIA in six-day joint capacity building programme

### Agenceis

**SRINAGAR:** A six-day joint capacity building programme of the Jammu and Kashmir Police and the National Investigation Agency (NIA) began here on Monday.

J&K Director General of Police Dilbag Singh welcomed officers of the NIA and investigators of the union territory police to the programme, saying each day is a learning experience.

Investigation is the most important part of police work, the DGP said, and stressed upon the officers to make optimum use of the opportunity to hone their skills.

He expressed hope that the week-long training programme would help the police officers improve their quality of investigation.

NIA DIG Amresh Mishra said the joint programme is of

significance as the two institutions would be sharing their experiences.

The J&K Police has already made the nation proud with its professional work, he added.

"This workshop is aimed to focus on the modern challenges being faced by the investigation officers," Mishra said.

During the six-day programme, the officers would be learning about important provisions of the IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act in relation to UAPA, a police spokesperson said.

He said the participants would be enlightened on evidence collection, recovery and preservation of evidence, especially electronic evidences, importance of proper documentation in investigations, scene of crime management, court craft and intelligence collection during investigation.

## BJP MPs To Introduce Private Members' Bills On Population Control, Uniform Civil Code In Upcoming Par Session

### Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** BJP MPs will introduce private members' bills on population control and uniform civil code in the upcoming Monsoon session of Parliament, according to information from the secretariats of both Houses.

The private members' bill on population control comes close on the heels of the law commission of BJP-ruled Uttar Pradesh, the most populous state in the country, putting up a draft bill on the issue on its website, inviting suggestions from the public till July 19.

BJP Lok Sabha MP from Uttar Pradesh Ravi Kishan and Rajya Sabha MP from Rajasthan Kirori Lal Meena are scheduled to introduce the private members' bills on population control and uniform civil code respectively in the very first week of the Parliament session which is starting from July 19.



A bill introduced by a member other than a minister is known as a private member's bill and there is little possibility of it becoming a law without the government's support.

The proposed legislations on population control and uniform civil code, issues that usually trigger heated polemics in the country, are in line with the BJP's ideological agenda.

Opposition parties have criticised the BJP's moves in this

regard, claiming that they are aimed at targeting one specific community, while the BJP has accused them of pursuing appeasement politics.

According to the details available with Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha secretariats, Kishan and Meena will get an opportunity to introduce their respective private members' bills on July 24, which was decided through the lottery system.

A notice for a similar bill on

population control has also been given by BJP MP in Rajya Sabha Rakesh Sinha.

The proposed legislations on population control emphasise on deincensitising couples having more than two children, by making them ineligible for government jobs and subsidies on various facilities and goods given by the government.

The draft UP population control bill says people having more than two children will be debarred from contesting local bodies polls, applying for government jobs or receiving any kind of subsidy.

Similar legislation is under discussion in another BJP-ruled state Assam.

Meanwhile, Vishva Hindu Parishad, a member of the ruling BJP's ideological family, has objected to the one-child policy norm of the draft population control bill in UP, saying it is likely to further increase the imbalance between different

communities and contract the population as well.

"The preamble of the bill states that this is a bill, inter alia, to stabilise the population and promote the two-child norm. The Vishva Hindu Parishad agrees with both objects," the organisation's working president, Alok Kumar, said in a letter to the Uttar Pradesh State Law Commission (UPSLC) on Monday.

However, Sections 5, 6(2) and 7 of the bill, which incentivise public servants and others to have only one child in the family, go "well beyond the said objects", he said.

Asked about the bill he intends to introduce, Sinha said population growth has been ringing an "alarm bell" for the country and asserted that a central law is "most required" as it will be applicable across the nation.

The unchecked population growth needs to be regulated, he said.

## CCEA clears LIC Disinvestment; Panel Headed by FM To Decide Quantum Of Stake Sale

**NEW DELHI:** The Cabinet has approved an initial public offering of India's largest insurer LIC, the modalities of which such as issue size, pricing and timing would be decided by a panel headed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) had in January appointed actuarial firm Milliman Advisors LLP India to assess the embedded value of LIC ahead of the IPO (Initial Public Offering), which is touted to be the biggest public issue in Indian corporate history.

The Budget amendments to the LIC Act has been notified and the actuarial firm is expected to finalise the embedded value of the life insurer. Under the embedded value method, the insurance company's present value of future profit is also included in its present net asset value.

"The Cabinet Committee for Economic Affairs last week cleared the proposal of initial public offering of LIC. The alternative mechanism on disinvestment will now decide on the quantum of stake to be divested by government," a senior official said on Monday.

The government expects to come out with the LIC IPO by the end of current fiscal, the official added. Up to 10 per cent of the LIC IPO issue size would be reserved for policyholders. The government has already brought in the required legislative amendments in the LIC Act for the proposed IPO.

Deloitte and SBI Caps have been appointed as pre-IPO transaction advisors.

The listing of LIC will be crucial for the government to meet its disinvestment target. The government aims to mop up Rs 1.75 lakh crore in the current fiscal from minority stake sales and

privatisation. Of the Rs 1.75 lakh crore, Rs 1 lakh crore is to come from selling the government's stakes in public sector banks and financial institutions. The remaining Rs 75,000 crore would come as CPSE disinvestment receipts.

So far in the current fiscal, the government has mopped up Rs 3,994 crore from sale of SUUTI stake in Axis Bank. Besides, around Rs 3,700 crore has come in from the share sale in NMDC. In her Budget speech in February this year, Sitharaman said the IPO of LIC would be floated in 2021-22.

Besides, IDBI Bank would be privatised in the current fiscal. As part of the privatisation strategy, the government aims to complete strategic sale of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL), Shipping Corp, Container Corporation, Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd, Pawan Hans and Air India, among others, by March 2022.

### Agenceis

**Washington:** US Secretary of State Antony Blinken has asked Beijing to abide by its obligations under international law and cease its "provocative behaviour" in the South China Sea, as he reaffirmed the Biden administration's commitment to defend the Philippines' armed forces from an "armed attack" by China.

Tensions in the South China Sea, which is also contested by Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam have spiked this year, with Manila accusing Beijing of trying to intimidate its coast guard vessels.

Blinken made the comments on Sunday, in a statement marking the fifth anniversary of a ruling by an independent arbitration tribunal rejecting China's expansive territorial claims over the strategic waterway, siding with the Philippines.

The 2016 ruling by the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague dismissed China's claims to the South China Sea, while making clear that China was infringing on Philippine sovereignty through activities such as island-building in Manila's exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

The top American diplomat said the US could invoke a 70-year-old US-Philippine mutual defence pact in the event of any Chinese military action against Philippine assets in the region.

"Freedom of the seas is an enduring interest of all nations and is vital to global peace and prosperity," Blinken said, adding that the international community has long benefited from the rules-based maritime order, where international law, as reflected in the UN Law of the Sea Convention, sets out the legal framework for all activities in the oceans and seas.

"Nowhere is the rules-based maritime order under greater

threat than in the South China Sea. The People's Republic of China (PRC) continues to coerce and intimidate Southeast Asian coastal states, threatening freedom of navigation in this critical global throughway," he said.

The US reaffirms its July 13, 2020 policy regarding maritime claims in the South China Sea, Blinken said, reiterating a Trump-era policy of rejecting China's claims in the maritime area.

"We also reaffirm that an armed attack on Philippine armed forces, public vessels, or aircraft in the South China Sea would invoke US mutual defence commitments under Article IV of the 1951 US-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty," he said.

Blinken then went on to call on China to "abide by its obligations under international law, cease its provocative behaviour, and take steps to reassure the international community that it is committed to the

rules-based maritime order that respects the rights of all countries, big and small."

Reacting sharply to Blinken's statement, Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian termed the US statement as "irresponsible".

He said the statement disregarded the historical merits and objective facts of the South China Sea issue, violates and distorts international law, and breaks the US government's long-held public commitment of not taking a position on the South China Sea sovereignty issue.

"It deliberately stokes disputes on territorial sovereignty and maritime rights and interests, sows discord among regional countries and undermines regional peace and stability. This is extremely irresponsible. China is strongly dissatisfied with and firmly opposed to the wrong act by the US side.

### CONTD. FROM PAGE 3

### IMD Issues

heavy rains in plains and mid-hills of J&K on 13 July and yellow weather warning for July 14 and 15 in the UT.

He further added that two different cloudburst have triggered a flash flood in Jammu's Rajouri district and Kashmir's Ganderbal district on Monday morning and in wake of these two incidents J&K has been placed on an orange alert in order to save precious lives in case of a new flash flood.

Pertinently, the Valley has been witnessing severe heat waves and scorching humidity for the last four days.

On Sunday, the mercury settled at 34 degree Celsius, even as a relief from the scorching heat after the revival of the southwest Monsoon. On Sunday evening, the higher reaches of Kashmir experienced heavy rains while the plains witnessed low intensity rainfall, thunderstorms and lightning.

Pertinently, the MeT department has also issued advisories alerting the general public and tourists not to venture near the river banks as the water level may increase and limit their outdoor exposure to the higher reaches as the incessant rainfall may trigger flash floods.

"Present showers may generate flash floods in hilly areas," Ahmed said.

"There are chances of landslides at few vulnerable spots of Jammu-Srinagar and Srinagar-Leh National highway and also a moderate risk of flash floods in Ramban, Rajouri, Udhampur, Jammu and Ganderbal districts of the UT," he added.

In the early forecast for this year's summer season, the MeT has predicted that the maximum temperature of the season will be recorded in the month of August where the heat index could reach as high as 35.5 degree Celsius with much severe heat waves while the monsoon season in the valley is predicted to be normal for this year.

However, Ahmed says "The respite from the scorching hot and humid weather will continue to remain for the next three days till 15 July," Ahmed said.

### Cloudburst Triggers

said that a cloudburst hit village Watlar in Ganderbal, triggering a flash flood in the wee hours on Monday in a local stream. "Several residential houses and roads were damaged due to the flash flood," they said.

However, they said there was no loss of life reported in the incident. "A joint team of Police and State Disaster

Response Force (SDRF) has launched a rescue operation in the area to evacuate people from vulnerable spots," they said.

They said an operation to restore road connectivity to the area was also underway.

Meanwhile, locals accused the administration of failing to remove encroachment on Charnari Nallah. "The flash flood was caused as the capacity of the nallah to carry water has been reduced due to encroachments. We have approached the administration many times, but nothing was done to remove the encroachment. There would have been less damage if the encroachments would have been removed," they said. (Agencies)

### Flood Control

Kashmir Valley to remain vigilant and follow the general guideline given in the department's annual flood duty chart.

The directions in this regard were given by the Chief Engineer (C.E) Irrigation and Flood Control (I&FC) Department, Kashmir today reviewed the flood preparedness regarding flood management here, an official spokesperson said Monday.

"All the Divisional Engineers of the department were asked to remain vigilant and follow the general guideline given in the department's annual flood duty chart," he said.

In the review meeting, the official spokesperson said various issues were discussed with regard to the flood preparedness including safety of embankments, mock drill exercise, capacity building of stakeholders, sufficient stock of empty bags, stacking of filled bags, stage contract for men, machinery and material to deal with any exigency besides establishment of Control Rooms and liaison with the Disaster Response Force/various units of the administration.

"It was revealed that the I&FC department, Kashmir has developed an android application namely 'Kashmir Flood Alert' and this application automatically updates the water level in real time from 13 water level sensors installed on different water bodies in Jhelum basin in Valley," he said, while recommending people to install this application in order to remain updated regarding the water level in different water bodies and to avoid spread of false rumours.

"Besides this, the department has a Facebook and Twitter handle under hashtag eitkcoahnmr in which the Department disseminates timely

advisories in case of any eventuality," he added.

The official spokesperson further said that the people can contact control numbers at 0194-2311834; 0154-2502946; 01442502947.

### 11 People Trapped

community were stuck in flash floods in Ujh river in the Rajbagh area and were rescued by police and SDRF personnel, they said.

Several farm animals were, however, washed away, the officials said.

The district administration in Kathua and Samba sounded a flood alert.

Traffic movement was disrupted on the Pathankot-Jammu highway due to heavy flooding, they said, adding that a truck overturned on the carriageway near Kathua.

The Ujh, Basantar and the Eik nallahs were in spate in Kathua and Samba, triggering fear in the population living near these water bodies, the officials said.

Areas around the check dam Dhalote in Samba are inundated, they said, adding that locals have appealed to the authorities to open the flood gates of the dam.

The heavy downpour led to a rise in water levels in major rivers in Jammu, including the Tawi, while a small bridge collapsed in Gadigarh.

The Jammu-Srinagar national highway was closed due to several landslides triggered by heavy rains in Ramban district, and men and machines were deployed to clear the highway, the officials said, adding that one-way traffic was briefly restored.

The mercury in most parts of Jammu and Kashmir nose-dived during the day due to the torrential rains, with Jammu recording a high of 24.8 degrees Celsius, 3.3 notches below normal, a weather official said, adding that rainfall was recorded at 150 mm. (PTI)

### NEET Exams

contactless registration, proper sanitisation, seating with social distancing etc. will also be ensured," he said.

The Education Minister further said that in order to ensure social distancing norms, the number of cities where examination is conducted will be increased from 155 to 198. The number of examination centres will also be increased from 3,862 used in the 2020.

Last year, the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) was conducted on September 13 amid strict

precautions in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 13.66 lakh candidates had appeared in the exam of whom 7,71,500 qualified.

From the last year, the admissions to MBBS course in 13 All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Puducherry, are also being made through NEET following the amendment in National Medical Commission Act, 2019.

The test will be offered in 11 languages -- English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

### WHO Warns

chaotic situation in countries if citizens start deciding when and who will be taking a second, a third and a fourth dose."

### Police In Reasi

Superintendent of Police Singh said a schedule of one week will be helpful for nearly 6,000 VDC members, including 20 women, of the district, who are deployed in their villages for safety and security.

Under this, VDC members from Reasi and Katra areas have been allotted the training centre at Talwara, and those from the Arnas police sub-division, will practice at Rud Khad, the officials said.

VDC members from Mahore and Chassana areas have been allotted the Sildhar Mahore centre, they said.

VDC members and Special Police Officer's are part of this exercise, the officials said. Singh said that "VDC being a force multiplier is considered as the first response to thwart any nefarious designs of anti-national elements in remote areas".

He stressed that as VDCs play a pivotal role in safety and security, it is necessary for them to exercise and practice firing their weapons.

This can be only done with such exercises from time to time, Mr. Singh said and conveyed that the Reasi police will conduct many other exercises with the involvement of VDC members of the district.

### Landslide Shuts

The highway, as per the reports was thrown open for stranded vehicles after the debris were cleared.

The highway was closed for traffic movement due to landslides at Magarkote on Thursday. However, the NHAI put into service sophisticated machines and men and finally restored traffic partially last evening.

Majority of the vehicles, including those carrying passengers, were cleared towards their respective destinations till late in the night.

Meanwhile, Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) will ply from both sides on historic 86-km-long Mughal road, connecting Shopian in south Kashmir with Rajouri and Poonch in Jammu region. Only Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMs) upto ten tyres will ply from Srinagar towards Poonch on the road, seen as alternative to Srinagar-Jammu highway.

Only LMV will be allowed from both sides on Kishtwar-Sinthan-Anantnag road, he said. (With agency inputs)

### Won't Contest

saying "you can't hold a child responsible for the actions of his father until and unless you have a proof".

"I have said this again and again, you can capture a man but not an idea. You've to address the idea, as Vajpayee ji did. Witch-hunting, criminalisation of dissent is taking our nation back," she added.

The Jammu and Kashmir administration had sacked 11 of its employees, including sons of the Hizbul Mujahideen chief and two from the police department, for allegedly working as over ground workers for militant organisations, officials said on Saturday.

### NIA Arrests 3

on monthly basis to incite and radicalise impressionable youths, the spokesperson said.

During the searches at the premises of the arrested accused, the NIA recovered a large number of incriminating documents, multiple digital devices and T-shirts with the ISIS logo.

Preliminary examination of the seized material and examination of the accused revealed that they are active cadres of ISIS and have been using cyberspace to propagate inciting material by the online magazine (VOH).

During the questioning of the accused, further searches were conducted on Monday in Anantnag district in which several digital devices and other material have been seized.

### No Covid-19

the outbreak of pandemic in J&K to 318848.

Giving district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 33, Baramulla 7, Budgam 10, Pulwama 7, Kupwara 12, Anantnag 11, Bandipora 8, Ganderbal 9, Kulgam 14, Shopian 2, Jammu 12, Udhampur 1, Rajouri 2,

Doda 11, Samba 2, Kishtwar 2, Poonch 4, Ramban 2 and Reasi 6 new cases of coronavirus. No Case of Covid-19 was reported from Kathua district in Jammu division.

Moreover, they said, 448 more patients have recovered—228 from Jammu Division and 220 from Kashmir Valley.

Also, officials there was no new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today and thus the cumulative number of confirmed cases remained 31 in J&K. (With GNS inputs)

### 'Review Darbar

"but there's no such official order yet." Meanwhile, Dimple and Co. are relentlessly appealing Raj Bhavan to review the order.

"The government was earning GST profit in crores due to this practice," he said. "Stopping it is a heavy loss to the state exchequer. It was a well-thought practice maintained by our princely-state Maharajas with the approval of the elders of all the communities. It's the symbol of unity, communal harmony and brotherhood between the two regions. It shouldn't end this way."

### Militant's Body

river and he is wearing combat dress," said officials, adding that body was fished out from river and was found to be of one of the militant who had got injured in encounter in Daddar forest of Sunderbani area recently and died later on.

They said that the militant was wearing combat dress similar to the one which his other two associates were wearing while bullets were also recovered from his clothes. "Searches in the area have been resumed," they said.

Pertinent to mention here that on the ninth day of searches, an encounter broke out between security forces and militants in Daddal forest area of Sunderbani in Rajouri district in which two militants got killed while two army personnel who got injured in gunfight succumbed to injuries later on.

### Arms Cache

search operation, however, found nothing objectionable.

In this regard police station Keran Kupwara registered an FIR vide number 4/2021, under section 7/25 Indian Arms Act, the report added.

### Ladakh Logs 9

down to 110—77 in Leh and 33 in Kargil district.



## Advisor Khan Reviews Progress Of Arun Jaitley Stadium, Water Sports Centre & Football Ground At Jammu

Observer News Service

**JAMMU:** In a review meeting held on Monday Advisor to LG, Farooq Khan took stock of preparations made by the concerned departments for construction of different sports infrastructure projects in Jammu division.

The meeting was called to discuss the work and plan for raising of world class sports infrastructure in Jammu which includes the state of the art Arun Jaitley Stadium at Hiranagar, Water Sports Centre at Basholi and Synthetic Football Ground at Parade.

In this meeting the consultants for all these projects also participated including the engineers of sports department to give overview of all the plans and procedures they are going to adopt to complete these projects.

The Advisor urged upon them to create world class infrastructure at all the places that is in consonance with the set international standards. He impressed upon them to develop all these projects on the lines so that national and even international sports activities are held there.

Advisor Khan also inspected the drawings and IT models of these projects prepared by the consultants and pointed out certain changes and modifications in view of future requirements or facilitation of players and spectators. He asked them to take care of surrounding aesthetics and proper beautification of all these projects simultaneously creating infrastructure without compromising with the quality of work.

The Advisor further asked the department to stick to the dead-

lines and dedicate the projects to public on the scheduled time. He asked them to put penalty clause in the tenders so that no wilful delay is committed by the executing agency.

The Advisor was informed that the Arun Jaitley Stadium at Hiranagar is a prestigious project worth around Rs 60 crore and includes many other facilities. These includes cricket ground, synthetic athletic track, synthetic hockey field, synthetic football turf, swimming pool, boxing ring with many other allied facilities for players and spectators.

It was also given out that a synthetic football ground at Parade, Jammu would be a FIFA standard ground in the heart of the city. He was informed that the facility would have all the amenities for the players of the game. The facility would be raised at a cumulative cost of Rs 5 crore and would be eligible to host any national event, the meeting was informed.

For the Water Sports Centre, Basholi, being developed on the Ranjit Sagar Dam it was said that the facility is being created at a cost of Rs 3 crores. The centre would have high class infrastructure to host all the water sports events of national importance. It would have the facility of boat shed, gymnasium, change room, food court, medical care unit and allied facilities, as was given out in the meeting.

The meeting was apprised that these projects are going to be of highest standard and would help in chiselling the local talent besides honing skills of all the sports persons for making them ready to compete at international and national level.

JKFA PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE 2021

## Lonestar Kashmir, Downtown Heroes Register Wins On Opening Day



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** The First Edition of JKFA organised Professional League 2021 kick started on Monday with two matches played at the Synthetic Turf Ground TRC, Srinagar.

In the first match of the day, Downtown Heroes FC took on Kashmir Avengers FC.

"Both the teams played quality football and missed some good chances to score. Their efforts were duly applauded by the spectators. Perfect ball control, man to man marking, superb head work were the main features of the game. In the 42nd minute of the first half, Kwesi Sessy of Downtown Heroes FC, scored a magnificent goal which took every body by surprise. At half time, Downtown Hero's FC was leading by a solitary goal. In the 55th minute of the game Downtown Heroes FC consolidated their lead by scoring

another goal through Hanan. The Young Turks of Kashmir Avengers tried their utmost to find their opponent's net but could not penetrate the solid defence of the Heroes. However in the dying moments of the match Kashmir Avengers missed a sure shot goal. The match ended with Downtown Heroes defeating Kashmir Avengers by 2 goals to nil," the JKFA said in a statement.

The second Professional League 2021 match was played between Lonestar Kashmir FC and Shaheen FC Jammu.

"The match started with both the teams exhibiting aggressive football. In the beginning both clubs dominated the show and created certain beautiful moves at the goal. The solid defence of both the teams denied either side the opportunity to score a goal. The first half ended goalless. In the 60th minute Lonestar KFC

missed an opportunity to score. Shaheen FC Jammu exhibited quality football and their man to man marking was superb. In the dying movements of the match Lonestar KFC made a drastic move to the surprise of the spectators and took the lead by scoring a goal. The match ended with 1:0 in favour of LKFC," the statement added.

Two matches of the JKFA Pro League are scheduled to be played today. In the first match at 4:30 pm SCFA will take on Real Kashmir Reserves while in the 2nd match J&K Bank XI will go head to head with Hyderya Sports FC at 6:30 pm, under flood lights.

The tournament is organized by J&K Football Association in collaboration with J&K Sports Council and will see a total of 8 teams compete against each other. Top two teams will be nominated to play the 1-League 2nd Division 2021-22.

## Parvez Rasool Meets DDC Anantnag, Discusses Ways To Promote Cricket

Observer News Service

**ANANTNAG:** J&K's star cricketer, Parvez Rasool on Monday called on the District Development Commissioner (DDC) Anantnag, Dr. Piyush Singla and apprised him about the status and development of the sport in the district.

On the occasion, deliberations and discussions were held to find ways to promote cricket among the youth besides inculcating professional temperament in them.

"The DDC hailed the cricketer for his overall role in developing the sport and impressed upon him to continue his efforts of providing the local youth with

technical and professional support to improve their abilities. He also called for availing proper platform and opportunities to them so that they showcase and develop their talent and skills," a Government press release said.

"Dr. Singla assured full support for sorting out the genuine issues to uplift cricket and other games so that the budding sportsmen of the district realize their passion and potential."

"Rasool thanked the DDC for giving him a patient hearing and expressed commitment for working with dedication and hardwork for the benefit of established as well as aspiring cricketers," the press release added.

## Handwara Admin Orders Halting Of Outdoor Sports Activities To Curb COVID Spread

Agencies

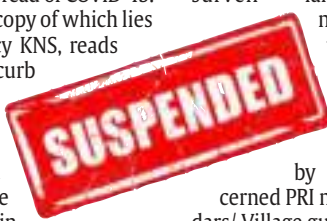
**HANDWARA:** The authorities in Handwara tehsil of North Kashmir's Kupwara district on Monday ordered the halting of outdoor sports activities in the tehsil in order to curb the spread of COVID-19.

In an order, a copy of which lies with wire agency KNS, reads that in order to curb the spread of COVID-19, all outdoor sports related activities where people gather in huge numbers are strictly prohibited henceforth till further orders in the territorial jurisdiction of Tehsil Handwara.

"Naib Tehsildars, Executive

Magistrate 1st Class Handwara and I/C Police Post Handwara shall ensure strict implementation of the order in letter and spirit. In addition, it is impressed upon all the village level surveillance committees and Tehsil level surveillance committee members/teams to keep close vigil within their respective jurisdiction regarding the matter by involving concerned PRI members/Lumberdars/Village guards," it reads.

The order states that if any person/group/organization was found involved in the breach of this order shall be booked under relevant provisions of law.



## Italy Wins Euro 2020, Beats England In Penalty Shootout

Agencies

**LONDON:** Italian soccer's redemption story is complete. England's painful half-century wait for a major title goes on.

And it just had to be because of a penalty shootout.

Italy won the European Championship for the second time by beating England 3-2 on penalties on Sunday. The match finished 1-1 after extra time.

Gianluigi Donnarumma dived to his left and saved the decisive spot kick by Bukayo Saka, England's third straight failure from the penalty spot in the shootout in front of its own fans at Wembley Stadium.

It was less than four years ago that the Italians plunged to the lowest moment of its soccer history by failing to qualify for the World Cup for the first time in six decades. Now, they are the best team in Europe and on a national-record 34-match unbeaten run under Roberto Mancini, their suave coach.

England was playing in its first major final in 55 years. It's the latest heartache in shootouts at major tournaments, after defeats in 1990, 1996, 1998, 2004, 2006 and 2012.

England went ahead in the second minute when Luke Shaw scored the fastest goal in a European Championship final. Leonardo Bonucci equalized in the 67th.

Saka, a 19-year-old Londoner, was embraced by several England players after his miss. England coach Gareth Southgate hugged Jadon Sancho, who missed the previous England penalty, while Marcus Rashford -- the other one to miss -- walked off down the tunnel.

Sancho and Rashford had been brought on in the final minute of extra time, seemingly as specialist



penalty takers.

Donnarumma was in tears as he was embraced by his teammates as they sprinted toward him from the halfway line, where they watched the second penalty shootout in a European Championship final.

They then headed to the other end of the field and ran as one, diving to the ground in front of their own fans.

It was Italy's second continental title after 1968, to add to the country's four World Cups.

That the match went to extra time -- like three of the six European finals before it -- was not unexpected, given both semifinals also went the distance and the defensive solidity of both the teams.

In fact, Italy's famously robust defense was only really opened up once in the entire 90 minutes and that resulted in Shaw's goal, a half-volley that went in off the near post from Kieran Trippier's cross.

It was Shaw's first goal for England and it prompted a fist-pump between David Beckham and Tom Cruise in the VIP box amid an ex-

plosion of joy around Wembley.

The fact that it was set up by Trippier, a full back recalled to the team as part of a change of system to a 3-4-3 for the final, would have brought extra satisfaction to Southgate.

Then, England barely saw the ball for the rest of the game.

Italy's midfielders dominated possession, started playing their pretty passing routines and England resorted to getting nine or even all 10 outfield players behind the ball. It was reminiscent of the 2018 World Cup semifinals, when England also scored early against Croatia then spent most of the game chasing its opponent's midfield.

Initially, the Italians could only muster long-range efforts but the equalizer arrived from much closer in.

A right-wing corner was flicked on at the near post, Marco Verratti had a stooping header tipped onto the post by Pickford, and Bonucci put the ball in from close range.

Still, England managed to hold on for extra time and actually had the better of the final stages. Just not the shootout, again.

## Kevin Pietersen, Others Slams Racial Abuse Of England's Black Footballers



Press Trust of India

**LONDON:** England's former star cricketer Kevin Pietersen on Monday condemned the racial abuse of three Black players on social media after their loss in the Euro final and wondered if the country should get hosting rights of the 2030 FIFA World Cup.

Pietersen, a former national team captain, got caught in the chaos that broke out after England's loss to Italy in the penalty shootout of the summit showdown at Wembley.

The cricketer joined British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Football Association (FA) in slamming those who abused the three players of colour after they failed to score in the shootout.

"The walk I took with Dylan to get our car home last night was scary absolutely HORRENDOUS! This behaviour in 2021?? The abuse of the players who gave us so much joy??

"Do we actually deserve the 2030 World Cup?," Pietersen tweeted.

Earlier in the day, the PM said on Twitter the players "deserve to be lauded as heroes, not racially abused on social media."

"Those responsible for this appalling abuse should be ashamed of themselves," Johnson tweeted.

The FA, the country's apex football body, also condemned

the racial abuse of its players.

FA pointed out that this England team has been highlighting the issue of racism throughout the tournament, taking the knee before all their matches.

In the shootout, England's two goals were scored by captain Harry Kane and Harry Maguire.

Their next three shots were taken by Marcus Rashford, Jadon Sancho and Saka -- all Black teammates.

Sancho and Saka's shots were blocked by Italy goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma, and Rashford's hit the upright.

Italy netted two goals in their final three shots to win their first Euro title since 1968.

In another tweet, Pietersen wrote, "The media in UK is probably the most powerful in the world. It should be a responsibility of theirs, to enforce the social media giants into verifying EVERY SINGLE PERSON that has an account.

"No robots & no fake accounts! ACCOUNTABILITY for all! It's destroying society!"

The United Kingdom are among the bidders to host the World Cup in 2030.

Last month, Spain and Portugal made their bid to host the tournament, joining the UK and Ireland and another bid from Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Chile, aimed to coincide with the centenary of the first World Cup, which was played in Uruguay.

## National & International Footballers Forum (NIFF) Holds Meeting At Anantnag



Observer News Service

**SRINAGAR:** A delegation of National & International Footballers Forum (NIFF) J&K, on Sunday held a meeting with football fraternity and stakeholders in district Anantnag "to discuss and safeguard the future of the game."

"Detailed discussions were held in the interest of the game. The major impetus was given on the performance of football activities in District Anantnag that had deprived players to play and excel in higher competitions. Chairman NIFF, Bashir A Malik maintained that Anantnag has a tremendous

potential to excel in the field of sport especially football but due to wrong policies and mismanagement the sport has been ruined," a statement by NIFF said.

"It is not about organising matches or tournaments, it is all about the future of our younger generation who can make their careers and earn livelihood out of this game if managed properly," Malik said according to the statement.

The delegation comprised of Kashmir Valley's football icons like Ishfaq Ahmed, Hilal Rasool, Sajid Yousuf, Manzoor Dar and other big names of the sport.

## Novak Djokovic First Player To Qualify For ATP Finals After Wimbledon Win



Agencies

**LONDON:** Novak Djokovic became the first player to qualify for this year's ATP Finals after the world number one tied Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal's record with his 20th major at Wimbledon on Sunday.

Djokovic defeated Italy's Matteo Berrettini 6-7(4) 6-4 6-4 6-3 in the final to seal a sixth Wimbledon title and qualify for the November 14-21 ATP Finals in Turin.

"I am happy to have qualified for Turin so early," Djokovic, who will play in his 14th ATP Finals, said in a statement.

"Italian fans are very much into tennis so I am sure it will

be a great event with a fantastic atmosphere." The Serbian will look to win the season finale for the sixth time, aiming to match Swiss ace Federer's record at the event.

The 34-year-old, who is on course to finish the year as the top-ranked player for a record-breaking seventh time, has won 34 out of 37 matches this year.

Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas, the 2019 ATP Finals champion, is next in line to qualify in the second position for the Turin event, followed by local favourite Berrettini.

Rafa Nadal, Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, Alexander Zverev and Jannik Sinner all feature in the Top 12 with four months remaining in the regular ATP Tour season.

## EXPLAINER: How Will COVID-19 Emergency Affect The Tokyo Olympics?

Agencies

**TOKYO:** A virus state of emergency began Monday in Japan's capital, as the number of new cases is climbing fast and hospital beds are starting to fill just 11 days ahead of the Tokyo Olympics. Here's a look at the state of emergency and how it will affect the Olympics.

WHAT RESTRICTIONS ARE THERE?

The six-week emergency is Japan's fourth since the pandemic began and will last until Aug. 22. The main target of the new state of emergency is alcohol served at bars and restaurants as authorities want people to stay home and watch the games on TV and not gather in public.

Like past emergencies, most of the measures are requests because

the government lacks a legal basis to enforce hard lockdowns. Authorities have recently given themselves more power to issue binding orders for businesses to close or shorten hours in exchange for compensation. They can also now fine businesses that violate those orders.

The new state of emergency requests that restaurants, bars, karaoke parlours and other entertainment outlets either close or not serve alcohol. It asks liquor stores to suspend business with restaurants and bars that defy the request, but liquor stores say that would hurt their business ties.

Schools will stay open during this emergency, while theme parks, museums, theatres and most stores and restaurants are requested to close at 8 p.m.

Tokyo residents are asked to avoid nonessential outings, work from home and stick to mask-wearing and other safety measures. Measures for the general public are non-mandatory.

WHAT AREAS DOES IT COVER?

The latest state of emergency covers Tokyo's nearly 14 million residents, while less-stringent measures focusing on shortened hours for restaurants and bars affect 31 million other people in nearby cities of Chiba, Saitama and Kanagawa that are home to some Olympic venues.

The measures also cover Osaka, which was hit hard by a virus surge in April, and the southern island of Okinawa.

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT THE OLYMPICS?

The state of emergency will cover the entire duration of the July 23-Aug. 8 Olympics and its main impact will be in barring fans from stadiums and arenas in the Tokyo area.

While the state of emergency mainly covers Tokyo, Olympic officials have decided to bar fans from events hosted in Tokyo's three neighbouring prefectures, while allowing limited fans at other outlying venues. Soccer events in Hokkaido and baseball and softball games in Fukushima, however, will also bar fans due to virus concerns. The games have already been postponed from 2020 by the pandemic, and fans from abroad were banned months ago.

With the new restrictions, the games will now be a largely TV-only event.

HOW BAD IS JAPAN'S VIRUS SITUATION?

Japan has weathered the pandemic better than many other countries, logging about 820,000 cases and 15,000 deaths.

But the situation has grown more serious in recent weeks, and Tokyo hit a two-month high of 950 new cases on Saturday. Experts have warned that the delta variant, which is thought to be more contagious, is spreading fast in offices and classrooms and without tough measures the numbers could skyrocket by August.

About 16.8% of the population has been fully vaccinated, a number that has picked up since May but is still far short of where officials hoped to be before the Olympics. Younger people are largely unvaccinated.



## Plea In Supreme Court Next Week Over "Islamophobic Posts" On Twitter

### Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court Monday asked the petitioner to peruse new IT rules and said it may hear next week his plea seeking a probe either by CBI or NIA against Twitter and its users for allegedly posting "Islamophobic posts" after Tablighi Jamaat congregation at Nizamuddin last year which was purportedly dubbed as one of the reasons for the spread of COVID-19.

A bench of Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justice A S Bopanna, at the outset, asked lawyer Khaja Aijazuddin, who has filed the plea in his personal capacity, to approach the Central government with the petition in which he has also sought a direction for framing guidelines under the Information Technology Act against spreading of "hate messages against any religious community including Islamophobic posts on various Social Media platforms".

"Have you read the latest IT Rules," the bench asked the lawyer during the hearing conducted through video conferencing.

As Khaja Aijazuddin started reading the new IT Rules, the bench said it is posting the matter after a

week and in the meantime, the petitioner may peruse the rules and come back prepared.

An appeal was filed by Khaja Aijazuddin against an order of April 22 of the Telangana High Court asking him to approach the top court for relief of seeking directions to the Centre to restrain all online social media networks in India and not to carry out any Islamophobic posts.

The plea also said with respect to the prayer for issuing directions to the Centre to register a criminal complaint against Twitter and its users for allegedly spreading "hate", the High Court merely directed the Central government to consider the petition.

"However, no clear direction regarding the same (registration of FIR) was given by the High Court," the plea alleged.

A religious congregation Tablighi Jamaat was organized at Nizamuddin from March 13 to March 15 last year and this was allegedly dubbed as one of the key reasons for the spread of COVID-19 in the country.

The plea alleged Islamophobic posts on various social media platforms were spread after the religious congregation showing believers of a particular faith in poor light.

## Lightning Strike Kills 18 Selfie Takers On Tourist Tower In Jaipur



### Agenceis

A lightning strike killed 18 people Sunday when a bolt blasted a watchtower where tourists were snapping storm selfies in Jaipur, India.

There were a total of 27 individuals at the top of the 12th Century Amer Fort, the popular tourist attraction where the strike occurred, according to BBC News.

Some of the victims leapt to the ground as the lightning came down, and law enforcement officials have reported that most of them were young people.

Video captured by Reuters TV partner ANI showed empty shoes left by the dead.

"Many people died in front of our eyes. If people had gotten help and authorities had reached on time then [they would have been alive],"

an eyewitness told ANI. "We brought many people down. We rescued the people who were still alive, those who were still breathing and pulled some people out of the gorge."

Dozens more were killed as a result of a storm system that tore through northern India. Nine more deaths occurred in Rajasthan state, where Jaipur is located. At least another 41 people died in the state of Uttar Pradesh, plus seven others in Madhya Pradesh.

A lightning strike captured in Jaipur on Sunday was one of many to kill dozens of Indians this weekend as a storm system tore through the country's northern states.

Lightning strikes are not uncommon in India where they're known to kill at least 2,000 citizens annually, especially in rural and agricultural regions where people predominantly work and spend their time outdoors.

Strikes are most common between June and September, during India's monsoon season, and are thought to be increasing in frequency, according to Indian Meteorological Department. Data shows that lightning phenomena have increased 30-40% in approximately 30 years — a trend which some believe has been nurtured by climate change.

Chief ministers in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, with support from Prime Minister Narendra Modi, have plans to provide compensation for families who have lost loved ones.

It's far from the first incident of photographers risking — and losing — life and limb for the sake of a selfie. The most recent data available showed that at least 259 people worldwide died in selfie-related accidents between 2011 and 2017, including risky cliffside photo ops and too-close attempts at consorting with wild animals.

## Supreme Court To Hear Plea Challenging Sedition Law On July 27

### Agenceis

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has deferred the hearing on a petition challenging the constitutional validity of section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860, which penalises the crime of "sedition," to July 27.

A bench of the court, headed by Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, adjourned the matter after it was informed that Attorney General KK Venugopal and Solicitor General Tushar Mehta will need more time to file replies in the issue.

During the last hearing in the matter on May 1, the court had issued notice to the Union of India and sought its detailed response by July 12 to take a decision on examining the constitutional validity of section 124-A of the IPC 1860.

The writ petitions were jointly filed before the Supreme Court by two journalists — Kirechandra Wangkhemcha and Kanhaiyalal Shukla — from Manipur and Chhattisgarh respectively. The two journalists asked for an appropriate writ, order or direction declaring Section 124-A of the IPC, 1860 to be unconstitutional and void.

Senior lawyer Colin Gonsalves appearing for the two petitioners submitted to the top court that the decision rendered by the constitution bench of Supreme Court in Kedar Nath Singh against Bihar, 1962, may require reconsideration.

The plea said that section 124-A "clearly infringes the fundamental right under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India which guarantees that all citizens shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression".

Section 124-A of the Indian Penal Code says that whoever by words, either spoken or written or by signs or by visible represen-

tation, or otherwise, attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or attempts to excite disaffection, towards the government established by law, will be punished with imprisonment for life.

"The restriction imposed by section 124-A is unreasonable and therefore does not constitute a permissible restriction in terms of Article 19(2) of the Constitution," the petition said.

"Section 124-A is unnecessary to protect the interests of state security and public disorder, and is duplicated by more recent legislation which directly and sufficiently prevents and deals with the mischief of public disorder and public violence," the petition added.

The petition said there exists "no urgency" justifying the use of Section 124-A, given that the interests of state security and the public order are sufficiently protected elsewhere in Indian law.

"Section 124-A is a disproportionate imposition on the freedom of expression and fails to constitute the least restrictive means to protect state security and public disorder in this regard," the plea said.

It said the section fails to meet the international standard of "necessity" which "India is under the obligation to meet as a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)".

The petition noted the terms "intention" and "tendency" in the interpretation of Section 124-A are "so subjective that the law is uncertain and unascertainable and are an invitation to abuse by authorities."

"The vagueness of Section 124-A exerts an unacceptable chilling effect on the democratic freedoms of individuals who cannot enjoy their legitimate democratic rights and freedoms for fear of life imprisonment," the petition said.

## India's Population Planning Will Backfire In Event Of War: SP MP



### Agenceis

Terming the Uttar Pradesh population control bill as a part of the BJP's "election propaganda" ahead of Assembly polls, Samajwadi Party (SP) MP Shaqfiqur Rahman Barq has hit out at the state government, saying it should ban marriages if it wants to stabilise rising population.

The Uttar Pradesh Population Policy 2021-2030 was unveiled on World Population Day on Sunday by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to steady the growing population in the state and reduce maternal and infant deaths in a time-bound manner while bringing down the gross fertility rate among women to 2.1 by 2026 and to 1.9 by 2030.

In the 40-page policy document released by the state, it is mentioned that "attempts would be made to ensure there is a population balance among various communities in the state. Extensive campaigns would be run in communities, groups, and geographical areas where fertility rates were higher."

"It (draft bill) is an electoral propaganda. They (BJP) look at everything from a political angle. They just want to win elections and do not take any decision in the interest of the people. Since UP Assembly election is coming, they are concerned about it. By

the grace of Allah, we will not let them win," Barq said in Sambhal on Sunday evening.

"It would be better to stop marriages. No one should be allowed to get married for the next 20 years and no children will be born," he added.

"Those who will challenge the law of Allah will get finished," the MP from Sambhal said further.

Barq said while China was encouraging its citizens to have more children, India was taking the opposite which might backfire in case of a war.

"A lot of births are taking place in China and you (India) are stopping people from having children. A time will come when we will be very few. If there is a war, then from where will you bring people to fight?" Barq said.

He also alleged that the recently held polls to elect block panchayat chiefs were rigged by the ruling BJP.

According to the draft of the population control bill put up on the state law commission website, people having more than two children in the state will be debarred from contesting local body polls, applying for government jobs or receiving any kind of subsidy.

The draft bill, for which suggestions have been invited from the public till July 19, also prohibits promotions in government jobs for such people, while offering incentives to those limiting their children to two.

## "Maintain Covid Protocol": Tourism Minister's Appeal As Crowds Swell At Tourist Spots

### Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** The government does not want to stop tourists but certain protocols must be followed to keep Covid at bay, Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy said on Monday amid concerns about burgeoning crowds at popular hill destinations and other tourist spots.

Every individual must be a Covid warrior if the pandemic is to be defeated, Mr Reddy, who is also minister for culture and Development of North-Eastern Region (DoNER), said while appealing to people to exercise caution.

"While this is the responsibility of the state governments, we have issued advisories to follow Covid protocol. The only way to stop Covid is through partnership with the general public. I appeal to all tourists on behalf of the government of

India to follow protocols which have been placed for their own safety," the minister told reporters during a visit to the National Archive of India.

"Each individual of this country has to be a Covid warrior and only then can we defeat this. The government does not want to stop tourists but it is our responsibility to keep everyone safe," he added.

People, Mr Reddy said, should keep in mind what happened in their cities, towns and districts during the coronavirus crisis when thousands lost their lives, and thus think twice before breaking any rules.

The Indian Medical Association has also expressed concern over governments and people being complacent and engaging in mass gatherings without following COVID-19 protocols, saying these events are potential super spreaders for a third wave of the pandemic.

"Tourist bonanza, pilgrimage travel, religious fervour, all are needed, but can wait for a few more months."

"Opening up these rituals and enabling people without vaccination to go scot-free in these mass gatherings are potential super spreaders for the Covid third wave," the IMA said in a statement.

With 37,154 new coronavirus infections, India's tally of COVID-19 cases has risen to 3,08,74,376 (30.8 million/3.08 crore) while total recoveries have crossed 3 crore, according to Union Health Ministry data on Monday. The death count has climbed to 4,08,764 with 724 fresh fatalities.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.59 per cent — less than 3 per cent for 21 consecutive days — and the weekly positivity rate at 2.32 per cent. While the numbers are encouraging, several states are still reporting worrying number of cases.

## Medical Entrance Exam NEET Postponed To Sept 12 From Aug 1

### Agenceis

**NEW DELHI:** Medical entrance exam NEET, which was earlier scheduled for August 1, will now be conducted on September 12, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan announced Monday.

"The NEET-UG 2021, will be held on 12th September across the country following COVID-19 protocols. The application process will begin from 5 pm tomorrow through the NTA website," Pradhan said in a series of tweets.

"To ensure adherence to Covid-19 protocols, face mask will be provided to all candidates at the centre. Staggered time slots during entry and exit, contactless registration, proper sanitisation, seating



with social distancing etc. will also be ensured," he said.

The Education Minister further said that in order to ensure social distancing norms, the number of cities where examination will be conducted has been increased from 155 to 198. The number of examination centres will also be increased from 3,862 used in the previous exams. PTI

# Gulberg Collections

ME & MY HOME

AN ONLINE STORE

PAINTINGS,  
HOME DECOR,  
COMFORT &  
GIFT ITEMS,  
WOMEN &  
KIDS WARE



SELECT ONLINE &  
PAY AT YOUR DOORSTEP



Gulberg  
Collections

ME & MY HOME

gulberg@gulberg.net  
Cell: 7006034174

www.gulberg.net

**Wood Works**

**PERFECT PRODUCTS**  
BUILT TO LAST LONG...!

DEALS IN ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE BEDS, SOFA, CHAIRS, TABLES, DAY BEDS, WARDROBE AND MUCH MORE...

**FURNITURE** **EDUCATION** **BEH**

+91 9149606969 • woodworksfurnitureinagar • wood\_works