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P3 CITY

ARTIST PUTS CITY ON CANVAS, MAPS SRINAGAR ON FABRIC

A 49-year-old man from Lal Bazar area of Srinagar has mapped capital city Srinagar on fabric defining all roads, water bodies and residential areas that existed

P4 THINK

US-JORDANIAN TIES REJUVENATED

Jordanian King Abdullah became the first Arab leader to meet the US President Joe Biden at the White House on July 19. By granting him this honour the new US administration is putting its weight behind



P6 NEWS

UNSATISFACTORY PROGRESS ON NH-44 CAUSING INCONVENIENCE TO COMMUTERS

The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta Monday while expressing concern observed that the rate of progress of road-widening/maintenance works on NH-44



Quote!

Never regret anything that made you smile.
—Mark Twain

NEWS DIGEST

Misfire Injures Cop In Baramulla

SRINAGAR: A PSO of Chief Coordinator of Jammu Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP) Fazal Mohd was injured after he accidentally misfired with his own gun in Wahidna Chandoosa area of North Kashmir's Baramulla district on Monday. A top police officer said that the cop accidentally injured himself with his own service rifle after misfiring, resulting in a bullet wound in his foot. He was shifted to a nearby hospital ● [More On P2](#)

Labourer Dies Of Electric Shock

SRINAGAR: A young labourer died on Monday after receiving an electric shock in Budhal area in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir. 24-year-old Mohammad Sager of Behrote and another labourer identified as Mohammad Azam of Kewal were working on a boundary fencing of 110 General Reserve Engineer Force (GREF) campus at Budhal area on Monday morning when they came in contact with a live wire and received electric shock, reports said. Both the labourers ● [More On P2](#)

5 Gamblers Arrested In Bandipora

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday claimed to have arrested five burglars in a raid in Sumbal area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Aarif Ahmad Bhat, Azhar Mahmood Bhat and Fayaz Ahmad Wagay, all residents of Trigam and Reyaz Ahmad Dagga and Mukhtar Ahmad Mir of Shadipora were arrested by a team from police station Sumbal on the basis of input about gambling activities in Trigam village of Shadipora, a police ● [More On P2](#)

Man Injured In Leopard Attack

SRINAGAR: An elderly man was attacked and injured on Monday by a leopard in Shangus area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Reports said that a leopard attacked Abdul Rasheed Wani of Chanderman Uttersoo village, resulting in injuries to him. Soon after the incident he was rushed to a nearby hospital where from he was shifted to GMC Anantnag for specialized treatment. Meanwhile the ● [More On P2](#)

Elderly Man Found Dead

SRINAGAR: An elderly man on Monday was found dead in an orchard in Dooru area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. 52-year-old man Mohammed Ashraf Mir from Hakura area of Anantnag was found in the orchards of Bateno area of Dooru on Monday, a police official said. Mir, he said had left from his home late on Sunday evening in his vehicle, and was found dead with "torture marks" ● [More On P2](#)

Prez Kovind Reviews Security Situation

Chairs Unified High Command Meet, Pays Tribute To Fallen Soldiers On Vijay Diwas

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: President Ram Nath Kovind on Monday interacted with members of the Unified Headquarters in Srinagar and senior military commanders briefed him about the prevailing security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

Kovind, who is on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, interacted with the members of the unified headquarters (UHO) -- a security grid maintaining vigil along the Line of Control (LoC) and looking after the internal security in J&K at Raj Bhavan here, they said.

The officials said the President was briefed about the situation along the LoC,



especially in the wake of the ceasefire between India and Pakistan, which the armies of the two countries agreed upon in February this year. Kovind was also briefed by the officials about the counter-insurgency operations in

Jammu and Kashmir, they said. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, Northern Army Commander, General officer Commanding 15 Corps, Chief Secretary A K Mehta, ● [More On P2](#)

Bad Weather Grounds President's Flight

Srinagar- Bad weather on Monday forced the cancellation of President Ram Nath Kovind's visit to Drass in Ladakh to pay homage to slain soldiers on the 22nd anniversary of the Kargil Vijay Diwas, officials said here. It is for the second time in three years that the President could not fly to Drass for the Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations. Officials said the President's flight could not take off to Drass due to bad weather. In 2019, bad weather had prevented Kovind from visiting Drass and instead, he paid tributes ● [More On P2](#)

Car Falls In River, 4 Of Family Feared Dead

Press Trust Of India

BANIHAL: Four members of a family were feared dead as their car skidded off a highway and rolled down into a river in Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district on Monday, officials said.

The incident took place near Mehar bekt of Ramban when Rakesh Kumar, his wife Asha Rani, their two sons Sachit Bhagat and Mehul Bhagat were travelling from Srinagar to Jammu.

As per the eyewitnesses, Kumar was driving the car. He lost control and the car fell into the river at Mehad, they told police. Police said that search operations were underway with help of a quick reaction team (QRT) and SDRF.

Govt Replaced Regressive Laws With Progressive Reforms: LG

Says 30,000 Projects, Financial Assistance To 50,000 Youth In J&K Targeted This Year

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has said that 'regressive laws' and rules have been replaced by progressive reforms to facilitate industrialization and socio-economic development in the Union Territory.

Sinha made these remarks here while interacting with the youth, who came from different States and UTs, and shared the progressive and



reformative measures taken by the J&K Government for the rapid development of UT, an official spokesperson said Monday.

The LG, he said, addressed the young participants during the valedictory session at the 3-day-long Young Thinkers Meet-2021 at S K International Convention Centre (SKICC) here on Sunday, and highlighted the important role of the youth in the development process.

"Young progressive minds are the Leaders of Tomorrow. The young population aspires to be an integral part of the process of building New J&K, New India," the LG said, as per official spokesperson.

"I invite youth from other States/UTs to visit J&K and be a witness to groundbreaking inclusive" ● [More On P2](#)

J&K Logs 102 Cases, One Corona Death

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Monday 102 fresh cases of novel coronavirus even as one more person succumbed to the deadly infection in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

While Kashmir Valley reported 82 new cases of Covid-19, the remaining 20 were detected from Jammu division, raising the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 320759. ● [More On P2](#)

6 Assam Policemen Killed in Clashes with Mizoram



Agencies

GUWAHATI: At least six Assam police personnel were killed on Monday in the border troubles with Mizoram, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

States of Assam and Mizoram share roughly 100 miles of a disputed border. The boundary dispute between the two states has been simmering since Mizoram was formed as a separate state in the Eighties. Several rounds of talks have been held since 1995 to resolve the tensions between the two states.

Sarma, who also holds the Home Department portfolio, in a tweet said: "I am deeply pained to inform you that six brave jawans of Assam Police

have sacrificed their lives while defending the constitutional boundary of our state at the Assam-Mizoram border. My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families."

An Assam police official said that while the district and police officials were dealing with the border troubles and discussing the unauthorized constructions on the Assam side, there was unprovoked firing injuring many security personnel and killing the six policemen on the spot.

The Assam-Mizoram border troubles flared up on Monday with at least 20 officials and civilians injured and vehicles damaged in clashes as both Chief Ministers sought Union Home Minister Amit Shah's urgent intervention. Officials ● [More On P2](#)

MIZORAM POLICE RESPONDED

spontaneously by firing back at Assam Police inspite of the fact that SP,

Kolasib District was still inside CRPF duty camp negotiating with the Assam Police authorities."

Terror Charges Framed Against Mehbooba Aide

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: A special court has framed charges against Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra, a senior PDP leader and close aide of former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, based on a police charge sheet claiming that he was an asset for Pakistan-based militant groups and that his 13-year journey as a journalist and politician from 2007 was a "saga of subterfuge, deceit and double-dealing".

The court had heard arguments on the framing of charges from the defence and the prosecution earlier this month and it allowed framing of charges against Parra, who is alleged to have



established a nexus with militants.

He sought support from militants for political gains and reciprocated by providing a range of help which led to militant strikes.

The eight-page order made available on Monday stated that "prima facie there is sufficient evidence against the" ● [More On P2](#)

'35 Drowning Deaths This Summer': Does Kashmir Lack Lifesaving Support?

Auqib Javed

It was the second day of Eid-ul-Azha, when fresh-faced Manzoor Raise of Khanabal Kupwara left home amid festivity. The breadwinner of his old parents and two younger siblings had felt compelled to come out for the sake of his underprivileged family.

But his survival outing shortly involved him in a rescue mission ending up consuming the sole support of his family.

Near Kehmil Nallah in his hometown, he saw a mother-daughter duo struggling to cross the temporary bridge—about which many had raised concern

fearing the fatal consequences. The bridge had chosen the breadwinner as its victim on Eid. Manzoor's 'social worker' spirit didn't allow him to ignore the duo.

He helped cross the daughter with ease, but her mother stumbled on the troubled bridge and fell into the gushing water body. Manzoor instantly jumped to rescue the lady—but neither he, nor the lady could come out alive.

Before drowning, Manzoor had saved many lives. But as his luck ran out on Eid, his family was torn asunder by grief and existential crisis.

But what happened at Kupwara wasn't the first



instance of drowning in Kashmir this summer. Alongside suicides, the rate of drowning deaths is also escalating in the valley.

On 14 July 2021, two teenage

cousin sisters—Utba (17) and Insha (19)—drowned after a sudden flow of water to a power canal washed them away at Ferozpur Nallah in Drang tourist resort.

It was the birthday of one of the deceased girls, who had insisted on going for the picnic.

"I was just standing near the Nallah and watching my children taking Selfies," Yasmeena Khan, mother of Utba told Kashmir Observer. "Suddenly, a water gush washed them away. Everything happened so fast that we failed to act and react."

What followed was a quintessential tragic tale—leaving another Kashmiri family with loss and lamentations.

But apart from sudden drowning incidents, many say surging life attempts in water bodies of Kashmir is also escalating the rate of such deaths. "It's not

always easy for even a seasoned swimmer to rescue a drowning person," said Sajad Shangloo, a fisherman with dozens of rescue ops to his name. "These are tiring rescue ops, which often end up consuming the rescuer himself."

Above and beyond these suicide-triggered drowning cases, a summertime heat-relieving dives into rivers, ponds, lakes and streams are also creating these casualties.

"If you don't know how to swim, why jump into the water," said Riyaz Wani, a professional swimmer. "This is suicide."

Apart from lack of training, Wani said, the dearth of life-saving equipment in Kashmir is equally

responsible for these deaths.

"Drowning incidents happen in other states as well, but authorities deploy life-saving guards there to prevent such mishaps," he said. "However, here we don't have such facilities."

A member of the Swimming and Surviving Society—an NGO imparting swimming training and recording the drowning incidents—Wani said the ongoing summer already recorded 35 drowning deaths in different parts of the valley.

"Except seven, rest died," he said. "And most of the deceased were teenagers."

With "only 3 per cent Kashmir is well-versed" ● [More On P2](#)

UK High Court Declares Vijay Mallya Bankrupt For Indian Banks To Realise Debt

Press Trust of India

LONDON: A British court on Monday granted a bankruptcy order against Vijay Mallya, paving the way for a consortium of Indian banks led by the State Bank of India (SBI) to pursue a worldwide freezing order to seek repayment of debt owed by the now-defunct Kingfisher Airlines.

"As at 15:42 [UK time], I shall adjudicate Dr Mallya bankrupt," Chief

Insolvency and Companies Court (ICC) Judge Michael Briggs said in his ruling during a virtual hearing of the Chancery Division of the High Court.

"I have to decide if there is a real prospect of payment of petition debt in full within a reasonable period of time there is insufficient evidence that [Mallya's asset realisations in India] will pay the debt in full within a reasonable period of time, Judge Briggs noted, in reference to defence

arguments pointing to a restoration process in India following a Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court order for the attachment of Mallya's assets.

"In my judgment, the sums provided to date are conditional there is no evidence Dr Mallya will return to India to deal with the criminal trial and seek to unlock the allocation of realisations which have been made," the judge concluded.

The 65-year-old businessman, wanted in India on fraud and money laundering charges, remains on bail in the UK while a "confidential" legal matter, believed to be related to an asylum application, is resolved in connection with the unrelated extradition proceedings. During the course of Monday's hearing, Judge Briggs asked Mallya's barrister, Philip Marshall, if there was any "indication" if his client intended

to return to India to deal with the criminal proceedings and was told that there was no such indication.

The Indian banks, represented by the law firm TLT LLP and barrister Marcia Shekerdemian, had argued for the bankruptcy order to be granted in favour of the Indian banks who are owed over GBP 1 billion and pointed out that the long-drawn legal battle would complete its third birthday in September this year".

Delhi Riots Case: Delhi Police Moves HC Against Order Imposing Rs 25,000 Fine

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police has moved the Delhi High Court against a trial court order which called its investigation into a Delhi riots case callous and farcical and imposed a fine of Rs 25,000. The appeal said that the imposition of fine, which was to be recovered from the station house officer (SHO) of Bhajanpura police station and his supervising officers, was unwarranted and uncalled for.

In its plea filed through advocates Amit Mahajan and Rajat Nair, Delhi Police has said that

the July 13 order was in violation of principles of natural justice as it was passed without giving any opportunity to the DCP to make his submissions, and that very serious remarks were made against the investigation even prior to the commencement of trial.

In its order, Additional Sessions Judge Vinod Yadav had pulled up the police for lack of efficacy and fairness in the investigation in the case and said that it had been done in a most casual, callous, and farcical manner.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Prez Kovind Reviews

Principal Secretary Home Shaleen Kabra, Director General of Police Dilbagh Singh, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar, heads of CRPF, BSF and various intelligence agencies in Kashmir attended the interaction with the President, the officials said.

They said the meeting lasted for nearly 90 minutes.

Attends Vijay Diwas at Baramulla

President Kovind visited the Dagger War Memorial in Baramulla and paid tributes to those soldiers who laid down their lives on Kargil heights during conflict with Pakistan in 1999.

President later said the event evokes profound respect for the brave fighters who laid down their lives for the safety and security of the country.

Kovind was scheduled to visit the War Memorial at Drass in Ladakh to pay homage to personnel of the armed forces killed in the 1999 Kargil war, but bad weather forced cancellation of his plans and he instead paid tributes to martyrs on the 22nd anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas at Baramulla, officials said.

The president, in a message in the visitor's book at the Dagger War Memorial, wrote: "The nation salutes the soldiers and officers of the 19th Infantry Division, who have been safeguarding our borders in the most hostile terrains under adverse weather conditions as our frontline troops."

They have scripted exceptional stories of indomitable courage, bravery and sacrifice, he said in his message.

"The Dagger War Memorial evokes profound respect for the brave fighters who laid down their lives for the safety and security of our country. I am sure that this memorial will educate the people of India about the highest values of the Indian army and inspire them. Jai Hind!" he wrote.

The president, who was accompanied by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha, also visited the High Altitude Warfare School at Gulmarg and interacted with troops there.

"It has been a pleasure to visit the High Altitude Warfare School at Gulmarg. Established by the great General Thimayya, it has emerged as one of the most premier institutions in the field of warfare," Kovind wrote in the visitor's book of training school.

The president said that he was also happy to interact with the soldiers.

"I wish them success in their endeavours to provide safety and security to our country. Jai Hind!" he wrote.

Bad Weather Grounds

by laying a wreath at a war memorial at the Army's 15 Corps headquarters in Badamibagh here.

The celebrations were not held in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The officials said the plan B was put into motion following the cancellation of the plan A (visit to Drass) and the President visited the Baramulla War Memorial in north Kashmir to pay homage to the slain soldiers.

In 1999, the Indian armed forces defeated attempts by Pakistan to capture strategic heights in Kargil. It was named 'Operation Vijay' (victory).

On Tuesday, Kovind will address the 19th annual convocation of the University of Kashmir at SKICC auditorium here, the officials added.

He will leave for Delhi on Wednesday morning. (PTI)

Imran Khan's Party

Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) secured just six seats, the state-run Radio Pakistan reported.

Muslim Conference (MC) and Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party (JKPP) were successful in one seat each.

However, Geo TV reported that PTI won 25 seats, followed by PPP with nine and PML-N six. One seat each was won by Muslim Conference and Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Party.

Thus, PTI got a simple majority to form the government without support of any other party. It is for the first time that it will form a government in PCK.

Traditionally, the ruling party in the country wins the elections in Pck.

The assembly has a total of 53 members but only 45 are directly elected, while five seats are reserved for women and three are meant for the technocrats.

The 45 members directly elected included 33 residents of Pck and 12 refugees who came over the years from Kashmir and settled in various cities of Pakistan.

India has previously slammed Pakistan for its decision to hold elections in Gilgit-Baltistan and said any action to alter the status of the "militarily occupied region" has no legal basis.

PTI Barrister Sultan Mahmood Chaudhry, who is the front-runner candidate for the 'Prime Minister' of the region, won from his seat. Former 'Prime Minister' and PML-N leader Raja Farooq Haider retained his seat. Another ex-'Prime Minister' and chief of Muslim Conference, Sardar Attique Ahmed Khan, also won.

A total of 587 candidates contested the elections in 33 constituencies of various Pck districts and 121 candidates in 12 constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir refugees settled in Pakistan.

Pakistan's Opposition parties, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), have accused Khan's party of "rigging" the elections held on Sunday.

There is proof of systematic rigging in the election, PPP's vice-president Senator Sherry Rehman.

She said PTI workers attacked the PPP worker during polling time, while police had uprooted a camp belonging to her party. "There is a clear difference between the voter lists of several polling stations, she said.

PML-N spokesperson Marriyum Aurangzeb, in a statement, claimed that to rig the election the PTI "goons" attacked her party's workers in Gujranwala's Alipur Chatha area.

"PTI has been allowed to engage in hooliganism with complete liberty," she said.

However, the region's Election Commission rejected the allegations and said that the polls were held in a fair and peaceful manner.

The chief election commission, Abdul Rashid Sulehria, told the media that he was satisfied with the election process.

At least two PTI workers were shot and killed in clashes with PPP activists at a polling station in Charhoi area of Kotli district on Sunday. The two men were shot dead by unidentified persons, police said.

Also, at least four soldiers were killed while three soldiers and a civilian driver were injured when their vehicle plunged down a ravine off a curvy mountain road in Laswa area of the region, the military said in a statement on Sunday.

The soldiers were part of army troops deployed to help maintain peace during the elections.

In another incident, five police constables were injured after Jamaat-e-Islami activists attacked them with batons at the Dhal Chakhya polling station of Jhelum valley district.

A PML-N candidate Choudhary Muhammad Ismail Gujjar kicked up a storm as he threatened on Sunday that he would "seek India's help" if the local administration failed to address his concerns after his party's polling agents were removed from a polling station, the Geo News reported.

Following their exit from the polling station, the agents got into a heated argument with the deputy commissioner after which the polling process was halted there.

He, however, later clarified on media that his statement was directed towards the administration.

Region's Secretary Election Commission Muhammad Ghazanfar Khan claimed that the elections were held in a free, fair and transparent manner.

He expressed satisfaction over the law and order and appreciated the performance of the police and the Pakistan Army for ensuring the peaceful conduct of the elections, in which there were 32 lakh people eligible to vote to elect 45 members of the assembly for a five-year term.

The last general election for Pck Legislative Assembly was held in July 2016 and won by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz led by former prime minister Nawaz Sharif.

In this election, the PTI nominated candidates for all the 45 constituencies, while PML-N and PPP each issued tickets to candidates for 44 seats.

Tehreek-e-Labbaiq Pakistan (TLP), the Islamist party which was banned in April by the Pakistan government for its violent activities, contested on 40 seats. The TLP was not de-registered by the Election Commission of Pakistan even after the ban, enabling it to take part in the elections.

Apart from the ticket holders of different political parties, a total of 261 independent candidates were also in

the race for the 33 constituencies in Pck, while 56 independents were running for the 12 refugees' seats.

LeT Commander Killed

militants in the area. When the search team started advances, the hiding militants opened fire upon them in a bid to break the cordon. In the retaliatory fire, one militant was killed.

"#KulgamEncounterUpdate: 01 unidentified #terrorist killed. #Operation in progress. Further details shall follow," Police posted on its official Twitter handle.

Meanwhile, a local news agency KNO quoting an unnamed senior police officer said that LeT commander Amir Ahmad Mir from Chaki Choland Shopain, who was active since 2017, was killed in the ongoing operation.

The report also said that 27 militants were killed this month alone in southern districts of Kashmir.

6 Assam Policemen

of both states, including Cachar Deputy Commissioner (DC) Keerthi Jalli and Superintendent of Police (SP) Nimbalkar Vaibhav Chandrakant are camping in the trouble-torn Lailapur area in Assam's Cachar district, which borders Mizoram's Kolasib, as they try to calm the volatile situation.

Assam officials claimed that a large number of people from Mizoram attacked them, injuring 16, six km inside the state, while Mizoram officials claimed that people from Assam damaged a vehicle in which a Mizo couple was travelling to the state.

There were reports that there was some firing too but officials did not confirm it.

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and his Mizoram counterpart Zoramthanga, in a series of tweets, sought to blame each other's officials for the violence, while calling on Amit Shah to urgently intervene to control the situation.

Mizoram Home Minister Lalchamlhana in Aizawl said that around 200 Assam armed Police led by an Inspector General of Police, accompanied by DC, Cachar, SP, Cachar and Divisional Forest Officer came to the Vairengte auto-rickshaw stand on Monday and forcibly crossed the duty post manned by CRPF personnel stationed there and overran a duty post manned by the Mizoram police personnel. He said the Assam Police also damaged several vehicles while travelling along the National Highway between Vairengte and Lailapur.

"The confrontation continued and a volley of tear gas canisters and grenades were launched at Mizoram Police followed by firing from the Assam side.

"Mizoram Police responded spontaneously by firing back at Assam Police in spite of the fact that SP, Kolasib District was still inside CRPF duty camp negotiating with the Assam Police authorities," the Mizoram Home Minister said in a statement.

The statement said that the Mizoram Government strongly condemns the unjustified act of the Government of Assam in this intrusion and aggression into the territory of Mizoram.

The Government of Mizoram deeply regrets the needless injuries on both sides which could have been avoided and wishes a speedy recovery to all those injured, it added.

At least 100 people of the two states including southern Assam's Cachar district Superintendent of Police (SP) Nimbalkar Vaibhav Chandrakant were injured in the firing and clashes and admitted in hospital.

The injured Assam policemen and civilians were admitted to the Silchar Medical College and Hospital.

Govt Replaced

development," he added.

Answering the queries of the young participants about the recent developments taking place in the UT, the LG, he said, remarked that the "Regressive laws and rules have been replaced by the progressive reforms.

"Zero tolerance against Corruption, Responsiveness, Transparency, Accountability, people-centric policies are now integral parts of governance," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

Speaking on the interventions made by the government to bring reforms in all major sectors in the UT, he said that the LG stated that unprecedented progress has been achieved at the grass root level.

Sinha, he said, also reiterated the Government's determination and commitment to facilitate socio-economic

development and take industrialization to the block level.

Recounting the major breakthroughs made in the governance front, the LG as per official spokesperson said that with initiatives like e-Office, empowering Panchayati Raj Institutions, 100% saturation of all welfare schemes, extending hand-holding to youth, strengthening health & educational infrastructure, bringing transparency in the execution of works, and completing the projects hanging in for long in record time, the UT Government has paved a solid foundation for the rapid growth of J&K.

"We have set a target of completing 30,000 projects, besides providing financial assistance to 50,000 youth this year," the LG added.

On this occasion, the LG also paid homage to the soldiers who were killed during the Kargil war.

"I salute the valour and courage of the brave hearts of Indian Army who defeated the nefarious design of the enemy and liberated the Indian Territory from the infiltrators. My humble tributes to our immortal heroes who fought till their last breath to protect the sovereignty and integrity of our great nation", Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

Terror Charges

accused for alleged commission of offences under Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act and Indian Penal Code."

The special NIA judge charged him with being a member of a militant group, raising funds for them as well as aiding an outfit. He was also charged under sections related to waging of war against the country, spreading disaffection against the government and criminal conspiracy.

"I have gone through the police report as well as the statements of the witnesses of the prosecution and have applied my mind into the present facts and circumstances levelled in the police report...as well as statements of the witnesses and the digital evidence against the accused, there is sufficient evidence against the accused for alleged commission of offences...", the judge said in his order.

With the help of five protected witnesses and technical intelligence, the Criminal Investigation Kashmir (CIK), a wing of the CID Department, submitted a charge sheet before the court alleging that Parra was hand in glove with militants to further the agenda of Pakistan-based militant groups and also to ensure that his political adversaries are neutralised.

The 19-page charge sheet, with hundreds of pages of annexures, has given instances of his attempts to eliminate political opponents and to help his party leaders by paying militant groups to swing the electoral battle in his party's favour.

His lawyer Shariq Reyaz has denied all these charges and said that he would contest the order against his client.

The charge sheet has highlighted his links to Pakistan-trained Abu Dujana and Abu Qassim, who were killed in separate encounters with security forces, and went on to allege that he used to meet them personally as well as through Over Ground Workers (OGWs).

The police tracked his journey from 2007 when he went to Pakistan and interviewed banned Hizbul Mujahideen's chief Syed Salahuddin and broadcast it on his local media channel which was being operated from Pulwama, his home district in south Kashmir.

Parra joined the PDP in 2013 and "once ensconced in the safety of a recognised political party...", the accused systematically went about strengthening himself by craftily deepening his roots on two sides of the divide -- India and Pakistan."

"...Parra had the permission of the Pakistani establishment to keep throwing crumbs at India, allowing them petty tactical gains and systematically pushing the overall situation, slowly but surely, in favour of Pakistan in a strategic sense. What played out over 13 years (2007-2020) was a saga of subterfuges, deceit and double meaning," the charge sheet alleged.

The CIK, which is mandated to probe cases under the UAPA and the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), took sanction for Parra's prosecution from the Jammu and Kashmir Home Department under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The CIK had filed a case last year against unknown politicians and

others based on "reliable and confidential sources" who said some political functionaries were misusing their power and helping militants.

In March this year, Parra was charge-sheeted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and it was alleged that the PDP youth leader had paid Rs 5 crore to the son-in-law of hardline Hurriyat Conference leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani for keeping Kashmir in turmoil after the death of Burhan Wani, a commander of the Hizbul Mujahideen group, in 2016.

The NIA accused Parra, who was arrested last November, of being involved with banned groups such as the Hizbul Mujahideen and the Lashkar-e-Taiba.

The NIA alleged that after the death of Wani, who was killed in an encounter with the Army in July 2016, Parra got in touch with Altaf Ahmad Shah, alias Altaf Fantoosh, and asked him to ensure that the valley was kept on the boil with widespread unrest and stone-pelting.

In January this year Parra was granted bail by the NIA court, which said there was no reference to him in the original as well as the supplementary charge sheets presented in July and October last year respectively.

However, he was arrested by the CIK Wing in the case related to nexus between mainstream politicians and secessionists, and he continues to be in jail since then. His bail was rejected by the NIA court in Srinagar.

Govt Evades Reply

"The Committee in the Phase-I, identified ten thousand Class-IV vacancies across various departments out of which 8575 have already been put to advertisement by the Board under the provisions of Jammu and Kashmir Appointment to Class-IV (Special Recruitment) Rules, 2020," Teli said in the reply, a copy of which lies with GNS.

As part of Phase-II of Accelerated Recruitments Drive, he said, the Committee has identified 12,379 Gazetted and Non-Gazetted vacancies. Apart from ARC, he said, 3694 other Gazetted and Non-Gazetted vacancies have also been identified for recruitment.

"In the Union Territory of J&K post August, 2019, rigorous efforts are being made to provide jobs to unemployed youth both in public and private sectors. The Government of J&K has taken (various) steps to provide employment," he said.

Among others, he said that under Mission Youth, Rs 200 crore has been provisioned for 2021-22 to provide for holistic development of youth of J&K.

"Under this initiative, a program called "MUMKIN" has already been launched under which full financial assistance is being provided for setting up self employment ventures in Transport sector," he said.

Under Back to Village programme, he said, over 17,000 unemployed youth have been provided financial assistance for self employment ventures through J&K Bank under priority sector lending.

"Under the "Himayaa" scheme 20,827 candidates have completed their training and 7076 candidates have been placed in job."

Labour and Employment Department of J&K Government is implementing the self employment schemes for employment generation for unemployed educated youth of UT including "Seed Capital Fund Scheme"; Youth Startup Loan Scheme; Women Entrepreneurship Programme while Vocational Education is being emphasized with establishment of vocational labs in High and Higher Secondary schools for improving employability of students and also in becoming entrepreneurs, he said.

"School Education Department of J&K Government has launched an Online Career Portal (in phase-I covering two districts Udhampur and Ganderbal) wherein more than 30,000 students have registered their interest in selecting their future goals after passing class 12th, besides, introducing new technical subjects in schools with modern requirement which shall enhance the employability among the educated youth," he said.

He said as per results of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during 2019-20 by National Statistical Office (NSO) under Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, the unemployment rate in J&K (for all the age groups for all persons) on usual status basis (ps+ss) was 6.7 per cent which is much lower

than many other States. (GNS)

J&K Logs 102

Giving district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 47, Baramulla 13, Budgam 3, Pulwama 6, Kupwara 4, Anantnag 1, Bandipora 1, Ganderbal 3, Kulgam 3, Shopian 1, Jammu 4, Udhampur 3, Rajouri 7, Doda 3, Samba 1, Kishtwar 2 and Poonch 1 new case of coronavirus. No case of Covid-19 was reported from the three districts of Ramban, Reasi and Kathua.

Also, the officials said that one death was reported from Jammu division this taking the overall fatality count to 4375 in J&K.

Moreover, officials said, 189 more patients in last 24 hours have recovered—56 from Jammu Division and 133 from Kashmir, taking the number of people who have recovered in J&K to 315184.

With this, there are now 1200 active cases—446 in Jammu and 754 in Kashmir.

There was no new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today. So far 35 black fungus cases have been confirmed in J&K, the officials added. (With GNS inputs)

'35 Drowning Deaths

with swimming", Wani said, he fears more drowning cases as the soaring mercury is compelling youngsters to beat the heat in water bodies.

However, to prevent drowning deaths, the administration in Kashmir has restricted swimming at water bodies.

The disaster management department in its latest advisory has said that people should not venture out into the water bodies unless they know how to swim.

"Don't dive into the water or push someone into the water," it said. "Don't swim alone, especially if you are an inexperienced swimmer."

The current may be faster, the advisory warns, with dangerous undercurrents, even difficult for experienced swimmers.

"A rope, lifejacket, lifebuoy, or improvised flotation device should be made available for rescue operations at places where drowning incidents happen," Aamir Ali, Disaster Management Director, told Kashmir Observer. "Elders should keep a constant visual contact with children when they are swimming. Learn first aid as you might save someone's life."

However, the biggest issue—the lack of life-saving support in Kashmir—has already doomed Manzoor's poor family.

"It was a preventable loss," said his mournful friend, Mushtaq Ahmad. "But the temporary bridge and the gushing water made his death certain. A posted guard could have saved a precious life, but alas!"

Misfire Injures

for treatment, according to news agency GNS.

He has been identified as Altaf Hussain Cheechi.

In this regard a case has been filed and investigations have been taken up.

Labourer Dies

sustained injuries due to electrocution.

According to reports, Sageer succumbed to his injuries while his co-worker Azam was shifted in a critical condition to the Government Medical College (GMC) Rajouri.

Block Medical Officer (BMO) Kotranka Dr Iqbal Malik confirmed the death of one labourer and injuries to another.

5 Gamblers

spokesperson said Monday. Besides playing cards, he said, an amount of Rs 7,230 was also recovered from the accused. "They have been arrested and shifted to a police station where they remain in custody. Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 93/2021 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Sumbal and investigation has been initiated," the police spokesperson said.

Man Injured

local residents appealed to the Wildlife Department to capture the wild animals present in the area at an earliest in order to prevent any further attacks. (GNS)

Elderly Man

He said that a case has been registered and investigation has been taken up—(KNO)

Diversions Trigger Chaos In City, Enrage Commuters

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Several diversions in view of the security arrangements amid President of India Ram Nath Kovind's three-day visit to Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh Monday choked the city streets consequently leading to massive jams thereby enraging the commuters.

As part of security measures for the President's visit, traffic on the two approach roads to Raj Bhawan where President Kovind has been diverted between Sunday and Wednesday.

A traffic department official said diversions have been placed in some areas of the city and no traffic is being allowed on Foreshore Road, along the famous Dal Lake from Dalgate and Nishat axis, as well as towards Gupkar for the next three days.

Kovind is in the capital city Srinagar and is scheduled to address the convocation of University of Kashmir on Tuesday.

His visit began on Sunday

and will last till Wednesday. In Srinagar, the president will address the 19th Annual Convocation of the University of Kashmir on Tuesday.

Meanwhile traffic on Baramulla-Srinagar highway was diverted on Monday morning. Traffic on Gupkar and Foreshore roads, the two approach roads to Raj Bhawan and the Nehru state guest house on the banks of Dal lake, has been diverted between July 25 and 28.

In addition to this the small passenger vehicles coming from South Kashmir were also diverted through Lasjan Bypass as part of security measures for the President's visit.

The massive security arrangements have caused massive inconvenience to the people, who complained that the arrangements choked the city streets. Pertinently, the Kashmir Observer staffers were also barred from entering their office that is located on the Boulevard road.



Artist Puts City On Canvas, Maps Srinagar On Fabric

Agencies

Srinagar: A 49-year-old man from Lal Bazar area of Srinagar has mapped capital city Srinagar on fabric defining all roads, water bodies and residential areas that existed since 1825.

Maqbool Jaan, an award winning artist, said that he got this concept when he found a fabric map in museums, which is in rotten state. "I found a copy of that map on a book which I started working on over a 6/4 sized cloth. It took me one year to complete this map. I used to work 2 to 3 hours on

a regular basis," Jaan said, adding that there is a need to promote this art, which has been introduced by the revered saint Hazrat Mir Syed Ali Hamadani popularly known as Ameer Kabir (RA).

"I tried to approach the handicrafts department in this regard, however, got no response. Many people from other States approached me so far with regard to the work for their States," he said.

Notably, Jaan has received an award in pottery painting and has won gold medal in State of honours for South Asian competition of seven countries in the year 2007.

"This art is declining as the people are no longer adopting this work as the source of their livelihood. I want this art to sustain forever," he said, adding that this work as a source of livelihood is better than working at a private office for eight hours on a daily basis.

Jaan is ready to teach this art to the youngsters in every educational institution for free so that this art can sustain further and the people can show their interest in this work.

"After completing this map, I will now come up with a world map and the work over my next art will commence from next year," he said.

DDC Srinagar Approves 23 Cases Under Marriage Assistance Scheme

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A meeting of District Level Sanctioning Committee (DLSC) of Srinagar was held under the Chairmanship of District Development Commissioner (DDC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here on Monday.

On the occasion, the District Development Com-

missioner approved 23 cases under Marriage Assistance Scheme in favour of unmarried poor girls belonging to the district involving an amount of Rs. 11, 03,885.

Under the Scheme, financial assistance of Rs.25000 and cost of 5 gram gold was sanctioned in favor of unmarried girls belonging to poor families for marriage.

Progress Of Establishment Of Youth Clubs Reviewed At Srinagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The District Development Commissioner (DDC), Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Monday chaired a meeting of officers to review the progress made on establishing Youth Clubs in the district.

On the occasion, the DDC directed the officers to work in a coordinated manner and submit a detailed list of all Youth Clubs to be

established by July 28. He also directed for constituting a Committee under the chairmanship of Additional District Development Commissioner to monitor the functioning of the Youth Clubs.

The DDC said establishing Youth Clubs is for constructive activities and addressing all the concerns of the young generation. He said the purpose of such Youth Clubs is also to provide a plat-

form to youth of Srinagar to channelize their talent proper way and increase the presence of youth engagement at the Panchayat level.

The DDC was informed that in the first phase 1050 Youth from 21 Panchayats of Srinagar district (50 youth per Panchayat) are to be engaged in the Youth clubs for all youth programs, community involvement, Sports and Cultural activities for their overall development.

Office Of The Assistant Executive Engineer Electric Special Sub Division Tangmarg

email:-tangmargsubdiv123@gmail.com

e-NIT No:SSDT/15 of 2021-22, Dated: 24/07/2021

STANDARD BIDDING DOCUMENT AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

a) INVITATION:-

For and on behalf of the Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-Tenders are hereby invited from registered A class Electrical Contractors registered with Inspection Agency of JKPD or any other relevant Government agency enlisted with CPWD, MES, Railway, DGBRO of appropriate class Segregation of 11KV Hardabooora Feeder (Under Winter Preparedness Capex 2021-22) per terms, conditions, technical specifications and schedules forming part of this tender specifications and schedules forming part of this tender document.

A	Date & Time of down loading of Standard Bidding Document	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from 24th of Jul 2021; 04:00PM
B	Sale of Bid Document (Start)	24th of Jul 2021; 04:50PM
C	Sale of Bid Document (End)	24th of Jul 2021; 04:50PM
D	Clarifications start date	24th of Jul 2021; 04:50PM
E	Clarifications end date	26th of Jul 2021; 02:00PM
F	e-Bid submission (start) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	26th of Jul 2021; 02:30PM
G	e-Bid submission (end) date & time (Submission of e-tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/XLS format)	02nd of Jul 2021; 04:00PM
H	Online Commercial and Technical e-Bid opening date & Time	03rd of Aug 2021; 12:00PM
I	Online financial e-Bid opening date & time (Only of the Commercial & technical qualified bidders)	Will be communicated to the Technical Qualified Bidders
J	Venue of opening of technical & financial e-Bids	ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG
K	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Non-refundable)
L	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs Nil
M	Estimated cost	8.75 Lacs

The interested bidders are requested to submit their offer along with terms, conditions, technical specifications and annexures forming part of this tender document.

- The Bidders are advised to study the Bidding Document carefully. Submission of e-Bid against this SBD shall be deemed to have been done after site visit, careful study and examination of the procedures, terms and conditions of the Standard Bidding Document with full understanding of its implications.
- The tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below.
- The bidders need to upload the proof/cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through Demand Draft (Preferably J&K Bank) pledged to **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG, payable at Tangmarg**. The scanned copy of the Demand Draft must be enclosed along with the e-Bids but the original Demand Draft should be submitted by the lowest bidder in the office of **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG** upon information. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited.
 - Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD shall be submitted by the lowest bidder to the office of the **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG**.
 - The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://jktenders.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the qualified bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-bids shall be opened accordingly online on the same Web Site at EM&RE **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG**.
- The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the venue, date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder's representative will be required to be produced.
- The **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG** reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of **ASSISSTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC SPECIAL SUB DIVISION TANGMARG** will be final and binding.
- In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
- All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD.
- To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' class III (b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.
- Allotment order shall be issued only after proper quality verification of items by the AEE Store.

It may be noted that for evaluation purposes the uploaded offer documents will be treated as authentic and final.

DIPK-NB-2001/21

NO: SSDT/777-84
Date: 24-07-2021

Sd/-
Assistant Executive Engineer
Electric Special Sub Division
Tangmarg

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200



AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR
16 Zil Haj
1442

PRAYERS

FAJR 4: 00
ZUHR 12:37
ASR 5:33
Magrib 7:40
ISHA 9:14

This Day In History

- 1214 - 1st battle of Bouvines - King Philips II of France vs Holy Roman Emperor Otto IV and King John of England as a result John lost Normandy and his other possessions in France (hence his nickname Jhn "Lackland")
- 1914 Felix Manalo registers the Iglesia ni Cristo with the Filipino government.
- 1917 - World War I: Allied troops reach the Yser Canal in the prelude to the Battle of Passchendaele
- 1922 - International Geographical Union forms in Brussels
- 1941 - Japanese forces land in Indo-China
- 1943 - 772 British bombers attack Hamburg
- 1965 - President Lyndon B. Johnson signs a bill requiring cigarette makers to print health warnings on all cigarette packages about the effects of smoking.
- 1967 - Arabs Federation premier Hoeseln Al Bayoomi resigns
- 1970 - France performs nuclear Test at Mururoa atoll
- 1975 - The British government closes its consulate in Angola following increasing fighting between the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola and South African troops
- 1976 - Japanese ex-premier Tanaka arrested (Lockheed Affair)
- 1982 - Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's first visit to the US in almost 11 years
- 1986 - Iraqi jets attack central Iranian city of Arak; Iran threatens missile attack of Gulf states supporting Iraq
- 1987 - First expedited salvaging of Titanic wreck begins by RMS Titanic, Inc.
- 1990 - Tom Moody scores 100 in 26 mins in county cricket, world record
- 1990 - White-Russia declares independence in Washington, D.C.
- 1991 - TV Guide publishes its 2000th edition
- 1992 - Astros begins 26-game road trip to make room for Rep National Convention
- 1992 - Nelson Mandela says a general strike will go ahead to protest for the removal of South African President F. W. de Klerk from power and for free elections
- 1993 - Mafia bombs historical buildings in Rome/Milan/Vatican City, 5 killed
- 1995 - Korean War Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C.
- 1997 - Si Zerouk massacre in Algeria; about 50 people killed.
- 2002 - Ukraine airshow disaster: A Sukhoi Su-27 fighter crashes during an air show at Lviv, Ukraine killing 85 and injuring more than 100 others, the largest air show disaster in history.
- 2003 - A group of 321 Filipino armed soldiers called "Magdalo" took over the Oakwood Premier Ayala Center in Makati City to show the Filipino people the alleged corruption of the Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo administration
- 2005 - STS-114: NASA grounds the Space shuttle, pending an investigation of the external tank's continued foam-shedding problem
- 2007 - Two News helicopters from Phoenix, Arizona television stations KNXV and KTVX collide over Steele Indian School Park in central Phoenix while covering a police chase; there were no survivors. Worst civil aviation incident in Phoenix history.
- 2013 - 100 people are killed and 1,500 injured in a crackdown against protesters in Cairo, Egypt
- 2013 - 1,000 inmates escape from a prison in Benghazi, Libya
- 2013 - First Przewalski's horse (whose wild populations were believed extinct in 1969) is born via artificial insemination at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute as part of a worldwide effort to rebuild the wild herds
- 2014 - Liberia shuts down most of its borders with fears about the spread of Ebola epidemic
- 2014 - Obama reaffirms Israel's "right to defend itself", but condemns civilian casualties in Gaza

From KO Archives

Car With 100 KG RDX seized

Stolen car intercepted near Magam, was headed for Srinagar?

Observer News Service

Srinagar - Death and devastation on a large scale was averted today when the police recovered 100 kilograms of RDX from a stolen Maruti car near Magam in the Baramulla district. The driver of the car was apprehended while two other occupants managed to escape.

"The RDX was concealed in a trunk and was fitted with two live grenades fixed to detonators," Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, Javed Mukhdomi, said at a hurriedly-called press conference this evening. A wireless Set was also found along with the explosives.

Police immediately called the bomb disposal squad who neutralised the explosive material.

"There is a possibility that the car was being driven to Srinagar for a bombing," he said, adding that a major tragedy had been averted.

The recovery was made during routine checking near Magam when a blue Maruti 800 was stopped by line police at around 6 PM Tuesday evening. The three occupants of the car made a break for it, but one of them, the driver, identified as Zahoor Ahmad of Hanjiwera, Pattan, was caught at Mazhama on the Srinagar-Magam road after the police gave chase, the IGP said.

The car (original registration number JKE 6394) was fitted with a false number plate (DL3C 8177). It had been stolen a few days ago from Aripathan, and an FIR stands lodged in the Beeru police station, the IGP said. The interrogation of the driver was going on. Seizure a major breakthrough!

The Centre today described the seizure of an explosive-laden car and the arrest of its driver on Srinagar1 Gulmarg Highway a major breakthrough in the investigations into a spate of bomb blasts in the recent past. "This is a major breakthrough and we are hopeful that the security forces will be able to bust the militant network carrying out these attacks," a senior Home Ministry official said.

(Kashmir Observer, 27 July, 2005)

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Public Notification

(No: Date: 23rd July 2021)

Polythene and other single use plastics are extremely harmful to the environment and public health. Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 (SWM Rules, 2016) and Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016 (PWM Rules, 2016) and its amendments provide for rules and guidelines to deal with this menace. In compliance with the SWM Rules, 2016 and PWM Rules 2016 & in pursuance of various orders passed by the Hon'ble High Court of J&K and Ladakh following orders are hereby issued:

- There shall be complete ban on use and sale of single use plastics and polythene (as defined in the prohibited categories in Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016) in Srinagar Municipal Limits.
- No one shall bring polythene or single use plastics into the Srinagar city for personal or commercial use via any of the entry points of the city.
- No one shall engage in sale of polythene and prohibited single use plastics in the city.
- No one shall sell goods or commodities in polythene or prohibited plastic bags.
- No one shall stock or hoard prohibited polythene or single use plastics.
- No one shall use or carry goods in bags made of prohibited polythene or single use plastic products.
- No restaurant or hotel or eatery or any commercial unit shall use disposable items made of single use plastic or polythene for serving food or tea etc. to the customers.
- No individual shall use disposable items made of single use plastics or polythene in marriages or other social or religious functions.
- All commercial units including shops, hotels, restaurants, street vendors, malls, institutes, offices (government & private), public or private sector companies, schools, colleges, universities etc shall not use prohibited polythene or single use plastics for packaging or sale.
- All commercial units including shops, restaurants, hotels, street vendors, malls, institutes, offices (government & private), public or private sector companies, schools, colleges, universities etc. shall keep two dustbins in or outside their units for keeping wet (bio-degradable) and dry (non-biodegradable) waste within three days after publication of this notice.
- No one shall litter waste including that of polythene or plastic in public places including roads, footpaths, vacant land, drains, streams, rivers or lakes.
- No one shall litter anywhere in the city. The waste shall be deposited in the designated dustbins only.
- All commercial units and establishments including street vendors, shops, restaurants, hotels, private or public offices, malls, institutes, public or private sector companies, schools, colleges, universities etc. shall make sure that waste generated by them or by their customers or clients is properly managed and the compounds are kept clean and litter free. The waste shall be segregated, disposed scientifically or handed over to SMC Sanitation staff.
- All bulk waste generators shall ensure they have a proper mechanism for waste collection and disposal in place.
- All hospitals, nursing homes, dispensaries, pharmacies and medical shops shall ensure bio-medical waste, expired or used medicine, equipment, etc is disposed-off in accordance with bio medical waste management rules 2016 and its amendments. Negligence would lead to heavy penalties and immediate sealing of the establishments/units.
- There shall be following penalties for violation:
 - Rs 500 fine for use of polythene bags/ prohibited single use plastics by individuals
 - Rs 5000 fine for use or for selling goods in polythene bags by commercial establishments/units.
 - Rs 10,000 fine per kilogram for carrying, stocking or selling or bulk use of polythene or other prohibited plastics.
 - Rs 500 fine for littering by individuals
 - Rs 5000 spot fine for littering by commercial establishments. Repeated offences shall invite heavy penalties including deregistration and sealing of businesses.
 - Rs 25000 fine for failure to manage solid waste by bulk waste generators in accordance with rules.
- Repeated offences by commercial establishments shall invite heavy penalties including deregistration and sealing of businesses.

Chief/Zonal Enforcement Officers, Heath Officer, Chief/Zonal Sanitation Officers, Chief Anti-Encroachment Officer, Anti-Encroachment Officers, Anti-Polythene Officers, Ward Officers and Sanitary Inspectors of SMC are directed to enforce the order and are authorized to impose the fine on violations. The notification shall be enforceable from 24th July 2021 (00:00 hrs.) in the Municipal limits of Srinagar.

DIPK-NB-2017/21

Sd/-
(Athar Aamir Khan, IAS)
Commissioner
Srinagar Municipal Corporation

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Fake arms license scam

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday carried out raids at the offices and homes of several senior bureaucrats in nearly 40 locations across Jammu and Kashmir. These raids were part of an ongoing investigation into arms license racket whereby the deputy commissioners of various districts in the former state are alleged to have illegally issued bulk arms licenses between 2012 and 2016 in lieu of monetary consideration. It is alleged that more than 2.78 lakh arms licenses were issued to non-entitled persons in J&K between 2012 and 2016. The searches were carried out in Jammu, Srinagar, Udhampur, Rajouri, Anantnag, Baramulla and Delhi.

The case first came to light in 2018 when an investigation carried over months by the anti-terror squads of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh revealed that the fake arms licenses procured from J&K have led to the proliferation of illegal weapons across several states. At that time, around 40,000 licenses were said to have been issued in the then state in the preceding six years.

The reason for this is that it was not difficult to get a license in J&K state if anyone faked the identity of security personnel or produced a forged letter from a commanding officer of an army unit and used a picture in the application form wearing an army uniform and greased the palms of the concerned officials.

What is more, most of these licenses were not issued to the J&K residents but to the outsiders. This, in turn, triggered an illegal arms trade in some states with thousands of people ending up possessing arms on fake documents. Alarm bells so triggered led to investigations by Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan ATS who tried to reveal the extent of the scam.

The then J&K Government too had started a probe to be carried out by the State Vigilance Organization. The state's then home department ordered the divisional commissioners of Kashmir and Jammu regions to verify all cases of individual new arms licenses issued between 1 January, 2017, to 23 February, 2018, in eight districts of the state.

And also the district magistrates in the state were directed to take urgent steps to revoke all such "individual arms licenses issued to various persons excluding the personnel of State Police, Army and Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs)."

J&K Government's order also required the district magistrates to ensure "all such persons, whose licenses are revoked, to deposit their arms and ammunition with the officer in charge of the nearest police station, failing which action, as warranted under the law, will be initiated". The probe brought under its scanner the district magistrates from the various districts which had witnessed the issuance of most of the licenses.

As the CBI raids would imply, the probe into the case is still ongoing. One can only hope that this time round it reaches its logical conclusion.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Exploitation of the
Fragile Himalayas

Nine tourists were killed and three others injured in Himachal Pradesh's Kinnaur district on Sunday when boulders fell on their vehicle during multiple landslides, triggered by heavy southwest monsoon rains. On July 12, heavy rain-triggered flash floods in the state's Kangra district swept away three people, buildings, and vehicles. Uttarakhand too has seen its share of natural disasters this year, starting with the massive flash flood in Chamoli in February that killed more than 80 people.

The Himalayan landscape is susceptible to landslides. Formed due to the collision of Indian and Eurasian plates, the northward movement of the former puts continuous stress on the rocks, rendering them weak and prone to landslides and earthquakes. This, combined with steep slopes, rugged topography, high seismic vulnerability, and rainfall, make a deadly cocktail. Top this with the utter disregard for the fragile topography and climate-sensitive planning. From the mega road expansion project in the name of national security (Char Dham Highway) to building cascading hydroelectric power projects, from unplanned expansion of towns to unsustainable tourism (even in the middle of the pandemic), the Indian State has ignored warnings about the fragile ecology. Such an approach has also led to pollution, deforestation, and water and waste management crises.

It is important to have early warning and better weather forecast systems, and a trans-boundary coalition of Himalayan countries to share and disseminate knowledge about the mountains. But what is most critical is to review the area's present status and draw up a sustainable plan that respects the specific requirements of this fragile region and the impact of the climate crisis.

Hindustan Times

US-Jordanian Ties Rejuvenated



King Abdullah's US visit marks an end to four years of being snubbed by the Trump administration, and may herald a new chapter in the US-Jordanian ties

Jordanian King Abdullah became the first Arab leader to meet the US President Joe Biden at the White House on July 19. By granting him this honour the new US administration is putting its weight behind Jordan to become the voice of the region and non-gulf Arab nations, once again.

As the Jordanian monarch for the last 22 years King Abdullah has been seen by American presidents as a moderate, reliable ally in the Middle East, besides being the eyes and ears from the Arab world in Washington.

However, during the last four years that special relationship was put into cold storage, as Donald Trump favoured working with Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states instead.

For instance the Trump administration didn't consult King Abdullah on the Mideast peace plan, which originally provided for annexation of the Jordan Valley.

Reports say that in his renewed role as a representative of moderate, pro-Western Arabs, Abdullah brought several messages to Biden.

Impact on Jordan-Saudi relations

President Joe Biden may have little appetite for Israeli-Palestinian peace-making efforts, but he seems determined to prevent certain third parties from exploiting the regional stalemate to their advantage.

Although the US's and Biden's foreign policy priorities are heavily focused on China and Russia, the Middle East is a region that the new administration understands very well it cannot afford to ignore.

Relations between Jordan and Saudi Arabia had their own ups and downs during the last four years. The Saudis were irked by King Abdullah's fierce rejection of Trump's recognition of all of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. Jordan also refused to consider the president's Israeli-Palestinian peace plan.

King Abdullah suspected that the US and Israel were favouring a Saudi role in the administration of the Muslim sites on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. Jordanian officials denied reports last year in Israeli newspapers quoting Saudi diplomats as saying that Jordan was willing to grant Saudi Arabia observer status in the endowment administering the Muslim holy sites on the Temple Mount.

The Saudi interest is marked by various moves initiated by the country in recent years, though it has not

officially declared its desire to wrest control of the Temple Mount from Jordan, yet.

Saudi King Salman announced at the Arab Summit in Dhahran in April 2018 that he was donating \$150 million to support Islam's holy places in Jerusalem. The donation was aimed to counter Turkish bequests. Saudi Arabia has since clashed with Jordan at various Arab forums over Jordan's exclusive control of the administration of the Jerusalem sites and is believed to have been wooing Palestinian religious dignitaries to achieve its objective.

Here the risk for Saudi Arabia is that broadening the administration of the Jerusalem sites could lead to demands that the custodianship of Mecca and Medina should also be internationalised. This proposition, often put forward by Iran, sounds horrific to the Saudis.

For much of the past century, the administration of Jerusalem's Muslim holy sites has vested in a Jordanian government-controlled endowment. And Jordan views the Saudi and other interested Islamic nation's efforts as an affront, which certain observers also describe as the battle to emerge as the supreme leader of the Islamic world.

The stakes in the struggle for control of Muslim holy sites in Jerusalem are high. For Riyadh's ruling Saud family, this is about bolstering its religious claim to leadership of the Muslim world.

For Jordan and its Hashemite monarchs, who trace their ancestry back to the Prophet Muhammad, this is more about politics than religion. Palestinians account for more than 40% of Jordan's population, thus maintaining the status quo in Jerusalem—which most Palestinians hope to be the capital of a future Palestinian state—is key to ensuring the regime's survival.

Despite Abdullah's fraught relationship with the Saudi crown prince, the Jordanian monarch told Biden, "we have to work with MBS," the sources said. This magnanimity stems from the confidence Abdullah has in reviving his ties with the new US administration.

Jordan as the regional peacemaker

King Abdullah also discussed Iraq and Syrian affairs with Joe Biden. It is reported that he urged Biden to back Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa Al Kadhimi, who will be visiting the White House this week.

King Abdullah's pro-Kadhimi arguments were based on the fact that he enjoys support of Egypt, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, as well as Jordan, and was described as the best bet to offset Iranian militias and influence in Iraq.

King Abdullah also urged Biden to join a task force to help stabilise Syria. The approach Abdullah advocates would bring together the United States, Russia, Israel, Jordan and other nations to agree on a road map for restoring Syrian sovereignty and unity.

Reports say that Biden hasn't yet committed to the proposal, as it would mean realigning the US interest with both Russia and the Bashar Al Assad regime, both of which are controversial decisions to be made.

US academic Curtis Ryan, a widely acclaimed Jordanian expert opines that Jordan and its partners see the new three-way alignment or axis with Iraq and Egypt as an alternative power centre in Arab politics that will help to bring non-Gulf voices back to the forefront of Arab politics.

In this regard Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al Sissi's visit to Baghdad can be described as a "positive step" to limit Iranian influence there.

Bruce Riedel, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution says that Abdullah has been the most energetic Arab leader by far in trying to support a stable Iraqi government. This summit in Baghdad of Iraq, Jordan and Egypt is the first time that the Sunni Arabs have ever done anything in 18 years since the fall of Saddam—that they have actually done something to not only stabilise Iraq, but to offset Iranian influence.

A final major area of discussion was Jordan's relationship with the new Israeli government. Abdullah labelled a recent meeting he had with PM Bennett as reassuring, and said he trusts the two governments could cooperate on security and other issues. Although Jordan and Israel have a peace treaty, relations remained tense during Netanyahu's long tenure as prime minister.

However, this time though King Abdullah has apparent support of POTUS, he also will have to outmanoeuvre his younger rivals like Sheikh Mohammed of the UAE and Prince MBS of Saudi Arabia to regain the regional Islamic leadership.

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. @asad-mirza.blogspot.com

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Pandemic Impacted Students and their Social Life

Global studies have shown that youngsters are struggling to cope with the varied challenges thrown up as a result of the pandemic. Anxiety, elevated stress levels and depression have been cited as some of the problems. When it comes to education, interrupted study programmes have been the main issue, despite the adoption of online learning methods.

Academic insufficiency with online learning being the mode since March 2020, both teachers and students have been experiencing diffi-

culties due to connectivity issues.

For economically-challenged students, the lack of access to devices is another problem. This means that, despite a teacher's best efforts, the question of how many students they reached remains.

Also, innovative and exploratory models of assessment and evaluation would not have been possible during this time. Dealing with this requires a great deal of self-learning by students. Emotional instability over the past year and a half, many students have had to deal with the loss of loved

ones. While philanthropists and the governments have come forward to help them continue their education, the trauma of the loss has also to be dealt with.

For economically challenged students, the lack of access to devices means that despite a teacher's best efforts, the question of how many students they reached remains. A third aspect is that having to complete their education virtually has led to an emotional strain and worry about placements.

This year has also seen many

students worry about falling victim to the virus. This has led to a lack of fellowship and social structure. Unfortunately, students are now glued to laptops or mobile phones for hours and their social life is also virtual. While this situation was unexpected and no one is sure when a degree of normalcy will be restored, it is important for us to address these issues so that the youth can come through to the other side without too much ado.

Vijay Garg
vkmalout@gmail.com

A major journalistic investigation has found evidence of malicious software being used by governments around the world, including allegations of spying on prominent individuals.

From a list of more 50,000 phone numbers, journalists identified more than 1,000 people in 50 countries reportedly under surveillance using the Pegasus spyware. The software was developed by the Israeli company NSO Group and sold to government clients.

Among the reported targets of the spyware are journalists, politicians, government officials, chief executives and human rights activists.

Reports thus far allude to a surveillance effort reminiscent of an Orwellian nightmare, in which the spyware can capture keystrokes, intercept communications, track the device and use the camera and microphone to spy on the user.

How did they do it?

The Pegasus spyware can infect the phones of victims through a variety of mechanisms. Some approaches may involve an SMS or iMessage that provides a link to a website. If clicked, this link delivers malicious software that compromises the device.

Others use the more concerning “zero-click” attack where vulnerabilities in the iMessage service in iPhones allows for infection by simply receiving a message, and no user interaction is required.

The aim is to seize full control of the mobile device’s operating system, either by rooting (on Android devices) or jailbreaking (on Apple iOS devices).

Usually, rooting on an Android device is done by the user to install applications and games from non-supported app stores, or re-enable a functionality that was disabled by the manufacturer.

Similarly, a jailbreak can be deployed on Apple devices to allow the installation of apps not available on the Apple App Store, or to unlock the phone for use on alternative cellular networks. Many jailbreak approaches require the phone to be connected to a computer each time it’s turned on (referred to as a “tethered jailbreak”).

Rooting and jailbreaking both remove the security controls embedded in Android or iOS operating systems. They are typically a combination of configuration changes and a “hack” of core elements of the operating system to run modified code.

In the case of spyware, once a device is unlocked, the perpetrator can deploy further software to secure remote access to the device’s data and functions. This user is likely to remain completely unaware.

Most media reports on Pegasus relate to the

Pegasus Spyware: Is it Snooping on Me?

Paul Haskell-Dowland | Roberto Musotto

compromise of Apple devices. The spyware infects Android devices too, but isn’t as effective as it relies on a rooting technique that isn’t 100% reliable. When the initial infection attempt fails, the spyware supposedly prompts the user to grant relevant permissions so it can be deployed effectively.

But aren’t Apple devices more secure?

Apple devices are generally considered more secure than their Android equivalents, but neither type of device is 100% secure.

Apple applies a high level of control to the code of its operating system, as well as apps offered through its app store. This creates a closed-system often referred to as “security by obscurity”. Apple also exercises complete control over when updates are rolled out, which are then quickly adopted by users.

Apple devices are frequently updated to the latest iOS version via automatic patch installation. This helps improve security and also increases the value of finding a workable compromise to the latest iOS version, as the new one will be used on a large proportion of devices globally.

On the other hand, Android devices are based on open-source concepts, so hardware manufacturers can adapt the operating system to add additional features or optimise performance. We typically see a large number of Android devices running a variety of versions — inevitably resulting in some unpatched and insecure devices (which is advantageous for cybercriminals).

Ultimately, both platforms are vulnerable to compromise. The key factors are convenience and motivation. While developing an iOS malware tool requires greater investment in time, effort and money, having many devices running an identical environment means there is a greater chance of success at a significant scale.

While many Android devices will likely be vulnerable to compromise, the diversity of hardware



and software makes it more difficult to deploy a single malicious tool to a wide user base.

How can I tell if I’m being monitored?

While the leak of more than 50,000 allegedly monitored phone numbers seems like a lot, it’s unlikely the Pegasus spyware has been used to monitor anyone who isn’t publicly prominent or politically active.

It is in the very nature of spyware to remain covert and undetected on a device. That said, there are mechanisms in place to show whether your device

has been compromised.

The (relatively) easy way to determine this is to use the Amnesty International Mobile Verification Toolkit (MVT). This tool can run under either Linux or MacOS and can examine the files and configuration of your mobile device by analysing a backup taken from the phone.

While the analysis won’t confirm or disprove whether a device is compromised, it detects “indicators of compromise” which can provide evidence of infection.

In particular, the tool can detect the presence of specific software (processes) running on the device, as well as a range of domains used as part of the global infrastructure supporting a spyware network.

What can I do to be better protected?

Unfortunately there is no current solution for the zero-click attack. There are, however, simple steps you can take to minimise your potential exposure — not only to Pegasus but to other malicious attacks too.

1) Only open links from known and trusted contacts and sources when using your device. Pegasus is deployed to Apple devices through an iMessage link. And this is the same technique used by many cybercriminals for both malware distribution and less technical scams. The same advice applies to links sent via email or other messaging applications.

2) Make sure your device is updated with any relevant patches and upgrades. While having a standardised version of an operating system creates a stable base for attackers to target, it’s still your best defence.

If you use Android, don’t rely on notifications for new versions of the operating system. Check for the latest version yourself, as your device’s manufacturer may not be providing updates.

3) Although it may sound obvious, you should limit physical access to your phone. Do this by enabling pin, finger or face-locking on the device. The eSafety Commissioner’s website has a range of videos explaining how to configure your device securely.

4) Avoid public and free WiFi services (including hotels), especially when accessing sensitive information. The use of a VPN is a good solution when you need to use such networks.

5) Encrypt your device data and enable remote-wipe features where available. If your device is lost or stolen, you will have some reassurance your data can remain safe.

By Arrangements with
The Conversation

Breakthrough COVID-19 Infections: What Vaccinated People Need To Know

Breakthrough coronavirus cases are disappointing - but most of them are also evidence that the shots are working.

Lindsay Holmes

“A majority of breakthrough cases will either come with no symptoms or what doctors consider mild. That doesn’t mean that the illness won’t feel horrible; it may feel like a terrible cold or the flu. Your immune system is remembering how to fight off the virus and prevent it from becoming severe a way better outcome than what happened before the shots were being distributed

Reports of people experiencing breakthrough coronavirus infections after getting vaccinated keep surfacing. It can be alarming to read headlines about more people getting sick or stories about the awful symptoms that come with it.

But these cases don’t mean the shots are a failure it means they’re working.

When the scramble for a COVID-19 vaccine started last year, health officials were hopeful one would have even just 50% efficacy against severe disease and death, said Monica Gandhi, an infectious diseases specialist at the University of California, San Francisco. “Even a not-so-great vaccine would make a huge dent in the pandemic,” she added. All three vaccines available in the United States have performed much better than that.

“It was so astounding. And that’s what played out in the real world,” Gandhi said. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 97% of people who were hospitalized because of COVID-19 were unvaccinated; 99.5% of fatalities are among unvaccinated individuals. If you’re vaccinated, you don’t have to worry about getting very sick or dying.

That is the goal of the COVID-19 vaccines. That has always been the overall goal. Getting a mild case of the coronavirus after you’ve been fully vaccinated can also be looked at as evidence that the inoculation is doing its job. It’s likely not going to turn into anything worse something that wasn’t a guarantee before the vaccines.

It’s fair to be concerned after all, no one wants to get sick in any form but there’s no reason to panic right now if you’re vaccinated. Here’s why:

Overall, breakthrough cases are the exception, not the rule.

It may appear that there are scads of new COVID-19 cases in people who are fully vaccinated. But keep in mind that social media can be an echo chamber. Additionally, there are more than 200 million people who have received a vaccine, so cases will happen just based purely on mathematical possibilities. Still, they’re rare.

“Of course, you’re going to hear stories here and there of people who are fully vaccinated and catch COVID because there are a lot of us out there who are fully vaccinated,” said Megan Ranney, an associate professor of emergency medicine and associate dean of the School of Public Health at Brown University. “But the people who are in the hospital are people who were not vaccinated. Just remember that although there are those few stories out there, those should not be enough to make you shun the vaccine.”

And this is likely happening because we’re returning to our pre-pandemic lives.

The vaccines aren’t becoming useless. Many



are just taking fewer precautions after the shots.

“Back in February, March and April, most folks were still masking, avoiding travel and avoiding restaurants. Now everyone is doing everything,” Ranney said. “The fact that there are infections doesn’t mean that the vaccine is somehow failing. It just means that people are being exposed to the virus with no other protection other than the vaccine.”

“The fact that there are infections doesn’t mean that the vaccine is somehow failing.”

- MEGAN RANNEY, ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

Breakthrough cases are mostly asymptomatic or mild.

A majority of breakthrough cases will either come with no symptoms or what doctors consider mild. That doesn’t mean that the illness won’t feel horrible; it may feel like a terrible cold or the flu.

But, as mentioned, that can be seen as a sign that the vaccine is doing its job. Your immune system is remembering how to fight off the virus and prevent it from becoming severe a way better outcome than what happened before the shots were being distributed.

Experts don’t currently believe breakthrough infections will lead to long COVID for most people.

Long-term complications have occurred with even mild cases of COVID-19. Long-haulers are living with debilitating symptoms, such as nerve pain, neurological issues, fatigue and oxy-

gen complications. Experts don’t believe that will be the case following breakthrough infections because your immune response will attack the virus a lot faster.

“It’s really the dysregulated immune response that happens with a natural infection where it takes you a while to clear it that causes long COVID,” Gandhi said. “With the vaccine in place, your immune system kicks in quickly and ... it goes specifically toward that virus to get it out of your system. It also doesn’t trigger this crazy immune response that can make you so sick.”

Gandhi noted that this is being studied to confirm the hypothesis, however right now there’s no reason to assume otherwise overall. There have been some reports of people experiencing long-term symptoms, but they appear to be rare. As time goes on, we’ll have more data to make a definitive conclusion.

If you’re still not convinced, use the seatbelt analogy.

Just because you know someone who got into a car accident while wearing a seatbelt doesn’t mean that you believe seatbelts are useless.

“Seatbelts prevent you from getting really hurt. They don’t prevent you from getting in a crash and if you get in a bad crash, you might get hurt even though you’re wearing a seatbelt. But it’s going to protect you, for the most part, from injuries,” Ranney explained.

Think of the vaccines in the same way. At the end of the day, we’re so much better off with them. That’s the point.

Huffpost Health



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Study links ultra-processed food to higher risk of IBD

Agencies

A new study has shed light on the adverse effects of consuming ultra-processed food items. According to the research, a higher intake of ultra-processed food is associated with an increased risk of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). The findings of the study were published in the journal 'The BMJ'. Ultra-processed foods include packaged baked goods and snacks, fizzy drinks, sugary cereals, ready meals containing food additives, and re-constituted meat and fish products - often containing high levels of added sugar, fat and salt, but lacking in vitamins and fibre. IBD is more common in industrialised nations and it is thought that dietary factors might play a role, but data linking ultra-processed food intake with IBD are limited.

To explore this further, an international team of researchers drew on detailed dietary information from 116,087 adults aged 35-70 years living in 21 low, middle, and high-income countries who were taking part in the Prospective Urban Rural Epidemiology (PURE) study. PURE is examining the impact of societal influences on chronic diseases in different countries around the world. Participants were enrolled in the study between 2003 and 2016 and were assessed at least every three years. Over an average follow-up

of 9.7 years, new diagnoses of IBD, including Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, were recorded. During this time, 467 participants developed IBD (90 with Crohn's disease and 377 with ulcerative colitis). After taking account of other potentially influential factors, the researchers found that a higher intake of ultra-processed food was associated



ated with a higher risk of IBD. For example, compared with less than one serving of ultra-processed food per day, they found an 82 per cent increased risk of IBD among those who consumed five or more servings per day, and a 67 per cent increased risk for 1-4 servings per day. Different subgroups of ultra-processed food, including soft drinks, refined sweetened foods, salty snacks, and processed meat, each was associated with higher risks of IBD.

In contrast, intakes of white meat, red meat, dairy, starch, and fruit, vegetables, and legumes (such as peas, beans and lentils) were not associated with IBD.

Results were consistent for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, and were similar after further analysis to test the risk of developing IBD based on age and region, suggesting that the findings are robust. This is an observational study so can't establish causality. What's more, results relied on self-reported diagnoses and did not account for dietary changes over time. And the researchers cannot rule out the possibility that other unmeasured (confounding) factors may have affected their results.

Nevertheless, they said their findings "support the hypothesis that intake of ultra-processed foods could be an environmental factor that increases the risk of IBD." "Further studies are needed to identify specific potential contributory factors among processed foods that might be responsible for the observed associations in our study," they concluded.

اطلاع عام
راقم کو نور نیلا نر لائنس نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔ اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعراض ہوگا وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر چیف ایگریکلچر آفسر انت نامک کے دفتر میں اپنا اعراض پیش کریں۔ معیاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
المشتر :- مقصود احمد گنائی ولد عبدالحکیم گنائی
ساکنہ ہوگا م سرگٹھوارہ انت نامک -

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درخواست مختاب:- سائنہ جان دختر محمد شعبان چوپان ساکنہ اونے بمڈورہ۔
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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, J&K

PUBLIC NOTICE

Applications are invited from the Bonafide Registered Fishermen who are domicile of the UT Jammu and Kashmir and are actively involved in Fisheries activities for providing them Low Cost Houses under "Pradhan Mantri Matasya Sampada Yojna" (PMSSY) having sharing pattern 90:10 between (Centre : UT) for the year 2021-22.

S.No	Category	No. of houses	Unit Cost
1	General	946	Rs 1.30 lacs Centre share Rs. 1.17 lacs UT share Rs. 0.13 lacs
2	Schedule Caste (SC)	377	
3	Schedule Tribe (ST)	127	

The beneficiaries apply through Assistant Director Fisheries of their respective Districts as per the following terms and conditions upto 15th August 2021. No application shall be entertained after the expiry of the scheduled date.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The applicant should be Bonafide Domicile Fishermen Registered with the Department of Fisheries, having Fishing Licenses for at least three continuous years.
- The housing unit should have a minimum plinth area of 25 sq.m with sanitation facility.
- Assistance is subject to feasibility report and availability of funds under the scheme.
- Preference / priority shall be given to fishermen living below poverty line (BPL) subject to fulfillment of eligibility criteria
- The applicant shall duly be recommended by the concerned Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRI)
- Mere submission of application form does not confer any right to avail assistance under the scheme
- Other terms and conditions as per the guidelines of the schemes.

For further details, please get in touch with your nearest Assistant Director, Fisheries or Joint Director Fisheries Kashmir / Jammu or Directorate of Fisheries Jammu/Kashmir

Sd/-
Director Fisheries
Government of J&K

No: DOF/PMSSY/2021/
Dated: /07/2021.

DIPK-5212/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office of the Executive Engineer, Mechanical Division Baramulla

Tele fax 01952234426 e-mail, id, executiveengineermdb@gmail.com\

CORRIGENDUM-1

To

NIT No:-MDB/e-Tender/41 of 2020-21 Dated:-13-07-2021

Due to typographical error clause-19 of annexure 'B' has crept in general terms and conditions of this office NIT No:-MDB/e-Tender/41 of 2020-21 Dated:-13-07-2021 unwanted/ unnecessarily. The same may be treated as deleted ab-initio.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Mechanical Division
Baramulla

No: - MDB /TS/e-tendering-41/1074-79

DIPK-5261/21

Dated:-19-07-2021



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER Mechanical Irrigation Division Baramulla

CORRIGENDUM

n respect of this Office e

due to poor response.

Tender Submission date Ends		
		, in the Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Baramulla
		in the Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Baramulla

NIT shall remain unaltered/unmodified.

DIPK-5246/21

Mechanical Irrigation Division

Srinagar Development Authority

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A New Choice For Business at Highly Commercial Area opposite Lala Rukh Hotel, Lalchowk Sgr



CORRIGENDUM OF E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 01/DLM of 2021-22

In view of Iddul-Azha, the dates for submission and opening of tenders for e-tender Notice No. 01/DLM of 2021-22 dated 01-07-2021 are hereby extended as per details given below:

Description	Original date	Revised date
Date of submission of tenders	22-07-2021 upto 4.00 PM	29-07-2021 upto {4.30 PM}
Date of opening of tenders	26-07-2021 at 12.00 Noon	31-07-2021 at 12.00 Noon.

No:- SDA/VC/612-20
Dated: 20/07/2021

Director Land management
Srinagar Dev, Authority

A New Choice For Business at Highly Commercial Area opposite Lala Rukh Hotel, Lalchowk Sgr



CORRIGENDUM OF E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 01/DLM of 2021-22

Please read 3297 Sft instead of 3597Sft of the General Category for Space No.C-01 figuring at S.No (04) of the e-tender Notice No. 01 / DLM of 2021-22 dated 01-07-2021, issued under endorsement No, SDA/DLM/434-37 dated.01-07-2021. All other terms and conditions will remain same as contained in the original NIT.

No:- SDA/DLM/597-602
Dated:24/07/2021

Director Land management
Srinagar Dev, Authority

DIPK-NB-1989/21

Non-local Labourer Dead In Ramban Road Accident, 12 Injured

Observer News Service

RAMBAN: A non-local labourer died while twelve others suffered injuries in a head-on collision between a truck and tempo vehicle on Kashmir highway at Chamalwas in Ramban district on Monday.

Officials said that a truck bearing collided with tempo which was on its way towards Srinagar.

The accident resulted in injuries to the passengers travelling in tempo who were labourers from Bijnor UP.

Sajid Ahmed (37) who was referred to GMC Anantnag later succumbed to the injuries.

According to police officials the injured have been identified as Karan Jeet Singh, Mohamammad Ayoub, Satish Kumar, Mustqeen, Nazir Ahmed, Shah Nawaz, Shakeel Ahmed, Omesh, Akshay, Mohammad Anwar and Tahir Ahmed, all residents of UP.

Meanwhile, police have taken cognisance of the matter and started investigations.

J&K Bank Cashier 'Manhandles' Customer In Handwara

Observer News Service

HANDWARA: The local residents of Qalamabad area in Handwara Monday staged a protest against a Jammu and Kashmir Bank cashier for manhandling a customer.

Eyewitnesses said that the normal functioning of J&K Bank branch at Qalamabad got disrupted as a customer standing in a queue was manhandled by a cashier when he asked the cashier for speeding up

the transaction process.

The cashier allegedly slapped the customer, a local shopkeeper, several times and also took away the cash and scattered it.

Immediately after the incident, the locals including shopkeepers assembled outside the premises of the bank branch demanding action against the erring bank staffer. Senior officials of the bank feigned ignorance about the incident.

LG's Advisor Meets Deputations, Individuals

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Several deputations and individuals Monday called on Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan at Civil Secretariat and apprised him of their grievances and demands.

Delegations raised various issues of public importance of their respective localities and sought the intervention of Advisor in this regard. Likewise several individuals also called on Advisor and raised

their individual matters regarding various issues like PDD, Floriculture, RDD, Tourism and other departments

Advisor assured an early redressal of their genuine demands and issues. He said that the issues projected by them would be taken up with the concerned departments for immediate redressal. In some cases, Advisor gave on spot instructions to the concerned officers for redressal of the grievances.

Covid Recovery Rate Satisfactory: DC Kupwara

Reiterates To Continue Following CAB

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Imam Din Monday said that COVID recovery rate in district Kupwara has gone up to 98.49 percent, which is a sign of satisfaction.

The DC said that 80.03 percent people of above 45 year age and 23.77 percent of 18 to 44 year age group have been vaccinated till date. He said the positivity rate has declined to 0.29 percent while recovery rate has gone up to 98.49 percent which is a sign of satisfac-

tion for the district.

He said the district has currently 46 active cases, adding that only 3 patients are admitted in hospital.

The Deputy Commissioner reiterated his appeal to the people of the district to continuously follow the Covid appropriate behaviour (CAB) and other SOPs. He appealed to the people to come forward and administer Covid vaccine at nearby vaccination centers for their safety against the pandemic to achieve the target in full. He said people should be more responsive in keeping the covid at bay by using masks and maintaining distance.

Two Brick Kilns Sealed For Operating Within Prohibited Area Of Srinagar Airport

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Authorities Monday sealed two brick kilns in Khanshab area for operating within the radius of 9 kilometres of Srinagar Airport.

Officials said that a team led by Naib Tehsildar Khanshab sealed two brick kilns at Parnewa village of Khanshab Budgam.

As per norms no brick kiln can operate within a radius of 10 kilometers of any Airport, however, these brick kiln owners in question had violated these guidelines and set up the brick kiln within the radius of 9 kilometers of Srinagar Airport.

On the directions of Naib Tehsildar, these brick kilns with style name DECO and 51-D were sealed while a notice to the owners Tariq Ahmed Nath and Abdul Hamid Nath, both residents of Srinagar of the brick kilns was served accordingly.

Earlier, a brick kiln at Madbal village of Chadoora was sealed for operating within the radius of 8 kilometers of Srinagar Airport.

Pertinently, people in dozens of villages are up in arms against brick kiln owners for polluting the atmosphere. Budgam village has the largest number of brick kilns in Kashmir Valley.

Kupwara DLSCC Meeting Settles Six Cases

Observer News Service

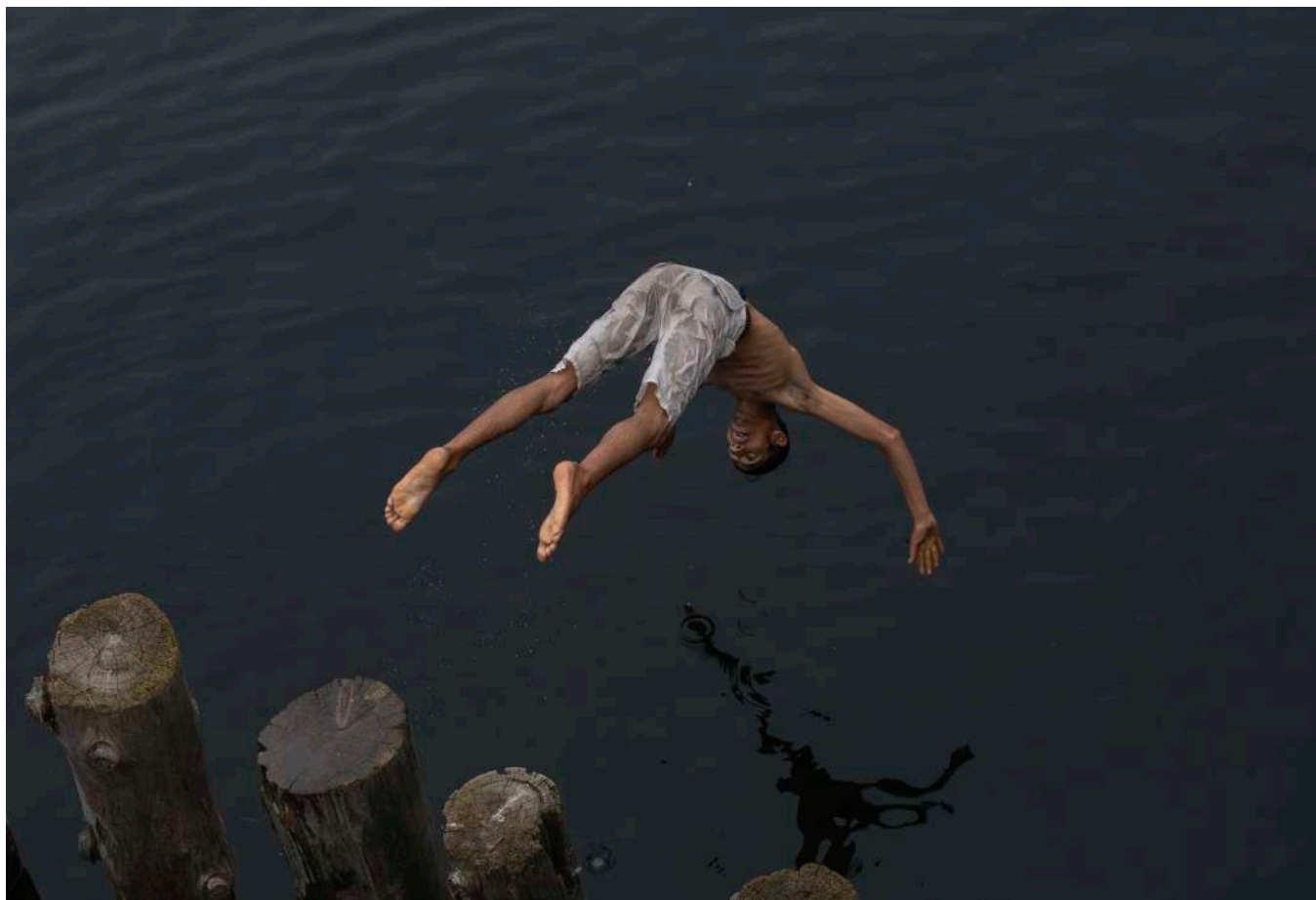
KUPWARA: The District Level Screening cum Coordination Committee (DLSCC), which met here under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Kupwara, Imam Din Monday settled 6 cases.

A total of 19 cases of different categories were put forth for discussion, of which 6 cases were settled on spot.

Out of these 6 settled cases, 3

are death cases, one injury case, one compensation case under SRO 43 and one property case. 6 cases were rejected while 7 cases were deferred for re-verification from concerned agencies.

Speaking on the occasion, the DC stressed upon the concerned officers to speed up the disposal of pending cases in their offices so that quick settlement could be held in the next meeting of the District Level Screening cum Coordination Committee.



A boy jumps into Nigeen lake to beat the summer heat on Monday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Unsatisfactory Progress On NH-44 Causing Inconvenience To Commuters

CS Directs Enhancement Of Traffic Personnel, Installation Of LED Signage

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta Monday while expressing concern observed that the rate of progress of road-widening/maintenance works on NH-44 is unsatisfactory which is causing inconvenience to the commuters. "The problem is further aggravated by rash and indiscipline lane driving leading to frequent traffic jams; shortage of traffic personnel deputed on NH duty and unannounced movement of army convoys", he added.

He was chairing a meeting to review the status of National Highway-44 and took stock of the ongoing road-widening works especially in District Ramban.

Administrative Secretaries of departments of Revenue, Power Development, Public Works (R&B), and Forest, Ecology & Environment, besides District Development Commissioner (DDC), Ramban, SSP Traffic, National Highway, Ramban, Regional Officer, NHAI, and concerned officers participated in the meeting.

To improve traffic management on the National Highway, the Chief Secretary directed the traffic police to double the manpower to manage traffic at all choking points in addition to implementing suitable remedies to reduce the travel time between Jammu and Srinagar which currently varies from ten to twelve hours on account of mismanaged traffic.



count of mismanaged traffic.

To further streamline traffic movement on the National Highway, the Chief Secretary directed NHAI and DDC Ramban to develop various vehicle holding areas at Kainthi, Karol, Kowbagh near Ramban town, Peerah, Asher, near Banihal, and Ramsoo; to accommodate stranded vehicles in the event of closure of the National Highway due to bad weather.

He further directed installation of LED signage at all critical locations along the entire stretch from Jammu to Srinagar within one week to provide real-time information on the current traffic position to the commuters to help them decide the future course of their journey.

Regarding traffic movement through the new 'Navuyug' tunnel at Banihal, the DDC, Ramban was directed to immediately operationalize both tubes of the tunnel for passage of civilian traffic.

The Chief Secretary directed the NHAI to complete the macadamization of Dalwas stretch in 3 days and Jakheni-Nashri section by 15th August, 2021, besides immediately commencing the realignment works on Ramban-Banihal section to be completed by December, 2022. NHAI was also directed to handover the bypass section of old NH - Pantha Chowk-Sonwar road to PW(R&B) Department for its further maintenance.

The NHAI was further asked to install crash barriers with warning signs at all critical junctions by 31st August 2021 to prevent fatal accidents on the National Highway-44.

CS Directs JS Dept To Provide Drinking Water In All Schools, Anganwadi Centres

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta Monday chaired a meeting to review the progress achieved under the centrally sponsored scheme 'Jal Jeevan Mission' in Jammu and Kashmir.

Commissioner/Secretary Jal Shakti Department and Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission along with concerned officers of the Department participated in the meeting. It was informed that the Department has provided new functional household tap connections (FHTC)

to 21,650 households during the current financial year. The Department has also covered more than 90% schools and anganwadi centres, 51% health institutions and 34% gram panchayats under the scheme. It was informed that during 2021-22, 1,97,593 households in Kashmir province and 4,90,583 households in Jammu province will be connected with functional household tap connections.

The Chief Secretary directed the Department to provide all schools and anganwadi centres with functional water connections before 15th August 2021.

The Department was asked to streamline its fee col-

Modernise JKHPMC To Convert It Into Profitable Utility: LG's Adv Calls Directs Officers

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Farooq Khan Monday chaired the 60th Board of Directors (BoDs) meet of Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation (JKHPMC) Limited at Civil Secretariat here.

Speaking during the meeting, Advisor Khan maintained that horticulture is a key contributor towards economy of Jammu and Kashmir and emphasised upon the need of bringing some concrete and visible changes in this sector for the benefit of farmers and fruit growers. The Advisor called upon the officers for revival and modernisation of this corporation so that it is converted into a profitable public utility.

Highlighting that JKHPMC can set up a road map for budding entrepreneurs in J&K, Advisor Khan underlined that JKHPMC should set an example for the future entrepreneurs, who are willing to set up business units related to horticulture produce.



Taking stock of all the ongoing works of the corporation, Advisor Khan impressed upon the management to execute all its sanctioned projects in a time bound manner so that they can be dedicated for public good at the earliest.

He also directed the MD JKHPMC to dispose off all last year's produce before the procurement of next year's and also clear all the audits of previous years.

During the meeting, the Board approved several Food processing initiatives of the Corporation like Packaging Material Unit at Achabal

Anantnag for Trout Fish, extraction plants for Olive and Lavendar at Batote, Establishment of three Grading & Packing Houses one each at Narwal Jammu, Achabal Anantnag, Shopian and establishment of two Mushroom canning units one each at Rajbagh, Srinagar and Narwal Jammu.

The Board also noted JKHPMC having been designated as a Cluster Development Agency (CDA) by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoAFW) GoI, to implement the Ministry's Cluster Development Program (CDP) for apple

I-Day Celebrations...

Ensure Success Of I-Day Celebrations: DC Shopian Directs Officers

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya Monday directed the concerned to ensure celebration of the I-Day at their respective headquarters and take necessary steps to make the programme successful.

He convened a meeting at Mini Secretariat Arhama here to review the preparedness for smooth conduct of Independence Day Celebrations in the district.

On the occasion, a thorough discussion regarding the seating arrangements as per Covid-19 protocol, Shahnai Wadan, presentation of cultural programmes, parade, security arrangement and award presentation was held.

The DDC directed the officials to ensure adequate security arrangements, illumination of Govt Buildings, parking facilities and proper seating arrangements at the venue besides ensuring uninterrupted power and water supply.

He directed the officers to put

DC Kulgam Directs Officers To Illuminate Buildings, Institutions

Observer News Service

KULGAM: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam Dr. Bilal Mohi-Ud-Din Bhat Monday directed officers for proper illumination of buildings and institutions on I-Day.

He convened a meeting of officers to finalize arrangements for smooth Independence Day celebrations in the district. The meeting was informed that the main function of the celebrations will be held at District Police Lines, Kulgam, where the chief guest will hoist the National Flag followed by inspection of parade and taking of the salute.

It was decided that march-past will be presented by contingents of JKP, CRPF, Fire and Emergency, Forest Protection Force, Police Band.

Colorful cultural programmes will also be held on the occasion.

During the meeting, the DC constituted a team of officers to oversee the preparedness at all levels for the smooth and successful conduct of I-Day celebrations.

The DC also instructed the concerned departments to ensure uninterrupted drinking water and power supplies at the venue on the day of I-Day celebrations.



in place all the necessary arrangements well in advance and coordinate with each other for the smooth conduct of Independence day function.

He also directed the Health department to set up an adequate number of medical camps with proper staff, ambulance and Medicare facilities at the venues besides the officials of Municipal Corporation were directed to maintain cleanliness in and around District Police Lines, roads, and streets in the town.

CUK's SLS Signs MoU With DSNU

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: School of Legal Studies (SLS), Central University of Kashmir (CUK) and Damodaram Sanjivayya National University (DSNU), Visakhapatnam agreed to work together to promote legal research in India.

The two institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on July 25, 2021, for future collaborative academic assignments.

The MoU offers students and faculty opportunities for exchange and further advancement in legal research and will create opportunities for academic interactions, particularly, exchange of ideas and course materials.

Speaking from Visakhapatnam, Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mehraj ud Din Mir stressed for such agreements to achieve academic excellence and said, the National Education Policy stresses on collaborative teaching and research. "The MoU is a step to achieve the goals of NEP," he said.

On the occasion, Damodaram Sanjivayya National University, Vice-Chancellor Prof. S. Surya Prakash expressed gratitude and hoped that the agreement will be implemented in letter and spirit.

Cluster with the Shopian District designated as Apple Cluster District under the program. CDP is a prestigious program of MoAFW with a 100 crore outlay, that envisages pre-production, production, pre & post-harvest management, logistics marketing and branding. The program when implemented is poised to transform the apple growing eco-system of district Shopian and help the growers to produce quality apple and also facilitate its marketing at the appropriate national/international level.

The Board approved the construction of three incubation centres sanctioned in favour of JKHPMC by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, GoI under the Prime Minister's Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME) scheme.

Likewise, the Board approved the establishment of Sorting, Grading, Packing and Canning centre at Rajbagh, Srinagar for upscaling the trading and marketing of fruits and vegetables. The board also approved

the erection of two fibre kiosks for sale of conventional, organic and exotic vegetables as well as fresh and dried fruits.

Furthermore, the BoDs decided to refurbish the Apple Juice Plant at Sopore with modern standards of production. The board also decided to appoint a three member committee for upgrading the infrastructure at this plant.

Similarly, the BoDs approved the transformation of Chadoora land bank of Corporation into JKHPMC Vegetable Processing Centre for upscaling the fruit, vegetable collection and marketing facilities in the district Budgam and other peripheral areas.

The Board also approved engaging of Consultants by the Corporation on full time basis for the Finance, Food Processing Industries and Farm Machinery Equipment verticals of the Corporation and also noted the completion of Mini Office Building/Showroom of the Corporation with the advice for the latter's early inauguration.

2nd T20I: Shikhar Dhawan Led India Aim To Wrap Up Series Against Sri Lanka



Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: The Indian team will want Sanju Samson to translate his phenomenal talent into consistent performances when they try to wrap up the T20 International series against Sri Lanka by winning the second match in Colombo on Tuesday.

Having beaten Sri Lanka hollow by 38 runs in the opening encounter, the Indians are unlikely to ring in changes to the winning combination unless the team management decides to rest Prithvi Shaw and Suryakumar Yadav, who are getting ready to link up with the red-ball team in the United Kingdom.

However, it is expected that both will at least play tomorrow and may be rested for the last game once India have sealed the series.

In case there is an alternate plan then Devdutt Padikkal and Ruturaj Gaikwad might get a look-in rather than an out-of-form Manish Pandey. But on Tuesday, there will be focus on Samson, who has always been rated highly and as the "next big thing" but has flattered to deceive in an India jersey in all the chances that he has got.

An average of 13.75 across eight games with sufficient opportunity to bat at the top-order doesn't bode well for Samson at a time when Indian cricket's talent cupboard is overflowing with riches. Rishabh Pant has left him far behind in terms of performance and Ishan Kishan, in the limited chances that he has got, has done no harm to his reputation.

With KL Rahul also wicketkeeping option in white-ball cricket, it is high time that the Kerala man

justifies the show of faith by the Indian cricket system.

Samson and NCA director Rahul Dravid, who has been heavily invested in the former's abilities, would want that his ward to do more than some breathtaking cover drives or flicked six off fast bowlers.

This series will be Samson's last chance to impress for some time in case he fails to get a significant score in the next two games.

The other minor worry for the team would be Hardik Pandya's batting form which has tapered off a bit in recent games.

His bowling has been steady but he is nowhere near what he used to be as a skiddy pacer before his back surgery.

The Indian bowling put up a fantastic show during the first game and Yuzvendra Chahal would like to do an encore with Varun Chakravathy also fighting for that wrist spinner's slot.

In fact, with more than 20 players supposed to be selected for the T20 World Cup in the UAE, both Chakravathy and Chahal could be in the squad.

For Sri Lanka, the T20 series is a tougher test than the ODIs as they don't have enforcers, who can take the game away with consistent big hits.

Charith Asalanka did try to put pressure on India during his knock of 44 but the inexperience of Dasun Shanaka's team during the crucial phases of the game was exposed as they lost six wickets for 15 runs on Monday. The silver lining certainly will be Wanindu Hasaranga's leg-breaks which have been causing a few problems for the Indians save Suryakumar, who has been in prime form.

JKFA PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE

Shaheen FC, Kashmir Avengers FC Register Wins



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two matches of the First Edition JKFA Professional League 2021 were played on Monday at Srinagar's Synthetic Turf Ground TRC.

Shaheen FC, Jammu took on SCFA XI in the first match of the day which turned out to be an 8-goal thriller.

"Both teams played quality football. The youngsters of SCFA displayed man to man marking and perfect ball control. Shaheen Sports defeated SCFA by 5 goals to 3. Amritpal & Mac scored two goals each, while Gagandeep scored another for Shaheen FC," a JKFA statement said.

"The youthful SCFA side proved equally good and scored 3 beautiful goals through Parvez (2 goals) and

Abinam (1). The SCFA boys played a calculative game and tried to level the score till the very end. But the defensive line of Shaheen Sports prevented them to do so. Amritpal Singh was declared as the man of the match," the statement said.

In the second match, Kashmir Avengers FC faced Real Kashmir FC (Reserves).

Both teams created scoring opportunities from the get-go and in the 20th minute the Avengers took the lead. The Real Kashmir reserves' team had a glorious opportunity to level the proceedings but failed to score from the penalty spot. This ensured that the Kashmir Avengers took a 1:0 lead going into the second half of the match.

RKFC tried hard to find the back of the net but failed. The Avengers

took advantage of their opponent's desperation and in the 55th minute of the match, Kelvin of doubled their lead, thanks to a mistake by Real Kashmir goalkeeper. Kelvin then added Avengers' third goal in the 75th minute. The match ended with Kashmir Avengers FC defeating Real Kashmir FC (R) by 3 goals to nil. Kelvin of Kashmir Avengers FC was declared as man of the match.

Ms Nuzhat Gul, Secretary JK Sports Council was present on the occasion and lauded both the clubs for their magnificent footballing display.

Two matches will be played on Tuesday, July 27. The first match will be played between Lonestar Kashmir FC & Hyderya Sports FC at 3:00 pm while in the second match, SCFA XI will take on Downtown Heroes FC at 5:00 pm.

Danish Farooq Unveiled As Bengaluru FC's New Signing

Agencies

BENGALURU: Former Indian Super League champions Bengaluru FC have unveiled their latest acquisition – Kashmir-born frontman Danish Farooq Bhat on a two-year contract.

"BFC is one of the best clubs in the country, and I am delighted to have the opportunity to be a part of it. My immediate challenge is to do well in the AFC Cup and the Indian Super League. My ultimate goal is to achieve success with the club and to grow as a player," Danish told PTL.

"When I got a call from my agent, who told me that BFC was interested in signing me, we felt it was the best option for me to grow as both a player and to showcase my talent at the highest level," Danish added.

Danish has played for local teams like Lonestar Kashmir FC, J&K Bank XI and Real Kashmir FC.

Blues' head coach Marco Pezzaiuoli was delighted with the signing.



"Danish has the experience of playing in many positions; as a striker, a winger and gives us a lot of options in attack. He's a good character, has gelled well with the team and with his style of football gives the team a bit of technical quality. "Danish was the captain of one

of his previous teams, and also brings a bit of his leadership onto the pitch," he said.

Danish has amassed as many as 48 appearances over the last three seasons in the I-League and registered seven goals and five assists in that time.

58-Year-Old Al-Rashidi Gets His Olympic Moment With Kuwaiti Flag



Agencies

TOKYO: Abdullah Al-Rashidi pulled a Kuwaiti flag from his pocket and draped it over his shoulders, a huge smile beaming beneath his bristly mustache.

The 58-year-old seven-time Olympian wrapped the black, red, green and white cloth around his face, kissed the corner and raised his arms before waving to the crowd. Olympic protocols forbid athletes from displaying their country's flag before the medal presentation.

Al-Rashidi didn't care. He was not recognized as a Kuwaiti athlete at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics five years ago and he couldn't wait to honor his country after winning a second straight skeet-shooting bronze.

"I am happy too much to see my Kuwaiti flag and second Olympic medal," Al-Rashidi said after Monday's skeet final at the Tokyo Games.

Al-Rashidi was a big hit on the Rio skeet range five years ago, waving his arms and pumping his fists to work up the mostly-Brazilian crowd. Shooting in his first Olympic final,

the three-time world champion who trains falcons in his off time thrived on the sport's biggest stage, riding the fans' energy to a bronze medal.

After winning the bronze in Rio, Al-Rashidi raised his arms in the air, dropped to his knees and kissed the ground. He rose and threw his hat in the air as the crowd chanted in Portuguese: "Ole, ole, ole, Mustache!"

The only disappointment: He was considered an independent athlete, not a Kuwaiti.

Kuwait's national Olympic committee was suspended by the IOC for government interference so Al-Rashidi and his compatriots at the Rio Games had to compete as part of an independent team. That meant no team uniform — he wore the jersey of the English soccer club Arsenal — no Kuwaiti flag nor national anthem should anyone win gold.

Some of the shine taken off his first Olympic medal, Al-Rashidi stood on the podium with his head down during the ceremony.

"I didn't like seeing the Olympic flag," he said. "I needed to see my flag, the Kuwaiti flag."

Israeli Judoka Left To Ponder After Two Opponents Withdraw Citing Palestine

Agencies

TOKYO: Tohar Butbul could only shake his head in resignation after the Israeli judo star's first two potential opponents dropped out of the Tokyo Olympics shortly before they would have faced him.

"These are things that sometimes occur in judo, so it wasn't that odd for me," Butbul said through a translator. "I just had to wait, stay focused and wait for my first chance."

Algeria's Fethi Nourine withdrew from the Games on Saturday when he learned he would meet Butbul if he advanced to the second round Monday, explicitly citing his support for Palestinians for his decision.

On Monday, Sudan's Mohamed Abdalrasool didn't show up to face Butbul in their round of 32 bout despite weighing in earlier.

Abdalrasool didn't make a public statement about his decision, but Butbul said his team was told Abdalrasool had a shoulder injury — a reason that didn't exactly convince Butbul or the Israeli team.

Nourine and his coach were swiftly suspended by the International Judo Federation last weekend. The Algerian Olympic committee withdrew both men's accreditations and made plans to send them home.

The IJF didn't comment on Abdalrasool's withdrawal after sharply criticizing Nourine, who also quit the World Judo Championships in 2019 right before he was scheduled to face Butbul at the Budokan, the site of the Tokyo Olympics.

Butbul is ranked seventh in the world at lightweight. He likely would have manhandled Nourine, who is

Scottish Climber Dies In Avalanche On K2: Pakistani Official

Agencies

ISLAMABAD: A renowned Scottish climber died in an avalanche while attempting to scale K2 in northern Pakistan, the world's second-highest mountain peak, a Pakistani mountaineering official and the charity said Monday.

Rick Allen, 68, died in the avalanche three days ago while trying to reach the summit along a route that had not been attempted previously on the mountain's southeast face, said Karrar Haidri, the secretary of the Alpine Club of Pakistan.

Allen's two climbing partners survived the avalanche and were subsequently rescued, Haidri added. Their expedition was aimed at raising funds for the U.K.-based charity Partners Relief & Development, where Allen was a board member. The charity, which works for the welfare of children, confirmed Allen's death on its Facebook page.

An experienced and veteran climber, Allen was involved in an avalanche and was rescued in 2018 when he was scaling Broad Peak, which like K2 lies also in the Karakoram Range, along the Pakistan-China border.

"Rick died doing what he loved the most and lived his life with the courage of his convictions," said



the charity's statement.

Pakistan is home to several top mountain peaks and climbers flock from all over the world to attempt to scale the summits.

Earlier this year, three climbers — Pakistani mountaineer Ali Sadpara, Jon Snorri of Iceland and Juan Pablo Mohr of Chile — died while attempting to summit the 8,611-meter (28,250-foot) high K2. Their bodies could not be traced and retrieved despite several attempts by Pakistani search and rescue team aided by the military.

Last week, famous South Korean climber Kim Hong Bin fell into a crevasse and went missing in bad weather after scaling the 8,047-meter (26,400-foot) high Broad Peak. A rescue operation to try and find him has been put on hold because of bad weather.

Olympic Silver-Medallist Mirabai Chanu Returns To Warm But Chaotic Reception

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Indian weightlifter Mirabai Chanu returned to the country on Monday after her superb silver medal-winning performance at the Tokyo Olympics, walking into sheer chaos after stepping out of the airport where social distancing went for a toss.

Chanu walked out of the Indira Gandhi International Airport, flanked by security and clad in a face shield and mask.

"Happy to be back here in amidst so much love and support. Thank You so much," she tweeted after landing.

Inside the airport, the 26-year-old was greeted with chants of "Bharat Mata ki Jai" by the staff present there and facilitated by officials of the Sports Authority of India among others.

Once out, the young star was mobbed by the waiting media, leading to a melee and had to be completely enveloped by security personnel as she made her way through. She is scheduled to meet sports minister Anurag Thakur later in the evening.

The diminutive Manipuri lifted a total of 202kg (87kg+115kg) in the 49kg category to better Kamam Malleswari's bronze in the 2000 Sydney Olympics on Saturday. With that performance, she exorcised the ghosts of the 2016 Games where she had failed to log a single legitimate lift, leaving her shattered.



Chanu has also been a former world champion and a Commonwealth Games gold-medallist.

She was training in the USA before the Games and lived upto the medal expectations from her with a confident performance.

The Manipuri's focus for the past five years also kept her away from her family and she said he spent just five days with them during this period.

Pakistan, West Indies To Play 4 Match T20 Series

Agencies

BRIDGETOWN: West Indies and Pakistan have agreed to play a revised four-match Twenty20 International series, Cricket West Indies (CWI) announced on Sunday.

The two boards — who had initially planned a five-match T20 series — were forced into the alteration to the scheduled tour dates after West Indies' current ODI series against Australia was rocked by a positive Covid-19 test which saw Thursday's second match suspended.

It was finally played on Saturday with the third and final match pushed back to Monday — one day before the scheduled opener against Pakistan. The revised dates allow for an opener in Barbados on Wednesday with three further matches in Guyana.

"Together with the PCB [Pakistan Cricket Board], CWI have examined various scenarios, and we jointly agreed that the best solution in the present circumstances is to cancel the first T20 Interna-

tional and play a four-match series starting on Wednesday and keep the rest of the tour schedule unchanged," said CWI president Ricky Skerritt. "Both teams are in the final stages of preparing for the ICC T20 World Cup, so we anticipate an exciting and entertaining series of games."

The T20 World Cup begins in the Gulf in October with West Indies looking to retain the title.

The teams will also play two Tests as part of the new 2021-2023 World Test Championship.

Revised schedule:

- July 27: First Twenty20 International (Bridgetown).
- July 31: Second Twenty20 International (Providence).
- Aug 1: Third Twenty20 International (Providence).
- Aug 3: Fourth Twenty20 International (Providence).
- Aug 12-16: First Test (Kingston).
- Aug 20-24: Second Test (Kingston).

Three Athletes Among 16 New COVID Cases At Tokyo Olympics

Press Trust of India

TOKYO: The COVID-19 infections associated with the Tokyo Olympics rose to 148 after organisers reported 16 new cases on Monday, including three athletes.

The organisers, in their daily COVID-19 update, announced that three athletes, four contractors, eight Games-concerned personnel and one Games employee have been found to be COVID positive. All the three athletes are not residents of the Olympic Village, which has reported 16 cases since it was opened.

One Games-connected personnel and a contractor are residents of Japan in the fresh additions.

The three athletes and seven Games-concerned personnel have been put under the mandatory 14-day quarantine.

The total number of Games-concerned personnel to have tested positive so far stood at 83 after the addition of 8 new cases.

The contingents that have been hit by COVID-19 after landing in Tokyo include Czech republic, the USA, Chile, South Africa and the Netherlands among others.

Of these, the Czech Republic is inquiring into possible health safety protocol violations by its contingent after four athletes tested positive for the virus, forcing withdrawals from beach volleyball and road cycling events. On Monday, the organisers urged the media covering the Games to adhere to COVID-19 protocols, saying that they have been "made aware of incidents of alleged non-compliance".

They warned of "disciplinary consequences" for violating laid down rules on health safety precautions.



ranked 31st, or Abdalrasool, who is 469th and only got into the Olympics through a late invitation.

With an unimpeded path to the round of 16, Butbul beat Victor Sterpu of Moldova and advanced to the quarterfinals against South Korean star An Changrim, who beat him with a waza-ari.

Butbul then lost to Arthur Margelidon of Canada in repechage, ending his first Olympics effectively in seventh place.

Butbul refused to talk about politics after his eventful day, instead lamenting his athletic shortcomings.

"I came with a pure aim to win a medal, and it's very hard for me to bear that I didn't fulfil my own expectations," Butbul said. "That was the goal I put into the whole of my career. It's still too early for me to understand what happened. I wasn't precise in executing my plan, but in judo sometimes there is a gap

between how you plan and what is in reality."

The governing body of judo has been firm in its anti-discrimination policies and strong support of Israel's right to compete in recent years.

In April, the IJF suspended Iran for four years because the nation refused to allow its fighters to face Israelis. The IJF said Iran's policies were revealed when former Iranian judoka Saied Mollaei claimed he was ordered to lose in the semifinals of the 2019 world championships in Tokyo to avoid potentially facing Israeli world champion Sagi Muki in the finals.

Butbul's teammate, Timna Nelson Levy, also fell just short of a medal, losing to Tsukasa Yoshida of Japan in the quarterfinals and losing her repechage bout to Kaja Kajzer of Slovenia.

Israel has won 10 medals, half of them in judo, in its Olympic history.