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P3 CITY

5 HOUSES, TWO SHEDS GUTTED IN MIDNIGHT BLAZE IN NOORBAGH

Five residential houses were completely damaged and two sheds suffered partial damage in a fire incident in Palpora locality of Noorbagh, Srinagar late Monday.

P4 THINK

PRECARIOUS PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION IN KASHMIR

School-going children in Kashmir have been badly affected by the triple lockdown. Nearly 2 million kids have missed around two years of formal schooling. Following the revocation of Article 370 on 5 August



P7 STATE

MASOODI MEETS RAJNATH SINGH, SEEKS END TO IMPASSE ON CONSTRUCTION OF AIIMS AWANTIPURA

National Conference Member of Parliament from Anantnag, Justice (Retd.) Hasnain Masoodi on Tuesday



Quote!

Whatever you do, do it well.
—Walt Disney

NEWS DIGEST

CASO Continues In Bandipora Forest

SRINAGAR: The Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) by security forces entered its fourth day on Tuesday in the woods of north Kashmir district of Bandipora. So far three Lashker-e-Toiba (LeT) militants were killed and a soldier of 14 Rashtriya Rifles (RR) was injured in the encounter which ensued on July 24 at Shokbaba forest Sumblar in Bandipora. Official sources said more security forces from different areas have joined the CASO in the densely forest in Bandipora as three to four militants are reportedly trapped there. However, so far no fresh contact has been reported after Saturday's encounter, they said. ● [More On P2](#)

LG Pays Tributes To Ex-President Kalam

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday paid tributes to former president Dr APJ Abdul Kalam on his death anniversary. Remembering Missile Man of India, Dr Kalam, the LG said he was an epitome of simplicity and knowledge. "Remembering former President & Missile Man of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam ji on his Punyatithi. He was an epitome of simplicity & knowledge. His endearing personality, thoughts & unmatched wisdom shall continue to inspire generations. My humble tributes to him," read a post put out on LG's official Twitter handle.

Junior Engineer Falls In ACB Net

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday claimed to have trapped and arrested a Junior Engineer of Rural Development Department, Doda for demanding and accepting bribe. According to a statement issued here, a spokesman said that a complaint was received that one Asif Ahmad Chandel BDO Changa, Mansoor Ahmad Gram Rozgar Sewak (GRS), Block Changa and JE Arshad Amin are not releasing his final payments against which the complainant has finalized public works under MGNREGA in Block Changa, Tehsil Gandoh, district Doda. ● [More On P2](#)

Body Retrieved From Jhelum

SRINAGAR: An unidentified body was on Tuesday recovered from river Jhelum in Parimpora area of this capital city. According to reports, panic gripped the Parimpora area when a body was seen floating in river Jhelum. The body was retrieved by police and locals before being taken away by cops for identification. The cause of his death was being ascertained, officials said adding a case FIR has been registered in police station Parimpora and investigation taken up.

Showers Bring Relief From Scorching Heat

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday received moderate to heavy rainfall bringing much sought relief from the scorching heat and humid weather conditions, even as the mercury in this capital city settled at 34.6 degree Celsius, 5.1 notches above normal.

According to the Meteorological Department (MeT) officials, the maximum temperature on Tuesday across the Valley was 4 degree to 5, degree above normal.

Srinagar recorded maximum temperature of 34.6 degree Celsius, 5.1 notches above normal while humidity was 79 this morning at 8:30 and 46 at 5:30pm. The minimum temperature was 24.6 degree, 5.9 notches above normal.

Qazigund recorded a temperature of 32.6 degrees Celsius, Pahalgam 29.6 degrees Celsius while Kokernag witnessed 31.7 degrees Celsius, the officials said.



The border town Kupwara recorded a maximum temperature of 35.2 degrees Celsius, they said.

Deputy Director, Meteorological Department (MeT), Mukhtar Ahmed told Kashmir Observer on Tuesday that the J&K will receive rainfall for the next three days.

"Heavy rainfall will start from tomorrow morning and continue till the evening of July 30. This will cause a dip in day temperature for the following three days," Ahmed said.

"While Kashmir will receive heavy rainfall, the Jammu division will witness heavy to very heavy rainfall in the next three days," he added.

He said that the fresh rainfall will not occur under the influence of any western disturbance but normal monsoon showers. The inclement weather, Ahmed said may also trigger landslides in the districts of Samba, Reasi and Rajouri besides certain volatile spots around the 272-km long Srinagar-Jammu highway.

END OF DURBAR

Employees Asked To Vacate Quarters By Aug 21

SRINAGAR: Government on Tuesday extended by August 21 the time period for vacation of residential accommodation at Jammu and Srinagar by 'Durbar Move' employees.

On June 29, Estates Department had cancelled allotment of residential accommodations of Durbar Move employees in Jammu as well as Srinagar and asked them to vacate their accommodations within 21 days. However, the employees had complained that the

time-frame was not enough to complete the process.

"The time period for vacation of residential accommodation at Jammu and Srinagar ordered vide

Government Order No. 113-Est of 2021 dated 29.06.2021, is extended further by a period of (30) days with effect from 20th of July, 2021," reads a government order.

"All the Administrative Departments/Heads of the Departments shall sanction three days special casual leave in ● [More On P2](#)

2600 Flats For KP Employees Coming Up In 5 Districts

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday approved transfer of 278 kanal land in five districts for the construction of 2600 flats as transit accommodation for Kashmiri Migrant employees under the Prime Minister's Development Package.

The decision regarding it was taken during the Administrative Council (AC), meeting here on 24th July,

under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, an official spokesperson said Tuesday. He said the 278 kanal land in five districts will be transferred to the Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction for construction of 2600 flats as transit accommodation for Kashmiri Migrant employees.

"The Administrative Council also conveyed ● [More On P2](#)

All 50-Bedded Hospitals To Set Up Oxygen Plants: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday ordered all 50-bedded clinical establishments and hospitals to establish an Oxygen Generation Plant of appropriate capacity for facility of patient care.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (c) of section 2 read with section 12 of the Clinical Establishments

(Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir hereby directs that all Clinical Establishment(s)/Hospital(s) situated within the territorial jurisdiction of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir having more than 50 beds shall establish an Oxygen Generation Plant of appropriate capacity for facility of patient care," reads the order issued by ● [More On P2](#)

Govt Forces Call Off Kulgam Operation

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Police, army and CRPF on Tuesday called off their joint operation at Gurwattan Aharbal area of Kulgam in which one Lashkar militant was killed on Monday, officials said.

A police spokesman said that at about 1715 hours on July 26 a joint cordon and search operation was launched by Police and army's 62RR based on specific input generated by Srinagar Police regarding presence of militants in forest area of Gurwattan Aharbal area of Kulgam.

During the search operation, the hiding militants fired on the joint search party, which was retaliated leading to an encounter, he said. Later on CRPF ● [More On P2](#)

Youth Shot Dead By Unknown Gunmen In Srinagar

Killing An Act Of 'Gang Rivalry': Police

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Unidentified gunmen on Tuesday shot dead a youth in broad daylight in the Old City area of Nawa Kadal here, with police claiming the killing as an act of 'gang rivalry'.

25-year-old Meeran Ali Pathan, a professional body-builder and gym trainer was shot at and critically injured by unidentified gunmen in Bulbul Lanker locality near Nawa Kadal here on Tuesday, reports said. Pathan, as per the reports, was removed to the nearby SMHS hospital for treatment, where he



succumbed to his injuries.

According to a police spokesperson, preliminary investigation has revealed that the incident was an act of Gang rivalry.

"The Preliminary investigations ● [More On P2](#)

J&K Records 107 New Corona Cases

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir recorded on Tuesday 107 fresh cases of novel coronavirus while no Covid-19 related death was reported from the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

While 67 fresh cases of coronavirus were reported from Kashmir Valley, the remaining forty were detected from various parts of the Jammu division thus taking the total ● [More On P2](#)

Violence Is Alien To Kashmiri Culture: Prez Kovind



Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: President Ram Nath Kovind asserted on Tuesday that democracy has the capacity to reconcile all differences and bring out the best of the citizens' potential, saying Kashmir

is "happily" realising this vision.

"Democracy, I firmly believe, has within it the capacity to reconcile all differences and also the capacity to bring out the best of the citizens' potential. Kashmir, happily, is already realising this vision," ● [More On P2](#)

'Mei Sapaz Khushi Tuhi Meelith'

Mei sapaz khushi tuhi meelith (I feel happy to meet you all) " - this is how President Ram Nath Kovind began his speech at the convocation ceremony of the University of Kashmir here on ● [More On P2](#)

Lauds Soldiers For Fighting Militancy

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday interacted with soldiers at the headquarters of the army's 15 Corps here and lauded them for fighting militancy and maintaining peace in Jammu and Kashmir. ● [More On P2](#)

LG Hosts Banquet For President And Family

Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday hosted a banquet for President Ram Nath Kovind and his family at the Raj Bhavan here, ● [More On P2](#)

'Climate Change Most Critical Challenge'

President Ram Nath Kovind on Tuesday said that climate change is the most critical challenge before humanity and global warming is making its impact everywhere. Addressing the 19th convocation of the Kashmir University here, he also hoped that the centres for glaciology and Himalayan biodiversity at the varsity will show the way to the world in fighting climate change. "Climate change, as you are aware, is the most critical challenge before humanity in this century. Global warming is making its impact everywhere, but nowhere is it more felt than in the fragile ecosystem of ● [More On P2](#)

Court Again Rejects Parra's Bail Plea

Says 'Prima Facie' Terror Charges 'True At This Stage'

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The bail application of PDP leader Waheed-ur-Rehman Parra, a close aide of former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, has been rejected for the second time in five months by a special court which said "prima facie" terror charges levelled against the accused seem to be "true at this stage".

The 24-page bail order passed by the special NIA court here, however, rejected the contention of the prosecution that a fresh bail application should not have been entertained by the court as no fresh development has taken place since the last rejection in February.

While rejecting Parra's bail application, the special judge said the contention raised by the defence counsel "herein cannot be considered at this stage and the good grounds do not exist at this stage which would warrant the release of the accused herein on bail in view of the given facts and circumstances governing the matter in hand".

"... And at present I am satisfied in view of the material placed on the record that the alleged offences leveled against the accused/applicant (Parra) herein appears to be prima facie true at this stage," the order said.

The order rejecting the bail was given earlier this month but it was made ● [More On P2](#)



JESTER'S JINGLE: 'A Voice Of Concern For Downtown'

Termed as a refreshing song on Shehre-Khaas, humorist Musaib Bashir's 'Down Town' music video is seen as an artist's ode to his birthplace.

Zaid Bin Shabir

As the lately-proscribed drone snaps the signature ensemble of Kashmir's grand mosque, the funny man whose pranks have become a debated online laughter makes an entry on a hand-pulled cart — singing: "One minute up, one minute down, Baby this is Down Town." A telling trajectory of the love-hate facts about the city of seven bridges follows.

Makers of 'Down Town' video song have blended humour with different hues of life in Shehre-Khas. Apart from immaculate visual storytelling, lyrics and tunes are making it an engaging number. Sung my protagonist Musaib Bashir who goes by his stage name, Mr. Musaib, the song captures the characteristic pulse of downtown.

Days after his song got released and praised for its content and creativity, Musaib is attending

endless calls from unknown "fans" inside his fabric store in downtown's Saki Dafar area. To every wish and praise, the entertainer armed with a Masters in Commerce degree replies to everyone in a jest manner.

"This song is my tribute to my city, my downtown," Musaib says. "I've only tried to maintain my own style in the video."

Three years ago, when his debut funny video went viral, the "shy person" was thrown out

of his home for his antics. But that hardly stopped him staging some uncanny street performances. Amid lockdown, he was seen pulling off a "Pepsi bottle" prank in the trade-heartland of Srinagar and almost faced the wrath of paramilitary personnel. His baker-barber-butcher prank performances made him a new comic cult. His fun videos on a typical Kashmiri woman conversation style and imitations of a funny political activist only

swelled his fan base.

Loved for his spontaneous "Adi" catchword and loathed for his "overweight" expressions, this Nawa Kadal lad says he doesn't mind the virtual vitriol. "I'm work in progress," he says, "creating comic acceptance in society. And this Downtown music video is part of the same creative resilience."

In a candid chat with Kashmir Observer, Musaib talks about his new video and ● [More On P2](#)

Employees Asked

favour of all concerned employees for vacating residential accommodations at Jammu and Srinagar respectively."

The Estates Departments, it said, shall devise a proper mechanism for issuing hassle-free NOCs/Clearances, in favour of employees both at Jammu and Srinagar.

On June 20, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha had announced that the Jammu and Kashmir administration has completely transitioned to e-office, thereby ending the 149-year-old practice of the biannual durbar move.

The practice of durbar move has been a part of the J&K administration since 1872 when it was introduced by Maharaja Ranbir Singh. Srinagar serves as the summer capital of J&K, while Jammu is the winter capital. The administration used to function in Jammu during the six months of winter and in Srinagar during the summer.

The practice was continued later with the aim of providing governance benefits to both Kashmir and Jammu regions for six months by turns. (GNS)

2600 Flats For

its approval for construction of 2744 flats at an estimated cost of Rs. 356 crore; as transit accommodation on the G+3 and G+5 models at seven locations in Kashmir division," he said.

The project, he said, is expected to be completed in 18 months and will provide employment to approximately 413 skilled and unskilled workers on a daily basis during its life cycle.

"On completion, the residential buildings will provide Government accommodation with basic services to the Kashmiri migrant employees engaged under the Prime Minister's Relief Package," the official spokesperson said.

Earlier in 2015 under the Prime Minister's Development Package, he said, the Government of India approved the construction of 6000 additional transit accommodation units in Kashmir valley for employees appointed under the package, with the sanctioned cost of Rs. 920 crore.

Violence Is Alien

the president said in his convocation address at the Kashmir University here.

Kovind, who is on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, said violence was never part of "Kashmiriyat", but became a daily reality.

"It was most unfortunate that this outstanding tradition of peaceful co-existence was broken. Violence, which was never part of Kashmiriyat, became a daily reality.

"It (violence) is alien to Kashmiri culture and it can only be termed as an aberration, a temporary one, much like a virus that attacks the body and needs to be purged. Now there is a new beginning and determined efforts to regain this land's lost glory," he said.

The president said Kashmir is the meeting point of various cultures and it is impossible to write a history of Indian philosophy without referring to the region's contributions to it.

"One of the oldest manuscripts of the Rigveda was written in Kashmir. This is the most conducive region for philosophies to prosper.

"In medieval times, it was Lal Ded who showed the way to bring together various spiritual traditions. In the works of Lalleshwari, you can see how Kashmir provides the template of communal harmony and peaceful coexistence," he said, referring to Kashmir's revered poetess.

Kovind said almost all religions that came to Kashmir embraced the unique feature of "Kashmiriyat" that shunned orthodox and encouraged tolerance and mutual acceptance among communities.

"I take this opportunity to urge upon the younger generation of Kashmir to learn from their rich legacy. They have every reason to know that Kashmir has always been a beacon of hope for the rest of India. Its spiritual and cultural influence has left an imprint all across India," he added.

The president expressed confidence that the youngsters and the women of Kashmir will use democracy to build a peaceful and prosperous future.

"Democracy lets you build your own future, a peaceful and prosperous tomorrow. The youth and women especially have high stakes in it, and I am sure they will not let go of this opportunity to rebuild lives and rebuild Kashmir," he said.

Kovind said as Kashmir has turned a new leaf, exciting new possibilities are opening up.

"The whole of India is watching you with admiration and pride. Kashmiri youngsters are scaling new heights in a variety of sectors, from the civil services exams to sports and entrepreneurial ventures.

"In September last year, during a consultation on the new National Education Policy, I had spoken of my dream. I wish to see Kashmir as a paradise on earth," he said.

The president said he is banking on the younger generation of Jammu and Kashmir for the restoration of Kashmir to its rightful place as the crowning glory of the country.

"I am squarely banking on the younger generation of Jammu and Kashmir to realise this dream, which I am sure will come true sooner than later. Kashmir is bound to acquire its rightful place as the crowning glory of India," he said.

Kovind said he was delighted to be

in the land of great historical and cultural significance.

It has been called "Rishi Vaer" or the land of seers and has always attracted spirituality seekers from far and wide, he said, adding, "I feel blessed standing on this land, which is not only a reservoir of wisdom but is also endowed with unparalleled natural beauty," he said.

The president said close to three lakh students would receive their degrees on Tuesday.

"With more than 2.5 lakh bachelor degree holders and over 1,000 doctorates in the last eight years, the university has made remarkable progress," he added.

'Mei Sapaz Khushi

Tuesday, as he noted that Kashmir's spiritual and cultural influence has an imprint all across India.

Immediately after greeting the dignitaries present at the SKICC auditorium overlooking the famous Dal Lake, the president said, "May I speak a few words in Kashmiri.

Mei sapaz khushi tuhi meelith (I feel happy to meet you all), Kovind said with a smile, drawing applause from the audience, including students.

Several prime ministers over the years have spoken Kashmiri words in their speeches to connect with the locals.

In February 2019, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took the audience at SKICC by surprise when he spoke in Kashmiri.

Yeth teeri gatkaras manz chus bae mohabbat-uk alaaw zalni amout (In this bone-chilling cold of Kashmir, I have come to light the lamp of love, Modi had said in Kashmiri at an event.

In April 2003, at a rally here, former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee received thunderous applause from the crowd when he recited a famous couplet from Kashmiri Poet Mehjoor.

Wala ho baaghvano, nuy baharuk shaan paida kar, pholan gul gath karan bulbul, ki sui saman paida kar (Let us build an atmosphere where flowers bloom, birds chirp and play and it will be a paradise)," Vajpayee had said during his 20-minute speech at the Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium here.

Lauds Soldiers

He also appreciated the high morale of the troops and their exceptional courage and professionalism.

"President Kovind visited the HQ of 15 Corps in Srinagar. The President interacted with the troops and complimented them for maintaining peace, fighting terrorists and safeguarding borders," the President's office tweeted.

He appreciated women officers for serving the nation in various capacities in the armed forces, it said.

In a message in the visitor's book, Kovind said that he was pleased to know about the tradition of the 15 Corps in effectively fighting against anti-national and anti-social elements while safeguarding country's borders.

They have maintained high morale amid sustained challenges and have demonstrated exceptional courage and professionalism while discharging their national duties, the president wrote.

"I express my best compliments to all the soldiers and officers for their extraordinary service to the nation," he wrote in the visitor's book.

LG Hosts Banquet

officials said.

Apart from the LG, his advisors and senior officials of the Army, police and civil administration were present at the banquet hosted in the honour of the President who is on a four-day visit to the Union territory, the officials said.

The President is scheduled to leave for New Delhi on Wednesday morning. Kovind arrived here on Sunday and was scheduled to visit the Kargil War Memorial in Drass area of Ladakh Union territory on Monday on the occasion of the 22nd Kargil Vijay Diwas -- celebrating India's win over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil war.

However, the President's flight could not take off from here due to bad weather and instead laid a wreath at Dagger War Memorial in Baramulla district of north Kashmir.

The President presided over an annual convocation of Kashmir University at SKICC here on Tuesday. Later, he visited the headquarters of the Army's Chinar or 15 Corps at Badamibagh Cantonment here.

Climate Change

the Himalayas," the president said. He said the University of Kashmir has added another feather to its cap with the setting up of two centres that are of high importance.

"One is devoted to glaciology and the other to Himalayan biodiversity documentation, bioprospecting and conservation. There is also the National Himalayan Ice-Core Laboratory. I am confident that these two 'Centres of Excellence' and the laboratory will help Kashmir and also show the way to the world in combating climate challenges and nurturing nature," Kovind said.

The president's stress on climate change came in the wake of recent natural disasters in Himalayan states, including Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

While nine persons were killed in landslides in Himachal Pradesh on Sunday, more than 70 persons died in the glacier burst in Uttarakhand in February.

Referring to the COVID-19 pandemic, the president said he was glad to know that the university had responded to the pandemic in a most praiseworthy manner.

"The entire world has been facing a difficult time. The coronavirus has impacted all walks of life and education is no exception. Fortunately, technology provided a solution. Schools, colleges and universities across India have continued to provide education in the on-line mode," Kovind said.

After the outbreak last year, the University of Kashmir shifted to on-line modules and made e-resources available to its students, the president noted.

Moreover, it also supported the administration by providing quarantine at its main, north and south campuses. It shows how universities' contribution to society can go far beyond imparting education, he said.

Govt Forces

also joined the operation, he said. In the ensuing encounter, he said, one militant was killed.

"Due to darkness, the operation was suspended and the cordon remained intact throughout the night. In the wee hours, search of the area continued."

Subsequently, he said, the body of the killed militant identified as Amir Yousuf Mir alias Haider son of Mohammad Yousuf Mir of Chek-e-Cholin, Shopian linked with LeT was recovered.

As per police records, he said Amir Yousuf was A+ categorized militant and was active since 2017.

"He was involved in several cases including attacks on security forces and civilian atrocities," the spokesman said.

The spokesman said that Amir had a long history of cases which included firing upon the motorcade of SP Shopian at Landoor Hermain Crossing in which the vehicle of SP Shopian got damaged, kidnapping of three Police personnel from their homes at Batagund Kapran area on 21 September 2018 and subsequently killing them.

"Besides, he was also involved in a series of attacks on Police/Security establishments. He was also part of a group involved in firing upon the Army Camp at Mantribugh Shopian and Police Station Shopian, besides threatening local Panchs."

Youth Shot Dead

conducted into the matter revealed that the killed youth was a part of 16 Gujar Gang and was killed following a rivalry between two local gangs in the area," he said.

"There was rivalry between two local gangs --Downtown Ethihad and Gujar Gang in the area and Mehran (Sic) was part of Gujar Gang," he added.

The police spokesperson further said that investigation into the matter is in progress.

Pertinently, Pathan was earlier grilled by police in a stabbing case in downtown. He has over ten thousand followers on his Instagram handle and was touted as "social media influencer".

Court Again

available on Monday.

Parra's counsel Shariq Reyaz had urged for cancellation of the FIR under which the PDP leader had been arrested and contended that the same case was being probed by the National Investigation Agency, therefore rendering the probe by police as "void ab-initio and non-est" (having no legal validity from the beginning) in law.

The counsel said the material relief by the police against Parra was the sum and substance of the NIA charge sheet filed in a Jammu court from where he has already been granted bail.

The counsel contended before the court that Parra comes from a respectful family with a clean track record and being a political figure of eminence having deep roots in the soil will not jump the bail or fleeing from justice, in case the court grants it.

The defence counsel stressed on the fact that his client was a political worker and a member of a regional political party --PDP -- who was duty bound to interact with the general public. Listening to "the grievances of the public is the job of politicians irrespective of the fact whether the interacting person is a good citizen or a criminal or whatsoever. The interaction of the politician with party members or voters does not amount to any offence," he contended.

Countering the argument of defence counsel, the prosecutor pointed out that there have been statements recorded of some of the witnesses during the course of investigation conducted so far have brought out a "startling revelation of the tapestry of direct and willful quid-pro-quo between the accused and active militants".

The prosecutor again highlighted that Parra "had contacts across the border, suspected to be his associates and handlers in Pakistan as well with anti-national elements which includes secessionists/terrorists as well as in the UK and other parts of the world.

It also surfaced that he had funded various anti-national outfits through different conduits and having them on his side and using their illegal power and influence in the society to his personal and political benefit.

The judge in his order rejected the contention of the Parra's counsel for quashing of the FIR and said "to the understanding of this court quashing of FIR is out of the jurisdiction of this

court and the issue raised can only be properly addressed after the trial of the case and it is premature stage to assess and decide" whether the two cases -- one probed by the NIA and the second by police -- are the same or not.

The judge said that the points raised by the defence counsel can only be addressed during the course of the trial.

The designated court has also framed charges against Parra which included allegedly 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 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 had said in his order while framing the charges against Parra.

All 50-Bedded

Additional Chief Secretary Health & Medical Education Department, Atal Dulloo.

Following the order by Dulloo, Director Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather has directed all chief medical officers (CMOs) to ensure establishment of oxygen generation plants at private hospitals with over 50 beds capacity and intimate the office within two days.

"I am enclosing herewith S.O 253 notified on 27.07.2021 regarding the subject cited above from the Administrative Department, in this connection you are requested to convey the concerned Private Health Institutions under your jurisdiction which are having more than 50 beds capacity to establish the oxygen generation plants of appropriate capacity for facility of patient care under an intimation to this office within (02) days positively," reads the order issued by director

J&K Records

number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 320866.

Giving district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 31 cases, Baramulla 7,

Budgam 9, Pulwama 5, Kupwara 4, Anantnag 1, Bandipora 3, Ganderbal 6, Shopian 1, Jammu 15, Udhampur 7, Rajouri 5, Doda 6, Samba 1, Kishtwar 2, Poonch 1 and Ramban 4 new cases of Covid-19. No fresh case of virus was reported from three districts of Reasi, Kathua and Kulgam.

Also, officials said, 183 more patients in last 24 hours have recovered-- 68 from Jammu Division and 115 from Kashmir, taking the number of people who have recovered in J&K to 315367.

They said the number of mucormycosis (black fungus) cases stands at 35 in the UT as no fresh infection was reported.

Jester's Jingle

the need of the decent content in Kashmir.

What inspired you to come out with this Downtown themed song?

Well, it's a tribute to my city, my downtown. But sadly, the place today lacks even basic facilities despite being an ancient city.

Frankly speaking, I feel people of downtown are being pushed to the brink. And whenever we try to raise these issues, everything is being justified with the so-called drug menace in downtown.

So, I decided to bring all these issues together in the shape of a comic song and presented it in front of the world.

But do you think your 'musical tribute' will pave a way for more refreshing content on Downtown?

I hope this video creates that local response -- because an act of mentioning roots determines a global consideration.

I think every content creator should talk about the local issues. We cannot just ignore them.

So how did this all

start for you?

Well, let me first tell you, I'm a full-time businessman and a part-time comedian.

For someone like me born in Nawa Kadal area, Downtown and its intrigues instilled that sense of humour from the word go. Someone out there might find my antics eerie, but I'm only expressing that signature street humour of downtown.

Back in 2018, when I was an extremely shy and camera-conscious person, a friend introduced me to an application where I could record video with a background audio. I recorded my satirical expressions and uploaded them on Facebook. Within days I was a viral sensation around Kashmir.

After that, I decided to create my own content and fill Kashmir's entertainment space with my family-friendly content with social-messages. People liked my humour and with a span of just three years, my Instagram followers went up from 20 to 70K.

But do you think your pranks and satire have found acceptance in people?

Let me tell you, my father threw me out of the house for my so-called antics. But now, he understands the difference.

In Kashmir, there's acceptance towards decent and dandy content. Just look at Pakistani serials. Because of their decent storyline, they've more acceptance in Kashmir compared to Indian dramas. Akin to those serials, I try to avoid grossness or rudeness. I personally believe that decency is the basic ingredient of viral content.

But having said that, we could've created our own slot and spot in the world by investing in our creative content all these years. Kashmiri entertainment industry was much more popular than the Punjabi entertainment industry once. It had everything—from Sufism to Nature—but we Kashmiris never invested in it.

How do you want to change this as a content creator?

Well, I want people to invest in content-creators and help them to achieve their goals, rather than pulling them down. If there's no unity and

effort, then how can we expect decent content?

Personally, for me, even if one of my followers follows my way of working and creates something unique out of his own perspective, that's where I'll feel as if I've achieved everything.

CASO Continues

The CASO was launched by the troops of 13 and 14 RR, Special Operation Group (SOG) of Jammu and Kashmir police and CRPF launched a joint CASO in Shokbaba Sumlar-Aragam in Bandipora early Saturday morning following specific information about the presence of militants. Three militants were killed and a soldier injured in the encounter which ensued when troops were moving deep in the woods. (Agencies)

Junior Engineer


"When the complainant approached BDO with a request to release his payments the BDO asked him to first meet the concerned GRS and JE first then he will release the payment of said works," the statement said.

It said that on meeting the GRS Mansoor Ahmed, the complaint was asked to pay a bribe of Rs 12,000 for each work so that his payment could be released, whereas the JE Arshad Amin demanded Rs 17,000 as bribe from the complainant to process his case.

It was stated in the complaint that the complainant had already paid Rs 10,000/- to the GRS as demanded by him but the GRS still refused to perform the work of complainant until he was paid in full, it added.

Based upon the facts disclosed in the complaint which prima facie constituted an offence under section 7 of the PC Act 1988 r/w Section 120-B IPC, an FIR No. 06/2021 was registered in P/S Central ACB, J&K on 26-07-2021 against the accused persons namely BDO Changa, Asif Ahmad Chandel, Mansoor Ahmad Gram Rozgar Sewak (GRS), Block Changa and JE Arshad Amin. A trap team was constituted whereupon the accused JE Arshad Amin was caught red handed while accepting the bribe of Rs 17,000.

He has been arrested in the case. Gram Rozgar Sewak is absconding and all efforts are being made for his sustained investigation, the statement said, adding that further investigation in the case is under progress.



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office of theChief Executive Officer

SRINAGAR SMART CITY LTD

(A J&K Government Undertaking)

NTT No.: RFP 07-SSCL of 2021

Dated: 24/07/2021

Subject:

Notice inviting tenders for “Operation, Maintenance and Management of Surface Car Parking Facility for a period of 2 years at Residency Road, opposite Kothi Bagh Police Station in Srinagar City”.

1.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Srinagar Smart City Limited (SSCL), invites tenders through online mode, on the basis of **highest quoted Monthly License Fee (MLF)**, from registered and reputed Firms/Agencies/Entities/Companies having experience and expertise in Operation, Maintenance and Management of on street/offstreet/public parking lot / private parkinglot/Multi level parking/Mechanized Parking/Toll Plaza, for the following work.

S. No.	Name of Work	Cost of Tender Document (INR)	Minimum Monthly Reserved Bid Amount (INR)	Time Duration for O & M (Years)
1.	Operation, Maintenance and Management of Surface Car Parking Facility for a period of 2 years at Residency Road, opposite Kothi Bagh Police Station in Srinagar City.	5,000.00	90,000.00	2 years

2.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) document, consisting of bidding information, eligibility criteria, terms of reference, conditions of contract and other details, can be seen/downloaded from the e-procurement portal of J&K Govt.<https://jktenders.gov.in> as per the schedule of dates given hereunder:

S. No.	Particulars	Schedule Date & Time
1	Date of issue of Notice for RFP	24/07/2021
2	Document download Start Date & Time	24/07/2021
3	Last Date for receipt of requests for clarifications.	31/07/2021
4	Pre-Bid meeting Date & Time	03/08/2021 at 13:00 Hrs.
5	Bid Submission Start Date & Time	24/07/2021 from 16:00 Hrs.
6	Bid Submission End Date & Time	06/08/2021 at 16:00 Hrs.
7	Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	07/08/2021 at 14:00 Hrs.
8	Financial Bid Opening Date & Time	To be intimated separately.

3.

The Cost of Tender Document is non-refundable and is to be paid through online mode in favour of Srinagar Smart City Limited with Bank Account details as under:
Name of Bank: Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd.
Branch: SSI Lal Chowk, Srinagar.
Bank Account Number: 0216010100002252,
IFSC Code: JAKA0SSISGR
MICR Code: 190051059

4.

Interested and eligible bidders may submit their complete proposal as prescribed in the Request for Proposal (RFP) along with the receipt of requisite Tender Document Cost and all other required documents.

5.

The bids shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the due date of submission of bids. To this effect, the bidder has to submit, along with his bid, a duly filled and signed “Bid Securing Declaration Form” provided in the RFP document.

6.

The eligible firms registered as Micro and Small Enterprises shall be provided tender document free of cost, subject to furnishing of relevant valid certificate/documents for claiming such exemption.

7.

The bidder is required to quote a Monthly License Fee (MLF) in an amount not less than the “Minimum Monthly Reserved Bid Amount”, as specified in this NIT, and the selection will be done on **highest quoted Monthly License Fee (MLF)** as per the procedure described in the RFP.

8.

Right to revise or amend this notice and / or the RFP Document, fully or partially, prior to the last date notified for submission of offers or on any subsequent date is reserved by the Authority.

9.

The Authority will not be responsible for any delay in submission of bid due to any reason.

10.

The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, cancel the bidding process, at any time prior to the award of contract, without assigning any reason therefor and thereby assumes no responsibility of incurring any liability to the affected applicants.

11.

Any information regarding the NIT can be had from the office of undersigned during office hours.

DIPK-NB-2066/21

Sd/-
Chief Executive Officer
Srinagar Smart City Limited.

No: SSCL/CEO/4716-17
Dt: 24/07/2021

Prepare roadmap for boosting the business of Super Bazars: Secy Cooperatives

Inspects several establishments of the department in and around Srinagar

KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: Secretary Co-operatives, Yasha Mudgal on Tuesday stressed on the officers to prepare the roadmap for boosting the business of Cooperative Super Bazars here in J&K. She asked them to modify these business establishments on modern lines so that both the footfall and transparency increases.

Mudgal impressed upon the officers to release the funds forthwith for the renovation of these Super Bazars. She asked them to revive the business of these cooperative stores using IT tools. She asked them to utilize the spaces optimally as all of them are at prime locations in major cities and towns of J&K.

The Secretary impressed upon them to make the premises of these stores hygienic and attractive so that people prefer visiting superbazars. She asked them to clean the premises on daily basis, display the products in a presentable way and offer lucrative discounts to the consumers.

She asked them to register all the Super Bazars on the GeM portal so that they are able to do secure

business with government offices and other organizations. She further directed them to train the sales staff of these super bazars so that they motivate and serve the customers better as is done in other popular private retail chain outlets.

The Secretary further directed the officers to send the scanned files to stores and auction the items rendered unusable in the offices. She asked them that the task should be completed within a month so that administrative inspections are carried out after that.

The Secretary was informed that there are 7 super bazars in the UT that have done a cumulative business of about Rs. 3038.44 lakhs during the previous financial year despite getting affected by covid-19 pandemic with a profit of Rs 52.93 lakhs during this period.

It was further reported that the department has prepared a plan of refurbishing these stores at a cost of 50 lakhs each for which DPRs have been vetted. It was said that the works would be taken up shortly and completed during the current working season itself.



5 Houses, two sheds Gutted in Midnight Blaze in Noorbagh

KO NEWS SERVICE

Srinagar : Five residential houses were completely damaged and two sheds suffered partial damage in a fire incident in Palpora locality of Noorbagh, Srinagar late Monday.

An official told the news agency that the fire broke out from one of the houses late last evening which rapidly spread to the neigh-

boring houses resulting in complete damage of five residential

and stopped fire from spreading to more houses in this large congest-

6 Property worth lakh of rupees was destroyed in the mishap while the cause of fire was not known so far

houses while two other sheds were partially damaged in the incident.

Fire tenders with the help of police and locals doused the flames

ed locality. Property worth lakh of rupees was destroyed in the mishap while the cause of fire was not known so far (KNS).

Trade Bodies welcome end of weekend curfew across J&K

Move will help to revive economy: KCCI Prez

Agencies

Srinagar: Following the lifting of weekend curfew, trade bodies praising the government's decision termed it as a positive step.

The Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) President Sheikh Ashiq told news agency, that the move is a welcome step, as in other parts of India trade is allowed to function on all days.

However, he urged all traders to follow the Covid Sops and adopt Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

"We urge all the sections of the society to follow the Covid Sops and in case the Sops are violated, the first impact comes on the trade and business, which

results in its closure," Ashiq said.

Sheri Khas Trade Union President Nazir Ahmed said that the decision taken by the government is a welcome step, and can be of a great help for the struggling economy.

He also said, by lifting the weekend lockdowns the transport department which has also been among the sufferers during the recent lockdowns, would be of a great help to run their transport on all week days.

"We have also sensitized the traders about the Covid Appropriate Behaviour and sign boards have been placed outside the shops asking customers to use Face Masks and to follow other Covid Sops," he said—(KNO)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-1st (KPDCL), BEMINA, SRINAGAR

Notice Inviting Tender

e-NIT No. STD I / 06 of 2021-22 dated 23/07/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Short term e-Tenders, (In Two Cover System) is hereby invited from reputed A-class electrical contractors / registered firms/suppliers enlisted with CPWD/MES/Railways/DGS&D and JKPD Inspection Agency of PDD, for the work mentioned as:-

	Description of Work	Earnest Money (In Rs.)			
01	Stabilisation and re-conductoring (Thickening) of 33KV Cheshmashahi-Brein-Nishat Line from 0.1 ACSR Conductor to 0.2 ACSR Conductor having a line length of 2.8 kms along with allied works.	95,300.00 (Ninety five thousand three hundred only).	Rs.1000.00 (One Thousand only)	Demand	16/08/2021; 04:00 PM

1.	Document Download/Sale (start) Date.	24/07/2021 ; 10:00 AM
2.	Document Download /Sale (End) Date.	16/08/2021; 03:00 PM
3.	Bid Submission Start Date	24/07/2021; 11:00 AM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	16/08/2021; 04:00 PM
5.	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	18/08/2021; 03:00 PM
6.	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders
7.	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Electronically in the office of Executive Engineer STD-1st Bemina Srinagar, J&K.
8.	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand only).
9.	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 95,300.00 (Ninety five thousand three hundred only)
10.	Position of Funds	Demand.

S/d
Executive Engineer
Sub Transmission Division-I
Bemina, Srinagar.
DIPK-NB-2040/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

FFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL

NIT NO 83 OF RNB/KHANABAL/2020-21 /E-TENDERING/5731-41 DATED 16/07/2020

For and on behalf of the **Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K** e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

1	Strengthening / Upgradation of road from Masjid Sharief Sirhama To Marg via Danjipora by way of construction of RCC Culvert.	24.04	800	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	BEE & CEE Class Only
2	Strengthening / Upgradation of Momin Shiroppora road	20.00	800	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	BEE & CEE Class Only
3	Strengthening / Upgradation of Katoo link road	19.34	800	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	BEE & CEE Class Only
4	Strengthening / Upgradation of Check Dudoo Link road	15.00	800	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	BEE, CEE & DEE Class Only
5	Upgradation of link Road from Higher secondary school Marhama to Naibasti Marhama	11.29	600	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	BEE, CEE & DEE Class Only
6	Upgradation of Interior roads at kahtsoo Bunpora by way of P/L of RBM, WBM Gravel and RCC pipes	10.00	600	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	CEE & DEE Class Only
7	Strengthening / Upgradation of Mehind Bewora road by way of construction of 5 mtr span Box culvert	10.00	600	45 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/Ang-Kul/AAA/23 OF 2021-22 DATED 05.07.2021	CEE & DEE Class Only

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	16-07-2021
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 20-07-2021 (03:00PM) To 04-08-2021 (04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 20-07-2021 (03:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 04-08-2021 (04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	05-08-2021 (10:30AM)

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal** (Tender Inviting Authority) [Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt] (Refer Govt. order No. O.M.No. A/24 (2017) 451 Dt 07-06-2018) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to **Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal** (Tender receiving Authority).

Page 1 of 2

- All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal (Tender receiving authority)** within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of **Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal**.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.**
 - Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
 - To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
 - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
 - Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
 - Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.
- Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.**
 - The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
 - Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of **Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal** (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to **Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal** must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.
 - Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
 - Price escalation and taxes:** The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in **Indian Rupees**, shall be deemed to include **price escalation and all taxes upto** completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
 - Bidders are advised to use **"My Documents"** area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
 - All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

DIPK-5205/21

(Er Qazi Javeed Amin)
Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Khanabal

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
17 Zil Haj
1442

PRAYERS

FAJR	4: 01
ZUHR	12:37
ASR	5:32
Magrib	7:39
ISHA	9:13

This Day In History

- 388 - Battle at Aquileia: Emperor Theodosius beats emperor Magnus Maximis
- 1148 - Second Crusade: Crusaders abandon their siege of Damascus
- 1330 - Battle of Velbuzd: Serbian forces defeats Bulgarian army
- 1741 C - aptain Vitus Bering discovers Mount St Elias, Alaska
- 1808 - Mahmud II succeeds Mustafa IV as sultan of Turkey
- 1821 - Peru declares independence from Spain (National Day)
- 1851 - Total solar eclipse captured on a daguerreotype photograph
- 1858- Nadar takes 1st airborne photo (in a balloon)
- 1883-Shocks triggered by volcano Epomeo (Isle of Ischia, Italy) destroyed 1,200 houses at Casamicciola killing 2,000
- 1914- Austria-Hungary decides against mediation and declares war on Serbia - first declaration of war of WWI
- 1926- US & Panamanian pact about safeguard of Panama Canal
- 1933- Spain recognizes the USSR
- 1943- Italian Fascist dictator Benito Mussolini resigns
- 1943- World War II: Operation Gomorrah: The British bomb Hamburg causing a firestorm that kills 42,000 German civilians
- 1945- Japanese premier Suzuki disregards US ultimatum to surrender
- 1945- US Senate ratifies United Nations charter 89-2
- 1945- Physicist Raemer Schreiber and Lieutenant Colonel Peer de Silva arrive on the Pacific island of Tinian with the plutonium core used to assemble the Fat Man bomb used in the bombing of Nagasaki on August 9
- 1962- Mariner I launched to Mars falls into Atlantic Ocean
- 1964-Ranger 7 launched toward the Moon; sent back 4308 TV pictures
- 1973- Skylab 3's astronauts (Bean, Garriott & Lousma) launched
- 1976- 242,000 die in Tientsin-Tangshan (China) 8.2 earthquake
- 1976- Eldon Joersz & Geo Morgan set world air speed record of 3,530 kph
- 1983- NASA launches Telstar-3A
- 1988- Jordan cancels \$1.3 billion development plan in West Bank
- 1989- NASA's Lewis Research Center, Cleve, announce new high temperature superconductors able to operate at 33 to 37 Gigahertz
- 2014- UN Security Council hold emergency meeting calling for an immediate and indefinite humanitarian ceasefire between Israel and Hamas
- 2014- Missiles strike near Gaza's main hospital and a nearby refugee camp Monday, leaving 10 dead and many wounded; Israeli Defence Force say they are not responsible.

From KO Archives

Amnesty: Children unprotected In J&K

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - The unlawful killing of three teenaged boys and the serious injuries to a fourth boy during the last weekend in Bangargund village in Kupwara throws into sharp focus the lack of protection for children's right to life and safety in the state, global human rights watchdog, Amnesty International said today.

"Children are at risk of human rights violations from both state agents and abuses from armed groups" Amnesty said in faxed statement to Kashmir Observer. "Amnesty International urges both the state government and armed groups to respect the rights of children", the statement said adding the government of Jammu and Kashmir is under an international obligation to promote and protect child rights in line with India's ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Armed groups are under an obligation to abide by the standards of humanitarian law which strictly forbid the torture, killing and hostage taking of all civilians, including children, amnesty further said.

An army spokesperson stated that 'the four Juveniles, all between 11 and 15 years of age, were shot on 24 July 2005 in Bangargund village in Kupwara district when troops of the 6th battalion of the Rashtriya Rifles opened fire on the four teenagers whom they mistook for militants. The boys had started to run away when an army patrol called on them to stop in an area close to the line of control.

Villagers claimed that the juveniles were part of a marriage party and had gone for a stroll in the village in the early hours of Sunday when soldiers opened fire before the boys could reply to their commands. According to reports, there was no curfew in the area. Local villagers claim that the village elders had informed the army of the marriage party and that people were likely to move about late at night.

An army spokesperson termed the incident as 'unfortunate' and announced that the army would cooperate with a magisterial inquiry set up by State Chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed. The army also ordered an internal inquiry. Police have registered a case against the army. On dozens of occasions the armed groups have perpetrated indiscriminate attacks which have affected children. They have exploded bombs close to schools resulting in the deaths of several children and causing parents to fear for the safety of their wards.

(Kashmir Observer, 28 July, 2005)

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Lingering stand-off

India has moved key elements of the Army's "1 Strike Corps" otherwise tasked westwards, to eastern Ladakh, media reports have said. This includes armoured formations, infantry combat vehicles, besides troops. This effectively means that the formations of the Mathura-based One Strike Corps have also been reoriented towards the Northern border. The Army has also deployed over 15,000 additional troops in eastern Ladakh to counter China. These troops were part of the army's counter-insurgency units in Jammu and Kashmir.

If anything this shows there has been little change in the situation along the Line of Actual Control since China staged incursions along its four points and captured around 1000 square kilometre land. Though the two countries have since resolved the stand-off along Pangong Tso lake, the stalemate along the other three points - Galwan Valley, Hot Springs and Gogra - persists. And it is unlikely to end anytime soon. And considering the two countries are only bolstering their troop presence in Ladakh, the conflict looks set to continue for now.

India wants China to go back to status quo ante as it existed in April last year but Beijing is in no mood to do so. On the contrary, the People's Liberation Army has enhanced its military profile on the border by deploying thousands of its soldiers and equipment. In recent years China has reportedly more than doubled its total number of airbases, air defence positions and heliports near the Indian border.

This has now become a high stakes war of nerves between the two countries. However, this time New Delhi is approaching the situation very cautiously and waiting if China's intermittent statements of reconciliation are translated into action. There is also the realisation that the complete de-escalation will be a long haul.

The current stand-off with China has been the bitterest since the 1962 war. This time China has aggressively asserted its claim to its side of the LAC and also captured strategic areas in Galwan Valley, Hot Springs and Gogra besides trying to push in along the LAC in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim. So, resolving these issues will take time. But the disengagement in Pangong Tso is a positive development. This allowed for dialogue to take place. A lot will depend on China's behaviour in the near future. We can only hope that the communist country sticks to the path of dialogue and gives precedence to sorting out the issues peacefully than unilaterally changing the facts on the ground.

O T H E R O P I N O N

A Summary Response

Amongst the defining images of the second wave of the pandemic were those of patients gasping for breath outside chaos-riddled hospitals. Innumerable people turned to social media to send out SOS messages for hospital beds and medical oxygen. States accused each other of blocking oxygen tankers at border crossings. On Tuesday, in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Bharati Pravin Pawar acknowledged this crisis, but in a manner that left much to be desired. Noting that the unprecedented surge in the demand for medical oxygen required the Centre's intervention, the minister pointed out that states did not "specifically report" deaths due to lack of oxygen supply. Technically, she is right. There is no established protocol to link Covid deaths with depleted oxygen supplies. Hospital authorities, too, have been wary of making such connections. However, with the desperation caused by the runaway surge in Covid-19 cases easing in most parts of the country, it's time to attempt answering difficult questions. A conversation must begin about the Covid problems, dilemmas and failures — and successes too — in a manner that could catalyse a truer depiction of what happened during the second wave. With its summary response on Tuesday, the Centre let go of the opportunity to initiate such a conversation.

The judiciary in at least three states, Karnataka, Goa and Delhi, has been more sensitive to the trauma of families who lost their loved ones to the oxygen crisis. Earlier this month, the Karnataka High Court ordered the state government to pay compensation to 13 such families. In the last week of April, the Delhi High Court directed the Arvind Kejriwal government to enumerate the oxygen-related toll at the city's nursing homes and hospitals. Creating such a list would no doubt have required joining several dots — between accounts of relatives and records generated by doctors, hospital administrators and government agencies. It would have demanded an empathetic attitude to the constraints of hospitals from government investigators and re-invigorating channels of communication between the Centre and states, built during the first wave. This complicated process became even more fraught with the two governments bickering over the formation of the committee to look into claims by patients' families and doctors, forcing the Delhi government to shelve its compensation plans.

It's now evident that the failure to anticipate the second wave — as well as a lot of the devastation caused by the virus — owes much to the poverty of the country's health information system. Much of what happened during this fateful period is in the realm of speculation. The government needs to shine the light, clear the air.

The Indian Express

Precarious Primary School Education in Kashmir

Due to triple lockdowns, primary school education has suffered the most in Kashmir

Muhammad Tahir

School-going children in Kashmir have been badly affected by the triple lockdown. Nearly 2 million kids have missed around two years of formal schooling. Following the revocation of Article 370 on 5 August 2019, curfew, communication blockade and hartal kept schools closed for many weeks. In spring 2020, schools in Kashmir were closed due to the first wave of Covid-19 pandemic. Then the so-called 'second wave' (of Covid-19) struck and schools were again closed under Government Order No. 91-Edu of 2021, dated 04.04.2021.

Although teaching switched to online mode globally, Kashmiri students and teachers faced internet issues. Authorities restored high-speed 4G Internet only in February 2021, after a 550 days ban. According to BBC News (23 June 2021) "students from more than 150 villages in the area [Kashmir] have had no access to online lessons."

The triple lockdown is a unique context which has created a uniquely challenging situation for Kashmiri students, particularly from the economically weaker sections who lack resources to navigate the crisis. Prolonged school closures and continuous disruption during the formative years of primary education is especially concerning, because students lose out on developing basic cognitive (and acquiring) other skills.

Specific context of Kashmir as a site of a protracted armed conflict makes the crisis all the more serious. Because prolonged disruption of studies of children could potentially add to the dynamics that have a bearing on the mental health of Kashmiri children, and in turn on the political situation in the region. Amit Sen, a child and adolescent psychiatrist, visited Kashmir during the 2019 military lockdown and later wrote in his article 'A Childhood Denied' (Indian Express, 31 Jan 2020) that "Children and adolescents who could access mental health services, were reporting all kinds of abuse (physical, sexual and emotional) and nightly raids by security forces — as corroborated through reports from other members of our group who had visited villages and towns in different districts — which had created an atmosphere of terror and panic amongst young people and their families. They shared experiences of paralysing fear, acute anxiety, panic attacks, depressive-dissociative symptoms, post traumatic symptoms, suicidal tendencies and severe anger outbursts. There was a marked increase in psychological distress in 70 per cent (as estimated through a recent survey by mental health professionals in the Valley) of the population. Professionals working on the ground expressed concern about the aftermath of this imbroglio and feared that the trauma suffered by thousands of people will become evident in the months and years to come."

Sen argued that "repetitive, violent trauma in endemic war zones can be deeply damaging for the community, especially children and adolescents, who could be scarred for life, and pass on their fear and anger to generations that follow. They don't need to be tutored or indoctrinated to form extreme attitudes and prejudices."

According to Dr Majid Shafi, a clinical psychiatrist based in Srinagar, "Almost every parent of kids and teenagers in Kashmir is complaining these days about increased behavioural issues in their children." Dr Shafi's assessment is that there is an increase in symptoms such as "a feeling of hopelessness, anxiety, mood disorders, and a decline in academic performance" (as quoted by Majid Maqbool in The Conversation, 15 July 2021).

About 90% of the children of government primary schools belong to Below Poverty Line (BPL) category, including tribal and other backward categories. So, generally, students of government primary schools come from weaker socio-economic backgrounds — labour class, auto-rickshaw drivers, agricultural labourers, slum-dwellers, tribal and other BPL families. In comparison, most students of private schools in Kashmir come from middle- and high-income families. This economic disparity affects the outcome in terms of who gets better education



or in the present context of an unprecedented health crisis, who manages to receive sufficient classes and get to participate in relatively better (alternative) learning processes. A positive aspect of online teaching has been that the process became a learning experience for parents as well. A parent whose kid studies in a private school in Pampore said about online classes that "It is not only kids who are learning, but us parents also have learnt so many things — like writing techniques, activities, pronunciation etc." But this is a privilege that most government school students' parents do not have because they are from working-class backgrounds.

While government schools started online teaching classes around the same time the private schools did, they were less successful than private schools. Main reasons for this are lack of parental guidance, lack of smartphones, and poor internet connectivity (because rural areas in Kashmir usually have patchy internet). Other reasons could be related to psychological issues, such as a lack of motivation among students due to the chronic crisis. But that needs to be properly researched.

Keeping in view the limitation of online teaching in the context of Kashmir, Directorate of School Education Kashmir started 'community classes', which have been somewhat successful. Community classes are taken in open air, usually in the school grounds or in commons closer to the school, with students kept at a 2-meter distance from each other. Classes run from 8-10 AM.

According to India Blooms News Service (17 July 2021), both government and private school students have benefited from the community-



class initiative. By mid-July, around 1,80,407 students from government schools attended community-classes, while 6270 private school students also participated in the community classes in the same period. Top three districts for community class participation are: Anantnag (42,579), Baramulla (39,032), and Pulwama (20,634). It is claimed that around 30,000 government school teachers are engaged in community-class initiatives.

However, the School Education Department Kashmir treats community classes as "a parallel hybrid learning exercise to supplement the existing Learning Management System (LMS)." That means community-classes cannot replace the online mode of teaching, which is, seemingly, a more preferable alternative for the department. As the official circular (quoted by Greater Kashmir, 30 June 2021) makes clear: "The community school should be prioritised for those children who are not connected through online classes and should in no way be considered an alternative to online

classes. Online classes should continue for the connected children through Learning Management System (LMS) or Real Time Video Conferencing Apps or conference calls and other digital platforms."

However, in effect, community classes have replaced online mode of teaching. Because community classes are relatively more effective than online teaching. At least, this is what teachers from District Pulwama told me. A Zonal Education Officer (ZEO) from one of the Tehsils of the district told me that "Primary schools were badly hit by the pandemic lock down due to having a delicate lot of learners prone to infection. Due to non-availability of Internet facilities and Android phones with the children, the online teaching could not be held for most of the lock down period. However, it took a measure time with parent's cooperation to make things available but almost only 10 to 20% of students. However, community teaching was of great support."

Although community-classes have been relatively successful, problems still persist. Some of these problems precede the crisis. Firstly, most government primary schools do not have their own grounds. So, they are forced to rent nearby orchards or private properties to conduct their classes. State land abutting many govt schools (that could be transferred to the school department) have been encroached upon by locals. Cooperation from students is mixed, many don't attend community classes regularly. Only some parents cooperate, most do not actively involve themselves in their kid's education, because they are from the working-class. Two hours (8-10 AM) are not sufficient to cover

to the advanced and well performing schools in and out-side union territory to get well equipped with knowledge and skills. The primary schools need school-maids for proper watch and ward, sanitation, health & hygiene of the students."

If Kashmir wants to catch up with others, and improve its future human resource, the above-mentioned problems must be immediately addressed through a comprehensive policy backed up substantial investment plan. A silver-lining in this crisis has been that there weren't many drop outs in government schools. In fact, some private school students switched to being government schools (although this was due to the financial crunch brought by the triple lockdown).

Many experts advocate blended learning, but primary stakeholders must be brought on board and a policy must be formulated after receiving their feedback. Parents of govt primary school students seem to be unsatisfied with online mode of teaching. Father of a govt primary school student from Awantipora, a laborer by profession, told me that "I am not satisfied with online teaching; these kids keep their mics mute and do other stuff than listening to their teachers. I kept my phone at home but my son would play the Free Fire game on it rather than attend his classes. I prefer face to face classes where teachers will at least keep him under discipline." A government school teacher from Awantipora told me, "It (alternative teaching) is just a compensatory thing, to keep students engaged." These views were echoed by some other teachers. A government school teacher from Pampore told me that "We started community classes in 2020, but it was moderately successful. There is marginal engagement of parents in the process, not all students join. We have a roll of 85 students, we have just 3 rooms. We have seven teachers out of which three are on Covid-duty." These are important views, and must be considered during policy formulations.

I have focused on primary school students, because in comparison to higher secondary school students they are affected more. Students of higher secondary schools have already acquired basic cognitive skills, so they can manage on their own. However, primary class students are learning, and prolonged closure of schools has taken away their crucial formative years of basic learning. Also, schools have been 'informally' asked schools not to fail students. Students who were in Grade 3 in 2019, were promoted to Grade 4 in 2020 and, most probably will be promoted to Grade 5 in 2021. But, since they have not covered the entire syllabus of the previous two classes, they cannot be expected to have the required prior training/skills to be able to read or adequately understand the syllabus and texts of the class they have not progressed to in a normal way. As a rough analogy, they are like entry level swimmers who must first learn how to properly enter and exit a pool but instead they are being asked to do 50 yards of swimming with different strokes in a local stream without sufficient aid and support.

Furthermore, higher secondary school students can get resources/materials from the internet and photostat shops or from private coaching centres. For primary students there are far fewer options. There are far more coaching centres catering to the high school students than primary school students in Kashmir. During the winter of 2020, private coaching centres worked normally in almost all districts of Kashmir. Therefore, I think the 'triple lockdown' has affected the primary school students more than high school students. But this is a question that requires to be explored through empirical research.

This article is based on the research paper this author presented at the conference 'Education in Crisis: Re-thinking Education in (Post)-Pandemic South Asia', 23-24 July 2021, hosted by Education South Asia, University of Oxford

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

The author is an independent researcher

Deepfakes – New World, New Threats

Ahtisab Ul Haq

Deepfake is a new media technology wherein a person simply takes existing text, picture, video, or audio and then manipulates, i.e., ‘fakes’ it to look like someone else using advanced artificial intelligence (AI) and neural network (NN) technology. The data driven machines need a sizable amount of data in a few hundred photos or a few hours of video of any person and can create an entirely new video that seems real



In his statement on 3rd November 2020, India's permanent representative to the United Nations, TS Tirumurti, highlighted among other issues, the use/misuse of deep fakes to disturb global peace, fuel misinformation, divisions, and political instability. The concerns about the misuse of deep fakes technology has been the center of a new age of computational propaganda. The elephantine amount of digital photos and videos on various social media platforms may drive modern man into a sinister digital apocalypse. As with any new innovative technology, it can be weaponized to inflict harm.

What is a Deep Fake?

Deepfake is a new media technology wherein a person simply takes existing text, picture, video, or audio and then manipulates, i.e., ‘fakes’ it to look like someone else using advanced artificial intelligence (AI) and neural network (NN) technology. The data driven machines need a sizable amount of data in a few hundred photos or a few hours of video of any person and can create an entirely new video that seems real. In India, the first noticeable video of deepfake technique was used in the parliamentary election of 2019. Since then, in Asia alone, the number of deepfake videos has been doubling every six months.

How is it created?

The main ingredient in deepfakes is machine learning, which has made it possible to produce deepfakes much faster at a lower cost. To make a deepfake video of someone, a creator would first train a neural network on many hours of real video footage of the person to give

it a realistic “understanding” of what he or she looks like from many angles and under different lighting. Then they’d combine the trained network with computer-graphics techniques to superimpose a copy of the person onto a different actor. Although a few years ago it took a considerable amount of time to synthesize a near perfect chunk of video, today with better technology driven systems it’s synthesizing time is slashing day after day.

What can it do?

In an interview to BBC Professor Hao Li of University of Berkley expressed his opinion and said, “We are already at the point where you can’t tell the difference between deepfakes and the real thing. However, the greater threat is the potential for deepfakes to be used in political disinformation campaigns. Elections are already being manipulated with fake news, so imagine what would happen if you added sophisticated deepfakes to the mix?”

It could be even more dangerous in developing countries where digital literacy is very limited. Here, it can really impact public opinion. You can even spread misinformation that can get people killed.

Additionally, another great risk that deepfakes pose is their entry into the world of revenge pornography. Deepfake can create an entire video of any person, especially of women. In a world which is already hostile to women and where victim blaming is still a norm, deepfakes pose a great threat to women’s safety and her ability to voice her concerns. By its very nature, pornography is targeted towards violence against women. Coupled with the threat to create deepfakes for revenge, women have a

lot to worry about, yet again.

Spotting Deepfakes

Detecting deepfakes is a hard problem. Amateurish deepfakes can, of course, be detected by the naked eye. Other signs that machines can spot include a lack of eye blinking or shadows that look wrong. The machine/software combination that generate deepfakes are getting better all the time, and soon we will have to rely on digital forensics to detect deepfakes—if we can, in fact, detect them at all.

Generally, the masses need to be made aware of the various challenges and threats posed by this technology. We should organize the events to create awareness in the general public. Digital literacy is going to play a decisive role in this.

Moreover, the government’s role is most important. Its primary duty is to bring in legislation to check the dangers of deepfakes. In its secondary role, it can help to disseminate the information to make the public aware on a greater scale and mobilize various law enforcement agencies and institutions to make necessary steps to counter it. It can also undertake or sponsor research on how to counter it

Internet giants like Google, Facebook and Youtube must also amp up their technology to detect deepfakes before they’re posted online. A collaborative effort is needed to nip the mischief in the bud before it is out in the open with no scope for redressal.

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As we try to control COVID-19, many people are keen to know what proportion of the population will need to be vaccinated in order to reach “herd immunity”.

It’s a reasonable question. People are asking because they want to know when we’ll see an end to lockdowns; when they’ll be able to reunite with loved ones overseas; when their businesses will have more security; when headlines will no longer be dominated by COVID-19.

Right now expert modellers are plugging in numbers and looking at various scenarios to estimate the scope of protection different levels of vaccination coverage will give us. We’re expecting to see the results of this modelling from the Doherty Institute as early as this week.

But it’s important to acknowledge it’s difficult to pin down a single magic number for herd immunity.

What is herd immunity again?

To understand why experts often avoid pinpointing a single vaccination figure needed to reach herd immunity for COVID-19, let’s first recap the concept.

Herd immunity is when immunity in a population is high enough to block the pathway for the ongoing transmission of the disease.

While vaccination provides each of us with direct protection against disease, with herd immunity, even people who are unvaccinated benefit from that blocked transmission pathway.

Different diseases have different thresholds for herd immunity. For measles, for example, the herd immunity threshold is 92%-94%. Estimates for COVID-19 have varied, with some putting it at 85% or higher.

However, many hesitate to give a single number. Here are three reasons why.

1. Variations in the vaccines, and the disease itself

A single herd immunity figure is difficult to estimate when the infectiousness of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) remains so variable.

When Will We Reach Herd Immunity?

Julie Leask and James Wood

We understand the infectiousness of a disease by looking at the R0, or reproduction number — the average number of people infected by one case where no control measures are in place. The ancestral strains of SARS-CoV-2 have an R0 of 2-3, but Delta is estimated to be twice as infectious, with an R0 around 4-6.

COVID outbreaks will happen, but they will be less risky, with fewer people susceptible to serious illness. City or state-wide outbreaks will be replaced by more localised ones. We will still require good public health measures like rapid contact tracing and isolation. Rapid tests may be used more often. New treatments may be found

The type of vaccine, doses given (whether one or both), and how well the vaccines cover the different variants all factor in.

Estimates from the United Kingdom show two doses of the Pfizer vaccine are between 85% and 95% effective against symptomatic disease with the Alpha variant, while two doses of AstraZeneca are 70% to 85% effective. Overall vaccine effectiveness appears to drop about ten percentage points with the Delta variant.

The lower the vaccine effectiveness, the higher the level of coverage we’ll need to control COVID well.

2. We cannot cover the entire population yet

The Pfizer vaccine has now been provisionally approved for 12-15-year-olds in Australia. If it becomes routinely recommended for this age group, it

will still take time to vaccinate them. Even once that occurs, there will remain a gap in our population protection among younger children.

Children should benefit somewhat from adult vaccination. In England, where overall vaccine uptake is 48.5% for two doses, there was initially a decline in infections for children aged under ten years. This is partly due to indirect protection offered by adults being vaccinated.

3. Population protection will vary in time and space

There is rarely a neat threshold after which everything changes for good. Vaccine protection in individuals is likely to wane over time. With that and new variants appearing, we will almost certainly need boosters to sustain population protection against COVID-19.

With influenza vaccination, we rarely even talk about herd immunity, because the duration of protection is so short. By the next flu season, immunity from the current season’s vaccine will be much less effective against the newest viral strain.

Spatially, protection can vary across localities and demographics. Even in a country that has reached a herd immunity threshold for vaccination coverage against measles, you can see small outbreaks in pockets of lower coverage in kids, or where a cohort of teens and adults weren’t adequately vaccinated as children.

The capacity to achieve herd immunity is also affected by population density and how much people in a population mix with a variety of others — what’s called heterogeneity of mixing.

Life will gradually change as more people are vaccinated

Given these factors, it’s understandable experts often avoid giving a single figure for herd immunity.

With the infectiousness of Delta, we will need very high vaccination rates. Then, life will look different, particularly once this happens globally.

COVID outbreaks will happen, but they will be less risky, with fewer people susceptible to serious illness. City or state-wide outbreaks will be replaced by more localised ones.

We will still require good public health measures like rapid contact tracing and isolation. Rapid tests may be used more often. New treatments may be found.

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Angry Politicians Make Angry Voters, New Study Finds

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Politicians may have good reason to turn to angry rhetoric, according to research led by political scientists from Colorado-the strategy seems to work, at least in the short term.

In a new study published in the journal Political Research Quarterly, Carey Stapleton at the University of Colorado Boulder and Ryan Dawkins at the US Air Force Academy discovered that political furore may spread easily: Ordinary citizens can start to mirror the angry emotions of the politicians they read about in the news. Such "emotional contagion" might even drive some voters who would otherwise tune out of politics to head to the polls.

"Politicians want to get reelected, and anger is a powerful tool that they can use to make that happen," said Stapleton, who recently earned his PhD in political science at CU Boulder. The researchers surveyed roughly 1,400 people online from across the political spectrum, present-

ing them with a series of mock news stories about a recent political debate. They discovered that when it comes to politics, anger may lead to more anger.

Subjects who read about an enraged politician from their own party were more likely to report feeling mad themselves than people who didn't. Those same steaming partisans also reported that they were more likely to get involved in politics, from attending rallies to voting on Election Day.

"Anger is a very strong, short-term emotion that motivates people into action," said Stapleton. "But there can be these much more negative implications in the long term. There's always the potential that anger can turn into rage and violence."

Anger and politics in the US have long gone hand-in-hand-the nation's second president, John Adams, once referred to Alexander Hamilton as a "bastard brat of a Scotch peddler." But Stapleton and Dawkins' findings come at a time when American politics has grown especially divisive.



According to the Pew Research Center, in the lead up to the 2020 presidential election, "around nine-in-ten Trump and Biden supporters said there would be 'lasting harm' to the nation if the other candidate won." That anger boiled over with deadly results when a mob of supporters of then-President Trump stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6.

Stapleton, who is not related to the Colorado political family, wanted to find out just how contagious those kinds of emotions could be. He will start a position

as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Notre Dame in the fall.

"Most political science research to date has focused on what we do when we feel an emotion like anger, rather than how our emotions affect other people," Stapleton said.

To find out how the emotions of politicians might rub off on their supporters, he and Dawkins ran an experiment. The duo wrote a series of news stories about a debate on immigration policy between two candidates for an open

Congressional seat in Minnesota. Unbeknownst to the study's subjects, neither the candidates nor their debate was real.

In some cases, the faux politicians used language that tipped into outrage (although it might still look tame in the current political landscape). "When I look at our borders, I'm enraged by what I see," as an example. In other cases, the soap boxers stuck to more neutral language. The team's results are among the first to show what many Americans have long known-that political anger can be a powerful force.

"We report being angrier after seeing our fellow partisans being angry," Stapleton said. "When the other side is angry, it doesn't seem to affect us much at all." If Democrats read about a fellow Democrat getting mad, for example, they often reported feeling angry themselves. In contrast, blue voters who encountered neutral information or saw an angry quote from a Republican didn't experience the same swings in emotion.

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- Date of issuance of applications = 27-07-2021
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- Only male candidates are eligible to apply under the scheme.

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- The machinery /equipment should be certified as per requisite safety/quality standards and subsidy shall be released, as fixed per unit, by the department regard-less of prices as long as specifications prescribed are met.
- A brief business plan, indicating the site of installation/catchment areas /targets for shearing per season per year shall be enclosed with the application.
- The department shall, provide a subsidy of 50% of the unit cost or Rs 75000/ per unit, whichever is less.
- Once the beneficiary has procured the shearing unit, 50% of the unit cost as subsidy amount or maximum ceiling (Rs 75000 per unit), whichever is less, shall be released by District Sheep Husbandry Officer Kulgam, (DSHO) on production of the invoice and physical verification of the shearing unit by a team constituted by DSHO Kulgam.
- The verification of the shearing unit shall be carried out within 15 days of the submission of invoice and establishment of the unit. The subsidy shall be released within 30 days of submission of the required documents by the beneficiary.
- Release of subsidy shall only be through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- A beneficiary can opt for loan facility by depositing 10% marginal money and 50% of the unit cost, as total eligible subsidy amount or of maximum ceiling, which-ever is less will be released to the bank as back ended subsidy. Bank loan shall have defined lock in period as per RBI guidelines and terms and conditions of different commercial banks.
- The selection of the beneficiaries shall be conducted through draw of lots by the committee, constituted for the purpose, the dates of which shall be notified separately.
- A provisionally selected candidate has to produce physical fitness certificate from competent authority, before the shearing unit is sanctioned/established in his favour.
- In case a provisionally selected candidate is found not satisfying the set eligibility criteria or fails to produce requisite documents/physical fitness certificate from a competent authority, within the stipulated time, his selection shall be rejected immediately and the waiting list shall be operated.
- As a proof of age, a candidate has to attach self-attested copies of date of birth certificate/ any valid document from a competent authority, certifying his age, with the application form. The original document (s) shall be verified before the establishment of the unit.
- Only one person from a household can apply under the scheme.
- Households /individuals who have already availed the benefit of any scheme, implemented by Sheep Husbandry Department, are not eligible for the scheme.
- An applicant has to undertake that he has fully understood the eligibility criteria/ terms and conditions /guidelines of the scheme and shall have no objection to the rejection of his candidature/cancellation of his provisional selection, in case he does not fulfill the set eligibility criteria for the scheme or fails to produce the requisite documents within the stipulated time.
- The establishment of shearing units shall be subjected to the availability of funds and the number of units to be established may vary.

No:-DSHOK/Stores/2021-22/1311-24

Dated: 26/07/2021

DIPK-5272/21

Sd/-
District Sheep Husbandry Officer
Kulgam

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Fouzia Bashir Bhat D/O Bashir Ahmad Bhat do hereby solemnly affirm and state to general public that I am applying for renewal of my passport no as Z2760043. My name on my 10th class certificate/marks sheet is mentioned as Fouzia Bashir. I would want my renewal passport bear my complete name as Fouzia Bashir Bhat as mentioned in my previous passport. If anyone has any objection on this please contact Passport Seva Kendra, Srinagar within 7 days of this notice.

Fouzia Bashir Bhat
9797875192

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER BUDGAM.

Notice Inviting Tender

E-NIT No. 03 of 2021

Dated:26/07/2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Jammu and Kashmir State, e-tenders (in two cover system) are invited from approved and eligible registered contractors/ suppliers for the below mentioned work/supply. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bill of Quantities (B.O.Q.), set of terms and conditions of the rate contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the scheduled date given below:

S.No	Name of the work	Cost of tender documents	Earnest money/ bid security	Period of contract	Tender receiving authority
1.	Supply of Dietary items for Markazi Falahi Mastoorat Chadoora and Markazi Falahi Itfaal Khansahab	1000	25000	1 Year	District Social Welfare Officer Budgam

1	Date of issue of tender notice	27-07-2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	27-07-2021 11:00 a.m. to 17-08-2021 04:00 p.m.
3	Bid submission start date(online)	27-07-2021 12:00 p.m.
4	Bid submission end date(online)	17-08-2021 04:00 p.m.
5	Date and time of opening bids(online)	18-08-2021 11:00 a.m.

The bids uploaded on the website up to the date and time will be opened on 18 -08-2021 at 11:00 a.m. in the office of the District Social Welfare Officer Budgam in presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of holidays or the office happening to be closed on the date of the opening of the bid, the same will be opened on the next working date at the same time and venue. The complete bidding process will be online. The bid for the work/supply shall remain valid for a period of one year from the opening of the bid. The earnest money shall be forfeited if any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms and conditions of the bid.

Sd/-
District Social Welfare Officer
Budgam

DSWOBUD/ACCT/338-46
Dated: 26-07-2021

DIPK-5287/21

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(Office of the Registrar General at Srinagar)

Subject: Appointment of Driver-II in the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir pursuant to the notification No.01/2020 dated 18.09.2020.

ORDER

No: 565 of 2021/RG
Dated:-26.07.2021

Consequent upon the finalization of the selection process and the approval accorded by Hon'ble the Chief Justice to the recommendations of the Hon'ble Committee for Appointment and Promotion of Officials/Officers of the High Court Staff, following selected candidates (category wise and in order of merit) are hereby temporarily appointed as Driver-II in the Pay Level- 2 (Rs. 19900-63200) in the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh:

S.No.	Name, Parentage and Residency S/Sh.	Category.
1.	Tariq Ahmad Sheikh S/o Ghulam Rasool Sheikh R /o Bemina Housing Colony, Srinagar.	OM
2.	Vikram Singh S/o Nanak Singh R/o Pakhian Sukka, Kangrail, Bhalwal, Jammu.	OM
3.	Jia Lal S/o Chur Singh R/o Village Kumate, Near Shiv Mandir, Ram ban.	OM
4.	Zaffar Hussain Dar S/o Gh. Mohd. Dar R/o Eidgah, Masjid Noor-ul-Huda, Srinagar.	OM
5.	Karan Singh S/o Charan Dass R/o Pogal- Paristan, Ramban	RBA
6.	Nassir Ahmad Gojjar Tandoli S/o Ab. Hamid Gojar Tandoli R/o Wudder, Kangan, Ganderbal.	ST
7.	Kishore Kumar S/o Beeru Ram R/o Nagri Doda, Near ITI Doda, Doda.	SC

Note:
a) The appointees belonging to Kashmir Division shall join in the office of the Registrar Judicial, Srinagar wing of the High Court and those belonging to Jammu Division shall join in the office of the Registrar Judicial, Jammu wing of the High Court within a period of 15 days from the date of issuance of this order. In case any appointee fails to join within the stipulated period, his appointment shall be deemed cancelled without any further notice.
b) The Registrar Judicial, Srinagar/Jammu shall get the testimonials and antecedents of the newly appointed candidates verified from the concerned authority, before drawing their salary.
c) The appointments are subject to the condition that if anything adverse is found against any appointee during the course of verification of his character, antecedents or the testimonials, appointment of such candidate shall be liable to be terminated/cancelled without any/Notice.

By Order
Jawad Ahmed
Registrar General

No:34368-79/RG/NG
Dated: 26.07.2021

DIPK-5296/21

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بسم اللہ الرحمن الرحیم				
الذوات الشریعہ الامیہ مرکز الافغانہ معلوم و مخبر				
بالذات جناب مفتی ناصر الاسلام علی اعظم معلوم و مخبر				
تاریخ فیصلہ	مقام	تاریخ جرم	مستند تسلیم شدہ چتر چایو دیو امیہ	اتفاق نامہ بہت علامہ کرامت نامہ
ملاں	مطابق	26/05/2021	سازگہ ننگہ چوہہ نامہ بارہولہ (فریق)	سازگہ چھوہوہ نامہ بارہولہ
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