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Quote!
Do not do to others what
angers you if done to you
by others
- Socrates

NEWS DIGEST

Mercury Dips Further In Kashmir
SRINAGAR: A thick layer of fog engulfed many parts of Kashmir on Saturday morning as the minimum temperature settled below the freezing point across the Valley, with Srinagar recording the coldest night of the season at minus 1.5 degrees Celsius, officials said. The minimum temperature **● More On P10**

Couple Arrested For Beating Lawyers
SRINAGAR: Three female lawyers were on Saturday allegedly assaulted by a convict at the district court complex in Bandipora in north Kashmir, officials said. They said that the female lawyers were assaulted by a convict and his wife at the courtroom of Judicial Magistrate Bandipora. **● More On P10**

Police Arrests 3 Timber Smugglers
SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested 3 timber smugglers from Pakherpora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. Showkat Ahmed Awaan and Ghulam Mohi-ud-din Parry both residents of Chawan Keller and Shabeer Ahmad **● More On P10**

Ladakh Logs 28 Fresh Covid Cases
LEH: Ladakh reported 28 new cases of COVID-19 in last one day, pushing the overall tally to 21,298, officials said on Saturday. Of 224 active cases in the Union Territory, Leh has 216 and Kargil eight, the officials said. Out of 2069 tests conducted on Friday, 27 returned **● More On P10**

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HYDERPORA 'ENCOUNTER'

Guilty Won't Be Spared, Says LG Sinha

'Things Will Be More Clear Within Three, Four Days'



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has said that whosoever is found guilty in the Hyderabad killings won't be spared and the administration is committed to ensure justice.

"One incident has taken place as far as the security situation is concerned. I want to assure people those found involved won't be spared," he said addressing a gathering of members of Sikh community in Jammu region on the occasion of Guru Purab.

Sinha said that in three-to four days, things will be more clear and "he would be able to discuss more on the issue."

The LG has already ordered a magisterial probe into the Hyderabad encounter in which four persons including building owner and **● More On P10**

ONE INCIDENT HAS TAKEN PLACE as far as the security situation is concerned. I want to assure people those found involved won't be spared."

Govt's Every Decision Aimed At Serving People: LG

'Janta Ki Scheme-Janta Ki Bhagidari' Campaign Launched In J&K

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Asserting that his administration is taking all the necessary steps to make the entire governance structure transparent and accessible to public, the Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Saturday that he wants every decision taken by the government to serve the people within a reasonable time frame.

The LG made these remarks after the launch of 'Janta Ki Scheme-Janta Ki Bhagidari' campaign, a major initiative to further public participation in the overall development process in the Union Territory, an official spokesperson said Saturday. The initiative, he said, aims to strengthen the Jan Bhagidari and make it integral part of transparent and accountable governance.

"The idea is to make the entire Project Planning and Implementation process open to the general public who will be ultimate beneficiaries of the projects. Good governance requires that **● More On P10**



Militant Killed In Kulgam Encounter: Police

'Sleeper Cell' Module Busted, 5 Militant Associates Held In Pulwama

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday claimed to have killed a commander of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) in an encounter in south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

A joint team of police, army's 9RR and the personnel of CRPF 18 battalion launched a cordon and search operation in the Ashmuji area of the district around 1300 hours on Saturday after receiving specific information about the presence of militants, a police spokesperson said.

During the search operation, he said, the presence of militants was ascertained and they were given ample opportunities to surrender.

"Instead they started firing indiscriminately on the search parties. The joint parties ensuring safety of civilians rescued and shifted all the civilians to safer places. The fire was retaliated leading to an encounter," he said.

In the ensuing encounter, the police spokesperson said that a newly appointed district commander of Hizb was killed and his body was retrieved from the site of the encounter. The police identified him as Mudasir Wagay of Malwan area of the district.

Wagay, according to the police spokesperson, was an A+ categorized militant and was active since the year **● More On P10**

'Return Body' Chorus Grows In Ramban

DDC Chairperson Warns Stir If Amir's Body Not Handed Over Soon

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Ramban District Development Council chairperson Shamshad Shan on Saturday warned of protests if the authorities do not decide on handing over the body of Amir Magray, the third person killed in the Hyderabad encounter and whose kin claim he was innocent, to his family members.

Shan, however, welcomed Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha's order for a magisterial probe into the encounter which took place in Srinagar on Monday evening.

After the bodies of two civilians killed in the Hyderabad encounter were returned to their families, the chorus for handing over the mortal remains of Amir Magray grew louder.



Cutting across political spectrum, leaders from the mainstream as well as the separatist camp demanded that Magray's body be also returned to his family in the Ramban area of Jammu for last rites.

"We are not disappointed as we have full **● More On P10**

Sinha Led Group Seeks Judicial Probe

Observer News Service

The Concerned Citizens Group (CCG) led by former Union finance minister Yashwant Sinha have expressed deep anguish at the civilian killings in the Hyderabad encounter and called for a judicial inquiry under the supervision of the Supreme Court in order to uncover the truth and restore people's confidence in the rule of law.

The government's explanation about the Hyderabad incident is as clear as mud and complicates the issue further. **● More On P10**



CELEBRATING THE CLIMBDOWN: Sweets were distributed by some people in Lal Chowk, the commercial nerve centre of Srinagar on Saturday, to celebrate the reversal of Govt decision to impose new farm laws. KO Photo

Two More Corona Deaths In Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Coronavirus claimed the lives of two more people in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday while 187 fresh cases of infection were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, two more people succumbed to the deadly infection in Kashmir Valley on Saturday, raising the overall fatality count in J&K to 4461-2182 in Jammu and 2279 in Kashmir. **● More On P10**

KP Employees To Get Flats In Valley Next Summer

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government will provide concrete and suitable accommodation in Kashmir Valley to scores of Kashmir Pandits employed under the Prime Minister's package, as the new constructions are coming up at over 20 places across the Valley, a senior official said Saturday.

Ashok Pandita, Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner (M) made these remarks after conducting a weeklong tour of Kashmir to assess and sort out problems being faced by the Migrant Employees in the valley, an official spokesperson said Saturday.

Pandita, he said, visited the Valley on directions of Secretary Department of Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction (DMRRR).

The Relief Commissioner, he said, met several concerned officers and discussed issues like accommodation, inter-district transfers, transfers of employees **● More On P10**

Mehbooba Says, Elections No Solution To Kashmir

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday said elections have never been a solution to the Jammu and Kashmir issue, though they are important for addressing the basic needs of the people.

She said her party is ready for the polls whenever they are held.

"Elections have never been a solution of J-K issue. Elections, whether they take place today or tomorrow, will keep on happening. While they are important for addressing the basic needs of the people, they



(elections) are not my priority. Whenever they take place, we are ready for that," Mehbooba told reporters **● More On P10**

'LG's Responsibility To Protect Lives, Properties'

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Saturday said Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha should take the responsibility for the Hyderabad encounter, in which civilians were killed.

"What happened (at Hyderabad) was very bad. The oppression has crossed the limits. And the LG should take the responsibility (for the encounter) as he is not only the head of the **● More On P10**

Dumped As 'Disabled', This Kashmiri Man Is Now A Hope For Needy

Saima Shakeel

His tragedies are such that they make him an apt case for a charitable cause. Sensing the same break, a bunch of thugs masquerading as "welfare workers" approached Mohammad Iqbal with a fake promise: "Share your story with us, and we'll help you start your shop."

For a struggler earning his living by pedaling tricycle on the busy streets of Srinagar, the offer was too good to refuse.

Iqbal agreed and soon his video was shot. Before leaving, the "imposters" told him that his authentic case would soon change his life.

"But they simply wronged me," Iqbal said in a sunny fall day in Srinagar.

"They uploaded my video on



social media and started crowd-funding in my name. But that public help never reached me."

Hailing from Kulgam district's Dumhal Hanjipora area, Iqbal suffers from a rare autistic

syndrome. This disability was exploited to make a charitable case for him.

"I never saw them again," Iqbal said. "Such people take the advantage of some poor and penniless individuals for their own sake."

The incident left Iqbal traumatised because he had never sought any support in his life. Despite his disability he fights for his own survival with full spirit.

To uphold that upright life, he sells key-chains, pens, copies, nail-cutters, masks, etc on his tricycle. He regards begging as a disgrace to humanity.

"Due to my disability, many people advised me to go for begging but my conscience never allowed me to do that," Iqbal, who lives in Srinagar from last 14 years, said.

"I don't want to **● More On P10**

THE CENTRE IS ATTEMPTING TO DIVIDE THE MAJORITY community vote in J-K. The Congress is being split, people were taken out from the PDP, the NC and new parties were created. It is being done to disempower the people here, to reduce their power. But I am sure that the people of Kashmir are politically mature and they understand it."

Cleanest Cities Ratings

Srinagar Slips 7 Points, Ranked At 42nd

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: President Ram Nath Kovind conferred honour to the cities for being clean and garbage-free in 'Swachh Survekshan 2021' at an event (Swachh Amrit Mahotsav) organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA) in New Delhi on Saturday. Once known as Vinece of the East, Srinagar has again failed to perform better on the sanitation front and has slipped seven points down from last year in 'Swachh

Survekshan Survey.

In the 10 top-ranked cleanest cities having a population of more than one million, Indore was declared cleanest city of India followed by Surat, Vijaywada, Navi Mumbai, New Delhi, Ambikapur, Tirupati, Pune, Noida and Ujjain.

Srinagar, which had achieved the 36th position in 2020, has slipped to 42nd position this year.

As per reports Srinagar city bagged 12th position in Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge 2021 and in Swachh



Survekshan Srinagar bagged 42nd position.

Under the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India

Mission) that was launched in 2014, the central government carries the cleanliness survey to promote sanitation

in urban centres. According to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the result was decided on the basis of 28 days long nationwide cleanliness survey covering 4,320 cities and feedback was taken from 4.2 crore people.

The cities are usually rated using a star system and this year, 342 cities, an increase from 56 in 2018, would be given certificates under some star rating. This includes nine five-star cities, 166 three-star cities, 167 one-star cities.

As many as 342 cities

were conferred with some star rating in this year's annual cleanliness survey, with a total of 4,320 cities taking part in it.

The Union ministry of housing and urban affairs (MOHUA) that conducted the 'Swachh Survekshan 2021' awards with the Quality Council of India (QCI) under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) said in a statement earlier that the sixth edition of the event has become the "world's largest urban cleanliness survey."

Day Long Seminar On Gender Violence Held In The Interactive Session, Victim-Survivors Spoke About Their Woes

Saima Shakeel

Srinagar: The Human Right Law Network (HRLN) and local non-profit Mehram on Saturday organized a day-long seminar on Gender Justice at the Solar Residency in Rajbagh. The seminar brought together legal practitioners and victim-survivors of different forms of gender based violence.

A 37 year old victim-survivor of domestic violence while narrating her experience of redressal process said "the saying that 'process is punishment' holds true for victims in institutions of redressal on Kashmir."

The participant said she

had left her abusive marriage with the confidence that her situation would get better but since then, she feels it only worsened due to "revictimization at the courts."

Another victim said she had attempted suicide due to the trauma that her husband and in-laws had put her through along with the prolonged court process.

The participants also discussed the issue of not having anywhere to go if they walked out of abusive marriages.

A participant shared that she had been living in an abusive marriage for years. "My sister is also separated

and everytime I tell her about my willingness to call off my marriage, she tells me things have gone from bad to worse because there is no support or encouragement for women walking out of marriages no matter how abusive those are," she said.

She added that "the inability to walk out of an abusive marriage due to lack of a dignified shelter is having an impact on the well being of her child which is causing her anxiety."

Women from different walks of life shared their experiences of coming face to face with the redressal systems like police, judiciary and mohalla

committees.

Mehram's cofounder Arshie Qureshi told Kashmir Observer that the session was to create a space for women and victims to bring them together and listen to their experiences and problems and provide legal support.

"To understand the loopholes of the problems and provide support to the victims in different aspects which will be flexible for the victims," she said.

Shehriyar Khanum, also cofounder of Mehram, said "this session was basically to hear the stories of victims and the kind of failures that they see in their whole struggle".

NOTICE

I have lost my driving license bearing DL No: JK03-20170004644. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO ANANTNAG within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
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Name:- Imtiaz Ahmad Wani
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PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 40
ZUHR	12:14
ASR	3:50
Magrib	5:30
ISHA	6: 51

HIJRI CALENDAR
14 Rabi-ul Sani
1443

This Day In History

- 235 - St Anterus begins his reign as Catholic Pope
- 695 Pope Sergius names Willibrord as Archbishop Clemens of Friesland
- 1272 - Following Henry III of England's death on November 16, his son Prince Edward becomes King of England.
- 1317 - Frederik of Sierck/Zyrick becomes bishop of Utrecht
- 1620 - Pilgrim Fathers reach America: Provincetown Harbor, Mass
- 1729 - Netherlands signs Treaty of Seville
- 1759 - Battle at Maxen: Prussian army surrenders to Austrians
- 1794 - Honolulu Harbor discovered
- 1806 - Decree of Berlin: Emperor Napoleon I bans all trade with Britain
- 1813 - Stettin surrenders to allied armies
- 1818 Russia's Tsar Alexander I petitions for a Jewish state in Palestine
- 1877 - Thomas Edison announces his "talking machine" invention (phonograph), the 1st machine to play and record sound
- 1906 - China prohibits the opium trade
- 1914 - British army conquers Bazra
- 1917 - Maxim Gorky calls Vladimir Lenin a blind fanatic and unthinking adventurer
- 1918 - 2 German ammunition trains explode in Hamont Belgium, 1,750 die
- 1924 - British Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin cancels Labour contract with USSR
- 1942 - Hitler names field marshal Erich von Manstein commander of the newly-created Army Group Don (Heeresgruppe Don)
- 1944 - Personnel & executive staff of Philips demonstrate for more food
- 1945 - Benjamin Britten's 2nd String quartet in C premieres
- 1945 - General Motors workers go on strike
- 1946 - Georgi Dimitrov elected premier of Bulgaria
- 1946 - Harry Truman becomes 1st US President to travel in a submerged sub
- 1947 - Bill Longson beats Lou Thesz in St Louis, to win National Wrestling Association world heavyweight title
- 1949 - Bill Veeck sells Indians for \$22 million
- 1952 - 1st US postage stamp in 2 colors (rotary process) introduced
- 1953 - Authorities at the British National History Museum announce the "Piltown Man" skull, one of the most famous fossil skulls in the world, is a hoax
- 1955 - Argentina asks Panama for return of ex-president Peron
- 1962 - The Chinese People's Liberation Army declares a unilateral cease-fire in the Sino-Indian War.
- 1967 - Vietnam War: American General William Westmoreland tells news reporters: "I am absolutely certain that whereas in 1965 the enemy was winning, today he is certainly losing."
- 1970 - General Hafez al-Assad becomes Prime Minister of Syria following military coup
- 1971 - Battle of Garibpur: Indian troops aided by Mukti Bahini (Bengali guerrillas) defeat the Pakistani army
- 1974 - Birmingham pub bombings: 21 civilians killed when bombs explode at two pubs in Birmingham, England (deadliest attack in England during "the Troubles")

From KO Archives

SPOs rape 2 women at gunpoint in Lolab

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: A pair of special police officers assaulted two Dardpora women in Lolab forests last night. The perpetrators, who stalked the victims in the forest where they had gone to collect fire wood, have been identified as Nazir Ahmad Tantray, son of Ghulam Rasool Tantray and Manzoor Ahmad Lone, son of Jabbar Lone, both from Dardpora, Lolab - the victims' native village. They have been arrested by the police.

A NAFA report said in Srinagar that two pro-government gunmen had entered a Warpora household with the intention of robbery. Finding the two women alone in the house - the rest of the family was away at a wedding - the Ikhwanis assaulted them at gun point and later carried them to the nearby forests to repeatedly subject them to the heinous act. The village was seething with rage after the two traumatized women returned this morning and recounted what had befallen them.

ONS in Baramulla identified the victims as Shafiqah, daughter of Ghulam Nabi Mir, and Atiqua wife of Fayaz Ahmad. NAFA, however, said that both were married and Shafiqah was the wife of Ghulam Nabi Mir. The report said the victims as well as the criminals belong to Warpora. The criminals have been arrested by Lalpora police and two AK rifles recovered from them, it said.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 21 NOVEMBER, 2000)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD(R&B) DIVISION VAILOO

FRESH NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

FreshNIT No 157 / 6203-12 of R&B/Vailoo /2021-2022/e-tendering/ DATED:- 17.11.2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory J&K e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. in form of Treasury challan / Receipt (in Rs)	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of account
1	P/L of 25 mm semidarse in patches incld. Tack coat and seal coat on Wataldar link road and Batpora Draway link road.	3.72	200	12 days	26.11.2021 11.00 AM	DEE	M&R
2	Construction of Cement concrete Drain on Imooh Watrigam Brenty road	1.47	200	07 days	26.11.2021 11.00 AM	DEE class	M&R
3	Upgradation of imooh Gorkher Check Thajiwara Gorkher Check road by way of constt. Of R walls, P/L WBM patches / stretches and laying of RCC pipes	8.17	600	20 days	26.11.2021 11.00 AM	CEE/ DEE class	District Sector

Position of AAA: Accorded
Position of T.S : Accorded

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	17.11.2021	
2.	Period of Downloading of bidder documents.	From To	19.11.2021 11.00 am 25.11.2021 4.00 pm
3.	Bid submission Start Date	From To	19.11.2021 11.00 am 25.11.2021 4.00 pm
4.	Bid Submission End Date	To	25.11.2021 4.00 pm
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	26.11.2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division vailoo	

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt/ challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division vailoo (tender inviting authority) (Name of work to be mentioned on the Treasury receipt/ challan)(Refer Govt. order No. A/ 24(2017)-65 DT: 07.06.2018 (The date of Treasury receipt / Challan should be between the date of start of bid end Bid submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Vailoo (Tendering receiving Authority) Minimum of Two bids are necessary to decide L-1 bidder in case of Contractors.

3. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration form instead of Earnest Money as per the Circular issued of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)

4. The 1st Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR within 03 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.

5. 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 vailoo (tender receiving authority).

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

15. If the bidder does not quote rate for any item of the rate list/quantity schedule, cost of such item/ items shall be deemed to be part of the overall/total contract value. No rate shall be allowed for such item / items in the allotment of contract.

SD/
Executive Engineer
PWD(R&B) Division
Vailoo/zulfkar

No:-
Dated:-

DIK-13047/21

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT
CIVIL SECRETARIAT
SRINAGAR/JAMMU

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS NO. CAW-04 OF 2021.
JAMMU, November 18, 2021.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, e-tenders on GeM portal are invited from reputed and registered aviation companies having airworthy transport helicopters duly certified and endorsed on its Non-Scheduled Operator's Permit (NSOP) from DGCA, Government of India for leasing on Wet Lease Basis for an initial term of 3 years w.e.f 10-12-2021 for multi-purpose use of the Finance Department of Jammu & Kashmir with an option for renewal/extension on same terms & conditions for a period of one plus one (01+01) years after approval is granted by the competent authority.

Date of Publishing of Tender Notice	18/11/2021 04:30 PM
Period of Downloading of Documents	18/11/2021 05:00 PM
Date of pre-Bid Meeting	25/11/2021 12:00 PM
Start Date of submission of bids	25/11/2021 02:00 PM
Last date of Submission of bids	01/12/2021 03.00 PM
Date of Opening Tender	03/12/2021 02:00 PM

1. The tender document along with other Terms and Conditions of the NIT and relevant documents can be downloaded from the Union Territory Website <http://jktenders.gov.in>

2. The tender shall be deposited in electronic format on the Union Territory website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.

3. The tenders uploaded on the website up to due date will be opened on 18.11.2021 or any other subsequent date convenient to the Tender/Purchase Committee in the Office Chamber of Director Finance, Civil Aviation Department, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Secretariat, Room No. 3/50, Jammu.

4. The complete bidding process will be online.

5. Submission of hard copy is exempted.

6. Documents required to be notarized for submission may be submitted on the letter head under the signature of the authorized signatory.

7. Cost of the Tender document is Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees five thousand only) in the shape of Demand Draft (non refundable) /Online in favour of Accounts Officer, Civil Aviation Department, J&K, Jammu. Earnest money Deposit/Bid Security exempted till 31/12/2021, however Bid security declaration to be given by bidder for Rs Ten Lakhs (Rs 10/- Lakhs), Governed by Circular dated 22/12/2020 of the Finance Department, UT of J&K. Tender Fee can be paid digitally. Bank details:

a. BANK: J&K Bank, Moving Secretariat, Civil Secretariat, Jammu & Kashmir, Jammu.
b. ACCOUNT NUMBER: 01001010000281.
c. IFSC CODE: JAKA0MOVING.
d. MICR code: 190051062; JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK MOVING SECRETARIAT, address: Civil Secretariat, Jammu & Kashmir; Branch code is Moving, Contact Number: 2455235.

8. Scanned copies of all necessary documents as per tender documents need to be uploaded as part of the technical bid. These documents, in original, may be asked for submission subsequently.

9. The Earnest Money/ Bid Security shall be forfeited if:
a) any tenderer withdraws his tender during the period of tender validity or makes any modification in terms and condition of tender; and
b) the company fails to execute the agreement within 10 days of signing of contract document.

10. Instructions to bidder regarding e-tendering process: Bidders are advised to get Digital Signature Certificate as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from approved vendor.

11. Bidders have to submit their bids in two bid format i.e. Technical and Financial Bid online in electronic format with Digital Signature. Financial Bid shall be submitted ONLINE only. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

12. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para 3.
13. Bidders must upload the scanned copy of all necessary documents, like CDR/PAN/Demand Draft (Tender fee) bid security declaration/Registration certificate duly renewed online as per dates mentioned above.

14. The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission due to any reason.
15. The Tender/Purchase Committee shall reserve the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.
16. The rates offered should be quoted in figures as well as in words inclusive of all taxes and levies or any other charge. Taxes/Charges not mentioned in the offers will not be allowed and admissible.
17. The payment shall be released after successful completion of the contract.
18. Any erasing/overwriting/mutilation in the tender form will result in outright rejection of the tender.
19. Conditional and ambiguous tender will not be entertained.
20. The terms and conditions as reflected in Annexure "A", are mandatory and should be read very carefully by the intending tenderers while furnishing their tenders, which are enclosed and shall form a part of this NIT.

Director Finance, Civil Aviation Department

E-file No. CAW/Estt/165/2021-5/
JAMMU, 18 Nov, 2021

DIK-13044/21

Saudi Arabia Sets Age Limit For Overseas Umrah Pilgrims



Agencies

Pilgrims must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 before arrival

Saudi Arabia has said that it will only allow people aged 18 to 50 to perform the Umrah pilgrimage.

The kingdom's Ministry of Umrah and Hajj said that overseas pilgrims have to be fully inoculated against the coronavirus with vaccines approved by the country to get a visa, Gulf News reported.

In an effort to make procedures easier for foreign Umrah pilgrims, the ministry recently introduced health apps Eatmarna and Tawakkalna, which allows them to avail permits for

performing rituals in Mecca's Grand Mosque and praying in Medina's Prophet Mohammed Mosque, it said.

Domestic pilgrims must get identical licenses and refrain from bringing youngsters into the Grand Mosque.

Saudi Arabia relieved restrictions against Covid-19 this month, citing a stabilization of the country's epidemiological situation and a steep decrease in infections.

The relaxed measures include ending distancing for worshippers in the two holy mosques in Mecca and Medina where full capacity has been reinstated.

However, worshippers are required to continue wear face masks at both mosques.

Israel Returns Wrong Body To Killed Palestinian Teenager's Family



Agencies

Israeli soldiers have returned the remains of a Palestinian teenager who was killed in October in the occupied West Bank, only to be told by the family that it was the body of someone else.

The macabre mix-up, which the army called an "unfortunate mistake," was likely to draw attention to Israel's policy of holding the remains of Palestinians killed while allegedly carrying out attacks, which human rights groups say amounts to collective punishment of the bereaved families.

Israel had planned to return the bodies of two Palestinians - Isra Khazimia and Amjad Abu Sultan - on "humanitarian grounds". At the time of the alleged attacks, Khazimia was said to have had mental health issues while Abu Sultan was a minor.

But when they handed over the remains of Abu Sultan, his family informed the soldiers that it was the wrong body. The remains have not been publicly identified.

"Upon return of the body, it was revealed that the body was identified incorrectly. This unfortunate mistake is being reviewed by the relevant authorities," the Israeli army said in a

statement. It apologised for the mistake and said the correct remains would be returned to the family on Saturday.

The Palestinian Civil Affairs Committee, which coordinates day-to-day activities with Israel, said it was Abu Sultan's family who noticed the body was not their son's. The family could not immediately be reached for comment.

Abu Sultan, 14, was killed on October 14 in the occupied West Bank town of Beit Jala, near Bethlehem.

A witness said Israeli soldiers shot Abu Sultan, who was lighting a Molotov cocktail, without any warning or alert.

"Israeli forces routinely unlawfully kill Palestinian children with impunity, using excessive force and unjustified intentional lethal force," said Ayed Abu Eqtaiash, the accountability programme director at Defense for Children International-Palestine, following Abu Sultan's death.

Israeli police shot and killed Khazimia, a mother of four, in September, when she allegedly tried to stab an officer in Jerusalem's Old City. Her remains were returned at Salem checkpoint near the northern West Bank city of Jenin.



REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

Millions In US May Have Long-Term Loss Of Smell Post-Covid Infection

IAN S

More than a million people in the US may not have regained the sense of smell months after Covid-19 infection, finds a new study.

The study, published in the journal JAMA Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, estimated that between 700,000 and 1.6 million people in the US who had Covid-19 have lost or had a change in their sense of smell that has lasted for more than six months.

According to the researchers from Washington University

THESE DATA suggest an emerging public health concern of OD and the urgent need for research that focuses on treating Covid-19 COD,"

School of Medicine in St. Louis, this is likely an underestimate, reports CNN.

The study suggests most people recover their sense of smell eventually, but some may never regain it.

The authors consider this a concern because, by comparison, prior to the pandemic, only 13.3 million adults age 40 and older had what scientists call olfactory dysfunction (OD) or chronic olfactory dysfunction (COD).

"These data suggest an emerging public health concern of OD and the urgent need for research that focuses on treating Covid-19 COD," the study said.

A study last year found that 72 per cent of people with Covid-19 recovered their sense of smell after a month, but for some, it is a much slower process.

Europe's Covid Crisis Pits Vaccinated Against Unvaccinated

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

This was supposed to be the Christmas in Europe where family and friends could once again embrace holiday festivities and one another. Instead, the continent is the global epicentre of the COVID-19 pandemic as cases soar to record levels in many countries.

With infections spiking again despite nearly two years of restrictions, the health crisis increasingly is pitting citizen against citizen—the vaccinated against the unvaccinated.

Governments desperate to shield overburdened healthcare systems are imposing rules that limit choices for the unvaccinated in the hope that doing so will drive up rates of vaccinations.

Austria on Friday went a step further, making vaccinations mandatory as of February 1.

"For a long time, maybe too long, I and others thought that it must be possible to convince people in Austria, to convince them to get vaccinated voluntarily," Austrian Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg said.

He called the move "our only way to break out of this vicious cycle of viral waves and lockdown discussions for good".

While Austria so far stands



alone in the European Union in making vaccinations mandatory, more and more governments are clamping down.

Starting Monday, Slovakia is banning people who haven't been vaccinated from all non-essential stores and shopping malls. They also will not be allowed to attend any public event or gathering and will be required to test twice a week just to go to work.

"A merry Christmas does not mean a Christmas without COVID-19," warned Prime Minister Eduard Heger. "For that to happen, Slovakia would need to have a completely different vaccination rate."

He called the measures a lockdown for the unvaccinated.

Slovakia, where just 45.3 per cent of the 5.5 million population is fully vaccinated, reported a record 8,342 new virus cases on Tuesday.

It is not only nations of central

and eastern Europe that are suffering anew. Wealthy nations in the west also are being hit hard and imposing restrictions on their populations once again.

"It is really, absolutely, time to take action," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Thursday. With a vaccination rate of 67.5 per cent, her nation is now considering mandatory vaccinations for many health professionals.

Greece, too, is targeting the unvaccinated. Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis announced a battery of new restrictions late Thursday for the unvaccinated, keeping them out of venues including bars, restaurants, cinemas, theatres, museums and gyms, even if they have tested negative.

"It is an immediate act of protection and, of course, an indirect urge to be vaccinated," Mitsotakis said.

IN A WHOLE NUMBER OF CASES, MEMBER STATES ARE excluding people from their ability to go to work," Daly said, calling Austria's restrictions on the unvaccinated that preceded its decision Friday to impose a full lockdown "

Hamas Reacts With Fury As Britain Moves To Ban Group

Agencies

Hamas has condemned a move by Britain towards banning the group as a terrorist organisation which could see supporters of the Palestinian movement face up to 14 years in prison.

Home Secretary Priti Patel, who will push for the ban in Parliament next week, argued on Friday that it was not possible to distinguish between Hamas's political and military wings. She called Hamas "fundamentally and rabidly anti-Semitic", adding the proscription was required to protect the Jewish community.

Hamas responded in a statement, saying: "Instead of apologising and correcting its historical sin against the Palestinian people ... [Britain] supports the aggressors at the expense of the victims."

That comment referred to the Balfour Declaration and British Mandate, which it said handed "Palestinian lands to the Zionist movement".

"Resisting occupation, by all available means, including armed resistance, is a right guaranteed by international law to people under occupation," added the statement.

The group called on its supporters to condemn the UK's move, as it described Israel's occupation of Palestinian lands, forcible displacement of Palestinians, the demolition of their homes, and the siege of more than two million people in Gaza Strip, as "terrorism".



Patel, who is on a trip to Washington, DC, said her move was "based upon a wide range of intelligence, information and also links to terrorism".

"The severity of that speaks for itself," she said.

In 2017, Patel was forced to resign as Britain's international development secretary after she failed to disclose meetings with senior Israeli officials during a private holiday trip to the country.

She met then-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and then-opposition leader Yair Lapid.

The Qassam Brigades military wing of the Palestinian movement that rules the Gaza Strip has been banned in Britain since March 2001.

An outright ban under the Terrorism Act 2000 will bring the United Kingdom in line with the United States and the European Union.

Thousands Take To Streets After River Dries Up In Iran's Isfahan



TEHRAN: Thousands of protesters converged on Isfahan in central Iran on Friday to voice their anger after the city's lifeblood river dried up due to drought and diversion.

The massive protest, which drew in farmers and other people from across Isfahan province, was the biggest since demonstrations over the water crisis started on November 9.

"Thousands of people from Isfahan, farmers from the east and west of the province, have gathered in the dry Zayandeh Rood riverbed with one key demand: let the river run," a state television journalist in Isfahan reported, broadcasting live images of Friday's rally.

"For years, there has been no will to resolve the problems of this important river," the journalist said.

Footage aired on the channel showed men and women in a crowd spanning the riverbed clapping in unison.

"Plundered for 20 years" and "the water must return", they chanted.

Others were seen holding up banners that read "East Isfahan has become desert" and "Our water is being held hostage", in pictures published by Iranian media outlets.

The city of Isfahan is Iran's third largest, with a population of around two million.

It is a tourist magnet due to its heritage sites, including a historic bridge that crosses the Zayandeh Rood river - which has been dry

since the year 2000 apart from brief periods.

Drought is seen as one of the causes, but farmers also blame the authorities' diversion of the river water to neighbouring Yazd province.

The Iranian government has promised to come to the aid of farmers and resolve the crisis.

"I have ordered the ministers of energy and agriculture to take immediate steps to deal with the issue," Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber said on television.

Energy Minister Ali-Akbar Mehrabian apologised to farmers for being unable to provide water for their crops.

"We hope to fill these gaps in the coming months," he said.

Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi had already met with representatives from the provinces of Isfahan, Yazd and Semnan on November 11 and promised to resolve water issues.

Largely arid Iran has been suffering chronic dry spells for years.

In July, deadly protests broke out in the southwestern province of Khuzestan after drought led to widespread water shortages.

Iran is one of the most water-stressed countries in the world.

Water levels in the country's lakes and reservoirs have halved since last year due to the severe drought affecting the country and the wider region, a report from Iran's space agency said in October.

NEWS MAKERS

Ex-Shah Envoy Turned Admirer Of Revolutionary Iran Dies

Agencies

Ardeshir Zahedi, a former Iranian foreign minister and ambassador to the United States from the Pahlavi regime era, died Thursday at 93 in exile in Switzerland.

Zahedi served as Tehran's ambassador to Washington from 1960 to 1962 and again from 1973 until the 1979 Islamic Revolution. He was also Iran's foreign minister from 1966 to 1971. Zahedi was Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's son-in-law and loyal to him until the last day of Shah's life.

During his final years of life, Zahedi stepped into the spotlight over his controversial positions and statements, including his criticism of hostile US policies toward Iran. His complimentary remarks about



Iran's legendary anti-terror commander Major General Qassem Soleimani also captured media attention.

In an interview with BBC Farsi on April, 2020, he praised General Soleimani, saying, "I am proud of him, I was proud of him and I will be proud of him... these [soldiers] give their blood

for their country. He was the one who sacrificed his life for his country unlike those who sell themselves for money."

On January 3, 2019, US President Donald Trump directly ordered drone strikes that killed General Soleimani - who was in Baghdad on an official visit - and his Iraqi trench mate Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the deputy commander of Iraq's Hashd al-Sha'abi anti-terror force.

He was a supporter of Iran's nuclear program and called all sanctions imposed on Iran as baseless and against international law.

Commenting on Washington's policy of regime change in Iran, Zahedi once said, "The US is exerting economic and military pressure on Tehran because Iranian diplomats have brought

America and its allies, Israel and Saudi Arabia, to their knees."

In another interview, Zahedi referred to Iran's bright future and said, "I believe Iran's future is very bright and what was in the past has finished."

In a reference to the anti-revolutionary groups in Iran, he said, "Do not fool yourself and do not get financial help from foreigners... It makes no difference who gives the money; Arabs, CIA or other foreigners... none of them will help Iran and Iranians reach their goals."

"The social situation in Iran will undoubtedly evolve. I have great hope and confidence in the youth of Iran, whose character, intelligence and competence will shape the country's future," he wrote in The New York Times on May 31, 2018.

Pakistan Drops Chemical Castration As Punishment For Serial Rapists

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan has removed a clause from a new criminal law that had allowed chemical castration as a possible punishment for serial rapists, a government official said on Friday.

"We have amended the criminal law, and decided that the chemical castration clause will be taken out," Maleeka Bukhari, parliamentary secretary on law, told a news conference in Islamabad.

She said the decision was taken after the Islamic Ideology Council, a state-run body that interprets laws from an Islamic perspective, found chemical castration un-Islamic.

The government of Prime



Minister Imran Khan hurriedly passed nearly three dozen laws in a joint session of the parliament on Wednesday, including the anti-rape criminal law.

Chemical castration, which is carried out by the use of drugs and is reversible, can be a punishment for some sex crimes in countries including Poland, South Korea, the Czech Republic and some U.S. states.

Khan said last year he wanted to introduce the penalty amid a national outcry over increasing offences and the specific case of a mother of two driving along a major highway who was dragged out of her car and raped by two men at gunpoint.

Fewer than 3% of rapists are convicted in courts in Pakistan, according to the non-profit organisation, War Against Rape. REUTERS

ROSHNI ACT

More Beneficiaries Lose Land In Doda

Observer News Service
DODA: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Saturday retrieved more land from beneficiaries of the Roshni Act in Doda, officials said.
In an ongoing anti-encroachment drive, the administration retrieved about 57 kanals and 4 marlas of state land in Gandoh and 3 kanals of land acquired by beneficiaries of the Roshni Act in the Gwalo (Bhalesa) village in the district.
The Revenue Department

team was headed by Naib Tehsildar Kako Bharti. The Doda administration had earlier taken away at least 18 kanals of land from Roshni beneficiaries.
The Roshni Act was enacted in 2001 with the objective of generating finances for power projects and conferment of proprietary rights to the occupants of state land.
The J&K High Court had declared the Act "unconstitutional" and directed the Central Bureau of Investigation to take up the case.

Anti-Encroachment Drive Sparks Protest In Jammu

Press Trust Of India
JAMMU: An anti-encroachment drive by the Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC) on Saturday sparked protests by the businessmen community at different markets here, officials said.
An anti-encroachment team of the JMC removed a shutter of a hardware showroom at Shivaji Chowk and also pasted a notice informing its owners that the building has been sealed, they said.
The officials said the action triggered protests by businessmen of the area who observed the shutdown, accusing the JMC of highhandedness.
This is a 40-year-old store which was targeted by the JMC without any prior notice or intimation. If they had any problem with the structure, they should have followed law and served the business a notice before taking any action, president Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI) Arun Gupta said.
Gupta, who joined the protesters, said the business community is already suffering badly

ly due to the COVID-19 situation over the past two years and such actions have a crippling impact on a number of families.
We will not tolerate such type of hooliganism, he said and warned of agitation if such type of unjust action is not stopped forthwith.
A senior civil officer visited the agitated businessmen and assured them that he would look into the matter.
Shopkeepers in Shastri Nagar, Gandhi Nagar and Moti Bazar in the city also staged protests against the JMC for its anti-encroachment drive, the officials said.
They said while the JMC removed encroached upon footpaths in Shastri Nagar, the teams laid yellow lines in front of shops in Gandhi Nagar and Moti Bazar, asking the shopkeepers not to display their goods beyond the marker.
The Moti Bazar business association in the congested old city threatened to intensify the protest if they are not allowed to keep their articles one-and-a-half feet in front of their shutters.

BJP POLICY REVERSAL

Repeal Of Farm Laws Defeat BJP's Arrogance: J&K Congress

Press Trust of India
JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Congress on Saturday described the repeal of farm laws as defeat of the BJP government's arrogance and ego, while the saffron party said the rollback reflected Prime Minister Narendra Modi's magnanimous character.
Senior Congress leader and former minister Yogesh Sawhney said the Centre's decision to repeal the three controversial farm laws is a victory for the farmers.
It is a defeat of the arrogance, ego and hollow pride of the BJP government. It is the historic victory of the farmers and the opposition. The fight of the Congress party alongside our farmer brothers has finally culminated in the defeat of the

Modi government and brought an end to the black laws, he told reporters here.
Sawhney maintained that taking back the laws was not enough as many precious lives were lost in the struggle, which would continue till all the issues of the farmers are addressed to the satisfaction of the agitators.
He also claimed that the development was the outcome of BJP candidates losing in the recent by-elections and also keeping an eye on the upcoming assembly polls.
However, senior BJP leader and former deputy chief minister Kavinder Gupta said the decision has once again highlighted the prime minister's magnanimous character.
It has been more than a year since the central government

brought these three agriculture laws for the benefit of farmers, especially the small and marginal ones, but unfortunately, some farmer unions had been protesting on the Delhi borders against these welfare laws for the reason best known to them, he said in a statement.
"Today yet again, Modi while preferring the larger public interest announced to repeal these laws despite the fact that soon after the introduction of these laws, a large number of farmers had considered these laws beneficial for them and had also appreciated the Union government for the same," he added.
Another BJP leader Ashwani Kumar Chrungoos said equating the withdrawal of the farm laws with Article 370 or the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) issues is political bankruptcy.

Dev Scheme For Most Backward Blocks Modelled On NITI Aayog's ADP

Observer News Service
SNINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has unveiled the operational modalities for its ambitious aspirational block development programme, a scheme conceived on the lines of the National Institution for Transformation of India (NITI) Aayog's Aspirational District Programme.
In an order, the J&K Planning Development and Monitoring Department has notified the list of 44 blocks which will be covered under the scheme.
The scheme has been rolled out for transformation of socio-economic conditions in the most backward blocks of J&K.
According to the order, two blocks each have been selected in the all districts of the Union Territory, barring Ramban and Reasi, where four villages each will be covered.
Under the scheme, the blocks selected shall be eligible for seeking financial assistance of Rs one crore each after meeting ten qualifying criteria or indicators.
On the lines of aspirational district programme, the concerned district development commissioners would prepare a plan for their development.
"After certification of blocks eligibility, the concerned district development commissioners shall prepare aspirational block development programme for further development of that aspirational block. The resources shall be clearly delineated across various sectors (poverty, health and nutrition, education and basic infrastructure) of development at concerned block," it states.
These plans shall be submitted to the Planning Development & Monitoring Department for approval.
"The aspirational block development programme plan so prepared by DDCC shall be submitted to PD&MD for approval," the order says.
According to the guidelines, additional financial assistance of Rs one crore shall be made available to eligible blocks through the Rural Development Department only after approval.

More Than 5000 Families Yet To Benefit From NFBS

Observer News Service
SNINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has failed to provide funds to more than five thousand families living Below Poverty Line (BPL) in Kashmir under the ambitious National Family Benefit Scheme aimed at families who have lost their primary bread earners.
As per official documents, "In Kashmir division at least 5684 cases of the scheme were pending for the people of 18-59 years whose primary bread earner died due to accident or natural cause."
The figures reveal that till March-2020, the department of social welfare Kashmir has covered 9,175 cases and the net pendency was 5,540. According to the department, the rate of assistance was Rupees 20,000 with one-time benefit from the Centre's share only.
An official of the department said that

the financial assistance is being provided up to Rs 20,000 under centre share and an equal contribution is mandatory for the state government to contribute.
The objective of the scheme is to ensure social security of the households living below poverty line. The payment is to be made to the widow or the unmarried daughter of the family.
Similarly, the social welfare department says that under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension scheme (IGNOAPS) provides financial assistance to senior citizens, those aged 60 years and above, living below poverty line. This scheme too is centrally sponsored and the equal funds are being shared by the central and state governments.
According to the official figures, a total of 70,839 beneficiaries were sanctioned with a Rs 1,000 as a rate of pension per beneficiary per month.

Thousands Bid Farewell To Sheikh Waiezi In Kargil

Observer News Service
KARGIL: Thousands of people joined the funeral prayers for a noted religious figure of Ladakh, Hojjatul Islam Sheikh Hassan Waiezi Hunderman in Kargil on Saturday.
Sheikh Hassan Waiezi was Mutawalli Anjuman Jamiyat Ullama Isna Ashriya Kargil (AJUIAK) who passed away after a brief illness at his residence in Poyen Kargil. He was 73.
People from various parts of Kargil converged at the premises of Hawza Ilmiya after the news of his demise spread and his Janaza reached the seminary in a huge mourning procession from Poyen.
The Namaz-e-Janaza was offered by President AJUIAK Sheikh Nazir Mehdi at Inqilab Chowk. Sheikh Waiezi was later laid to rest at his ancestral graveyard at Hunderman, Kargil.
The Namaz-e-Jinaza was attended by members of AJUIAK, Ulama Council Kargil, Chairman Imam Khomeini Memorial Trust Shiekh Sadiq Rajaie, Councilor Town Haji Mohammad Abass, JKNC Kargil president Haji Hanifa Jan, former MLA Asgar Karbalai, political activist Sajjad Kargil besides others. Sheikh Waiezi studied theology at the highest seat of learning in Najaf Ashraf.



Social Welfare Dept Enhances Reservation For Disabled Quota Increased From 3 to 4 Percent

Observer News Service
SNINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Social Welfare Department has enhanced the reservation quota from 3 percent to 4 percent for physically disabled persons under Disability Act.
Secretary to the government for Social Welfare Department, Sheetal Nanda has said that the government has amended the earlier notification of reservation and has accordingly enhanced the quota by one percent.
"In 2020, the government amended the Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Rules, 2005 and enhanced the horizontal reservation from 3% to 4% for Physically Challenged Persons in terms of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 against each benchmark disability," reads the notification issued by the department.
One percent was also enhanced to persons with disability of blindness or low vision and deaf and hard of hearing each with one percent, loco-motor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy, dwarfism, acid attack victims, and muscular dystrophy.
Likewise, one percent was also enhanced to the autism, intellectual

disability, specific learning disability and mental illness followed by one percent to multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf-blindness in the posts identified for each disability.
The department in a notification has informed that the guideline for implementation of reservation to persons with benchmark disabilities has been issued afresh in supersession of previous orders issued in 2001.
A notification issued by the government earlier this week has said that the guidelines for implementation of reservation to persons with benchmark disabilities in terms of the existing Acts and Rules applicable at that point of time had been notified.
The government said that with the increase in quantum of horizontal reservation to physically challenged persons, the guidelines notified earlier in the year 2001 are required to be amended.
"The Department of Personnel and Training for the Government of India (GOI) in 2018 has issued instructions including the register or the roster to be followed in providing reservation to disabled persons with benchmark disabilities," it reads.

Activists Urge Govt To Constitute State Commission For Disabled A Day-Long Seminar On RPD Act Of 2016 Held

Observer News Service
SNINAGAR: With an aim of creating awareness on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPD Act 2016) a one day seminar was organized by an NGO Save the Destitute Foundation in Srinagar. The speakers during the seminar laid special emphasis on various sections of the act and urged upon the Govt to implement the same in letter and spirit.
Chairman of Humanity Welfare Organization and Padma awardee Javid Ahmad Tak who was chief guest on the occasion said that persons with disabilities are called with several names like specially abled people, handicap, differently-abled and "Divyang".
"All these different names create confusion among the society and I urge upon people to call these people Persons with Disability which is name given under the RPD Act," said Tak
Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat social activist

and chairperson of the RTI Movement gave a detailed presentation on the RPD Act. He explained in detail the powers of the State and Central Commission for Persons with Disabilities.
He urged upon the Govt to constitute the State Commission for Disabilities in the region as soon as the previous commission constituted under J&K's own act was closed after the abrogation of Article 370.
He appreciated Zaheer Jan, Mudasir Shaban and Chintanjeet Kour the organisers of the seminar for their work on persons with disabilities and also urged upon media and NGOs to create more awareness about RPD Act 2016
Dr Urfana Ameen Master Coordinator of Directorate of School Education Kashmir also gave a detailed presentation on RPD Act 2016. She explained in detail how the Directorate of School Education Kashmir was working on implementation of this act in letter and spirit.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION CHADOORA
SNOW CLEARANCE NOTICE INVITING FRESH TENDER FOR WINTER SEASON 2021-22

MIT No. 161/10739-49/CHADOORA **DATED: 18-11-2021**
Due to poor response from contractors fresh e-tenders, For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on Percentage basis for Snow Clearance (Stage-wise) from approved and eligible Contractors for the following stages:-

S.No	STAGE NAME	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	4	5	7	8
1	CHRF-2	200/-	5000/-	3054-SNOW	B/C/D
2	CSD-14	200/-	5000/-	3054-SNOW	B/C/D
3	CSD-16	200/-	5000/-	3054-SNOW	B/C/D

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	18.11.2021
3	Bid submission Start Date	18.11.2021
4	Bid Submission End Date	24.11.2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	24.11.2021 at 4.10 P.M in the office of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam.
- All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount of Rs 5000.00 per stage in favour of Superintending Engineer PWD (R&B) Circle Srinagar/Budgam as performance security in shape of CDR/ FDR/ BG within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- 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 Chadoora (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- Item No. 16 & 17 in the BOQ will be applied as and when required as per the direction of Engineer In-charge.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if-
a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
- Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
- 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 Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No 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 the bid. Besides, original / photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically / by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.
- 17.23. Court's Jurisdiction:- In case of any disputes/differences between contractor and Department the jurisdiction shall be J&K State.
- The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
- All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form).

No. 10739-49
Dated: 18/11/2021

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Chadoora

LIST OF SNOW CLEARANCE STAGE TENDERS FOR WINTER SEASON 2021-22

STAGE NO.	STAGE NAME	NAME OF THE ROAD	KMS
24	CHRF-2	Nagam Hayatpora Dardpora Tujan Dalwan Kanidajan link roads (LHS/RHS), Chrawani Zagipora Bonhar links including Jamia Masjid link road at Hayatpora, Malpora Inner links, Dardpora Chrawani Gulshanabad road including Sarfkhudan with allied links,	25.50
		Total	25.50
20	CSD-14	Srinagar Charisharief links roads from km 15th to 18th (LHS/ RHS), Inner links Nagam, Nagam Babwani Hamjipora road, Nagam to Chan Nilnag.	9.00
		Total	9.00
22	CSD-16	Loolipora Wathkaloo Road (Links), Eid Gah link road, Harpora link, Satmani Ladden, Buzgoo Wangwas road, CRPF link road at Loolipora, Wudder Mohalla link road including Potlaban.	10.50
		Total	10.50

Executive Engineer
R&B Division Chadoora

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Twitter Talks



"With just over 27% fully vaccinated in India, delta variant being the dominant strain, and precautionary measures going for a toss, I fear it is only a matter of time for India before another wave strikes her. I don't want to create panic but the odds are clearly not in favor. Look at Europe, US, etc. With much higher vaccination rates, rising numbers there are predictive of similar trends elsewhere. Let us vaccinate and behave. Lockdowns would be disastrous on economy"

@ParvaizKoul

"Anything that costs you your mental health is too expensive"

@ShaziaShafiq5

"Antibiotics are the most abused drug in our state. The most common indication for which they are taken is common cold / flu, especially in winters. Please know, Antibiotics do not work for common cold or flu. They can make flu worse and cause resistance"

@tariqtrambow

Dont Cage A Flying Bird

Autumn brings calls about baby birds in trouble. Before trying to 'save' the bird understand that it's natural for baby birds to spend some time on the ground as they train to fly. Parents supply refreshments every twenty minutes or so as junior learns. As he gets bigger, they visit less, until finally he's on his own. So the next time you find a 'grounded' baby bird, begin with these questions:

How old is the bird?

His feathers tell his age. Hatchlings or babies upto one week old, are mostly naked. They quickly lose body temperature and should be picked up, warmed in the hands and replaced in their nest. Nestlings or 2-3 week olds are almost fully feathered but still a little fuzzy down. They have none or very short tail feathers. They can hop a little but prefer to sit in one spot. They too need replacing in the nest. If the nest cannot be found, line a small cane basket or plastic butter container with holes punched in the bottom with clean dry paper towels arranged in a conical shape. Do NOT use grass/straw. Tie the new 'nest' to a tree closest to the original location, ensuring it is out of direct sunlight.

At 3-4 weeks, fledglings are completely feathered, very mobile but not yet capable of full flight. You can tell a fledgling by his ability to grip your finger firmly. Flight training usually happens near foliage. A juvenile in the open is likely in danger. Drop a napkin lightly over the bird to immobilize. Pick up, grasping firmly around the shoulders so that the wings are against the body and cannot flap. Place him near the closest thick bush or tree, where he can scramble to safety. Keep all pets and humans away and allow his parents to find him. Watch for birds swooping around the area.

Is the bird injured?

Flying trainees take short, stilted flights, and often fall. They tire easily and rest between test flights. If after 30-60 minutes, the bird is still immobile or sitting/lying in an awkward position, he needs help. A bird's body temperature ranges from 104-109 degrees and he should feel very warm to the touch. If you notice blood, torn skin, a wing that can't be folded properly or doesn't move at all, a broken leg or heavy breathing, intervene immediately. Check for fractures. When you gently extend wings and legs, the baby should be able to easily pull them back into

proper position. Fractures need to be set within 48 hours or they heal incorrectly and get infected. Use vet tape (adhesive gauze) to immobilize a broken wing. Cut a 10-12 inch length of tape. Secure the broken wing against the body in its natural position. Wrap the tape on the outside of the broken wing and around the body under the healthy wing ensuring that it is not so tight as to obstruct breathing. Be sure that the feet are behind the tape (on the tail side) and free to move. He might initially be clumsy but will learn to balance. The tape should stay on for 2-4 weeks with a weekly change.

Once you realize that the parents are gone or there's no way to put the baby back, or he's cold, limp or injured, prepare a container. This could be a cardboard shoebox or even a plastic food container large enough for the bird to stand up in or move around. Use tissue, paper towels or clean cloth as padding arranged in a cup like shape. Little birds like to fit snugly into their nests. The bottom of the baby's nest not be smooth or slippery. Cover the container LOOSELY with a dark towel leaving a small gap at the edge for air circulation. Place the box in a warm, quiet area of the house. Do not peek or handle. No tobacco, air fresheners or chemical cleansers in the bird's room.

If the bird is naked or injured, warmth is crucial. Keep the temperature at 95 - 100 degrees F. You can hang a 40 watt light bulb over the box but darken at night. Once the baby is warm, start feeding. NEVER feed a cold baby.

Naked, unfeathered babies with closed eyes need feeding every 15-20 minutes from sunrise to sunset. Birds do not usually feed at night. As they get stronger, slowly increase the interval to every half hour to an hour. Your baby will need 3-4 mouthfuls of food at each meal, each half as big as the circumference of his neck. If the baby's mouth is open, use a straw or dull tweezers to place a mouthful of moist food towards the back of the throat. Feed until the bird stops gaping. If initially the bird won't gape, tap the side of the beak or shake the "nest" gently. This should trigger a feeding response. Be careful not to give too much food at a time to avoid choking. Do not hold the baby while feeding, and never feed him on his back. As he grows, slowly increase the amount of feed per sitting while decreasing the frequency.

The article is from KO Archives

People With Disabilities

Perception, Policies And Possibilities

Amir Suhail Wani

There are two perspectives, two paradigms and two incidents to reckon with and to take account of before venturing into the heart of this article. The books of Hadith and Seerah report thus that once while the Prophet (PBUH) was delivering a sermon to his assembly of companions, he was hinted at by a woman who was well known to be suffering from mental ailments. The Prophet (PBUH) left his pulpit and went down to the old woman who kept commuting to the Prophet (PBUH) and kept telling him I want to tell you something there, and



THE RELIGION OF ISLAM IS very particular and scrupulous in defending and advocating the rights and dignity of people with disabilities and vehemently discourages the attitude of stereotyping and Otherisation of people with disabilities

then there and then there, till they covered a good distance and the women left bursting in laughter. On seeing the entire scene, Hazrat Umar (RA), went to Prophet (PBUH) and said "Our master did we not tell you not to pay any heed to this mad woman", to which Prophet (PBUH) replied "Umar, if I don't listen to him who else will". This is the Prophetic exemplar of approaching people, who are otherwise intellectually incapable, which is expected of any Muslim and for that matter any individual, irrespective of religious denomination, who has any claims to civility, mannerism and adherence to minimal set of human values. Now let's look at another precedent and stream of behaviour which is spreading like wildfire on social media these days and that is people, who otherwise claim to be sane are seen posting disturbing (and in their opinion entertaining visuals) of people with mental ailments, we as audience (Necessarily not all) derive sadistic pleasure from these disturbing, heart-wrenching and inhuman visuals. Though the two contrary

models of behaviour and approach have been cited vis a vis people with mental health issues, but it applies to and defines the entire range of behaviour people usually adopt towards the spectrum of people with disabilities, be the disability physical or mental - now fashionably called special ability, without any effect on ground realities.

Some three thousand odd years ago, Plato committed it to writing that he wanted his utopian state purged of people with disabilities, for they don't fulfil utilitarian and productive ends of a state. Three thousand years later, we had a frail and meek and disabled body housing the mind of one of the most celebrated intellectuals of all times, Stephen Hawking, not only proving Plato wrong, but turning him on his head. The three millennia that separate us from Plato also saw a host of people from different walks of life, who were otherwise disabled in one way or the other, but made permanent and immense contributions to society and civilization. The necessity to draw attention to the "contributions" of people with disabilities, because our civilizations, both Eastern and Western have made the delivering capacity of an individual as the sore measure and criteria of his/her worth, dignity and right to live. The mechanised, rather technological society which we have found ourselves in has drawn a dictum on the stone that only those are entitled to a life of dignity who can be active agents of material generation, who can generate wealth and material resources, who aren't meek to rely on others' helping hand, but who, personifying power and strength can mould the world and tailor it to their needs, thereby proving themselves to be "fruitful individuals for the society".

This perspective of understanding people in terms of their utilitarian merit has not only overshadowed the concept of humanity as such, but exposed people with disabilities to vulnerabilities and discriminations of all sorts. It is extremely difficult for people, who are otherwise able-bodied, to understand the problems of and empathize with people with disabilities, for the psycho-social dimensions of these problems are so broad that only people with dis-

abilities face them first hand and are rattled and broken by the same. The challenges which people with disabilities face are augmented and multiplied by discouraging social framework, lack of logistical support and prevalence of social mores that deteriorate and aggravate their situation further. To begin with, social construction and perception of people with disabilities is so ill fashioned and misconstrued that at the very outset people with disabilities are seen in the frame of reference of "Other" and such a strict impermeable line of distinction is drawn between able bodied persons and people with disabilities that no room of coexistence or mutual celebration and adoration is left open. Instead, people are divided into two

TO BEGIN WITH, SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION AND perception of people with disabilities is so ill fashioned and misconstrued that at the very outset people with disabilities are seen in the frame of reference of "Other" and such a strict impermeable line of distinction is drawn between able bodied persons and people with disabilities that no room of coexistence or mutual celebration and adoration is left open

boxes whereby people with disabilities/special abilities are left helpless at the receiving end of stereotyping, bullying, marginalization and social injustice. How do these recurrent episodes of bullying, name-calling and discrimination engender and erode the mental health of people with disabilities goes without saying. Then accompanying this discouraging and debilitating social construction and social perception of people with realities comes the role of structural/government policies in addressing issues specific to people with disabilities and their failure to achieve the same. It starts with the stark absence of a comprehensive policy about people with disabilities which could have guaranteed and restored to them a life of dignity and included them in the holistic participation of society. Policies, even if they are in place, are inefficient and do not attend properly to the needs and necessities of persons with disabilities. Institutes supposed to mitigate the problems of and refine the social identity they could celebrate and organically assimilate are either

dysfunctional or have fallen into oblivion of turning people with disabilities into dependable creatures, instead of restoring to them their degrees of mental and physical freedom. Our schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions, which should have instilled in students the spirit of empathy and etiquettes of proper behaviour towards people with disabilities, are seen themselves promulgating and legitimizing discrimination against people with disabilities in more than one ways. What all this amounts to is the culmination and accumulation of difficulties and blockades for people with disabilities, their exclusion from social structure on the whole and an environment of injustice and exploitation of these people.

Having underscored some of the reasons and thereby the implicit solutions to mitigate and address the problems confronted by people with disabilities, let it also be noted that the religion of Islam is very particular and scrupulous in defending and advocating the rights and dignity of people with disabilities and vehemently discourages the attitude of stereotyping and Otherisation of people with disabilities. There are various eschatological and theological explanations as to why God creates people who suffer because of their bodily and mental limitations, but that's not the subject of debate of this article.

What this whole line of argument, as has been followed in this article precipitates at is that people with disabilities, like able bodied persons command an intrinsic life of dignity, honour, participation and inclusion. To leave them out of the social fabric or enclose them in hard drawn social boundaries amounts to decapitating limbs from human body and as Sa'adi said "Humanity is a body of which individuals are parts". It is only by recognising the specific role played by a specific part that the dignity of humanity can be restored and reclaimed.

"The phrase "People with disabilities", instead of better looking terms like "People with special abilities" etc as the author believes that these terms only gloss over the issues faced by people with disabilities without playing any role either in their social inclusion or their life of dignity

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

The author is a columnist and writer

Vir Das's Two Indias

Nidhi Razdan



Come from two India's. One where a comedian who points out the obvious dualities and complexities of the country is slapped with police cases. And the other, where a self proclaimed "nationalist" actor likens India's hard fought independence to "begging", uses derogatory language about Mahatma Gandhi and is the recipient of the nation's highest civilian honour.

But police action is not warranted in either case. People should not be arrested for comedy acts or just plain stupidity.

The hysterical reactions to comedian Vir Das's stand up act in the US a few days ago has only underlined that the world's largest democracy is also insecure.

For two straight days now, Das has been trending at number one on Twitter and is the lead discussion on prime time TV as the right wing fulminates over his act, where he spoke about everything from violence against women to farmer protests, while many others have come out in strong support.

Indeed, Das received huge applause from the audience he was addressing at the Kennedy centre in Washington DC. Spare me the argument that he "maligns" India on foreign soil. India's image is not maligned by a stand up comic who pointed out some harsh realities about the nation we live in.

Our image is maligned by those who rape women, by those who as-

It is also true that these complexities are not unique to india. Almost every country has issues. The US is still dealing with deep rooted racism and shootings that kill scores of people each year. Their stand up comics hold forth on

IT IS ALSO TRUE THAT THESE complexities are not unique to india. Almost every country has issues. The US is still dealing with deep rooted racism and shootings that kill scores of people each year. Their stand up comics hold forth on this all the time. But has anyone been arrested there?

this all the time. But has anyone been arrested there? Hand to heart - is there anything Vir Das said in that video about India that isn't true?

There is actually nothing remarkable about what he said at all. Why are we so afraid to face the reality of our imperfect country? All nations are imperfect. Does it make us any less proud to be Indian and any less patriotic?

As for Kangana Ranaut, she's desperately seeking attention and maybe a ticket to parliament. I find her views repulsive but I don't believe she should

be arrested for them. I don't think she deserves the nation's highest civilian award either.

Someone, somewhere in India is always offended by something. We are a nation in a permanent state of offence. Movie halls are stormed, film sets are vandalised, court cases are filed all because of this non stop outrage factory.

Perhaps Vir Das knew what was coming. In his stand up act, he said "I come from an india that will accuse me of airing their dirty laundry and

yet I come from an india that wears their heart on their sleeve ... I come from an india that is going to watch this and say this isn't stand up comedy, where is the goddam joke and yet I come from an India that will watch this and know that there is a gigantic joke, it just isn't funny.

The author is an award-winning journalist. She was the Executive Editor of NDTV. She has reported on Indian politics and diplomacy. The article was originally published by The Gulf News

Not unique to india

Notes On The Kaeshur Mot

Wajahat Qazi

Islam in Kashmir emanated and spread by the endeavours and efforts of great Sufi Masters. While the precise datum of the emergence of Islam in Kashmir is contended but it may be safe to assume that seven to eight centuries have elapsed since then. The apogee of Sufi endeavour and practice is 'ma'rifat or attaining Irfan or interior knowledge and knowledge of the divine, roughly and loosely translated as 'gnosis' in English. A rich, copious literary and poetic tradition emanated from the Sufi tradition of Kashmir ranging from the great Shaykh Noor Uddin Wali to Lalla Arifa to Soche Kraal sahib to Nyaame Sahib and other great doyens (all defined by a certain pecking order and hierarchy in their stages of ma'arifa). Over time, the folk aspects of culture in Kashmir got incorporated into Islam and some of the more profound insights and practices of Sufism were subsumed (and even lost) under this folksy aspect.

One curious and peculiar personage to emerge from the folksy aspect of religion in Kashmir is the 'Kaeshur Mot' / Kashmiri Fakir, a man believed to be inspired by the rich tradition of Sufism in Kashmir and revered for this reason.

Who and what is the Kaeshur Mot?

In folklore, he (it is usually a he), is a wanderer, has no real habitat or home, is oblivious to his self. He wears tattered clothes or at times, no clothes at all. When he speaks, he mumbles and at times even becomes aggressive. On account of his spiritual prowess The Kaeshur Mot is also believed to have powers to heal, bless, plead and so on. (These



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powers or alleged powers are not held to be real by adherents of orthodox Islam who basically do not believe in the phenomenon of the Mot). This is a description of the Kaeshur Mot.

What, the question is, explains him?

It, to repeat, appears that the phenomenon of the Kaeshur Mot accrues and emanates from the

legacy of Sufism in Kashmir and its iterated interaction with folk aspects of culture here. Because the Mot is unconventional in terms of dress, behaviour, comportment and, in a way, defies all the conventions of both polite and rude society, a persona and personality is imputed to him. Why does the Kaeshur Mot defy convention? This takes us into the domain of psychology and even para psychology. It is a distinct possibility that the Mot is either

THE APOGEE OF SUFI ENDEAVOUR AND practice is 'ma'rifat or attaining Irfan or interior knowledge and knowledge of the divine, roughly and loosely translated as 'gnosis' in English. A rich, copious literary and poetic tradition emanated from the Sufi tradition of Kashmir ranging from the great Shaykh Noor Uddin Wali to Lalla Arifa to Soche Kraal sahib to Nyaame Sahib and other great doyens (all defined by a certain pecking order and hierarchy in their stages of ma'arifa).

a schizophrenic which untreated gets aggravated and the person in contention becomes oblivious to the self, social mores, conventions and expectations. Or, the person is sensitive plus rebellious that is either not understood by society or society disapproves of this rebellion which makes this person get estranged, sullen and withdrawn-traits that over time get heightened. There then is an element of psychology and personality type in the nature and rationale for the phenomenon of the Kaeshur Mot.

This, however, is not to deny the genuine spiritual or mystical element in some of these people. As the Kashmiri saying, 'Aadam bastan manz chhu sir' (secrets lie buried under the human skin), some of the Kaeshur Mots might be genuine, in terms of their spirituality. However, the very folksy aspect of religion in Kashmir married to elements of Sufism has created an ecology to which the Mot is central. Many people in Kashmir seek the blessings of the Kaeshur Mot, and seek their help with quotidian issues like unemployment, childlessness, illnesses and other life issues. Because some of these mots are not sincere (or are even plain fraudsters), many people get exploited, even sexually, as has been observed.

So, is then the Kaeshur Mot phenomenon, real? It is because of the

projection of people's beliefs onto them. But is this phenomenon a fact of Islam, even Sufi Islam? No. It is not. Sufism is real, has a rich and variegated history, a rich corpus of traditions and practices that are so exacting that the practice of Sufism calls for self-abnegation, self-deprivation, self-transcendence and even suffering that most people (except the extraordinary) would falter on the Sufi path. The ultimate goal of ilm al ma'arifat can be achieved by a select few; not all. But when married to folk culture, among other phenomena, is begotten the Kaeshur Mot, which, as has been averred, can (rarely and occasionally be real) but in the final analysis is a social and a cultural construct. And again, in the final analysis, best is to ask the Almighty for both prosaic and spiritual needs but if one is to cultivate the Sufi Way or path, the best is to seek initiation into a Sufi Order (Tareeqa). This can be a quest where one has not to be only very careful but also assiduous so that the ultimate goal is to seek the Almighty. The way is clear and known but the path can be illuminated only by sincerity, prayer, devotion and selflessness, not the Mot, Kaeshur or otherwise, genuine or not.

The author is a writer and columnist. He is also a fan of Bahul, the 8th Century sufi mystic

The Squid Games Sensation

'Squid Game' Is Influenced By The Horror Of Survival Comics And Real-Life Debt

Elaine Chang

Is the Netflix Korean sensation Squid Game an allegory for late capitalism? The response to the show is similar to medieval morality plays that attempted to hammer home the eternal damnability of the Seven Deadly Sins.

I'm a university literature professor who specializes in film and video media. This means that I'm usually on the hunt for "constitutive contradictions" — those hypocrisies that may defy the rule of law and common sense, but are required in allegedly just, democratic, ultra-advanced capitalist societies.

And so, I'm undecided between a red button and a green button of the types that figure in Squid Game Episode 2's mockery of an election. If allegory is a story or performance conveying deeper or hidden meaning that its audience must work to interpret, the show would qualify based on audience reaction alone. But maybe it isn't at all allegorical, in that Squid Game makes what little covert evil and hypocrisy may remain in our world so graphically, unmistakably overt.

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Alternatives to capitalism

This series socks us with what cultural theorist Mark Fisher called "capitalist realism" — the impossibility of imagining an outside to the political-economic system in which most of us live, let alone an alternative to it.

But when asked if he deliberately set out to expose the dehumanizing and even lethal effects of late capitalism, Squid Game creator Hwang Dong-hyuk laughed off the suggestion that his blockbuster series delivers any "profound" point or message.

"The show is motivated by a simple idea," he told the Guardian. "We are fighting for our lives in very unequal circumstances."

Hwang referred to his own experience of the 2009 global economic downturn as an inspiration for the series, which saw financing for his film projects dry up and compelled him, his mother and

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grandmother to take out loans.

Drawn to the hardcore survivalist games depicted in Japanese and South Korean comic books, Hwang pondered just how bad things could get and how far he might go to keep himself and his family alive. He didn't need to look far to find cautionary tales.

Real-life events

The back story of Squid Game's protagonist, Seong Gi-hun, is a fictionalized retelling of the violent 2009 clash between car manufacturer Ssangyong and 1,000 of the over 2,600 employees Ssangyong laid off. Striking workers stood down a brutal alliance of private security forces and Korean police for 77 days. Thirty strikers and a few of their spouses lost their lives — many to suicide — during the strike and its aftermath in the Korean courts.

Continued under- and unemployment, loss of property and accumulated debt (compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic), has meant that in 2021, personal debt in South Korea climbed to 105 per cent of GDP. Canada's average household debt skyrocketed to 112 per cent of GDP in the first quarter of 2021, before dropping to 109 per cent in the second quarter.

"We are all living in a Squid Game world," Hwang told the Guardian, without pretension or exaggeration.

Financial demands



Actor Lee Jung-jae as Seong Gi-hun is riveting as our everyman. Like millions of workers displaced and discarded worldwide, Squid Game's protagonist Gi-hun tries to stay afloat in the service and gig economies, with a fried chicken restaurant that quickly fails, and then as a driver.

He takes out loans from banks and loan sharks that tenuously prop up his gambling addiction. Gi-hun's ex-wife has remarried, to a gainfully employed man, and is planning to move with him to the United States, along with Gi-hun's daughter. The new husband can afford to celebrate his stepdaughter's birthday with dinner at a steakhouse (uttered in English, so all know it's a big deal), while Gi-hun can only pay for a hot dog and fish cake fast-food snack, and a tragicomic inappropriate gift clawed out from an arcade game.

An inveterate gamer and perennial optimist with an endearingly expres-

sive face, Gi-hun lives on the cusp of the Big Payoff — whether off-track betting, withdrawing money from his mother's bank account or accepting an invitation to play a game of ddakji in a Seoul subway station.

But like all games of chance in the nine-episode series, it's clear that this one — where players toss paper tokens in an attempt to flip over their opponent's tokens — is rigged from before the start. It's also clear that all 456 competitors (Gi-hun is No. 456) are in a battle royal for their lives and a giant cash jackpot, which lends the show its highest-stakes, highest-concept brand of suspense.

Contradictions

What may be less clear — and potentially the stuff of constitutive contradictions and ironies galore — is why record numbers of viewers have

flocked to Squid Game. The series is the most watched Netflix series ever, beating out previous ratings champion Bridgerton. Bloomberg News estimates Squid Game's worth to Netflix to be close to US\$900 million.

The whole series, however, only cost about \$21 million to make, while creator Hwang lost six teeth from all the stress and has received no performance-based bonuses. He also doesn't want to be forever known as "the Squid Game guy."

An unidentified Korean part-time food delivery driver told the Guardian: "You have to pay to watch [the show] and I don't know anyone who will let me use their Netflix account.... In any case, why would I want to watch a bunch of people with huge debts? I can just look in the mirror."

Why indeed would anyone in financial straits like any of the players in the series want to watch Squid Game? I've searched the internet, without success, for a ballpark number of the 142 million households that tuned in globally who may have signed up for a Netflix free-trial period to do so.

Hwang is currently in discussions with his streaming empire paymasters over potential additional seasons as well as his other film projects. Considering industry growth predictions, what will some viewers pay or sacrifice to keep watching Squid Game?

More to the point, why would they? I think an answer to the late-capitalist allegory question hinges on what audiences see reflected back to themselves on screen. One viewer might recognize their own challenging situation in a character's story, while another sees suffering of an unimaginable kind.

These divergent vectors of identification may determine whether there is or isn't any profound or hidden meaning to Squid Game. They may also influence new, gruesome games of chance, manipulation and life-or-death next season. We'll have to stay tuned to find out.

The author is Associate Professor, English and Theatre Studies, University of Guelph. The article is being reproduced by arrangement with The Conversation

Indoors Without Masks: How Delta Variant Made The Most Of This Town

Bloomberg

It was meant to be a summer vacation to celebrate. Thousands of revelers flocked to Provincetown, Massachusetts, for the July Fourth holiday, fully immunized against COVID-19 and ready to enjoy new freedoms, including socializing without face masks.

Instead, the weather turned cool and rainy, and the festivities shifted indoors to pubs, clubs and private homes, creating a crucible for the effectiveness of vaccines used to contain the uber-transmissible delta variant. More than 1,000 Covid cases ensued over the following two weeks, rocking confidence in the inoculations and prompting the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to reinstate an indoor masking mandate.

Four months later, researchers studying those who contracted the virus are gaining important insights into the immunity-bolstering effects of natural infection after

vaccination. Importantly, their findings offer clues about the immune protection needed for the coronavirus to cease being a public-health menace and, ultimately, to end the pandemic.

"Our data really puts a different perspective on the Provincetown cohort," said Dan Barouch, a Harvard Medical School professor and head of Boston's Beth Israel Deaconess' Center for Virology and Vaccine Research. "Initially, it was viewed as evidence of vaccine failures. I would actually argue it's evidence of vaccine success. These vaccines are doing what they are intended to do."

The outbreak in Provincetown, the small resort town located at the tip of Cape Cod that's known colloquially as "P-town," was the first well-described, large cluster of infections with the delta variant in a highly vaccinated population. Some three-quarters of the Covid cases occurred in people who had two doses of either the Pfizer Inc. or Moderna Inc. vaccines, or the single

Johnson & Johnson shot, at least 14 days earlier.

Outbreak Probe

Almost 80 per cent of these so-called breakthrough infections were symptomatic. Although the majority led to only mild-to-moderate illness, the Covid surge in the face of high vaccination rates prompted an intense investigation by state and local health officials.

They found the amount of viral material on nasal swabs was similar in vaccinated and unvaccinated people. That surprising finding undercut overly optimistic expectations that the inoculations could eliminate SARS-CoV-2 transmission, particularly given the twice-as-infectious delta strain.

Disease detectives at Boston's Broad Institute used genomic sequence data to trace the outbreak to just a handful of infected people, including one who was the likely source of more than 80 per cent of cases. Their work proved Covid could spread be-

tween fully vaccinated people. Intriguingly, the disease sleuths also found those infected in Provincetown -- who came from 21 states -- contributed only modestly to the delta-fueled US epidemic after they returned home.

The outcome was comforting because it backed what's already known about immunization, said Helen Petousis-Harris, a vaccinologist at the University of Auckland.

"Vaccination against COVID-19 is the best way to prevent getting severely ill and dying from Covid, but it doesn't completely stop everyone who gets it from being infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus or from transmitting it," she said. "However, if you are vaccinated and you get infected, you're less likely to spread the virus than if you're unvaccinated."

Jolted Awake

Detailed analysis performed in Barouch's Harvard lab helps explain why. He and colleagues studied the immune responses of 35 vaccinated people tested for

Covid in the Provincetown outbreak. Those who got a breakthrough infection had a dramatic increase in levels of virus-blocking antibodies and virus-killing T cells, including 34-fold higher neutralizing antibody levels against the delta variant, compared with those who weren't infected.

An infection five-to-six months after vaccination jolted the body's immune memory into gear to generate potent, delta-specific antibodies and T cells that helped clear the virus before it caused severe illness or had the chance to spread.

"We think that this is likely the reason why vaccinated people who get breakthrough infections generally have a mild course of disease in the vast majority of cases, because they have a rapid onset of very potent antibody and T cell responses that likely control the virus," Barouch said over Zoom. "It is likely that those individuals will have high levels of immunity for a prolonged period of time."

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

Scholarship Name 1: Auxilo's Edevate Scholarship Program 2021-22

Description: Auxilo Finserve invites applications from students who are in Classes 9 to 12 or graduation/post graduation courses. The scholarship is meant to support students who have lost their parent(s)/earning family members or whose earning family members have lost their employment due to COVID-19 to ensure continuity of education.

Eligibility: Open for Indian students who are currently studying in Classes 9 to 12, graduation and post-graduation courses. Students who have lost their parent(s)/earning family members or whose earning family members have lost their employment during COVID-19

pandemic. The annual family income of the applicant must not be more than INR 6,00,000 from all sources.

Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 30,000
Last Date to Apply: 15-12-2021
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/AUES1

Scholarship Name 2: STFC India Meritorious Scholarship Programme 2021

Description: Shriram Transport Finance Company (STFC) Limited has announced the scholarship programme to provide financial assistance to students from underprivileged families of commercial transport drivers. Under this program, selected students will receive multi-year scholarships for professional studies after Class 10 and Class 12.
Eligibility: Students currently

enrolled in Diploma/ITI/Polytechnic courses, or Graduation/Engineering (3-4 year) programmes may apply for this scholarship, if they have scored at least 60% marks in Class 10 and Class 12. Applicants must come from the family of a commercial transport driver with an overall family income of less than INR 4 Lakhs per year.

Prizes & Rewards: Selected students will receive INR 15,000/- for ITI/Polytechnic/Diploma studies (for 1 year), and up to INR 35,000/- per year (max. 4 years) for graduation/engineering studies
Last Date to Apply: 30-11-2021
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SIMD4

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Dated:18.11.2021

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

S.No	Name of the Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class Of Contactor
1.	Installation of Swing (Julas) at Children Park at Hatbura near Panchayat Ghar Ganderbal under PRI Grants.	Rs.3.55 Lacs	Rs.200/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	PRI Grants	DEE
2.	Construction of tiled lane from H/o. Mohd Subhan Rather to Ghulam Rasool Rather at Beehama and construction of tiled lane/drain from House of Riyaz Ahmad Hajam to Main road under IDMT Grants.	Rs.1.57 Lacs	Rs.200/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	IDMT-Grants	DEE
3.	Construction of Drain/Lane from Padshahi Canal Culvert to H/O Nazir Ahmad Shah at Khan Mohalla Beehama under IDMT	Rs.2.06 Lacs	Rs.200/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	IDMT-Grants	DEE
4.	Upgradation of Kachnambal Tang road b.w.o P/L GSB, WBM G-II, RCC spun pipes, R/wall, B/wall and culvert (1X6) Mtr incl. cement concrete drain (Balance portion) under State Sector.	Rs.8.00 Lacs	Rs.300/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	State Sector	DEE/CEE
5.	Upgradation of various link roads at Gund (1st two kms of Hariganwan-Surraw road Development of Rayil link & Rezon link road, Haknar road b.w.o Upgradation of Gund inner roads at km 2nd, Bus Adda, Kalilo Mohalla, Malik Mhalla P/L WBM G-2nd, R/wall, B/wall and RCC Pipes at required spots under State Sector.	Rs.12.00 Lacs	Rs.600/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	State Sector	DEE/CEE/BEE
6.	Construction of cement concrete Protection wall at Kijpora near Masjid "Construction of road at Kijpora" (Balance Portion) under State Sector.	Rs.07.80 Lacs	Rs.300/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	State Sector	DEE/CEE
7.	Improvement/Upgradation of road from Akhal to Nilla Nawan b.w.o P/L WBM G-II, Construction of cement concrete R/wall and P/L RCC spun pipes (Balance Portion) under State Sector.	Rs.05.90 Lacs	Rs.300/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	State Sector	DEE/CEE
8.	Construction of drain from H/O. Sona Ullah Bhat to Vour nora.	Rs.03.35 Lacs	Rs.200/-	Bid Security Declaration as per format	10-Days	PRI- Grants	DEE

Position of AAA:- Accorded,
Position of funds:- Available.

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

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan in favour of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Ganderbal.

Note:- The Date of Treasury Challan must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date. Any deviation shall render the bidder as Non-responsive.

2.1 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 PW(R&B) Division Ganderbal within 07 (seven) days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond DLP.

2.2 Note:- All bidders shall submit the uploaded Treasury Challan in Original before issuance allotment.

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division (tender receiving authority).

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

5. The earnest money shall be forfeited if-
a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.

c) Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

6(A).

No.15935-44
Dated:18-11-21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Division Ganderbal

DIPK-13062/21

GOVERNEMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, PRISONS DEPARTMENT, J&K, JAMMU

e-TENDER NOTICE FOR MAINTAINING (ONSITE) ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT OF EXISTING CCTV SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (MAKE "SAMSUNG TECHWIN") INSTALLED IN ALL JAILS OF J&K UT

e- NIT NO: 03 - OF-2021
DATED: 17-11-2021

For and on behalf of Lt.Governor of Jammu and Kashmir UT, online e-tenders are invited from the original firms/ Authorized Distributors/Service providers of Samsung Techwin with the Goods & Service tax department for maintaining/servicing/repairing of Samsung existing CCTV system "MAKE SAMSUNG TECHWIN" INSTALLED IN DIFFERENT JAILS OF J&K UT as per terms & conditions mentioned in this tender document. The intending tenderer/s shall have to attach earnest money /tender fees in the shape of Demand draft/CDR/FDR from any Nationalized/Scheduled Bank to be pledged to the Financial Advisor/CAO Prisons Department J&K for an amount to the extent shown against each below falling which the tender shall not be entertained-
The detailed documents, Criteria and other terms and conditions can be seen/downloaded from the governmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:-

S.no	Description	Date	Time
1	Date of Issue/publishing of tender notice	16.11.2021	10.00 am
2	Date of Downloading of bidding documents or Start date	16.11.2021	10.30 am
3	Bid submission Start date	17.11.2021	10.00 am
4	Bid Submission closing/end date	15.12.2021	3.00 pm
5	Date and time of opening online Bids	16.12.2021	3.00 pm (in the office chamber of DGP Prisons J&K
6	Deadline for receiving the hardcopy of Original DD & EMD including all the soft copy of 15.12.2021 documents in favour of approved firm/Contractor	15.12.2021	upto 3.00 pm
7	EMD AMOUNT	Rs.200000.00	
8	Cost of tender documents (Non-refundable)	Rs. 5000.00	

Instructions:-

- The bids must be accompanied with the cost of tender documents in the shape of Demand Draft in favour Financial Advisor/CAO Prisons Department J&K and earnest money/bid in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Financial Advisor/CAO Prisons Department J&K.
- The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on web site www.jktenders.gov.in.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bidders must ensure to upload the scanned copy of all the necessary documents with the bid. Besides original/photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically by hand/registered/courier before the specified in para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload the scanned copy of all the necessary documents including earnest money and tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid and submit the hardcopies of all the uploaded documents duly attested under the hand and seal of the tenderer. No documents which has/have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of Hard copy. However in case any clarification, the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises.
- The earnest money in favour of unsuccessful /No-responsive bidders shall be released only after ensuring submission of tender document fee in original, irrespective of hardcopies, failure of submission of tender documents fee by the bidder using the site shall entitle him for blacklisting.
- The department shall not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reason.
- The tender is in two bid cover system.

DIPK-12998/21

NO:-Accts/N/504-II/7030-33
Dated:- 17.11.2021

Sd/-
Financial Advisor/CAO,
Prisons Department,
J&K, Jammu

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B SUB-DIVISION MAGAM

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No: 137/ R&B of 2021-22 DATED:- 15/11/2021.

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

S. No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rs.)	Earnest money	Time of Completion of Opening of Bid	Time & Date of Bid	Class of Contactor	Major Head of Account
1	Up-gradation (Macadamization) of road from Ahmad Gojri to Reyaz Malik with Improvement of inner links at Karhama	9.50	600/-	3% of quoted cost within 03 days after opening of financial bid	45	25-11-2021	D/C	PRI
2	Const. of Road from PMGSY road to Nambalnar (Rather Mohalla) Panchayat Halqa Babareshi Sahib.	4.70	200/-	--do--	35	25-11-2021	DEE	B2V
3	Up-gradation of road from Bus Adda to Primary School via Ganie Mohalla Pethpora Hardaboora (Balance portion)	1.71	200/-	--do--	20	25-11-2021	DEE	PRI
4	Up-gradation of Dhobiwan Lalpora road under OFC (Balance portion)	1.47	200/-	--do--	20	25-11-2021	DEE	Deposit Contrib. Rest. Of OFC cuts

Position of AAA/TS :- Accorded

Position of funds: Available

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

1.2. The cost of tender documents should be collected by introducing e-challan or simple uploading a copy of necessary Treasury challan / receipt (M.H 0059) only as per enclosed format.

1.3 Actual Treasury challan / receipt be submitted to the concerned authority as per the order principal secretary to Govt. Finance Department No. A/24 (2017) / 651 Dated: 07-06-2018 duly endorsed by Superintending Engineer (R&B) Circle Baramulla / Kupwara vide his No. SE (R&B)/3741-46 Dated: 25-06-2018.

1.4 All bidders has to submit bid security declaration form instead of earnest money deposit (EMD) as per the circular of finance department (Bid security form is as per Annexure "A" below).

1.5 The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount of equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 02 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.

1.6 The Successful bidders have to start the work within 07 days, otherwise action shall be taken as per the norms.

S.No.	Date of issue of tender Notice
1	16/11/2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents From 17/11/2021 10.00 A.M to 24/11/2021 4.00 P.M
3	Bid submission start date 17/11/2021 from 10.00 AM
4	Bid submission end date 24/11/2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of bids (online) 25/11/2021 at 11.00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Sub-Division Magam

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Sub-Division Magam (tender inviting authority).

3. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Sub-Division Magam (tender receiving authority).

4. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

a. The bidder has to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

5. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

5.1. 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.

5.2. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.

5.3. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.

5.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1 on any other convene day

5.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid. Besides, original / photocopies of documents related to the bid be submitted physically / by registered post / through courier before the date specified in Para-1.

5.6 Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents tender document fee in terms of soft copies with the technical bid and submit the Hard Copies of all the uploaded documents duly attested under the hand and seal of the tenderer. No document(s) which has / have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hardcopy. However, in case of any clarification, the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of Soft copies if need arises.

DIPK-12987/21

No:-R&B/Divn/Magam/6403-13
Dated:-15-11-2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
R&B Sub-Division Magam

EPFO Net Adds 15.41 Lakh Subscribers In Sept



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Retirement fund body EPFO net added 15.41 lakh subscribers in September 2021, reflecting a growing trend in net payroll additions post the second wave of the pandemic.

"The provisional payroll data of EPFO released today highlights that the EPFO has added around 15.41 lakh net subscribers during the month of September 2021," a statement by the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) said on Saturday.

For the month of September, the net subscriber addition has increased by 1.81 lakh (or over 13 per cent) as compared to the previous month of August 2021 when it was 13.60 lakh.

The data reflects a growing trend in net payroll for the first six months of the current financial year except in May, when the nation was reeling under the second wave of COVID-19. Many states had imposed local lockdowns during the period which hit economic activities.

The EPFO had net added 8,06,765 subscribers in April, which decreased to 5,62,216 in May this year.

The net enrolments rose to 9,71,244 in June and further to 12,30,696 in July.

The total net enrolments with the EPFO during first half of this fiscal (April to September 2021) stood at 64.72 lakh. The net new enrolments were 77.08 lakh in full fiscal 2020-21 and 78.58

lakh in 2019-20.

The EPFO stated that out of the total 15.41 lakh net subscribers added in September, around 8.95 lakh new members have been registered under the provisions of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 for the first time.

Around 6.46 lakh subscribers exited but rejoined EPFO by changing jobs within the establishments covered under the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act (EPF & MP Act), 1952. These members opted to continue their membership with EPFO by transferring their funds instead of going for final withdrawal.

Age-wise comparison of payroll data shows that the age group of 22-25 years registered the highest number of net enrolments at 4.12 lakh during September 2021.

This was followed by 18-21 years with around 3.18 lakh net enrolments. This indicates that many first-time job seekers are joining organised sector workforce in large numbers. They have contributed around 47.39 per cent of total net subscriber additions in September.

State-wise comparison highlights that the establishments covered in Maharashtra, Haryana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were in lead by adding approximately 9.41 lakh subscribers during the month, or around 61 per cent of the total net payroll addition across all age groups.

Govt Puts On Sale MTNL, BSNL Assets At Base Price Of Rs 970 Crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The government has listed for sale real estate assets of state-run telecom firms MTNL and BSNL at a reserve price of around Rs 970 crore, according to documents uploaded on the DIPAM website.

BSNL properties located in Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Bhavnagar and Kolkata have been posted for sale at a reserve price of around Rs 660 crore.

The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) website has listed MTNL assets located in Vasari Hill, Goregaon in Mumbai for sale at a reserve price of around Rs 310 crore.

"This is the first stage of asset monetisation at MTNL and BSNL. Bids have been invited for BSNL assets worth Rs 660 crore and MTNL assets worth Rs 310 crore. We plan to complete the entire process within one-and-half months," BSNL Chairman and Managing Director P K Purwar told PTI.

MTNL's 20 flats located in Os



hiwara have also been put up for sale as part of the asset monetisation plan of the company.

The flats include two units of 1-room set, 17 units of 1 bedroom hall and kitchen (BHK) and one unit of 2 BHK.

Their reserve prices range from Rs 52.26 lakh to Rs 1.59 crore.

The e-auction for MTNL assets will take place on December 14.

The asset monetisation is part of the Rs 69,000 crore revival scheme for MTNL and BSNL which was approved by the government in October 2019.

Both the public sector firms were to identify and monetise assets worth Rs 37,500 crore by 2022.

"We will proceed as per market demand for asset monetisation," Purwar added.

USD 15 Bn Reliance-Aramco Deal Off, Cos Re-Evaluate

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: After missing two self-imposed deadlines, billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Industries Ltd has shelved a proposed deal to sell a 20 per cent stake in its oil refinery and petrochemical business to Saudi Aramco for an asking of USD 15 billion as the Indian firm focuses on new energy business.

"Due to evolving nature of Reliance's business portfolio, Reliance and Saudi Aramco have mutually determined that it would be beneficial for both parties to re-evaluate the proposed investment in O2C business in light of the changed context," the Indian firm said late Friday, adding that it will continue to be Saudi Aramco's "preferred partner" for investments in India's private sector.

Ambani had in company's annual general meeting of shareholders in August 2019 announced talks to sell a 20 per cent in the oil-to-chemicals (O2C) business, which comprises its twin oil refineries at Jamnagar in Gujarat, petrochemical assets and 51 per cent stake in fuel retailing joint venture with BP, to the world's largest oil exporter.

At that time, he had announced the deal would close by March 2020. The deadline was missed and the company blamed pandemic controlling restrictions, imposed towards the end of March 2020, for hampering due diligence.

This year too, at the AGM,



Ambani stated that the deal would close by the end of the year. At the same event, he also announced new energy forays including a plan for developing one of the largest integrated renewable energy manufacturing facilities in the world.

The complex would consist of a solar photovoltaic module, battery, green hydrogen and fuel cell factories and cost Rs 60,000 crore.

While new deadlines for Aramco deal and new energy forays were announced in the same breath, it wasn't clear what changed between June and now to site shifting focus for the "re-evaluation."

Reliance also decided to withdraw the proposal filed before the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to separate O2C business from the company.

New energy businesses are housed in separate subsidiaries of RIL and are not part of O2C. How the new energy business housed in separate subsidiaries impacted negotiations for O2C

before NCLT was withdrawn if Aramco remained interested in buying a stake in the O2C business and the deal could be concluded in future.

It also wasn't known if Aramco was interested in the new energy business as well and so a reworked deal needed to be negotiated.

An email sent to the company spokesperson on these issues remained unanswered.

Reliance in the Friday night statement said it and Saudi Aramco spent two years performing due diligence before reaching a decision to reassess.

It said it will work with Aramco and SABIC for investments in the Kingdom.

"The deep engagement over the last two years has given both Reliance and Saudi Aramco a greater understanding of each other, providing a platform for broader areas of cooperation," the statement said.

Reliance had in August 2019 put a USD 75 billion valuation for the O2C business, valuing a 20 per cent stake at USD 15 billion.

Talks with Aramco dragged on even after the global pandemic broke out amid speculation that Aramco had started to balk at the price even as it reviewed its investment strategy in India.

China Fines Tech Giants Over Anti-Monopoly Violations

AGENCIES

BEIJING: Chinese tech giants including Alibaba Group and Tencent Holdings were fined Saturday for failing to report corporate acquisitions, adding to an anti-monopoly crackdown by the ruling Communist Party.

The companies failed to report 43 acquisitions that occurred up to eight years ago under rules on operating concentration, according to the State Administration for Market Regulation. Each violation carried a penalty of 500,000 yuan (80,000), it said.

Beijing has launched anti-monopoly, data security and other crackdowns on tech companies since late 2020. The ruling party worries the companies have too much control over their industries and has warned them not to use their dominance to gouge consumers or block entry to new competitors.

Other companies fined in the



latest round of penalties include online retailers JD.com Inc. and Suning Ltd. and search engine operator Baidu Inc. The acquisitions dating back to 2013 included network technology, mapping and medical technology assets.

The companies failed to declare illegal implementation of operating concentration, the regulator said on its website.

Alibaba, the world's biggest e-commerce company by sales volume, was fined 2.8 billion in April for practices that regulators said suppressed competition. Meituan, a food delivery platform, was fined 534 million on Oct. 8. (AP)

FPO is 21st Century Cooperative Model: Div Com

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Quality leadership, efficient management of finances and functioning is imperative to revive cooperative institutions, said Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole while addressing the participants at the conclusive programme of 68th All India Cooperative week held today at Tagore Hall, here.

inspected the stalls of dairy, Agriculture and handicraft products set up by different cooperatives.



The Div Com said the cooperative movement has emerged in various stages, in which people come together to start investment on their common produce for substantial business.

He appreciated the Cooperative Department for encouraging successful cooperators who have promoted their units with a yearly turnover in crores.

The Div Com highlighted the basic principles of functioning and management of cooperatives including one person one vote to elect the management of a cooperative.

He also highlighted the scope of Farmer Producer Organization (FPO) presently existing in every district of the country. He added that FPO is 21st Century Cooperative Model and is proving a game changer in the income generation to farmers.

Additional Commissioner Kashmir, Qazi Sarwar; Registrar Cooperative Department J&K, Shafiq Iqbal, Cooperators, members of cooperative institutions and officers of cooperative department were present in the programme.

Divisional Commissioner also

tors of the valley and enquired from them about the strength of members of respective cooperative societies, management, finances and profit.

On the occasion, Shafiq Iqbal, Director Cooperative department said that cooperative movement needs to explore new methods and techniques to succeed in the competitive market. He mentioned various cooperative units working in the valley including schools, medical stores, Super bazaars, banks and other units.

He said now Farmer Producer Organizations are formed which are registered as cooperative institutions. He said the department is working to achieve the set target for registration of cooperative institutions to involve more and more people.

Various successful cooperators also presented their achievements and suggestions for revival of cooperative institutions.

Meanwhile, cooperators who have excelled in Dairy, Agriculture and Handicraft businesses in a cooperative sector were presented mementos and while some were given registration certificates.

Ola Electric Expands Test Rides Of e-Scooters Pan-India

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Ola Electric on Saturday said it has expanded the customer test rides for its electric scooters across the country.

With this expansion, customers in over 1,000 cities and towns will be able to test ride and experience the Ola S1 electric scooter, a statement said.

The test rides will be initially open only for those who have purchased or reserved the Ola S1 and S1 Pro scooters, it added.

Ola had kicked off test rides in Bengaluru, Delhi, Ahmedabad, and Kolkata on November 10, and then opened up five more cities - Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Mumbai, and Pune on November 19.

The company will now rapidly add more locations to ensure all customers have access to test rides by December 15, the statement said.



"Customer response to our test rides has been phenomenally positive and we are really thrilled to see their excitement for the revolutionary Ola S1 scooter. Thousands of customers are taking test rides every day and absolutely loving the best in class design, performance, technology and ride quality the Ola S1 delivers," Ola Electric Chief Business Officer Arun Sirdeshmukh said.

The company will be scaling test rides up rapidly in the coming weeks and will be covering over 1,000 cities and towns across India to ensure every customer has access to test rides by mid-December, he added.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SHER-I-KASHMIR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE SRINAGAR

Notice Inviting E-Tenders

Dated 17/11/2021

e-NIT No. 17 SKICC of 2021-22
For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tender/s (in single cover system) is/are invited from approved and eligible Contractors/Registered/Reputed Dealer/Supplier registered with J&K, UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/UT/Central Government Department on item rate basis registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railway and other State Central Government for the below mentioned work/s.

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest money (In Rupees)	Time of completion (Calendar days)	Class of Contractor	Ref. to Auth/AA	Ref. to T. S	Major head of Account
1	Annual Rate Contract for Housekeeping related works by way of supply of manual labours & requisite items for one calendar year (w.e.f 01.12.2021 to 30.11.2022)	38.88	2000/-	3% of the contract value	One year	Registered with Labour Deptt./ Agency should be expert in executing similar nature of jobs	Accorded	Obtained	Non-Plan

Position of funds: - Committed

The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specification, drawings, bill of quantities (BOQ) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below: -

1	Date of issue of Tender Notice	17-11-2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	17-11-2021
3	Bid submission start date (on line)	17-11-2021
4	Bid submission End date (on line)	29-11-2021 (upto 4.00 P.M)
5	Date & time of opening of bids (online)	30-11-2021 (at 11.00 A.M)

Note: The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploading softcopies. Any short fall found in the soft copy will render the Bid rejection.

As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir Civil Secretariat Finance department vide No. OM No. A/24 (2017)-651 dated 07.06.2018 which reads as under: -

- Furnishing of hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who declared 1st (L-1) after opening of financial bids.
- The cost of tender document should be collected in the shape of Demand Draft (DD) pledged to Executive Engineer, SKICC and uploading a copy of DD.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender documents in shape of demand draft (non-refundable) in favour of the Executive Engineer SKICC, Srinagar (Tender inviting/Receiving Authority). The date of the DD should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date.
- All the bidders have to submit bid Security Declaration form instead of earnest money as per 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 the (Advertise Cost) as performance security in the shape of FDR/CDR within three days before after opening of tender/s.
- 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 on line on same web site by the Executive Engineer SKICC

No: SKICC/EE/21/457-62
Dated 17/11/2021

DIPK-NB-5170/21

S/d
Executive Engineer
SKICC

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No: 32 of 2021-22

DATED: -18-11-2021 (2nd Call)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of U T J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works: -

S.no	Name of work	Adv Cost Rs in Lacs	Cost of tender Documents	Earnest Money/ Bid Security (Amt in Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of contractor	Head of Account	Treasury Challan Account Head
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Construction of R/Wall from paddy land to H/o Ghulam Ahmad Dar at Ragie Balhama B	2.94	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	25 days	DEE	PRI Plan	0515
2	Construction of Lane/Drain from work shop paddy land to H/o Ghulam Mustafa Bhat at Balhama B	1.76	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	20 days	DEE	PRI Plan	0515
3	Construction of R/Wall from H/O Sajad Hussain Dar to H/O Grabhat mohalla at Balhama B	1.50	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	20 days	DEE	BDC Plan	0515
4	Construction of R/Wall from H/O Late Abdul Rashid Malla Shalbug Colony at Balhama A	0.93	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	15 days	DEE	BDC Plan	0515
5	Construction of Link Road from main road to H/o Ghulam Hassan near Chinar floor mill at Balhama A	0.91	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	15 days	DEE	BDC Plan	0515
6	Upgradation of drain from H/o Mohd Ashraf Bhat to Late Ab. Raheem Dar Khonmoh C	2.75	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	25 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515
7	Construction of Lane/Drian from H/o Gh. Nabi Najar to main road at Chana Mohalla at Khonmoh C	1.71	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	20 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515
8	Upgradation of drain from H/O Abdul Rehman Bhat to Main Road to Bashir Ahmad Bhat Khonmoh C	2.86	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	25 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515
9	Construction of Lane BWO Tiles from M/R opposite Panchayat Ghar to H/O Gh Nabi Bhat Khonmoh C	2.02	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	20 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515
10	Construction of Lane from M/R to H/o Bilal Ahmad Bhat at Katti Mohalla Khonmoh C	2.40	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	25 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515
11	Construction of road from H/O Khursheed Ahmad at Chati Mohalla Khonmoh C	0.92	500	Bid Declaration Certificate	15 days	DEE	DDC Plan	0515

(i) Position of AAA-Accorded

(ii) Position of funds: Demanded

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

A	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	18.11.2021
B	Period of down loading of bidding documents	18.11.2021 6.00PM
C	Bid submission Start Date	18.11.2021 6.00PM
D	Bid Submission End Date	24.11.2021 4.00PM
E	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	25-11-2021 at 11.00A.M in the Office of Executive Engineer Rural Engineering wing Srinagar

Special Condition: As per Govt. Order No: 251-FD OF 2020 Dated: 17-09-2020. Allotments of works can be Limited to members of Gram Sabha of each panchayat for B2V3 part.

- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division Srinagar (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
- Nonattendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder.
- All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.

No. Xen/REW/SGR/5117-29
Dated: -18-11-2021

DIPK-13078/21

S/d
Executive Engineer
(REW) Division SRINAGAR

Using Mobile Phone For These Reasons While Driving In UK To Become Illegal

Agencis

LONDON: Drivers using a hand-held mobile phone while driving, for any purpose, will face penalties after the UK government announced a strengthening of existing laws on road safety on Friday.

It is already illegal to text or make a phone call (other than in an emergency) using a hand-held device while driving. From next

year, laws will go further to ban drivers from using their phones to take photos or videos, scroll through playlists or play games.

This will mean anyone caught using their hand-held device while driving will face a 200-pound fixed penalty notice and 6 penalty points on their licence, half the number that leads to licence revocation in the country.

"Too many deaths and injuries occur while mobile phones are

being held. By making it easier to prosecute people illegally using their phone at the wheel, we are ensuring the law is brought into the 21st century while further protecting all road users," said UK Transport Secretary Grant Shapps.

"While our roads remain among the safest in the world, we will continue working tirelessly to make them safer," he said.

Drivers will still be able to

continue using a device "hands-free" while driving, such as a sat-nav, if it's secured in a cradle.

They must, however, always take responsibility for their driving and can be charged with an offence if the police find them not to be in proper control of their vehicle.

The expanded rules for mobile phone use follows a public consultation that found 81 per cent of respondents supported proposals to strengthen the law

and make it easier for culprits to be prosecuted.

Following the public consultation, the government will revise the country's 'Highway Code' to explain the new measures. It will also be more precise about the fact that being stationary in traffic counts as driving, making it clear that hand-held mobile phone use at traffic lights or in motorway jams is illegal except in very limited circumstances.

There will be an exemption to the new law for drivers making a contactless payment using their mobile phone while stationary to ensure the law keeps pace with technology, the Department for Transport (DfT) said.

"Driver distraction can be deadly and using a hand-held phone at the wheel is never worth the risk. This important road safety decision by government, coinciding with Road Safety Week, is very

welcome," said Mary Williams, Chief Executive of Brake - a road safety charity.

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This exemption will cover, for example, places like a drive-through restaurant or a road toll, and will only apply when payment is being made with a card reader. It will not allow motorists to make general online payments while driving.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Guilty Won't

a businessman—Muhammad Altaf Bhat and Dr Mudasar Gul, both residents of Srinagar, were killed. The bodies of Altaf and Gul were first buried by police at Handwara graveyard and after massive outcry followed by protests by the families of the slain duo, their bodies were exhumed and later handed over to the families for the last rites late on Thursday evening.

The probe ordered by the LG is being conducted by the ADC Srinagar, who has already issued a notice inviting witnesses for recording their statements. The LG has promised the probe will be conducted in a time-bound manner. Pertinently, the family of third slain identified as Amir Ahmed of Banihal has also demanded return of the body of their son, who was working as an office boy at slain Gul's office.

Militant Killed

2018 figuring among the list of most wanted militants.

The killed commander, he said, was among other "crimes", also involved in the killing of a political worker Ghulam Hassan Lone in Devsar area.

"Moreover, the Insas rifle recovered from the killed terrorist is the same which was snatched by terrorists in year 2017 at Pombay DH Pora during an attack on bank vehicle," he added.

The police spokesperson further said that incriminating materials, arms and ammunition including the Insas rifle were recovered from the site of encounter.

"All the recovered materials have been taken into case records for further investigation. Police have registered cases under relevant sections of law and investigations have been initiated," he added.

Pertinently, the encounter in Ashmuji comes three days after police claimed to have killed five militants, including a top commander of The Resistance Front, in two separate gunfights in the district.

Meanwhile, police also claimed to have busted a network of militant associates of Lashkar-e-Taiba by arresting five alleged members.

According to the police spokesperson, the network of active militant associates was busted during the investigation of cases pertaining to multiple grenade attacks in south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

He identified the accused as Showket Islam Dar, Aijaz Ahmad Lone, Aijaz Gulzar Lone, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat and Nasser Ahmad Shah, all residents of Lelhar.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the module was acting as sleeper cell and were involved in procurement as well as transportation of arms/ammunition. They were also involved in carrying out grenade attacks on security forces at the behest of their handlers," the police spokesperson said.

He further claimed recovery of incriminating materials including arms/ammunition from their possession.

"Accordingly, a case vide FIR No. 139/2021 under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Kakapora. Further investigation into the matter is in progress," he added.

10th Class Board

of examination centres has been increased to ensure proper distance is maintained between the examinees in the examination halls.

"Only 50 per cent seating capacity will be occupied in one exam hall in order to maintain proper distance in view of the Covid-19 pandemic and guidelines issued by authorities from time to time," he said.

Notably, students appearing in class 10th and 12th annual examinations have been given 30 per cent relaxation in syllabus by the Board, in view of Covid-19 pandemic.

As per BOSE notification, the students have to attempt 70 per cent marks from the question paper which will be treated as 100 per cent for result computation.

'Return Body' Chorus

faith in the Lt Governor. We are awaiting his decision and I am hopeful that he will make one by this (Saturday) evening and return Magray's body so his final rites could be performed. But in case he does not take a decision, the situation will compel us to go for protests," Shan told reporters in Ramban.

According to the police, Magray was a militant and was killed along with his Pakistani associate and two others. However, Magray's father Abdul Latif refuted the police's claim and appealed to the L-G to ensure justice for the family.

On Friday Latif met the deputy commissioner of Ramban seeking the return of his son's body.

Additional District Magistrate of Ramban Harbans Lal Sharma on November 17 ordered imposition of prohibitory orders under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in Magray's famrotte village, along with Sangaldan and Seripura, until further orders.

Bodies of Mohammad Altaf Bhat and Mudasar Gul, two civilians killed in the Hyderabad encounter, were handed over to their kin on Thursday night after they were exhumed following protests by family members that they were innocent and not linked to militancy as claimed by the police.

Police had initially buried them in the

Handwara area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

"We are thankful to the Lt Governor for ordering a (magisterial) probe into the encounter and returning the bodies of two other civilians to their families. Let the government do its job to unveil the truth but let it also return Magray's body. The law is equal for all civilians," Shan said.

"We have already petitioned the deputy commissioner of Ramban. This (Magray's) family is nationalist, fought militancy and was awarded by the government for bravery besides giving a security cover. It is difficult to think their own son will be declared a terrorist," she said.

Sinha Led

The governor's decision to order a magisterial enquiry is nothing more than an eyewash, the CCG said in a statement.

It said the magisterial enquiry should immediately be replaced by a judicial enquiry under the supervision of the Supreme Court in order to uncover the truth and restore people's confidence in the rule of law.

We also demand that the inquiry should be completed expeditiously. In the meanwhile, those guilty of perpetrating it should be placed under suspension. We appeal to Members of Parliament to visit J-K as soon as possible and raise this issue in the ensuing session of Parliament, it said.

Apart from Sinha, the members of the group comprise executive secretary, Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation, Delhi; Sushobha Barve, former chairman of the Minorities Commission; first Chief Information Commissioner of India Wajahat Habibullah; Vice Marshal (ret'd) Kapil Kak and former editor and independent journalist Bharat Bhushan.

The statement said in its nine reports prepared after visits to Jammu and Kashmir since 2016, the group has been emphasising the need for a political and not a military solution to the issue of J-K, as indeed many others including military commanders familiar with the situation have been doing.

We have also emphasised that a political solution can come only out of a dialogue with all stakeholders. But our pleas have fallen on deaf ears. The government of India has tried everything from an extended governor's rule to constitutional changes but nothing has worked for the simple reason that the people of J-K have not been taken into confidence, it said.

The killings of civilians have demonstrated that the situation on the ground is far from normal as claimed by the government from time to time, the statement said.

Incidents, such as the killing of innocent civilians, are bound to exacerbate it further, it added.

The group also condemned the statement of Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat endorsing the demand for the public lynching of militants.

It shows that Gen Rawat has no use for the laws of the country and believes only in jungle raj. He must immediately withdraw this statement and apologise for it, the CCG said

Govt's Every Decision

enough information is provided to the public so they could see the decisions are taken in the manner following rules and regulations," he said.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG said that the UT administration is taking all the necessary steps to make the entire governance structure transparent and accessible to public.

"Every citizen can now access details about the type and extent of work under execution in their area or any part of the Union Territory at the click of a button. Public has a right to know how much money is being spent on the development works in their area and whether the project is being completed on time," Sinha said. "I want every decision taken by the government to serve the people within a reasonable time frame and it must follow the law of equity and inclusiveness," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, J&K is number one in the country for taking lead in enforcing reforms in expenditure management, and account of each penny has been made available in public domain.

He said that the intuitive budget, estimation, allocation & monitoring system (BEAMS) is an online computerized web based application for preparation and authorization of budget.

"It enables online flow of resources and the departments can allocate funds to their field offices through this system. It supports reliable, accurate, and better monitoring control for budget planning and expenditure audit, besides real-time reconciliation of accounts in comparison to manual budgeting process which lacks transparency," he said.

Similarly, the official spokesperson said that the government has launched the EMPOWERMENT (Enabling Monitoring of Public Overview of Works Being Executed & Resources for Meaningful Transparency) initiative to bring transparency in the execution of works by enabling citizens to monitor works/projects being implemented in their areas and become a partner in the process of development.

"The information available on this one-stop platform can be utilized for timely feedback

and suggestions for improving expenditure outcomes in spirit of Jan Bhageedari," he said.

"The web portal hosting all the works being executed in the UT is designed to capture flow of funds to each individual project under execution on real-time basis," he added.

About the newly launched scheme 'Janta Ki Scheme-Janta ki Bhageedari', the official spokesperson said that it will be a targeted campaign to improve access to BEAMS-EMPOWERMENT.

"It will focus on encouraging, educating, and empowering common public to access the details of all ongoing works in an area/village, available online, and to utilize the information to help government bring about greater responsiveness and accountability, besides greater participation of stakeholders in the process of development happening in their area," he said.

"The interactive portal (www.beamsjk.gov.in) offers public an opportunity to give their feedback about any of the works going on in J&K, enabling citizens to directly participate in the development of their area," he added.

Giving more details, the official spokesperson said that as on date, the portal hosts 33099 works being executed in the Union Territory at a cumulative cost of around Rs 12200 crores with micro details of up to village level.

He also said that the J&K government has taken a string of other e-initiatives in addition to BEAMS-EMPOWERMENT to achieve greater transparency and accountability. Some prominent among those include: PROOF (Photographic Record of On-site Facility), which is a mobile app to monitor progress of all the works allocated of different departments.

"It gives the public a pictorial view of the work along with its geographical coordinates i.e. latitude and longitude and user comments on work progress; JkPaySys (JK Payment System) that enables online submission of bills to treasuries eliminating unwarranted delays and provision for corruption," he added

Further, the official spokesperson said that as a result of sustained Institutional Reforms in the UT and sharp focus on completion of works in a time-bound manner, there is a substantial impact on the ground in terms of the completion of the projects. 9229 projects/works were completed during 2018-19 and 12637 in 2019-20, a total of 21943 projects/works have been completed across UT in 2020-21.

Two More Corona

About the new cases, the officials said 163 were reported from the Valley while the remaining 24 were detected from different parts of Jammu division, taking the total number of people infected since last year in J&K to 335203.

In the Valley, officials said, Srinagar reported highest 61 new cases of coronavirus, Baramulla 56, Ganderbal 15, Bandipora 9, Budgam 8, Kupwara 6, Anantnag 4, Pulwama 2 and one new case each in Kulgam and Shopian districts.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu reported a maximum of 19 new Covid-19 cases, Reasi 2 and one new case each was detected in Doda, Poonch and Kishtwar districts. The five districts of Udhampur, Rajouri, Kathua, Samba and Ramban reported no fresh cases of virus on Saturday.

"Moreover, 158 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and been discharged from various hospitals including 34 from Jammu Division and 124 from Kashmir Division," the officials said.

They further added that no new case of Mucormycosis was reported during the last 24 hours.

KP Employees

to safer places besides facilities being provided to the employees at the transit camps.

According to the official spokesperson, the Relief Commissioner was told that about 1230 employees are residing in pre-fabricated accommodation at Natnussa in Kupwara, Veervan in Baramulla, Haal in Shopian besides concrete flats at Vessu in Kulgam, Sheikhpora in Budgam and Mattan in Anantnag district.

"He visited these colonies and took stock of facilities being provided to the inmates in these flats. He directed the field staff and the officers of other agencies to ensure that all the basic amenities are provided to the inhabitants of these transit camps," he said.

At Natnussa Kupwara, he said, the inmates complained about poor power supply and internet service.

"The issue was taken with the Deputy Commissioner Kupwara who revealed the issue has already been taken up with PDD Handwara and will be resolved shortly. The Internet problem has also been raised up with all the Companies who have assured that Towers will be installed soon," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, the Relief Commissioner stated the new constructions are going on at more than 20 places and by 2022 all the PM package employees will be provided with concrete and suitable accommodation.

"At present, the construction is in full swing at Wandhama Ganderbal, Odina Bandipora, Fatehpura Baramulla, Alowpora Shopian and it is expected that the accommodation will be allotted to the employees in the coming months of March and April," he said.

Pandita, he said, also visited the construction sites at Wandhama, Odina, Fatehpura,

Kulgam Bagh and took stock of the pace of progress on ongoing works.

"He was accompanied by Tehsildar Relief Srinagar, employees of engineering wing and other concerned Relief officials. All the issues raised there were discussed threadbare with Chief Engineer PW(R&B) Department, Executive Engineers and concerned contractors for an early redressal," he added.

The official spokesperson further said that the Relief Commissioner also attended his camp office Srinagar and took stock of grievances of the migrants putting up in various hotels in Srinagar.

"Relief Commissioner assured the complainants that he will be organizing camps to reach to the PM package employees at their door steps to mitigate their issues and concerns," he added.

Mehbooba Says

in north Kashmir's Kupwara.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief also accused the Centre of trying to divide the Muslim votes in Jammu and Kashmir by propping up new parties.

"The Centre is attempting to divide the majority community vote in J-K. The Congress is being split, people were taken out from the PDP, the NC and new parties were created. It is being done to disempower the people here, to reduce their power. But I am sure that the people of Kashmir are politically mature and they understand it," she said.

Mehbooba has said several times in the past that she is not going to fight the assembly elections as her objective is to seek the restoration of Article 370 of the Constitution which was abrogated by the BJP-led government in August 2019.

She said farmers through their peaceful protest made Prime Minister Narendra Modi repeal the three contentious farm laws and expressed hope that a day will come when the Centre will restore Jammu and Kashmir's special status under Article 370 "along with interest".

"Farmers protested peacefully for a year and secured their rights. Unfortunately, the people in J-K are not allowed to protest.... There is jungle raj. But this will not remain as such.... A day will come when they (Centre) will have to give us back not only (Articles) 370 & 35-A, but along with interest, she said.

She said the people of Jammu and Kashmir will continue their struggle till the time the special status is restored.

"It took BJP 70 years to revoke (Article) 370, so we will also struggle, be it for 70 days or 70 months, for the restoration of our identity, for the promise made by the country to our people which was enshrined in the Constitution. We will continue our struggle until Articles 370 and 35-A are restored and Kashmir issue is settled, she said.

The PDP president said even when there was tension between India and Pakistan, the countries were engaged in some dialogue process.

"The Kartarpur Corridor has been reopened, did they not talk to Pakistan? There has been ceasefire (along the Line of Control in J-K) for past few months, so were there no talks with Pakistan? The NSAs (of the countries) talk to each other in other countries. Pakistan's NSA was recently invited for talks on Afghanistan.

But when we say it (talk to Pakistan), they get irritated. The talks are going on and (former PM A B) Vajpayee, who was their tallest leader, also did it. Nothing will happen without dialogue, she said.

'LG's Responsibility

administration here, but also the representative of the Centre," she told reporters in Kupwara district of north Kashmir.

The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said it is the LG's duty to protect the lives and properties of the people of the Union Territory.

"At Hyderabad, three innocent civilians were killed and later, branded as OGWs (overground workers) and hybrid militants and the families had to beg for their bodies. And till now, the body of Amir Magray, who is from a poor family, has not been handed over to the family. His father has been awarded for killing a militant.

"This kind of atrocities will not improve the situation, but will rather deteriorate it further. Such incidents will further widen the distance between the people of Jammu and Kashmir and the country," she said.

Mufti warned that if such incidents continue to take place, the situation will become very dangerous in Jammu and Kashmir.

She said Sinha should ensure that Magray's body is handed over to his family.

"He (Sinha) is answerable to us as he is the representative of the Centre and whatever wrong happens here, he is responsible for that," the PDP chief added.

Four persons were killed in an alleged encounter at Hyderabad here on Monday night. A controversy broke out as the families of three of those killed in the incident said their kin were innocent civilians. A magisterial probe has been ordered into the incident.

Mufti alleged that there is a "jungle raj" in Jammu and Kashmir.

"There is no government. Everything, including the right to speech, is being suppressed here. Kashmir has been turned into a big jail," she said. (PTI)

Dumped As 'Disabled'

make my disability my weakness. I work hard to sustain myself. I may be earning less, but I'm happy with that."

But years before crossing paths with bluff-masters, Iqbal was discarded by his family during the 2014 deluge itself.

Suddenly, the "disabled" man who lost his tricycle in the floods had become a liability for his family.

"My family deserted me at a crucial moment," he continued. "I was genuinely broken and as a tenant in Khayam Srinagar, I was finding it hard to sustain myself. But thanks to my friends who helped me buy another tricycle and helped me to get back on my feet."

Since then, Iqbal starts his journey early in the morning on his tricycle and sells his stuff at the bustling TRC road in Srinagar.

"Many shopkeepers offer me merchandise on credit, but I don't want to keep any debit as life is very uncertain in Kashmir," said Iqbal.

This plain spoken nature has earned him many generous clientele, including bankers, transporters and traders. They purchase pens and notebooks from him and help him in his regular income.

Over the years, this street struggle helped Iqbal to save enough money to embark on the holy journeys to Mecca and Madina.

"My family didn't even visit me when I was leaving for the pilgrimage," he said. "But my friends were there and made all the arrangements."

Without sounding disgruntled about his life's tragic events, Iqbal is trying to act as a motivation for individuals lacking advantages and abilities.

"I earn my own living and give it to the needy people," said the disabled man.

"As someone who was dumped, duped and devastated for his disability, I know how it feels when you're in need and without any support."

Mercury Dips

across the valley stayed below the freezing point Friday night and the mercury was two to three degrees below the normal for this part of the season, the MeT officials said.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 1.5 degrees Celsius -- down from minus 1.4 degrees Celsius on Thursday night, they said.

The officials said Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 4.3 degrees Celsius. Pahalgam was the coldest recorded place in Kashmir.

Gulmarg resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district recorded a minimum temperature of minus 1.0 degrees Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 2.7 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund recorded minus 1.8 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag, in south Kashmir, registered a low of minus 1.3 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

A thick layer of fog engulfed many parts of the valley early in the morning, causing difficulties to motorists.

The MeT Office has said the fog/misty weather in the morning will continue for a few days as the weather will most likely remain dry till November 23.

Light snowfall is likely over extreme north Kashmir parts on November 24, it said.

The wintry conditions in Kashmir have set-in much ahead of the beginning of extreme harsh weather conditions which usually start around the third week of December. 'Chillai Kalan', the 40-day period of harsh winter in Kashmir, begins on December 21 every year.

Couple Arrested For

leaving one of them wounded.

They said that the incident took place after the convict argued to his own advocate which later turned into a physical assault.

"The opposite advocates with her colleague while interfering in the issue were also beaten," they alleged.

"Soon after the incident, the injured was rushed to a hospital for treatment," the officials said, adding that the accused couple have been arrested while the case has been registered in this regard. (KNO)

Police Arrests

Tedwa of Sangerwani were intercepted by a team of cops from police station Pakherpora when they were carrying illicit timber swans laden on horses, a police spokesperson said.

The accused, he said, were arrested and shifted to Police Station. Three horses used in the commission of crime have also been seized.

"Accordingly, a case FIR No. 118/2021 under relevant sections of law stands registered at Police Station Charar-i-Sharif and investigation has been taken up," the police spokesperson said.

Ladakh Logs

positive in Leh and one in Kargil, they said. No death was reported in last 24 hours from here, officials said.

Ladakh has so far registered 212 Covid-related deaths -- 154 in Leh and 58 in Kargil -- since the outbreak of the pandemic last year.

It has witnessed a spurt in the positive cases since the beginning of this month, recording four COVID-related deaths and 336 new cases with most of them being reported from Leh.

The officials said 13 Coronavirus-infected patients were discharged from a hospital in Leh and two others in Kargil, thereby taking the number of recoveries in Ladakh to 20,862 -- 97.95 percent of the virus caseload.

BAN vs PAK 2ND T20I

Pakistan Win By 8 Wickets, Clinch Series 2-0



AGENCIES

DHAKA: Pakistan beat Bangladesh by eight wickets in the second Twenty20 International to take an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series in Dhaka on Saturday.

Fakhar Zaman struck an unbeaten 57 off 51 balls as Pakistan reached 109-2 in 18.1 overs after restricting Bangladesh to 108-7 in 20 overs.

Pakistan skipper Babar Azam fell for just one in the third over, dragging a Mustafizur Rahman delivery onto his stumps.

Fakhar hit 57 off 51 balls and put on 85 runs with Mohammad Rizwan (39) for the second wicket, guiding Pakistan to 109-2 in 18.1 overs.

Najmul Hossain earlier top-scored with 40 off 34 balls for Bangladesh while Afif Hossain chipped in with 20 runs from 21 balls.

Fast bowler Shaheen Afridi finished with 2-15 for Pakistan while leg-spinner Shadab Khan grabbed 2-22.

"The series win is a team effort," said Babar. "The boys responded well as a unit and we carried forward the momentum" from the World Cup.

Bangladesh captain Mahmudullah Riyad rued their batting towards the end of their innings.

"I and Shanto (Najmul) were trying to get a partnership but we couldn't capitalise in the end overs. For a team like us, we need a set batter to be there at the end but it didn't happen today," he said.

Pakistan dominated the match right from the start after dismissing both Bangladesh openers in the first two overs.

Shaheen Afridi went for a golden duck to Saif, and Mohammad Naim fell to Mohammad Wasim for two edging to Fakhar at slip, as Bangladesh were reduced to 5-2.

Pakistan won the first match of the series by four wickets on Friday.

The third and final match will be held at the same ground on Monday.

IND vs NZ 3RD T20

Ready For Clean Sweep, Rohit's India May Try New Combinations

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

RANCHI: Captain Rohit Sharma will not waver from his ruthless approach but might try out a few of his reserve players as India aim for a clean sweep against New Zealand in the third and final T20 International, here on Sunday.

Bilateral T20I series in various parts of the globe is fast losing its context due to too many private leagues but for Indian team, after their World Cup disaster, a series win might help in partially healing the wounds.

For New Zealand, it's more about completing the assignment after a punishing schedule that will see them play five games (since T20 WC semi-final) in less than two weeks.

The inhuman scheduling means that a 0-3 defeat with-

out services of skipper Kane Williamson will bruise egos but not deflate them as results of bilaterals count very little in the long run.

Having already pocketed the series with a couple of near perfect chases on Jaipur and Ranchi belters, there couldn't have been a better venue than Eden Gardens for skipper Rohit to end the series on perfect note and also try out some of his reserve bench players.

The first series as full-time T20 captain has gone well for Rohit as he won two tosses, his bowlers put a stranglehold on Black Caps batters during end overs and then as a batter he provided great starts to set the platform.

The script has been flawless so far and before Rohit goes into the break, a 3-0 annihilation of New Zealand in 'City of Joy', where he once scored an

epic 264 in an ODI, will be like an icing on the cake.

For coach Rahul Dravid, a dominant performance like this will also help him settle the nerves into the new role before the marquee Test series against the same rivals starting in less than a week's time.

Having already won the series, Rohit and Dravid will now like to maintain a fine balance between winning and also trying out all their available resources to see how each and every individual is placed.

For New Zealand, the real struggle had been between overs 15 to 20 when their batters haven't been able to accelerate.

If India have clinched the series with ease, the reason had been below par Death Overs batting by the Kiwis and some fine bowling by Ashwin and company in back 10.

It's Been A Hectic Schedule, We Failed To Adapt: Southee

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

RANCHI: New Zealand captain Tim Southee feels the side's hectic schedule impacted its ability to adapt better to the tricky Indian conditions as the hosts took an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match T20 series.

New Zealand arrived in India less than 24 hours after losing the World Cup final to Australia.

Playing a three-match series three days after the T20 World Cup final, the Kiwis suffered their second defeat on the trot, going down to India by seven wickets in the second T20 here on Friday.

"It's been a hectic schedule on the back of the T20 World Cup, I just don't think we adapted to the surface as well as we could have," Southee said at the post-match conference.

India have also had luck on their side as new T20 skipper Rohit Sharma won both tosses and successfully chased down the totals. On Friday, the Kiwis started off in an explosive fashion going over 10 runs per over in the powerplay but they could not capitalise in the middle overs and were restricted to a modest 153/6.

Under dewy conditions, India knocked off the total with 16



balls to spare to take an unassailable 2-0 lead going into the final T20I.

"There was heavy dew throughout the whole night and it affected both sides. It's tough, you can obviously train with a wet ball but we're not able to adapt as we would have liked. Credit to the Indians they outplayed us," Southee said.

"We needed to take early wickets to put them under pressure. For trying to replicate what they did, which looked hard during our innings."

"It was tough for our spinners to get a good grip on the ball. But yeah, like I said they were just too good tonight," he said. The result meant that the Kolkata match would be a dead rubber but Southee hopes to end the series on a high before the two Tests.

"The goal is to get one last push before we get home after the next game. That's another opportunity to represent your country. So I don't think you need any extra motivation to get yourself up."

Hopefully My Last T20 Will Be In Chennai, Says Dhoni

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

played his last ODI in his home town Ranchi.

RANCHI: Cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni on Saturday said his last T20, apparently in the Indian Premier League (IPL) could be in this city, but did not specify any time frame about a possible retirement from the cash-rich tournament.

The former India captain was speaking at a felicitation function organised for CSK for winning the 2021 edition of IPL. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin presided over the function.

Dhoni said he always planned his cricket and recalled he



"Hopefully my last T20 will be in Chennai... whether next year or in five years, we don't think about it," he said.

CA Wanted To Strip Paine Of Captaincy 3 Years Ago

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SYDNEY: Chairman Richard Freudenstein on Saturday admitted Cricket Australia erred in not relieving Tim Paine of the Test captaincy when the initial investigation into his action of sending explicit messages to a female co-worker took place.

The 36-year-old stepped down as Australia's Test skipper on Friday after it emerged that he had sent unsolicited explicit image of himself along with a string of low messages to a female co-worker in 2017, months before he was made captain.

"I can't talk about the 2018 decision, I wasn't there. But I am saying based on the facts as they are today the board of Cricket Australia would not have made that decision," Freudenstein said in a joint press conference with CA CEO Nick Hockley.

"I acknowledge the decision clearly sent the wrong message that this behaviour is acceptable and without serious consequences. The role of Australian cricket captain must be held to the highest standards," he added.

The stumper was promoted as captain of the Test team following the ball-tampering scandal



in South Africa in 2018.

A Cricket Australia investigation at the time had concluded that Paine had not breached CA's code of conduct and was free to continue in the captain's role.

"The code of conduct is (now) appropriate, it's important to note a lot of things have changed since the time," Freudenstein said.

"There's programs in place that address things like sexting since the 2018 season. We have undertaken a full review of the sexual harassment education."

He will continue to be part of the Australian team.

Australia are slated to take on England in the first Ashes Test in Brisbane on December 8. Paine, who had gone under the knife to fix a bulging disc in his neck in September, has been included in the squad despite an injury cloud.

ICC Reprimands Hasan Ali, Fines Bangladesh For Slow Over-Rate

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

DHAKA: Pakistan pacer Hasan Ali was on Saturday reprimanded for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct, while Bangladesh were fined 20 per cent of their match fees for maintaining slow over-rate during the first T20I in Dhaka.

The incident occurred in the 17th over of Bangladesh's innings, when Hasan gave an inappropriate sendoff to batter Nurul Hasan after dismissing him caught behind the wicket. Hasan was found to have breached Article 2.5 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to "using language, actions or gestures which disparage or which could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batter upon his/her dismissal during an International Match."

"In addition to this, one demerit point has been added to the disciplinary record of Hasan, for whom it was the first offence in a



24-month period," the ICC said in a statement.

Bangladesh players have been fined 20 per cent of their match fees for maintaining slow over-rate in the match as they were ruled to be one over short of the target after time allowances were taken into consideration.

"In accordance with Article 2.22 of the ICC Code of Conduct for Players and Player Support Personnel, which relates to minimum over-rate offences, players are fined 20 per cent of their match fees for every over their side fails to bowl in the allotted time," the ICC said.

Xavi Tells Barcelona Players To Make Fans Proud

AGENCIES

BARCELONA: For midfielder-turned-coach Xavi Hernandez, the trick to getting Barcelona back on the winning path is not signing better players or the tactical tweaks he is sure to make.

The key for Xavi is the old-school values that he grew up with as a youth at the La Masia training academy.

"I am going to put my life into this job for this to work," Xavi said Friday, a day before his Barcelona coaching debut in a derby against Espanyol at Camp Nou.

"I am going to transmit to my players that we are Barca and that means we have to give more than just 100% every minute, every second so that this can work. We owe a lot to so many people, and we can't let them down, at least not in our values of showing the right attitude, making an effort and accepting sacrifice."

"Later, the results will depend on our opponents and aspects of the game, but... we have to make our fans proud of us, even when we fail to win." The 41-year-old Xavi was hired before the international break two weeks ago to replace the fired Ronald Koeman.

After Espanyol, Barcelona faces a critical Champions League game against Benfica on Tuesday.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM, KASHMIR Tel:0194-2315378, Fax 0194-2479548, e-mail: ddtreg123@gmail.com.

Sub:- Application for transfer of registration certificate of Hotel "Wig-Wam" located at Aramwari, Zero Bridge, Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Mst. Taja wife of late Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Zero Bridge, Raj Bagh, Srinagar has approached this office for transfer of registration certificate of Hotel under the name and style "Wig-Wam" located at Aramwari, Zero Bridge, Srinagar;

Whereas, the Hotel is presently registered in the names of Ghulam Mohammad Dar S/o Mr. Mohammad Ramzan Dar R/o Aramwari, Zero Bridge, Srinagar with this Department since 2007 vide Registration No. Reg/2023/DT/44/L3 dated 27.02.2007 with 19 rooms and the registration certificate is renewed upto 31.03.2021;

Whereas, the registration certificate holder has passed away leaving behind following legal heirs, as per legal heir certificate issued by Tehsildar South, Srinagar vide No. 173/TDD/MM/LH/21 dated 8.11.2021:-

1. Mst. Taja - wife
2. Mehbooba - daughter
3. Mohammad Mehrjod Din - son
4. Bilkees - Daughter
5. Tasleema - Tasleema
6. Tanveer Ahmad Dar - Son
7. Saim Jan Dar - Son

Whereas, the applicant has submitted all the requisite documents including Affidavit sworn by the above legal heirs in favour of applicant, before 2nd Additional Muncif, Judicial Magistrate 1st Class Srinagar, Registration Certificate in Original, Land Ownership Documents, Character Certificate of applicant, PAN Cards, Aadhar Cards, Domicile Certificates and general affidavit, for transfer of registration certificate of the said hotel in her favour;

Whereas, transfer of registration certificate for the guest house is purely for purpose of running operation management of the said guest house and does not confer any right of ownership of the guest house upon the transferees;

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 39 of J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011/2012, before changes are made in the registration records of this Department in respect of transfer of registration certificate of the above named hotel from Ghulam Mohammad Dar S/o Mr. Mohammad Ramzan Dar R/o Aramwari, Zero Bridge, Srinagar in favour of Mst. Taja wife of late Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o Zero Bridge, Raj Bagh, Srinagar, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/Financial Institutions/ Banks/ Development Authorities/ PHE Department/ Electric Department that in case of any objection/s, the same should reach the office of undersigned within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections beyond a period of 07 days will be entertained and the request of the applicants will be considered under rules, after submission of requisite documents and norms.

No: Reg/H-25/442/DTK
Dated: 20.11.2021
DIPK-13108-50

Sd/-
Deputy Director Tourism,
Registration

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER IRRIGATION DIVISION OMPORA BUDGAM E-NIT No. 32 OF 11/2021

For and on behalf of the LT. Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir e-tenders on item rate basis are invited from approved and eligible contractors Registered with Union Territory of J&K Govt.

S. No	Name of work	Estt. Cost of work amount in lacs	Time of completion	Class of contract	Cost of tender document	Head of account
1	Improvements to head regulatory structure of Lad Shanger Khul by way of construction of structural steel canopy/Gozibo at Banderpora. Amount of work Rs. 4.76 lacs (including deptt. Supply)	4.76	10 Days	DEE	500	NABARD
7	Construction of RCC flume and channel on Labdora minor of Lad Shanger Khul at Mungpary. Amount of work Rs. 13.63 lacs (Including deptt. Supply)	13.63	15 Days	BEE/CEE/DEE	1200	NABARD
3	Renovation of Accounts Section of Divisional office Ompora by way of construction of Cabins and allied works. Amount of work Rs. 1.29 lacs	1.29	10 Days	DEE	200	NABARD
4	Construction of MS foot bridge and lining wall on left side of Shumnag Khul at Tawlatpora Dadaopora. Amount of work. 0.96 lacs (Including deptt supply) Fresh of Enit No.29 of 10/2021.	0.96	07 Days	DEE	200	M&R

No of works Advertised:- 04 (Four).

Position of Funds (Budgetary provision).

Position of Technical Sanction Accorded .

Position of Administrative Approval for sr. 1 to 3 is accorded and sr. 4 is under Process.

1. The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria specifications, Bill of quantities, set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen /downloaded from departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in

1	Publishing date	19-11-2021 (9 AM)
2	Download date start	19-11-2021 (9 AM)
3	Bid submission date starts	19-11-2021 (9 AM)
4	Bid submission date ends	27-11-2021 upto (4 PM)
5	Bid Opening date	29-11-2021 at (11 AM)

The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-

1. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in from 19/11/2021 to 27/11/2021 up to 1600 hrs. The Bids will be opened on 29/11/2021 at 11:00 AM. Online documents can be seen and downloaded from the website.

- i) The complete bidding process will be online.
- ii) Technical bids of bidder shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation Division Ompora Budgam.
2. Bid document contains qualifying criteria for bidder, specification, conditions and other details.
3. Any item /items not included in the rate list but found necessary during the execution of work shall be paid as per the rates of J&K SSR 2020.
4. Any omission /Typographic error shall be read as per the J&K SSR 2020, and as per the corrigendum / errata issued to J&K SSR 2020 in vogue.
5. The rates should be strictly quoted as per the unit advertised in the rate list.
6. The contractors shall inspect & examine the site, and shall satisfy himself about the location of the site, its approaches and nature of the ground and sub soil before uploading the bids/submission of tender.
7. If the contractor fails to complete the work within the stipulated time period, the penalty of RS.0.01% of the allotted cost of work shall be imposed upon the Contractor recurring on daily basis. In addition to penalty prescribed in agreement form 25/26 double.
8. During the execution of work, department reserves the right to vary the quantity provided in the contract.
9. Tender drawings furnished with the tender document shall not be deemed as working drawings. These may vary from the actual working drawing.
10. The contractors shall carry out the various mandatory tests as per specification (e.g the crushing strength of concrete i.e. cube tests, gradation test for aggregate, slump test etc) as directed by Engineer In-charge. All testing charges/expenses etc shall be borne by the contractor.
11. The concrete mix shall be designed as per revised BIS (IS: 10262 of 2009) and concreting shall be strictly done as per the mix design by the contractor.
12. All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department vide No. A/Misc(2018)-III-895/J dated 22-12-2020 (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
13. The 1st Lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work

Bidders must ensure to upload their bids in Single cover:

13. The intending tenderers must ensure to upload the following necessary documents/ certificates with the online tender otherwise on line tender will not be accepted / opened.
 - i) copy of valid registration card, Pan, & latest GST return and Declaration Certificate with seal and signature with the bid.
 - ii) The cost of tender document fee should be deposit in treasuries under MH-0702 in favour of Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Ompora and the necessary treasury Challan must be uploaded online. (Name of work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan/receipt).
 - iii) The tenderer whose tender is declared 1st lowest after opening of the price bid, the hard copy, of all uploaded online shall have to be produced in original in the divisional office within seven days. In case of non-submission of the hard copy of requisite documents as mentioned, in the NIT the tender shall be rejected and the offered rates of the 2nd lowest tenderer shall be considered at the risk and cost of the lowest tenderer.
14. a) The tenderer should quote his rate in such a way that the total amount of work amounts without any fractional amount.
b) Other terms and conditions shall be same as laid down in detailed tender document of the work and form of contract (Agreement form-25).
15. The Quantities given in the estimate shall be Subject to change as per the design within the allotted cost.
16. Un-balanced tender shall be rejected without assigning any reason.

DIPK-13061/21

Executive Engineer
Irrigation Division
Ompora Budgam

India Will Give Fitting Reply If Any Country Tries To Occupy Its Land: Rajnath Singh

Press Trust of India

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said India wants good relations with its neighbours but warned that it will give a fitting reply to any country that attempts to occupy even an inch of its land.

Singh, a senior BJP leader, was in poll-bound Uttarakhand to launch the second leg of the 'Shaheed Samman Yatra' from Jhaukhet Moonakot in Pithoragarh district.

"We want good ties with our neighbours. India has never attacked any country. Neither has it ever occupied a foreign territory. Having good ties with neighbours has been India's culture but some people don't understand this. I don't know whether it is their habit or temperament," he said.

Naming Pakistan, Singh said it keeps trying to destabilise India through terrorist activities and a stern message has already been given to it.

naming China.

Singh said he must make it clear that if there is an attempt by any country in the world to "occupy even an inch of our land, India will give a fitting reply to it".

Noting that everyone was aware of India's defining victory in 1971, Singh warned India's neighbours of not living under any delusion.

The defence minister said there was an attempt to create misapprehensions in Nepal about a road from Lipulekh Pass to Mansarovar through Dharchula that was inaugurated by him recently.

"But it has failed to affect our close cultural ties with Nepal," he said.

Conferring Nepal Army Chief General Prabhuram Sharma with the honorary rank of Indian Army Chief recently is a reassertion of India's close cultural ties with Nepal, Singh said.

Launching the second leg of the 'Shaheed Samman Yatra', Singh said the state government should ensure that names of martyrs and

Crucial Farmer Unions' Meet On Sunday To Decide On Agitation Course; MSP Issue In Focus Now



Agenceis

NEW DELHI: After its decision to repeal the three agri laws, the Centre is now facing pressure from agitating farmer unions and opposition parties to bring in a legislation guaranteeing Minimum Support Price, with ruling BJP MP Varun Gandhi also joining the chorus on Saturday saying the stir won't end till this issue is resolved.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella body of the agitating unions, is meeting on Sunday to decide on the next course of action, including on the MSP issue and the proposed daily tractor march to Parliament during the upcoming Winter Session, SKM core committee member Darshan Pal said.

Farmer leaders said the protesters will stay put at border areas of Delhi until the Centre formally repeals these laws in Parliament after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's surprise announcement on Friday and indicated their stir for a statutory guarantee of MSP and withdrawal of the Electricity Amendment

Bill will continue.

"Our call of tractor march to Parliament still stands. A final decision on the future course of the agitation and MSP issue will be taken in a meeting of the SKM at Singhu Border on Sunday," Darshan Pal told PTI on Saturday.

The SKM said its scheduled programmes would continue and urged farmers to gather in large numbers at all protest sites on the first anniversary of the agitation against the legislations on November 26.

The SKM has welcomed the prime minister's decision but said it will wait for the announcement to take effect through due parliamentary procedures.

In a statement, the SKM, an umbrella body of 40 farmers' unions, said the struggle will continue to get all demands of the protesting farmers fulfilled and all announced plans are underway.

"SKM appeals to farmers in various North Indian states to reach the different morcha sites on November 26, 2021, which marks the completion of a full one year of continuous peaceful protests at Delhi's borders," the statement said.

Thousands of farmers,

particularly those from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh, have been protesting at the borders of the national capital since November 26 last year demanding repeal of the three farm laws.

While the opposition needed and mocked the government after it agreed to rollback the farm laws, BJP MP Varun Gandhi, who had deviated from the party line to speak out in favour of the protesters, wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to accept the farmers' demand for a statutory MSP guarantee.

The MP from Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh said if the decision to repeal farm had been taken earlier, "innocent lives would not have been lost".

"This movement will not end without the resolution of this (MSP) demand and there will be widespread anger amongst them, which will continue to emerge in one form or the other. Therefore, it is very important for the farmers to get the statutory guarantee of MSP for their crops," he wrote and also demanded that Rs 1 crore compensation be given to farmers "martyred" in the movement against the laws.

Baby Is Born To Both Parents, Even After Divorce Father Can Meet Child: Karnataka HC

Agenceis

The Karnataka High Court has told the mother, who has been refusing her divorced husband to meet their child, that she should allow the child to meet his father.

"The parents would have got divorced. But, the child is born to both of them. When this is the case, why are you preventing them from meeting, let them meet," the court told the mother on Friday.

The court further said that 'children of present age would be so intelligent that they will have the capacity to advise parents'.

The divisional bench headed by Justice B. Veerappa, while looking into the petition of a divorced husband settled in Chennai, pleading for directions from the court to his separated wife to allow him to meet their 12-year-old son.

The counsel for father brought to the notice of the court that

the mother was not allowing his petitioner to meet the child. The counsel appearing for the mother stated that the boy is studying in SSLC (Class 10). The midterm examinations would begin from the last week of this month. If he allowed the meeting father, his studies would get affected.

The bench did not agree with the argument and remarked that the children of present age are more mature and there is no scope for your fears. The bench further ordered that the child could spend half of his winter and summer holidays with his father.

The counsel for the mother objected to this and pleaded not to pass this order as the father is married and he has a male baby out of wedlock.

The bench directed the counsel to bring the son to the court on November 24. "Let us see what the child has to say regarding meeting his father at our office," the bench stated and adjourned the matter.

No Positive Evidence To Show Aryan Khan Conspired To Commit Drug-Related Offences: HC

Agenceis

MUMBAI: The Bombay High Court, in its detailed order granting bail to actor Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan and two others in the drugs-on-cruise case, has said that prima facie it has not found any positive evidence against the accused to show that they had conspired to commit an offence.

A single bench of Justice N W Sambre had on October 28 granted bail to Aryan Khan, his friend Arbaaz Merchant and a fashion model Mummun Dhamecha in the case on a personal bond of Rs one lakh each. A detailed copy of the order was made available on Saturday.

The court said that perusal of the WhatsApp chats extracted from the phone of Aryan Khan shows that nothing

objectionable was noticed to suggest that he, Merchant and Dhamecha along with other accused in the case have hatched a conspiracy of committing the offence in question.

It also held that the confessional statement of Aryan Khan recorded by the NCB under section 67 of the NDPS Act can be considered only for investigation purposes and cannot be used as a tool for drawing an inference that the accused have committed an offence under the NDPS Act.

"There is hardly any positive evidence on record to convince this court that all the accused persons with common intention agreed to commit unlawful acts," the court said while rejecting the Narcotics Control Bureau's (NCB) argument that the case of all the accused ought to be considered together.



"We have given a clear message to our neighbour on the western border that if it crosses its limits, we will just not retaliate on the borders but can even cross over into its territory and do surgical and airstrikes," he said.

"We have one more neighbour (which does not seem to understand things)," the defence minister said without

the names of their villages should be inscribed on the Sainya Dham being built in Dehradun as a memorial tribute to them.

Soil from homes of 1,734 martyrs' families in Uttarakhand are being collected in urns to be brought to Dehradun and used in the construction of the Sainya Dham, a vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. PTI

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