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Quote!
Poetry is what happens
when nothing else can
—Charles Bukowski

NEWS DIGEST

Pck Teen Booked For Crossing LoC
SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police have registered a case of illegal entry into this side of the fence against a teenage boy from Pakistan controlled Kashmir (Pck) who was detained by Army four days ago along [More on P10](#)

Bush Fire Rages On Along LoC
SRINAGAR: A portion of area near Line of Control in Lanjote, Balakote in Mendhar sub-division has been engulfed by fire which spread in a bushy patch in this region on Monday. Official sources said that the fire which broke [More on P10](#)

Fire Damages Many Shops In Uri
SRINAGAR: Several shops on Monday were damaged in a fire incident in Boniyar market in the Uri town of Baramulla district. Reports said that several shops suffered damage when fire broke out in Boniyar market on Monday evening. The fire [More on P10](#)

Ladakh Logs 34 New Covid Cases
LEH: With 34 new coronavirus infections, the total tally of covid cases in Ladakh surged to 21,528, out of which 21,047 people have recuperated from the disease, while the active cases surged to 268, officials said. All the 34 new corona cases were reported in Leh, they said, adding [More on P10](#)

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Pandemonium in Parliament, Opposition Members Suspended Bill To Scrap Farm Laws Passed Sans Debate



UN Envoy Welcomes GOI Decision
A top UN human rights expert has welcomed the Indian government's decision to repeal the three controversial farm laws, expressing hope that any subsequent action on reforming the agriculture sector will be informed by the country's human rights commitments and taken through meaningful consultations with farmers, communities and unions. What was at stake with these laws was the stability of India's entire food system. Let's hope that subsequent actions on reforming Indian [More on P10](#)

Press Trust Of India
NEW DELHI: Parliament passed a bill to repeal the three agri laws, which had triggered an agitation by farmer unions, on the first day of the Winter

Session on Monday with Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha approving it without any debate within minutes of taking it up amid protests by opposition members who were demanding a discussion. [More on P10](#)



NC MPs Protest, Seek Reversal Of Aug 5 Move
Three Lok Sabha members of the National Conference staged a sit-in outside Parliament here on Monday, demanding revocation of decisions taken on August 5, 2019 when Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into Union territories and its special status under Article 370 of the Constitution revoked. NC president and MP Farooq Abdullah led the protest in front of the Gandhi Statue in Parliament lawns and also demanded a judicial probe into the recent encounters in Srinagar's Hyderpora and Rambagh. [More on P10](#)

Omar Slams Cong Silence On Art-370 Restoration



Statehood After Selective Killings End: BJP
The Jammu and Kashmir unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party on Monday said that the union territory's statehood will be restored once the selective killings end and the common people are able to move freely here. The BJP is concerned over the selective killings in Kashmir as its activists were targeted, BJP general secretary, organisation, Ashok Koul told reporters in north Kashmir's Baniptora. In these selective killings, [More on P10](#)

Press Trust Of India
JAMMU: Slamming the Congress for its silence, National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Monday said his party will single-handedly continue its fight for the restoration of Article 370, if the grand old party is [More on P10](#)

IF ARTICLE 370 IS OUR HERITAGE, it is also your party's legacy more than ours. It was first prime minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru of the Congress who brought Article 370 and today Congressmen are not willing to safeguard their legacy."

WAR AGAINST OMICRON Govt Orders Universal Testing Of Foreigners Visiting J&K

Observer News Service
JAMMU: Amid the looming threat of new coronavirus variant Omicron, the Jammu and Kashmir government on Monday directed district administrations of Budgam and Srinagar to establish quarantine centres while the Health Department has been directed to establish genome sequencing facilities at Government Medical Colleges in Srinagar and Jammu to fast-track the detection of the new variant and other mutations. These directions were passed by the Chief Secretary; Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta on Monday while chairing a meeting of the COVID Task Force to review the public

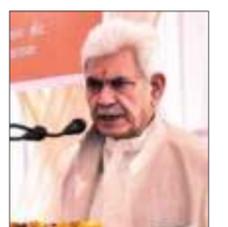
health response to COVID-19, an official spokesperson said. Mehta, he said, asked the divisional and district administrations to ensure universal testing of all foreign travellers to Jammu and Kashmir in the light of the emergence of new COVID variant Omicron. In the meeting, he said, it was informed that the Central Government has issued guidelines for detecting cases of COVID variant Omicron from countries declared at risk. "The Chief Secretary underscored the need to adhere to the laid down guidelines and test all the incoming foreign travellers through international flights. As per the guidelines, the negative travellers will [More on P10](#)

Health Dept Alerts Airport Officials
The health department on Monday asked the authorities at the Srinagar International Airport to implement the new guidelines issued by the government for international travellers arriving in the country, including Jammu and Kashmir. According to an official spokesperson, Director [More on P10](#)

J&K Logs 150 New Corona Cases
Coronavirus claimed the life of one more person in Jammu and Kashmir on Monday while 150 fresh cases of infection were reported from the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. According to officials, one more person succumbed to the deadly infection in [More on P10](#)

Govt Working For All, Not Select Few: LG

Observer News Service
JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said the administration is working for the welfare of all people of the union territory, and not just a select few. Sinha was speaking to reporters after laying the foundation stone of a 'Yatri Niwas' (accommodation for pilgrims) ahead of the Amarnath Yatra in Majeen area on the outskirts of Jammu. Asked about National Conference leader and former chief minister Omar Abdullah's remarks that the security situation is bad since the abrogation of Article 370 and that the



militants have not come from outside but the disillusioned local youths are picking up guns, Sinha said, "I do not want to react to this." He said that the administration is not working for just a few people but for the entire population of Jammu and Kashmir. [More on P10](#)

Lays Foundation Of Yatri Niwas
Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday laid the foundation stone for the Tirth Yatri Niwas & Disaster Management Centre of Amarnath Shrine Board at Majeen, near IMPARD here. "With the foundation of the Yatri Niwas, we have fulfilled a long pending demand of all stakeholders; organizations associated with Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra, devotees from across the country and abroad," Sinha said, as per an official spokesperson. [More on P10](#)

Non-Local Held With Pistol In Bijbehara



Agencies
SRINAGAR: Police on Monday arrested a non-local along with pistol and a Magazine in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district. A senior Police officer said that they apprehended a person identifying him as Parvaiz Salmani son of Shameem Salmani a resident of Fareedpur Maan Bijnoor at present residing in Goriwan Bijbehara, according to news agency GNS. The police officer further said that one pistol along with a Magazine was recovered from his possession at Saloon Shop located at Gorwan Bijbehara. An investigation [More on P10](#)

Widespread Snowfall Forecast Between Dec 5-7

Observer News Service
SRINAGAR: The weather department on Monday predicted widespread rain and snowfall in Jammu and Kashmir between December 5 and 7 that could possibly disrupt traffic on highways. An official of the Meteorological Department (MeT) said that a western disturbance (WD) is most likely to affect J&K during December 5-7 due to which widespread light to moderate snowfall and rain in plains is expected. "Some places on higher reaches (above 2000m) may receive heavy snow (1-2 ft) whereas plains are likely to receive 2-3 inches of snow," he said. "There is possibility of disruption of traffic over passes like

Zojila, Sinthan Top, Razdan Top and Mughal Road due to snowfall and freezing temperatures," he added. A WD is an extra tropical storm in the Mediterranean Sea that causes widespread rain and snowfall in India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. J&K and Ladakh have been reeling under cold wave conditions during the last few days. Any precipitation in the coming days is likely to break the existing cold spell. Meanwhile, the minimum temperature at most places in Kashmir valley settled several degrees below the freezing point, officials said. Srinagar recorded a low of minus 1.1 degrees Celsius on Sunday night, down from minus 0.2 degrees Celsius [More on P10](#)

17% Rise In Anaemia Among People In J&K: NFHS Survey Highest Spike In Anaemia Reported Among Children Aged 6-59 Months

Zaid Bin Shabir
SRINAGAR: The fifth and latest round of the National Family Health Survey (NFHS) has flagged a worrying increase in the percentage of anaemia across age groups, particularly among children and women in the erstwhile state of J&K as the percentage of anaemic patients worsened in the past half a decade. Several of J&K's nutritional indicators have worsened since the fourth round of the NFHS, which was held in 2015-16. But the erstwhile state has hit a major demographic milestone when the percentage of anaemia in J&K increased to an average of 17 percent in all the age groups, according to the latest survey conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family



Welfare between 2019 and 2021. The data in NFHS 2019-21, the fifth in the series, show that among all age groups, the highest spike in anaemia was reported among children aged 6-59 months where the anaemia percentage was recorded at 27.7 percent in NFHS-5 report from 53.8 percent in NFHS-4, 2015-16 report. The data show that the number was higher in rural J&K where the rate stood at 73.5 per cent compared to urban J&K where the rate was recorded at 70.1 percent. This is followed by anaemia in females aged 15-19 years where the percentage has increased to a gruelling 65.9 percent in NFHS-5 from 48.9 percent in the NFHS-4 report. In this group, too, the number was higher in rural areas where the percentage stood at 67.5 percent compared to urban J&K where, as per NFHS, the rate was 61.4 percent. In the 15-49 years category for females, the anaemia in NFHS-5 was recorded at 65.9 percent which has increased by at least 17 percent from NFHS-4 when the percentage was recorded at 48.9 percent. These figures were placed according to the findings of phase two of the National Family

Health Survey (NFHS-5). The Government of India on November 24 released the fact-sheets of key indicators on population, reproductive and child health, family welfare, nutrition and others for India including J&K, clubbed under phase two of the 2019-21 NFHS-5. Among pregnant women aged 15-49 years, 44.1 per cent were found to be anaemic compared to 46.9 per cent in the previous survey. But in this group, there was no stark difference between urban J&K (44.1 percent) and rural J&K (44.1 percent). The prevalence of anaemia among men, the survey showed, was significantly lower compared to other groups. For NFHS-5, men between the ages of 15-49 years were recorded at 36.7 percent [More on P10](#)



از نیابت قلم آباد
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب جمال الدین گوجر کھٹانہ ولد نیاز محمد گوجر کھٹانہ ساکنہ
ہینڈی برادری سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیکاروائی ہے اس سلسلے میں ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام
سے رپورٹ شمولہ ریکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل منجانب ہینڈی برادری ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام
ہے اور کتبہ بذیل فرد پر مشتمل ہے سٹریٹ
اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کرے معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول
نہیں ہوگا
RNA

از نیابت قلم آباد
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب عالم الدین گوجر کھٹانہ ولد سردار گوجر کھٹانہ ساکنہ
ہینڈی برادری سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ
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از نیابت قلم آباد
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب بابا محمد گوجر کھٹانہ ولد سردار گوجر کھٹانہ ساکنہ
ہینڈی برادری سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیکاروائی ہے اس سلسلے میں ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام
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ہے اور کتبہ بذیل فرد پر مشتمل ہے سٹریٹ
اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کرے معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول
نہیں ہوگا
RNA

از نیابت قلم آباد
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب محمد عبداللہ گوجر چنگی ولد جسال محمد گوجر چنگی ساکنہ
ہینڈی برادری سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ سٹریٹ
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر ہذا میں زیکاروائی ہے اس سلسلے میں ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام
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اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کرے معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول
نہیں ہوگا
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ہر خاص و عام مطلع رہیے۔۔۔
منظہر شوالہ ولد غلام محمد بٹ ساکنہ میر پورہ نگر عوام الناس کو مطلع کرتا ہوں
کہ میرا بیٹا گلزار احمد بٹ نافرمان ثابت ہوا ہے کیونکہ مذکورہ لوگوں سے میرے
اثر سوخ کے بنیاد پر قرضہ کے عریض میں اڈا سے اور قرضہ سائل کو تنگ
طلب کرتے ہیں۔ چونکہ سائل کو نگر بازار میں دوکان ہے جس کا سہارا لیکر
گلزار احمد لوگوں کو بیوقوف بنا کر تنگ لیتا ہے اب میں بڑا بڑا اشتہار ہر خاص
و عام کو مطلع کرتا ہوں کہ جو کوئی بھی گلزار احمد کے ساتھ کسی قسم کا لین دین
کرے گا تو اس کا زمدار گلزار احمد خود ہوگا یا لین دین کرنے والا اور اسے احسا
دینے والا خود زمدار ہوگا سائل گلزار احمد کو اپنی تمام منقولہ وغیر منقولہ جائیداد سے
بے دخل کرتا ہوں میں تمام لوگوں سے گزارش کرتا ہوں کہ کوئی بھی شخص فریاد
لیکھ کر میرے گھر یا دوکان پر آنے کی زحمت نہ اٹھائے کیونکہ میرا میرے بیٹے کے
ساتھ کوئی تعلق نہیں ہے۔۔۔
L TNG

از نیابت ہر دوشوہ
مضمون کاغذات درخواست منجانب عبدالماجد راتھ ولد عبدالعزیز راتھ ساکنہ
ہر دوشوہ بابت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق دکنہ زینب ماجد
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سائل نسبت حصول تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکیٹ بحق دکنہ زینب ماجد
نسب ماجد 2017-3-23 زیکاروائی ہے۔ اس نسبت ہر خاص و عام کو بذیل اشتہار مطاع کیا جاتا ہے
اگر کسی شخص کوئی نذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا نذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کرے معیار گزرنے
بعد کوئی بھی نذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا
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از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو چیئر مین دی جی ایل ساگام
درخواست منجانب: منظور احمد ولد عبدالرحمان عظمیٰ جان میران احمد ساکنہ دوٹھ
پورہ
بعض حصول SC سرٹیفکیٹ۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بعض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ
دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو زیکاروائی ہے۔ ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس
سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کتبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔
نمبر شمار نام و ولدیت عمر پیشہ آمدنی
1 نذیر احمد ولد اسحاق گوجر کھٹانہ 62 سال مزدوری
2 میوہ جان زینب نذیر احمد 58 سال گھریلو کام
3 شہیر احمد پرن نذیر احمد 22 سال مزدوری
4 بلال احمد پرن نذیر احمد 19 سال زین تعلیم
نجمہ جان زینب شہیر احمد 20 سال گھریلو کام
اس طور پر سائل کا کتبہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص
کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا
اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو چیئر مین دی جی ایل ساگام
درخواست منجانب: محمود ولد اسماعیل کاسل ساکنہ چولگام (شانانارز)
بعض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بعض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ
دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو زیکاروائی ہے۔ ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس
سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کتبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔
نمبر شمار نام و ولدیت عمر پیشہ آمدنی
1 محمود اسماعیل کاسل 60 سال مزدوری
2 رخصت زینب محمود کاسل 55 سال گھریلو کام
3 مشتاق احمد ولد محمود کاسل 27 سال مزدوری
4 ربینہ زینب مشتاق 25 سال گھریلو کام
5 انور ولد محمود کاسل 14 سال زین تعلیم
اس طور پر سائل کا کتبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص
کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا
اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو چیئر مین دی جی ایل ساگام
درخواست منجانب: وسیم اسحاق میر ولد محمد اسحاق میر ساکنہ دوٹھ
پورہ
بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا RBA سرٹیفکیٹ۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا
سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو زیکاروائی ہے۔ ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی
جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کتبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔
نمبر شمار نام و ولدیت پیشہ آمدنی
1 جمشاد احمد ولد بلقیث میر سرکاری ملازم LPC
2 حیدر زینب محمد اسحاق گھریلو کام
3 وسیم اسحاق ولد محمد اسحاق زین تعلیم
4 بلقیث اسحاق دفتر محمد اسحاق میر زین تعلیم
5 تسکین اسحاق دفتر محمد اسحاق میر زین تعلیم
سائل کا کتبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی اعتراض
ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔
معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

Gh Nabi Bhat Is No More
Chahrum On Dec. 1, 2021
Gh. Nabi Bhat (Retired Tehsil Supplies Officer, Food and Supplies Department, Srinagar) son of late Mohamad Sidiq Bhat, Resident of Ganderpora Eidgh, Srinagar at present Nai Sadak Basant Bagh, Srinagar (C/O Hotel Royal Velvet) has, after a brief illness, passed away on November 28, 2021. His Chahrum and congregational Fateh Khawani will be held on December 1, 2021 at 10.30 AM at his ancestral graveyard Faqeer Marguzar Waniyar Safakadal, Srinagar.
Sahbir Nabi Bhat. 9797555545
Arshid Ahmad Bhat 7051004040 inf

Public Notice
I have bouth a vehicle, Xuv 500 , bearing Regd No: DL-6CM1561, Model 2012 From one Tariq Ahmad Dar S/o Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o 625, 2nd Floor Zakir Nagar Okhla South DL, 10025. Now I want it to be registered on my name, Abid Fayaz Mohammad S/o Ghulam Mohammad Bhat R/O Umer Abad Colony Amargarh Sopore, Baramulla, Cell: 7006313474. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the ARTO Office Sopore Baramulla within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Seller Buyer
ya

University of Kashmir, Srinagar
Notice
The candidate whose particulars are given below has reported to the University that he / she has lost his/her University Certificate/s and has applied for issuance of duplicate certificate/s:
Name: Showquat Ahmad najar
Gh mohd najar
Rlo fresthar kreeri
Registration no 35732-sp_2011
Certificate/lost 2nd year
Roll no 17806518
Session/year 2018 Jan
Before University will consider issuance of Duplicate Certificate/s in favour of the candidate, any person having any objection shall report to the undersigned within one week from the date of issuance of this notice. The original certificate/s issued to the candidate be treated as cancelled
No: F(Duplicate/ 2nd year) KU) 21
Assistant Controller of Examinations (PG/UG/Prof) dated 23-11-2021
ajj

PUBLIC NOTICE
I have a Pnb Metlife policy under policy no.22584690 In the name of VILZAR AHMAD MAILK S/O.AB HAMEED MALIK but may correct name is IMTIYAZ AHMAD MAILK S/O.AB HAMID MALIK now I want to correct it if anybody have objection may contact Pnb Metlife office Anantnag within 7 days after that no objection will be entertained
IMTIYAZ AHMAD MAILK S/O.AB HAMID MALIK RNA
R/O.T B SHAH HARNAGH ANANTNAG

PUBLIC NOTICE
I have lost the Fitness of my Vehicle Bearing Regd No:-JK03H-8640. 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. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Name:- Nasir Ahmad Bhat RNA
S/o:-Mohd Akram Bhat
R/O:-KP Road Badaran Aishmuqam Anantnag

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام
درخواست منجانب: سید احمد زار ولد رضوان نبی ڈار پیران غلام نبی ڈار ساکنہ دوٹھ
پورہ
بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا RBA سرٹیفکیٹ۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا
سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو زیکاروائی ہے۔ ہنڈی ہر خاص و عام سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی
جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل کا کتبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔
نمبر شمار نام و ولدیت پیشہ آمدنی
1 غلام نبی ڈار ولد محمد شہبان ڈار
2 دلشاد زینب غلام نبی ڈار
3 سید احمد ولد غلام نبی ڈار
4 رضوان نبی ولد غلام نبی ڈار
سائل کا کتبہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی
اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش
کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

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درخواست منجانب: وسیم اسحاق میر ولد محمد اسحاق میر ساکنہ دوٹھ
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معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
GREEN VALLEY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE,
JADIPORA -KULGAM.
List of Managing body Date/30/11/2021

S.No	Name	Designation	Qualification	Occupation	Residence
1	Ab Rehman Seh	Chairman	10+2	Retired Govt employee	Jadipora
2	Ayaz Ahmad teeli	Secretary	M.A/ B.ED	Private Job	Kharpora Srunndoo
3	Ab Aziz Dar	Member	Matric	Retired Govt Employee	Kulpora
4	Sayar Ahmad Bhat	Member/Parent	BA/B.ED	Private Job	Kulpora
5	Najeeb Ul isalm	Member/parent	M.A	Private Job	Kulpora

If any body having any objection against above mentioned persons he/ she can submit objection Report in the office of the Desk with in seven days from the date of publication of this notice.no objection will be entertained after date of expiry
RNA SD/Chairman

از نیابت وند یوگام با اجلاس سعید فیاض احمد نایب تحصیلدار وند یوگام
درخواست منجانب: سید احمد زار ولد رضوان نبی ڈار پیران غلام نبی ڈار ساکنہ دوٹھ
پورہ
بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا RBA سرٹیفکیٹ۔
اشتہار برادری گاہی ہر خاص و عام۔
معاملاً مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بعض حصول بیگ وارڈ اریا
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2 دلشاد زینب غلام نبی ڈار
3 سید احمد ولد غلام نبی ڈار
4 رضوان نبی ولد غلام نبی ڈار
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کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
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کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
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کرے۔ معیار گزرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔
RNA

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN,
GREEN VALLEY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE,
JADIPORA -KULGAM.
FEE STRUCTURE FOR THE SESSION 2022 (NOV-21 TO OCT -22)

S.NO	CLASS	TUITION FEE
01	8th	550
02	7th	550
03	6th	500
04	5th	480
05	4th	470
06	3rd	460
07	2nd	450
08	1st	450
09	L.K.G	430
10	L.K.G	400
11	Nursery	400

RNA

Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir (UT)
Office of the District
Sheep Husbandry Officer Budgam
Email:- budgamdsho@gmail.com Tel.-01951-255229
NOTIFICATION SHD BUDGAM
Subject: Establishment of Sheep shearing units under Integrated Sheep Development Scheme, subsidy mode 2021-22.
1. Whereas in response to this Office Notification No: DSHOB/Tech/Units/2021-22/1237-56, Dated: 14/07/2021, 159 applications were received for availing benefit under Integrated Sheep Development Scheme, Shearing Units (subsidy mode).
2. Whereas in accordance to the target fixed, 9 applicants were selected through "draw of lots held on 11/08/2021 in presence of designated "District level selection committee and further 23 applicants kept in waiting list generated on spot.
3. Whereas only one beneficiary from the selected list came forward to avail the benefit and others gave undertaking to the effect that they don't want to avail the benefit.
4. Whereas waiting list was operationalised vide this office Nos 1) DSHOB/Tech/2021-22/2721-23, Dated:30/10/2021 and 2) DSHOB/Tech/Units/2021-22/2828-30, Dated: 05/11/2021.
5. Whereas only 2 beneficiaries from the waiting list came forward to avail the benefit till date and most of the others gave undertaking to the effect that they don't want to avail the benefit.
6. Whereas strict instructions have been issued from Director SHD Kashmir for speedy utilisation of funds already released vide No. DSHK/Tech/2021-22/Meeting/10705-10739, Dated: 18/10/2021.
7. Whereas directions have been issued from District administration vide No. DDCB/Circular/10576-605, Dated: 20/11/2021 following instructions from finance department and fixing of ceiling for expenditure during last quarter of financial year 2021-22
Now in order to avoid the delay in establishment of units and/or lapse of funds, it is notified for the information of all those applicants who had applied for shearing units in response to this office notification No: DSHOB/Tech/Units/2021-22/1237-56, Dated: 14/07/2021 (applicants who could not be selected through 'draw of lots' and not falling in the waiting list) that they shall approach the concerned Sheep Development Block Offices, get the required "techno-feasibility" from concerned 'Veterinary Assistant Surgeons' and submit it in District Sheep Husbandry Office Budgam from 01/12/2021 on all working days, during office hours, for availing benefit under Integrated Sheep Development Scheme, Shearing Units (subsidy mode), on first come first serve basis. The list generated as such would be operated upon from 05/12/2021 as per Serial number without any further delay.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS, SALIENT FEATURES AND ELIGIBILITY:
The remaining of the terms and conditions, salient features and eligibility shall remain the same as notified vide NO. DSHOB/Tech/Units/2021-22/1237-56, Dated: 14/07/2021.
NO: DSHOB/Tech/Units/2021-22/3199-3217
Dated: 27/11/2021
SD/-
District Sheep Husbandry Officer
Budgam
DIPK-13828/21

Valley's Maiden Virtual Gaming Arena Comes Up in Lal Chowk

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A first of its kind e-Sports gaming center is now in the city with a host of games that the kids and even adults can play under one roof at the Pavilion Gaming Center at Maulana Azad Road in city centre Lal Chowk.

The facility has been established on 4000 square feet by two young entrepreneurs Adnan Shah and Aqib Chaya, offering a high-end 30 gaming experiences on PC and Console and alternative experiences

like Bowling Alley, Arcade Games, Crazy Waters, Racing Simulators, and 360 degree Wireless Virtual Reality room.

The Multi Crore gaming Center has been a dream project of the two entrepreneurs who had successfully established their name in apparel, fashion and hospitality sector.

"It was my dream project and finally we have inaugurated it today," says Adnan.

He reckons the eSports gaming center will help kids arrest boredom from closure of schools and take them off the cellphones.



"For the past several years, kids are at home and don't have school where they would play with other kids. They are now heavily addicted to gaming on cell phones which is a

dangerous trend," says Adnan.

The eSports center, as per Adnan, will help children involve in physical collaboration, strategic thinking and sportsmanship.

The development of those skills would increase a kid's self-confidence, which will lead to better academic outcomes.

The Pavilion Gaming Center provides RFID technology based cards to the visitors to play the games. The cards are available from Rs 200 and exciting offers are available at higher denomination cards.

Police Using New Technology To Prevent Theft Incidents: SP East

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Monday said that installation of CCTV cameras is preventing incidents of theft and crime.

While talking to reporters, SP East Srinagar, Tanushree said that police are using the latest technology to prevent incidents of theft. She said incidents of theft rise during winters as more and more people shift to Jammu in wake of harsh winter.

"We request the public to install CCTV cameras so that incidents of theft can be stopped. We also appeal to people not to keep jewellery in their abandoned houses and take all precautions before

WE REQUEST THE public to install CCTV cameras so that incidents of theft can be stopped. We also appeal to people not to keep jewellery in their abandoned houses and take all precautions before leaving the houses," she said.

To a question, Tanushree said that a number of cases have been registered against drug peddlers and strict action is being taken against those indulging in social crime. (KNT)

Four Arrested After Creating Ruckus In Hospital

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Police arrest four persons after a lady attendant allegedly misbehaved and manhandled Medical Superintendent and other staffers at Raniawari Hospital Srinagar.

Reliable sources told news agency Kashmir News Trust that a lady attendant lost her cool and allegedly 'abused, misbehaved and assaulted' Medical Superintendent, a couple of nursing students after her patient alleged that the vaccine she was administered developed some reaction.

"I can't explain in words the way that lady attendant created ruckus in the hospital. She abused and manhandled Medical Superintendent Dr Abdul Rouf Bhat and whoever was wearing a white coat became her prey. She assaulted a nursing student just because she was putting on a white coat. She pushed and assaulted hospital security men. Her irresponsible



behaviour and acts forced us to call the police," Dr Bilques told KNT.

She said the lady attendant smashed even furniture and created ruckus. "Her patient is alright and in fact was given advanced treatment. We fail to understand why she behaved like this," Dr Bilques said, adding that hospital authority was forced to call the police.

She said police have arrested four persons in this connection. (KNT)

SECTION "I"
TENDER NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
**Office of the Executive Engineer
Quality Control & Procurement Division,
HMT, Srinagar**

TENDER DOCUMENT
e-NITNo: PHE/QC&PD/20/2021-22/e-Tender Dated: 27-11-2021.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, e-tenders are once again invited on item rate basis in two covers from Govt. registered/reputed manufacturers/their sole authorized distributor/dealers who have supplied such items in India and possess Satisfactory Performance and excellent track record in the said field, with documentary evidence from Respective Govt. /Semi Govt. Departments /Corporations /State or National level Undertakings for the following subject item shall have to be appended.

SUBJECT OF Supply: Supply of FE - 410, 400mm DIAMETER ISI MARKED PLAIN ENDED (REVELLED) MS Pipe for regional WSS Parihaspura, as per IS 3589:2001 READ WITH UPTO DATE / LATEST AMENDMENT as per specifications/details enclosed in Section "IV" to the e-NIT, from Govt. registered/reputed manufacturers/their sole authorized distributor/dealers

BROAD BAND INFORMATION

General	
Client Name	Chief Engineer, Kashmir PHE, Jai Shakti Deptt., Srinagar.
Circle	Superintending Engineer, PHE Mechanical, Jai Shakti Department, Circle South, Srinagar.
Division	Quality Control & Procurement Division PHE Jai Shakti Department, HMT Srinagar.
IFB No.	Tender Notice No.PHE/QC&PD/5530-38 Dated: 27-11-2021
Bidding Type	Open
Amount Details	
Estimated Cost	Rs.4,50,00,000 (Rupee Four Crore Fifty Lakhs Only)
Bid Document Fee	Rs.2500.00 in the shape of treasury Challan/ e-transfer to J&K Bank A/c No.0005010100005110 IFSC: JAKA0CHINAR
(Non-Refundable)	
Bid document fee payable in the shape of treasury Challan under major Head MH-0215-Rev-Misc. or e-transfer to J&K Bank A/c No.0005010100005110 IFSC: JAKA0CHINAR	Executive Engineer QC&PD PHE Jai Shakti HMT Srinagar. e-mail: xenmandp@gmail.com
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Shall Be Relaxed as per D.O. No: 9/4/2020-PPD dated: 12-11-2020 of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance Govt. of India, circulated vide circular of Govt. of J&K Finance department, Civil Secretariat Jammu/ Srinagar vide No: A/Misc (2018)-11-895/J dated: 22-12-2020.
	However, the firm has to upload bid security declaration form as per Annexure VII.
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) in favour of:	Chief Accounts Officer, Jai Shakti Kashmir PHE Department, Srinagar.
Tender Dates	
Bid Document Downloading Start Date:	27-11-2021 04:00PM
Bid Document Downloading End Date:	13-12-2021 04:00PM
Clarification Start Date:	27-11-2021 05:00PM
Clarification End Date:	10-12-2021 01:00PM
Pre-Bid Consultation:	10-12-2021 03:00PM
Pre-Bid meeting Venue:	Chief Engineer Jai Shakti Kashmir PHE Deptt., Engineering Complex, Near Silk Factory, Raj Bagh Srinagar Kashmir -190001. e-mail: kmrphed@gmail.com
On Line Bid Submission Start Date:	27-11-2021 05:00PM
Bid Submission End Date:	14-12-2021 03:00PM
Date of opening of Cover 1st:	15-12-2021 03:00PM
Bid Validity Period:	180 days from opening of the Price Bid.
Officer Inviting Bid:	Executive Engineer QC&PD PHE Jai Shakti HMT Srinagar payable at Srinagar. (e-mail: xenmandp@gmail.com)
Bid opening Authority:	Chief Engineer, Jai Shakti Kashmir PHE Deptt., Srinagar.
Address:	Engineering Complex, Near Silk Factory, Raj Bagh Srinagar Kashmir -190001. e-mail: kmrphed@gmail.com

The tenders of qualifying/eligibility criteria, consisting of general and commercial terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in

The bids shall be submitted in electronic format on the website www.jktenders.gov.in. The bids uploaded on the website up to due date and time, will be opened on the time and date (given in the broadband information), in the office of the Chief Engineer Jai Shakti Kashmir PHE Deptt., Srinagar in presence of the bidders who wish to be present. In case offices happen to be closed due to a holiday, or any other reason/s, on the schedule date of opening - the bids will be opened on the next working day at the scheduled time and venue or on any day convenient/feasible to the tender opening committee/authority of the Department during the contract period.

a. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Materials) contents or its name. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the net item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same as it contains.

b. Bidders are advised to scan their documents at 100 DPI (Dots per Inch) resolutions with Black and White, JPEG Scan properly, convert scanned images to PDF.

The guidelines for submission of bid online can be downloaded from the website http://jktenders.gov.in (As per J&K Finance Department Order No: - A/24(2017)-651, Dated: - 07-06-2018, furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. Hence hardcopies need not to be submitted. The hardcopies along with EMD shall be obtained from the bidder who is declared as L1 (Lowest Bidder) for each of the item on tender as per BOQ evaluation after opening of Financial bids).

c. Position of Funds: - Funds are available under NRWP.
No.: JSI/QC&PD/5530-38
Dated: -27-11-2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Jai Shakti/QC&PD PHE (K) HMT Srinagar.

DIPK-13814/21

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
**OFFICE OF THE TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER, J&K,
(CHAIRMAN, STATE TRANSPORT AUTHORITY)**
RAIL HEAD COMPLEX, JAMMU

Sub: Fixation of Ambulance Charges in UT of J&K.

Ref: i) This Office Order No.42-TC of 2021, dated 07/07/2021.
ii) Report of Committee Constituted Vide This Office Order No.42-TC of 2021, dated 07/07/2021.
iii) Divisional Commissioner, Jammu's Circular issued under Endorsement No.Div.Com/Jmu/Misc/2021, dated 01/09/2021.

**ORDER NO. 82 -TC OF 2021
DATED 29 /11/2021.**

In terms of powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 67 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act No.59 of 1988), the State Transport Authority (STA) hereby fixes the Ambulance Charges in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir with effect from the date of issue of this order:

S.No.	Category of Ambulance	Rate per Kilometer
1.	Advance Life Support Ambulance (ALS).	Rs.37/-
2.	Basic Life Support Ambulance (BLS)	Rs.32/-
3.	Patient Transport Vehicle Ambulance (PTV) excluding Maruti Suzuki Ecco & Van.	Rs.24/-
4.	Patient Transport Vehicle Ambulance (PTV) Maruti Suzuki Ecco & Van.	Rs.16/-

In addition to above charges, a Basic Charge of the Ambulance has to be paid as per breakup shown below: -

Kilometer	Upto 100	Upto 200	Upto 300	Upto 400	Upto 500	Beyond 500
Charges for ALS/ BLS/PTV Ecco/ Van	Rs.1000/-	Rs.1500/-	Rs.2000/-	Rs.3000/-	Rs.4000/-	Rs.5000/-
				Rs.450/-		

Note: The above notified rates are excluding the Fee/Charges of Doctor and Paramedics.

Sd/-
(Pardeep Kumar) JKAS
Transport Commissioner,
(Chairman, State Transport Authority)

DIPK-13871/21

No. TC/JK/Ambulance/2021-22/ 1595-1638
Dated:29/11/2021

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1786 - Grand Duke of Tuscany Leopold II promulgates a penal reform, making his 1st state to abolish the death penalty. November 30 commemorated as Cities for Life Day.
- 1803 - Spain cedes her claims to Louisiana Territory to France
- 1864 - Battle of Franklin, Tennessee: Confederate attack fails, 7,700 casualties
- 1864 - Battle of Honey Hill, South Carolina (Broad River) 96 dead, 665 wounded
- 1876 - Archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann finds the gold Mask of Agamemnon at Mycenae (modern Greece) "the Mona Lisa of prehistory"
- 1908 - The US Secretary of State and Japan's ambassador to the US exchange notes in what becomes known as the Root-Takahira Agreement: they affirm support for an independent China with an 'open door' policy and for the status quo in the Pacific
- 1909 - British House of Lords rejects David Lloyd George's 'People's Budget', which tried to shift tax burden to the wealthy. Leads to the Parliament Act; intent to stop unelected house overruling will of the elected house.
- 1916 - Costa Rica becomes a signatory to the Buenos Aires copyright treaty.
- 1922 - 1st speed test of 1st genuine Japanese aircraft carrier Hosho.
- 1922 - Hitler speaks to 50,000 national-socialists in Munich.
- 1944 - Biggest & last British battleship HMS Vanguard launched.
- 1950 - US President Harry Truman threatens China with atom bomb.
- 1961 - USSR vetoes Kuwait's application for UN membership.
- 1962 - U Thant of Burma becomes the 3rd Secretary-General of the United Nations.
- 1964 - USSR launches Zond 2 towards Mars; no data returned.
- 1967 - People's Democratic Republic of Yemen declares independence from the UK.
- 1967 - The Pakistan Peoples Party is founded by Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto who becomes its first Chairman later as the Head of state and Head of government after the 1971 Civil War.



HIJRI CALENDAR

24

RABI-UL-SANI

1443

PRAYERS

- FAJR 5:46
- ZUHR 12:17
- ASR 3:46
- MAGRIB 5:27
- ISHA 6:50

From KO Archives

APHC Leaders At Odds On Truce

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Divergence of views, within the all Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) came to the fore when two of its senior leaders, one presently in Pakistan, spoke variously on the conglomerate's response to the unilateral Ramadan ceasefire announced by the Prime Minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

In an interview in Pakistan, where he recently attended his son's marriage with the daughter of Jammu Kashmir Liberation Front chief, Amanullah Khan, senior Hurriyat leader Abdul Ghani Lone was critical of the disjointed response to India's ceasefire offer from the political and military wings of the secessionist movement.

"We should consult each other before making decisions so that Kashmiris do not appear as a divided house, Lone said. He said the separatist movement is indigenous, although there are Pakistani fighting in Kashmir.

He said though his political colleagues are ready to talk to India, Islamabad eventually has to be brought to the negotiating table and New Delhi has to move away from the position that Kashmir is integral part of India.

"Kashmiris would have no option other than to keep the pot boiling, if New Delhi sticks to its stand that Kashmir is integral part of India," he said.

Lone said there were Kashmiri separatist groups waiting to open peace talks with India. There obviously has been some communication gap between the political leaders of these groups and their mujahideen, while the political wings of these groups have welcomed the Indian Governments offer of ceasefire, more militant elements have opposed the same," Lone said.

"We are trying to reach a consensus with mujahideen. They should not act as an independent force, but follow the political leadership," Lone said.

Militant groups represented by United Jihad Council headquartered in Pakistan have rejected the ceasefire offer and have also vowed to step up their attacks against Indian troops in Kashmir.

On the other hand, in a statement issued here today, the Hurriyat Conference expressed its apprehensions about the situation in Kashmir taking a turn for the worse because of the "secret orders issued to the security forces to go to any extent under the cover of the ceasefire," which the conglomerate said, was becoming increasingly evident by the events over the past three days.

Detailing specific incidents, the statement said that the forces' brazen flouting of the ceasefire had exposed the reality of the truce. It said it was quite clear now that India had used ceasefire as a "political card" to mislead international opinion. "The move is intended to ease the pressure being mounted on India with reference to the Kashmir issue, and is aimed at torpedoing the possibility of the world taking serious note of human rights violations being committed by the Indian security forces in Kashmir", the statement added.

Meanwhile, quoting the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front chairman, Muhammad Yasin Malik, a New Delhi report said the Hurriyat Conference had offered to help start negotiations if the centre was serious about restoration of peace in Jammu and Kashmir.

Iran 'Determined' To Salvage Nuclear Deal



Agencies

TEHRAN: Iran is 'determined' to reach an agreement with major powers on salvaging its 2015 nuclear deal at talks that resume Monday in Vienna, its foreign ministry spokesman said. "The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran is in Vienna with a firm determination to reach an agreement and is looking forward to fruitful talks," Said Khatibzadeh told reporters. "The government has shown its willingness and seriousness by sending a quality team known to all. If the other side shows the same willingness, we will be on the right track to reach an agreement." The landmark 2015 agreement offered a lifting of some of the array of economic sanctions Iran had been under, in return for strict curbs on its nuclear program. But the deal began falling apart in 2018 when US president Donald Trump pulled out and began reinstating sanctions. The following year, Iran retaliated by starting to exceed the limits on its nuclear activity laid down in the deal. Since the last Vienna talks were paused in June, the ultraconservative President Ebrahim Raisi has taken over, and his new government for several months ignored

appeals to restart the talks. According to local media, the Iranian delegation now in Vienna, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Ali Bagheri, has been greatly expanded for the new round of negotiations. "If the United States comes to Vienna with the determination to break the deadlock and overcome the problems on which we did not agree in previous rounds, the path of dialogue will certainly be easier," said Khatibzadeh. Khatibzadeh signalled Iran's distrust of longtime foe the United States.

"We are looking for practical verification of the implementation of American commitments under the nuclear agreement," he said, adding that was one of their "main focuses in continuing the talks."

Talks are to resume between Iran and the other parties Britain, China, France, Germany and Russia, while the United States is set to participate indirectly. "With serious will, real determination and good faith, we hope to be able to take steps to reach an agreement as soon as possible to lift the sanctions, provided that the other parties come to Vienna with a change of approach," said Khatibzadeh. "If that happens, the results can be announced quickly."

Iran has in recent months restricted the activities of inspectors from UN watchdog the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Its head Rafael Grossi visited Tehran last week, but said on his return that "no progress" had been made on the issues he raised.

Khatibzadeh, asked about the visit, said: "Good talks took place at different levels. These talks remained unfinished because we did not reach agreement on some words and concepts that are important to both sides, but the terms of the agreement were almost finalized."

UAE Eases Drug Laws: No More Jail For Those Bringing In THC

Associated Press

DUBAI: The United Arab Emirates has eased some of its harsh drug laws, relaxing penalties for travelers who arrive in the country with products containing THC, the main intoxicating chemical in cannabis.

The new law, published Sunday in the UAE's official gazette, says people caught carrying food, drinks and other items with cannabis into the country will no longer land in prison if it's their first time. Instead, authorities will confiscate and destroy the products.

The law marks a noteworthy change for one of the world's most restrictive nations when it comes to importing common drugs for personal use, from cannabis to over-the-counter medications like narcotics, sedatives and amphetamines. The country strictly prohibits the sale and trafficking of drugs, with drug use punishable by four years in jail.

Other changes include reducing minimum sentences from two years to three months for first-time drug of-

fenders and offering convicts rehabilitation at a detention facility separate from other felons. Foreign drug users who are caught are typically deported to their home countries after imprisonment, but the new law leaves that decision up to the judge.

The reforms come as part of a wider legal overhaul announced as the UAE celebrates a half-century since its founding and seeks to boost its image as a cosmopolitan hub attractive to tourists and investors. For decades, the nation's penal code, based on Islamic law, or Shariah, has routinely landed expats and tourists in jail for offenses that few Westerners would otherwise consider crimes.



TRAVELLERS EXIT THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) pandemic testing area at Ben Gurion International Airport as Israel imposes new restrictions near Tel Aviv, Israel November 28, 2021 Reuters

New Covid Variant Shuts Borders Across The Globe

Agencies

A new, heavily mutated Covid-19 variant spread across the globe on Monday, shutting borders, renewing curbs, and sparking fears for the fight against the nearly two-year-old coronavirus pandemic, according to AFP.

Dubbed Omicron, the strain has cast doubt on global efforts to battle the pandemic because of fears that it is highly infectious, forcing countries to reimpose measures many had hoped were a thing of the past.

Dutch health authorities said they had identified at least 13 cases of Omicron among 61 quarantined passengers who tested positive for coronavirus after arriving from South Africa.

"The investigation has not yet been completed. The new variant may be found in more test samples," the National Institute for Public Health warned. Britain recorded the third case of the newly identified Omicron coronavirus variant, the UK Health Security Agency said on Monday, adding that the individual, who was no longer in Britain, was linked to travel to Southern Africa, reported Reuters.

The agency said that while in Britain, the individual was in Westminster in central London.

Germany said it had detected a total of three cases of the new

RACE AGAINST time" to understand the new Covid variant, calling for precautions to give scientists time to analyse the Omicron strain.

Omicron coronavirus variant, reported The Guardian.

Australia, too, reported the first Omicron cases, the British daily said.

The variant has been detected in Germany, Italy, Belgium, Botswana, Israel and Hong Kong, reported The Independent, adding that Austria was investigating a suspected case on Monday.

OPEC is moving two technical meetings to later this week in order to give committees more time to evaluate the impact of the new Omicron coronavirus variant, Bloomberg News reported.

European Commission chief Ursula von der Leyen said on Monday the world was in a "race against time" to understand the new Covid variant, calling for precautions to give scientists time to analyse the Omicron strain.

"We know we are now in a race against time," von der Leyen said during a visit to Riga, adding that vaccine manufacturers needed two to three weeks "to get a full picture of the quality of the mutations".

Despite the alarm, in Austria tens of thousands rallied to protest against the government's introduction of compulsory vaccination -- the first EU country to do so.

With many European nations, including Germany and France, already bringing back curbs to counter surges in infections, Swiss voters broadly backed a proposed Covid pass law in a referendum on Monday.

In Britain, Health Secretary Avid Javid said new Covid rules will be enforced from tomorrow. Mask-wearing will again be mandatory in shops and on public transport in England. All passengers arriving in Britain will have to take a PCR test and self-isolate until negative.

Scientists are racing to determine the threat posed by the heavily mutated strain -- particularly whether it can evade existing vaccines.

But a long list of countries have already imposed travel restrictions on southern Africa, where it was first detected, including key travel hub Qatar, the US, Britain, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the Netherlands.

Angola became the first southern African country to suspend all flights from its regional neighbours Mozambique, Namibia and South Africa.

'Very dangerous' Israel announced some of the strictest curbs, closing the borders to all foreigners -- just four weeks after reopening to tourists following a prolonged closure due to Covid.

WHO Warns Covid Variant Omicron Risk 'Very High'

Agencies

The World Health Organization (WHO) warned on Monday the new Covid-19 Omicron variant poses a "very high" risk globally, despite uncertainties about the danger and contagion levels of the new strain.

The UN health agency said the Covid strain first discovered in southern Africa was a "highly divergent variant with a high number of mutations... some of which are concerning and may be associated with immune escape potential and higher transmissibility."

"The likelihood of potential further spread of Omicron at the global level is high," WHO cautioned in a technical note.

To date, no deaths connected with the Omicron variant have been reported, it added.

But even if the new variant does not prove more dangerous



or deadly than previous ones, if it spreads more easily it will spark more cases and more pressure on health systems, and thus more deaths, the organization said.

"If another major surge of Covid-19 takes place driven by Omicron, consequences may be severe," it said, concluding that "the overall global risk related to the new VOC (variant of concern) Omicron is assessed as very high."

Taliban Say 'Drowned In Our Problems', Won't Interfere In Others' Affairs



Agencies

The Taliban say their government will "not interfere" in other countries' internal affairs, calling on international organizations to resume providing Afghanistan with much-needed aid.

The Taliban's prime minister Mullah Mohammad Hassan Akhund admitted to the challenges that the new rulers are grappling with, as most of the international organizations stopped their assistance to Afghanistan after the Taliban returned to power in August.

The United States also seized nearly \$9.5 billion in assets belonging to the Afghan central bank. The Taliban have repeatedly called for the release of the assets, but Washington rebuffed the call, saying the new government in Kabul must "earn" international legitimacy first.

"We are drowned in our problems and we are trying to get the strength to bring our people out of miseries and hardships with God's help," the prime minister said in a televised speech on Saturday.

"We ask all the international charity organizations to not withhold their aid and to help our exhausted nation... so that

the problems of the people could be solved," he added.

He also assured that "all the countries that we will not interfere in their internal affairs and we want to have good economic relations with them."

The Taliban's return to power came as the US was in the middle of a chaotic troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. The group announced the formation of a caretaker government on September 7, but their efforts to stabilize the situation have so far been undermined by international sanctions, as banks are running out of cash and civil servants are going unpaid.

The United Nations says Afghanistan is facing "one of the world's worst humanitarian disasters."

Hassan's remarks came as the United States and the Taliban are set to meet next week in the Qatari capital, Doha.

The talks will mostly focus on the fight against Daesh and al-Qaeda as well as delivering humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.

The US says any financial and diplomatic support to the Taliban is based on certain conditions, such as installing an inclusive government and respecting the rights of minorities and women.

Mob Attacks Pakistan Police, Fail To Grab Blasphemy Suspect

Associated Press

PESHAWAR: A Muslim mob burned a police station and four police posts overnight in north-west Pakistan after officers refused to hand over a mentally unstable man accused of desecrating Islam's holy book, the Quran, authorities said Monday.

No officers were hurt in the attacks, which forced the police to summon troops to restore order in Charsadda, a district in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, local officer Asif Khan said.

A video posted on social media showed the police station burning. Khan said officers foiled an attempt by the mob to lynch the detainee and the police moved him to another district. He did not disclose the name of the man, saying officers were still investigating and the suspect was arrested a day ago.

Khan said officers initially resisted but fled after thousands of demonstrators attacked the police buildings. He said police avoided the use of force to prevent casualties among demonstrators. The situation in Charsadda was normal Monday, he said, and law enforcement was seeking to arrest people linked to the attacks.

Blasphemy carries the death



penalty in Pakistan, where mere allegations of the offense are often enough to provoke mob violence. International and domestic rights groups say that accusations of blasphemy have often been used to intimidate religious minorities and settle personal scores.

In 2017, a group of students at the Abdul Wali Khan University in the northwestern city of Mardan attacked and killed another student, Mohammad Mashal, after accusing him of sharing blasphemous content on Facebook.

A Punjab governor in Islamabad was also shot and killed by his own guard in 2011, after he defended a Christian woman, Aasia Bibi, who was accused of blasphemy. She was acquitted after spending eight years on death row and, receiving threats, left Pakistan for Canada to join her family.

NEWS MAKERS

Covid-Positive Czech President Appoints New Prime Minister From Glass Box

Agencies

Prague: Czech President Milos Zeman appointed the leader of a centre-right alliance Petr Fiala as Prime Minister on Sunday in a ceremony he performed from a plexiglass cubicle after testing positive for COVID-19.

Fiala leads a bloc of five centre and centre-right opposition parties that won an election in October, ousting the incumbent premier Andrej Babis and his allies.

The new government will have to tackle a new wave of coronavirus infections that is threatening to overwhelm hospitals and an energy crisis, after the collapse of a large electricity provider. The coalition has also said it plans to rework the 2022 state budget to



reduce a large deficit.

"The new government has a very complicated time ahead and many challenges... I want it to be a government of change for the future," Fiala said at a news conference.

He expected his cabinet to be appointed in mid-December.

The new prime minister also called on people to get vaccinated against COVID-19 and praised medical staff as cases are on the rise.

Opponents of vaccination and government's anti-coronavirus measures such as a ban on Christmas markets gathered in their thousands in Prague later on Sunday for a protest rally.

Only 58.5 per cent of Czechs are vaccinated against coronavirus. This compares to a European Union average of 65.8 per cent, according to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

Zeman performed the inauguration ceremony from a plexiglass cubicle after testing positive for coronavirus. Zeman, who arrived in a wheelchair escorted by a medic in full protective gear, contracted the virus after a six-week stay in hospital for an unrelated illness.

Merriam-Webster Chooses Vaccine As The 2021 Word Of The Year

Agencies

NEW YORK: With an expanded definition to reflect the times, Merriam-Webster has declared an omnipresent truth as its 2021 word of the year: vaccine.

This was a word that was extremely high in our data every single day in 2021, Peter Sokolowski, Merriam-Webster's editor-at-large, told The Associated Press ahead of Monday's announcement.

It really represents two different stories. One is the science story, which is this remarkable speed with which the vaccines were developed. But there's also the debates regarding policy, politics and political affiliation. It's one word that carries these two



huge stories, he said.

The selection follows vax as word of the year from the folks who publish the Oxford English Dictionary. And it comes after Merriam-Webster chose pandemic as tops in lookups last year on its online site.

The pandemic was the gun going off and now we have the after-effects, Sokolowski said.

At Merriam-Webster, lookups for vaccine increased 601 per cent over 2020, when the first US shot was administered in New York in

December after quick development, and months of speculation and discussion over efficacy. The world's first jab occurred earlier that month in the UK.

Compared to 2019, when there was little urgency or chatter about vaccines, Merriam-Webster logged an increase of 1,048 per cent in lookups this year. Debates over inequitable distribution, vaccine mandates and boosters kept interest high, Sokolowski said. So did vaccine hesitancy and friction over vaccine passports.

The word vaccine wasn't birthed in a day, or due to a single pandemic. The first known use stretches back to 1882 but references pop up earlier related to fluid from cowpox pustules used in inoculations, Sokolowski said.

Pulwama Villagers Stage Protest Over 'Land Allotment' for CRPF Camp

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A group of locals from Woukho Kakapora in Awantipora of south Kashmir's Pulwama district Monday staged a protest over 'allotment' of agricultural land for establishment of CRPF Camp in the area.

The protestors, who had assembled here at Press Enclave, expressed their resentment over the move.

"We are asking Honorable Lieutenant Governor, where will we go?" a woman protester said, adding they are unemployed and that there is no business for them even. "Just give it a thought", she said.

"We are appealing the honorable Governor and Modi Ji, especially to the latter that the order issued in this regard be re-

voked and we be absolved from this trouble", the protestor said adding once the (CRPF) camp is established, they will have to undergo many troubles.

"If governor is himself vouching for 'Kuch Kamao Kuch Khao' and distributes seeds for agricultural activities, why would we at all give away our land", the protestor said.

When contacted, PRO CRPF Abhiram told news agency that they don't have anything to do with it. "All such decisions are taken by the state administration, wherever we are asked to station we accordingly abide by that", he said adding they don't simply do it on their own.

No official could be however immediately contacted for comments over the matter. (GNS)

'Passed Without Discussion, Repealed Without Discussion': Omar's Jibe Over Farm Laws

SRINAGAR: National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah on Monday targeted the government after Parliament passed without any discussion the bill to repeal the three controversial farm laws which had triggered protests by farmers.



repealed without discussion. A new model of democracy for a new India," Abdullah wrote on Twitter.

The bill now awaits the assent of President Ram Nath Kovind for the formal withdrawal of the three contentious laws against which farmers have been protesting for the past year at Delhi borders.

On the first day of the Winter Session on Monday, Parliament passed The Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021, to cancel the three agril laws, with Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha approving it without any debate within minutes of taking it up amid protests by opposition members who were demanding a discussion.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has kept his word as the government has brought the repeal bill on the very first day of the Winter Session of parliament, said Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar while introducing it in the two Houses.

"Passed without discussion;

MoH&FW Formulates Existing Guidelines For Int'l Travellers Visiting J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) has issued new Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the international travellers intending to visit Jammu and Kashmir from December 1st, 2021.

According to the guidelines, a copy of which lies with the news agency, the MoH&FW said that the global trajectory of COVID-19 pandemic continues to decline with certain regional variations. "The need to monitor the continuously changing nature of virus and evolution of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern (VOCs) must still remain in focus."

"The existing guidelines for international arrivals in India have been formulated taking a risk-based approach. The existing guidelines have been revised in view of reporting of a new variant of SARS-CoV-2 (8.1.1.529; named Omicron) which has been now classified as variant of concern by the

world Health organization." "All travellers should submit self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha portal (<https://www.newdelhiairport.in/airsuvidha/apho-registration>) before the scheduled travel, including last 14 days travel details."

"Upload e negative COVID-1g RT-PCR report. This test should have been conducted within 72hrs prior to undertaking the journey. Each passenger shall also submit a declaration with respect to authenticity of the report and will be liable for criminal prosecution, if found otherwise," it said.

DCJ Holds 5-Day Workshop-Cum-Training Prog For Students

Ko News Service

SRINAGAR: To enhance the audio-visual skills of 3rd-semester students, the Department of Convergent Journalism (DCJ), Central University of Kashmir, (CUK) organised a 5-day workshop-cum-training programme from November 22 at Educational Multimedia Research Center (EMMRC), University of Kashmir.

Speaking at the inauguration, Director (In-charge), EMMRC, Mr. Shafkat Habib stressed the need for such workshops for skill enhancement of the students pertaining to TV production. "With an aim to hone the skills of students, the workshop has been designed to acquaint them with the practical exposure required for television production and to provide a milieu for working under deadlines," he said.

Producer, Mr. Aijaz Ul Haque, during a session on scriptwriting for television, emphasised the importance of writing for television production, and said the writing is central to all the media of mass communication. "Writing is essential to all forms of mass communication. Therefore, TV is not an exception," he added.

Give us citizenship rights or send us back: PaK brides urge PM Modi

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Pakistani wives of former Kashmiri militants Monday urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the J&K's Lieutenant Governor Manoj Singh to grant them citizenship rights or to repatriate them back to Pakistan.

Addressing a press conference here at the press club Srinagar, the Pakistani brides said majority of them have been divorced by their husbands after they travelled to this side of Kashmir since 2010 and many of them have already committed suicides.

"We are feeling insecure and are afraid about the security of our children here given the present prevailing situation," said Misbah, a Pakistani bride, who is married to local Kashmiri from Handwara area of northern district of Kupwara. She was flanked by other PaK brides as well.

"Given the present situation here, we are feeling totally insecure. We urge the Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi to decide our fate once for all before we get killed here. We have a valid Pakistani passport and what is wrong in allowing us to go back to Pakistan," she asked. "We urge the PM Modi and the J&K LG and other high level officials to either grant us permanent citizenship or to send us back to Pakistan."

Misbah said they are facing an identity crisis. "We are facing tremendous hardships and



so are our children. We stand nowhere and don't have any identity," she said as other female members sitting beside her echoed similar concerns.

Under a rehabilitation policy announced by then Chief Minister J&K Omar Abdullah in 2010, more than 550 militants returned to Kashmir, many of them along with their families.

After the eruption of militancy here in 90s thousands of youth crossed over to other side of LoC for arms training. But many of them preferred to live a normal life in Pakistan administered Kashmir (PaK), married there, had kids and then decided to return under the 2010 policy. "The moment we landed in Kashmir, we started facing hardships and lot of problems. When we went to schools to get our children admitted there, they were refused admission on the pretext they were born in PaK," said another PaK bride, who along with her three children had travelled

from north Kashmir's Kupwara district to narrate her ordeal.

She said that after many years, they spent in Kashmir, their husbands were denied government and private jobs with the result they divorced their wives.

"Majority of us have been divorced and we are staying illegally in our in-laws houses. We have nowhere to go. We appeal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and also the minister for external affairs Sushma Swaraj, who being a woman can understand our pain and sufferings, to grant us citizenship," she said.

Speaking on the occasion, another PaK bride Safiya said that they never knew their life would turn into "hell" after returning to this part of Kashmir.

"We have been moving from pillar to post but nobody is paying heed to our requests but to no avail. We hope that government of India and government of Pakistan would act before we decide to end our lives one by one," she said. (KNO)

In 7 Months, Govt Imposes Rs 18 Lakh Fine Against Food Adulteration

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Deputy Commissioner, Food Safety, Kashmir in a meeting revealed that under meat and other eatables drive, the food and safety organisation has imposed nearly eighteen lakh fine from April 2021 to 31 October 2021.

Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, P.K Pole was informed that several drives were launched for checking the adulteration of milk and milk products across Kashmir.

Also, 40 prosecutions were launched against the meat sellers or butchers who were selling the meat in insanitary conditions.

According to the news agen-

cy, Pole in the meeting said that various complaints have been received regarding the meat provided to the public is not up to quality while as public has been charged for A-grade meat.

In a meeting it was revealed that nearly 528 total numbers of prosecutions were launched while 5000 inspections were carried out by Food Safety Compliance through regular inspection and sampling from April 2021 to 31-10-2021.

"Penalty or fine imposed by the food and safety organisation was Rs 17,67,200 and the penalty including imprisonment was sixty thousand during that period," reads the document.

Under the drive, the license fee realized by the organisation was nearly 50 lakh and 403500 values of food items were seized while 39800 values of food items were destroyed.

Pole was also informed that in addition to routine market checking, fortified mustard oil was tracked, identified and seized, sold by unscrupulous persons.

"Complaints with regard to presence of low quality eatables in the market have also been received which needs to be properly checked and stopped, besides a long term mechanism must be in place to check this menace," reads the document. (KNO)

21 JK 'Exemplary Women' Celebrated at SKICC



Irtiza Yousuf
Syed Uzma

Nasreen Aman, Dr Shafquat Ara Principal Polytechnic College Bemina, DSP Syed Sleet Shah and renowned Kashmiri Singer Mehmeet Saeed.

SRINAGAR: 98.3 Radio mirchi in collaboration with Directorate of mission for protection & Empowerment of women social welfare department, on Monday, organized "Mirchi Power women 21" event at SKICC to Celebrate 21 powerful women of J&K for their path breaking work in 2021.

The event was aimed at acknowledging the women who are breaking stereotypes and doing commendable work in different fields by felicitating them.

While emphasizing the importance of empowering women in J&K, chief guest for the event, Shabnum Kamli said "women empowerment in real sense means to provide opportunities to every woman in the same way as we care for ourselves". She further added that, "I commemorate the journeys of all the females who are present here and admire their commendable work for creating a niche for themselves in the society."

The awards were presented by Women from different fields. Among them was Principal Women's College MA Road

who were felicitated during the event included Irfana Zargar (SMC), Insha Bashir (Sports), Ufra Mir (Mental Health Expert), Salima Ji (Handicrafts Department), Tasia Tariq (YouTube), Fiza Nazir (Sports), Zehrunisa (Journalist), Bilquis Ara (Public service), Tabassum Ara (Healthcare), Mehak Suhail & Nadia Nighat(sports), Arifa Jan (Handicrafts department), Roohi Sultana (education), Dr Suraya Farooq(health care), Dr.Mahnoor Qadri (Public service), Insha Muzaffar (Entrepreneur), Kritika Khanna (sports), Medhavi (Art), Rashi Dutta (Administration), Mrs Anuradha Gupta (Administration) and Mrs. Anu Malhotra(Administration).

While receiving the award for her extensive reporting on Covid 19 and highlighting gaps in the health sector, Journalist, Zehrun Nisa said, "I believe women's health and women empowerment go hand in hand and as to support one we need to work on the other".

PDP will never win any elections in J&K: Altaf Bukhari

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Apni party president, Altaf Bukhari on Monday slammed the People's Democratic Party and stated that it can never win any elections in Jammu and Kashmir as they have only taken the youth to graveyards, which has ruined their image as a representative of the people.

Reacting to yesterday's remarks by Mehbooba Mufti that proxy parties are helping BJP to make unconstitutional decisions as constitutional, Bukhari said that PDP has only taken youth of J&K to graveyards and except that he has never seen PDP anywhere.

"They called their emotional blackmailing as politics. We should be careful of those parties which are showing our way towards graveyards," he said.

He claimed that the PDP is Advani's party and it has never been working on ground. "Emotional blackmailing cannot be called politics. By showing the way towards graveyards, they have lost the trust of the people of Jammu and Kashmir. So, they will never ever win any elections here," Bukhari said.

He also said that he strongly condemns the killings, which took place in Hyderabad encounter. "I hope and pray that such incidents will never happen again in the future," he added. (KNS)

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER, URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION, SRINAGAR

AUCTION NOTICE

An open Auction of Confiscated Horses / Mules seized in various Territorial Divisions of the Forest Department shall be conducted through Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar as per the below given calendar:-

At P.C Depot, Qamarwari Srinagar on 01.12.2021 At 11.00 AM

In case of any un-avoidable circumstances the date of auction will be on next normal working day. All the persons interested in the auction of these animals may participate in the open Auction on the following terms and conditions.

- The intending bidder shall have to prove his / her identity before participation in the auction. He / She may keep a copy of Aadhar Card / Pan Card / Ration Card / Identification Card with him / her in original.
- No person involved / accused in any Forest offence shall be allowed to participate in the auction.
- The interested bidders shall have to deposit an amount of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) as security deposit in Cash / CDR (pledged to DFO, Urban Forestry Division, Srinagar) before participating in the auction. The security deposit in case of unsuccessful bidders shall be returned on closure of the auction. In case of successful bidder, the security deposit amount in Cash / CDR shall be adjusted towards payment of cost of auctioned Horses / Mules.
- The successful bidder shall have to deposit the entire bid amount on the spot against proper receipt before taking delivery of the purchased horses on the same day. No delay in deposition of cost and delivery of horses shall be allowed. In case any bidder fails to deposit the entire cost or fails to take delivery of the horse / mules on the same day, the auction of the particular horse / mules shall be deemed as cancelled.
- The Auction Committee may reject any offer without assigning any reason thereof.
- The intending bidder shall have to participate personally in the auction and no proxy or telephonic offer / Internet based offer shall be accepted.
- No offer after the close of auction shall be entertained under any circumstances.
- The horses / mules purchased through this auction shall not be utilized for any illegal activity including any Act prohibited under J&K Forest Act. The purchaser shall have to furnish an attested undertaking to this effect. In case of any violation, the purchaser shall be liable for legal action. In case the auctioned horse is found involved in Forest offence, an amount of Rs 25,000/= (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only) shall be imposed aspenalty/fineto the bidder. He / She also be debarred from participation in future auctions.
- Any other conditions that the auction Committee may deem necessary shall be announced on the spot before the commencement of auction.
- An undertaking that the purchaser shall abide by the terms and conditions of this auction notice & those announced on spot and all laws and rules in force, shall be furnished by the successful bidder / purchaser, before taking delivery of the horse.

No. : DFO/UF/L/4866-72
Dated: - 29/11/2021
DIPK-13867/21

(Syed Abid Nazir Shah)
Divisional Forest Officer
Urban Forestry Division Srinagar

Government of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B CONSTRUCTION DIVISION NO.II, SGR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT No.123/CDII/ 15758-68 of 2021-22 **DATED:29.11.2021**
For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, UT J&K, e-tenders (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	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Development of land for Car parking inside Engineering Complex premises at Rajbagh Srinagar.	5.79	300/-	21 Days	2059-M&R	"CEE/DEE"

Position of funds Available

- 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	30.11.2021 from 10.00 PM
3	Bid submission Start Date	30.11.2021 from 10.00 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	06.12.2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	07.12.2021 at 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2 nd , Srinagar

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Construction Division No.2nd, Srinagar (tender receiving authority).
- All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/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 Construction Division No.2nd, 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
- 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 acquire 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 technical bid.
- 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) and detailed NIT issued vide this office No. 07/CDII/2011-12/389-414 dated 07.04.2011.

No.15758-68
Dated: 29.11.2021
DIPK-13898/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Construction Division IInd Srinagar

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Omicron Challenge

With World Health Organization classing new coronavirus variant "of concern" and naming it Omicron, prime minister Narendra Modi on Saturday called for a proactive strategy to prevent its spread to India. He directed officials to review plans for easing of international travel restrictions. The PM said travelers must be tested on arrival as per guidelines and called for a particular focus on countries identified "at risk". He laid emphasis on increasing coverage of the second dose of the vaccine so that adequate immunity is achieved against the fresh infections. The PM also urged people to adopt masking and social distancing to prevent the infection from spreading. In a two-hourlong meeting with senior officials, the PM was briefed about Omicron, its characteristics and implications for India.

With the country having already lived through the harrowing second Covid wave which killed thousands of people, the union government cannot afford to take any chances. Because of the widespread vaccination, the country has survived the apprehended third Covid wave. The PM has rightly called for more intensive containment and active surveillance in clusters reporting higher cases and that technical support for the states with more infections. The situation, this time, can't be taken lightly. World economy has been already battered by the pandemic over the last one and a half years. A fresh global outbreak of the infections could paralyze the world again and occasion the need for more lockdowns. This could once again setback the economy, threatening the livelihoods of an uncounted number of people.

So, India needs to get its act right. At the same time the world has to work together to stamp out what is otherwise an abating pandemic. Recently, addressing the first session of the G20 summit in Rome, "Global economy and global health", Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke about the need for a collaborative approach to fight the COVID-19 pandemic covering scientific communities and governments.

Over the last two years, the world has certainly acted in concert in so far as the vaccination is concerned which has brought the pandemic under control. That said, the governments in the different countries have to stick to complementing the vaccination with the upgrading of healthcare and strict enforcement of adherence to SOPs in public. In India, this is more critical in view of the emergence of new Omicron strain. This alone will help stave off more outbreaks in various parts of the country which, if unchecked, could create conditions for a third wave.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Scale Up Supplies

A new Greek tragedy has risen with the World Health Organization (WHO) designating Omicron, a SARS-CoV-2 variant, as a 'variant of concern' (VOC). While it took WHO several weeks to designate older VOCs such as Alpha, Beta and Delta as a VOC when they emerged, in the case of Omicron, which was first confirmed in Botswana, it moved without even waiting for reports on the variant's increased likelihood to cause disease and whether it is denting the normal public health response. Omicron has now been confirmed in South Africa, Botswana, the U.K., Germany, Italy and travellers into the Netherlands and Israel. It reportedly has over 50 mutations, 32 of which are on the spike protein, which binds to human cells and is the preferred target for vaccines. Several of the mutations confer the virus resistance to monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) such as etesevimab, bamlanivimab, casirivimab and their combinations. Antibodies are the first line of defence against viral infection and mAbs are used in treatment. However, it is important to emphasise that every single mutation does not independently increase virulence and combinations of them might sometimes temper, and sometimes aggravate, virus properties.

The virus has been detected in comparable numbers only in South Africa's Gauteng province, but the variant comprises over 90% of the fraction of genomes from those who tested positive there within just 10 days. Some nations have already imposed travel bans on flights from South Africa. Given that Omicron is a variant of the virus that can be detected by the PCR test, these countries, rather than imposing a ban, should have taken the more considered step of screening passengers and followed the usual protocols of isolation and treatment. India has done well so far to adhere to this system and observing caution. Detecting a variant in a country does not imply it originated there. Travel bans punish South Africa for its transparency and forthrightness in alerting the world to this variant. South Africa's number of daily infections - 2,828 on Friday - pales in comparison to daily numbers in the United States, Germany and Britain. However, a little over 10% in Africa have received one dose of a vaccine, compared with 64% in North America and 62% in Europe. The panic over the variant shifts blame away from the world's colossal failure in not making more vaccines available in Africa even as many countries roll out third doses. From day one, the science was clear cut that the pandemic cannot end unless the whole world is protected. India must scale up supplies to COVAX, the international consortium seeking to vaccinate countries with limited access, as well as coax countries with surplus stocks to do so.

The Hindu

Dragon's Predominance: Globally Active China

The Aggressive And Planned Manner In Which Chinese Companies Have Forayed Globally, Poses A Risk Not Just To The Economic Interests But Also The Defence Interests Of The Collaborating And Neighbour Nations



MOHAMMED BIN RASHID AL MAKTUUM, vice president and prime minister of the United Arab Emirates, ruler of the Emirate of Dubai, China's President Xi Jinping and his wife Peng Liyuan (L-R) ahead of a reception marking the Belt and Road Forum at the National Museum of China on April 26, 2019 in Beijing. Valery Sharifulin | TASS | Getty Images

Asad Mirza

GULF OF ADEN IS AN INTEGRAL

part of India's maritime neighbourhood and sharpening rivalries between major powers underscore the need for increasing India's strategic presence in the region. India has recently opened its embassy in Djibouti and has been steadily expanding its engagement with the Horn of Africa

Recent reports by Wall Street Journal have revealed that the US intelligence agencies found evidence of construction work on what they believed was a secret Chinese military facility in the United Arab Emirates, and which was stopped after Washington's intervention.

It says that satellite imagery of the Port Khalifa revealed suspicious construction work inside a container terminal built and operated by a Chinese shipping corporation, Cosco. It included huge excavations covered in an apparent attempt to evade scrutiny and apparently for a multi-storey building. The Biden administration initiated urgent contact with the UAE authorities, which appeared to be unaware of the military activities, according to the WSJ. It said the discussions included two direct conversations between Joe Biden and Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, in May and August.

The US officials visited the UAE in late September and presented the intelligence details to the Emirati authorities. The construction work was suspended after the US officials recently inspected the Port Khalifa site.

Chinese forays in the Gulf

Basically, China, the world's largest trading nation, has thrown its weight behind Abu Dhabi as the Middle East hub for its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its biggest project is the Khalifa Port. Moreover, it is trying to expand its presence globally by constructing ports, railways and roads in partner countries albeit at terms which tilt hugely in its favour, besides challenging the US interests.

Cosco, the Shanghai-based, state-owned group that ranks among the biggest shipping companies in the world, has invested an initial \$300 million in the CSP Abu Dhabi Terminal, the first step in an investment programme that could help make it one of the biggest ports in the Arabian Gulf over the next five years. The deal with Cosco is aimed at attracting foreign investment into the UAE via the Khalifa Industrial Zone of Abu Dhabi (KIZAD), the huge logistics and manufacturing zone that borders the port. By 2023, the Port Khalifa is expected to overtake Jebel Ali, just 50 km away in Dubai, in capacity terms, thus proving once again which is the strongest emirate in the UAE.

Trade ties have been growing between China and the UAE since a visit by Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan to Beijing three years ago. Chinese President Xi Jinping visited the UAE last summer.

In alignment with their goal of augmenting UAE-China trade, DP World, a UAE owned company in partnership with Zhejiang China Commodity City Group (CCC) has also launched the Yiwu Market as part of the first phase of Dubai Traders Market, located in the heart of Jafza. Dubai Traders Market will span approximately 800,000 square metres, with Yiwu Market covering about 200,000 square metres. The market will give traders and businesses from across the globe access to wholesale discounts with minimised supply chain costs and turnaround times.

Regional Geopolitics

China's BRI is a state-sponsored strategy to enhance land and sea trading infrastructure in Asia, the Middle East and Africa via multibillion-dollar investments in trading hubs across the eastern hemisphere, though it has been criticised by some observers for leaving the partners of Chinese companies in debt, as happened in Sri Lanka and Venezuela.

In recent times, Persian Gulf powers like the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Qatar have been engaged in expanding their influence in the Horn of Africa and are busy opening commercial and military facilities in the Red Sea region. Major global powers like the United States (US), Japan, China and France have established military bases in Djibouti. Reportedly, India had also demonstrated interest in opening the base at Djibouti and Russia has recently announced that it will establish a military base in Sudan.

China is engaged in developing major infrastructure projects such as ports and railways in Djibouti, Ethiopia and Kenya. As a result of these activities, the littoral and continental space from Sudan in the north to Kenya in the south has become a focal point of strategic rivalries between regional as well as global powers.

Chinese ventures in Somaliland

The port of Berbera and Somaliland's geopolitical location at the crossroads of West Asia, Horn of Africa and Indian Ocean is likely to assume increasing strategic importance as the Indo-Pacific rivalries sharpen. Historically, the strategic location of the port near the straits of the Bab-el-Mandeb, which is a key maritime choke point for international trade and global energy security, has attracted foreign powers. In the last few years, UAE has established a firm foothold at Berbera. Meanwhile the UAE, Ethiopia and Somaliland have reached an alliance for developing the Berbera Economic Zone.

The Chinese navy established a facility in Djibouti, its first overseas base, about four years ago, which was placed within a Chinese-run commercial port, at Doraleh. In addition in June this year, a new container terminal was inaugurated at the port of Berbera in the self-governing territory of Somaliland. Somaliland is a breakaway region of Somalia and is not recognised by any other state. The port of Berbera is located along the southern coast of the Gulf of Aden.

For UAE, developing the port of Berbera and building strategic partnership with Somaliland serves two inter-related objectives: challenge the pre-eminence of the port facilities at Djibouti for the shipping enroute to the Suez Canal and expand its influence in the Horn of Africa. Through its entrenched presence in Somaliland and in Southern Yemen, UAE is in an enviable geopolitical position: it can monitor the strategically important Gulf of Aden closely and shape the strategic affairs of the region.

India's Interests

Gulf of Aden is an integral part of India's maritime neighbourhood and sharpening rivalries between major powers underscore the need for increasing India's strategic presence in the region. India has recently opened its embassy in Djibouti and has been steadily expanding its engagement with the Horn of Africa.

Officially, there is no contact between India and Somaliland. A foothold in Somaliland would expand India's presence and prove useful in monitoring Chinese activities in the region.

India could use its ties with the UAE to forge newer ties with Somaliland. Compared with the unstable politics and prevailing insecurity in Somalia, democratic Somaliland is stable and secure. This will also serve its purpose of keeping an eye on the Chinese activities in the region and be a force to reckon with in the Gulf of Aden.

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

Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi.

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He writes on Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. www.asadmirza.blogspot.com



OBSERVER MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

Dear Editor,

Education is of paramount importance for any community to survive and thrive in the modern day competitive world. Quality education is highly imperative. While endeavours are being made to revolutionize our education system to bring about a positive change

in society, there are many measures which are yet to be taken to make our education system more vibrant.

One such measure is the introduction of a course for teachers of higher departments by which they would be prepared and trained for teaching. As we have B.Ed. compulsory for teachers

of secondary and higher education level, in the same way, a course should be made compulsory for teachers of higher education departments or in other words college and university teachers. Apart from having PhD, NET, SET Or JRF in their name they should be trained with the art and skill of teaching.

Most of the time teachers are very qualified and competent, yet lack the art of teaching. They know everything, but not teaching. Without this skill, the enterprise becomes totally unavailing.

Ummar Jamal
Umarjamal968@gmail.com

New Covid Kid On Block

Five Steps To Avoid, Ten To Take Immediately

Shabir A. Madhi

South Africa reacted with outrage to travel bans, first triggered by the UK, imposed on it in the wake of the news that its genomics surveillance team had detected a new variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The Network for Genomics Surveillance in South Africa has been monitoring changes in SARS-CoV-2 since the pandemic first broke out.

The new variant – identified as B.1.1.529 has been declared a variant of concern by the World Health Organisation and assigned the name Omicron.

The mutations identified in Omicron provide theoretical concerns that the variant could be slightly more transmissible than the Delta variant and have reduced sensitivity to antibody activity induced by past infection or vaccines compared to how well the antibody neutralises ancestry virus.

As vaccines differ in the magnitude of neutralising antibody induced, the extent to which vaccines are compromised in preventing infections due to Omicron will likely differ, as was the case for the Beta variant.

However, as vaccines also induce a T-cell response against a diverse set of epitopes, which appears to be important for prevention of severe COVID, it is likely that they would still provide comparable protection against severe COVID due to Omicron compared with other variants.

The same was observed for the AstraZeneca vaccine. Despite not protecting against the mild-moderate Beta COVID in South Africa, it still showed high levels of protection (80% effective) against hospitalisation due to the Beta and Gamma variants in Canada.

In view of the new variant, there are a few steps that governments shouldn't be taking. And some they should be taking.

What not to do

Firstly, don't indiscriminately impose further restrictions, except on indoor gatherings. It was unsuccessful in reducing infections over the past 3 waves in South Africa, considering 60%-80% people were infected by the virus based on sero-surveys and modelling data. At best, the economically damaging restrictions only spread out the period of time over which the infections took place by about 2-3 weeks.

This is unsurprising in the South African context, where ability to adhere to the high levels of restrictions are impractical for the majority of the population and adherence is generally poor.

Secondly, don't have domestic (or international) travel bans. The virus will disseminate irrespective of this – as has been the case in the past. It's naive to believe that imposing travel bans on a handful of countries will stop the import of a variant. This virus will disperse across the globe unless you are an island nation that shuts off the rest of the world. The absence of reporting of the vari-



What not to do: ban travel. Scenes at South Africa's OR Tambo International airport after the first flight bans were announced. Phill Magakoe / AFP via Getty Images

THE ABSENCE OF REPORTING OF THE VARIANTS FROM COUNTRIES THAT HAVE LIMITED SEQUENCING CAPACITY DOES NOT INFER ABSENCE OF THE VARIANT. FURTHERMORE, UNLESS TRAVEL BANS ARE IMPOSED ON ALL OTHER NATIONS THAT STILL ALLOW TRAVEL WITH THE "RED-LISTED" COUNTRIES, THE VARIANT WILL DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY STILL END UP IN COUNTRIES IMPOSING SELECTIVE TRAVEL BANS, ALBEIT PERHAPS DELAYING IT SLIGHTLY

ants from countries that have limited sequencing capacity does not infer absence of the variant. Furthermore, unless travel bans are imposed on all other nations that still allow travel with the "red-listed" countries, the variant will directly or indirectly still end up in countries imposing selective travel bans, albeit perhaps delaying it slightly.

In addition, by the time the ban has been imposed, the variant will likely have already been spread. This is already evident from cases of Omicron being reported from Belgium in a person with no links to contact with someone from Southern Africa, as well as cases in Israel, UK and Germany.

All travel bans accomplish in countries with selective red-listed countries is delay the inevitable. More could possibly be accomplished by rigorous exit and entry screening programmes to identify potential cases and mandating vaccination.

Third, don't announce regulations that are not implementable or enforceable in the local context. And don't pretend that people adhere to them. This includes banning alcohol sales, whilst being unable to effectively police the black market.

Fourth, don't delay and create hurdles to boosting high risk individuals. The gov-

ernment should be targeting adults older than 65 with an additional dose of the Pfizer vaccine after they've had two shots. The same thing goes for other risk groups such as people with kidney transplants, or people with cancer and on chemotherapy, people with any other sort of underlying immuno-suppressive condition.

South Africa shouldn't be ignoring World Health Organisation's guidance which recommends booster doses of high risk groups. It should de-prioritise, for the time being, vaccinating young children with a single dose.

Fifth, stop selling the herd immunity concept. It's not going to materialise and paradoxically undermines vaccine confidence. The first generation vaccines are highly effective in protecting against severe COVID-19, but less predictable in protecting against infection and mild COVID due to waning of antibody and ongoing mutations of the virus. Vaccination still reduces transmission modestly, which remains of great value, but is unlikely to lead to "herd-immunity" in our lifetimes.

Instead we should be talking about how to adapt and learn to live with the virus.

There is also a list of things that should be considered in the wake of the Omicron variant, irrespective of whether it displaces the Delta variant (which

remains unknown).

What to do

Firstly, ensure health care facilities are prepared, not only on paper – but actually resourced with staff, personal protective equipment and oxygen, etc.

There are 2000 interns and community service doctors in South Africa waiting for their 2022 placement confirmation. We cannot once again be found wanting with under-prepared health facilities.

Provide booster doses of J&J or Pfizer to all adults who received a single dose J&J. It's needed to increase protection against severe COVID. A single dose of the J&J vaccine reduced hospitalisation due to Delta variant in South Africa by 62% in South African healthcare workers, whereas two doses of AZ and mRNA vaccines in general had greater than 80%-90% protection against severe disease from the Delta variant.

Studies confirm a two dose schedule of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine is superior in protecting against hospitalisation than a single dose. And if you want durability of protection, you need to boost, which can be done with another dose of Johnson & Johnson or a dose of mRNA vaccine.

The evidence is clear that the type of

immune responses from a heterologous approach of AZ or J followed by a mRNA vaccines such as Pfizer/Biontech induces superior neutralising and cell mediated immune responses than two doses of the non-replicating vector vaccines.

Thirdly, implement vaccine passports for entry into any indoor space where others gather, including places of worship and public transport. Vaccination might be a choice currently, however, choices come with consequences. Even if vaccines only reduce transmission modestly, over and above the infections they prevent, a breakthrough case in a vaccinated individual poses less risk of transmission to others than infection in an unvaccinated and previously uninfected individual.

Fourth, continue efforts at reaching out to the unvaccinated and under-immunized. This should include the use of pop up facilities where people are likely to gather and other targeted community outreach programs.

Fifth, immediately boost high risk groups older than 65 and others who have immunosuppressive conditions. The primary goal of vaccination therefore needs to be on reducing severe disease and death. This requires targeted strategies on who to prioritise.

Sixth, encourage responsible behaviour to avoid re-imposing alcohol and other restrictions to punish all due to irresponsibility on part of a minority.

Seventh, monitor bed availability at regional level to help decide on regional action to avoid overwhelming of facilities. Higher levels of restrictions need to be tailored for when we expect overwhelming of health facilities. As hospitalisation usually lag behind community infection rates by 2-3 weeks, keeping an eye on case rates and hospitalization rates could predict which facilities in which regions may come under threat.

This would allow for a more focused approach to imposing restrictions to relieve anticipated pressure on health facilities 2-3 weeks before expected. This will not change the total number of hospitalisations. But it will spread it out over a longer period of time and make it more manageable.

Eighth, learn to live with the virus, and take a holistic view on the direct and indirect effects of the pandemic on livelihoods. The detrimental indirect economic, societal, educational, mental health and other health effects of a sledge-hammer approach to dealing with the ongoing pandemic threatens to outstrip the direct effect of COVID in South Africa.

Ninth, follow the science and don't distort it for political expediency.

Tenth, learn from mistakes of the past, and be bold in the next steps.

The author is Dean Faculty of Health Sciences and Professor of Vaccinology at University of the Witwatersrand; and Director of the SAMRC Vaccines and Infectious Diseases Analytics Research Unit, University of the Witwatersrand. The article is being reproduced by arrangements with The Conversation

Godless Spirituality

A Look At The Absence Of God From The Contemporary Wave Of Spirituality

SARA KADIR

A woman sits cross-legged, poised, shoulders back, her eyes closed and a smile on her face, it's a smile just wide enough to indicate that she's not happy (who wants to be happy? Happiness is so 1990s). She is content, she is self-accepting. She is the modern 'spiritual' woman, and she is meditating (the contemporary secular equivalent to religious prayer), but you mustn't say such things out loud as this new form of spirituality has absolutely nothing to do with God or religion.

The absence of God from spirituality is a relatively new concept that has come to existence and can take many forms, the most popular being that of contemporary mindfulness. Mindfulness is defined as a lifestyle that places the concept of moment-by-moment awareness at its core. The idea is that if you pay attention to nothing but this very moment in time, you will experience feelings of peace and calm. There is A LOT of scientific research out there that backs this claim, contemporary mindfulness has been shown to decrease levels of anxiety and depression, as well as increase feelings of empathy and nurture virtues such as forgiveness and honesty. The message is, you don't need God to feel complete, you just need to be at one with yourself. You need you.

What's more, the idea of being spiritual but not religious is often portrayed as a progressive reaction to the realisation that science and capitalism have failed to live up to their expectations. They have not given us answers to the BIG questions that plague

every single one of us, questions like 'what are we doing here?', 'how did we end up here?' and 'why are we here?' and we have come to accept that no amount of 'Black Friday buy-one-get-one free' offers are going to fill the hollowness and aching we experience at the centre of our chest when we contemplate the worth of our existence. Both science and capitalism have failed to provide us with meaning or reassurance, so the woke contemporary individual has no choice but to turn to modern spirituality for inner peace and meaning.

But the way this modern spiritual narrative sells itself can be highly misleading given that a lot of the core practices and concepts found in narratives that are labelled as 'secular spirituality' resonate in and originate from religious traditions, including Islam. And so this modern spirituality can sound a lot like the very institutions and systems it claims to be separate from. Essentially, it sounds like a religion. Take the contemporary concept of mindfulness popular amongst western white middle classes; it makes the claims to being a 'secular' practice, despite the fact that its concepts and meditative techniques originate from the Buddhist tradition. Within the Buddhist tradition mindfulness is at the centre of a very complex system that includes moral and ethical commitments, including speaking and doing good and espouses detachment from worldly desires at its core, all with the aim of ending human suffering. It is hard work and requires commitment, not simply 'paying attention to the moment'. The Islamic equivalent to what has been done to the Buddhist tradition in the context of

BLACK FRIDAY BUY-ONE-GET-ONE FREE!

offers are going to fill the hollowness and aching we experience at the centre of our chest when we contemplate the worth of our existence. Both science and capitalism have failed to provide us with meaning or reassurance, so the woke contemporary individual has no choice but to turn to modern spirituality for inner peace and meaning

contemporary secular mindfulness would be encouraging people to carry out the five daily prayers as a form of meditation and stipulating that the belief in other Islamic concepts including God is irrelevant to achieving peace through prayer. I imagine that narrative would annoy a few people, as it has in the contemporary mindfulness context, where some critics (and not just those who adhere to the Buddhist tradition) have criticised the contemporary secular take on mindfulness as being another example of a colonialist 'take over'. This is when Eastern traditions are whitewashed and re-packaged to suit western temperaments with little respect or regard for their origins. This observation has earned mindfulness the nickname 'Mc Mindfulness', due to opponents seeing it as nothing short of a covert continuation of existing western

capitalist ideals, where emphasis is on a 'fast service' that appeals to as many people as possible to maximise returns.

The capitalist modernist undertone is most glaringly obvious in its selling point – no God. As in true secular capitalist fashion, 'the self' has taken on that role. The self is in charge, it decides which parts of spiritual philosophy are followed and when, it decides what is right and wrong and so in essence it is what is being worshipped; it has taken on the role of God. Since people turn to spirituality to gain a sense of self-worth and acceptance, the capitalist narrative plays on this emotion by placing the gratification and exploration of the self as a core concept. The self then becomes both the means and the ends. This is at odds with spiritual development concepts found in world religious philosophies as well as ancient philosophies, where emphasis is placed on self-control and freedom is found in self-denial.

"Self-worship is the cornerstone upon which our post-modernist, capitalist societies are built on. We are constantly encouraged to shamelessly 'flaunt it', we are constantly bombarded with adverts that glorify the self, rendering it all sufficient and all powerful. You simply have to take a look at the Nike adverts that pitch the likes of you and me as being the missing hero in the Avengers line-up. If only we just had belief in ourselves and ran a couple of times around the block (in Nike gear-obviously) how life would be different for us and the world!"

Perhaps this 'new wave' of spirituality is not 'new' at all, but simply another attempt at side-lining God and/or religion from

worldly narrative, where capitalist ideals work to encourage philosophies such as this modern wave of spirituality and contemporary mindfulness practice in an attempt to 'take over' the wider ethical and social concerns that are associated with religion and communities. The understanding here is that capitalist ideals will work to prey upon the feelings of disillusion that people may have towards institutionalised religion and offer something similar (a sense of self-worth and meaning) but different (i.e. you're God).

So, perhaps it is high time that people of faith and belief in God were more mindful of the narratives that seek to undermine and replace the beliefs that are important to them and became more aware of the ways that secular contemporary narratives may have unintentionally crept into their subconscious, disrupting their well-being. I think it is time that we start talking about God and religion and the ways in which we can integrate these concepts into worldly narratives, so that we can start living life in line with our consciousness, with feelings of fullness and peace.

Until then I'm afraid it's either God or your Nikes (I'm 99.999% certain I'm not destined for the Avengers, so I'm sticking with God).

The author is a final year PhD student, researching mindfulness in Islamic teaching at the University of Aberdeen. She has recently launched the INSane project, where she shares her research findings via podcast and Instagram at @insanein-saneproject. You can find her on Instagram and Twitter on @imsarakay. The article was originally published by Amaliah.com

An Anti-Inflammatory Diet May Be Your Best Bet for Cognitive Health

As people age, inflammation within their immune system increases, damaging cells. A new study shows that people who consumed an anti-inflammatory diet that includes more fruits, vegetables, beans, and tea or coffee, had a lower risk of developing dementia later in life.

The research is published in the November 10, 2021, online issue of Neurology.

"There may be some potent nutritional tools in your home to help fight the inflammation that could contribute to brain aging," said study author Nikolaos Scarmeas, MD, Ph.D., of National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in Greece, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Neurology.

"Diet is a lifestyle factor you can modify, and it might play a role in combating inflammation, one of the biological pathways contributing to risk for dementia and cognitive impairment later in life."

The study looked at 1,059 people in Greece with an average age of 73 who did not have dementia.

Each person answered a food frequency questionnaire that is commonly used to determine the inflammatory potential of a person's diet.

The questionnaire sought information on the main food groups consumed during the previous month, including dairy products, cereals, fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, legumes, which include beans, lentils and peas, added fats, alcoholic beverages, stimulants and sweets.

A possible dietary inflammatory score can range from -8.87 to 7.98, with higher scores indicating a more inflammatory diet, which includes

fewer servings of fruits, vegetables, beans and tea or coffee.

Scarmeas notes that multiple nutrients in all foods contribute to the inflammatory nature of a person's diet.

Researchers divided the participants into three equal groups: those with the lowest dietary inflammatory scores, medium scores and highest scores. Those in the group with the lowest scores of -1.76 and lower, indicating a more anti-inflammatory diet, ate an average per week of 20 servings of fruit, 19 of vegetables, four of beans or other legumes and 11 of coffee or tea per week.

This shows a fruit and veggie salad plate Scarmeas notes that multiple nutrients in all foods contribute to the inflammatory nature of a person's diet. Image is in the public domain

Those in the group with the highest scores, 0.21 and above, indicating a more inflammatory diet, ate an average per week of nine servings of fruit, 10 of vegetables, two of legumes and nine of coffee or tea.

Researchers followed up with each person for an average of three years. Over the course of the study, 62 people, or 6%, developed dementia. The people who developed dementia had average scores of -0.06, compared to average scores of -0.70 for those who did not develop dementia.

After adjusting for age, sex and education, researchers found that each one-point increase in dietary inflammatory score was associated with a 21% increase in dementia risk. Compared to the lowest third of participants who consumed the least inflammatory diet, those in the top third were three times more likely to develop dementia.

Agencies

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL**

FRESH NIT NO 220(2nd Call of NIT 157,176,202,206,208) OF RNB/KHANABAL/2021-22 /E-TENDERING/15527-37
DATED 26/11/2021

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

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Position of AA	Class of Contractor
1	Fencing of Graveyard Mandlipora Krangsoo ward no 15 MC Anantnag	2.70	200	10 Days	14 th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/154 of 2021 DATED 01.09.2021	DEE Class Only
2	Construction of drain on left side of Bilal Colony link road at Bangdar MC Anantnag Ward No 01	2.15	200	10 Days	14 th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/154 of 2021 DATED 01.09.2021	DEE Class Only
3	Repairment and renovation of drainage system at Devi Manjir Anantnag MC Anantnag	2.99	200	10 Days	14 th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/205 of 2021 DATED 02.11.2021	DEE Class Only
4	Construction of drain from H/O Gh Nabi Hakeem to Masjid Usmania at SK Colony Ward No9 MC Anantnag	4.06	200	15 Days	14 th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/205 of 2021 DATED 02.11.2021	DEE Class Only
5	Construction of protection bund from H/O Shabir Ahmad Khan to H/O Gh Ahmad Bhat (Wangjoo) at New Colony Peerpora ward no 14 MC Anantnag	2.67	200	15 Days	14 th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/205 of 2021 DATED 02.11.2021	DEE Class Only
6	Construction of P/ Bund near H/O Nazir Ah Khan to H/O Javid Ahmad Khan at Khan Mohalla ward no 11 MC Seer Hamadara	1.00	200	10 Days	IDMT	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/SH/29 of 2021 Dated 01.11.2021	DEE Class Only

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-11-2021
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 27-11-2021 (09:00AM) To 02-12-2021 (04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 27-11-2021 (09:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 02-12-2021 (04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	03-12-2021 (10:30AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving Authority).
- All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.
- Note - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
- Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

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

DIPK-13802/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL**

FRESH NIT NO 221(3rd Call of NIT 133(189),149(191)) OF RNB/KHANABAL/2021-22 /E-TENDERING/15541-51
DATED 26/11/2021

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

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Position of AA	Class of Contractor
1	Repair / Renovation of set No 11 Mattan Adda flats.	0.70	200	10 Days	2059 - M&R	Accorded Vide No. CE/BS/435-39 Dated 05.04.2021	DEE Class Only
2	Construction of stepped lane from Maingate of graveyard to graveyard Aba Dar at Bagwardi Malaknag MC Anantnag ward no 21	1.33	200	10 Days	14th FC	Accorded Vide Order No. MC/ANG/154 of 2021 DATED 01.09.2021	DEE Class Only

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	26-11-2021
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 27-11-2021 (09:00AM) To 02-12-2021 (04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 27-11-2021 (09:00AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 02-12-2021 (04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	03-12-2021 (10:30AM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving Authority).
- All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.
- Note - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.
- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
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- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.
- Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees, shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

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

DIPK-13801/21

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
**Department of Disaster
Management, Relief,
Rehabilitation & Reconstruction**
State Executive Committee
Civil Secretariat, J&K.

Sub: Restrictions for COVID containment-regarding
**Government Order No. 82-JK (DMRRR) of 2021
Dated: 28.11.2021**

- Whereas, a detailed review of the current Covid-19 situation in Jammu and Kashmir was held by the Chief Secretary, J&K, with the ACS (Finance), ACS (Health and Medical Education), Principal Secretary (Home), Principal Secretary (PWD-R&B), ADG/IGs, Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police and other officers of Jammu and Kashmir on 27.11.2021;
- Whereas, the above review was conducted to assess overall situation pertaining to the spread of COVID-19 in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly focusing on the following parameters-
a. Total weekly new cases (per million).
b. Total positivity rate.
c. Bed Occupancy.
d. Case fatality rate.
e. Vaccination coverage of targeted population.
f. The extent of compliance to COVID Appropriate Behaviour.
- Whereas, it was observed that there is a need to continue with the existing COVID containment measures in all Districts in view of the uneven trend observed in daily Covid cases as well as rising positivity rate.
- Now therefore, the State Executive Committee, in exercise of the powers conferred upon it under section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, hereby orders that the guidelines / instructions on COVID containment in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, already notified vide Government Orders 35 and 36-JK (DMRRR) of 2021 dated 29-05-2021 read with Government Orders 73-JK (DMRRR) of 2021 dated 22-10-2021 and 81-JK(DMRRR) of 2021 dated 21-11-2021, shall continue to remain in force till further orders.
- Enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) is critical in determining the need for additional restrictions. The District Magistrates of J&K shall strictly ensure that there is full compliance to Covid Appropriate Behaviour and defaulters are firmly dealt with under relevant sections of the Disaster Management Act and the Indian Penal Code. The DMs to intensify the campaigns for ensuring Covid Appropriate Behaviour. Dedicated IEC, including public announcements through mobile vehicles must also be undertaken.
- The DMs shall constitute inspection teams of district officers to check whether the instructions contained herein for enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) are being implemented by the concerned with due responsibility. Further, the DMs shall constitute joint teams of Police and Executive Magistrates for intensifying enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour. The joint teams shall submit daily report regarding activities carried out by them and their assessment of compliance level.
- The Home Secretary, Government of Jammu & Kashmir shall monitor the enforcement of Covid Appropriate Behaviour closely and shall submit a Report to the Chairperson of the State Executive Committee (Chief Secretary) on daily basis.
- The State Executive Committee reiterates that the following measures shall continue to remain in force -
i. The maximum number of people permitted to attend any indoor/ outdoor gathering shall be strictly restricted to 25. However, in Banquet Halls in Districts with positivity rate below 0.2 and weekly case load below 250, gathering shall be permitted up to 25% of the authorised capacity, preferably in open spaces, for vaccinated persons/ persons with verifiable RT-PCR or RAT not older than 72 hours.
ii. Cinema halls and theatres, and multiplexes are also allowed to function with 25% capacity subject to condition that management will ensure strict compliance of Covid Appropriate Behaviour

- (CAB). All District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police shall ensure compliance.
- Swimming Pools are also allowed to function at 25% capacity subject to condition that management will ensure proper Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB)
- There shall be no Weekend Curfew in any district.
- Offline Board Examination for 12th and 10th classes shall be permitted to be held in staggered manner keeping in view all the Social Distancing Norms & Covid Appropriate Behaviour. The following directions shall be strictly adhered to by the concerned institutions conducting the offline board examinations:
a. All the students coming for offline board examination to the venue shall carry consent for each examination duly signed by their parents/legal guardians.
b. The sanitisation of the examination hall, furniture and toilets should be carried out daily before and after the exams.
c. The seating arrangement should be made in such a manner that every second desk is left vacant to maintain physical distancing.
d. Vaccinating the teachers, staff and officials involved in conducting the examination with the cooperation of the district administration shall be made mandatory.
e. There should be a thermal scanner, pulse oximeter, first aid boxes and hand sanitisers at the venue of the examination.
f. All the students appearing for examination must mandatorily be wearing masks & arrangement to this effect needs to be ensured by the concerned institution.
g. Separate facility should be provided to the students showing any symptoms like cough, common cold and flu.
h. It shall be the responsibility of Board authorities and Head of the schools to ensure that the Covid protocols are strictly adhered to.
vi. As regards the education institutions, following directions shall be adhered to:
a. Classes for 12th standard shall be permitted with limited in-person teaching not exceeding 50% on a given day, for vaccinated students and staff. Consent shall be obtained from the parents of all students who are willing to attend the school. The school premises should be thoroughly sanitised.
Proper screening regarding vaccination should be done on the school gate. If students or teachers or other school staff shows symptoms of cough, cold, or fever, they will not be allowed to enter the school. The Head of the school must ensure that the guidelines related to social distancing and Covid protocols are strictly followed.
b. Limited in-person teaching of students of 10th class, not exceeding 50% on any given day, and after ensuring compliance with Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the school authorities, can be permitted by concerned Deputy Commissioners after due screening through 100% Rapid Antigen Test or RT-PCR, subject to consent of parents and students. The schools will strictly follow Covid related protocols.
c. The schools, except for relaxations as provided above for students of 12th and 10th classes, shall continue to remain closed for on-site / in-person teaching.
d. Limited in-person teaching of vaccinated students, not exceeding 50% on any given day, shall be permitted in Polytechnics and ITIs subject to consent of parents and students and all measures as per Covid related protocols.
e. Coaching Centres for Civil Services/Engineering/NEET shall be permitted with limited in-person teaching, for fully vaccinated staff and student, subject to condition that the Head of the centre shall ensure that the guidelines related to social distancing and Covid protocols are adhered to.
f. All other Coaching Centres, except those indicated above, shall continue to remain closed for on-site / in-person teaching.
g. Higher educational institutions shall be permitted to commence limited in-person teaching subject to 100% vaccination of staff and students and specific permission of concerned Deputy Commissioners. Such institutions can organise special vaccination camps in consultation with district administration. The Head of these institutions must ensure that the guidelines related to social distancing and Covid protocols are adhered to.
h. Educational institutions shall be permitted to direct attendance of vaccinated staff for administrative purposes only.
Night Curfew shall continue to remain in force in all districts from 9 pm to 6 am but for those districts with positivity rate below 0.2 and weekly case load below 250 where it would be from 11 pm to 6 am.
All Deputy Commissioners shall intensify testing by making optimum use of available RT-PCR and RAT capacities. There shall be no drop in testing levels.
The Deputy Commissioners shall also focus on the positivity rates of the Medical-Blocks under their jurisdictions. Intensified measures related to Covid management and restriction of activities shall be undertaken in these Blocks.

There shall be renewed focus on Panchayat level/Medical Block mapping of cases and effective micro-containment zones shall be constituted wherever unusual spike of cases is noticed. Effectiveness of micro containment zones shall be decided on the basis of number of cases reported from such zones.

The DCs shall keep active track of the positivity rates in their respective jurisdictions. Strict perimeter control (Micro-Containment Zone) shall be implemented for any unusual spike in Positivity Rate in any given locality/area. This shall be done to ensure no movement of people in or out of these zones, except for medical emergencies and for maintaining supply of essential goods and services. Following Standard Operating Procedure shall be followed for these defined Micro Containment Zones:

- The Zone shall be confined to either 50 meters or a Single Building. A buffer zone of 150 meters to be put in place between Micro Containment Zone and rest of locality.
- The District Magistrates shall create as many Micro Containment Zones as needed and as per situation demand on ground, keeping in view the spike of cases.
- There shall be intensive house-to-house surveillance within the zone by surveillance teams formed for the purpose.
- Testing shall be carried out as per prescribed protocol.
- Listing of contacts shall be carried out in respect of all persons found positive, along with their tracking, identification, quarantine and follow up of contacts for 14 days (80 percent of contacts to be traced in 72 hours).
- Quick isolation of COVID-19 patients shall be ensured in treatment facilities/ home (subject to fulfilling the home isolation guidelines).
- Surveillance for ILI(Influenza Like Illness) / SARI (Severe Acute Respiratory Illness) cases shall be carried out in health facilities or outreach mobile units or through fever clinics in buffer zones.
- The three - "T" protocol of testing, tracking and treating, besides vaccination, needs to be strengthened in all Blocks. The proportion of RT-PCR tests in the total mix should be scaled up on best effort basis.
- All Districts of J&K shall intensify efforts to ensure timely administering of the Second Dose of the Covid-19 vaccination in accordance with the due date for the same.
- All Districts to ensure the completion of Overdue Second Dose of Covid Vaccinations within a week.
- Positive cases detected because of intensive testing need to be isolated / quarantined at the earliest and their contacts shall also be traced and similarly isolated / quarantined and tested if needed
- Immediate isolation and treatment of COVID-19 patients shall be ensured in treatment facilities / hospitals / homes.
- The D/o HME, GoJK, shall ensure adequate availability of COVID dedicated health and logistics (including ambulatory) infrastructure, based on their assessment of the case trajectory.
- MD, NHM in consultation with the DCs shall take up Panchayat level mapping and data capturing on the specified portal with respect to all tests for tracking the positivity rates in all Panchayats and other areas in a timely manner.
- The following categories of Incoming passengers by Air/Rail/Road to the UT of J&K shall NOT be required to undergo RT-PCR or Rapid Antigen Covid-19 Test on arrival:
i. If they are carrying a valid and verifiable Final Certificate Report of Covid-19 Vaccination.
ii. If they are carrying a valid and verifiable RT-PCR Covid19 Negative report taken within 72 hours of arrival time.
Concerned District Magistrates shall strictly ensure compliance to the above.
- Inter State movement of passenger transport of SRTC shall be permitted for fully vaccinated person or persons with verifiable RT-PCR not older than 72 hours or based on RAT on-spot with strict compliance with CAB.
- Entry into Parks shall be permitted to vaccinated persons only with due verification. Surprise checks shall be conducted by inspection teams to assess the implementation and initiate corrective measures.

By Order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Sd/-
Chief Secretary
(Chairperson, State Executive Committee)

No: DMRRR/PS/Secy/551/2020
Dated: 28.11.2021
DIPK-13825/21

Food, Gas Prices Pinch Families As Inflation Surges Globally

Agencies

BUDAPEST: From appliance stores in the United States to food markets in Hungary and gas stations in Poland, rising consumer prices fueled by high energy costs and supply chain disruptions are putting a pinch on households and businesses worldwide.

Rising inflation is leading to price increases for food, gas and other products and pushing many people to choose between digging deeper into their pockets or tightening their belts. In developing economies, it's especially dire.

We've noticed that we're consuming less, Gabor Pardi, a shopper at an open-air food market in Hungary's capital, Budapest, said after buying a sack of fresh vegetables recently. We try to shop for the cheapest and most economical things, even if they don't look as good."

Nearly two years into the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic impact of the crisis is still being felt even after countries raced out of debilitating lockdowns and consumer demand rebounded. Now, another surge of infections and a new coronavirus variant, omicron, are leading countries to tighten their borders and impose other restrictions, threatening the global



economic recovery.

The reverberations are hitting central and Eastern Europe especially hard, where countries have some of the highest inflation rates in the 27-nation European Union and people are struggling to buy food or fill their fuel tanks.

A butcher at the Budapest food market, Ildiko Vardos Serfozo, said she's seen a drop in business as customers head to multinational grocery chains that can offer discounts by buying in large wholesale quantities.

Buyers are price sensitive and therefore often leave us behind, even if our products are high quality. Money talks, she said. We notice that inflation is not good for us. ... I'm just glad my kids don't want to continue this family business, I don't see much future in it.

16970 Unemployed Youth Covered Under EGP At Kupwara

Observer News Service

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara Monday convened series of meetings to review the implementation of Employment Generation Schemes and Skill Development Programmes in Kupwara district.

Threadbare discussion was held in the meetings and the DC received feedback from each department involving with Skill Development and Employment Generation.

The DC stressed upon the officers to work out the action plan for employment generation of 2209 candidates in all 385 panchayats of the district as per the field of interest of the candidates.

He directed all the concerned officers to launch a vigorous awareness campaign under one umbrella programme at block level, involving educated unemployed youth and provide them thorough awareness regarding various employment generation schemes of their concerned departments with proper technical guidance.

Imam Din said that LC's Administration has taken special interest in providing employment to maximum youth of the UT including border district Kupwara and added that 5 candidates in plain areas and 10 in

border areas in each panchayat have been identified under special self-employment programme. He said this is over and above the routine target of the departments which shall be covered under ambitious Mission Youth programme.

Reviewing the employment generation programme (EGP)/ schemes implemented in the district, the DC was informed that various sponsoring agencies and departments have received 5204 cases under various schemes including PMEGP, SHG, MUMKIN, SEP, ACC, ISDS and TSP.

It was given out that out of these cases, 3013 cases have been sanctioned by different sponsoring agencies/departments including DIC, KVIB, KVIC, PM SMVIDHI, NRLM, Employment, PMAY, NULM, Handicraft, Handloom, Animal/ Sheep Husbandry.

As many as 2509 cases have been provided financial benefits of Rs.56.03 crore, thereby provided employment generation to 16970 unemployed youth of the district.

Earlier, the officer from JKEDI, Handicraft/Handloom, KVIC, JSS, Agriculture, Horticulture, DIC, Animal/Sheep Husbandry, Banks, Employment and other concerned briefed the Deputy Commissioner about their achievements.

No Proposal To Recognise Bitcoin As Currency: FM Sitharaman

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government has no proposal to recognise Bitcoin as a currency in the country, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Lok Sabha on Monday.

She also informed the House that the government does not collect data on Bitcoin transactions.

Replying to a question on whether the government has any proposal to recognise Bitcoin as a currency in the country, the finance minister said, "No, sir".

Bitcoin is a digital currency that allows people to buy goods and services and exchange money without involving banks, credit card issuers or other third parties.

It was introduced in 2008 by an unidentified group of programmers as a cryptocurrency as well as an electronic payment system.

It is reportedly the first decentralised digital currency where peer-to-peer transactions take place without any intermediary.

The government plans to introduce the Cryptocurrency and Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill 2021 in the winter session of Parliament which began on Monday.

The Bill seeks to ban all private cryptocurrencies but allows for some exceptions to promote the underlying technologies, while allowing an of-



ficial digital currency by RBI.

In a separate reply to a written question, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said the government has received a proposal from the RBI in October 2021 for amendment to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 to enhance the scope of the definition of 'bank note' to include currency in digital form.

RBI has been examining use cases and working out a phased implementation strategy for introduction of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) with little or no disruption, he said in reply to the question asked by Adoor Prakash.

Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) is introduced by a central bank.

Chaudhary said introduction of CBDC has the potential to provide significant benefits, such as reduced dependency on cash, higher seigniorage due to lower transaction costs and reduced settlement risk.

"Introduction of CBDC would also possibly lead to a more robust, efficient, trusted, regulated and legal tender-based pay-

ments option. There are also associated risks which need to be carefully evaluated against the potential benefits," he said.

Replying to another question, Sitharaman said ministries and departments have spent Rs 2.29 lakh crore as capital expenditure during the April-September period of the current fiscal.

This is 41 per cent of the Budget Estimate (BE) of Rs 5.54 lakh crore for 2021-22. The actual expenditure during current fiscal is about 38 per cent higher than the corresponding expenditure in FY 2020-21, she said.

To accelerate capital expenditure for creation and upgradation of infrastructure in the economy, the government had launched the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) with projected infrastructure investment of Rs 111 lakh crore during the period 2020-2025 to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens.

National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) was also launched on August 23, 2021 to unlock the value of investments in public sector assets by tapping private sector capital and efficiencies for delivering infrastructure services, she said.

The monetisation proceeds are envisaged to be ploughed back to augment existing/ create greenfield infrastructure to boost the economy, she added.

RBI Supersedes Board Of Reliance Capital; Appoints Administrator

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: The RBI on Monday superseded the board of Reliance Capital Ltd (RCL), promoted by Anil Ambani's Reliance Group, in view of the defaults in meeting payment obligations.

The RBI said the board has been superseded "in view of the defaults by RCL in meeting the various payment obligations to its creditors and serious governance concerns which the Board has not been able to address effectively".

It has also appointed Nageswar Rao Y (Ex-Executive Director, Bank of Maharashtra) as the administrator of the NBFC.

"The Reserve Bank will shortly initiate the process of resolution of the company un-



der the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Insolvency and Liquidation Proceedings of Financial Service Providers and Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2019," the central bank said in a statement.

The Reserve Bank will also apply to the NCLT, Mumbai, for appointing the administrator as the Insolvency Resolution Professional.

J&K Bank Insurance Income Up By 30%



Observer News Service

JAMMU: "Good products and services, better technology and focused attention on customers are the key elements of success mantra for all commercial organisations. And I am happy to see our energetic and experienced staff from Jammu Division zones here, whose dedication along with diligence has helped them to find their place among top performers in the Bank's life-insurance segment," said J&K Bank CMD R K Chhibber.

According to the statement from the bank, Chhibber made these remarks in 'Leader's Talk' at an event that was organised to recognise the Bank's Champion Performers of Jammu Division Zones under life-insurance segment here at Jammu

in presence of MD Pnb MetLife Ashish Srivastava. The Bank's Executive President Sunil Gupta, President (Insurance) Narjay Gupta, Zonal Heads, Heads of Business Units from Jammu region and other officers were also present on the occasion.

While expressing satisfaction on the achievement of 30% growth in the Bank's insurance income CMD R K Chhibber directed the Bank staff posted at operational levels to make strenuous efforts so that the benefits of insurance reach all sections of society including the marginalised ones. "In order to increase our bottom-line we must redouble our efforts to increase income streams other than the interest. And life-insurance is one of the most under-explored areas especially in the current Covid-times," said the CMD.

Choudhary Chairs SLEC Meeting Of MIDH



Observer News Service

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Horticulture, Agriculture Production and Farmers' Welfare Department, Navin Kumar Choudhary Monday chaired the State Level Executive Committee (SLEC) meeting of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture here.

Navin Choudhary held detailed discussions over the action taken report on the decisions taken in the last SLEC meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, Director General Horticulture Kashmir, Ajaz Ahmad Bhat gave a detailed presentation wherein the chair was informed about the working and achievements recorded under the Mission in the UT of J&K.

The meeting was informed that the Government of India approved the action plan for an amount of Rs 51.99 crore under MIDH of Annual Plan for the year 2021-22.

Speaking on the occasion, Navin

Choudhary called upon the officers to make the utilization of earmarked funds judiciously within given time lines.

During the meeting, Navin Choudhary, who is chairman of the distribution of major activities of approved action plan among the line departments including nurseries, area expansion, rejuvenation, creation of water resources, protected cultivation, promotion of INM, beekeeping etc.

SLEC also accorded approval to several projects linked to activities like establishment of CA store units, Food Processing Units of private entrepreneurs under MIDH.

The meeting also discussed the approval of the projects received from entrepreneurs/corporations for assistance under MIDH and it was given out that five projects have been approved by the EMC of MIDH held on November 16, 2021 at New Delhi in its 20th meeting.

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING ANANTNAG

E-Tender Notice No: of 190 of 2021-22 Dated: 20-11-2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Of Union Territory Of J&K, e-tenders 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 each of the following works:-

S. No.	Name of the Work	Estimated/ Adv. Cost (Rs. In lacs)	Cost of Tender Documents	Class of Contract	Time for Completion	Major Head
1	Beautification of Public parks at different locations at Panchayat Paibugh Block Khoveripora	3.10	200.00	DEE	30 days	District Capex Budget
2	C/O Fencing masjid Jamia Yall with Gate Shumhall Block Khoveripora	4.00	200.00	DEE	30 days	District Capex Budget
3	C/O Flood Channel at different spots at Talab Kha at Rambirpora B Block Khoveripora	6.85	300.00	CEE/DEE	30 days	District Capex Budget

Position of A/A: Accorded
Position of T/S: Accorded

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.

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	20-11-2021
2.	Online Bid submission Start Date	20-11-2021 from 06:00 PM
3.	Online Bid Submission End Date	01-12-2021 upto 06:00 PM
4.	Date & time of opening of Online Bids	02-12-2021 at 11:00 AM or any convenient day in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag

Note: Hard copy of original Tender Document, Fee Receipt and Bid Security Self Declaration Form shall be deposited after the financial bid is opened. In case the original Tender Document Fee Receipt and Bid Security Self Declaration Form is not Deposited within 2 days after the Financial Bid is Opened for all responsive bidders who have participated online, the Department shall serve the Notice as per Rules.

- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division Anantnag (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids
- The L1 is required to deposit a Performance Security @ 3% of advertised value in the shape of CDR in favour of allotting authority (Executive Engineer REW Anantnag) at the time of finalization of allotment/ agreement with the Department.
- 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)

-Sd-
Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Anantnag

No. REW-A/WS/NIT/2021-22/13885-94
Dated: 20-11-2021
DIPK-13900/21

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ESTATES DIVISION, SRINAGAR.

B

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

NIT NO. 157/XEN/EDS/2021-22 OF 11/2021

Executive Engineer Estates Division Srinagar on behalf of Lt. Governor of Union Territory J&K invites tenders by E-tendering on Percentage basis from approved and eligible Registered Civil Contractors with Union Territory J&K / CPWD / Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

S.No.	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Amt In Rs)	Time of Completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1.	Repairs and Renovation of Pantry of SSP South in Anti Corruption bureau Old Secretariat Srinagar.	1.12 lacs	200/-	15 Days	DEE	2216 Non-Plan
2.	Closing of Open Spaces in Cubicles of Various Officers in IO's Hall in ACB at Old Secretariat Srinagar.	2.05 lacs	200/-	20 Days	DEE	
3.	Reconstruction of Wash Room in the Office Chamber of Deputy Director ICDS at Old Secretariat Srinagar.	1.39 lacs	200/-	15 Days	DEE	
4.	Conversion of Open Space into Conference Hall in Block-A Deputy CMO Office at Old Secretariat Srinagar. (Part-A)	2.23 lacs	200/	20 Days	DEE	
5.	Conversion of Open Space into Conference Hall in Block-A Deputy CMO Office at Old Secretariat Srinagar. (Part-B)	2.50 lacs	200/	20 Days	DEE	

Position of AAA:
Position of funds: Available

- 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	27-11-2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	29.11.2021 from 10.00 AM.
3	Bid Submission Start Date	29.11.2021 from 10.00 AM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	06.12.2021 upto 3.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	06.12.2021 at 3.05 PM. In the office of Executive Engineer Estates Division, Srinagar.
- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan under Major Head-0216/Revenue (others) in favour of Executive Engineer Estates Division, Srinagar (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer Estates Division, Srinagar (tender receiving authority).
- All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of advertised cost as performance security in shape of CDR/ FDR within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work/DLP is over.
- 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 Estates 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.
- 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 technical bid.
- Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents including tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. No document (s) which has /have not been uploaded shall be entertained in the form of hard copy. However, in case of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises

No. - E-Tender/NIT/EDS/5740-50/T-1
Dated:- 27-11-2021
DIPK-13811/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Estates Division, Sgr.

Bill To Scrap

The Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021 now awaits the assent of President Ram Nath Kovind for the formal withdrawal of the three contentious laws against which farmers have been protesting for the past year at Delhi borders.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has kept his word as the government has brought the bill on the very first day of the Winter session of parliament, Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar, while introducing the bill in the two Houses.

He sought the support of the members in its passage without a discussion, noting that both the government and the opposition are in favour of re-pealing the three laws.

Though the bill was passed by voice vote within minutes of its introduction in both Houses, opposition members continued their protest demanding a discussion on farmers' issues, including legal sanctity to Minimum Support Price of crops and compensation to families of farmers who died during the year-long agitation.

On November 19, in a special address to the nation, Prime Minister Modi announced that all three farm laws will be repealed in the Winter Session and had said these laws were brought for the welfare of farmers, especially small farmers, but his government could not explain the benefits to some farmers despite its efforts.

The agitating farmer unions have, however, refused to withdraw their stir till other demands, including a legal guarantee on MSP, are met.

On Monday, Tomar introduced the Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021, which stated that "Even though only a group of farmers are protesting against these laws, the Government has tried hard to sensitise the farmers on the importance of the Farm Laws and explain the merits through several meetings and other forums."

Without taking away the existing mechanisms available to farmers, new avenues were provided for the trade of their produce, the copy of the Bill said, adding that the laws have been stayed by the Supreme Court of India.

"During the COVID period, the farmers have worked hard to increase production and fulfil the needs of the nation. As we celebrate the 75th Year of Independence 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', the need of the hour is to take everyone together on the path of inclusive growth and development," the Bill said.

In Lok Sabha, the opposition entered the Well of the House demanding a debate on the bill and raised slogans and banners.

On opposition members' demand, Speaker Om Birla said: "You want debate, I am ready to allow debate when there is order in the House. But if you come to the Well, how can there be a debate?"

Birla said a discussion was not possible when the MPs were standing in the Well holding placards.

However, the opposition members did not pay heed to the Speaker's appeal and continued their protests.

Congress leader in the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said since the bill is listed for consideration and passage, why is there no discussion.

He accused the government of taking the House for a ride.

As the turmoil continued, the Speaker took a voice vote and declared the bill passed.

The three laws are The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act; The Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement of Price Assurance and Farm Services Act; and The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act.

The repeal of these three legislations has been one of the key demands of around 40 farmer unions protesting against these reforms for nearly a year now at various Delhi border points.

These laws, which are under suspension following a Supreme Court order in January this year, had triggered widespread protests by thousands of farmers, mainly from Punjab, Haryana and western Uttar Pradesh.

The protest, which started in November 2020, is still continuing. The unions are asking for a legal guarantee to Minimum Support Price for crops, among other demands.

The members of TRS, DMK and TMC were in the Well during the passage of the bill. The MPs from the Congress, NCP, BSP and IUML were protesting while standing at their respective seats.

Union ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Dharmendra Pradhan, Smriti Irani, Bhupendra Yadav, Ashwini Vaishnaw and others were present in the House.

Congress president Sonia Gandhi, SP leader Mulayam Singh Yadav, National Conference's Feroz Khan Noon were among those who were present in the House.

Later, the bill was taken up by Rajya Sabha. Deputy Chairman Hariwansh allowed Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge to speak briefly.

Kharge was of the view that the government has taken back the three farm laws in view of the forthcoming elections in five states after reviewing the results of recent bypolls.

He also mentioned the "death of over 700 farmers" during the agitation against these laws.

While seeking passage of the bill, Tomar the three laws were brought for the benefit of farmers.

He regretted that the government could not convince the agitating farmers about the benefits of the laws. He also attacked the Congress for adopting "double standard" on the laws, as its own election manifesto talked about the need for reforms in the farm sector.

He said Prime Minister Modi showed a large heart by announcing the repeal of the laws on Guru Nanak Jayanti.

Tomar said as both the government and the opposition parties are for repeal of the laws, so there was no need for any discussion on the farm repeal bill.

Rajya Sabha too passed the bill with a voice vote amid protests by Congress and TMC members. Dola Sen (TMC) and Nadimul Haque (TMC) were in the Well.

According to the copy of the Bill, the three laws were part of the Government's endeavour to improve the condition of farmers including small and marginal farmers.

"These enactments (a) provided freedom to the farmers to sell their produce to any buyer at any place of their choice to realise remunerative prices; (b) created an ecosystem wherein processor, bulk buyers, organised retailers and exporters and the like can directly engage with the farmers;

"(c) created a facilitative framework for electronic trading to improve transparency and price

discovery; and (d) provided a legal framework for farming contracts to protect the interest of the farmers, economically empower them and assure the price for their produce in advance," it said.

UN Envoy Welcomes

agriculture are informed by the country's human rights commitments and taken through meaningful consultations with farmers, communities and unions, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food Michael Fakhri said.

"While I acknowledge the lengthy process that preceded the passing of the laws, what ensued over the last year is an indication of the deep dissatisfaction felt by hundreds of thousands of people," Fakhri said in a statement on Friday.

It also illustrates that freedom of expression is a valuable tool for empowering people to influence policy change through mobilisation and peaceful protest, it said.

The statement said that along with other UN experts, the Special Rapporteur has engaged the government regarding the laws' potential to detrimentally impact the right to food, and the severe restrictions on fundamental freedoms authorities imposed amid the demonstrations.

The UN expert suggested drawing important lessons for public decision-making related to food security in India.

We should reflect on questions on what meaningful public consultations should ideally entail, and how a more participatory approach could lead to more popular decisions. The Government should consider how agricultural reforms can be implemented in full respect and fulfilment of the country's economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to food, Fakhri said.

Fakhri noted that India's Supreme Court played an important role when it ordered the government to provide more time and space to hear farmers' grievances.

Now, to truly turn the page on this painful chapter, it is incumbent on the authorities to heed calls for accountability concerning more than 600 casualties reported during the protests, and guarantee measures to prevent any repetition of such events, the statement said.

The UN release said that Fakhri's call was endorsed by Special Rapporteur on the right to freedom of opinion and expression Irene Khan, Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment David Boyd and Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights Olivier De Schutter.

Fakhri was appointed Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food by the Human Rights Council last year. He is a professor at the University of Oregon School of Law where he teaches courses on human rights, food law, development, and commercial law.

The three agricultural laws were passed in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Many farmers had been protesting and were encamped at Delhi's borders since November 2020 with a demand that the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, Farmers' (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020 be rolled back and a new law made to guarantee minimum support price (MSP) for crops.

NC MPs Protest

besides Lawyapora in the outskirts of the city in December last year.

The protest by Abdullah and his colleagues, Akbar Lone and Hassnain Masoodi, on the first day of the Winter Session, coincided with Parliament passing The Farm Laws Repeal Bill, 2021 to rescind the three contentious agricultural laws.

The Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha approved the bill without any debate amid protests by opposition members who were demanding a discussion on it.

Abdullah was carrying a placard that read "Like farm laws, revoke 5th August 2019 unconstitutional decision and restore Article 370 and 35A", while Lone and Masoodi were carrying posters saying "Order judicial probe into Hyderabad, Rambagh and Lawyapora shootouts".

As per police, four people, including a Pakistani terrorist and his local associate, were killed in an encounter in Hyderabad on November 15. The families of three of the deceased claimed that their slain relatives were innocent civilians, prompting Lt Governor to order a magisterial probe into the incident.

On November 25, three local militants were shot dead by police in Rambagh locality of the city, while three more suspected militants were killed in another controversial encounter in Lawyapora area of Srinagar in December last year.

Abdullah said the government must restore pre-August 2019 position to J&K if it wants to win the hearts of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"The August 5, 2019 development was unconstitutional which badly hurt the people of Jammu and Kashmir. If they want to win back the people, this (restoration of pre-August 2019 position) is the only way," he said.

Taking a dig at the BJP, Abdullah said the party just passes bills without discussions which is not a parliamentary way of doing things.

"The tragedy is that Parliament is no longer what it used to be. Today, the bills are passed without discussion and this is the reason they have to repeal them (farm bills). Had the government listened to the opposition and held a discussion over it, none of this would have happened and over 700 farmers would not have died (during the year-long agitation)," the NC president said.

Abdullah expressed hope that the government learnt lessons from this and it would revoke the decisions taken on August 5, 2019 without any further delay.

177 Security Men

by him to boost coastal security included capacity augmentation of maritime security agencies, enhancing technical surveillance of coastal and offshore areas and establishment of mechanisms for inter-agency coordination.

Bhatt said Indian Naval ships and aircraft are regularly deployed on 'Mission Based Deployments' in the Indian Ocean Region to enhance maritime security.

"It also undertakes surveillance to enhance maritime domain awareness and address contingencies that may arise," he said.

"These are in consonance with Government of India's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) and the Maritime Security Strategy to build its role as the 'Preferred Security Partner' in our extended maritime neighbourhood," he said.

Govt Working

"(Our focus is that) the facilitation increases, peace and prosperity regained, people get jobs and industry comes to J&K," he said.

On the Amarnath pilgrimage, Sinha said there is an apprehension among people in various parts of the country that the yatra is not safe.

"All of us need to work towards ensuring that the people living across India feel that Amarnath Yatra is as safe as any other pilgrimage in the country. We are working in that direction," he said.

On the new accommodation facility, he said the Delhi School of Architecture will prepare the design within two months and expressed hope that the work will be completed within a year.

Sinha said that discussions were held about the feasibility of a ropeway for the yatra. "Once the feasibility report comes, we will move ahead," he said.

He said that the Jindal Foundation has done a survey for improving facilities at Shiv Khori shrine in Reasi district. "We hope the work will start next month," he said.

He said that the government is looking at creating a pilgrim tourism circuit of Mata Vaishnodevi, Shiv Khori, Purmandal, Mansar and Surinsar lakes.

Lays Foundation

The LG, he said, congratulated the devotees of Amarnath; officials of the Shrine Board and the people of Jammu region for the ground-breaking ceremony of the Yatri Niwas. He also expressed his desire to develop Yatri Niwas as a symbol of compassion, spirituality, service, peace and happiness.

"Yatri Niwas is not merely a building. It needs to be developed as a centre for awakening of consciousness, a confluence of ancient philosophy so that the devotees can feel bliss and may begin their further journey to Shri Amarnath ji Shrine in South Kashmir with purity and perfection," Sinha said.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG directed the board officials to establish a library for showcasing the spiritual and cultural heritage of J&K to the visiting pilgrims.

"Work with greater commitment and dedication to provide safe and best-in-class facilities keeping in mind the faith of the devotees and the timeless tradition of Shri Amarnath ji Yatra," the LG said.

Sinha, the official spokesperson said further stated that a Yatri Niwas with a capacity of more than 3200 pilgrims is under construction at Chandrakot in Ramban, and the foundation for another Yatri Niwas with a capacity of about 2800 passengers was laid in the month of August this year in Srinagar.

"The Yatri Niwas in Jammu will also open up new employment avenues for the local population, especially for the youth," the LG said.

"Dharma has been the very essence of the Jammu region since ancient times. The morning breeze here is filled with the prayers just as all our Vedas, Upanishads, Shastras begin with a salutation to the almighty. Therefore, we are making dedicated efforts to serve all those who are starting their spiritual odyssey from the City of Temples," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG also elaborated on the work being done to develop tourism in Jammu and said that a pilgrimage tourism circuit connecting Mata Vaishno Devi, Purmandal- Utterbehni, Mansar-Surinsar and Shiv Khori together is coming up, besides promoting the unexplored tourism potential of Jammu to attract more tourists.

"Durga Bhawan, a high utility pilgrim-centric facility at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine is under construction. Study for the restoration of Shiv Khori is being done and work on it will begin soon. We are also exploring the feasibility of a ropeway at Shri Amarnathji Shrine," he said.

On the occasion, the LG, along with the members and officials of the SASB performed Bhumi Pujan rituals for the new facility.

Omar Slams Cong

J&K's future is linked to the special status guaranteed by the Constitution, he said, adding that the case for restoration of Article 370 is very strong.

The former chief minister accused the BJP of "murdering democracy" in the Union Territory, after abrogation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019, by rendering institutions, including newspapers, feeble and said it has rendered "hollow" India's slogan of being the biggest democracy in the world.

"Our case (for restoration of Article 370 before the Supreme Court) is very strong... We expected support from opposition parties but they are silent. Our existence is linked to this article," said Abdullah, who is currently on a tour of the Chenab valley region, while addressing a public meeting at Kishtwar town.

Earlier, Abdullah, along with other senior party leaders, including general secretary Ali Mohammad Sagar, paid obeisance at the famous shrines of Hazrat Shah Farid-ud-Din Bagdadi and Hazrat Shah Asrar-ud-Din Wali and prayed for lasting peace and prosperity in Jammu and Kashmir.

Referring to the reported remarks of senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad that it is meaningless to speak about Article 370, Abdullah said, "I'm disappointed by his statement as he is a senior leader and former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir."

"If Article 370 is our heritage, it is also your party's legacy more than ours. It was first prime minister Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru of the Congress who brought Article 370 and today Congressmen are not willing to safeguard their legacy. So, how can one expect it to save the people," he said.

The NC leader said the Congressmen have taken a decision before the court which is yet to start hearing the petitions filed before it against the abrogation of Article 370.

"If they are not ready to fight this battle, no issue, we will single-handedly take it to its logical conclusion. We will fight because this fight is linked to the future of the people of J&K, its jobs and land which is the first priority of the locals," he said, adding that their fight is based on justice and for restoration of the honour and dignity which was snatched from them unconstitutionally.

The former chief minister said he is not comfortable with the word Union Territory and alleged that the people were told lies and misled by false promises and slogans when the erstwhile state was downgraded.

"We were told that Article 370 was an obstacle for industrialisation, generation of employment opportunities for our youth and the main reason for poverty, and its removal would pave the way for development and new projects... it stands exposed today," he said and questioned the claims

that Article 370 was hollow, asking "then what was the need for its abrogation".

Accusing the BJP of murdering democracy in Jammu and Kashmir on a "daily basis", he said media persons are being pressurised and are not allowed to write truth in the valley. "If they write something, they are called to police stations and booked immediately. If the government gets angry, they stop advertisements in newspapers."

He said newspapers are even being forced to remove old articles from archives so that a "new history" is written.

Likewise, democratic institutions are being violated, Abdullah said, referring to the no confidence motion moved against a chairperson of the district development council in Budgam district of central Kashmir. He claimed that the motion has been pending for the past four months as the DDC chairperson is a blue-eyed boy of the government.

"...this is no democracy," the NC leader said, adding that in a democracy people are allowed to speak freely, criticise the government and speak the truth.

He said attempts are being made to break the NC, which is not ready to compromise, paddle falsehood, betray people, raise false slogans and do politics on the basis of religion and region.

"Conspiracies were being hatched against the party since its inception but they witnessed a spurt after August 2019. The party leadership was detained on immaterial charges for months and their only aim was to break the NC," Abdullah said, adding these attempts are still continuing.

Asking people what change they have witnessed on the ground since August 2019, he said, "If you report any improvement, I'll stay silent and I'll not come again to seek votes for my party."

"Keep religion, caste, creed and regional politics aside and ask yourselves if there has been any improvement in our lives. If the answer is negative, we have to set the accounts straight at the time of voting," he said, cautioning locals to remain vigilant against polarisation attempts ahead of the polls.

Abdullah said he was not in Kishtwar to seek votes as the election bugle was yet to be sounded. "We need to remain cautious of the powers which are sowing seeds of hatred with the announcement of polls to divide people for political gains."

He said power projects started by his government in 2009-2015 in Kishtwar are yet to be completed.

"We do not have oil, gas or gold mines but God has bestowed the region with beauty and rivers which we tried to exploit for the betterment of people... when there will be change in the government, we will refocus on it and will never snatch anyone's rights," he said.

Statehood After

the BJP leaders are being killed here or the non-Kashmiris or non-Muslims, even some Muslims are also targeted. We are against every selective killing & no religion allows it, Koul said.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home minister Amit Shah have on the floor of the Parliament said that the statehood of J-K will be restored and the BJP also supports the demand.

"When the situation in J-K becomes better, when it (situation) will be normal, the selective killings will end, and common people will be able to move freely, the statehood will then be restored," he said.

To a question on the conduct of the assembly elections, the BJP leader said the polls will be held soon after the delimitation commission submits its report.

Govt Orders Universal

be sent for home quarantine of 7 days and re-tested on the 8th day, whereas, the COVID positive patients will be sent to institutional quarantine centres for 15 days and their samples will be sent for genome sequencing at ICMR designated testing laboratories," he said.

The official spokesperson said that it was emphasized that de-boarding from international flights must comply with the COVID appropriate behaviour (CAB) and set protocols and a special COVID helpdesk is forthwith established at the Srinagar airport. Besides, Secretary, Disaster Management was asked to monitor the situation and submit a daily report for timely intervention of the concerned agency.

"The Chief Secretary impressed upon the Health Department to establish genome sequencing facilities at Government Medical Colleges, Srinagar and Jammu to fast-track the detection of Omicron variant and other mutations," he said.

"Moreover, district administrations of Budgam and Srinagar were asked to establish government quarantine centres and further explore arrangements for paid quarantine facilities for institutional quarantine to deal with any emergent situation," he added.

The official spokesperson said that the Health and Medical Education Department was asked to conduct equipment audit to establish functionality of COVID related infrastructure including COVID dedicated hospitals, ventilators, Oxygen supported beds, and Oxygen plants.

He further added that the Department was directed to ensure readiness of manpower and machinery to cater to a peak caseload of at least 7500 patients per day and firm up the inventory of oxygen supply and medicines.

"Further, the Chief Secretary directed the Deputy Commissioners to enhance testing rate and contact tracing for positive patients to trace infection trajectory and establish micro-containment zones at an early stage. Additionally, the Deputy Commissioners were directed to reduce the daily reported cases through strict enforcement of CAB, COVID SOPs and protocols, and micro-containment zones," he added.

Administrative Secretaries of Finance, Health & Medical Education, Home, Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, besides Divisional Commissioners Kashmir/ Jammu, Deputy Commissioner of Anantnag, Srinagar, Kathua, Jammu, Udhampur, Reasi and Budgam, along with MD, National Health Mission, Director, Family Welfare, and other concerned officers participated in the meeting.

Health Dept

Health Services Kashmir, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rather on Monday visited Srinagar International Airport in view of fresh guidelines for international arrivals.

Rather, who visited the airport on the directions of Additional Chief Secretary J&K Health and Medical Education Department, Vivek Bhardwaj, held a meeting with Director Srinagar International

Airport Kuldeep Singh and with Covid in-charge health officials and appealed them to follow fresh guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

During the meeting, the official spokesperson said, Dr Mushtaq told the health officials to implement the new guidelines and follow the same in letter and spirit.

He said this has been done in view of the fresh guidelines issued by the Union Health Ministry which were revised in view of the Covid variant Omicron, which has been now classified as a Variant of Concern by the WHO.

"The Director Health appealed the officials to implement the guidelines on ground and ensure that every traveller is tested and all the precautionary measures at all places to help contain the virus spread," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, the Director Health briefed the officials about the mandated submitting of 14 days travel details and upload negative Covid (RT-PCR) test results on Air Suvidha portal before the journey.

The new rules will come into effect from 1 December till further orders.

J&K Logs 150

Kashmir Valley on Monday, raising the fatality count to 4476-2185 in Jammu and 2291 in Kashmir.

About the fresh cases of Covid-19 detected Monday, officials said 122 were reported from Kashmir Valley and the remaining 28 from Jammu division, taking the total number of people infected by virus so far to 336681.

In the Valley, officials said, Srinagar reported the highest 48 new cases of virus, Baramulla 23, Budgam 16, Bandipora 14, Ganderbal 7, Kupwara 6, Pulwama 4, Anantnag 2, and Kulgam and Shopian 1 each.

In the winter capital, officials said, Jammu reported a maximum of 15 new cases of virus, Reasi 4 and two each in Rajouri, Doda, Kishtwar and Poonch. The four districts of Udhampur, Kathua, Samba and Ramban reported no new cases of virus.

"Moreover, 181 Covid-19 patients recovered during the time, 20 from Jammu Division and 161 from Kashmir," officials added.

Non-Local Held

in this regard has been initiated, the officer added.

Widespread Snowfall

the previous night, the officials said.

They said Pahalgal recorded a low of minus 3.4 degrees Celsius.

Gulmarg resort in north Kashmir's Baramulla district also recorded a minimum temperature of minus 2.2 degrees Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of minus 1.6 degrees Celsius.

Qazigund recorded minus 2 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag recorded a low of minus 0.5 degrees Celsius.

The MET Office has said the weather will most likely remain dry but cold till December 3.

The wintry conditions in the valley 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. (With PTI inputs)

17% Rise In Anaemia

compared to 20.4 percent in NFHS-4.

The report further revealed that in NFHS-5, 31.1 percent of men in the age group of 15-19 in J&K was relatively higher as the rate stood at 53.5 percent compared to 29.5 percent in NFHS-4.

Pertinently, a sharp rise in anaemia was also recorded in several other states as well among women aged between 15 and 49 years. The erstwhile state is preceded by Tripura (12.9 percentage rise), Mizoram (10.1 percentage rise) and West Bengal (8.9 percentage rise).

It is pertinent to mention here that the NFHS-5 fieldwork for Jammu & Kashmir was conducted from July 1, 2019 to January 30, 2020 and the Information was gathered from 18,086 households, 23,037 women, and 3,087 men.

Notably, as per NFHS-5 report, anaemia rose at an average of 3 percent across age groups in NFHS-5 when compared to NFHS-4 at the National level of India.

Pck Teen Booked

the LoC in the border district.

Officials said that the teenage boy (name withheld) was reportedly infiltrating from LoC in Poonch sector area on November 25 when soldiers spotted and took him into custody.

"After joint investigation in local army camp, the teenage boy was handed over to police in police station Poonch," the official said, adding that a formal case has been registered against the teenage

"A case in FIR 295/2021 under section 2/3 of E&IMCO has been registered in Poonch police station against the boy for illegal entry into this side," the officials said.

They said that a person who tries to make an illegal entry into a state is booked under this act.

Senior Superintendent of Police Poonch, Dr. Vinod Kumar said that the teenage boy has been booked in case under relevant sections of E&IMCO while further legal formalities are going on.

"The boy is juvenile and our investigation and legal formalities are going on," SSP added.

Bush Fire Rages

out in the morning was yet to be doused till last reports poured in.

"No mine blast has been reported from the area under fire, but flames have engulfed the area of bushes and there are clouds of smoke," they said.

IND Vs NZ, 1st Test

Indians Defy India As Kiwis Claim Moral Victory In Draw



Press Trust of India

KANPUR: Two Indian-born cricketers, Ajaz Patel and Rachin Ravindra, showed remarkable resilience under fading light and on a deteriorating track to defy India's famous spinners, eking out a thrilling draw for New Zealand in the opening Test in Kanpur on Monday.

Indian spinners, led by Ravindra Jadeja, put up one of their most persevering performances in recent times but Mumbai-born Patel (2 off 23 balls) and Karnataka-born Ravindra (18 not out off 91 balls) consumed 8.4 overs after the fall of the ninth wicket to keep New Zealand on even keel in the two-match series.

A lot of credit should also go to night-watchman Will Somerville (36 off 110 balls), who played the entire fifth morning and to first raise visions of the improbable draw.

A match lasting five days on

an Indian spin-friendly track impressed newly-appointed national head coach Rahul Dravid, who announced Rs 35,000 as a token of appreciation for the ground staff.

"We were bowling in good areas, we knew we had time but light was always going to come into play in the last session. It happened every day of the match," senior India off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin said after the exhausting day.

A victory target of 284 was always out of question but the gutsy New Zealanders didn't lose any wicket in the first session of the last morning before the Indian spinners, who had saved their best for the last, finally showed their skills but couldn't end on a winning note.

The result at Green Park is the first time that New Zealand has gone 10 Test matches undefeated (eight wins, two draws) with the current streak starting against India at the start of 2020.

J&K Cricket Team For Vijay Hazare Announced

JKCA retain Pundir as captain, Samad as vice captain

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu & Kashmir Cricket Association on Monday named its 20-man senior squad for the upcoming Vijay Hazare Trophy 2021-22.

Shubham Pundir has been retained as the team's captain, while Abdul Samad will continue as the vice captain. This will be the second senior men's tournament since the newly formed, BCCI-appointed, committee took charge to oversee JKCA. The J&K team had earlier shown a dismal



performance in Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Tournament.

J&K Team: Shubham Pundir (c), Abdul Samad (vc), Shub-

ham Khajuria, Parvez Rasool, Henan Malik, Qamran Iqbal, Vivrant Sharma, Ian Dev, Abid Mushtaq, Waseem Raza, Ram Dayal, Umer Nazir, Manzoor Dar, Akash Chowdhary, Rohit Sharma, Kalyan Dorjee, Kanhaiya Wadhawan, Aqib Nabi, Fazil Rashid and Mujtaba Yousuf.

The 20th season of Vijay Hazare Trophy 2021-22 season will begin from December 8, with J&K up against Gujarat in their first match. The matches will be played at Mumbai and will run till December 28.

INTER-DEPARTMENTAL T20 CRICKET

YS&S Through To Semis Thanks To Nasir & Aadil

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Departmental team of Youth Services and Sports Department (YS&S) continued their winning streak in the ongoing league cum knockout 2nd Inter-Departmental T20 Cricket Tournament 2021, being played at the University of Kashmir ground after defeating Sports Council by 34 runs, and sealing their place in the semi final.

Aadil Sofi scored unbeaten 74 runs while Nasir Parry scored 73 runs. Wahid, Nasir took two wickets for the team. Parry was later declared man of the match for his brilliant all-round performance.



Victory for YS&S confirmed their spot in the semi final. Director YS&S, Gagan Ali expressed his happiness for this spectacular win of the team. While expressing his congratulatory message with the team manager Azhar Hajini,

he hoped that this team would achieve many such titles and wins for the Department in future as well. "Congratulations to the entire team as they continue making our department proud with their splendid performances," he said.

Pakistan Closes In On Victory In Ist Test With Bangladesh

Agencies

DHAKA: Fast bowler Shaheen Shah Afridi claimed 5-32 as Pakistan closed in on victory in the first cricket test against Bangladesh on Monday.

Afridi's fourth five-wicket haul in tests wrapped up Bangladesh's second innings for 157 on Day 4, setting Pakistan a 202-run target to win.

Openers Abid Ali and Abdullah Shafique then helped Pakistan reach 109-0 at stumps, leaving the team needing 93 more runs on the final day.

Ali, who scored 133 in the first innings, was on 56 and debutant Shafique was unbeaten on 53 when bad light ended play early for the fourth consecutive day.

Bangladesh had a 44-run first-innings lead after posting 330 and then bowling Pakistan out for 286.

"We just had a terrible last session yesterday which put us under a lot of pressure in the game," Bangladesh coach Russell Domingo said.

"They (Pakistan) need another 93 runs, so it will need something really special. Anything is possible in test cricket. We have to come tomorrow morning believing we still have a chance. If we can pick up one or two wickets in the first half an hour, anything is possible."

Ali and Shafique brought up their second consecutive century partnership in the match, frustrating Bangladesh bowlers for one-and-a-half sessions.

Ali completed his third half-century off 92 balls, flicking left-arm spinner Tajul Islam for three runs.



Shafique joined him in reaching his fifty in the next-to-last over, lofting off-spinner Mehidy Hasan for the lone six of the innings, over deep mid-wicket.

"We planned to have a good start to the chase and we are successful," Shafique said. "We are now on course of a victory but we should still play well because the fifth day morning session could be tricky one."

Earlier, Liton Das, who hit 114 in the first innings, battled with little assistance from his Bangladesh teammates in making 59 off 89 balls.

Debutant Yasir Ali scored 36 and appeared to steady Bangladesh's innings, combining with Liton for 47 runs.

But he had to leave the ground after being hit on his helmet by a short-pitch delivery from Afridi.

It ruined the momentum Bangladesh gained after beginning the fourth day on 39-4 and losing experienced batter Mushfiqur Rahim (16) in the first over when he offered no shot against fast bowler Hasan Ali (2-52).

After Yasir retired, Sajid Khan trapped Hasan (11) lbw with a delivery that spun sharply.

Yasir's concussion substitute, Nurul Hasan, then played a rash shot to be dismissed for 15.

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER RURAL ENGINEERING WING ANANTNAG

e-Tender Notice No: 198 of 2021-22 **Dated 24-11-2021**

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

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated/Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Documents	Class of Contract	Time for Completion	Major Head	Panchayat/Gram Sabha
1	CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD RCC BUND MAIDAN PORA TO MOHALLA MANEER AND OTHERS .PYT GURIDRAMAN-A BLOCK LARNOO	1.50	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	GURIDRAMAN-A
2	CONSTRUCTION OF LINK ROAD WITH XING PMGSY ROAD PANNARD TO BANJARA .PYT GURIDRAMAN-A BLOCK LARNOO	1.50	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	GURIDRAMAN-A
3	CONSTRUCTION OF TILE PATH FROM PMGSY ROAD TO SHOP OF MUSHTAQ MALIK TO HERGAM .PYT NOWBOUGH BLOCK LARNOO	2.50	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	NOWBOUGH
4	CONSTRUCTION OF DRAIN FROM PLANTATION BEAT C TO AB RASHID BHAT AT BONGAM TANGWANI NOWBOUGH BLOCK LARNOO	2.50	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	NOWBOUGH
5	CONSTRUCTION OF P.BUND DIFFERENT SPOTS AT MALMARG PINDOBAL BLOCK LARNOO	2.00	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	PINDOBAL
6	CONSTRUCTION OF FOOTPATH FROM GRAVEYARD TO JINAZGAH AT KHATANA MOHALLA. PYT DANDIPORA .BLOCK LARNOO	2.90	200.00	DEE/Registration Certificate by DDC/Competent Authority	30 days	DISTRICT CAPEX BUDGET	DANDIPORA

Position of A/A: Accorded **Position of T/S: Accorded**

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.

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice	24-11-2021
2. Online Bid submission Start Date	24-11-2021 from 06:00 PM
3. Online Bid Submission End Date	04-12-2021 upto 06:00 PM
4. Date & time of opening of Online Bids	06-12-2021 at 11:00 AM or any convenient day in the office of the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag
5. Note: Hard copy of original Tender Document Fee Receipt, Bid Security Self Declaration Form and other relevant documents in original shall be deposited before opening of online bids.	

SPECIAL CONDITION:

Only the eligible contractor of respective Panchayat Halqa shall take part in the tendering process in light of the Government Order No. 251-FD of 2020 Dated: 17-09-2020. Bidders must upload a certificate from concerned Block Development Officer of residence proof that he/ she is residing in the respective panchayat.

- The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer REW Division Anantnag (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids
- The LI is required to deposit a Performance Security @ 3% of advertised value in the shape of CDR in favour of allotting authority (Executive Engineer REW Anantnag) at the time of finalization of allotment/ agreement with the Department.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in 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 in soft copies with the technical bid and no documents in terms of Hard Copies shall be entertained.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

- The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.
- Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.
- Price escalation and Taxes: The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.
- Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on REW e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.
- In case of CRF and any other specified project. The relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.
- Instructions to Bidder (ITB)
- The bidders shall produce the original copies of all relevant documents to the office of the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag within three (03) days after opening of online bids: -
 - Cost of tender documents (Non Refundable) in the shape of Treasury Challan Receipt (AccountHead-0515-Executive Engineer REW Anantnag) in favour of the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag.
 - Bid Security Deposit EMD in the shape of CDR/ FDR pledged to the Executive Engineer REW Anantnag drawn from any recognized bank/ Bid Security Declaration Form
 - Registration Card duly renewed upto date/Registration Certificate issued by the DDC/Competent Authority.
 - PAN Card/ GST. No./ GST Acknowledgement receipt with latest GST (3B) certificate shall be furnished in hard copies of ending previous month quarterly.
 - Tender Document Fee Receipt shall have NIT No. & Serial No. Of Work Mentioned on it.
- The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid.
- Non-attendance 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.

-Sd-
Executive Engineer
Rural Engineering Wing
Anantnag

No. REW-A/WS/NIT/2021-22/ 14701-710
Dated: 24-11-2021
DIPK-13905/21

THE JAMMU & KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION

NEW CAMPUS, BEMINA, SRINAGAR.

Joint Secy. Exam's Office No.0194-2494965, (FAX No.- 2491274)
EPBX: 0194-2491119 Strong Room: 0194-2494985
Information Officer :- 0194-2495310

DATE SHEET

FOR HIGHER SECONDARY EXAMINATION PART-I (CLASS 11th) SESSION ANNUAL REGULAR 2021 OF KASHMIR PROVINCE
(To be conducted in Respective Institutions)

TIME:-12:00 NOON

Day & Date	Science	Arts	Home Science	Commerce
18-12-2021 Saturday	Chemistry	Arabic / Persian/ / Economics	---	Entrepreneurship Economics
20-12-2021 Monday	General English	General English	General English	General English
23-12-2021 Thursday	Mathematics Applied Mathematics	Mathematics Applied Mathematics Sociology	Food Science	---
26-12-2021 Sunday	Biology Statistics	Political Science Statistics	---	Accountancy
28-12-2021 Tuesday	IT& ITes. / Security Retail. / Agriculture Healthcare /Telecomm. Tourism / Media & Ent. Physical Edu. & Sports Beauty & Wellness Plumber/ Automotive	IT& ITes. / Security Retail. / Agriculture Healthcare /Telecomm. Tourism / Media & Ent. Physical Edu. & Sports Beauty & Wellness Plumber/ Automotive	IT& ITes. / Security Retail. / Agriculture Healthcare /Telecomm. Tourism / Media & Ent. Physical Edu. & Sports Beauty & Wellness Plumber/ Automotive	IT& ITes. / Security Retail. / Agriculture Healthcare /Telecomm. Tourism / Media & Ent. Physical Edu. & Sports Beauty & Wellness Plumber/ Automotive
30-12-2021 Thursday	Physics	Home Science (Elective) History Public Administration	Management Of Resources	Business Mathematics Public Administration
01-01-2022 Saturday	Geography	Geography / Psychology / Music/ Philosophy / Education	---	Business Studies
03-01-2022 Monday	Geology Bio-Technology Microbiology Bio-chemistry	Urdu / Hindi Kashmiri / Punjabi	Family Health Care & Prevention	---
05-01-2022 Wednesday	Computer Science Information Practices Environmental Science Functional English Physical Education Islamic Studies Electronics	Computer Science Information Practices Environmental Science Functional English Islamic Studies Physical Education Travel, Tourism and Hotel management English Literature	Computer Science Information Practices Environmental Science Functional English Islamic Studies Physical Education Travel, Tourism and Hotel management	Computer Science Information Practices Environmental Science Functional English Islamic Studies Physical Education Travel, Tourism and Hotel management

Note:-

- The Examination Centre is specified on Admit Card.
- The examinees are advised to adhere strictly to the instructions given on the back side of the admit cards and bring the same (Admit Card) on all days of Examination for verification.
- The external Practical awards shall be conducted by the respective affiliated Academic Institutions well before the commencement of the theory examination at their own level and submit the Award Rolls along with attendance sheets to the Concerned District/Tehsil Offices/ Secrecy Division Srinagar of the BOSE/ immediately after the issuance of the Admit Cards by the JKBOSE.
- All the examinees are advised not to bring any kind of material including electronic gadgets like mobile phones, Head Phones etc. which can help them to indulge in unfair means in any way in the examination.
- All the Heads of the Institutions shall ensure adequate heating and lighting arrangements in the examination rooms/halls
- All concerned must adhere to the instruction in reference to Govt. Order No. 74 - JK(DMRRR) Of 2021 dated 24-10-21

Joint Secretary
(Examination, KD)

Dated: -29-11-2021

Instructions in reference to Govt. Order No. 74 - JK(DMRRR) Of 2021 dated:-24-10-2021:

- The Superintendents shall allow only those candidates who are having consent for each examination duly signed by their Parents/ Legal Guardians.
- All the superintendents / Head of the Institutions (Inspectors) of examination centres shall ensure complete Sanitization of desks/Examination Halls/Rooms / Toilets daily before and after the examination and strictly follow the SOP's issued by the administration /Health department from time to time.
- The seating arrangement should be made in such a manner that every second desk is left vacant to maintain physical distancing.
- The HOI'S shall ensure that the supervisory staff and officials involved in conducting the examination are vaccinated.
- The Head of the Institutions shall ensure a thermal Scanner, Pulse Oximeter , First Aid Box Masks and Hand Sanitizers at the venue of the examination.
- The HOI'S shall ensure that candidates appearing for examination must mandatorily be wearing masks, adhere to social distancing norms and if required shall carry drinking water bottles along with them.
- The HOI'S shall ensure that Separate facility should be provided to the students showing and symptoms like Cough, Common Cold and Flu.

LETTER OF CONSENT

I, _____, Father/ Guardian of _____
Who is appearing in HSP-I (Class 11th) Session Annual Regular 2021 Examination under Roll No. _____ hereby consent to appear my ward in the designated examination Centre.

Signature of Parent/Guardian
R/O _____
Contact No. _____

DIPK-NB-5461/21

Repealing Of Farm Laws Without Discussion Shows Govt Is 'Terrified': Rahul Gandhi

Agenceis

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, on Monday, said the repealing of the three farm laws without debate shows that the government is "terrified" of having a discussion and knows that it has done something wrong. After Parliament passed The Farm Laws Repeal Bill to rescind the three contentious farm laws against which farmers have been protesting for over a year, Gandhi told reporters that his party had predicted that the government will have to take back the farm laws as it knew that the "power of three-four crore capitalists cannot withstand the strength of farmers and labourers". He said the repeal of the laws is a success of farmers and also of the country. "What is unfortunate is how the bills have been repealed, without any discussion, without any conversation. We wanted to have a discussion about forces behind these bills because these bills do not just reflect the view of the prime minister, these bills reflect the forces



behind the prime minister and that is what we wanted to discuss," Gandhi said. "We wanted to discuss MSP (issue), we wanted to discuss the Lakhimpur Kheri incident, we wanted to discuss the 700 farmers who died in this agitation and unfortunately that discussion has not been allowed," the former Congress chief said. It is a reflection of the fact that this government is "terrified" of having these discussions and "wants to hide". "What is the point of Parliament if discussions are not allowed, he asked.

Govt Launches 'Unique' Face Recognition Tech For Pensioners

NEW DELHI: Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh on Monday launched a "unique" face recognition technology that would act as a proof of 'life certificate' for pensioners and ensure ease of living for the retired and elderly citizens.

All pensioners are mandated to submit their life certificate annually to continue receiving pension. The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions has already implemented a facility of giving the certificate digitally.

"The central government has been sensitive to the needs of pensioners and to ensure ease of living for them. Soon after coming to power in 2014, the government decided to introduce and implement digital life certificate for the pensioners. This unique face recognition technology will further help pensioners," Singh said.

He said this face recognition technique of giving life certificate is a historic and far reaching reform since it will touch the lives of not only 68 lakh central government pensioners but also those under the EPFO and state governments, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.

Singh thanked the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology as well as UIDAI (Unique Identification Authority of India) for devising this technology and making such an initiative of the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) possible.

The minister said the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra

Modi has always sought "ease of living" for all sections of society, including the retirees and pensioners who are the nation's assets with all their experience and long years of service rendered by them.



He also reiterated that during the coronavirus pandemic too, the Department of Pension brought about several reforms for release of provisional pension/family pension.

The minister said the Department of Pension has been extensively using technology to achieve this end, be it introduction of digital life certificate, introduction of an intelligent common software "Bhavishya" for all Government of India ministries for processing pension cases.

Singh said the effort in issuing electronic PPOs and pushing the same in Digi locker is a huge step towards ease of living and transparency.

He said the department has also been bringing out e-booklets for pensioner awareness and carrying out an awareness campaign on Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, and other social media platforms. —PTI

COVID-19 OMICRON VARIANT

India Issues Revised Guidelines For International Arrivals

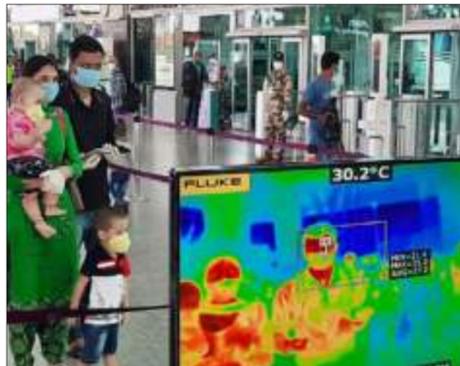
NEW DELHI: Amid the rising concern for new coronavirus variant Omicron, the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on Sunday issued new guidelines for international travellers arriving in India, effective December 1.

The guidelines require passengers to submit the self-declaration form on the online Air Suvidha Portal before the scheduled travel and to submit the last 14 days travel details.

The guidelines also mandated the uploading of negative RT-PCR test reports on the Air Suvidha portal before the journey. The test should have been conducted within 72 hours prior to undertaking the journey.

As per health ministry's guidelines, travellers from 'countries at-risk' will need to take the COVID-19 test post-arrival and wait for results at the airport.

If tested negative they will follow, home quarantine for seven days. They will have to take a re-test on eight-day and



if negative, further self-monitor for the next seven days.

A sub-section (5 per cent of the total flight passengers) shall undergo post-arrival testing at random at the airport on the arrival.

According to the ministry, the 'countries at risk' include countries in Europe including the United Kingdom, South Africa, Brazil,

Bangladesh, Botswana, China, Mauritius, New Zealand, Zimbabwe, Singapore, Hong Kong, Israel.

The existing guidelines have been revised in view of reporting of a new variant of SARS-CoV-2 (B.1.1.529; named Omicron) which has now been classified as a Variant of Concern by the World Health Organization.

Farmers' Unions To Meet On Dec 1 To Decide Future Course Of Action



Agenceis

Termining the repeal of the farm laws in Parliament a victory of the protesters, farmer leaders from Punjab demanded a legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP) of crops and said an emergency meeting of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha on December 1 will decide their future course of action.

Referring to their six demands, including legal guarantee for MSP and withdrawal of cases against farmers and compensation for those who died during the agitation, the leaders of 32 farmer unions from Punjab during a press meet

at the Singhu border said on Monday the Centre has time till Tuesday to reply.

Both the Houses of Parliament passed the Farm Laws Repeal Bill on the first day of the Winter Session. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced on November 19 that the three farm legislations, against which the farmers have been protesting for over a year, will be repealed.

"This is a victory for us. We want withdrawal of cases against farmers and a committee to be formed on the legal guarantee of MSP for crops.

"The Centre has time till tomorrow (Tuesday) to reply to our demands. We have called

an emergency meeting of SKM on Wednesday to discuss the future course of action," a farmer leader said.

The repeal of these three legislations has been one of the key demands of around 40 farmer unions protesting at various Delhi border points since November 26, 2020.

On November 21, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) -- an umbrella body of farmer unions leading the protests -- had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to immediately resume talks on the farmers' six demands, including a legal guarantee for the procurement of crops at MSP.

Shashi Tharoor Accused Of Sexism After He Tweets Selfie With Six Women MPs

Agenceis

Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, on Monday, posted a selfie with six women MPs on Twitter with a caption: "Who says the Lok Sabha isn't an attractive place to work?", triggering a controversy with many netizens accusing him of sexism.

Tharoor later apologised for offending "some people" and said the "whole selfie thing" was done at the women MPs' initiative in "great good humour and it was they who asked me to tweet it in the same spirit".

"Who says the Lok Sabha isn't an attractive place to work? With

six of my fellow MPs this morning," he said and posted a picture of himself with Supriya Sule, Preeti Kaur, Thamizhachi Thangapandian, Mimi Chakraborty, Nusrat Jahan Ruhi and Jyothimani.

His tweet sparked controversy with many accusing him of "sexism" and "objectification".

Reacting sharply, National Commission for Women chairperson Rekha Sharma tweeted, "you are demeaning their contribution in parliament and politics by making them an object of attraction. Stop objectifying women in parliament".

"Incredible that someone, as exposed to equality discourse, as @ShashiTharoor would attempt to reduce elected political leaders to their looks, and centre himself in the comment to boot. This is 2021, folks," tweeted Karuna Nandy, a Supreme Court advocate.

Responding to Nandy's tweet, badminton player and Arjuna

awardee Jwala Gutta tweeted, "not really Karuna. I think we need to take a few things in a lighter note.. and not see everything with a magnifying glass..And this was a compliment to all the women in the Parliament which is generally stereotyped!! just my opinion."

Commenting on Tharoor's remark, a Twitter user said, "women in the Lok Sabha are not decorative items meant to make your workspace 'attractive'. They are parliamentarians and you are being disrespectful and sexist."

No man seems to be beyond casual everyday sexism, another netizen said.

After the online backlash,



Tharoor tweeted, "the whole selfie thing was done (at the women MPs' initiative) in great good humour & it was they who asked me to tweet it in the same spirit."

"I am sorry some people are offended but I was happy to be roped into this show of workplace camaraderie. That's all this is," the MP from Thiruvananthapuram said.

However, TMC MP Mauhua Moitra defended Tharoor and tweeted "not surprised that a bunch of ugly trolls attacking @ShashiTharoor on a non-issue to detract attention from this non-attractive government's decision to not allow a discussion on the farm act repeal.

Veteran Journalist Vinod Dua 'Beyond Critical', Daughter Requests People Not Spread Rumours

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Veteran journalist Vinod Dua, who was hospitalised with Covid earlier this year, is in the ICU and his condition is "beyond critical", his daughter, actor-comic Mallika Dua, said on Monday and asked people to not spread rumours about his death.

The 67-year-old journalist, a pioneer in broadcast Hindi journalism with stints in Doordarshan and NDTV, lost his wife, radiologist Padmavati 'Chinna' Dua, to Covid in June.

"My Papaji is beyond critical in the ICU. His health had been deteriorating rapidly since April. He also is unable to come to terms with losing the light of his life. He has lived an extraordinary life and given us the same. He deserves no pain. He is immensely loved and revered and I request you all to pray that he experiences as little pain as

possible," Mallika Dua wrote. As news of his ill-health spread, so did rumours that he had passed away and some people even posted condolence messages, prompting his daughter to request people to not spread rumours.

"Request everyone to not spread rumours about my father's demise. He is in the ICU. Fighting still. Whatever be the outcome. Let him have his dignity.

"Do not believe/spread misinformation please. I will issue all official news and updates on him. Not Twitter," Mallika wrote on her Instagram stories.

Vinod Dua and his wife were in a hospital in Gurgaon when the second Covid wave was at its peak. The journalist's health has suffered ever since and he has been in and out of hospitals. The couple is also parents to elder daughter Bakul Dua, a clinical psychologist. PTI



24th year OF PUBLICATION

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