

HT line falls on truck in Sopore, driver killed, conductor injured

SRINAGAR: A truck driver was killed while a conductor suffered injuries after a high tension transmission line fell on a truck in Gund Brath area of Sopore in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Monday morning. Two persons boarding the truck had a miraculous escape.

Reports reaching GNS said that at around 10:45 a.m., HT (High Tension) transmission line fell down, resulting in on the spot death of driver and injuries to the conductor.

The deceased has been identified as Waheed Ahmad Lone (35) son of Khazir Mohammad Lone of Zalloora. The injured namely Gulzar Ahmad Lone son of Abdul Aziz Lone, who also hails from Zalloora, was immediately shifted to SDH Sopore for treatment, they said. A police officer confirmed to GNS the incident and said that a case has been registered. The case has been registered against the concerned officials under IPC sections of 285 (Negligent conduct with respect to fire or combustible matter) and 304 (Culpable homicide not amounting to murder).

Superintending Engineer (SE) PDD north Kashmir said: "as you brought the issue into my notice. I will look into it". (GNS)

Twitter applies 'manipulated' tag on video retweeted by Trump



SAN FRANCISCO: An edited video featuring Democratic presidential contender Joe Biden which was retweeted by US President Donald Trump has become the first to be marked "manipulated media" by Twitter.

According to a policy unveiled by Twitter last month, "significantly and deceptively altered or fabricated" media is likely to be labeled "manipulated" if it is found to be deliberately misleading.

White House Director of Social Media Dan Scavino originally tweeted the edited video which Trump later shared.

In the video, Biden appears to have mistakenly endorsed Trump for re-election, although he did not.

The edited video used footage from the former Vice President's speech in Kansas City on Saturday.

In the edited version of the video, Biden appears to say: "Excuse me. We can only re-elect Donald Trump."

What he actually said was: "Excuse me. We can only re-elect Donald Trump if in fact we get engaged in this circular firing squad here. It's gotta be a positive campaign."

According to a report in TechCrunch, the manipulated media label began appearing on the video to some users on Sunday evening.

Twitter first announced a draft of its new policy on deepfake and manipulated media in November 2019.

As per the policy officially unveiled last month, Twitter intends to warn users if a media is manipulated, while not removing most of them.

Biden's campaign is reportedly seeking similar action from Facebook on the edited video shared by Trump.



Khanyar Blaze: Hakak Was 'Fired' After Serving As Helper For 8 Years In IWMP

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Javid Ahmad Hakak, a Srinagar resident, who along with his wife and three-year-old daughter was charred to death in Khanyar blaze on Friday, was disbanded from his duties almost eight months ago after serving in Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) in Rural Development Department (RDD) as helper for almost eight years.

Hakak had joined as DW helper in IWMP in the year

2012, but was disbanded from his services almost eight months back by the officials for the reasons known to them only.

Sources said that the deceased was kind and honest person and has served as helper with dedication. "Hakak along with other employees served as helpers and have been struggling to get regularised, but all in vain," they said. The reliable sources added that two helpers including Hakak were "disbanded from duties."

"The duo including Hakak

had not done anything wrong, but we're disbanded from their duties all of a sudden for unknown reasons," sources said.

Project Manager Srinagar Ganderbal IWMP, Bilal Ahmad, who has joined recently said that he has also come to know that the deceased was working as helper but has no knowledge about it. "Hakak was working as helper at secretariat level," he said. Chief Executive Officer (CEO) IWMP, Muhammad Rafi Poswal, however, told KNO that he has not

seen Hakak during his tenure, adding that he may have been receiving salary from Srinagar office.

However, the CEO said that the project by Government of India (GoI) under which Hakak was working is almost done and "all those working on it have to go as the project doesn't exist anymore."

The employees working in IWMP have meanwhile confirmed that Hakak was working in IWMP but was disbanded from his duties some months back—(KNO)

Name of Sher-i-Kashmir can't be erased from the annals of history: Akbar Lone

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Muhamamd Akbar Lone Monday said that the name of Sher-i-Kashmir can't be erased from the annals of history of Kashmir. He said that hearts and minds of some Indian are filled with the hatred for Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and this name will always give sleepless nights to those who are stooges of New Delhi.

Lone told Kashmir News Trust that the name change spree across India is only to divert attention from the real issues. "Such forces get active from time to time but these forces should understand that Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah was the tallest leader of Kashmir who changed the course of history," Lone said while reacting to the government move to drop 'Sher-i-Kashmir' from International Convocation Centre here in Srinagar.

The incumbent Member Parliament while reacting to the formation of a new political party in Kashmir said that those who are part of this new dispensation betrayed Mehbooba Mufti and late Mufti Muhammad Sayeed. "Some people in this party used to even swear on National Conference. These politicians back stabbed Mehbooba Mufti and people know their reality. They surface from time to time to aid and assist New Delhi, for-



getting the sufferings and emotions of people of Kashmir," Lone said.

While responding to question, Muhammad Akbar Lone said that in coming days the real-

ity about this new party will dawn upon the people. "Whether it is a BJP backed party or not, truth will surface in coming days," Lone said. (KNT)

Cornovirus threat, Gbl admin establishes control room

SRINAGAR: To combat the outbreak of Corona Virus, Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Shafqat Iqbal Monday chaired a meeting with the officials to re-view the arrangements put in place.

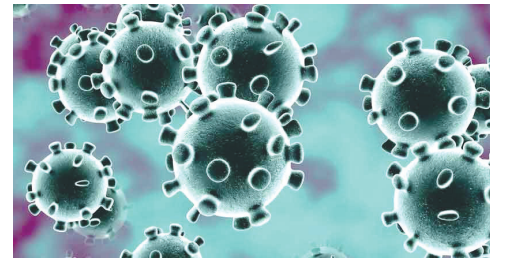
The meeting was attended by ADC, Farooq Ahmad Baba, ASP Ganderbal, SDM Kangan, CMO, CEO, Tehsildars, BMOs, BDCs, Sarpanchs, ZEOs besides Civil Society members.

During the meeting threadbare discussion was held on various arrangements put in place including surveillance teams and established of district control room and isolation wards to combat the outbreak of Coronavirus in the district.

The DDC sought the cooperation of all sects including mosque clerics and civil societies to help district administration in dissemination of the level of awareness among people regarding the Corona Virus.

He also stressed the BDCs to hold meetings with Panchs Sarpanchs and brief them about do's and don'ts to combat the outbreak of Corona Virus in the district.

The ZEOs were asked to brief the students about



the Do's and Don'ts vigorously besides hold awareness sessions about basic infection prevention and control measures to combat the Corona Virus outbreak.

It was also decided that morning assembly in all Government and private schools of the district shall be avoided.

The DC also asked the concerned officials to prepare a complete list of persons who are presently outside the valley and who have recently returned from other countries especially from Corona Virus affected countries.

The surveillance teams of district which are already created were directed to do regular monitoring of persons returning from corona hit countries and shall share report to the District Control Room (0194-2416260) established at Mini Secretariat Ganderbal.

The Tehsildars were directed to inspect chemist shops/drug stores in district to check on the prices and take strict action against the hoarders. He further said that district authorities shall not allow anyone to exploit the situation

Twitter inks pact with Elliott Management, Dorsey to remain CEO

SAN FRANCISCO: Twitter on Monday said it entered into a "cooperation agreement" with activist hedge fund Elliott Management Corp. which earlier launched a bid to remove Jack Dorsey as head of the social media company.

As per the agreement, Twitter will have to make some changes in its board, but Dorsey will remain as the company's CEO. Twitter also announced that technology-focused investment firm Silver Lake will make a \$1 billion investment in the company.

The company expects to use the investment, together with cash on hand, to fund a \$2 billion share repurchase programme that will be executed over time. In connection with the investment and the cooperation agreement, Egon Durban, co-CEO and managing partner of Silver Lake, and Jesse Cohn, partner at Elliott, will be appointed to the Twitter Board of Directors. In addition, the Twitter Board will continue the process of identifying a third new independent director, focusing on candidates that reflect the diversity of the Twitter service and also possess deep technology and AI expertise. "Silver Lake's investment in Twitter is a strong vote of confidence in our work and our path forward. They are one of the most respected voices in technology and finance and we are fortunate to have them as our new partner and as a member of our Board," Dorsey said in a statement.

BOTTOM LINE

CUK holds functions to commemorate International Women's Day

GANDERBAL: To commemorate International Women's Day, the Women Empowerment Committee (WEC) of the Central University of Kashmir (CUK) organised programmes in all the four campuses of the varsity here on Monday. WEC held a programme at the Green Campus on the theme "Each for Equal." Dr.

Himabindu in her address stated that the objective of the event was to raise awareness on gender equality, women empowerment and women's role in achieving sustainable development. WEC chairperson, Prof. Parveen Pandit presented her special address and highlighted unaddressed issues about women, motivated gathering to take active part in challenging the stereotypes, fight bias, broaden perceptions, improve situations and celebrate women's achievement. Students from various departments of the campus took part in the seminar and highlighted the issues related to women. The paper presentation session was judged by Director Research and Development, Prof. Abdul Gani and Prof. Nighat Basu of School of Education. The seminar was followed by a skit by the students on the theme 'Sexual Harassment'.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Mehraj-ud-din Mir appreciated the efforts put in by the students and urged the participants to ensure gender equality. He said that women have proven their

mettle in the fields, which were earlier male, dominated.

Prof. Dolly Sunny, from University of Mumbai, also addressed the gathering and underscored the need to highlight the day-to-day problems confronted by the women in society and at workplace. She appreciated the students for sending a strong message through the skit and asked the female students to raise their voice against any type of harassment.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Kanwaljeet Singh from Guru Nanak Dev University highlighted the contributions made by females in all the occupations. He said the women are marching ahead in all the fields and several of them are heading the institutions and organizations, both private and public, effectively. The event was conducted by Ms. Saima Bashir and facilitated by Mrs. Shuguftha Rehman.

At Nunar Campus, the day was celebrated on the theme "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights." Registrar, Prof. Fayaz A Nikka was the Chief Guest while as WEC Chairperson, Prof. Parveen Pandit, was the guest of honour.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Fayaz A Nikka said that it is the time to celebrate women's achievements, recognize challenges and focus on women's rights and gender equality. Dean School of Life Sciences, Prof. M Afzal Zargar, also



spoke about gender equality and empowerment of women, particularly in the areas of social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure. The event was coordi-

nated by Dr. Ibraq Khurshid, and Dr. Abid Hamid Dar while as Dr. Nowsheen, presented the vote of thanks.

In, Science and Arts Campus, the programme,

was organised by co-ordinator WEC, Dr. Nusrat Jabeen, which started with recitation of Holy Quran. Prof. Hamidullah Marazi delivered the keynote address. Some of the students presented paper related with the theme. Director campus, Prof. Wali Mohammad Shah was guest of honour. Dr. Mohammad Rashid Azeez presented the vote of Thanks.

Tulmulla campus also organized a seminar on the theme "Each for Equal" in which students from departments of Law, Convergent Journalism and IT participated. The event coordinator was Dr. Gulafroz Jan, Coordinator, Department of Law and was presided over by Prof. Praveen Pandit, Chairperson, WEC.

In her address, Dr. Gulafroz Jan said that year 2020 is a pivotal year for advancing gender equality worldwide. She said the emerging global concern is that despite a lot of progress real change has been slow for majority of women. "Women continue to be underpaid, and violence against them is growing at an alarming rate." Er. Zahoor Ahmad Najar, Director, Tulmulla Campus deliberated upon rights of women in Islam.

Prof. Praveen Pandit highlighted the plight of women in current scenario and deliberated on the historical perspective of gender equality and women oppression. Dr. Anil Kumar proposed the vote of thanks.