



Maximum : 27°C  
Minimum : 15°C  
Humidity : 57%

SUNSET  
Today 07:42 PM  
SUNRISE  
Tomorrow 05:19 AM



## EARTHQUAKES HOW TO MINIMISE DAMAGE

The recent earthquakes in Delhi and nearby places have possibly originated on a NE-SW trending active fault system that is 400 km long. And at north it could crosscut the Main Himalayan/Frontal Thrust, which is the megathrust fault and accounts for most of the earthquakes at the Himalayan front. The earthquake distribution in the region (Figure on right) suggests a strong pattern that could reflect strain accumulation on -NE-SW oriented fault system. It could host a major earthquake in the future, which is based on the extent and pattern of seismicity, and the existence of faults in the region. However, the earthquake prediction is not possible, and therefore the best remedy is to prepare for the worst case scenario, which is to prepare for a magnitude 7 and above....

.....PANORAMA  
P5

## News Digest

### IED Attack Foiled In Baramulla: Police

Srinagar: Government forces averted a militant attack by timely detection of an improvised explosive device (IED) in Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, police said. A patrol party of the Army noticed the IED planted by the militants by the roadside at the Saidpora crossing in the Dangi-wacha area of Baramulla early in the morning, a police official said. He said a bomb disposal squad was rushed to the **P-02**

### Youth Found Dead In Uri

Srinagar: A youth on Tuesday was found dead under mysterious conditions in Uri area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. 21-year-old Sohail Ahmad Lone was found dead inside his room by his family members early this morning, reports said. The family instantly informed the police who reached the spot and took the body in custody for medico-legal formalities. The body, reports was later handed to the family for last rites. Meanwhile, police **P-02**

### Police Trace 3 Covid-19 Suspects

Srinagar: Jammu and Kashmir police on Tuesday claimed to have traced three primary contacts of a Covid-19 patient in a swift action in Harwan area of the city. The three non-locals had been working as masons at a house in Tailbal area of Harwan and had left the work days before the house owner tested positive for coronavirus, a police spokesperson said today. The family, he said had no clue about the whereabouts of the three non-locals. "Therefore it became a **P-02**

### Budgam Youth Mowed Down By Tipper

Srinagar: A youth on Tuesday was killed after being hit by a tipper in Chadoora town of Central Kashmir's Budgam district. 23-year-old youth Waseem Farooq of Monchwa Chadoora was crossing the road in Chadoora town this afternoon when a tipper (JK01K-6814) hit him, officials said. The youth, who is said to be mentally unstable, died before he could be taken to hospital for treatment. Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigations in this regard.

### Minor Drowns In Baramulla Stream

Srinagar: A minor girl on Tuesday died of drowning in Wagoor area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Two-year-old Ifrat Jan slipped into the Khalari nallah near her house in Wagoor area of the district, reports said. After the incident, her family and neighbours made an effort to save the girl. However, after hours of hectic searches, the body of the girl was found from Vizir village, around two kilometres from her house, reports said. **P-02**

## Pulwama Gunfight Aftermath: Lecturer, 16 Others Detained

### Agencies

SRINAGAR: Government forces have arrested over a dozen people in nocturnal raids in south Kashmir's Pulwama district on charges of stone pelting during last week's encounter in Kangan village that left three militant's including a top commander dead, reports said Tuesday.

According to the locals, police carried out a series of raids in Murrin area of the district to nab the protesters who pelted rocks at the government forces during Thursday's encounter in which Jaish commander and IED expert Ikram alias Fauji Bhai and two of his associates were slain. A lecturer is among the 17 people arrested by police on the allegations of stone pelting. The lecturer identified

as Majid Yousuf Yattoo was picked up by police in lieu of his brother.

Locals identified the arrested youth as Ajaz Darzi, Abdul Rashid Darzi, Mehraj Dhoobi, Nazir Dhoobi, Mukhtar Sheikh, Bashir Sheikh, Showkat Sheikh, Ali Muhammad Sheikh, Rizwan Sheikh, Muhammad Shafi Sheikh, Abdul Latif Sheikh, Muhammad Ismail Sheikh, Muhammad Yousuf Yattoo, Mehraj Ganaie, Khazir Ganaie, Shabir Wani, Abdul Rasheed Wani, Hilal Malyar, Muhammad Abdullah Malyar, Adil Ganaie, Bashir Ganai, Mohsin Sheikh, Muhamamd Ashraf Sheikh, Irfan Yattoo, Irfan Rather, Ajaz Sheikh, Abdul Salam Sheikh and Tawseef Sheikh.

A police official declined to comment on the subject, however, sources said that these people **PAGE 02**

### ...LADAKH FACE-OFF

## Indian, Chinese Army Commanders To Meet Today

Both Armies 'Disengage' In Galwan, Hot Spring Areas

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India and Chinese armies are set to hold Major General-level talks on Wednesday on the eastern Ladakh standoff even as the two sides are initiating a "symbolic disengagement" in a few patrolling points in the region to display their resolve to end the row peacefully, people familiar with the development said.

They said both the armies remained engaged in an aggressive posturing in areas like Galwan Valley, Pangong Tso, Daulat Beg Oldie and Demchok and that there will be a series of negotiations in the next few days to explore a solution to end the confrontation.

Military sources said the two armies have begun "disengagement" around two patrolling areas in Galwan Valley **PAGE 02**



### Rahul, Rajnath Trade Barbs Using Ghalib's Couplet

A day after his "everyone knows the reality" of border situation jibe, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday asked Defence Minister Rajnath Singh whether China has occupied Indian territory in Ladakh. "Once RM is done commenting on the hand symbol. **P-02**

### Skirmishes On LOC Continue In Poonch

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: For the second running day Tuesday, India and Pakistan troops exchanged heavy gunfire along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir.

According to a defence spokesman, Pakistan army resorted to heavy shelling along the LoC in Poonch district today, prompting strong retaliation by the Indian Army.

"At about 0630 am today, the Pakistan army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars along the LoC in Mankote sector in Poonch district." The Indian Army is retaliating befittingly, he said.

Till last reports came in, shelling exchanges were still going on in the area.

Meanwhile, government forces defused three mortar shells that had landed in Dardkote village of Uri sector on Sunday last after an exchange of fire between the India and Pakistan armies. According to the locals, several houses had suffered damages after shells landed in Hajipier and Kamalkote sectors of Uri.

Fear has heightened among **P-02**

### High Speed Internet Ban

## Contempt Plea Filed Against Union Home Secretary, J&K CS



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against Union Home Secretary and Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir for their alleged "wilful disobedience" in complying with the apex court's order for setting up a "special committee" to consider restoration of 4G internet services in J&K.

On May 11, a bench headed by Justice N V Ramana had ordered setting up of a "special committee" headed by the Union Home Secretary to consider pleas for

restoration of 4G internet services in Jammu and Kashmir, saying national security and human rights needed to be balanced in view of the fact the union territory has been "plagued with militancy".

The contempt plea, filed by Foundation for Media Professionals, has alleged that the concerned authorities have not yet constituted the special committee in line with the top court's order.

"It is respectfully submitted that such a lax attitude, especially during a health pandemic (COVID-19) and humanitarian crisis, violates both the letter and the spirit of this court's judgment **PAGE 02**

## Sacked DySP Davinder Moves Delhi Court For Bail

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Suspended Jammu and Kashmir DSP Davinder Singh, arrested while ferrying two Hizb-ul-Mujahideen militants in a vehicle on the Srinagar-Jammu Highway earlier this year, moved a Delhi court on Tuesday seeking bail.

Singh and two other accused in the case - Irfan Shafi Mir and Sayed Naveed Mushtaq - moved the applications, claiming they are not required further custodial interrogation.

The court is scheduled to hear the matter on Wednesday.

Advocate M S Khan, appearing for the three accused who are lodged in Tihar jail, told the court that no pur-



pose will be served by keeping his clients in further custody.

Plea stated that Singh, Mir and Mushtaq were arrested on March 14, 19 and 27 respectively and are no longer required by the police for the purpose of investigation. **PAGE 02**

## 5 More Deaths In A Day Take Covid-19 Toll In J&K To 51

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Coronavirus on Tuesday claimed five more lives, two from north and three from south Kashmir, raising the total number of fatalities due to the deadly disease in the Union Territory to 51.

Professor Farooq Jan, medical Superintendent SKIMS, said that a 31-year-old man from DH Pora Kulgam who was admitted on June 5 died at 5:50 pm, reports said.

"He was a case of HTN, CKD. He was on Haemodialysis with

### 61 More Test Covid-19 Positive

A paramedic and two expecting mothers were among 61 more people, who tested positive for COVID-19 in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, taking the number of cases in J&K to 4,346, officials said. "61 new COVID-19 cases were detected in J&K. While 44 of them are from Kashmir, 17 are from Jammu," the officials said. Among fresh cases, 13 were reported from Srinagar, nine from Budgam, seven from Kupwara, five from **P-02**

right sided lung consolidation. After testing positive he was admitted in infectious disease block," he said.

Meanwhile, a 70-year-old cancer patient, who had tested

positive for the covid-19 a week ago, died at CD hospital.

However, his latest swab sample, taken before his death, returned negative for the covid-19 this afternoon. **PAGE 02**

### Low Intensity Quake Jolts Valley

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A low intensity earthquake with its epicentre in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district hit the Kashmir Valley on Tuesday, officials said.

"An earthquake of magnitude 3.9 occurred at 8:16 am, with epicentre at 34.21N, 74.85E, located 7 km South-East of Ganderbal and 14 km North of Srinagar," stated the Disaster Management Department of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said.

They said no casualty or damage to the property due to the earthquake was reported from any part of the valley. Pertinently, a devastating earthquake measuring 7.6 on the Richter scale hit the Valley **P-02**

## Kashmiri Woman Who Tested Covid-19 Positive In NIA Custody Denied Bail

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: A Kashmiri woman, who was found COVID-19 positive during her NIA custody, was denied interim bail on Tuesday by a Delhi court in a case of allegedly planning a militant attack in the country during the anti-CAA protests here.

Hina Bashir Beg, currently lodged into Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital, was arrested along with her husband Jahanzaib Sami and another accused Abdul Basith earlier this year.

The judge denied her bail saying the allegation against the accused was of serious nature and



that she would be given adequate medical treatment.

The judge also asked advocate M S Khan, appearing for the accused, to suggest any private hospital for her treatment after he claimed that there was a lack of proper treatment facilities in government hospitals.

The accused were arrested for allegedly promoting the Islamic State's ideology and instigating

protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), the NIA had alleged.

COVID-19 tests of the accused persons were conducted on June 6, on the directions of the court, while their 10-day custodial interrogation ended on June 7.

The report of COVID-19 test of accused persons namely Jahanzaib Sami and Mohd Abdullah Basith is negative but report of Hina Bashir Beg is found positive, the NIA informed the court.

Thereafter, the court had directed the NIA to shift her to the hospital with immediate effect.

Delhi is struggling to cope up with the rising number of **PAGE 02**

### 4 IAS, IPS Officers Shifted To Ladakh

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, on Tuesday ordered the transfer of four IAS/IPS officers from J&K to Ladakh. Similarly, one IPS officer has been transferred from Ladakh to J&K.

According to an order issued by MHA, Ajeet Kumar Sahu (IAS), Ravinder Kumar (IAS), Bhim Sen Tuti (IPS) and Rajiv Omprakash Pande shall be transferred from J&K to Ladakh.

The order further states that Sargun Shukla (IPS) should be transferred from Ladakh UT to J&K UT.

According to the order, these transfers have been effected after approval of the competent authority till further orders or till **P-02**

## Javed Iqbal Wani Appointed As J&K HC Judge

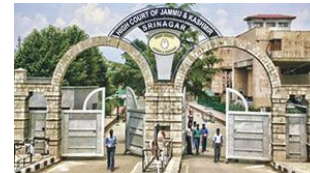
Wani Is The Son-In-Law Of Bar President Mian Qayoom

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: President of India on Tuesday ordered the appointment of Javed Iqbal Wani as a Judge of Common High Court for the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

Wani is the son-in-law of Kashmir High Court Bar Association president Mian Abdul Qayoom, presently lodged in Tihar Jail New Delhi.

"In exercise of the power conferred by clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint Javed Iqbal Wani, to be a Judge of Common High Court for the Union



territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union territory of Ladakh with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office," reads the notification issued by the Gol.

After he takes the oath, the bench strength of the high court will increase to 13 against the total strengthen of 17 judges include the Chief Justice. **PAGE 02**

## 'One Ring Phone Scam': Kashmiris Waking Up To 'Saudi' Missed Calls

### Sahil Beigh

SRINAGAR: When Syed Musa Ali alias Syber—" I.T Business Analyst by Day, Cyber security ninja at Night"—received a call from a 'foreign' number recently, the first thing he heard was a "Hindi" recording where a girl was talking to a boy.

"This thing spooked me a bit, because this was an international number," Ali shared his experience on social media, currently witnessing a barrage of comments on the midnight missed call storm in Kashmir.

"When I called it back, I was charged local charges. No international call rates were deducted."

It's definitely a bot, Ali, an IT expert, said, because when he called the number back, it was received instantly.

"My advice is, don't worry," he continued. "It's just a noobish scam. Also if you receive any such calls, don't call back."

What Musa experienced has now become a pan-Kashmir phenomenon.

"Several people complain that they're getting miss calls from numbers allegedly from Saudi Arabia," Dr Mairaj M Akram, a Srinagar-based Chemistry lecturer wrote on his social media handle. "I also got few."

"I got a call yesterday from a different number and the place



name displayed was Saudi Arabia," wrote Asif Shafi, another Facebook user.

As more and more people are getting these so-called 'Saudi' calls, many tech-savvies are cau-

tioning Kashmiris not to respond to them.

"Responding to such calls means you're allowing your mobile operator to collect the charges from you for payment," they argued.

"In this case, there's no chance to register International call complaint, too."

These missed calls are coming when mobile phone operators in Jammu and Kashmir are already sending warning messages—every now and then—to their users about the unknown international numbers.

But after receiving these calls, many Kashmiris have come to believe that these midnight scandalous calls are being **PAGE 02**



# Sisodia Sounds Warning: Covid-19 Cases In Delhi Will Explode To 5.5 Lakhs By July-End

**NEW DELHI:** The number of COVID-19 cases in Delhi will explode to 5.5 lakhs by the end of July even though the Centre says there is no community transmission in the capital, Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia asserted on Tuesday, sounding a stark warning about the troubles ahead.

With such a surge in numbers, Delhi will need 80,000 beds by July end, he told reporters after a meeting of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) chaired by Lt Governor Anil Bajjal.

Bajjal's office also rejected the AAP government's criticism of his order overturning the decision to reserve some hospitals here only for Delhiites, saying "we are all Indians and Delhi belongs to all". The matter had also triggered a fresh round of confrontation between the Centre and Delhi government.

The reaction comes a day after Sisodia and the AAP had launched an attack on Bajjal.

Nearly 30,000 cases have been reported in the national capital.

Chief Minister ArvindKejriwal, who underwent a COVID-19 test,

tested negative.

Sisodia said if the old growth rate of COVID-19 is taken into account, the doubling rate in Delhi is 12.6 days and almost all participants of the meeting agreed to this.

The fatality rate in Delhi is 2.92 per cent as compared to the national average of 2.81 per cent, recovery rate is 38 per cent, and test per million is 13,543 as compared to the national average of 3531 tests per million, the LG office said.

"Officials from the Centre said at the meeting that there is no community transmission of COVID-19 virus yet in Delhi and hence, there is no need of discussion on it," Sisodia told the media after the meeting.

However, Delhi Health Minister Satyendar Jain said the source of infection is "not known" in nearly half of the fresh cases being reported and epidemiologically, community transmission is the third stage of the infection.

He also blamed the Centre for the spurt in COVID-19 cases in the city, saying that operation of flights could have been delayed by 15 days.

When asked if Delhi has reached community transmission level as far as coronavirus infection is concerned, Jain said a declaration on this is made by the Centre.

"Epidemiologically, community transmission is the third stage of the infection... In Delhi, of the new cases being reported, in nearly half of the cases, the source of infection is not known," he said.

Sisodia said the national capital may record 44,000 COVID-19 cases by June 15 and it would need 6,600 beds in hospitals.

"By June 30, there will be one lakh cases of coronavirus in Delhi and we will need 15,000 beds.

"It is estimated that Delhi will record 2.15 lakh cases by July 15 and 33,000 beds would be required. There might be 5.5 lakh cases by July 31 and Delhi would need 80,000 beds," he said.

Based on the doubling rate, 5.5 lakh cases are expected to be reported in Delhi by July 31, Sisodia said.

Several scientists said community transmission of the disease

may have started a while ago.

They added that mathematical models of the progression of COVID-19 show it would be possible for Delhi to have 5.5 lakh cases by the end of July.

Sisodia said the AAP government is making all the preparations to handle the huge rush of patients estimated by June end.

The lieutenant governor has refused to reconsider his decision to overrule the Delhi government's order reserving state-run and private hospitals for Delhiites, the deputy chief minister said, adding the LG's order has created a "major problem" in the national capital.

Sisodia had attacked the BJP on Monday after the LG rescinded the order of reserving state-run and private hospitals for Delhiites, alleging that he has been pressured by the saffron party which is doing "dirty politics" over the issue.

He said people living in Delhi also need beds during COVID-19 pandemic and in view of this, the Delhi Cabinet had recently taken the decision to reserve state-run

and private hospitals for Delhiites.

"The LG did not have any idea on numbers of COVID-19 cases and beds in Delhi once people from all over the country start coming to Delhi (for treatment)," Sisodia said.

In the DDMA meeting, nobody had an answer on availability of sufficient numbers of beds if COVID-19 cases continue to increase in the coming days in the national capital, he also said.

"Who will take the responsibility if there are no beds? If people are coming from all over the country, beds available in Delhi will be occupied within three, four or ten days.

"As the LG has refused to reconsider his decision, we will try to serve the people of the country and Delhi as well. We will also try to expand medical facilities," he added.

Reacting sharply, the LG office also said rather than discriminating among patients, the goal of the government should be to plan and prepare for adequate infrastructure.

## Indian, Chinese Army ...

and another in Hot Spring. However, there was no official word on it from the defence ministry, the ministry of external affairs or from the Chinese side.

Both Chinese and Indian armies are withdrawing some troops and removing temporary infrastructure from the three areas, the sources said.

"This is a positive development," a senior Army official said on condition of anonymity.

The people cited above said the two sides agreed during a high-level military dialogue on June 6 to go for the "symbolic disengagement" just to send across a positive message in resolving the row and that the gesture does not mean withdrawal of troops in a serious way.

They said the two sides will hold Major-General level talks as well as dialogue between their field commanders as part of the engagement process agreed to during a high-level meeting on June 6.

Indian and Chinese troops have been engaged since May 5 following a violent clash in Pangong Tso which is turning out to be biggest military standoff after the 2017 Doklam episode.

In their first serious efforts to end the row, Lt General Harinder Singh, the general officer commanding of Leh-based 14 Corps, and Commander of the Tibet Military District Maj Gen Liu Lin held an extensive meeting on June 6. However, it could not produce any tangible results.

In a statement, the external affairs ministry on Sunday said the meeting took place in a "cordial and positive atmosphere" and that both sides agreed that an "early resolution" of the issue would contribute to the further development of the relationship between the two countries.

Saturday's talks also came a day after the two countries held diplomatic talks during which both sides agreed to handle their "differences" through peaceful discussions while respecting each other's sensitivities and concerns.

After the standoff began in early last month, Indian military leadership decided that Indian troops will adopt a firm approach in dealing with the aggressive posturing by the Chinese troops in all disputed areas of Pangong Tso, Galwan Valley, Demchok and Daulat Beg Oldie.

The Chinese Army has been gradually ramping up its strategic reserves in its rear bases near the the Line of Actual Control (LAC) by rushing in artillery guns, infantry combat vehicles and heavy military equipment, the sources said.

The trigger for the face-off was China's stiff opposition to India laying a key road in the Finger area around the Pangong Tso Lake besides construction of another road connecting the Darbuk-Shayok-Daulat Beg Oldie road in Galwan Valley.

The road in the Finger area in Pangong Tso is considered crucial for India to carry out patrol. India has already decided not to stall any border infrastructure projects in eastern Ladakh in view of Chinese protests.

The situation in the area deteriorated after around 250 Chinese and Indian soldiers were engaged in a violent face-off on May 5 and 6. The incident in Pangong Tso was followed by a similar incident in north Sikkim on May 9.

The India-China border dispute covers the 3,488-km-long LAC. China claims Arunachal Pradesh as part of southern Tibet while India contests it.

Both sides have been asserting that pending the final resolution of the boundary issue, it is necessary to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas.

In their historic informal summit in Chinese city of Wuhan in 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping underscored the importance of maintaining peace and tranquility in all areas of the India-China border region in the interest of the development of bilateral relations.

The summit had taken place months after a 73-day military face-off between the two armies in Doklam that raised fears of a war between the two Asian giants.

In their talks on June 6, both sides agreed to follow the broad decisions taken by Modi and Xi in the Wuhan summit to ensure peace and tranquillity along the LAC.

## Rahul, Rajnath Trade ...

can he answer: Have the Chinese occupied Indian territory in Ladakh," he asked on Twitter.

Singh had on Monday hit out at Gandhi using a couplet, which he claimed was of Mirza Ghalib and that he was presenting it in a different style.

Addressing a virtual rally of BJP workers in Maharashtra, Singh said, "Mirza Ghalib ka hi sher thoda alag andaaz mein hai - 'haath' mein dard ho to dawa kijiye, 'haath' hi jab dard ho to kya kijiye.." (Mirza Galib's couplet in a different style - when there is pain in the "hand", one takes medicine, but what does one do when the "hand" itself is a pain)."

"Hand" is the Congress party's election symbol.

Gandhi and Singh have been engaged in war of words on Twitter since Monday evening on the issue and have been taking swipes at each other by using couplets of Ghalib.

The Congress leader on Monday had taken a dig at Union Home Minister Amit Shah for his remarks that India is strong in protecting its borders, and said the truth seems dormant as "everyone knows" the reality of the situation at the country's borders.

"Everyone knows the reality of the "borders", but the thought is good to keep one's heart happy," he said in a tweet in Hindi, tweaking a couplet of Ghalib.

Congress chief spokesperson Randeep Surjewala also asked the defence minister to answer the question, saying denigrating party symbols of opposition is not defending India.

"Denigrating Party Symbols of Opposition isn't same as "Defending India". Will Rajnath Singh ji answer the simple question posed by Sh Rahul Gandhi," Surjewala asked on Twitter.

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor said he hopes this hand does not break the "lotus" as the entire focus is here and asked him instead to remove focus from the "hand" and protect the boundaries. ("Lotus" is BJP's election symbol).

There has been a standoff between India and China at the border in eastern Ladakh amid troops build-up on both sides. India has said that the border dispute would be resolved through talks

## Skirmishes On LOC Continue

villagers along the LoC in Rajouri, Poonch and Kupwara since three civilians were killed in April in shelling by Pakistan.

There were a total of 646 incidents of ceasefire violation along the International Border (IB) as well as the LoC between January 1 and February 23 this year, Minister of State for Defence Shripad Naik said in March.

Over 3,200 ceasefire violations by Pakistan's troops were recorded in 2019. There is a 198-km IB and over 510 km of LoC with Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir.

## Contempt Plea Filed Against

..... and amounts to wilful disobedience of this court's judgment and order, which had taken judicial notice of the concerns relating to the ongoing pandemic and the hardships that may be faced by the people of Jammu & Kashmir," the plea, filed through advocate Shadan Farasat, said.

The plea said that the authorities were duty bound to implement the court's direction but they have failed to notify and facilitate the functioning of the special committee.

"The directions of this court have been summarily ignored and the Respondents have wilfully disobeyed their duty to implement this court's directions, which they were bound to and had undertaken to implement, and therefore must be held in contempt of this court," the plea said.

It has also urged the apex court to summon the Union Home Secretary and Chief Secretary of UT of Jammu and Kashmir to explain their position with respect to the alleged non-compliance of the court's directions.

It said that Jammu and Kashmir administration had on May 27 passed an order continuing the restriction on mobile internet speeds to 2G in all districts throughout the UT without any restriction by time or region.

It said the petitioner had sent a representation to the special committee regarding the May 27 order but they have not yet received any acknowledgment of its receipt.

Besides the contempt plea, the petitioner has also filed an application seeking directions to the authorities to notify the constitution of the special committee within three working days.

The application has sought an interim direction to the authority to restore 4G mobile internet services in Jammu and Kashmir, pending disposal of the plea and also the decision by the special committee.

In its May 11 order, the apex court had said it was desirable to have better internet services in the UT in view of the pandemic. The court had taken note of the submissions of the Centre that continuous infiltration, foreign influence, violent extremism and issues of national integrity are prevalent in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, which are serious issues.

The apex court order had come on pleas filed by Foundation for Media Professionals and others seeking restoration of 4G services in the UT

## Low Intensity Quake Jolts...

on 8 October 2005 and left a trail of destruction besides claiming thousands of lives in both parts of Kashmir.

## 5 More Deaths In A Day...

said Dr Salim Tak, Medical Superintendent CD Hospital, one of the exclusive facilities for the management of virus.

"He was suffering last stage of Cancer. His first sample returned positive a week ago," Dr Tak said. "We had taken his repeat sample which came out to be negative," he added.

Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Dr G N Ittoo said that the patient was having late stage malignancy and had tested positive for COVID. "He was admitted in CD Hospital. However his follow up test came negative but he died."

Earlier, Valley reported two deaths due to the novel coronavirus including a 70-year-old covid-19 patient from Panzath village in Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district who died at GMC Anantnag.

Prior to him, a 52-year-old man, who was an auto driver by profession died at the CD hospital today.

Late night, another Covid-19 death was reported by the doctors at the SMHS hospital. The victim, a septuagenarian from Rohmo Pulwama had died on June 8 at the SMHS hospital here. His swab samples came out to be positive, a day after his death.

"His sample was taken on June 7 and it came out to be positive," Medical Superintendent, SMHS hospital, Dr Nazir choudhary told GNS.

"He had pneumonia as underlying disease," he added.

With the fatalities, the death toll due to the pathogen has risen in Jammu and Kashmir to 51—46 in Valley and 5 in Jammu division.

## 61 More Test Covid-19 Positive

Baramulla, four each from Anantnag, Kishtwar & Jammu, three each from Reasi & Kathua, two each from Kulgam & Ramban and one each from Shopian, Pulwama Ganderbal, Bandipora & Udhampur, they said.

They said that 182 patients recovered and were discharged from different hospitals.

The number of confirmed cases has now reached 4,346, out of which 3,407 are in Kashmir, while 939 are in Jammu, the officials said.

There are 2,792 active cases of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in J&K — 2,099 in Kashmir and 693 in Jammu — and 1,506 (1,265 from Kashmir and 241 from Jammu) patients have recovered, according to officials.

The J&K has witnessed 50 COVID-19 deaths so far (45 from Kashmir, 5 from Jammu), including the four deaths that took place on Tuesday.

## Sacked DySP Davinder ...

The accused are wrongly and falsely implicated in the case. There is no material evidence to show the existence of any conspiracy to commit any act with intent to threaten or likely to threaten the unity, integrity, security or sovereignty of India and there is also no material to substantiate that the accused had the intention or conspired to carry out militant strike, Khan said in the application.

The plea also added that the accusations against them are not well founded nor substantiated by any material and do not give rise to the existence of prima facie case against the accused.

Singh was suspended from the Jammu and Kashmir Police in January this year. The Special Cell had brought him to Delhi from Hira Nagar Jail in Jammu and Kashmir.

He was arrested in a case related to planning/ execution of militant attacks in Delhi and other parts of the country.

According to the police, he used to chat with other co-accused and militants of Hizbul Mujahideen through various internet platforms.

## Kashmiri Woman Who Tested

Corona positive cases that have gone up to 27,000 as of now and due to the lack of proper treatment facilities in Government Hospitals, which has also been highlighted in the media, the Delhi government has been compelled to issue a list of 56 Private Hospitals for Corona treatment, the bail application had said.

The three accused, allegedly having links with Islamic State Khurasan Province (ISKP), were arrested by the special cell of Delhi Police in March and sent to the judicial custody on March 23.

Basith was already lodged in jail in another case being probed by the NIA when the Delhi police arrested him in the present matter. The case was later transferred to NIA, which lodged a case on March 20 under the sections 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 124-A (sedition) and 153-A (provocation for causing riot) of IPC and sections 13 (punishment for unlawful activities) and 20 (being member of terrorist gang or organisation) of stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

The NIA later approached a special court here seeking the custodial interrogation of three accused, which was allowed for 10 days by the judge on May 20, with a direction to the Tihar jail authorities to hand over their custody to NIA after conducting their COVID-19 test and ensure that its found negative .

The NIA took their remand on May 29, after the test result had come negative. The custody ended today.

The agency said the accused were actively following the ideology of ISIS and planning for militant strike in India and also recruiting cadres for ISKP.

The Delhi police had earlier said, "In one audio message Abdul Basith said to Jahanzaib to motivate and prepare some guys who may be used for lone wolf attack and kill the people through a truck or lorry by running them over on people."

The police said that the trio was in contact with Abus Ushman al Kashmiri, who is the head of Indian affairs of ISKP.

## 4 IAS, IPS Officers Shifted

final allocation of the officers of J&K cadre between the two UTs. "The Chief Secretary of J&K and advisor to LG Ladakh are requested to issue necessary orders accordingly," reads the order

## Javed Iqbal Wani Appointed

The Supreme Court Collegium in its meeting on January 22 this year had approved the name of Wani and forwarded the same to Law Ministry, Gol, for appointment as High Court Judge.

Advocate Iqbal Wani is the gold medallist in Law from Kashmir University and had started practice in 1990. He had been practising in Jammu and Srinagar Wings of High Court.

He had also served as Additional Advocate General from February 2019 to December 2019 and had also represented army in many cases including the Pathribal fake encounter case. (GNS)

# UP Cabinet Passes Ordinance To Prevent Cow Slaughter

**LUCKNOW:** To protect cows and prevent their slaughter, the Uttar Pradesh government on Tuesday approved a draft ordinance, providing a maximum rigorous imprisonment of 10 years and a fine up to Rs 5 lakh.

For the first offence, a person can be given a rigorous punishment of one to seven years with a fine ranging from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 3 lakh.

For the second offence, the person can be given a 10-year rigorous imprisonment with a fine up to Rs 5 lakh, a statement said.

The state cabinet cleared the draft of the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet Cow Slaughter Prevention (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath here.

The ordinance aims at making the existing law (Uttar Pradesh Prevention of Cow Slaughter Act, 1955) more robust and effective and to completely stop the incidents pertaining to cow slaughter,

the statement said.

In case of the illegal transportation of cows and other bovines, the driver, operator and the owner of the vehicle shall be charged under the new Act, unless proven that the transportation was done without the owner's knowledge by someone else for committing the crime.

The expenditure incurred on the maintenance of the captured cows will be recovered from the owner of the vehicle for a period of one year or until the cow or bovine is released, whichever is earlier.

The provisions also attract punishment if there is a danger to their lives through physical damage or mutilation.

According to the statement, if someone puts the life of a cow in danger by not providing food and water with the intention of endangering its life, one-year rigorous imprisonment may be awarded, which may extend to seven years for the first offence.

## Pulwama Gunfight Aftermath

were arrested on charges of stone-pelting. (KNT)

## ‘One Ring Phone Scam’....

made as per some "new plot" to devour and dry their GSM mobile number balance, and intrude into their bank accounts linked to their mobile numbers.

Amid speculations, however, J&K Cyber Police Chief Tahir Ashraf said that a lot scam calls have been reported in the valley wherein scammers miss call people and manipulate them to call back.

"It's an expensive premium route," SP Tahir told Kashmir Observer. "The longer one will be on call with these scammers, the more money you lose."

Cyber police, the officer said, is urging people to report this issue to their service providers, so that they can use their defence and security mechanism on this issue as soon as possible.

"On our side," he said, "we're raising awareness on radio and Twitter. I urge people to go through it and be aware of such calls. Don't get curious to call back them. If it's any international call, please avoid. Go through our twitter handle too."

Kashmir, however, is not new to such midnight con calls.

In not so distant past, scammers would make repeated ISD calls to Kashmiris, only to leave them awe-struck, announcing: 'Congratulations! You've won a lottery worth millions.'

A long chat with such callers would convince the 'gullible lots' regarding their offers. Out of curiosity, many of these users would call back, only to empty their mobile wallet.

Amid social media reactions over the 'Saudi call scam', many are drawing parallels with Japan's infamous Missed Call Fraud case.

Ten years back, the mobile users would receive a missed or 'Wan-giri' calls—One Ring and Cut—from unknown International (ISD) numbers. Call back would eat away the user's mobile balance and leave them high and dry.

This prompted authorities to caution people not to respond to missed calls from unknown numbers prefix other than "+91".

Kashmiris are now getting scam calls from numbers with prefix: +966.

While it's the country code of Saudi Arabia, the valley-based IT experts said it can be machine-generated code from any other country.

"Today, scammers can generate fake numbers and country codes with the help of some software," said Rukhsar Pandit, a Srinagar-based Software engineer.

But how does it work?

Scammers, Rukhsar said, get an International premium rate number from an operator, before giving missed calls to millions of mobile numbers across the globe during night.

Those who call back ended up having 'a long and full of offers' chat, either with machine or human.

"This long alluring talk costs the caller money as per the international premium rate numbers," Ruksar continued. "One needs to be careful, as even international call complaints can't refund the robbed money to all."

And therefore, as a precautionary measure, the IT experts suggest, the mobile users should stay alert and install spam number identification application on their mobile.

Once installed, these mobile applications block the spam numbers and ban the missed call scams.

In a scam-alert article on its official website, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), a government-owned telecommunications company, cautions its users that if you dial to any anonymous ISD calls, your prepaid mobile balance will reduce by Rs.60 as the minimum, and up to a maximum of Rs.200.

But if you don't respond to that ISD missed call, there's no chance of deduction, it says.

"So," it cautions, "beware of any ISD Missed call and don't try to dial any of that type of numbers." —Jyotsna Bharti contributed to the reporting.

## IED Attack Foiled In ...

spot, which destroyed the IED in situ.

There was no damage due to the controlled explosion of the IED, the police official added.

## Youth Found Dead In Uri...

have filed a case under the relevant act and started further investigations.

## Police Trace 3 Covid-19 ...

challenge for the surveillance teams to trace them.However, acting swiftly, a police team led by SHO Harwan along with the surveillance team, including health workers managed to trace all the three," the spokesperson said.

He said the trio has been sent to administrative quarantine.

## Minor Drowns In Baramulla

She was taken to the hospital, where doctors declared her brought dead.(CNS)



## District Health Society Sgr appoints 65 Paramedics

**S**rinagar, June 9: District Health Society, Srinagar headed by District Development Commissioner, Shahid Iqbal Choudhary has appointed 65 applicants against various paramedical posts to augment and strengthen the management in various hospitals for efficient COVID response system.

The selection committee comprised of Chief Medical Officer Dr Jahangir Bakshi, Jt Director Planning Mohammad Yaseen Lone and District Health Officer under supervision of the chairman issued the selection list a day after the recruitment process conducted on 8th June 2020.

The posts against which selections have been made include 42 posts of Staff Nurse-DNB, 4 posts of Staff Nurse – Dialysis, 10 Staff Nurse – NUHM, 3 Lab technicians, 1 Dawasaaz and 5 Pharmacists.

DDC Srinagar has directed for appointment letters to selected candidates and their induction training to be completed within one week for utilisation of their services in various hospitals.

## Police traces 3 COVID-19 suspects

**S**rinagar: In a swift action, Police in Srinagar traced three primary contacts of a COVID-19 positive person.

After surfacing of a positive case of COVID-19, in Tailbal area under the jurisdiction of PS Harwan Srinagar, it was learnt that three non local labourers had been working as Mason in the house of COVID positive person and had left his house days before. However, the family had no clue about their whereabouts. Therefore it became a challenge for the surveillance teams to trace them.

However, acting swiftly, a police team led by SHO PS Harwan along with the surveillance team which including health workers managed to trace all the three non local labourers. All the three were sent to administrative quarantine. Their immediate tracing has broken the chain of spread of Coronavirus in the area. Locals have hailed the timely efforts of the Police and surveillance team.

# Market Opening in City Crucial meet between traders, DC today

Agencies

Srinagar: The final meeting to open shops in the city centre—Lal Chowk and other areas of Srinagar will be taken after a crucial meeting between traders and the deputy commissioner Srinagar tomorrow afternoon, official sources told news agency.

They said the traders have already given a written undertaking that they will follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and guidelines laid by the Ministry of Home Affairs besides District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA).

“The meeting was scheduled today but DC sahib was busy somewhere. Now we have got a call for a final and crucial meeting over re-opening of shops in Lal Chowk and other parts of Srinagar district, at 12 noon tomorrow,” KTMF chairman Muhammad Yasin Khan said.

Earlier in the day, the traders’ representatives met additional deputy commissioner (ADC) Srinagar Muhammad Haneef Balkhi,



who had stated that there was a possibility of re-opening of shops but final decision would be taken by the DC Srinagar Shahid Iqbal Choudhary in a meeting tomorrow.

If tomorrow’s meeting evolves consen-

sus over re-opening of shops, it would be after a gap of almost over 80 days that shops would be re-opened in Srinagar district, first time after the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic—(KNO)

## Mechanism worked out for transportation of Cherry, other fruit: Advisor Sharma

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR:-** Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, K.K. Sharma today said that the government has worked out a mechanism for ensuring speedy transportation of the horticultural produce especially the seasonal fruit cherry by way of various interventions.

The Advisor said this while interacting with the representatives of the cherry processing unit holders during his tour to the Harwan horticulture nursery here today where he inspected the activities being undertaken by the Horticulture department.

Director Horticulture, Kashmir, Aijaz Ahmad Bhat and other senior officers of the department were also present.

The Advisors said that the government is fully abreast with the situation that has arisen out of COVID 19 pandemic due to which the cherry growers and processing unit hold-



ers are facing problems. He said necessary steps are being taken for ensuring their transportation to other parts of the country where they are marketed.

The Advisor asked the Director Horticulture Kashmir to provide all the necessary help to the unit holders with regard to the movement passes and other related things. He said that with regard to the provision of subsidy on transportation of cherry to different terminal markets it would be taken up with the concerned.

Deputy Director Horticulture was nominated as Nodal

officer for liaisoning with the cherry processing unit holders and taking necessary steps for addressing their grievances.

Director Horticulture informed the Advisor that 215 tonnes of cherry have already been exported to different markets of the country and around 1000 boxes have been airlifted to Mumbai till date and Cherry canning units have started to function and rest are following. It was also informed that about 2000 tonnes of Raw cherry were exported to different mandies of the country last year besides 6000 tonnes were canned.

## 1 in 3 patients with Covid infection test negative: DAK

Srinagar: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Tuesday said one in three patients infected with the novel coronavirus receive false negative test results. “A negative test does not exclude the possibility of Covid-19 infection,” said DAK President Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

“RT-PCR test is the most common diagnostic test used to identify people currently infected with Covid infection. It works by detecting the virus from nasal or throat swabs of patients,” he said.

Dr Nisar said the clinical sensitivity of PCR test ranges from 66% to 80%. That means more than 30 percent of positive cases may be missed by the test.

“Inappropriate sample collection is the main culprit behind inaccurate testing,” he said.

Dr Nisar said false negative results are occurring because healthcare providers aren’t collecting samples with enough of virus. This can happen because they don’t insert a swab deep enough in the nose or don’t collect enough of the sample.

“False negative can also occur if persons are testing too early or too late during their infection and there isn’t lot of virus in their cells,” he said.

“And, errors can happen if a sample sits too long before being tested which allows the virus to break down,” he added.

Dr Nisar said another issue related to PCR test is “false positive result”. “That means people who are uninfected receive positive results for Covid,” he said.

Dr Nisar said the false positive result can be due to contamination either from a positive sample analyzed in the lab at the same time (cross contamination) or more likely from genes amplified from prior positive samples or positive controls (carryover contamination). False positives can also be produced by sample mix-ups or data entry errors.

“False positive results lead to unnecessary sequestration of uninfected individuals and waste of human resources in contact tracing,” he said.

## Div Com pays surprise visit to Super Specialty Hospital

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

**SRINAGAR, JUNE 9** The Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole Monday paid a surprise visit to Government Super Specialty Hospital Srinagar, with the view to take stock of the facilities made available thier by the authorities of GMC Srinagar to deal with the COVID-19 patients.

Principal/ Dean, GMC Sri-

nagar, Professor (Dr) Samia Rashid apprised the Divisional Commissioner about the functioning of the hospital with respect to patient care and administration of Chemotherapy, Cardiac and Gastroenterological procedures carried out in the hospital alongwith the Dialysis facility available for chronic Kidney patients. She also invited the attention of the visitor towards the Ontological Surgeries which are being car-

ried out in the hospital without any break even during the turbulent times of COVID-19.

The Div Com was informed about the measures undertaken for sanitation standards of the wards and practice of environmental sampling upon the report of Covid-19 +ve cases in the hospital.

The Divisional Commissioner also visited the outpatients’ department of hospital and interacted with the medi-

cal and Paramedical staff.

The Div Com impressed upon the hospital authorities to follow the guidelines issued by the union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, in letter and spirit especially during these emergent conditions of COVID-19. He emphasis upon maintenance of physical distance in laboratories/wards of the hospital and implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

## CUK holds 11th Academic Council, takes important decisions

Ganderbal, June 9: The 11th Meeting of the Academic Council (AC) of Central University of Kashmir (CUK) was held on Tuesday at Green Campus of the varsity with Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mehraj ud Din Mir in chair.

Welcoming the members of newly constituted Academic Council including external ones, Prof. Mehraj ud Din Mir gave a brief account about the university establishment and its functioning. “In the beginning, only three Postgraduate programmes were introduced and over the years a number of Undergraduate, Postgraduate, Integrated Research and Diploma Programmes were successfully added to the academic canvas of the university,” Prof. Mehraj ud Din Mir said, adding that as on date, the university is having Nine Schools of Study, comprising 20 teaching

departments which are offering 35 different programmes including integrated UG-PG programmes. Prof. Mehraj ud Din Mir said the university intake capacity always remains full and there has been very less cases of dropouts, which can be termed as insignificant. He said the university is doing well on academics front and has faculty members from across the country.

On the infrastructure front, CUK VC said the university until last year was functioning from the rented buildings in Srinagar city was subsequently shifted to Ganderbal with the help of government functionaries and district administration, in a phased manner. He said the university had to renovate the buildings (Old District Hospital and erstwhile Physical Education College) before starting the academic activities.

He said that 5000 kanals of land stands transferred to the University for Establishment of the permanent campus. “However, the construction on the permanent structures were hit as the land turned out to be marshy with low load bearing capacity,” he said, adding that MHRD also deputed a soil expert who after thorough analysis, approved the construction of G+1 structures.

Prof. Mehraj ud Din said the university has faculty from across the country who are actively participating in national and international seminars, conferences and other academic activities from time to time, adding that several faculty members have also received research projects. He said the students have also participated in several national and international events including various competitions.

No. P-12033/2/2020-DS(GSY))/FME  
Government of India  
Ministry of Food Processing Industries  
Panchsheel Bhawan, August Kranti Marg,  
New Delhi-110049

Applications invited for engagement as Consultants and Young Professionals For setting up of a National Project Management Unit for the new scheme “Formalisation of Micro food processing Enterprises (FME)”, Ministry of Food Processing Industries invites online applications for engagement of Consultants having specialisation in Project Management (Lead Project Manager)/ Credit & Finance/ Enterprise Development/ Food Technology/ Monitoring & Evaluation and Data Analytics/ Communication & Dissemination/ Procurement Management and Young Professionals on contractual basis. For more details and online filling of application, visit our website - [www.mofpi.nic.in](http://www.mofpi.nic.in).

Last date for receipt of applications: 24.06.2020.

DAVP/16101/11/0004/2021

### 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
- BUBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153



### HIGHWAY STATUS



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



**HIJRI  
CALENDAR**  
18 Shawwal  
1441

### PRAYERS

FAJR	3: 34
ZUHR	12: 30
ASR	5:29
Magrib	7:44
ISHA	9:24

## This Day In History

- 1190-Third Crusade: Holy Roman Emperor Frederick I Barbarossa drowns while crossing the Saleph River (modern Turkey) leading an army to Jerusalem
- 1358 - French Jacquerie peasant leader Guillaume Cale captured at the Battle of Mello
- 1538 - Catholic German monarchy signs League of Nuremberg
- 1539 - Council of Trent: Paul III sends out letters to his bishops, delaying the Council due to war and the difficulty bishops had traveling to Venice. 1538- Catholic German monarchy sign League of Nuremberg
- 1605 - False Dimitri I, an impostor, crowned Russian tsar (rules 1605-1606)
- 1610 - Thomas West, Baron de La Mar, is appointed governor of Virginia
- 1610 -1st Dutch settlers arrive (from NJ), to colonize Manhattan Island
- 1619 - Thirty Years&#39; War: Battle of Záblati, a turning point in the Bohemian Revolt.
- 1624- Netherlands & France sign anti-Spanish Treaty of Compiègne
- 1760- NY passes 1st effective law regulating practice of medicine
- 1786- A landslide dam on the Dadu River caused by earthquake ten days earlier collapses, killing 100,000 in the Sichuan province of China
- 1801-Tripoli declares war on US for refusing tribute
- 1902- Patent for window envelope granted to H F Callahan
- 1907- France and Japan sign an agreement to maintain the independence and integrity of China, equality for all nations in trading with China, and the status quo in the Far East
- 1915 -British/French troops conquer German colony of Cameroon
- 1916-Great Arab Revolt begins against ruling Ottoman turks
- 1931 -Norway occupies East Greenland
- 1934-USSR & Romania re-establish diplomatic relations
- 1940- Italy declares war on France & France & Britain during WW II
- 1940-Norway surrenders to Nazis
- 1940- Canada declares war on Italy.
- 1943- FDR becomes 1st US president to visit a foreign country during wartime
- 1955- 1st separation of virus into component parts reported
- 1967 Israel, Syria, Jordan, Iraq & Egypt end &quot;6-Day War&quot; with UN help
- 1977- Apple Computer ships its first Apple II computers
- 1977- International Labour Organisation and United Nations meet to discuss apartheid in South Africa and potential actions to prevent further violence and state repression.
- 1982- Israeli troops reach outskirts of Beirut
- 1984- US missile shoots down an incoming missile in space for first time
- 2002- The first direct electronic communication experiment between the nervous systems of two humans is carried out by Kevin Warwick in the United Kingdom.
- 2003- The Spirit Rover is launched, beginning NASA&#39;s Mars Exploration Rover mission.
- 2013 70 people are killed as a series of bombs explode across Iraq
- 2013 3rd Critics&#39; Choice Television Awards: The Big Bang Theory wins Best Comedy Series, Breaking Bad & Game of Thrones win Best Drama Series (tie)

## From KO Archives

### Advani Quits In Jinnah’s Defence

**N**EW DELHI - Just two days after his remarks on Muhammed Ali Jinnah, L K Advani on Tuesday resigned as the president of the Bharatiya Janata Party,. His resignation came a day after the top RSS brass demanded that Advani withdraw his utterances. Returning home on Monday, Advani had brushed aside all criticism and described his visit as “an unforgettable week in my life”. He said he welcomed a debate on the remarks about Jinnah.

Significantly, Advani wrote the resignation letter just before leaving Karachi on Monday.

RSS has been demanding that he withdraw his statements in Pakistan specially that Muhammad Ali Jinnah was secular.

Hours after the midnight demand of the Sangh Parivar founthead that he “review” the statements made in Pakistan during his weeklong visit.

Advani called Sanjay Joshi., RSS pointsman in-BJP to his residence this morning and handed over to him a letter announcing his resignation as party President.

The party made this disclosure in a press statement along with which it released a letter written by Advani to Joshi significantly “just before” leaving Karachi yesterday.

“I have decided to request the party to relieve me of Presidentship.” the letter said.  
(Kashmir Observer, 10 June, 2005)



KASHMIR  
OBSERVER

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the  
Kashmir Observer LLP  
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001  
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.  
RNI Registration No: 69503/98  
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16  
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider  
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja  
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304  
Editorial: (0194) 2502327  
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobserver.net

Grim Situation

**K**illing of Ajay Pandita, a sarpanch from Lokbowan Halqa in Anantnag district has spotlighted the tragic situation prevailing in Kashmir. Pandita had returned to Kashmir on his own in defiance of the warnings by the members of his community. And that he had won the last year's panchayat polls could be cited as a testimony to our inclusive culture. But his killing now is a deeply troubling development. At the same time, it has opened our eyes to the gravity of the prevailing situation in the Valley. As it is, there has been a renewed spike in the violence since April. Around ninety people have died that includes around 56 militants and 24 security forces personnel. Nine militants were killed on Sunday and Monday in Shopian.

The fresh killings have once again put into sharp relief the extraordinary situation that Kashmir has been facing over the past ten months now. And as the continuous violence underlines, there seems no end to it. An estimated 283 people died in 2019. In 1918, 452 people had died which was the largest number since the revival of the militancy in 2015. If the recent spike in violence is anything to go by, the situation has taken on a fraught dimension. The local recruitment into militancy has shown signs of picking up again. In addition, there has also been new infiltration to supplement the local recruitment. But New Delhi remains indifferent to the situation, so does the national media which, as always, plies a distorted picture of the ongoing situation. More so, the television channels. They give such a simplified and stereotyped representation of the situation. This only complicates rather than aids the understanding of the situation.

Security forces have once again launched a campaign to eliminate insurgency by attempting to kill all the militants within a specific timeframe. Viewed from that perspective, the security agencies have been exceptionally successful over the past some years. The understanding in the security establishment seems to be that the killings of the militants at this rate could drastically reduce their number. This, in turn, is expected to alter the political dynamics in Valley and usher in peace. But the deeper factors underpinning the current state of affairs will linger on and can be expected to create conditions for yet another phase of violence and unrest. This has been the case over the past three decades. The militancy has gone through its crests and troughs but never been wiped out. And same has been the case with the public unrests. The future, as the killing of Pandita underlines, looks grim in Kashmir. And things are unlikely to look up unless New Delhi fundamentally changes its approach to the situation and moves away from a security-centric approach to empathy and engagement.

OTHER OPINON

Unlocking The Farm

**O**f the two major reforms, the ECA amendment has more immediate significance. It does away with the government's powers for imposing stockholding limits in foodstuffs, except under "extraordinary conditions" of war, famine and natural calamities. Such powers can also be invoked if retail prices increase more than 50 per cent over the average of the last five years in the case of non-perishable produce (cereals, pulses and edible oils) and 100 per cent for perishables (onions and potatoes). The latter provisions are unnecessary, given recent evidence that points to inflation in most foodstuffs being episodic and also the vastly improved supply response of farmers to any price rise. This has been seen in onions, potatoes, pulses and sugar — commodities where stockholding and export restrictions have been clamped during the Modi government's own tenure. The injury to producers from cutting off market access has proved far more severe and long-lasting than any relief from temporary pain to consumers.

The second reform — allowing buying and selling of farmers' produce outside of the physical boundaries of APMC mandis, along with the freedom to trade both within and from one state to another — is unlikely to yield immediate gains. The example of milk, where only a handful of cooperative and private dairies procure directly from farmers despite no APMC regulations governing it, is worth citing here. Dismantling of APMC monopoly will not stop big agro-processors and traders/retailers from relying on mandi intermediaries to source their produce. But it gives them, and also farmers, an alternative market channel that can force the mandis to do a better job. (The Indian Express)With agriculture coming out relatively unscathed amidst the current economic carnage — retail fertiliser sales nearly doubled in May over last year, marking the seventh consecutive month of double-digit growth — the Narendra Modi government has done well to introduce long-delayed supply-side reforms in the sector. The ordinances issued last week to amend the Essential Commodities Act (ECA) and end the monopoly of agricultural produce market committee (APMC) mandis in farm products trading will send out a positive message. Agriculture's value for policymakers has primarily been for controlling inflation or supplying wage goods and surplus labour for industrialisation and urbanisation. Few have viewed it as a sector in its own right and farmers as businessmen who must first earn for themselves rather than only fulfilling goals defined by others.

Of the two major reforms, the ECA amendment has more immediate significance. It does away with the government's powers for imposing stockholding limits in foodstuffs, except under "extraordinary conditions" of war, famine and natural calamities. Such powers can also be invoked if retail prices increase more than 50 per cent over the average of the last five years in the case of non-perishable produce (cereals, pulses and edible oils) and 100 per cent for perishables (onions and potatoes). The latter provisions are unnecessary, given recent evidence that points to inflation in most foodstuffs being episodic and also the vastly improved supply response of farmers to any price rise. This has been seen in onions, potatoes, pulses and sugar — commodities where stockholding and export restrictions have been clamped during the Modi government's own tenure. The injury to producers from cutting off market access has proved far more severe and long-lasting than any relief from temporary pain to consumers.

The second reform — allowing buying and selling of farmers' produce outside of the physical boundaries of APMC mandis, along with the freedom to trade both within and from one state to another — is unlikely to yield immediate gains. The example of milk, where only a handful of cooperative and private dairies procure directly from farmers despite no APMC regulations governing it, is worth citing here. Dismantling of APMC monopoly will not stop big agro-processors and traders/retailers from relying on mandi intermediaries to source their produce. But it gives them, and also farmers, an alternative market channel that can force the mandis to do a better job.

The Indian Express

Mk BHADRAKUMAR

**To aspire to influence the Afghan peace process is beyond India's capability now. Pakistan regards India as a 'spoiler', and stakeholders will be loathe to risk annoying Pakistan by advocating India's case. Even 'time-tested friends' will fight shy of holding India's hand. Our options have shrunk.**

**A** report of the UN's Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team concerning the Taliban was released in New York on June 1. Based on highly sensitive intelligence inputs from several countries, it holds a penetrating searchlight on the core issue of Taliban's nexus with the al-Qaeda. Its conclusion: the Taliban al-Qaeda symbiosis is an enduring reality.

One would have thought that the UN report opens a Pandora's box. But on the contrary, aside the dust it raised in Delhi momentarily, life moves on. No other world capital seems unduly perturbed. President Trump tweeted, 'We are acting as a police force, not the fighting force that we are, in Afghanistan. After 19 years, it is time for them to police their own country. Bring our soldiers back home, but closely watch what is going on and strike with a thunder like never before, if necessary!' Russia insists the Taliban have 'changed' and have a 'strategic vision'.

The world chancelleries are accustomed to regarding the al-Qaeda as a geopolitical tool in regional conflicts. Therefore, the MEA spokesman wisely focused on the 'operative part' of the report concerning the presence of nearly 6,500 Pakistani terrorist fighters in Afghanistan, comprising largely of LeT and JeM cadres. The MEA said, "This vindicates India's long-standing position that Pakistan remains the epicentre of international terrorism... The international community should hold Pakistan accountable."

The salience of the UN report lies on the following templates. One, nothing will deter Washington from heading for the exit door in Afghanistan. Two, Pakistan has manoeuvred itself into a strong position from where it cannot be dislodged. Three, Pakistan's control of the Taliban is not in doubt, but in the game of smoke and mirrors, the international community has acquiesced. Four, the Taliban are determined to regain power in Kabul, and, with Pakistani support, this goal is achievable. Five, when the crunch time comes, the Haqqanis will do what is necessary for the ISI. Six, foreign powers — with the exception of India, perhaps — are resigned to the Taliban's return to power.

The virulently anti-India Haqqani group is in a commanding position within the Taliban. Pakistan has a game plan, having drawn lessons from the Mujahideen era — no meaningful rapprochement between the Taliban and Indians should be allowed in a near term. The Haqqanis will ensure it. Put differently, Pakistan couldn't care less if the Indians open lines to some



inconsequential Taliban elements, as it is the Haqqanis who call the shots. All this, plus the large concentration of battle-hardened JeM and LeT fighters in the eastern provinces of Kunar, Nangarhar and Nuristan, carries dark forebodings for India's security.

To aspire to influence the Afghan peace process is beyond India's capability now. Pakistan regards India as a 'spoiler', and stakeholders will be loathe to risk annoying Pakistan by advocating India's case. Even 'time-tested friends' will fight shy of holding India's hand. Our options have shrunk.

While political and diplomatic work should continue to endeavour to sustain government-to-government interaction and people-to-people goodwill, India cannot afford to be a provider of security or excessively identify with any single Afghan faction. Geography and resource constraints dictate that until the present churning assumes some clarity, a low-key approach and strategic restraint is advisable.

Meanwhile, the strengthening of the permanent mission in New York with the appointment of an experienced senior diplomat as the new PR, coinciding with India's membership of the UNSC for the next two-year period, could provide Delhi with some degree of diplomatic leverage in the Afghan peace process leading to any settlement.

The present situation brings to mind an exemplar from the annals of history 40 years ago when the Soviet forces withdrew from Afghanistan, leaving Najibullah to grapple with multiple challenges — pushing back the Mujahideen from approaching the gates of Kabul while coping with internal dissensions in own camp and also making overtures for national reconciliation. Of course, the roof eventually came down under the sheer weight of contradictions.

Courtesy: The Tribune

When Face Masks  
Hide Our Myriad Emotions



**W**earing or not wearing a face mask has morphed into a surprisingly provocative act, and it is now one of the chief symbolic flash-points in the culture wars.

People who wear face masks berate and attack others who do not wear face masks, and those who do not wear face masks attack and berate individuals who do wear them. The mere request that someone don a mask before entering a store has led to physical assaults and even murder, and in one especially vile incident, a customer wiped his nose on the shirt of a Dollar Tree employee just because she asked him to wear a face mask.

What is going on here? Why such visceral pushback to a simple thing like wearing a face mask?

Yes, face masks can be uncomfortable and inconvenient, and they totally interfere with many of the most pleasurable activities in our social lives: eating drinking, smiling, flirting, and kissing.

But such over-the-top emotional responses to mask-wearing defy rational explanation, given that we do not get nearly as riled up over other things that more accurately signal political allegiances.

Clearly, the face mask is igniting something much deeper within us. I believe that this controversy has stumbled into that part of our psyche that gives us the creeps dur-

ing times of uncertainty. Getting creeped out is an adaptive emotional response to the uncertainty of danger. It is different from related emotions such as fear or disgust, which kick in when the threats we face and how best to deal with them are quite clear.

The ambiguity of threat leaves us frozen in place and mired in unease. We do not know whether fight, flight, or nothing at all is required. Our "creep detectors" activate in situations like this to maintain a state of hyper-vigilance to help us figure out what, if anything, is going on. Being creeped out can be mentally exhausting because it commandeers a lot of our available cognitive processing capacity.

We can be creeped out by people and by places, and the COVID-19 pandemic makes us uneasy about both.

We wonder if we have been exposed to the virus, or even if we already have it. We are unsure about our friends and relatives, and strangers pose an even higher level of risk. We do not know which places are safe and which ones are not; the invisibility of the threat is maddening.

When we are uncertain about what is going on around us, one of the first things we do is to look at the reactions of other people. If they seem unconcerned, we convince ourselves that there is nothing to worry about. Meanwhile, they are looking at us, and our mutually calm demeanors reassure each other that all is well. If we choose not to wear a mask and frequent places where very few other people are wearing them, it is easy to relax and believe that we are safe.

On the other hand, if we believe that we are at low risk for infection, being surrounded by others who are wearing masks directly challenges this belief, creating a tension that may take an aggressive turn. Conversely, if we are worried about infection and dutifully wear a mask whenever we are in public, seeing others without masks makes us feel conspicuous and a bit silly, which also promotes negative feelings.

Masks also impair our ability to manage face-to-face interactions. The nuances of facial expression that we rely upon so heavily become less reliable, and social distancing and prohibitions on touching and handshaking further alienate us from the normal rhythm of daily social life. All of these effects get magnified when the mask is also a symbol of which side you might be on in the culture wars. The mask becomes a quick and easy way to identify "us" versus "them," with all of the undesirable consequences that follow from that.

We need to overcome our darker predispositions to get along during this time of stress. Ideally, wearing a mask will eventually come to be seen as a normal individual choice rather than as a political statement. We do not attack dental hygienists or nurses for wearing face masks; it is time to afford the same courtesy to our neighbors.

Psychology Today



# Earthquakes: How To Minimise Damage

The Main Frontal Thrust is the major source of earthquakes in South Asia

**T**he recent earthquakes in Delhi and nearby places have possibly originated on a NE-SW trending active fault system that is 400 km long. And at north it could crosscut the Main Himalayan/Frontal Thrust, which is the megathrust fault and accounts for most of the earthquakes at the Himalayan front.

The earthquake distribution in the region (Figure on right) suggests a strong pattern that could reflect strain accumulation on ~NE-SW oriented fault system. It could host a major earthquake in the future, which is based on the extent and pattern of seismicity, and the existence of faults in the region. However, the earthquake prediction is not possible, and therefore the best remedy is to prepare for the worst case scenario, which is to prepare for a magnitude 7 and above.

The overall earthquake hazard in South Asia is mainly associated with the Main Himalayan/Frontal Thrust system, but occasionally earthquakes occur away from the front, which should be studied in greater details to understand the possible causes, and to avert the future destruction.

The Main Himalayan/Frontal Thrust (MHT/MFT) is the surficial expression of the megathrust fault where an abrupt topographic high marks the end of Indo-Gangetic plains and the start of frontal mountain ranges. This fault system, which is younger than the other faults system north of it, remind us of the continuous push of the India tectonic plate against the Eurasia plate that has resulted in the formation of series of faults including the megathrust fault since Eocene time.

The occurrence of earthquakes in this region is a result of this push that deform rocks and therefore accumulate strain over the geological past that eventually overcomes the strength of these rocks by nucleating fractures which becomes fault and host earthquakes. Most of the present-day earthquakes are reported on the frontal fault system, with some on the interior faults as well. Some of the prominent earthquakes that are associated with significant damage are: the 2005 Kashmir earthquake (Mw = 7.6), the 1905 Kangra earthquake (Mw = 7.7), the 2015 Nepal earthquake (Mw = 7.9), the 1934 Bihar-Nepal earthquake (Mw = 8.1), the 1879 Shillong earthquake (Mw = 8.1), and the 1950 Assam earthquake (Mw = 8.4). The measurement of interseismic strain is therefore one of the most important aspects to understand the seismic hazard to millions of people who live in the closer vicinity of this deadly fault system.

Progress in building of resilient infrastructure and communities to handle potential earthquake disasters Undoubtedly, a large portion of population in Kashmir and also across Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia live on or nearby active fault systems. Unregulated urbanization, coupled with many folds increase in populations, particularly in the last few decades have put these regions at greater earthquake risk.

Indo-Gangetic plains in India abruptly rise at the foothills of Himalayas where Himalayan frontal fault system emerges at surface at certain regions but mostly runs blind. A series of devastating earthquake in the past are a reminder that earthquakes have greatly shaped the landscape and its history, and often some of the major or devastating earthquakes are recorded in the historical text. Surprisingly during the earlier periods of human settlements, including the latest British India, no standard seismic building codes were enforced or implemented. Past records show that during the later stages of British India seismic resistant building codes were planned after the devastating 1935 Quetta earthquake in Baluchistan. Similarly, strengthening techniques are reported to have been implemented after the 1941 Andaman Islands earthquake. It is important to note that Greater India achieved independence from British rule in 1947, but at the cost of



Oct 8, 2005- Scene of devastation in Pakistani side of Kashmir

**Unfortunately, it takes a devastating earthquake to research, plan, and implement strategy to counter future potential disasters. This was apparent in most of SE Asia after the deadly event of 2004. In Pakistan, the huge loss of life and property in the 2005 Kashmir earthquake reminded authorities of the urgency to address this issue. Likewise, in India the “Republican Day” earthquake of January 2001, which devastated Bhuj (Gujarat) with more than 19000 casualties did exactly the same.**

regional instability that was marked by one of the most brutal partitions in the world. The entire region was torn on religious lines with the creation of Hindu dominated India and Muslim dominated Pakistan (both East and West Pakistan at that time). What is more, the seeds of partition sprouted again with the emergence of East Pakistan again on blood-filled notions, into an independent nation, Bangladesh. During this time these newly created nations witnessed deadliest riots, bloodshed, and total devastation from national and international wars. Therefore, any previous effort of planning or implementing of the earthquake resistant building codes, as was done in Quetta (read below), was delayed. This clearly suggests that political stability of a nation is paramount to its preparedness to face any kind of disaster, and thus India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh were unable to achieve objectives to safeguard its populations from disasters. All these countries are still struggling to get out of the ruins of partition to implement seismic code, and in India it again picked up in the late 1950s when India was fully independent. India started working towards the development of infrastructure for education and development but it is still struggling to implement the resistant seismic building codes in regions where it is required.

Unfortunately, it takes a devastating earthquake to research, plan, and implement strategy to counter future potential disasters. This was apparent in most of SE Asia after the deadly event of 2004. In Pakistan, the huge loss of life and property that followed the 2005 Kashmir earthquake (see below) reminded authorities that there is a serious need to address this issue (Pathier et al. 2006). Likewise, in India the “Republican Day” earthquake of January 2001, which devastated Bhuj (Gujarat) with more than 19000 casualties did exactly this. After this earthquake both authorities and scientists kick started a comprehensive planning to understand the causes of earthquakes, and to plan and implement the seismic resistant building codes and earthquake education at large. Therefore, the National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering was established, and with it a widespread 4-year National Programme on Earthquake Engineering Education that is implemented at Indian Institutes of Technology and the Indian Institute of Science, and it has developed

a large scale education and training framework in India (Jain, 2016). However, a large portion of work remains to be achieved, particularly in rural areas where implementation of strict building codes is not practiced.

Pakistan shares a similar political background as of India, rests on geological structures, and some of them are active and capable of producing deadly earthquakes. It was the devastating Quetta earthquake of May 30th 1935 that caused a large scale damage in Quetta, and resulted in 60,000 casualties. This perhaps forced the British authorities (who controlled it at that time) to enforce a strict building codes, Quetta Building Code, and it was subsequently adapted in 1937. The construction of unreinforced masonry buildings was forbidden. This standard practice is reported to have saved people and property during the 1941 earthquake. After independence from British India in 1947, British India was torn into two dominions of Pakistan and India on religious lines, resulting in one of the most bloody partitions of human history. These scars were fresh when another massacre unfolded, and the East Pakistan independence struggle heated up with the formation of a new country called Bangladesh. This explains the delay in preparation and implementation of seismic resistant building codes in these regions, and thus after a period of relatively calm political atmosphere Pakistan developed 1986 Pakistan Building Code, which however had many problems, and did not reflect the ground realities, and even earthquake hazard zoning was greatly flawed. And it failed litmus test in 2005 when the Moment magnitude (Mw) 7.6 earthquake devastated Muzafarabad in Pakistani side of Kashmir, and caused extensive damage and a loss of more than 80,000 lives. The country was violently shaken by the loss of people and started to rethink over the adaptation of strict building codes, and in 2007 Pakistan Building Code was adapted, which is mostly based on the 1997 Uniform Building Code. However, on ground the implementation measures will have to go a long way.

*Author is Assistant Professor in Structural Geology, Faculty of Science, Universiti Brunei Darussalam. He can be reached at: afroz.shah@ubd.edu.bn*

## India: Post-Lockdown Looks Like Old Times

COVID has accentuated inborn Indian insecurities and highlighted some bitter truths

C.P. SURENDRAN,  
Gulf News

**O**n June 8, India lock-lifted after 70-odd days of shutting down on account of COVID-19. As expected, there were traffic jams.

More of everything, in fact. Malls and restaurants have opened, and inter-state travel has resumed. It was as if the pandemic had not happened at all. It is an indication of how an official license gives the illusion that disease and death are happening elsewhere.

The lock-lift coincided with the average daily death toll jumping to 300, from around 50 a little more than three weeks ago. Because of the dire situation, the Modi government did not celebrate the first anniversary of power in their second term last fortnight.

The migratory nature of the labour demography is unique to India; no other COVID-affected country shares the plight to this level. And the government mismanaged it simply because there was no model available from the West. Nor a precedent

The economy is opening up simply because staying shut means a total collapse. The new middle class is already the lower middle class. Hundreds of thousands among the salaried workers have been laid off.

For those who have managed to hold down their jobs, the post-lockdown traffic jams may actually come across as a reassuring experience that they are returning to an old lifestyle, which the Good Mob had predicted would give in to a better, less-materialistic society. Remember all that talk about the new world order?

### Return by road

Meanwhile, the Bihar administration said 1.2 million daily wage labourers have returned to the state by train and that 1.1 million have returned by road.

Similar numbers are likely to be valid for West



Bengal, Odisha, and Jharkhand states from where labourers flock to the cities. If the lock-lift is to yield results, at least a good number of these people need to be present in the cities.

This will take time. This means India's economic revival will be tortuous, to say the least. The migratory nature of the labour demography is unique to India; no other COVID-affected country shares the plight to this level. And the government mismanaged it simply because there was no model available from the West. Nor a precedent.

### Not coming back?

According to reports, those who returned to their villages are not keen on coming back. From 12.8 million households, in April, asking for work in mass rural employment schemes, the figure has gone up to 36.1 million in May.

In the coming monsoon months, then, there is little prospect of the labour population braving the odds and returning to the cities.

As a result, urban India will face a crisis in sanitation and health sectors, real estate, and infrastructure development. The Indian business class will have little choice but be fairer to labour as a class and treat them better if they want to resume activities.

Despite the attending circumstance, from May to May, this has been a government on steroids. Modi, Shah, and Company forced through the abrogation of Article 370, which removed the special status of Kashmir, effected the ban of triple talaq, introduced the Citizenship Amendment Act that sparked a public protest and the related Delhi riots, presided over the collapse of the banking sector, issued warrants and warnings against ‘anti-national’ journalists and activists, (the latest being Vinod Dua), jailed a few,

and imposed the drastic lockdown following COVID-19, that has so far killed over 7000 people.

The curious irony of the post-truth reality is that the measures that the government prides in are exactly the measures that its detractors are critical of.

Your idea of truth, clearly, is no longer the facts of the matter, but the a priori position you have adopted; in short, your truth is not what you have individually determined, but one that has been manufactured by your particular group.

### Tyranny of the Good Mob

There is nothing new in this, but the division between groups in society is widening beyond mend. As is happening, for example, in the US — the violent riots over George Floyd's death, the tyranny of the Good Mob in the New York Times, and the Philadelphia Inquirer over articles that articulated a conservative point of view — and the loud protest march in the UK.

A post-COVID India is looking at a technologically-enabled war of views, a kind of take over by Artificial Intelligence that has spread intolerance and righteousness like a behavioural virus. It is not likely to have happy results except for people like Mark Zuckerberg and Jack Dawsey.

The Modi government is most likely to pursue to advantage even a more divisive strategy as the Good Mob tightens its grip on social media discourse, an area currently outside the ambit of the State

COVID has accentuated inborn Indian insecurities and driven home like a nail the truth that each one is on his own.

This is why, in the times following lockdown, greed, and profiteering and the heartlessness at the bottom of it all are likely to resurface with renewed vengeance.

As the year careens down like a monster train, it is probably all you can do to get out of the way.





NOTABLY, SURVEILLANCE MAPPING through apps will allow governments to identify people's travel paths and their entire social networks,"

# MOST COVID-19 SMARTPHONE APPS Don't Promise Privacy Protection: Study

Press Trust Of India

Most mobile applications that track the spread of COVID-19 require access to users' personal data, but only a handful indicate the data would be anonymous, encrypted and secured, according to a study by Indian-origin researchers in the US. Professor Masooda Bashir and doctoral student Tanusree Sharma from the University of

Illinois at Urbana-Champaign analysed 50 COVID-19-related apps available in the Google Play store for their access to users' personal data and their privacy protections. The researchers noted that it is disconcerting that these apps are continuously collecting and processing highly sensitive and personally identifiable information, about health, location and direct identifiers like name, age, email address and voter or national identification of a user.

"Governments' use of such tracking technology -- and the possibilities for how they might use it after the pandemic -- is chilling to many," the researchers wrote in the study published in the journal Nature Medicine. "Notably, surveillance mapping through apps will allow governments to identify people's travel paths and their entire social networks," they noted. The researchers explained that functionalities of the CO-

VID-related apps developed around the world include live maps and updates of confirmed cases, real-time location-based alerts, systems for monitoring home isolation and quarantine, direct reporting to the government of symptoms, and education about COVID-19. Some also offer monitoring of vital signs, virtual medical consultations and community-driven contact tracing, the said. Of the 50 apps the researchers evaluated, 30 require users'

permission to access data from their mobile devices such as contacts, photos, media, files, location data, the camera. These 30 apps also require the device's ID, call information, Wi-Fi connection, microphone, network access, the Google service configuration, and the ability to change network connectivity and audio settings, according to the study. Some of the apps, the researchers said, state they will collect users' age, email ad-

dress, phone number and postal code; the device's location, unique identifiers, mobile IP address and operating system; and the types of browsers used on the device. Only 16 of the apps indicated such data will be anonymous, encrypted, secured and reported only in aggregate form, they said. Of the apps sampled in the study, 20 were issued by governments, health ministries and other such official sources.

The researchers acknowledged that mass surveillance measures may be necessary to contain the spread of the virus. "Health care providers must absolutely use whatever means are available to save lives and confine the spread of the virus," they wrote in the journal. However, the researchers added that it is up to the rest, especially those in the field of information privacy and security, to ask the questions needed to protect the right to privacy.

## 'Early Life Education Improves Memory In Women In Old Age'

Agencies

Early life education, especially for women, holds an essential role in their old age, as it helps them protect against memory loss, a recent study suggests.

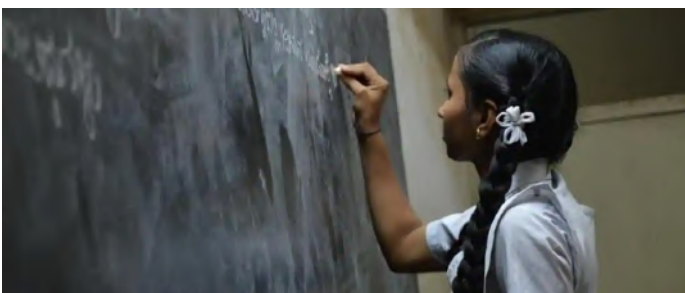
The results suggest that children, especially girls who attend school for longer, will have better memory abilities in old age. This may have implications for memory loss in Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

The study was conducted by investigators at Georgetown University Medical Center and was published in the journal Aging, Neuropsychology, and Cognition.

The study tested declarative memory in 704 older adults (58-98 years of age). Declarative memory refers to our ability to remember events, facts, and words, such as where you put your keys or the name of that new neighbour.

Participants were shown drawings of objects and then were tested several minutes later on their memory of these objects.

The investigators found that their memory performance be-



came progressively worse with ageing. However, more years of early-life education countered these losses, especially in women. In men, the memory gains associated with each year of education were two times larger than the losses experienced during each year of ageing. However, in women, the gains were five times larger.

For example, the declarative memory abilities of an 80-year-old woman with a bachelor's degree would be as good as those of a 60-year-old woman with high school education. So, four extra years of education make up for the memory losses from 20 years of ageing.

"Simply said, learning begets learning," said the study's senior in-

vestigator, Michael Ullman, PhD, a professor in Georgetown's Department of Neuroscience and Director of the Brain and Language Lab.

Ullman's research on the relationship between language, memory, and the brain has been a cornerstone in the fields of language and cognitive neuroscience.

"Since learning new information in declarative memory is easier if it is related to the knowledge we already have, more knowledge from more education should result in better memory abilities, even years later," added the study's lead author, Jana Reifegerste, PhD, a member of the scientific staff at the University of Potsdam, Germany, who worked on this study as a postdoctoral researcher in Ullman's lab.

## Cholesterol Levels Are Rising Among Asians: Study

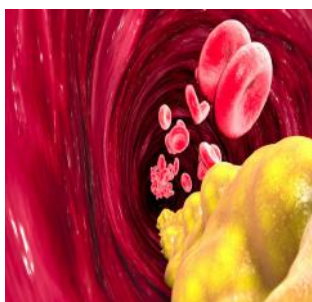
Press Trust Of India

Cholesterol levels are rising among Asians even as it is sharply declining in Western nations though it is still higher when compared to the levels in the Asian region, Avula Laxmaiah, Scientist G & Head, Division of Public Health Nutrition, ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition, said on Friday.

He is one of the authors of the recent research paper that is based on the largest ever study of global cholesterol levels.

"The team points out that some countries had less data compared to others, which could influence how certain we are about cholesterol levels and changes over time. Non-HDL (High-density lipoprotein) cholesterol among Indian men ranked 128th in 1980 and remained the same in 2018. However, in case of women, the rank increased marginally from 139th to 140th at global level," Dr Laxmaiah said in a press release.

The new study, 'Repositioning of the global epicentre of non-optimal cholesterol,' which is published in the renowned scientific journal, 'Nature' recently,



was led by the Imperial College, London and had hundreds of researchers from across the world contributing to it, it said.

The research used data from 102.6 million individuals and examined cholesterol levels in 200 countries, across a 39-year time period, from 1980 to 2018, it said.

"The work, which was funded by the Wellcome Trust and the British Heart Foundation, revealed that high cholesterol was responsible for about 3.9 million deaths worldwide," said Dr Hemalatha R, Director, ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad said.

Cholesterol, a waxy substance found in the blood is needed to build healthy cells, but excess of may lead to a build-up in the blood vessels.

## Why Lack Of Sleep Is Bad For Your Heart

Agencies

NEW YORK- Sleeping poorly on a regular basis may lead to the fatty arterial plaque buildup known as atherosclerosis that can result in fatal heart disease.

"We've discovered that fragmented sleep is associated with a unique pathway—chronic circulating inflammation throughout the bloodstream—which, in turn, is linked to higher amounts of plaques in coronary arteries," said

study senior author Matthew Walker from the University of California in the US.

For the findings, published in the journal PLOS Biology, the researchers analysed the diagnostic data of more than 1,600 middle-aged and older adults using a national dataset known as the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis.

To isolate the effect of sleep quality on heart health, the study controlled for age, ethnicity, gender, body mass index, sleep disorders, blood pressure and high-risk behaviours such as smoking.

The researchers then tracked

the results of the study participants, analysing their blood tests, their calcium scores that can gauge plaque buildup, as well as several different measures of sleep, including wrist-watch-assessed sleep across a week and a night in a sleep laboratory that measured electrical brainwave signals.

The final outcome clearly linked disrupted sleep patterns to higher concentrations of circulating inflammatory factors

and, specifically, of white blood cells known as monocytes and neutrophils, which are key players in atherosclerosis.

"In revealing this link with chronic inflammation, the findings suggest a missing middle-man that is brokering the bad deal between fragmented sleep and the hardening of blood vessels," Walker said.

"To the best of our knowledge, these data are the first to associate sleep fragmentation, inflammation and atherosclerosis in humans," said study lead author Raphael Vallat.



# 'Implications Of False-Negative COVID-19 Tests Evaluated'

Press Trust Of India

WASHINGTON- More emphasis should be placed on addressing the inaccuracy of diagnostic tests for COVID-19, which play a key role in containing the pandemic, say scientists, who suggest that government agencies urge manufacturers to provide details of their tests' clinical sensitivity.

The researchers, including those from The Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth in the US, said there is lack of wide-

spread testing as a major barrier to safely reopening economies.

In the analysis, published in the New England Journal of Medicine, the scientists said while progress has been made in expanding testing, there is still concern on the accuracy of the process.

"Diagnostic tests, typically involving a nasopharyngeal swab, can be inaccurate in two ways," said study lead author Steven Woloshin from The Geisel School of Medicine.

A false-positive result mistak-

enly labels a person infected, with consequences including unnecessary quarantine and contact tracing, Woloshin explained.

According to the scientists, the sensitivity for many available tests could be substantially lower. Citing earlier studies, they said this value could be 70 per cent.

"At this sensitivity level, with a pretest probability of 50 per cent, the post-test probability with a negative test would be 23 per cent -- far too high to safely assume someone is uninfected," the scientists wrote in



the journal article.

"False-negative results are far more consequential because infected persons who might be asymptomatic may not be isolated and can infect others," Woloshin said.

In their analysis, the researchers discussed factors contributing to the current limitations of diagnostic tests.

They said variability in test sensitivity, and the lack of a standard process for validating this is a cause for concern.

Citing several large studies,

the researchers also said frequent false-negative results reported in several parts of the world are concerning.

From an analysis of a pre-print systematic review of five studies, involving 957 patients "under suspicion of COVID-19" or with "confirmed cases", the scientists said false negatives ranged from 2 to 29 per cent.

But they said this evidence is less concrete due to the differences among the nature of the diagnosis tests used to assess these patients.



## Coronavirus Spread From Asymptomatic People “Very Rare”, Says WHO

### Agencies

Geneva: The World Health Organization (WHO) urged countries on Monday to press on with efforts to contain the novel coronavirus, noting the pandemic was worsening globally and had not peaked in central America.

More than 1,36,000 cases were reported worldwide on Sunday, “the most in a single day so far”, WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said.

“More than six months into the pandemic, this is not the time for any country to take its foot off the pedal,” he told an online briefing.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has changed its advice on face masks, saying they should be worn in public to help stop the spread of coronavirus. The global body said new information showed they could provide “a barrier for potentially infec...”

In response to a question on China, WHO’s top emergencies expert, Dr Mike Ryan, said retrospective studies of how the outbreak has been addressed could wait, adding: “We need to focus now on what we are doing today to prevent second peaks.”

Ryan also said infections in central American countries including Guatemala were still on the rise, and that they were “complex” epidemics.

“I think this is a time of great concern,” he said, calling for strong government leader-

ship and international support for the region.

Brazil is now one of the hotspots of the pandemic, with the second highest number of confirmed cases, behind only the United States, and number of deaths that last week surpassed Italy’s.

After removing cumulative numbers for coronavirus deaths in Brazil from a national website, the Health Ministry sowed further confusion and controversy by releasing two contradictory sets of figures for the latest tally of infection cases and fatalities.

Ryan said Brazil’s data had been “extremely detailed” so far but stressed it was important for Brazilians to understand where the virus is and how to manage risk, and that the WHO hoped communication would be “consistent and transparent”.

Maria van Kerkhove, a WHO epidemiologist, said that a “comprehensive approach” was essential in South America.

More than 7 million people have been reported infected with the coronavirus globally and over 4,00,000 have died.

“This is far from over,” van Kerkhove said.

At least half of Singapore’s newly discovered coronavirus cases show no symptoms, the co-head of the government’s virus taskforce told Reuters on Monday, reinforcing the city-state’s decision to ease lockdown restrictions very gradually.

## Iran To Execute Spy Who Helped US Target Soleimani: Judiciary

### Agencies

Tehran: Iran said Tuesday it will execute a man whose conviction for spying for the US and Israel by helping target a top Iranian general has been upheld by the supreme court.

Mahmoud Mousavi Majd was convicted of spying on Iran’s armed forces “especially the Quds Force and on the whereabouts and movements of martyr General Qasem Soleimani” for large sums of money from both Israel’s Mossad and the US Central Intelligence Agency, judiciary spokesman Gholamhossein Esmaili told a televised news conference.

Majd’s death sentence has been upheld by the supreme court and “will be carried out soon”, he added.

Iranians gather in Kerman for the burial of top general Qasem Soleimani in the final stage of funeral processions after he was killed in a US strike in Iraq.

Soleimani, who headed the Quds Force, the foreign operations arm of Iran’s Revolutionary Guards, was killed in January in a US drone strike in Baghdad.

Iran in February handed down a similar sentence for Amir Rahimpour, another man convicted of spying for the US and conspiring to sell information on Iran’s nuclear programme.

Tehran announced in December it had arrested eight people “linked to the CIA” and involved in nationwide street protests that erupted the previous month over a surprise petrol price hike.

It also said in July 2019 that it had dismantled a CIA spy ring, arresting 17 suspects between March 2018 and March 2019 and sentencing some of them to death.

US President Donald Trump at the time dismissed the claim as “totally false”.



## COVID-19 Pandemic Drives Broadest Economic Collapse In 150

### Agencies

Washington: The coronavirus pandemic inflicted a “swift and massive shock” that has caused the broadest collapse of the global economy since 1870 despite unprecedented government support, the World Bank said Monday.

The world economy is expected to contract by 5.2 percent this year - the worst recession in 80 years - but the sheer number of countries suffering economic losses means the scale of the downturn is worse than any recession in 150 years, the World Bank said in its latest Global Economic Prospects report.

“This is a deeply sobering outlook, with the crisis likely to leave long-lasting scars and pose major global challenges,” said World Bank Group Vice President for Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions Ceyla Pazarbasioglu. The depth of the crisis will drive 70 to 100 million people into extreme poverty - worse than the prior estimate of 60 million, she told reporters.

And while the Washington-based development lender projects a rebound for 2021, there

is a risk a second wave of outbreaks could undermine the recovery and turn the economic crisis into a financial one that will see a “wave of defaults.”

Economists have been struggling to measure the impact of the crisis they have likened to a global natural disaster, but the sheer size of the impact across so many sectors and countries has made that difficult.

Under the worst-case scenario, the global recession could mean a contraction of eight percent, according to the report. But Pazarbasioglu cautioned: “Given this uncertainty, further downgrades to the outlook are very likely.”

Meanwhile, a group of American economists who are the arbiters of when a recession starts and ends said Monday the United States entered a downturn in February, ending 128 months of uninterrupted growth, the longest streak in history.

Recessions typically are defined by several months of declining economic activity.

But the Business Cycle Dating Committee of the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), a non-profit, non-par-

tisan research organization, called the current situation in the world’s largest economy “unprecedented” due to the severity of the drop in employment and production, even if it might turn out to be shorter than other recessions.

### China still growing, barely

China is nearly alone in seeing modest growth this year. However the World Bank warned the depth of the slowdown in the world’s second-largest economy will hinder recovery prospects in developing nations, especially commodity exporters.

While China will see GDP rise just one percent, the World Bank said, the rest of the forecasts are grim: US -6.1 percent, eurozone -9.1 percent, Japan -6.1 percent, Brazil -8 percent, Mexico -7.5 percent and India -3.2 percent. And things could get worse, meaning the forecasts will be revised even lower, the bank warned. Though dramatic, the current forecast falls short of the Great Depression, which saw a global contraction of 14.5 percent from 1930 to 1932, while the post-war downturn in 1945-1946 was 13.8 percent, according to the World Bank.

## Bail Set At \$1 Million For US Cop Charged With George Floyd’s Murder

### Agencies

Minneapolis: A Minneapolis judge set a \$1 million bail for police officer Derek Chauvin Monday as he made his first court appearance charged with the murder of George Floyd, the 46-year-old African-American man whose death sparked nationwide protests.

Chauvin, who was filmed on May 25 pressing his knee on handcuffed Floyd’s neck until he expired, appeared by video from Minnesota state prison to face charges of one count of second degree murder, one count of third degree murder, and one count of manslaughter.

Dressed in an orange prison suit, Chauvin, 44, answered questions matter-of-factly in the procedural hearing, which did not require him to submit a plea.

Hennepin County District



Derek Chauvin was filmed on May 25 pressing his knee on handcuffed George Floyd’s neck.

Court Jeannice Reding set his bail at \$1 million with conditions, and \$1.25 million without conditions.

House and Senate Democrats proposed a sweeping overhaul of police oversight and procedures Monday, a potentially far-reaching legisla-

tive response to the mass protests denouncing the deaths of black Americans at the hands of law enforcement.

Meeting the conditions would require him to surrender his firearms, not work in law enforcement or security in any capacity, agree not to leave the state and have no contact with the family of Floyd.

State prosecutor Matthew Frank had asked for a high bail, calling Chauvin a flight risk due to both the severity of the charges and the strong public reaction to the case.

Reding sat a June 29 date for the next hearing in the case.

Three other Minneapolis officers who were with Chauvin when Floyd was arrested have been charged with aiding and abetting the murder and are still being held in a local jail.

All four were fired the day after Floyd’s death.

## Amid US tension, Iran builds fake aircraft carrier to attack

### Agencies

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — As tensions remain high between Iran and the U.S., the Islamic Republic appears to have constructed a new mock-up of an aircraft carrier off its southern coast for potential live-fire drills.

The faux foe, seen in satellite photographs obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press, resembles the Nimitz-class carriers that the U.S. Navy routinely sails into the Persian Gulf from the Strait of Hormuz, its narrow mouth where 20% of all the world’s oil passes through.

While not yet acknowledged by Iranian officials, the replica’s appearance in the port city of Bandar Abbas suggests Iran’s paramilitary Revolutionary Guard is preparing an encore of a similar mock-sinking it conducted in 2015. It

deck, according to satellite photos taken by Maxar Technologies. The vessel appears to be some 200 meters (650 feet) long and 50 meters (160 feet) wide. A real Nimitz is over 300 meters (980 feet) long and 75 meters (245 feet) wide.

The fake carrier sits just a short distance away from the parking lot in which the Guard unveiled over 100 new speedboats in May, the kind it routinely employs in tense encounters between Iranian sailors and the U.S. Navy. Those boats carry both mounted machine guns and missiles.

The mock-up strongly resembles a similar one used in February 2015 during a military exercise called “Great Prophet 9.” During that drill, Iran swarmed the fake aircraft carrier with speedboats firing machine guns and rockets. Surface-to-sea missiles later



In this Sunday, June 7, 2020 satellite photo provided by Maxar Technologies, a fake aircraft carrier is seen off the coast of Bandar Abbas, Iran. As tensions remain high between Iran and the U.S., the Islamic Republic appears to have constructed a new mockup of an aircraft carrier off its southern coast for potential live-fire drills. The faux foe, seen in satellite photographs obtained by The Associated Press, resembles the Nimitz-class carriers that the U.S. Navy routinely sails into the Persian Gulf from the Strait of Hormuz, its narrow mouth that sees 20% of all the world’s oil pass through it.

also comes as Iran announced Tuesday it will execute a man it accused of sharing details on the movements of the Guard’s Gen. Qasem Soleimani, whom the U.S. killed in a January drone strike in Baghdad.

The replica carries 16 mock-ups of fighter jets on its

targeted and destroyed the fake carrier.

“American aircraft carriers are very big ammunition depots housing a lot of missiles, rockets, torpedoes and everything else,” the Guard’s then-navy chief, Adm. Ali Fadavi, said on state television at the time.

## World leaders won’t travel for UNGA due to COVID-19

### Press Trust Of India

Washington: For the first time in 75 years, world leaders will not travel to New York for the annual UN General Assembly session in September this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the President of the UN General Assembly has announced.

The landmark 75th session of the UN General Assembly is expected to begin on September 15 and the first day of the high-level General Debate is likely to be on September 22, according to SDG Knowledge Hub website, an online resource center for news on the UN.

“World leaders cannot come to New York because they cannot come as single individuals. A president doesn’t travel alone. We don’t expect therefore to have presidents here,” Tijjani Muhammad-Bande said at a news conference Monday.

He said due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic battering nations across the world,

in-person meetings at the UN headquarters were highly unlikely in the coming months.

The president said his office along with UN Member States were looking at mechanisms to ensure the General Debate, where leaders speak about national and multinational priorities, is held in a format compatible with the coronavirus restrictions.

“In terms of the broad direction, we are not going to have Heads of State and Government come into New York because it is impossible at this stage to think that it is possible in September,” he said.

Muhammad-Bande said the General Debate will be not be shifted to a future date and will be held as scheduled “but we cannot have it in-person as has happened in the last 74 years.”

He said the UN Secretariat, Member States, his office as well as other stakeholders were discussing possibilities of conducting the General Debate and a clear direction will emerge in the next two weeks.

### N E W S M A K E R S

## Google CEO Sundar Pichai recalls how his father spent a year’s salary on his flight ticket to US

Google’s India born Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Sundar Pichai has revealed how his father spent his one-year salary on his flight ticket to the US so that he could pursue his studies at Stanford University.

Recalling his humble roots at YouTube’s Dear Class of 2020 virtual ceremony on Monday, the 47-year old further stated that it was the first time he had sat on a plane. “My father spent the equivalent of a year’s salary on my plane ticket to the US so I could attend Stanford. It was my first time ever on a plane,” Pichai said, adding that the only thing that got him to where he is today, other than luck, was his passion for technology and an open mind.

He highlighted that despite his struggles during his younger years, computing was a bright

spot for him.

Asking students not to lose hope amid the coronavirus pandemic that has gripped the world, Pichai urged them to “be open, be impatient, be hopeful” enunciating that “if you can do that, history will remember the Class of 2020 not for what you lost, but for what you changed. You have the chance to change everything. I am optimistic you will.”

He noted that the post-COVID-19 world will have a new normal of working remotely, thereby balancing life and work while following social distancing norms.

The virtual ceremony saw participation from former US President Barack Obama, former First Lady Michelle Obama, Korean pop group BTS, singers Beyonce and Lady Gaga, former Defense Secretary Robert M Gates, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and



activist Malala Yousafzai.

Talking about the bleak times in the wake of coronavirus-induced lockdown all across the world Pichai said, “I don’t think this is the graduation ceremony any of you imagined. At a time when you should be celebrating all the knowledge you have gained, you may be grieving what you have lost: the moves you planned, the jobs you earned, and the experiences you were looking forward

to. In bleak moments like these, it can be difficult to find hope.”

Pichai sought to assure the students that classes at various points in time have had to overcome challenges - whether it was the class of 1920 that graduated into the end of a deadly pandemic or the class of 1970 that graduated in the midst of the Vietnam War, and even the class of 2001 that graduated a few months before the 9/11 attack in the US.

“...and in all cases, they prevailed. The long arc of history tells us we have every reason to be hopeful. So be hopeful,” he said. Pichai pointed to how generations often underestimate the potential of the following one.

“It is because they don’t realise that the progress of one generation becomes the foundational premise for the next. It takes a new set of people to come along and realise all the possibilities,” he explained.

## New York Times Opinion Editor Resigns After Column Controversy

New York: James Bennet, the New York Times <NYT.N> editorial page editor responsible for publishing a column that advocated using the military to quell violence amid protests over US racial inequality, resigned on Sunday, the newspaper announced.

The New York Times has come under fire after it published an editorial on June 3 from US Senator Tom Cotton, a Republican from Arkansas, titled “Send in the Troops.” Cotton wrote that an “overwhelming show of force” would restore order after protests spread across the country, some of which turned violent.

“It’s past time to support local law enforcement with federal authority,” Cotton wrote.

Demonstrations were planned across the U.S. on Sunday to demand racial justice after George Floyd’s death in Minneapolis police custody, with

most more peaceful than the preceding week’s - prompting New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio to lift the city

Bennet and a representative for Cotton could not be reached for comment.

The column drew criticism from inside and outside the New York Times newsroom as some readers and journalists interpreted the column as advocating actions that would put protesters and reporters in danger.

Initially, New York Times Publisher A.G. Sulzberger stood behind publishing the column. “I believe in the principle of openness to a range of opinions, even those we may disagree with, and this piece was published in that spirit,” he said in an email to the staff on Thursday, according to a New York Times account.

By Sunday, Sulzberger said in a note sent to staff that was seen by Reuters: “Last week we saw a significant breakdown in our editing processes, not the first we’ve experienced in recent years.”



Caringly yours



# Be healthy, be prepared!



## Bajaj Allianz Family Health Care Covers

-  In Patient Hospitalization Expenses
-  Pre & Post Hospitalization Expenses
-  Day Care Procedures
-  Hospital Cash Benefit
-  Road Ambulance
-  Organ Donor Expenses
-  Sum Insured Reinstatement Benefit
-  Preventive Health Check-Up
-  Ayurvedic / Homeopathic Hospitalization Expenses

**Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Co. Ltd.** | Bajaj Allianz House, Airport Road, Yerwada, Pune – 411006. Reg.: 113 | CIN: U66010PN2000PLC015329 | UIN: IRDAI/HLT/BAGI/P-H/V.I/65/2016-17 | For more details, log on to : [www.bajajallianz.com](http://www.bajajallianz.com) or call at : Sales - 1800 209 0144 / Service - 1800 209 5858 (Toll Free No.) | For more details on risk factors and Terms and Conditions, please read the sales brochure before concluding a sale.

J&K Bank Ltd is a licensed Corporate Agent [bearing License No.: CA0029] of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd. [IRDAI registration No. 113]. The benefits/features of products are indicative and for more details on risk factors and Terms and Conditions, please read the sales brochure before concluding a sale. | BIAZ-O-JK-0005/17-Mar-20

General Insurance  
**Faayde ki baat**