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News Digest

Pakistani 'Spy' Arrested In Samba

Jammu: A man has been arrested for sharing on social media pictures of security installations in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, police said on Friday. Police are probing the angle of spying in this connection, they said. According to the police, there was information that the 22-year-old man, identified as Kuljeet, was sharing pictures of vital security installations and receiving payment in return, they said. Investigation in the matter is underway, the police added. Meanwhile, Hindustan Times reported that the youth, according to the police was spying for Pakistan since 2018. **● P-02**

SKIMS Suspends 7 Protesting Nurses

Srinagar: The administration of SK institute of medical sciences Soura has suspended 7 nurses on charges of inciting paramedics to holding demonstration against the hospital's three-tier shift decision. SKIMS Administration in its first order suspended 4 nurses following which their colleagues staged protest demanding revocation of the suspension order besides demanding an end to three tier shift system, sources said. After the protest, the administration issued one more order suspending 3 more nurses. **● P-02**

Driver Killed In Uri Road Accident

Srinagar: A Sumo driver was killed in an accident in Boniyar Uri in north Kashmir's Baramulla district on Friday. 40-year-old Nazir Ahmad Mir of Pehlipora was on way to Chandanwari from Boniyar in his vehicle (JK05-9295) when he met with an accident near Chach Mode on Friday afternoon, official sources said. Meanwhile, police have registered a case and started further investigation in this regard. (GNS)

Excise Dept Team Raids Brick Kilns

Srinagar: The officials of excise department on Friday raided brick kilns in central Kashmir's Budgam district and destroyed illicit distillation found there. A team of excise Central Range led by Excise Taxation Officer conducted raids at brick kilns in Ichgam area of Budgam and found 50 kilograms of 'lahan' and 5 litres of illicit liquor in isolated area adjacent to the said brick kiln, sources said. The team recovered these items and subsequently destroyed them on spot. Rajesh Shavan, Excise Commissioner told news. **● P-02**

Woman Found Dead In Budgam

Srinagar: A young woman was found dead under mysterious conditions at her home in Magam area of central Kashmir's Budgam district on Friday. 22-year-old woman (name withheld) was found dead under suspicious circumstances at her home in Radbugh village of Magam on Friday afternoon, SHO Magam Ilyas Ahmad told news agency KDC. He said that police have taken cognizance of the incident and have shifted the body to Magam hospital for completing medico-legal formalities. **● P-02**

Rs 25,000 Crore Roshni Scam

HC Orders CBI Probe, Declares All Allotments Invalid



Agencies

JAMMU: In a judgement with far reaching consequences, the J&K High Court on Friday ordered Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to take over the probe of Rs 25,000 Crore Roshni land scam (RLS) in Jammu and Kashmir. Court also declared all allotments made under the legislation "void" from the beginning.

Hearing a Public Interest Litigation, a division bench of the court headed by Chief Justice Gita Mittal declared the legislation as unconstitutional.

The court, also comprising Justice Rajesh Bindal, ordered

What is Roshni Act?

The Jammu and Kashmir State Land (Vesting of Ownership to Occupants) Act, 2001 commonly known as 'Roshni Act' was passed in the year 2001. As per Roshni Act the transfer of the ownership rights of state land to its occupants was subject to the payment of a cost, as determined by the government.

Act enacted by then Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah's

that the investigation of the scam be transferred to the CBI which will file the status report

government had set 1990 as the cutoff for encroachment on state land. The government's target was to earn Rs 25,000 crore by transferring 20 lakh kanals of state land to existing occupants against payment at market rates. The government said the revenue generated would be spent on commissioning hydroelectric power projects, hence the name "Roshni".

within eight weeks.

The court asked Chief Secretary to ensure **▶PAGE 02**

What High Court Order Says

▶ CBI probe ordered in Rs 25,000 Crore Roshni Land Scam by J&K High Court.

▶ All Roshni allotments held void ab initio

▶ Roshni Act also declared Unconstitutional.

▶ CBI to file a status report every 8 weeks before the Court.

▶ Chief Secretary made accountable for uninterrupted investigation.

▶ The investigation also against officers in whose time period encroachments happened.

▶ Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners will be held guilty of contempt in case they do not cooperate in the investigation.

14 Year Old Shot At By SUV Borne Gunmen

SRINAGAR: A teenager on Friday was shot at and injured by unidentified gunmen in Lethpora area of south Kashmir's Pulwama district.

14-year-old Khushdil Gulzar was injured when SUV borne unknown gunmen opened fire at him following an altercation with him in Lethpora area on Friday evening, official sources said. The teenager, they said received bullet in arm and was subsequently shifted to SDH Pampore for treatment. After first aid he was immediately discharged from hospital. Meanwhile police has initiated investigation in this regard.(GNS)

SSB Jawan Goes Missing From Camp

SRINAGAR: A Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) jawan went missing mysteriously from his camp at Saderabal area of Srinagar city, news reports said on Friday.

Quoting officials a local news gathering agency reported that SSB jawan Jitendra GD number 12043026, posted at Saderabad, who originally hails from Uttar Pradesh, went missing from his camp at Saderabal area of Srinagar city on Thursday evening.

In this regard, a missing report has been filed at police station Lal bazar, efforts are on to trace the missing trooper, official added. "We are ascertaining details," said a police official.

Covid-19: No Funds Allocated For DHSK Under NHM, Reveals RTI

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Following the outbreak of COVID-19 in Jammu and Kashmir, no budgetary allocation was made to Directorate of Health Service Kashmir (DHSK) under the National Health Mission (NHM)—raising an eyebrow on the functioning of the department.

"Under NHM, no funds have been received from State Health Society Jammu and Kashmir on account of Covid-19 by DHSK. However State Health Society Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu)

has released an amount of Rs 20 lakh per district through District Health Society directly," reads an official document.

It also mentions that besides Rs 20 lakh received from State Health Society Jammu and Kashmir (Jammu), an amount of four lakh rupees was also released to the State Surveillance officer under Integrated Disease Surveillance Project (IDSP).

This information was revealed by the Public Information Officer (PIO) of DHSK in a reply to the queries of a **▶PAGE 2**

J&K Govt Announces Unlock 5.0 Guidelines

Cafés, Cinemas To Open; Educational Institutions To Remain Shut

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Friday issued fresh guidelines for unlock 5.0 allowing cinemas and restaurants to open with 50 percent seat capacity; while educational institutions shall remain closed across the Union Territory till October 31.

Addressing a news conference here, Secretary Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction and Member Secretary State Executive Committee, Simrandeep Singh today said that the government has permitted opening of cinema halls, theatres, multiplexes, swimming pools, bars in restaurants, hotels etcetera, entertainment parks and similar places, coaching centres from October 15 with fifty percent capacity.

"Schools, colleges, higher educational institutions in-

cluding Anganwari centres shall remain closed till October 31 whereas online/ distance mode studies will continue," Singh, according to an official spokesperson said.

The Secretary Disaster Management, he said announced that fifty percent teaching non-teaching staff is permitted for online teaching purposes in areas outside containment zones, while students of classes 9th to 12th are permitted to visit school on a voluntary basis for taking guidance in areas outside containment zones.

The official spokesperson further added that Singh also announced permission to the Skill or Entrepreneurship training in National Skill Training Institutes, ITIs or other training centers registered with the National Skill Development Mission or JK Skill Mission.

"National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development **▶PAGE 02**

THE TRAVELERS WILL UNDERGO

14-day home quarantine if they have a valid contactable phone and Aarogya Setu App in their mobile telephones. The protocol for management of COVID positive persons will be followed."

15 More Covid-19 Deaths In J&K, Toll Crosses 1300 Mark

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least fifteen more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, raising the number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in the Union territory to 1308.

While Jammu division reported 12 more fatalities on Friday, three people also succumbed to the deadly infection in the Kashmir valley, officials said.

Among others, the victims from Jammu division included a 90-year-old, a

4 Doctors, 20 Security Men Among 636 New Cases

Jammu and Kashmir reported on Friday 636 fresh cases of Covid-19, including twenty security personnel and four doctors, taking the total number of people infected by the virus across the Union Territory. **● P-02**

52-year-old woman, a 60-year-old man and a 52-year-old man from Jammu district. Three among the **▶PAGE 02**

Rs 25,000 Cr Industrial Investment In Offing In J&K: LG

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Friday said that Rs 25,000 crore industrial investments is in the offing and the union territory is going to secure this huge investment after the announcement of a historic industrial policy soon.

The LG admitted absence of governance and inaccessibility of officers have long marred villages and said that the 'back to village' is an attempt to bridge this gap.

Rs 25,000 crore industrial investment is in the offing and J&K is going to secure this huge investment



after announcement of a historic Industrial soon, Sinha said during his visit to the border Panchayat of Pallaanwala in Jammu district.

"My objective is maximum utilization of industries, manufacturing, services sector, village in-

dustries, handicraft, tourism and technology to create more jobs in rural areas of Jammu & Kashmir because I believe there is vast yet untapped talent pool in our villages waiting for an opportunity," the Lt Governor affirmed. **▶PAGE 02**

SHOPIAN 'FAKE ENCOUNTER'

Promised Justice To Rajouri Families On PM's Behalf: LG

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Reaching out to the families of the three youths of Rajouri district who were killed in an alleged fake encounter by the Army in Jammu and Kashmir's Shopian district in July, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has said he was told by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to convey to them that they will get justice.

Expressing his condolences, the Lt Governor said the UT administration will extend full support to the families and ensure that they will get justice. He also conveyed to the family

members of the three slain men the "message" of the prime minister that the government stands with them in this hour of grief.

"I visited the families. I have expressed my sympathies (to them). I have assured them that the Prime Minister of India has asked me to convey to the families that there will be justice and they will be taken care of," Sinha told reporters in Rajouri after visiting the families of the slain youth on Thursday.

On July 18, the Army had claimed that it killed three militants in an encounter in Amshipura **▶PAGE 02**

2 SMC Officers Arrested For Threatening Jt. Commissioner

SRINAGAR- Police has arrested two Ward Officers of Srinagar Municipal Corporation for threatening the Joint Commissioner Planning of the SMC.

A police official said that FIR number(122/2020 under section 353 IPC) was filed on Thursday against Ward Officers, Riyaz Ahmad and Irshad Ahmad, in police station Shaheed Gunj on the basis of complaint of Joint Commissioner/Planning, Ghulam Hassan.

The official said that police has arrested the Ward Officers and put them in **● P-02**

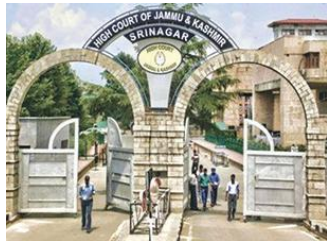
HC Dismisses PIL For e-Cigarette Use In J&K

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has dismissed a Public Interest Litigation, seeking among others court's directions to allow sale and usage of e-cigarettes in the J&K.

"The Government of India has enacted a statute called the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Act, 2019 (Act No. 42 of 2019) which has been published in the Gazette of India dated 05th of December, 2019 prohibiting electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes)," said a division bench of Chief Justice Gita Mittal and Justice Puneet Gupta.

"There was no appearance on be-



File Photo

half of the petitioner on 19th of August, 2020 when noticing the above fact the matter was adjourned for today in the interest of justice," the court said, adding, "The Government of India has therefore issued the legislation prohibiting use, sale and manufacture of electronic nicotine delivery system. Clearly, the petitioner has lost interest in **▶PAGE 02**



LAST FLOATING POST OFFICE! World Post Offices Day was observed on Friday. Picture shows remnants of floating post office at Dal Lake. KO Pix Abid Bhat

Woman Injured In Cross-LoC Shelling

SRINAGAR: A woman sustained injuries on Friday as India and Pakistan troops exchanged heavy gunfire and mortar shells along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district.

40-year-old Hamida village sustained splinter injury on Friday evening when Pakistani troops resorted to heavy shelling along the LoC in Qasba sector of the district, officials said. The injured woman, they said has been removed to the hospital for treatment.

The Pakistani army, officials said also resorted to heavy firing and mortar shelling in forward areas in Shahpur and Kerni sectors along the LoC, inviting a strong retaliation from the Indian Army.

"At about 1730 hours today Pakistani army initiated unprovoked

ceasefire violation by firing with small arms along LoC in Shahpur, Kirni & Qasba sectors in district Poonch", a defence spokesman said.

He said the Indian Army retaliated befittingly.

On October 1, an Army jawan was killed and another injured when the Pakistani army violated ceasefire along the LoC in Krishnag area of Poonch district.

On September 5, an army personnel was killed and two others, including an officer, were injured in Pakistani firing in Sunderbani sector of Rajouri district.

On September 2, one JCO was killed in ceasefire violation in Keri sector of Rajouri.

Meanwhile, India and Pakistan troops also traded **▶PAGE 02**

...LADAKH STAND-OFF

Top Political, Military Leaders Discuss Dialogue Strategy

Agencies

NEW DELHI: Ahead of the seventh round of corps commander-level talks between India and China on October 12, top political and military leaders on Friday discussed the Indian strategy for the talks to resolve the military standoff between the two countries in the Eastern Ladakh region.

"Top military and political leaders discussed the strategy for talks with the Chinese Army scheduled to be held on October 12," government sources told ANI.

The talks will be held at the Chushul/Moldo in Eastern Ladakh where almost 50,000 troops from both sides are in standoff position since April-May this year. India has a clear stand that the gambit of talks must include disengagement and de-escalation from the entire Eastern Ladakh region for addressing the situation.

The seventh round of talks would

be the last one be attended by present corps commander of Fire and Fury Corps Lt Gen Harinder Singh as his successor Lt Gen PGK Menon has already reached Leh to take over the charge. The transgressions in Eastern Ladakh took place in April-May timeframe this year while Lt Gen Singh was appointed as the 14 Corps Chief in October last year. He is considered to be a very gallant officer with a long operational experience.

The political and military leadership including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval, Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, Army chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane, and Air Force Chief RKS Bhaduria have been involved in tackling the issue of Chinese transgressions. The core security team led by the NSA has been actively involved in preemptive and thwarting Chinese bids to occupy strategic heights in the southern and northern Pangong lake area.

India Test Fires Anti-Radiation Missile Rudram-1

NEW DELHI: India on Friday successfully test fired a new generation anti-radiation missile from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force that can destroy a wide variety of enemy radars, air defence systems and communication networks from large stand-off ranges, officials said.

The missile, Rudram-1, is India's first indigenously developed anti-radiation weapon system and it was test-fired by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), at an integrated test range in Balasore in Odisha at around 10:30 AM, officials said.

They said the missile, having a speed of Mach two or twice

the speed of sound, is capable of bringing down a wide-range of enemy radar systems, communication networks and air defence systems within a range of up to 250 kilometers.

In a statement, the defence ministry said Rudram hit the radiation target with "pin-point accuracy" and that the test established India's capability to develop long range air launched anti-radiation missiles.

The flight testing of the missile comes in the midst of India's bitter border row with China in eastern Ladakh.

"Rudram was successfully flight tested today onto a radiation target located on Wheeler Island off the coast of Odisha," it said.

"The missile is integrated

on SU-30 MKI fighter aircraft as the launch platform, having capability of varying ranges based on launch conditions. It has INS-GPS navigation with Passive Homing Head for the final attack. The RUDRAM hit the radiation target with pin-point accuracy," the ministry said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh congratulated the DRDO on successful test firing of the missile, calling it a "remarkable achievement".

"New Generation Anti-Radiation Missile (Rudram-1) which is India's first indigenous anti-radiation missile developed by @DRDO_India for Indian Air Force was tested successfully today at ITR, Balasore. Congratulations to DRDO & other stakeholders

for this remarkable achievement," he tweeted

The officials said the missile will be integrated into a batch of Su-30 MKI jets of the Indian Force once it is ready for induction.

Officials said the missile picks up signals from radiation emitting platforms and systems and neutralises them.

"The passive Homing Head can detect, classify and engage targets over a wide band of frequencies as programmed. The missile is a potent weapon for IAF for suppression of enemy air defence effectively from large stand-off ranges," the ministry said.

"With this, the country has established indigenous capability to develop long

range air launched anti-radiation missiles for neutralising enemy radars, communication sites and other targets," it said.

In May last year, the Indian Air successfully test fired the aerial version of the Brahmos missile from a Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft.

The BrahMos missile provides the IAF a much desired capability to strike from large stand-off ranges on any target at sea or on land with pin-point accuracy by day or night and in all weather conditions.

The IAF is also integrating the Brahmos supersonic cruise missile on over 40 Sukhoi fighter jets which is aimed at bolstering overall combat capability of the force.

Journalists Body Decries Threats

SRINAGAR: Kashmir journalists have decried online vilification campaign of individual journalists/reporters working with various institutions in the valley. "It seems to have become a routine exercise of pinpointing individuals by making baseless accusations and thereby aiding the rumor mongering against them", 1. Kashmir National Television Journalists Association said in a statement.

"The deliberate efforts of spreading rumours against reporters are highly unfortunate. Journalists in the valley cutting across organisations have been working in difficult circumstances for years and have always tried their best to stay rational in

their reportage", the statement endorsed by all other journalist bodies said.

"From time to time journalists particularly those who report from the ground have themselves been victims by getting caught into the crisis. Many have been injured and given their blood in the line of duty. The on-line vilification campaign without any proof not only goes on to malign their images but also endangers their lives considering the volatility of this conflict torn land", it further said while expressing hope that this propaganda against the Kashmir media stops as it only goes on to add to the vulnerability they face.

Controversy Over Sikh Man's Turban Being Pulled: BJP Slams Wb Govt, Cops Say It 'Fell Off Automatically In Scuffle'

KOLKATA: A controversy erupted on Friday over the police allegedly assaulting a Sikh man and pulling his turban during a BJP rally in Howrah in West Bengal, but the police said the person was carrying a firearm and that his headgear "had fallen off automatically in the scuffle that ensued".

The BJP, whose protest march to the state secretariat Nabanna on Thursday witnessed clashes with police, accused the Trinamool Congress government of hurting the sentiments of Sikhs.

The incident drew wider social media attraction after cricketer Harbhajan Singh tweeted, tagging Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, to say, "Please look into

the matter. This just isn't done."

As visuals of the incident went viral triggering a huge political controversy, the West Bengal tweeted Friday, "The concerned person was carrying firearms in yesterday's protest. The Pagri had fallen off automatically in the scuffle that ensued, without any attempt to do so by our officer. It is never our intention to hurt the sentiments of any community."

The Trinamool Congress denied the allegations as "baseless".

The man was identified as 43-year-old Balwinder Singh, a resident of Bhatinda. Singh, a former soldier of the Indian Army, currently works as a private security officer hired by a BJP leader, the party leadership claimed.

According to the police, a loaded pistol was recovered from him. The licence of the pistol is valid till January next year.

It also said that the police officer concerned had asked him to "put his turban back before the arrest".

"West Bengal Police respects all religions. The officer specifically asked him to put his Pagri back before the arrest. The attached photo has been clicked right before he was escorted to the Police Station. We remain committed to our duty to uphold law and order in the state," it said in another tweet, with a photo of Singh in turban. Reacting to the incident, BJP national general secretary Kaishash Vijayvargiya said even brave soldiers who had served the nation

are not spared in the TMC's regime and demanded severe punishment of the guilty policemen.

"Security personnel Balwinder Singh was beaten by the West Bengal Police on the road and insulted his turban; he is a capable soldier! He has also done several military courses! The humiliation of such brave people is sad in Mamata Raj. Such policemen should be punished!" he tweeted. BJP national secretary Arvind Menon also criticised the West Bengal Police.

"By pulling the turban of Sardar Balwinder Singh Ji, Bengal Police has insulted all the Sikhs of the country, today it seems that Mughal rule has been established again in Bengal. Was there no respect for the religious sentiments of anyone

except a particular community in Bengal?" Menon said in a tweet.

Senior TMC leader and minister Firdad Hakim termed the allegations "baseless" and said that "law will take its own course".

"We are not like BJP, we respect all religions, caste, creed," Hakim said. Parts of Kolkata and adjoining Howrah resembled a battle zone on Thursday as BJP workers and supporters clashed with police, hurling stones and blocking roads with burning tyres, to protest a string of killings of saffron party workers.

Police personnel in riot gear burst teargas shells, beat up agitators and used water cannons to break up the protests which are still raging in Kolkata and Howrah.

HC Orders CBI Probe,...

uninterrupted investigation which will also be directed against those officers in whose tenures the encroachments had happened.

It said all Deputy Commissioners and Divisional Commissioners will be held for contempt of court if they do not cooperate with the investigation. A detailed judgment in the cases was awaited.

The top court, common to J&K and Ladakh, had previously termed as "shocking the state of affairs" in the manner in which the land encroachers in Jammu and Kashmir become owners of large trenches of public land by the operation of the Roshni Scheme.

"It is pointed out that the Comptroller and Auditor General of India had reported that implementation of the Roshni Scheme has resulted in a loss over Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Crores to the public exchequer," the court had said.

The Jammu and Kashmir State Lands (Vesting of Ownership to the Occupants) Act, 2001 (known as the Roshni Scheme) was enacted in 2001 by the then State Government after the assent of the Governor on 9th November, 2001. The object of the Act was "to provide vesting of ownership rights to the occupants of the State land for the purposes of generating funds to finance power projects in the State". The enactment was repealed on 28th November 2018 by the State Administrative Council (SAC) led by then Governor, annulling the Roshni Scheme after concluding that it had not served "its purpose" and was "no longer relevant in the present context"

The principle objective of the Act was to raise resources for investment in power sector and the Government had estimated (November 2006) resource mobilization of about Rs. 25448 crores by selling 2064972 kanals state land under unauthorized occupation. However, it was pointed out by CAG (2014 report) that only Rs. 76.24 crore (24 percent) were realized against a demand of Rs. 317.54 crore raised by the end of march, 2013 in the actual transfer of 348160 kanals in the State.

"Thus, the principle objective of the Act –raising of resources for investment in power sector was not achieved though the state has lost sizeable lands," the court had observed previously.

Of this, the major portion (3,40,091 Kanals) has been categorized as "agricultural" and hence transferred free of cost. Balance is residential use: 6949 Kanals, commercial use: 990 Kanals and Institutional use: 130 Kanals. In 547 cases covering revenue of 31.53 percent (Rs. 100.12 crore out of Rs. 317.54 crore) of the total transfers approved in the state and 0.19 per cent of land i.e. 666 kanals out of 3,48,160 kanals of land, the statutory committees had fixed the price at Rs.325.39 crore at an average rate of Rs.48.46 lakh per kanal (before allowing rebates and incentives). After allowing the discounts over the land price fixed by the statutory committees, the applicants were asked to pay only Rs.100.12 crore. Thus there was a loss of Rs.225.26 crore to the State Exchequer. Further, after transfer of 348,160 kanals under the Act, new encroachments are continuing unabated as area of public lands under encroachment was 20,46,972 kanals in March, 2013 as against 20,64,972 kanals in November 2006. (GNS)

J&K Govt Announces Unlock...

(NIESBUD), Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IE) and their training providers will also be permitted, as per the SOP already issued in this regard by the MOHFW, Govt. of India," Singh, as per official spokesperson said.

"Higher Education Institutions will be permitted only for research scholars (Ph.D.) and PG students in Science and technical streams requiring lab/experimental works from 15th October, 2020. The Head of Higher Education Institutions will satisfy herself/himself that there is a genuine requirement of research scholars (Ph.D.) and PG students in science and technology stream for laboratory/ experimental works," he added.

He said that the coaching centers shall be permitted to run classes, outside the containment zones only from October 15 up to 50 percent capacity of the centers, strictly as per the SOP issued by Ministry of Education, GOI.

"Shops in Malls as well as in the limits of Municipal Corporations will remain open from 9 am to 9 pm," Singh said, adding "The Business to Business exhibitions can start from October 15 as per the Union Ministry of Commerce SOP".

The SEC member also announced that there will be no restrictions on entry of passengers, returnees or travelers coming to Jammu and Kashmir whether by road, rail or air but COVID-19 Antigen Tests are mandatory.

"The travelers will undergo 14-day home quarantine if they have a valid contactable phone and Aarogya Setu App in their mobile telephones. The protocol for management of COVID positive persons will be followed," he said.

According to the official spokesperson, the SEC, after taking a detailed review of Covid-19 situation in Jammu and Kashmir, has categorized Green, Red, Orange zones.

According to order, he said all districts of Kashmir province and nine districts of Jammu region have been declared as Orange Zones.

"The Kishtwar district has been designated as Green Zone. However, Lakhampur Containment Zone in Kathua district and Jawahar Tunnel area on either side will fall in the Red Zone category," he said.

The Secretary Disaster Management also said that social, political, sports, entertainment, academic, cultural, religious functions and other gatherings and congregations have already been permitted with a ceiling of 100 persons.

"The Government ordered that gathering in closed spaces (indoor) will be permitted to a maximum of 50 percent of the hall capacity subject to a ceiling of 200 persons from October 15. In open spaces physical distancing, wearing of masks and use of hand sanitizers are mandatory," he said, adding "All these activities have been permitted only outside the Containment Zones."

The government, Singh said has also raised the number of pilgrims for the holy cave shrine of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji per day to 7000 from October 15. The decision on the number of pilgrims local/ outside UT to allow would be decided by the CEO shrine board.

"Religious processions and large religious gatherings will remain strictly prohibited," he said.

Meanwhile, movement of individuals for all non-essential activities will remain prohibited from 10 pm to 5 am while persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women and children with 10 years of age shall stay at home except for health purposes.

15 More Covid-19 Deaths In...

victims were residents of Kashmir Valley including an 85-year-old from Zakura, who was admitted today to a hospital here and a 70-year-old man from Gulab Bagh Srinagar, originally from Amda Kadal, who was admitted to the hospital on October 3.

With these deaths, officials said, 1308 people have succumbed to the virus in Jammu and Kashmir so far—887 from the Valley and 421 from Jammu division.

Srinagar district with 312 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (219), Baramulla (127), Budgam (89), Pulwama (73), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (69), Kulgam (43), Bandipora(41), Rajouri (41), Doda (38), Shopian (32), Ganderbal (30), Kathua (29), Samba (24), Udhampur (22), Poonch (18), Ramban (11), Kishtwar(11) and Reasi (6). (With GNS inputs)

4 Doctors, 20 Security Men...

to 82429. Officials said Friday that 263 new cases have been detected in Jammu Division and the remaining 373 from the Kashmir Valley. Giving the district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 167, Budgam 38, Baramulla 50, Pulwama 23, Kupwara 14, Anantnag 26, Bandipora 17, Ganderbal 25, Kulgam 7, Shopian 6, Jammu 101, Rajouri 31, Udhampur 26, Doda 7, Kathua 22, Poonch 10, Samba 26, Ramban 8, Kishtwar 15 and Reasi 17. Moreover, officials said, 959 more Covid-19 patients have recovered and discharged from various hospitals— 546 from Jammu division and 413 from Kashmir Valley.

Covid-19: No Funds Allocated...

Right to Information (RTI) applicant.

Pertinently, the NHM was launched by the Government of India (GoI) in the year 2013 with an aim to make available accessible, affordable and quality universal health care, both preventive and curative, which would be accountable and at the same time responding to the needs of the people.

DHSK said that as per the information submitted by Chief Accounts Officer of the Directorate till August-31, no budgetary allocation on account of COVID-19 under non-plan was received—(KNO)

Rs 25,000 Cr Industrial...

He called for 100 per cent saturation in four different employment related schemes of the government, besides all social security schemes

including scholarships and pensions etc.

"With this ambitious Back to Village initiative of the Government, Rural-Urban divide will be minimized," Sinha added.

"I am not here to make new promises, but for optimum implementation and utilization of funds. Let the public and the government meet and discuss their priority projects and begin a new era of rapid development. I believe in action-based implementation", said the Lt Governor.

Sinha said that the absence of governance and inaccessibility of officers have long marred our villages. "Back to Village is an attempt to bridge this gap and during the past one month, officers and the public have displayed bilateral enthusiasm in it. It is the duty of the officers to take up the responsibility and help eliminate the lacunae. Dialogue along with public's feedback is the bedrock equitable, inclusive development and transparent governance", he added.

He advised the officers to examine the crucial growth drivers in that particular region during their visits to villages.

"Since we need to bring equity, growth and inclusion in our villages and also sustain it, we must focus on basic services, infrastructure facilities to kick start a growth process which increases citizen participation while fixing the accountability from top to the bottom", the Lt Governor maintained.

"Development is not possible without 'funds, functions and functionalities' and we have enough of them. With dedication, all of these could be implemented on ground for the betterment of the public," he added.

Being an agriculture-oriented region, it would be ensured that all nine farmers-oriented schemes of the government reach the workforce here, said the Lt Governor.

Expressing his resolve of doubling farmers' income in the coming two years, the Lt Governor said that the same could not be achieved without sincere efforts in implementation of government's schemes on ground. Highlighting the problems faced by farmers with small holdings, the Lt Governor observed that they could be eliminated with infusion of new technology at the block level.

The LG observed that two aspiring entrepreneurs from each panchayat are being identified, provided handholding and monetary assistance to start their business venture.

"Even if 8500 such youths are supported," said the Lt Governor, "and if they each provide livelihood to at least five others, we could have at least 40,000 jobs under the initiative".

Speaking on the New Education Policy, he laid stress on evolution of a students-teachers' feedback system. "To enable youngsters to participate in the mainstream economy, it is crucial that all governmental schemes of education sector are implemented properly on ground", said the Lt Governor.

Promised Justice To Rajouri...

village in the higher reaches of south Kashmir's Shopian district. Later, it initiated an inquiry after reports appeared on social media that the three men were actually labourers from Rajouri district and had gone missing in Amshipura. The families of the trio had also filed a missing complaint with the police.

The probe by the Army was completed in a record four-week time and on September 18, the force said it has found "prima facie evidence" that its troops "exceeded" powers under the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) during the encounter. Disciplinary proceedings were then initiated.

Police also launched its investigation and collected the DNA samples of the families, which matched with the slain persons.

The bodies of the three men were exhumed Friday last and laid to rest in their hometown in Rajouri district by the family members the next day. The exhumation was done hours after Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Dilbag Singh had said the legal process to exhume and handover the bodies to their families was on and would be completed soon.

Earlier, speaking at a back to village event in Peeri in Rajouri, the LG said, "I am here to put before you the clear-cut intentions of the government of India. The Constitution is supreme. It will not be right to take the law into your hands. The Constitution of India ensures justice to the poorest of the poor."

"The process of justice has started. The UT administration and government of India will take care of them (families of victims)," he added. Sinha said the main objective of his visit to the remote village was to assure the people that the Constitution of India is supreme and the government is with the people and justice will be ensured.

2 SMC Officers Arrested For...

Shaheed Gunj police station, reported local news agency KDC Hassan has alleged that the two Ward Officers threatened him to grant illegal permissions for constructing their houses in Hyderpora. He has also alleged that they have been organising protest against him in SMC.

As per sources in SMC, Riyaz Ahmad is constructing his house in Hyderpora illegally and does not have permission from SMC and he was threatening the JCP to give him building permission.

Recently, he had claimed that he has permission from SMC. However, the court had stayed his construction after complaints by the locals in Hyderpora of violating building construction rules.

The issue was inquired by the JCP after orders from the SMC Commissioner. Sources said the inquiry by the JCP has annoyed Riyaz and he along with Irshad Ahmad threatened the Joint Commissioner Planning.

Woman Injured In Cross-LoC ...

gunfire along the LoC in Nowgam Sector of north Kashmir's Kupwara district, news agency KNS reported.

The report said that the armies of India and Pak exchanged gunfire this morning however, no loss of life or damage to property so far.

HC Dismisses PIL For...

prosecution of the instant." Subsequently, the court dismissed the petition "as satisfied."

The PIL had been filed by one Mushtaq Ahmed Shah, seeking directions to the authorities to allow the use and sale of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) or e-cigarettes, if necessary by framing necessary regulations for this purpose.

He had pleaded for a committee to be constituted to conduct a proper research and analysis of ENDS and thereafter formulate rules and regulations for use and sale of ENDS.

He had stated that the conventional cigarette smoking can easily be eradicated by making use of e-cigarettes which has less harmful effects as compared to tobacco products. He had further stated that to enable cigarette smokers like him to switch over to safer methods of nicotine consumption, with overall objective of achieving de-addiction, the usage of e-cigarettes is seen a first step.

Pakistani ‘Spy’ Arrested...

and he had shared some images of bridges and other vital formations with his contacts across.

Giving details, Samba district police chief, SSP Rajesh Sharma told HT, "The accused was arrested on Wednesday evening for sharing classified information and images with an unknown source across the border via social media sites. We have also detected money transactions in his bank account."

He had also claimed to have recovered four mobile phones and few SIM cards from his possession.

SKIMS Suspends 7 Protesting...

The suspension of 7 Nurses by virtue of two formal orders has created panic among protesting Nurses who are now reluctant to open up on the issue.

Pertinently, SKIMS nursing has vehemently opposed administration's three-tier shift system that has been put in place amid Covid-19. Medical Superintendent, SKIMS Dr Farooq Jan told news agency KNT that these decisions were taken in the interest of patients.

He confirmed the suspension of 7 Nurses, however, added they will be reinstated at appropriate time.

Excise Dept Team Raids Brick...

agency KNT that labourers working in brick kilns were questioned and awareness regarding illicit distillation was conveyed.

He said 'lahan' is any solution made from any kind of gur or molasses or both to which a fermentation agent is added to promote fermentation. He said that similar raids were conducted in Chadoora area of the district.

Woman Found Dead In Budgam

"The further course of action or investigation will be decided once the autopsy report is received by the police" Ahmad added.

Rural-Urban divide being minimized with B2V initiative: LG

Jammu: Public participation is the soul of Back to Village programme, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha reiterated during his visit to the border Panchayat, Pallanwala in Jammu District.

He said that Rural-Urban divide is being minimized with J&K Government's ambitious Back to Village initiative.

The Lt Governor, while addressing a large gathering there, observed that the same set of official machinery has delivered amazing results under Jan Abhiyan and Back to Village programme, proving that with right intentions and eyes on the goal, we can achieve new heights of development. 'With this ambitious Back to Village initiative of the Government, Rural-Urban divide will be minimized', he added.

'I am not here to make new promises, but for optimum implementation and utilization of funds. Let the public and the government meet and discuss their priority projects and begin a new era of rapid development. I believe in action-based implementation', said the Lt Governor.

Absence of governance and inaccessibility of officers have long

marred our villages. Back to Village is an attempt to bridge this gap and during the past one month, officers and the public have displayed bilateral enthusiasm in it. It is the duty



of the officers to take up the responsibility and help eliminate the lacunae. Dialogue alongwith public's feedback is the bedrock equitable, inclusive development and transparent governance.

And, when you visit these villages you must examine the crucial growth drivers in that particular region. Since we need to bring equity, growth and inclusion in our villages

and also sustain it, we must focus on basic services, infrastructure facilities to kick start a growth process which increases citizen participation while fixing the accountability from top to the bottom', the Lt Governor maintained.

'Development is not possible without 'funds, functions and functionaries' and we have enough of them. With dedication, all of these could be implemented on ground for the betterment of the public', he added.

Being an agriculture oriented region, it would be ensured that all 9 farmers-oriented schemes of the Government reach the workforce here, said the Lt Governor.

He also stressed on the need to reduce monsoon dependency of farmers in J&K. He informed the public about installing Solar Pumps and Micro Irrigation Schemes initiated by Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi.

Expressing his resolve of doubling farmers' income in the coming two years, the Lt Governor said that the same could not be achieved without sincere efforts in implementation of Government's schemes on ground.

Craft Mela at Numaish Gah from Oct 13

SRINAGAR - In order to provide direct marketing support to maximum number of artisans and weavers of Jammu and Kashmir who have been distressed due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Handicrafts & Handloom Department, Kashmir, is organizing a Craft Mela from October 13 at Numaish Gah (Kashmir Haat), Srinagar, on rotational basis.

The Department has urged civil society members, youth and working class to visit Numaish Gah (Kashmir Haat) in large numbers and buy local genuine handloom and handicraft products during the Mela to get value for their money besides providing succour to our weavers and artisans and ensure business continuity. The entry for general masses during the period of Mela has been made free.

This shall be the first physical fair after Government announced measures to further unlock businesses and other economic activities. During the period of Craft Mela, the department shall ensure that social distancing norms are adhered to in letter and spirit.

The Covid-19 pandemic this year has dealt a severe blow to the export of famed handicraft and handloom products from Kashmir to other parts of the country and abroad this year in view of the restrictions imposed to curb the virus. To overcome the business losses and revive the sector, the Handicrafts & Handloom Department has intensified the 'Vocal for Local' campaign launched by the Government to reach out to the artisans and weavers by connecting them with potential buyers. The Department has also launched a sustained media campaign to motivate different sections of the society in supplementing the efforts of the Government in increasing sales and improved profits for artisans and weavers.

The Craft Mela shall be a continuous affair at Kashmir Haat with around 50 stalls reserved for artisans and weavers for a period of 15 days on rotational basis. They have been advised to approach the concerned Assistant Director in their respective districts for booking of stalls on first-cum-first serve basis.

DIAL-EMMA



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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS

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



HIGHWAY STATUS



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



HIJRI
CALENDAR

22 Safar
1442

PRAYERS

FAJR	5: 08
ZUHR	12: 18
ASR	4:25
Magrib	6:08
ISHA	7:27

Steps underway to address industrial issues: Sharma

SRINAGAR: -Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, K.K Sharma, today said that the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the local industrial and trade organizations in view of the ongoing pandemic and interventions like recently announced package have been made to provide some relief to them to overcome the present stressful situations arisen due to COVID-19.

The Advisor was interacting with the representatives of Federation of All India Vypar Mandal (FIVM) and thousands of traders from different states through a webinar organized by the organization to felicitate the LGs Administration for announcing the historic economic package of Rs 1350 crore announced for revival of the business sector in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and also to discuss the Ease of doing Business.

Pertinently, FIVM is a national trade organization having more than four crore traders all over the country as its members and 140 trade organizations and 250 lakh traders of JK are affiliated with it. The webinar was also attended by Janinder Tanha, National President FIVM, VK Bansal National General Secretary, Sanjay Bansal, President JK Chapter FIVM and Presidents of different state chapters of the trade organizations.

While listening to the suggestions put forth by the participants, Advisor said that the interventions underway and those in the offing would largely address the trade, industrial distress and also provide the much needed relief to traders connected with different economic and trade activities which have suffered like other parts of the country due to the global corona pandemic.

Office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Shopian.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

E-NITS.NO.- (38) OF 2020-21 (e-Tendering)

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor Union Territory of J&K, e-Tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD/ Railways/ Other Governments/ Union Territory for the following works./

S. No.	Name of work	Adv. Cost (In lacs)	Cost of Tender Doc.	Earnest Money	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Head of Account
1	Construction of lining walls on both sides RD 400 to 500 M of Pirpora Khul and Sazan/ Rakhi Chirden Khul branch of Saller Khul	23.93	2000/-	47860/-	20 days	B&C	AIBP
2	Construction of lining wall on Authgami Khul branch of Sanigloo canal at Arshipora near the land of Gh. Hassan Chopan and others	1.35	200/-	2700/-	20 days	DEE	Languishing Projects JKIDFC
3	Construction of lined channel on Gund Ladi Hilow branch of Sanigloo canal from Rd 0 to 1000 M	6.74	600/-	13480/-	20 days	D&C	Languishing Projects JKIDFC
4	Construction of lining walls RD 550 to 751 M of Saller Khul at Village Odura	20.13	1400/-	40260/-	20 days	B&C	AIBP
5	Construction of cement concrete lining wall on left side of Gama Ladi branch of Vehji canal at spots at Meemandar (Phase Ist)	2.00	300	4000/-	20 days	DEE	District Capex Budget
6	Construction of of RCC syphon near road crossing Authgami Ladi branch of Sanigloo canal at Kundalan including field chanel near land of Gh. Mohammad Wani	5.52	550/-	11040/-	20 days	D&C	Languishing Projects JKIDFC

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, Set of terms and conditions and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates given below:

01	Date of issue of Tender Notice	09-10-2020 (05:00 PM)
02	Date of start of downloading.	09-10-2020 (05:00 PM)
03	Bid submission start date Technical/ Financial.	10-10-2020 (10:00 AM)
04	Bid submission end date.	19-10-2020 (4:00 PM)
05	Date & Time of opening of Bids (online).	20-10-2020 (10:00 AM)

Terms and Conditions:

- Bids must be accompanied with proof of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Receipt Challanand Earnest Money/ Bid Security in shape of CDR from any schedule or nation nalized bank Pledged to Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Shopian (tender receiving authority).
- The date and time of opening of Technical Bids shall be notified on departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial Bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer Irrigation Division Shopian (Tender Receiving Authority).
- The bid for the work shall remain valid for period of 90 days from the date of opening of bid.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited if:-
- Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modification in terms and conditions of the bid.
- Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 7 Days after fixation of contract.
- Instruction to bidders regarding e-Tendering process:-
- a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on web site www.jktenders.gov.in in acquaint bid submission process.
- b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from any approved vender.
- c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with Digital Signature. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
- d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para- 01.
- e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

Executive Engineer,
Irrigation Division Shopian.

No: 3195-3217

Dated:09-10-2020

DIPK-7121/20

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

Office Of The Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

E-NIT No. 152 /EEP/RNB/2020-21/ 6090-6100 Dt 08 /10/2020

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with UT of J&K Government .CPWD, Railways and other state/Central Governments for each of the following works'-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (Rs.)	Earnest Money (Rs.)	Time of	T&D of Opening of Bid	Class	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Upgradation of Gooripora to National Highway (New via Bund road including IR Gooripora and Hajibal link with IR Padgampora Dangerpora and Banderpora link including Kakapora Lelhar road including IR Lelhar Gadbugh Mohanvi by way of (P/L of WBM Grade-II at Frestbagh Ratnipora).	4.11	200/-	8300/-	10 days	11/70/2020	DEE	S/S

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

1.	Date of issue of tender Notice	08/10/2020
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	08/10/2020 10:00 AM to 16/10/2020 04:00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start date	08/10/2020 10:00 AM
4.	Bid submission End date	16/10/2020 04:00 PM
5.	Date and time of opening of Bids (online)	17/10/2020 11:00 AM

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Valid Treasury Receipt/e-Challan under Major Head 0059 Revenue in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama (tender receiving authority)
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the Bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama (tender receiving authority).

All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Head Draftsman

Technical Officer

DIPK-7079/20

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Pulwama

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Zahoor Ahmad Lone S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Lone R/o: Haknipora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Grand i10, Ve-



hicle bearing registration number JK04C - 4440. Chasis number 061486 Engine no. 206028 Model 2014. in favour of Shri. Mush-taq Ahmad Wani S/o. Ali Mohammad Wani R/o Budgam Kashmir (Transferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Budgam Main.

Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1599
Dated 09-10-2020

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir
MCB

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Ali Mohammad Lone S/o: Mohammad Sultan Lone R/o: Punch Gund Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C 7739 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Finance B/U Srinagar.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1583
Dated 06-10-2020

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir
MCB

اطلاع عام

برخاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ ہمارے گھر سے دو عدد گاڑیں گم ہو گئی ہے جن کا رنگ ایک جیسا ہے سفید اور کالا جو گذشتہ پانچ دنوں سے غائب ہے اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی جانکاری ہیں تو برائی مہربانی کر کے نیچے دئے گئی فون نمبرات پر اطلاع دے کہ منگورو ممنون فرمائیں

فون نمبرات۔ 7889837093,7006076775

From KO Archives

EU envoys conclude fact finding mission to Kashmir

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR- The four member European delegation, headed by French ambassador Bernard De Monteferrand, wound up its three-day visit to Kashmir valley today with a meeting with representatives of Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industrial (KCCI).

The KCCI representatives apprised the European envoys of the economic situation in the state and appealed to them to lift the restart imns imposed by foreign embassies on their nationals visiting Kashmir.

Later, KCCI president Ghulam Mohammad Dagga told reporters that they had informed the envoys that Kashmir is a political issue and needs a political solution. Peace which has eluded the state for all these years could be restored only when the Kashmir issue is resolved.

State secretary of CPI(M) Muhammad Yousuf Tarigami, who had an hour-long meeting with the envoys, said he briefed them about the prevailing situation in the valley. India should take some bold political initiative on the Kashmir issue. Pakistan also should create an atmosphere for initiation of talks, he said.

The visiting envoys also called on the corps commander Lt. Gen. J R Mukherji at Badami Bagh. They also had an hour-long meeting with the chairman of the State Human Rights Commission (SHRO Justice (Retd) G Q Farray.

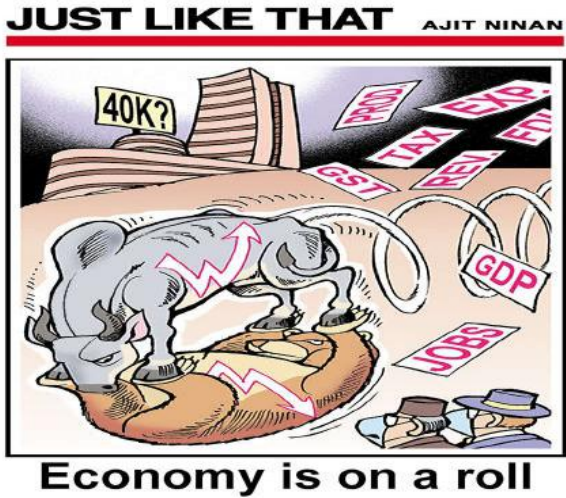
Earlier soon after their arrival here on Monday, the team had a detailed meeting with the APMC leaders. They also met Shabir Shah and Fazl Haq Qureshi.

(Kashmir Observer, October 10, 2000)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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NO HOLDS BARRED



The owners of the households were instructed to tune in to Republic TV throughout the day, even if they were not interested in its programmes, and even if, as in some cases, they did not understand a word of English. In return for the favour, they were given 60 inch television sets as gifts, and were also paid a monthly allowance of Rs 500.

The Mumbai Police have busted a TRP (Television Rating Points) racket. The racket involves manipulating television viewers so that they watch certain channels over others. This gives the channels a financial advantage as companies advertise their products widely on these channels, thinking it will enable them to reach a larger audience.

The notorious Republic TV is one of the national television channels allegedly involved in the scam. Investigations have revealed that the racket has fraudulently earned the channel over Rs 225 crore as advertising revenue. Mr. ArnabGoswami, the channel's all-in-one, has of course denied this. But proof of the malpractice has been provided to the Mumbai Police by the Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC).

The BARC has revealed that they installed barometers in certain households which monitored the time that the residents spent watching TV, and the channels that they saw. The owners of the households were instructed to tune in to Republic TV throughout the day, even if they were not interested in its programmes, and even if, as in some cases, they did not understand a word of English. In return for the favour, they were given 60 inch television sets as gifts, and were also paid a monthly allowance of Rs 500.

On Thursday night, ArnabGoswami was seen on Republic TV lambasting and lashing out at the Mumbai Police Commissioner, Mr. ParamBir Singh, the Maharashtra Chief Minister, Mr. Uddhav Thackeray, and the NCP Chief, Mr. SharadPawar. He was so theatrical that he resembled an actor on stage performing a play directed by the redoubtable AlyquePadamsee.

Journalists have been arrested by the government since the times of the Emergency, and continue to be arrested to this day. Only three days ago, a journalist from Kerala was arrested in Hathras, UP, on the dubious charge of inciting a riot. These journalists, who are often denied bail, have no option but to stick it out in jail as undertrials and sometimes even as convicts. A revolutionary poet like Varavara Rao, whose poems I have co-translated from the Telugu, has been in jail without trial since the end of 2018 for attending a meeting in rural Pune to commemorate a war between the Dalits and the Peshwasthat took place in the 19th century.

In such a scenario, how is a man like ArnabGoswami allowed to get away by publicly abusing the Police Commissioner, a senior bureaucrat of IPS rank, and the Chief Minister of the state, who is an elected representative of the people?

View from the Foyer Ugly Nexus

R. RAJRAO



The answer is clear. Goswami has the backing of the BJP. This emboldens him.

Suddenly, everything begins to fall in place. We now realize why Republic TV was so keen on proving that actor Sushant Singh Rajput did not commit suicide in June this year, but was murdered, in spite of all evidence to the contrary put out by the Mumbai Police, the Cooper Hospital in Mumbai, and AIIMS in New Delhi.

The truth is that ArnabGoswami was insecure ever since the BJP lost power in Maharashtra, and a coalition government known as the MahaVikasAghadi, comprising the Shiv

Sena, the NCP and the Congress began to rule the state.

If Republic TV succeeded in proving that the Mumbai Police had botched up the investigation into Sushant Singh Rajput's death, it would possibly lead to the fall of the MahaVikasAghadi, and the BJP would regain power in Maharashtra. Needless to say, ArnabGoswami knew he had the backing of the BJP, the JDU of Nitish Kumar, and the Bihar Police (since Sushant Singh Rajput is from Bihar). To achieve their ends, they even made the bereaved father of Sushant Singh Rajput a

scapegoat in their game plan.

How desperate the BJP is to regain power in Maharashtra can be gauged from the fact that they have sent the state's former Chief Minister, Mr. DevendraFadnavis, to Bihar to oversee the elections due there next month. They have roped in not just the Bihar Police, but also the Enforcement Directorate and the Narcotics Control Bureau to try and help them establish that Sushant Singh Rajput was a becharawho was duped and drugged by his Bombay-bred girl friend, Rhea Chakravarty. However, neither any money embezzlement on Rhea's part, nor her being a drug peddler could be proved. In fact, earlier this week, the Bombay High Court ordered that she be released on bail after having spent a month in jail.

If the BJP was in power in Maharashtra, it is highly unlikely that Republic TV's alleged TRP manipulations would have come to light. But now that they have come to light, the entire journalistic fraternity has come together to voice its displeasure over the kind of offensive journalism that ArnabGoswami practices, where those who disagree with him or the BJP are insulted, abused, shouted down, and their mikes are turned off.

.....
Dr. R. Raj Rao is an internationally known Indian English novelist, poet and critic. He wasProfessor and Head of the Department of English at the University of Pune in Maharashtra. He has also been a Visiting Professor at universities in Canada and Germany

If the BJP was in power in Maharashtra, it is highly unlikely that Republic TV's alleged TRP manipulations would have come to light. But now that they have come to light, the entire journalistic fraternity has come together to voice its displeasure over the kind of offensive journalism that Arnab Goswami practices

Whither Parliamentary Democracy?

MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

Compelled, therefore, to tell Karan Thapar in an interview what he had wanted to tell the nation on the floor of the house, Farooq said the "trust" on which the "unity of the Muslim-majority state with India" was based has been broken, the "emotional bond" has "completely gone", and "they [Kashmiris] do not feel Indian" anymore because "they are sick of what they are having to put up with."

After 13 months of incarceration, Dr Farooq Abdullah, MP and several times chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir, awaited his opportunity to speak in Parliament. The speaker had promised to give him time. In the event, he was allowed a minute at the start of the session and another minute at the end of it. This is what has happened to our parliamentary democracy.

Compelled, therefore, to tell Karan Thapar in an interview what he had wanted to tell the nation on the floor of the house, Farooq said the "trust" on which the "unity of the Muslim-majority state with India" was based has been broken, the "emotional bond" has "completely gone", and "they [Kashmiris] do not feel Indian" anymore because "they are sick of what they are having to put up with. Every street has a soldier with an AK-47, a policeman; every street, every village", their "dreams are gone, their children do not know their future" and "if I speak of India anywhere, they do not want to listen". Kashmir had joined "Gandhi's India, not Modi's India". "What is this? Is this democratic India? Is it Gandhi's India?"

Asked why then there have been no protests, Farooq replied, "How can you have protests when every street is full of soldiers?" And, he then added ominously, "The minute you remove those soldiers, lakhs will be on the streets... You can keep the entire Indian Army there, but one day the volcano will blow." India, he said, still holds "the land, with force, but they have lost the people." The fight would not end until the abrogated articles, decreed 'permanent' by the Supreme Court, are reinstated; the division of the state rescinded; the "honour" and "dignity" of the people restored.

Thapar reminded Farooq that when all this happened in August last year, Kashmiris had taunted Farooq with cries of "Ab bolo 'Bharat Mata ki Jai'". Farooq admitted this was true "because we stood with India", adding, "many of them felt, 'Well good! They deserve it'"

But now, the Gupkar Declarations of August 2019 and 2020 have "brought all the parties together". They realise, "divided we cannot win our battle.... Every party is putting their personal differences aside for the greater cause of the dignity of the people." While no one wants to be a Pakistani, the present thralldom



is driving all the regions—Jammu, the Kashmir valley and Ladakh—into the embrace of the Chinese, notwithstanding their treatment of Chinese Uighur Muslims.

There could have been a reasoned rebuttal because Parliament is all about the cut and thrust of argument. I remember my first visit to Parliament in 1960 as an 18-year old college student to watch Comrade S.A. Dange light into Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru for over an hour for dismissing one of the first democratically elected communist governments in world history—the E.M.S. Namboodiripad government in Kerala—while an impassive Nehru sat alert throughout the denunciation and there was no interruption from the

Congress benches.

Then, in the middle of the Chinese invasion of October-November 1962, Nehru arranged for both houses to reconvene to debate and denounce the failures of his foreign policy. That was democracy then.

Now, we have a prime minister running scared of listening to the truth about what he and his home minister have wreaked in Jammu and Kashmir. Instead, he ducks Parliament and treats himself to unchallenged monologues on our state media. That might have worked in Zia-ul-Haq's Pakistan but is incompatible with the norms and practices of our 70-year old democracy.

The Week



Death is such a strange thing. Maybe strange isn't the right word. It is as present in our lives as birth, it is as definitive. And yet it is unfamiliar.

My uncle passed away from COVID-19 on August 13, 2020. A week before his death, he was admitted to the hospital with COVID-19, and while my family worried as he was diabetic; I clung with hope to the 98-99% survival rate for his 50-60 year-old age bracket. His death left my family breathless. Words and clichés feel too static to describe the fullness of who he was or the emptiness he has left behind.

My Uncle was one of those people you meet and never forget. Not because of any effort on his part, but because of his kindness, his gentleness and the often mischievous spark that lit up his eyes when he smiled — which was often. He was a phenomenal father, grandfather, husband, and loyal friend to many. He had a dry sense of humor, a hearty laugh, boundless compassion and an uncanny ability to fix anything around the house. He was a behind-the-scenes kind of guy, always quick to lend a hand in a practical way, always staying out of the spotlight yet always helping someone. He could be everyone's electrician, handyman, mechanic and plumber too. Whatever needed fixing, he was the guy. He was a person with a soft heart, always willing to help the needy, that's why he will always be remembered by all, nears and dears. Mostly, though, he was known for his emotional generosity.

His faith was quiet, yet bold. His warmth, his humor, his compassion are

A Palette Of Memories

FAIZA MIR

an inspiration to anyone who knew him and also to those who didn't. I am deeply thankful to have known him, to have called him 'Daddy'. While my father taught me cycling, it was my uncle who taught me how to drive. Looking back, I realize he wasn't just teaching me about cars. He taught me about life. Be it focus, consistency, responsibility, adaptability; he taught me all.

An outdoorsman to his core, he was happiest in nature — in the mountains, by a lake or river. He was an avid gardener too. He often showed me how to plan gardens and grow vegetables and how to harvest them. Turning a complete gardener, from tilling to planting seeds, he used to do everything to fill the garden with blossom of flowers. He inherited this fanatical love of gardening from my wonderfully charming late grandfather. I remember when we were kids; we used to pick juicy, fresh apricots from trees in the back yard. I've often tried to figure out where my passion for gardening came from but I truly believe my love of gardening was inherited from my grandfather.

I could never imagine my life without my uncle. But here I am, writing a eulogy for my uncle today. Life inevitably goes on. However, it can never be the same as it was before the loss. During such times, it is essential to remind ourselves why we need to be living our lives again.

If there is one major thing that I learned from my uncle's death, it is to be grateful. Only when I lost him did I realize how crucial he was in my life. The thought of his absence had not struck me before, and I had forgotten to be grateful while he was here. So, be thankful for all the love and all the people who matter to you. Hold them close and appreciate their presence in your life. Do not wait to realize the value of something until it is gone. Seize every moment and every experience as a precious asset. Be grateful to the ones you've lost and the ones who are living with you. Make time for those you love, and don't take things for granted.

Another thing that haunted me after the loss were the words left unsaid. So, if you have something that has to be said, do it while you can. Never miss an oppor-

tunity to tell people how you feel about them. Do not hold onto anger, grudges or apologies for a long time. It is always better to say things when you have the chance, than regret it later.

While it is tough to cope with grief, it is crucial that we don't succumb to it. Everybody has different ways to heal, and they take their own time too — you don't need to rush. Remember that hard times may test you and reveal your weaknesses, but if you can cope with them, you are already stronger than you were yesterday, and you are always emerging stronger than you thought you could be.

So many families are feeling what I am feeling right now — helpless. Nobody deserves to die alone, and this is what COVID-19 does. So, please take social distancing and the stay at home order in your states seriously. Go out only if you absolutely need to and if you have respiratory symptoms or fevers, please contact your doctor and stay home. My message to anyone who is reading this is that make sure you visit your family (whenever you can once it is deemed safe again, of course) no matter how far, or how busy you are because so many things are out of your control and life can be unpredictable.

I want to wish goodbye to my uncle. I want him to know how much I love him and appreciate him and wish I was able to be by his side and that he will always be missed and never forgotten. I hope to see you on the other side again one day, Daddy. In sha Allah.

The author can be reached at
faizamir123@gmail.com

Bygone "Do-It-Yourself" Generation

CHERYL RAO

Half a century ago, as youngsters in small sleepy towns, our collection of toys was sparse. That, however, did not curtail our time at play — for we either created our own toys or made up games as the need

They indigenous toy industry in our country is in the news at the moment. All of us, manufacturers and users, young and old, can relate to toys at some level, can't we? Many of us have a clear memory of our favourite toy as a child, or one we always wanted but could not afford, or a toy that was taken away from us, or even a toy we were loathe to discard and still secretly store in the garage or attic.

Half a century ago, as youngsters in small sleepy towns, our collection of toys was sparse. That, however, did not curtail our time at play — for we either created our own toys or made up games as the need arose.

Thus, our brother had an endless supply of wooden sling shots, whittled by him. He became an ace marksman with them and also hand-crafted darts with nails, twine and old pencils or twigs, and roped us into holding out paper targets for him to practice — in almost William Tell manner.

The three of us had an arsenal of gulmohar seed pod "weapons": to be brandished as tomahawk/machete/spear/sword, depending on the characters we represented and in which part of the world we imagined ourselves. (Those seed pods would, no doubt, have served as a wonderful light sabers as well, had we not become adults by the time the Star Wars franchise swept around the world.)

Breezy weather kicked off an elaborate kite-making enterprise — using tissue paper, glue and the sticks of an old broom, and then preparing the special kite string that was coated and hung out to dry. Most often we younger ones were not allowed to actually fly the kites and had to content ourselves with running behind the older ones and their friends with the reel of string. But just being included, our existence thus acknowledged, was gratification enough!

On our own, we girls derived immense pleasure from displaying our dexterity while playing "five stones". We also had a doll each, and routinely paired them up: organizing weddings, parties, pantomimes and circus performances where we could rapidly move the dolls to make them undertake multiple roles.

Wooden toys were rare — and prized when we



got them. Usually, we made off with our seamstress Mother's empty spools and attached them to boxes of different sizes to make wagons or wheelbarrows or whatever else we required for the day's activities. When an obliging carpenter made us a doll's house from an old wooden crate, our cups were full — long before we furnished it with cardboard chairs and tables and held tea parties with a ceramic toy tea set from the local potter!

Luckily for our cash-strapped parents, by the time we reached the big city — and the temptations that lay in the shops — we were almost past the age of playing with toys. We still had a few old treasures and we had also discovered new talents within ourselves and thus began a phase of dress-making, actually sewing new outfits for the old dolls, and then, when that was too time-consuming,

we went into the creation of cut-out paper dolls and fold-on "designer" clothes. There was no limit to the imagination there, and for a brief while, we even fancied a career in fashion design!

Where toys were concerned, ours was a more or less "do-it-yourself" generation and therefore when our son was young, we indulged him — and ourselves, really — as much as we were able. Figurines and moulded castles, blocks and builder's sets, he had it all.

Or so we thought, until the next "generation" of toys came along. Fortunately by then, our child was no longer a child, and we could admire from afar, keep abreast of the times and the market and not go pop-eyed looking at price tags.

GULF NEWS

WHY SOME FRIENDS MAKE You Feel More Supported Than Others

Agencies

It's good to have friends and family to back you up when you need it - but it's even better if your supporters are close with each other too, a new set of studies suggests.

Researchers found that people perceived they had more support from a group of friends or family who all knew and liked each other than from an identical number of close relationships who were not linked.

The results suggest that having a network of people to lean on is only part of what makes social support so beneficial to us, said David Lee, who led the study as a postdoctoral fellow in psychology at The Ohio State University.

"The more cohesive, the more dense this network you have, the more you feel you can rely on them for support," said Lee, who is now an assistant professor of communication at the University at Buffalo.

"It matters if your friends can depend on each other, just like you depend on them," added Lee.

Lee conducted the study with Joseph Bayer, assistant professor of communication, and Jonathan Stahl, graduate student in psy-

chology, both at Ohio State. Their research was published online recently in the journal Social Psychology Quarterly.

The researchers conducted two online studies.

In one study, 339 people were asked to list eight people in their lives that they could go to for support in the last six months. Participants rated on a scale of 1 to 7 how much support they received from each person. (Most were listed as friends or family members, but some people also named co-workers, romantic partners, classmates or roommates).

Crucially for this study, participants were also asked to rate on a scale of 1 to 7 how close each possible pair of their eight supporters were to each other (from "they don't know each other" to "extremely close.")

Based on those answers, the researchers calculated the density of each participant's network - the closer and more interconnected their friends and family were to each other, the denser the network.

Results showed that the denser the networks, the more support that participants said they would be able to receive from them.

"We found that our support networks are more than the sum of their parts," said Bayer, who is a core faculty of Ohio State's Trans-



lational Data Analytics Institute.

"People who feel they have more social support in their lives may be focusing more on the collective support they feel from being part of a strong, cohesive group. It's having a real crew, as opposed to just having a set of friends," added Bayer.

A second study, involving 240 people, examined whether the density of a social network mattered in a specific situation where people needed help.

In this case, participants were asked to list two different groups of four people they could go to if they needed support. One group comprised four people who were not close to one another and the other group consisted of four people who were close with each other.

Participants were then asked to imagine a scenario in which their house had been broken into and they went to their network for support.

Half the people were told to think about going to the four people who were not close to one another, while the other half imagined reaching out to their four connected supporters.

Results showed that those who imagined going to their tight-knit group of friends or family perceived that they would receive more support than did partici-

pants who thought about going to their unconnected friends.

The results also offered preliminary evidence of two psychological mechanisms that could help explain why people feel better supported by a tight-knit group of friends.

In answers to survey questions, participants suggested that they thought of their group of close friends or family as one entity. They also were more likely to see a closer-knit group as part of their own identities. Both of these factors were related to perceiving more support, results showed.

The researchers said the results of both studies show it isn't just the number of friends and family you have in your network that is important.

"You can have two friends who are both very supportive of you, but if they are both friends with each other, that makes you feel even more supported," Stahl said.

On a practical level, that means it is important which friends we think about when we most need help or when we are feeling lonely in the midst of daily life.

"Focus on those friends who are connected to each other. That's where we really perceive the most support," Bayer said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Name was wrongly mentioned in PNB Metlife Policy No.00701508 as Atiqah Akhter instead of Atiqah Begum. Now need to rectify the same in this regard. If anybody having any objection my file the same at Metlife India Insurance Company Ltd. Hadiqa Complex Bagat Barzulla Srinagar within in seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Atiqah Begum
R/O Near IMI School
Mominabad Anantnag

MJA

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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER RAMBAN

NOTICE



Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr. Abdul Aziz Mir S/O Ghulam Rasool Mir R/O Gool A Udhampur (Party No.1st)



as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Taveera Bearing Regd. No. JK19-1182 (Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No. N/A. and Mr. Tariq Ahmad Dar S/O Ghulam Rasool Dar R/O Malipora Devsar Kulgam (Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted Vehicle from party No 1st and 2nd. And Cancellation / Endorsement of hire purchase agreement with N/A. Before the case is disposed off on its merit, anybody have any objection regarding the proposed transfer Amy file his objection within (7) days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation / objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

*Assistant Regional
Transport Officer Ramban*

MJA

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.2035/MVD/ANG

Date:-09/10/020

NOTICE

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr. Shabir Ahmad Raina S/O Asadullah Raina R/O Jammu Aishmuqam (Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Bearing Regd. No. JK03C-5266 (Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No. N/A. and Mr. Mushtaq Ahmad Raina S/O Mohd Ibrahim Raina R/O Jammu Aishmuqam (Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C & R/P of the above noted Vehicle from party No 1st and 2nd. And Cancellation / Endorsement of hire purchase agreement with N/A. Before the case is disposed off on its merit, anybody have any objection regarding the proposed transfer Amy file his objection within (7) days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned. No any representation / objection shall be entertained after stipulated period.

*Assistant Regional
Transport Officer Anantnag*

MJA

Apple Sets Unveil For Oct 13 Amid 5G Iphone Speculation

Agencies

Apple scheduled a media event for October 13 amid expectations it would unveil one or more new iPhones which use ultrafast 5G wireless technology.

The event comes a month after Apple disappointed some fans with a September event which unveiled new service bundles but no new smartphone.

Apple, which has habitually unveiled new iPhones ahead of the holiday season, has said supply chain disruptions due to the pandemic have delayed its plans for product launches by several weeks.

A notice posted on Apple's website offer no specific clues



but included the message, "Hi, Speed," in an apparent reference to the faster wireless networks being introduced in many parts of the world. ARTICLE CONTINUES AFTER AD

"Across the board we are seeing an uptick around production and pent up demand for the slate of iPhone 12 models (expecting 4 new models) set to be unveiled next week in this launch event," said Daniel Ives at Wedbush Securities.

Ives said he expects strong demand for the new handsets with consumers looking to

upgrade older models.

"Importantly, with our estimation that 350 million of 950m iPhones worldwide are currently in the window of an upgrade opportunity, we believe this will translate into an unprecedented upgrade cycle," he said in a note to clients.

The news comes after Google unveiled two new smartphones with 5G wireless capability under its Pixel brand, which showcases the Android mobile system but has limited market share.

Google's Pixel handsets have won positive reviews for their powerful cameras and integrated artificial intelligence, but have failed to crack the top ranks of the smartphone market dominated by the likes of South Korea's Samsung, Apple and China's Huawei.

Office of the Executive Engineer Mechanical Irrigation Division nantng HQ Awantipora

GIST

E-NIT S. No. 31 /MIDA of 2020-21

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir e-tenders in single cover system are invited from reputed and experienced Registered Electrical/Mechanical contractors/ Workshop holders /Firms whose registration are valid in terms of standing rules with sufficient experience and financial resources dealing with below mentioned works and other similar works of the same capacity or higher for the following work:-

The Works were tendered vide E NIT NO 09of 2020-21 issued videNo. MIDA/710-20 Dated:- 24.07.2020 but cancelled due to poor response

S. No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Cost of Tender Documents	Earnest Money	Time for completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Providing & fitting of 7 Mr LT pole with allied works at Tube well station Chewa and Repairs to foot valve at Shauliwouder and Darbagh	0.434 lacs	100/-	878/=	07 days
2	Providing & fitting of 01 No 10 cusec coupled with 50 HP motor at LIS Pattikawni	0.307 lacs	100/-	614/=	07 days
3	Various mechanical repairs at LIS Khandaypora , LIS Cheeki Punchpora and Udiyora Drought Sin	0.294 lacs	100/-	588/=	07 days

Position of Funds: Reflected in M&R Programme 2020-21

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site (jktenders.gov.in) as per the dates shown below:-

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
A	Publishing date of NIT	08	10	2020	01:00 PM.
2	Download start date	08	10	2020	01:00 PM.
3	Bid submission start date	08	10	2020	01:00 PM.
4	Bid submission end date	20	10	2020	04:00 PM.
5	Bid opening date	21	10	2020	11:00 AM.

All the terms and conditions will remain same as laid down in e Nit & PWD form No.25-double.

No. MIDA/ 1639-48

Dated:- 08.10.2020

*Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag
HQ Awantipora*

DIPK-7099/20

Office of the Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-Rajbagh, Srinagar

Email ID : xened2nd@gmail.com , Tel/ Fax No. 0194-2311374

e-NIT No. ED-II/08 of 2020-21

Dated : 07/10/20

Notice Inviting e-Tender

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of J&K, e-bids (in 2 cover system) are invited from Registered Class-'A' Electrical Contractors for "HT/LT Network Improvement of Feeder No. F#5, F#4 (alongwith Re-Conductoring of 15 Km Worn-Out Conductor) and F#3 emanating from Receiving Stations Rawalpora, Rangreth and Narkara respectively of Sub-Division Baghat by way of Replacement of Barbed Wire, Undersized Conductors and Worn Out Wooden Poles/Trees etc"

1	Name of Work	HT/LT Network Improvement of Feeder No. F#5, F#4 (alongwith Re-Conductoring of 15 Km Worn-Out Conductor) and F#3 emanating from Receiving Stations Rawalpora, Rangreth and Narkara respectively of Sub-Division Baghat by way of Replacement of Barbed Wire, Undersized Conductors and Worn Out Wooden Poles/Trees etc
2.	Administrative Approval	Accorded
3.	Position of Funds	Available with Department
4.	Period for Completion of Work.	30 days
5.	Estimated Cost	Rs 25.15 Lacs (Rupees Twenty Five Lacs and Fifteen Thousand Only)

The tender document is available on website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidders may view or download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to date as per the details mentioned in the table below:

A	Date & Time of Downloading of Standard Bidding Document	The Standard Bidding Document can be downloaded over http://jktenders.gov.in from 09/10/20; 10:00 AM
B	Clarifications Start Date	09/10/20; 10:30 AM
C	Clarifications End Date	13/10/20; 12:30 PM
D	e-Bid Submission (Start) Date & Time (Submission of e- tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/ XLS format)	13/10/20; 12:35 PM
E	e-Bid Submission (End) Date & Time (Submission of e- tender fee, EMD and other supporting documents in PDF/ XLS format)	27/10/20; 04:00 PM
F	Online e-Bid Opening	31/10/20; 11:00 AM
G	Venue of Opening of Technical & Financial e-Bids	Office of Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-2 nd , Rajbagh, Srinagar
H	Cost of e-Bid Document	Rs. 1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only) (Non-Refundable)
I	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs 50,300/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand and Three Hundred Only)

- The bidders need to submit the proof/Cost of e-Bid document as stated in the above table through e- Challan/Treasury Receipt pledged to the Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-2nd, Rajbagh, Srinagar to be credited to M.H-0801-Power payable at Srinagar. The scanned copy of the e-Challan/Treasury Receipt must be enclosed along with the e-Bids. No Demand Draft shall be accepted.
- All the e-Bids must be accompanied by the scanned copy of EMD in the form of CDR / FDR / Bank Guarantee only, pledged to the Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-Rajbagh, Srinagar. No Interest would be payable on Earnest Money deposited with the Department.
- Hard Copy of original instrument of EMD needs to be submitted only by the Lowest Tenderer instantly after Opening of e-NIT and must be pledged to the Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-Rajbagh, Srinagar
- The e-Bids will be electronically opened in the presence of bidder's representatives, who choose to attend at the identified venue on indicated date and time mentioned in the above table or any subsequent day to the convenience of the Tender Opening Committee. An authority letter of bidder's representative will be required to be produced.
- The Department reserves the right to cancel any or all the e-Bids/ the e-Bid process without assigning any reason thereof. The decision of department will be final and binding.
- In the event of date specified for e-Bids opening being declared a holiday/closed day for department's office then the due date for opening of e-Bids shall be the following working day at the appointed time and place.
- All the required documents excluding Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded by the e-Bidder electronically in the PDF format, whereas Price Schedule/BOQ should be uploaded electronically in the same BOQ sheet provided with the SBD. Also, signed and stamped copy of SBD is required to be uploaded.
- To participate in e-bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate' - (DSC) Class-III (b) as per Information Technology Act-2000, to participate in online bidding.
- Hard Copy of requisite documents shall be required to be submitted only by the Lowest Tenderer along with original CDR and e-Challan/Treasury Receipt instantly after opening of e-NIT pledged to Executive Engineer, KPDCL, ED-Rajbagh, Srinagar
- The Name of the Work/Job along with e-NIT reference should be superscripted in Bold letters on the envelope and the Name/Firm of the Lowest Bidder should be clearly written on the cover. It may be noted that the hard copy should be an exact replica of the uploaded offer documents by the Lowest Tenderer.
- Documents uploaded on the website shall be treated as final.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

Sd/-

No : ED-II /1596-1600/TS
Dated: 07/10/20

DIPK-NB-2876/20

Executive Engineer
KPDCL, ED-2nd, Rajbagh

US blacklists virtually Iran's entire financial sector

Agencies

WASHINGTON: The Trump administration has blacklisted virtually all of Iran's financial sector, dealing another blow to an economy that is already reeling under US sanctions. The move will deepen tensions with European nations and others over Iran.

Thursday's move hits 18 Iranian banks that had thus far escaped the bulk of reimposed US sanctions and, more importantly, subjects foreign, non-Iranian financial institutions

"Today's action to identify the financial sector and sanction eighteen major Iranian banks reflects our commitment to stop illicit access to US dollars," said Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin. "Our sanctions programmes will continue until Iran stops its support of terrorist activities and ends its nuclear programmes. Today's actions will continue to allow for humanitarian transactions to support the Iranian people."

The action targets 16 Iranian banks for their role in the country's financial sector, one



to penalties for doing business with them. Thus, it effectively cuts them off from the international financial system.

bank for being owned or controlled by another sanctioned Iranian bank and one military-affiliated bank, Treasury said.

Hamas, PLO Slam Ex-Saudi Spy Chief's Anti-Palestine Remarks

Agencies

Hamas: The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) have censured latest comments by Saudi Arabia's former intelligence chief and ambassador to the United States, Prince Bandar bin Sultan bin Abdulaziz against Palestinians and their cause.

Hamas spokesman Sami Abu Zuhri, in a brief statement released on Thursday, slammed the Saudi prince's remarks during an interview with Saudi-owned al-Arabiya television news network aired earlier this week as "regrettable."

Abu Zuhri underlined that such comments "only serve the Occupation (Israeli) regime."

Separately, Saeb Erekat, Secretary General of the Executive Committee of the PLO, said in a post published on his official Twitter page that "Whoever among Arabs that wants to present their credentials to Washington or elsewhere, or wants to pave the way for normalization with Israel, can do so without defaming Palestinian people and their legendary struggle."

Bin Sultan told al-Arabiya TV that Palestinians took the Riyadh regime's support for granted, slamming the Palestinian leadership for criticizing the decisions of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Bahrain to normalize relations with Israel.

Israel and the UAE agreed to a US-brokered deal to normalize

relations on August 13. Under the agreement, the Tel Aviv regime has supposedly agreed to "temporarily" suspend applying its own rule to further areas in the occupied West Bank and the strategic Jordan Valley that Netanyahu had pledged to annex.

While Emirati officials have described the normalization deal with the Tel Aviv regime as a



successful means to stave off annexation and save the so-called two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Israeli leaders have lined up to reject the bluff of Abu Dhabi's crown prince and de facto ruler of the UAE, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, that Israel's annexation plans were off the table.

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has underlined that annexation is not off the table, but has simply been delayed.

The former Saudi spy chief then harshly criticized the Palestinian leadership for what he deemed to be repeated missed opportunities to reach an accord with the Israeli regime, and for taking Saudi aid while ignoring the Riyadh regime's political agenda.



A view shows a house damaged by recent shelling during a military conflict over the breakaway region of Nagorno-Karabakh, in Stepanakert Hayk Baghdasaryan/Photolure

China's New Claim: COVID-19 Broke Globally, We Only Reported It First

Agencies

Beijing: China on Friday claimed that the coronavirus broke out in the various parts of the world last year but it was the only one to have reported and acted first, refuting the widely-held view that the deadly contagion originated in Wuhan before turning out to be a pandemic.

China, besides denying the US allegations that COVID-19 has emerged from a bio-lab in Wuhan, also rejected that it emanated from a wet market in the central Chinese city from bats or pangolins before infecting humans.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying told a media briefing that "the coronavirus is a new kind of virus as more and more facts emerge as reports reveal, we all know that the epidemic broke out in various places in the world at the end of last year, while China was the first to report the outbreak, identified the pathogen and shared the genome sequence with the world."

Hua's comments came in response to US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's allegations of a cover-up by the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC).

The coronavirus crisis was infinitely made worse by the Chinese Communist Party's cover-up, Pompeo had said in Tokyo at the QUAD ministerial meeting of the US, India, Australia and Japan on Tuesday.

Baku: Armenia and Azerbaijan were due to hold their first high-level talks on Friday, October 9, after nearly two weeks of clashes over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, with hopes rising that a ceasefire could be brokered in Moscow.

France, which along with Russia and the United States is part of a group mediating the two

The Chinese Foreign Ministry statement was made as the World Health Organisation (WHO) was gearing up to probe the origin of the deadly coronavirus.

According to Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center, the contagion has infected over

VID-19.

The WHO has given to Beijing a list of global experts to be sent to China to probe the origin of the coronavirus, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday. The WHO is awaiting its approval.

In May, the annual meeting



The coronavirus crisis was infinitely made worse by the Chinese Communist Party's cover-up, Pompeo had said in Tokyo at the QUAD ministerial meeting of the US, India, Australia and Japan on Tuesday.

36 million people and killed more than 1 million across the world.

The US is the worst affected country with over 7.6 million cases and more than 2,12,000 deaths.

China has reported 90,736 cases and 4,739 deaths due to CO-

of the World Health Assembly (WHA), the Geneva-based WHO's decision-making body currently headed by India, passed a unanimous resolution to probe the origin of the virus. China also backed the resolution.

Moscow hosts Armenia-Azerbaijan talks as hopes rise for truce

Agencies

Baku: Armenia and Azerbaijan were due to hold their first high-level talks on Friday, October 9, after nearly two weeks of clashes over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, with hopes rising that a ceasefire could be brokered in Moscow.

France, which along with Russia and the United States is part of a group mediating the two

countries' long conflict, said there was a chance of a breakthrough but it was far from certain.

"We are moving towards a truce tonight or tomorrow but it's still fragile," President Emmanuel Macron's office said in a statement to Agence France-Presse (AFP).

Armenian and Azerbaijani defense officials said heavy clashes continued overnight and reported further civilian deaths, after Putin announced the meet-

ing in Moscow late Thursday and appealed for a ceasefire on humanitarian grounds.

Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev has repeatedly said there would be no halt to fighting until Armenian troops withdraw and vowed to continue the intervention until his army captured all of Karabakh.

Russia's foreign ministry said on Friday the two countries' top diplomats would hold talks in Moscow from 1200 GMT.

13 Charged In Plot To Kidnap Us Democratic Governor And Start Civil War

Agencies

Washington: Thirteen men, including members of two right-wing militias, have been arrested for plotting to kidnap the Democratic governor of the US state of Michigan and "instigate a civil war", officials said Thursday.

Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer thanked law enforcement for thwarting the kidnap plot and rebuked President Donald Trump for failing to condemn hate groups.

Announcing the arrests, Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel described the conspiracy to kidnap the 49-year-old Whitmer as a "serious and credible threat."

Andrew Birge, US attorney for the western district of Michigan, said six men were facing federal charges for conspiring to kidnap Whitmer from her vacation home.

Birge said they had conducted surveillance of her residence and even tested a homemade bomb they intended to use to divert law enforcement away from her home.

FBI agents and Michigan police arrested them on Wednesday as they met to "pool funds for explosives and exchange tactical gear," the Justice Department said.

Trump has repeatedly attacked Whitmer over her tough coronavirus lockdown, and armed right-wing groups have staged protests against her in the state capital Lansing.

"LIBERATE MICHIGAN!" Trump tweeted in April.

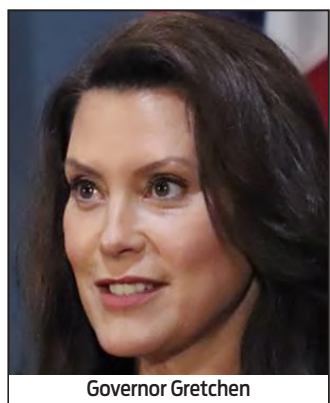
Late Thursday Trump showed little sympathy when

he commented via Twitter.

"Rather than say thank you" for the FBI action, Trump said, "she calls me a White Supremacist."

Without explicitly condemning the plotters, Trump said: "I do not tolerate ANY extreme violence. Defending ALL Americans, even those who oppose and attack me, is what I will always do as your President!"

Whitmer said that when she took the oath of office "I knew this job would be hard," but "never could have imagined anything like this."



She added: "We are not one another's enemy. This virus is our enemy."

Whitmer pointed to Trump's refusal at the recent debate with Democrat Joe Biden to condemn white supremacists and "hate groups" like the two Michigan militias that allegedly targeted her.

"Stand back and stand by, he told them," she said.

"Hate groups heard the president's words not as a rebuke but as a rallying cry, as a call to action," she added.

Thai Hotel To Drop Charges Against Guest Facing Jail For Bad Reviews

Agencies

Bangkok: A hotel in Thailand agreed on Friday to drop charges against an American guest who faces up to five years in jail for posting negative reviews as long as he issues a public apology for his comments.

The hotel, on the holiday island of Koh Chang, filed a complaint against American teacher Wesley Barnes in August after he posted what the hotel said were false and defamatory write-ups after a row over a 500 baht (\$16) corkage fee.

Police detained Barnes under criminal defamation and computer crime laws for two days in September before he was released on bail.

"Under conditions that Mr Barnes shows his sincerity and takes full responsibility for what had happened and remedy the situation, the hotel will be delighted to drop the charge," the Sea View Koh Chang hotel said in a statement to Reuters.

The case brought new scrutiny to Thailand's defamation and computer crime laws, which human rights activists say are too harsh and sweeping.

Under the laws, Barnes could be fined up to 100,000 baht (\$3,200) and be jailed for up to five years.

The hotel wants Barnes to send statements to media, the Tourism Authority of Thailand, the U.S. Embassy and the TripAdvisor website this month, apologising and explaining that his poor reviews were written in anger.

The hotel said Barnes had agreed. He told Reuters he would be issuing a statement.

"I'm sending an email to many media outlets," Barnes told Reuters. He declined to elaborate.

"Food Best Vaccine Against Chaos": Nobel Peace For World Food Programme

The United Nations food agency, the World Food Programme (WFP), won the Nobel Peace Prize on Friday for its efforts to combat hunger and improve conditions for peace in areas affected by conflict.

The Rome-based organisation says it helps some 97 million people in about 88 countries each year, and that one in nine people worldwide still do not have enough to eat.

"The need for international solidarity and multilateral co-operation is more conspicuous than ever," Berit Reiss-Andersen, chairwoman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, told a news conference.

The WFP is a driving force in efforts to prevent the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict, and the COVID-19 pandemic, which the WFP says could double hunger worldwide, has made it even more relevant, she said.

"The coronavirus pandem-



ic has contributed to a strong upsurge in the number of victims of hunger in the world," the Nobel committee said in its citation.

"Until the day we have a medical vaccine, food is the best vaccine against chaos ...

"There is an estimate within the World Food Programme that... there will be 265 million starving people within a year, so of course this is also a call to the international community not to underfund the World Food Programme."

"Over And Above The Call Of Duty"

WFP responded by tweeting its thanks for "recognition of the work of WFP staff who put their lives on the line every day to bring food and assistance to more than 100 million hungry children, women and men across the world".

At a briefing in Geneva, WFP spokesman Tomson Phiri told reporters: "For WFP this year we have gone over and above the call of duty..."

"Everything went into shutdown following nationwide and global restrictions following COVID-19. The WFP stepped up to the plate, we were able to connect communities. At one point, we were the biggest airline in the world when most if not all commercial airlines had ground to halt."

Dan Smith, director of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, said the Norwegian Nobel Committee had wanted to send a message of both hope and "support for international cooperation".

Iconic Iranian singer Shajarian dies

TEHRAN: Singer, instrumentalist and composer Mohammad-Reza Shajarian, who embodied traditional and classical Iranian music for more than half a century both at home and abroad, died on Thursday aged 80.

A national treasure in his homeland, Shajarian nevertheless maintained difficult relations with the authorities in Tehran throughout his career, first under the reign of the Shah and then with the Ayatollahs.

The Ostad (master), who had been battling cancer for several years, "flew to meet his beloved (God)", his son Homayoun Shajarian, himself a famous singer, wrote on Instagram.

Soon after the announcement, several hundred fans converged on the Jam hospital in Tehran where he had been admitted a few days ago in a critical condition.

News of his death sparked an outpouring of grief on social media.

Shajarian had been persona non grata on state broadcaster IRIB since 2009, but that did not stop Iranians from listening to his tenor voice.

Born on Sept 23, 1940, into a religious family in Mashhad, north-eastern Iran, Shajarian was initiated at the age of five to Islamic psalmody by his father, a re-



citer of the holy Quran.

At 12 he began his initiation -- in secret from his parents -- to the santur, a percussion-stringed instrument whose roots date back to pre-Islamic Persia.

He was trained to perform the "radif" -- the traditional repertoire that forms the basis of Persian secular music that every artist is expected to master before moving on to improvisation, typical in Iranian classical music.

Following in his father's footsteps, Shajarian first performed as a reciter of the holy Quran.

In 1959, he made his debut on radio and his voice quickly carried him to fame.

Trump Says 'Communist' Kamala will Take Over US

Washington: If Democratic Presidential nominee Joe Biden wins the November 3 US Elections, his running mate Kamala Harris will takeover as president in a month's time, President Donald Trump said on Thursday in a blistering attack on his poll rivals.

Vice President Mike Pence, 61, and Harris, 55, came face-to-face in the vice presidential debate on Wednesday, which saw sparring over Trump's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, jobs, China, racial tensions and climate change. Trump and Biden have separately lauded their deputies.

"I thought that wasn't even a contest last night. She was terrible. I don't think you could get worse. And totally unlikable. She's a Communist. She's left of (Senator) Bernie (Sanders). She's rated left of Bernie by everybody. She's a Communist," Trump told Fox News in an interview on Thursday.

N E W S M A K E R S

Nashik Cops Arrest HAL Employee For Supplying Info On Fighters To Pakistan



A Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) employee has been arrested for supplying fighter aircraft information to Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency, Maharashtra Police said on Friday.

The 41-year-old man was supplying secret information about Indian fighter aircraft and their manufacturing unit to ISI, police said. "The Nashik unit of the state Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) received reliable intelligence about the man, who was in constant touch with ISI," a police official said.

The man was supplying the secret information about Indian fighter aircraft and their sensitive details, along with the information related to HAL's aircraft manufacturing unit at Ojhar near

Nashik, airbase and some prohibited areas inside the manufacturing unit, he said.

An offence under the Official Secrets Act has been registered against the accused, he said adding three mobile handsets with five SIM cards and two memory cards have been seized from him.

The phones and SIM cards are being sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory for examination, he said.

The accused was produced before court on Friday, and has been remanded in ATS custody for 10 days, the official said.

HAL's Aircraft Division Nashik, established in 1964 for licence manufacture of MiG-21FL aircraft and K-13 missiles, is located at Ojhar, 24 km from Nashik and around 200 km from Mumbai.

The division has also manufactured other MiG variants like MiG-21M, MiG-21 BIS, MiG-27 M and the state-of-the-art aircraft Su-30MKI fighter jet. The division also carries out overhaul of the MiG series aircraft and repair and overhaul (ROH) of Su-30MKI aircraft.

Former AMU Student Shot Dead On Campus

A young athlete has been shot dead inside the Aligarh Muslim University campus. The incident happened on Thursday.

The deceased has been identified as 20-year-old Sanu Abbas, a former AMU student. He had gone for a walk with two of his friends at the athletics ground on the campus.

The AMU security was informed by his friends that 'Sanu Abbas was shot and killed by unknown assailants on the athletics ground'.

The AMU security personnel reached the ground as soon as the information was received and the proctor and

the police also reached the spot. Police collected evidence from the spot and sent the body for post-mortem.

The police have detained both the friends of the accused. AMU proctor Wasim Ali, however, said whether the deceased youth was a student of AMU or any affiliated college, it would be known only after checking the records.

"At present, the police have detained two young men who came with him and they are being interrogated. Sanu was shot in the head and reportedly died on the spot," he said.



A WOMAN comforts her baby at a mud house in Srinagar outskirts on Friday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

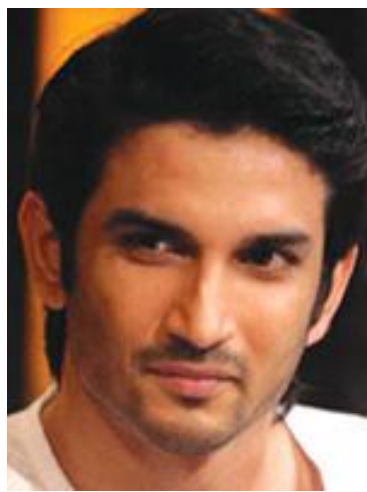
Delhi HC To Hear Plea On Refraining Arnab Goswami's TV From 'Investigative' Crime News

NEW DELHI: A PIL has been moved in the Delhi High Court alleging that journalist Arnab Goswami and his channel were reporting "distorted and misleading facts" on the death of actor Shushant Singh Rajput resulting in infringement of the right to fair trial of actor Rhea Chakraborty.

The plea has sought directions to the Centre to frame rules, regulations or guidelines to govern reporting or broadcasting of all news related to criminal investigations.

The petition was listed for hearing on Friday before a bench of Chief Justice D N Patel and Justice Prateek Jalan which asked the petitioner to come on the next date - November 27 - with his suggestions on the kind of rules that can be framed to regulate media reporting of criminal probes.

The plea has also sought initiation of contempt of court proceedings



against Goswami and his channel for the alleged "prejudicial reporting" of the Rajput death case.

The petition has alleged that the

journalist and the TV channel are on a "witch hunt" against Rajput's friend Chakraborty and are behaving as "judge, jury and executioner" to sway the public opinion against her.

"Interestingly, no investigating agency is probing any charge of murder in the present criminal investigation. Even the FIR registered by the Patna police on the complaint received by the father of the deceased (Rajput) is for abetment to suicide and other penal provisions. Moreover, as per the report of AIIMS, the cause of death is suicide and not murder," the petition has claimed.

It has also sought a direction restraining the journalist and the channel from "publishing or broadcasting any information or news related to any criminal investigation in the name of investigative journalism and/or information received from anonymous sources".

"Times Are Very Difficult": Shiv Sena On Ex-CBI Chief's 'Suicide'

The Shiv Sena on Friday said the alleged suicide by former CBI director Ashwani Kumar was shocking and wondered why no one was interested in knowing the exact reason for his mysterious death.

An editorial in Sena mouthpiece 'Saamana' said, "It is unbelievable that a person like Kumar, who was not just director of the CBI, DGP of Himachal Pradesh, but also served as Governor of Nagaland and Manipur after retirement, can end his life. He had also served in important capacity in the SPG

currently residing in Himachal Pradesh should speak on whether Kumar was really fed up with his life or was under some kind of pressure."

The saffron party said news channels should also speak up on the circumstances which led to Kumar's suicide.

The Sena publication said questions raised in the Sushant Singh Rajput death case can come up in the Kumar matter as well.

"Sushant was a reel life hero, while Ashwani Kumar was a real-life hero," it said.



(Special Protection Group)."

Kumar was found hanging at his home in Shimla on Wednesday. The 69-year-old left behind a suicide note saying he was "embarking on a new journey", officials have said.

The editorial said the retired IPS officer had a strong mind and body and that is why the government gave him important assignments during his decades-long career.

"Such a person ends his life and nobody questions it ...this is surprising," the Marathi daily said.

Without naming Kan-gana Ranaut, the editorial said, "An actress who is

The editorial said despite medical proof, some people are not ready to accept that Rajput committed suicide.

"But no one is interested in knowing this mystery (behind Kumar's death). Times are very difficult," it said.

"We recovered a suicide note in which he (Kumar) had written he is embarking on a new journey. His family members were present when he went inside the room, locked it and committed suicide by hanging himself with a nylon rope.

"The family does not suspect any foul play. We have seized the items in the room, Himachal Pradesh DGP Sanjay Kundu had said.

WE RECOVERED A SUICIDE NOTE IN which he (Kumar) had written he is embarking on a new journey. His family members were present when he went inside the room, locked it and committed suicide by hanging himself with a nylon rope.



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