



Maximum : 26°C SUNSET Today 05:58 PM
Minimum : 09°C SUNRISE Tomorrow 06:35 AM
Humidity : 41%

OBSERVER

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News Digest

Engineer Booked In Assets Case

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Tuesday registered a disproportionate income case against a junior engineer, whose six bank accounts have so far yielded Rs 3.30 crore against a net salary of Rs 10.08 lakh, an official spokesperson said. The accused, Tariq Ahmad Ganj, worked in the Housing Board, Bemina, Srinagar, the official added. "Anti-Corruption Bureau, Srinagar, registered a case" ● P-02

Lt Gen Kumar Takes Command Of 16 Corps

Jammu: Lieutenant General M V Suchindra Kumar took over as the General Officer Commanding (GoC) of the Army's elite 16 Corps, known as White Knight Corps, here on Tuesday, a defence spokesperson said. He succeeds Lt Gen Harsha Gupta. Lt Gen Kumar said it was an honour to command such an elite formation with a rich history of Jammu and Kashmir. He exhorted all ranks to continue working with utmost ● P-02

Mortar Shell Defused Near LoC

Jammu: A mortar shell, which did not unexploded during cross-border shelling by Pakistan, was on Tuesday safely defused by army experts near the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said. The shell was noticed lying in an open field at Kharikarmara by villagers, who informed the army, the officials said. They said the army's bomb disposal squad immediately rushed to the spot and the mortar shell was safely defused

Man Dies After Falling From Tree

Srinagar: A middle-aged man on Tuesday died after falling off a walnut tree in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. 50-year-old Doda Khan Awan was plucking walnuts from a tree in Zeban Chuntilla area of the district when he lost balance and fell on the ground, police sources said Tuesday. Due to the impact of the fall, Awan received serious injuries. He was taken to the nearby hospital for treatment where doctors declared him brought dead, sources added.

4 Youth Held With Arms In Chadoora: Police

Srinagar: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested four youth along with arms and ammunition in Chadoora area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. A police official said that it arrested four persons and recovered two Chinese grenades, a pistol magazine, eight pistol rounds, 30 AK-47 rounds and a flag of militant outfit Lashkar-e-Taiba from their possession. ● P-02

CASO Held In 5 South Kashmir Villages

Srinagar: The government forces on Tuesday launched a massive cordon and search operation (CASO) in five villages of three south Kashmir districts. Army, police and CRPF laid a siege in Kulgam, Shopian and Pulwama villages and conducted search operations after inputs about the movement of militants in these hamlets, sources said. ● P-02

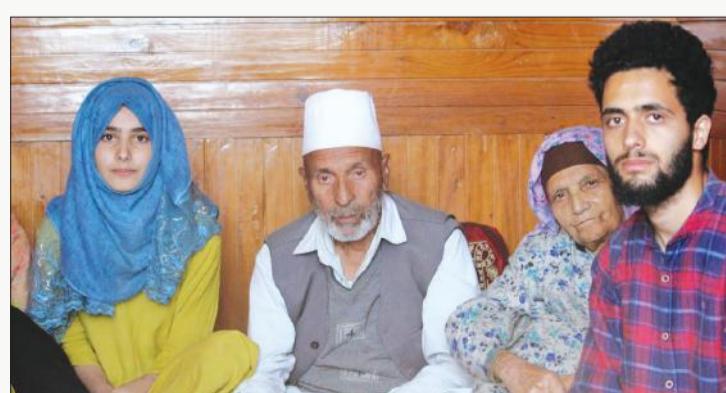
In A First, Family Questions Eerie Silence On Er Rashid's Convicted Fate

In FOCUS

Auqib Javeed

MAWAR Langate - Just like his weebegone mother, two long-faced siblings and old grandparents, 19-year-old Abrar Rashid is unable to make sense of his father's condemned fate for being a flag-bearer of unionist politics in Kashmir. Ever since his father became a captive, the junior Rashid is haunted by a question: "How will I face those who took an oath with my father that they will not pelt stones and seek peaceful means to address the issues?"

The first year college student is the son



of former legislator from the north Kashmir's Langate area, Sheikh Abdul Rashid, popularly known as Engineer Rashid. Rashid was arrested by the National

The former Langate legislator was the first unionist politician to have been arrested by the NIA in the case. He's still under detention in New Delhi's Tihar jail.

Before his arrest, Rashid remained in news for his vocal advocacy of Kashmir issue. Despite being a legislator, he pitched the demand of the "right to self-determination" and faced music.

As an independent candidate, with back-to-back assembly election wins, Rashid floated his own political outfit, Awami Ittehad Party (AIP). He contested parliamentary elections from Baramulla after former Governor Satya Pal Malik dissolved the State's Legislature. Rashid ended up bagging 102168 votes in a closely-contested affair. He only fell short of small vote margin against National Conference's ● P-02

China Repeats Again: 'We Don't Recognise UT Of Ladakh'

Says Border Infra, Military Deployment 'Root Cause Of Tension'

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Terming the infrastructure building and military deployment along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) as a 'root cause of tensions', China on Tuesday reiterated that it does not recognise the 'illegally established' Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh.

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said that Beijing does not recognise the union territory of Ladakh or the state of Arunachal Pradesh. He also claimed that the stepping up of infrastructure building by India and military deployment along the border with China was the 'root cause of tensions'.

India has been strongly maintaining that both Arunachal Pradesh and Ladakh are integral part of the country and that China should refrain from commenting on its internal matters.

Spokesman Zhao was replying to a question at a media briefing in Beijing by a western media journalist on India's construction of a number of bridges in border areas of Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh. The spokesman said ● P-02



Talks End In Deadlock

The seventh round of military talks between India and China was "positive and constructive", a joint statement by the two armies said on Tuesday, but there was no breakthrough in sight for speedy disengagement of troops at friction points in eastern Ladakh. As the two sides agreed to earnestly implement

"WE URGE THE INDIAN SIDE TO EARNESTLY IMPLEMENT the consensus reached by the two sides, refrain from taking actions that will complicate the situation, and take concrete measures to safeguard peace and tranquility along the border,"

Health Insurance Scheme Benefits All: LG

SRINAGAR: Asserting that the government wants the healthcare system in of Jammu and Kashmir to be the best in the country, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday directed officials to ensure that the benefits of the JK Health Insurance scheme reaches all the people in the Union Territory.

Chairing a meeting on Tuesday to review the core features of the JK Health Insurance scheme and the process of approvals of golden cards, Sinha stressed on extending the benefit of the scheme to all the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir, an official spokesperson said. The LG, he said directed the concerned officers to take

Pakistan Sets 5 Preconditions For Talks With India

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Pakistan on Tuesday set five pre-conditions for the resumption of "meaningful dialogue" with India to resolve all outstanding issues, including the longstanding dispute over Jammu and Kashmir.

In a first ever interview by a Pakistani official since India revoked the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and divided the state into two Union Territories, Special Assistant to Prime Minister Dr Moed Yousef told Karan Thapar in an exclusive interview that In



dia had communicated a desire to open dialogue with Pakistan after a hiatus of more than six years. He said that Pakistan desired peaceful ties with India and wanted to resolve all issues through dialogue.

However in the 75-minutes video broadcast on The Wire, Yousaf asserted that for any meaningful dialogue to take place between the two neighbours, India has to release all political prisoners in Kashmir, end inhuman blockade and restrictions, rescind domicile law that allows non-Kashmiris to settle in the disputed territory, stop human rights abuses and end terrorism in Pakistan.

"Pakistan would be ready for dialogue with India if the Modi government accepts those pre-conditions," Yousef said.

Interestingly, Yousef did ● P-02

Thrashing Of Youth Sparks Protests In Rawalpora

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Anti-army protests broke out Tuesday in Rawalpora area of the city outskirts after the soldiers allegedly thrashed two youth to 'pulp without any reason or rhyme'.

Shahid Ahad Bhat and Aqib Ashraf Dar were allegedly beaten up by soldiers near Rawalpora Chowk on Tuesday morning when an army convoy was passing through the area, witnesses told Kashmir Observer. The soldiers, they said abused the two youth while beating them with sticks and guns.

Due to the severe beating, eyewitnesses said, the youth suffered serious injuries and were left off by the soldiers



By Rakesh Sharma

only when their wounds bled.

According to the eyewitnesses, Bhat had sustained cervical injury while Dar suffered injuries in his leg and foot due to the alleged thrashing by soldiers. Both of them were removed to the hospital by locals.

The incident set off massive anti-army demonstrations in the locality. Scores of people, including women took

J&K Sees 8 More Coronavirus Deaths, Toll 1343

SRINAGAR: At least eight more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday, taking the number of Covid-19 fatalities across the Union Territory to 1343.

Kashmir valley reported five more deaths due to Covid-19 while three others were confirmed by officials from the Jammu division.

Among the five victims in Valley, officials said two were residents of Srinagar and included a 72-year-old man from Bemina, who died two days after being admitted to CD hospital, one of the exclusive facilities for the management of the covid-19 patients in the Valley.

Also, a 77-year-old man from Natipora Srinagar ● P-02

40 Travelers Among 677 More Test Positive

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Tuesday 677 new cases of coronavirus, including forty travelers, taking the number of people infected by virus in the Union Territory to 84708.

Among the new cases, 313 were reported from Jammu division and 364 from Kashmir Valley, officials said.

Giving the district wise details, they said, Srinagar reported 145 cases, Budgam 35, Baramulla 53, Pulwama 43, Kupwara 18, Anantnag 14, ● P-02

Mehbooba Mufti Released After 14 Month Detention

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president and former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti was set free on Tuesday after being in preventive detention for more than 14 months following the abrogation of Article 370 last year.

"In exercise of powers conferred under section 19(1) of the Jammu and Kashmir Public Safety Act, 1978, the Government hereby revokes the detention order bearing No. DMS / PSA / 147 / 2020 dated 05-02-2020 issued by District Magistrate, Srinagar which was last extended for a period of three months vide Government Order No. Home / PB-V / 1449 of 2020 dated 31-07-2020 of Ms. Mehbooba Mufti D/o Late Mufti Mohd Sayed R/o Bijbehara A/P

Nowgam, Srinagar, with immediate effect," reads an order issued by the government on Tuesday.

Earlier, JK government spokesman Rohit Kansal tweeted about PDP President's release. Mehbooba Mufti, who ● P-02

"I'M PLEASED TO HEAR THAT @ MehboobaMufti Sahiba has been released after more than a year in detention. Her continued detention was a travesty & was against the basic tenets of democracy. Welcome out Mehbooba," Omar tweeted.

Iltija Relieved

Iltija Mufti who was managing the twitter handle of her incarcerated mother heaved a sigh of relief and tweeted: "As Ms Mufti's illegal detention finally comes to an end, I'd like to thank everybody who supported me in these tough times. I owe a debt of gratitude to you all. This is Iltija signing off. May alah protect you."

Embarrassment For BJP Party Leader Moves NHRC Seeking Security To Sarpanches

Press Trust Of India

SARPANCH FOUND HANGING IN BANDIPORA A sarpanch was found hanging on Tuesday morning at his home in Zurim village of north Kashmir's Bandipora district. Official sources said ● P-02

spokesperson on Kashmir affairs Ashwani Kumar Chrunoo said in a statement here.

The BJP leader, citing a communication from the human rights panel, said the ● P-02

CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR



کیسر سوسائٹی آف کشمیر

Website: www.cancersocietykashmir.org E-mail: cancersocietyofkashmir@gmail.com

Ref. No. CSK/ELECTION-40/2020/5939

Dated: 13-10-2020

Notice

All the founder & life members of the Cancer Society of Kashmir are informed that the election for the following honorary Office-Bearers of the Cancer Society of Kashmir are scheduled to be held on 02-NOV-2020 at the office of the society 4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora Srinagar:-

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|------|
| 1. | Chairman | One. |
| 2. | Vice-Chairmen | Two. |
| 3. | General Secretary | One. |
| 4. | Joint-Secretary | One. |
| 5. | Treasurer | One. |

The Dates For Process Of Elections Have Been Fixed As Under:-

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------------|
| 1. | Filling of Nominations Papers | : 14-10-2020 TO 20-10-2020 |
| 2. | Scrutiny of Nominations Papers | : 22-10-2020. |
| 3. | Last date for withdrawal of nominations | : 27-10-2020. |
| 4. | Issue of Notification for final list of contestants | : 28-10-2020. |
| 5. | Date of Voting (From 9.30 AM to 4.30 PM) | : 01-11-2020. |
| 6. | Counting of votes and declaration of results | : 02-11-2020. |

--SD--
Justice (Retd.) M.Y. Kawoosa.
Election Authority

4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora
Srinagar 190 015 Tele Fax 0194-2441899/2430899



Former J&K Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah and his son Omar cutting a cake during the inauguration of NC's new office in Gupkar on Tuesday. Pic, Twitter

Congress Demands Restoration Of J&K's Statehood

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Senior Congress leader Rajni Patil on Tuesday said the people of Jammu and Kashmir were angry about it being made a union territory and demanded restoration of its statehood as well as adequate constitutional safeguards for the protection of jobs and land rights.

"It is for the first time that a state has been downgraded to a UT and then bifurcated. The people here are angry, they are worried about their jobs and their land. They say if the people from outside get the jobs here, what will they do. They say they had rights over their jobs and land, but have been deprived of that now," Patil told reporters here.

She sought immediate restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood and adequate constitutional safeguards for the protection of jobs and land rights of the



people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

Patil, who is in charge of party affairs in Jammu and Kashmir, also demanded immediate release of all political prisoners, including PDP chief and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, who was released hours later on

Tuesday.

Criticising the BJP government at the Centre over three recent farm sector legislations, Patil said that in 2014 the Narendra Modi government made huge promises of doubling the income of farmers and providing them much relief, but it seems all the promises have

fallen flat on the ground.

"Such black laws should be rolled back. Otherwise, the farmers will face huge losses, she said.

Talking about the alleged gang-rape and death of a young woman in Hathras in Uttar Pradesh, the Congress leader said the woman was cremated in the dead of the

night. "The Modi government says 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', but we want to ask this government if daughters are not saved, how will they be educated, she said.

Patil said the Congress would fight the attempts being made to create polarisation in the country.

China Repeats Again: ...

based on the consensus reached by the two sides recently, neither side should take any action that might complicate the situation at the border region, so that bilateral efforts to ease tension will not be undermined. "For a while, the Indian side has been stepping up infrastructure building and military deployment along the border with China. This is the root cause of tensions. "We urge the Indian side to earnestly implement the consensus reached by the two sides, refrain from taking actions that will complicate the situation, and take concrete measures to safeguard peace and tranquility along the border," he said.

Talks End In Deadlock...

the understanding reached by their leaders to not turn differences into disputes, authoritative sources here said there was no significant forward movement on disengagement of troops from the flash points in eastern Ladakh. The Indian Army and the Chinese People's Liberation Army(PLA) are locked in an over five-month-long border standoff. The sources said there was no breakthrough at the talks on disengagement of troops and that India insisted on restoration of status quo ante of April at all friction points. The face-off began on May 5. A joint press statement by the two armies after the talks on Monday that lasted for nearly 12 hours said both sides agreed to maintain dialogue and communication through military and diplomatic channels, and arrive at a mutually acceptable solution for disengagement "as early as possible". The statement was released both in Delhi and Beijing. The military talks took place at Chushul on the Indian side of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh in the midst of massive preparations by both the sides to maintain the existing deployment during the harsh winter months.

"The two sides had a sincere, in-depth and constructive exchange of views on disengagement along the Line of Actual Control in the western sector of India-China border areas," the joint press statement said. It said both sides were of the view that these discussions were "positive, constructive" and had enhanced understanding of each other's positions.

"Both sides agreed to maintain dialogue and communication through military and diplomatic channels, and arrive at a mutually acceptable solution for disengagement as early as possible," the statement added.

"Both sides agreed to earnestly implement the important understandings reached by the leaders of the two countries, not to turn differences into disputes, and jointly safeguard peace and tranquility in the border areas."

At the first informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in April 2018, the two sides had emphasised on not allowing difference to become disputes. This understanding has featured in multiple statements by the two countries since then.

The summit had taken place months after the Doklam episode that had significantly strained ties between the two neighbouring countries. The Indian delegation at the military talks was led by Lt Gen Harinder Singh, the commander of the Leh-based 14 Corps, and it included Naveen Srivastava, Joint Secretary (East Asia) in the Ministry of External Affairs(MEA). It also comprised Lt Gen PGK Menon, who succeeded Singh as the commander of the 14 Corps on Tuesday.

The Chinese side was headed by Commander of South Xinjiang Military District Maj Gen Liu Lin.

The sources in Delhi said India also pressed for a comprehensive disengagement and not a "selective one".

The PLA has been demanding withdrawal of Indian troops from several strategic heights on the southern bank of the Pangong lake to kick-start the disengagement process.

Indian troops had occupied the strategic heights in Mukhpuri, Rezang La and Magar hill areas around the southern bank of Pangong lake after the PLA soldiers attempted to intimidate them in the area on the intervening night of August 29 and 30.

Following the sixth round of military talks on September 21, the two sides announced a slew of decisions including not to send more troops to the frontline, refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground and avoid taking any actions that may further complicate matters.

The sixth and seventh round of military talks were held with a specific agenda of exploring ways to implement a five-point agreement reached between External Affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi at a meeting in Moscow on September 10 on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation(SCO) conclave.

The pact included measures like quick disengagement of troops, avoiding action that could escalate tensions, adherence to all agreements and protocols on border management and steps to restore peace along the LAC.

J&K Sees 8 More Coronavirus...

died at SMHS hospital in wee hours today, two weeks after he was admitted with bilateral community acquired pneumonia, they said.

Regarding other victims, they said two each belonged to Baramulla and Jammu and one each to Budgam and Rajouri.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 906 in Valley and 437 in Jammu.

Srinagar district with 321 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (227), Baramulla (132), Budgam (90), Pulwama (75), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (70), Kulgam (43), Bandipora (42), Rajouri (44), Doda (40), Shopian (32), Ganderbal (30), Kathua (29), Samba (24), Udhampur (23), Poonch (22), Ramban (11), Kishtwar (11) and Reasi (6). (With GNS inputs)

40 Travelers Among 677...

Bandipora 24, Ganderbal 22, Kulgam 9, Shopian 1, Jammu 121, Rajouri 41, Udhampur 16, Doda 23, Kathua 7, Poonch 12, Samba 21, Kishtwar 40, Ramban 9 and Reasi 23.

Moreover, they said, 796 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and discharged from various hospitals—398 from Jammu Division and 398 from Kashmir Valley.

Mehbooba Mufti Released...

became the first woman chief minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir in 2016 as head of the PDP-BJP alliance, was arrested along with other leaders hours before Centre bifurcated the state into two union territories and abrogated its semi autonomous status. She was first detained under Sections 107 and 151 of CrPC but later booked under the controversial Public Safety Act.

Initially, Mehbooba was lodged at Cheshma Shahi guest house and then shifted to another government guest house at M A Link Road here. The PDP president was then taken to her residence where she remained under house arrest.

Mehbooba's daughter, Iltija, had challenged her detention in the Supreme Court, which last heard the case on September 29.

Chief ministers and National Conference leaders Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah were released in March after over seven months in detention.

Meanwhile, Omar Abdullah took to Twitter to welcome Mehbooba's release.

"I'm pleased to hear that @MehboobaMufti Sahiba has been released after more than a year in detention. Her continued detention was a travesty & was against the basic tenets of democracy. Welcome out Mehbooba," Omar tweeted.

Party Leader Moves NHRC...

NHRC has said that in case, the report is not received within the stipulated time, it shall be constrained to invoke Section 13 of the Protection of Human Rights Act for personal appearance of the authority concerned.

Chrungeo has filed the case with the NHRC along with a complaint from Vijay Raina, a sarpanch in south Kashmir's Kulgam district.

He has sought intervention of the commission for direction to authorities to provide security to all sarpanches and has said that if the same is not possible, at least authorities should try to induce a sense of fearlessness among them by other means.

The complaint to the NHRC alleged that despite repeated requests for providing security to sarpanches, no action has been taken by the administration of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, and the central government.

The NHRC said it was further alleged in the complaint that there have been open threats of intimidation and killing of minorities by militant groups like Hizbul Mujahideen, Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammad and the sarpanches are feeling insecure and living in intense fear, according to the statement.

The main complaint filed by Chrungeo also includes a demand to issue directions to institute a "Special Crimes Tribunal" in consonance with the decision of the NHRC in June 1999 describing that acts akin to genocide were committed against Kashmiri Pandits and a genocide type design may exist against them, it said.

The commission said the complainant has asked for a thorough investigation into the excesses committed against non-Muslim minorities in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir by militants.

Sarpanch Found Hanging...

that the family members of the sarpanch, who saw him hanging inside the house, immediately rushed him to a nearby hospital where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

A police official while confirming the incident said that the body was later taken to district hospital Bandipora for post-mortem and other medico-legal formalities.

He said that it was not immediately known as to why he took this extreme step.

The official said that the proceedings under relevant sections of law have been initiated and further investigation has been taken up in this regard.

Pakistan Sets 5 Preconditions...

not mention the restoration of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir as one of the pre-conditions for restarting talks with India. He said Pakistan cannot recognise Article-370 because Pakistan's quarrel is with the actual instrument of accession.

"I am not making a protest against scrapping of Article 370. We are raising an issue because you have formally gone outside the UN charter resolutions by making a permanent change to a territory I rightfully claim as mine. To the people who can't bear the thought of being under Indian occupation. My quarrel is domicile law which is thrusting people on a Muslim majority to change its character," he added.

Quoting former Chief Minister and National Conference patron Dr Farooq Abdullah's recent interview with Thapar in which he had claimed that Kashmiris will prefer Chinese rule instead of India's, Yousaf said that the world was calling out India over its August 5 actions.

"That's the reality. Kashmiris can't bear the thought of being Indian," he said.

He regretted that India had chosen to take a "unilateral" decision bypassing the United Nations Security Council resolutions, as well as the bilateral Shimla agreement, signed between New Delhi and Islamabad. "When you did something unilateral you had to bring in 180,000 troops, lie to the world that there was a terrorist threat and then Indian government perpetrated terrorism on August 5. And a year later, you had to impose curfew," he said.

"When you say that the wishes of the people don't matter, that's where you go wrong. The day India recognises that only the wishes of people of Kashmir matter, this issue can be resolved," he added.

Yousaf alleged that India used its misions in one of the neighbouring countries of Pakistan to facilitate and sponsor terrorist attack at a five-star Hotel in Gwadar, Chinese Consulate in Karachi and the Pakistan Stock Exchange.

"India spent \$1 million to ensure the merger of different TTP factions in Afghanistan," he added.

Pakistani conditions...

Release all political prisoners in Kashmir

End inhuman blockade and restrictions

Rescind domicile law

Stop human rights abuses

End terrorism in Pakistan

Health Insurance Scheme...

comprehensive measures to ensure the coverage of each and every family of the UT under the scheme, not covered by Ayushman Bharat.

"We are aiming to improve the health care system of J&K to make it best in the country and to provide universal health insurance coverage to all the residents of the Union Territory," LG, as per official spokesperson said.

During the meeting, the spokesperson said it was informed that the entitlement based health scheme is an operational extension of Ayushman Bharat- Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna(AB PM-JAY) under which

an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh will be provided per family per year to all residents of J&K, covering 15 Lakh additional families.

"The benefits of the JK Health Scheme will be portable across the country in more than 23,000 hospitals under 1,589 packages," the official spokesperson said.

He said that the LG maintained that the government was facilitating affordable healthcare facilities for the overall welfare of its residents and all the stakeholders must work in a coordinated manner to ensure that its benefits percolate to each and every resident hassle-free.

The official spokesperson said that it was informed that a robust mechanism has been laid for the inclusion of families, as may be missing from Socio-Economic Caste Census-2011 (SECC-2011) data.

He added that while reviewing the status of registrations under JKHS, Sinha directed massive awareness regarding the New Health Scheme for JKUT, through print and electronic media. He said that the LG also directed for increasing the magnitude of registrations and called for 100% saturation of the Ayushman Bharat scheme so that the maximum population can avail of its benefits.

"Reaching out to the people with sincere efforts like the JK Health Insurance scheme will play a significant role in achieving the Government's objective of providing quality and accessible healthcare services to the people of J&K," LG, as per official spokesperson said.

Council (UJC) and has shown "his allegiance with Hafiz Sayeed".

However, Khursheed says his brother had never sought violent means to address the Kashmir issue.

"He wanted Kashmir to address the issue politically. How could he endorse separatist ideology after taking an oath on Indian constitution? He just wanted a peaceful resolution," Khursheed says.

Troubled Homemaker

In her 20 years of marriage with Er Rashid, 45-year-old Fahmeeda Begum had never thought of spending and running house without her husband's support.

"We last talked to him over a video call from the jail," Fahmeeda told Kashmir Observer. "That call lasted for just 5 minutes. He spoke to his parents, brother and children. Before my turn could even come, the call got disconnected."

In her husband's absence, she has been struggling to take care of her three kids and Rashid's old parents.

"Even pension hasn't been released since last year," she says. "Running house is very difficult. It's because of Khursheed that we're able to feed ourselves. Life is very tough without him. He should be brought back to the valley and kept in any jail so that we could meet him."

Advocate of Non-violence

Abraar says his father would always guide the youth to choose non-violent means to address their issues.

"I remember, around 3000 youth in Langate took oath under him in presence of interlocutors, that they won't pelt stones," he says.

It was on December 23, 2010, when around 3000 residents of Langate took oath before the Delhi-appointed interlocutors to abstain from stone-pelting.

"We take pledge that we will not throw stones. But it has to be reciprocated by the Centre. They have to take a pledge that they won't kill us while seeking resolution of the Kashmir issue. If you still shower bullets on us, we will march from Langate to parliament and Red Fort. If you don't respect and reciprocate our pledge, we will be forced to launch an agitation," Er Rasheed thundered, evoking a "we do" chorus from the crowd.

"As part of system, Er Rashid was badly treated by India," the son says. "By detaining him, youth has lost hope on system now."

Engineer Booked In Assets Case...

against Tariq Ahmad Ganie, Junior Engineer in Housing Board, Bemina, Srinagar, on the allegations that huge suspicious transactions have been made in his various bank accounts by the contractors/beneficiaries which have been obtained by him in the form of gratification/consideration pertaining to the various works of the department," the spokesperson said.

The official said a verification was conducted earlier into the allegations against Ganie which revealed that he had six accounts in different branches of the JK Bank.

"As per the salary statement provided by the Housing Board, from 1st January 2018 to 30th September 2020, the accused JE has received a net payable amount of salary of Rs 10,08,892, which stands deposited in his salary account(s).

"However, it was found that in the same period, an amount of approximately Rs 3.30 crore have been deposited in six accounts of said JE through various transactions, which is disproportionate to his income (approx 3,000 per cent)," the ACB spokesperson said.

He said it was also revealed that this amount was deposited in Ganie's accounts by some contractors who have been executing works of the Housing Board, thereby clearly indicating that the accused has been receiving huge amounts as illegal gratification.

LAWDA Approves 49 Cases

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 13: The Jammu and Kashmir Lakes and Waterways Development Authority (JK-LAWDA) today convened 110th meeting of the Building Permission Authority under the Chairmanship of Vice Chairman JK-LAWDA here.

On the occasion, 53 cases were decided in the meeting out of which 49 cases were approved, 03 cases were deferred and 01 rejected.

VC JK-LAWDA has requested the people residing within the jurisdiction of LAWDA to apply for proper building permission through its Building Permission authority, before starting any sort of Construction.

Pertinently the meeting was conducted in view of the powers vested on it under Control of Building Operations Act, 1988 through Building Permission Authority, JK-LAWDA.

The minutes of the meeting of 110th will be uploaded on the official website of the Authority (www.jklda.org) once approved.

Business Revival Package Progressing Well: Govt

SRINAGAR, OCTOBER 13: In order to provide assistance to business entities, the LG administration had recently announced a number of measures to provide growth momentum in various sectors of the economy.

A comprehensive package of Rs 1350 crore was announced by the J&K LG, Manoj Sinha in the previous month responding to the demands put forth by the UT business community.

In a review meeting taken by the J&K LG, Manoj Sinha, the Finance department informed about the progress on various financial components of the package.

The 5% interest subvention in favour of the business establishments was the main incentive extended by the LG administration. The Finance department informed that government order has already been issued on 1st October, 2020 and the necessary modalities are being worked out by J&K Bank.

The department has further

informed that the list of borrowers has also been received and interest subvention is being released within a week's time in favour of eligible investors pending since 2014 and 2016.

A plethora of administrative measures were also announced simultaneously as part of this package.

Regarding them it was elucidated that the first meeting with some two dozen borrowers was held on 9th of this month to restructure the functional NPAs and standard accounts in a time bound manner.

Different Statutory Orders (SO) are also shortly being issued by the department to extend to 31st December, 2020 the date of GST reimbursement claims up to the period of 31/03/2019. It further says that no demand has been received for the equity infusion by the financial institutions.

Regarding the streamlining the powers to sanction loans it was intimated that J&K Bank has duly streamlined the loan sanctioning

process. Moreover it says that loan repayment schedule has been extended as per RBI guidelines and FITL guidelines for conversion of interest stands issued by the bank vide circular dated 25.08.2020 with moratorium process to be decided.

Revealing the achievement made by banks under GECL and Business Support Loan in UT of Jammu and Kashmir it was said that under GECL against 63621 accounts for Rs 1756.41 crore an amount of Rs 1622.21 crore has been disbursed against 58437 borrowers.

Regarding Business Support Loan it was said that against 2128 loans of Rs 118.76 crore Rs 47.90 crore against 1317 borrowers already stands disbursed. This quantifies to 92% of the borrowers receiving 92% of the sanctioned amount under GECL and 62% approved under business loan, 40% amount stands disbursed.

As far as Loans for business support to fresh borrowers is concerned loans have been sanctioned to 6998

fresher borrowers as on 12th October, 2020 and an amount of Rs 53.21 crore disbursed to 3516 youth. Moreover an ambitious target has been set to cover 15000 fresh borrowers. Guidelines in respect of Business Support Loan (formerly covid-19 working capital demand loan scheme) and Business Support Loan scheme for Hotels & Guest Houses have also been issued, claims the ATB.

The facility of a Special desk for youth by JK Bank has already started and inaugurated on Oct, 01 2020. Bank has mobilized 1666 loan cases/applications involving an amount of Rs.46 crore approx.

Regarding other matters it was given that the guidelines, circulars and instructions already stand issued by the department and the implementation of these measures are apace as per the comprehensive business revival plan announced on the recommendations of the high level committee framed by the government.

Webinar on Int'l Day for Disaster Risk Reduction

SRINAGAR: A webinar on International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction was jointly organised by National Institute of Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs and Institution of Engineers (India), J&K State Centre, Srinagar, in collaboration with Divisional Administration, Kashmir, J&K Forest Department and Indian Red Cross Society, J&K Branch, Srinagar.

The webinar started with the address by Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Dr. Mohit Gera, who talked about the loss of precious forest cover and biodiversity, due to forest fires, due to human intervention. He said that the Forest department is taking all necessary measures to prevent forest fires and has constituted teams for response, who are being provided training and basic equipment.

He said that 190 fire control rooms have been established in Jammu Division and 100 in Kashmir. Measures like rejuvenating natural sources of water are being taken, besides resorting to legal arrangements and involvement of SDMA, SDRF and Fire & Emergency Services and Panchayats for fire prevention.

Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Pandurang K. Pole said that there has been a paradigm shift from relief and response, to mitigation, early warning and risk reduction.

He urged upon all Additional Deputy Commissioners, in their capacity as CEOs of the District Disaster Management Authority to take the lead role and benefit from such webinars, which give opportunities to the administrators to know where we are and where we ought to be, by knowing the best practices being implemented in other parts of the country and world.

He appreciated IEI and NIDM for organizing such webinars and requested that such webinars be held more frequently, to further build capacities of the stakeholders. President, Institution of Engineers (India) Er. Narendra Singh, informed that IEI which is the largest multidisciplinary organisation of engineers in India is celebrating its Centenary year, towards its service towards nation building. He mentioned that IEI has also established a disaster mitigation centre and focus is on how to reduce exposure to disaster risk.

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Tele: 01933-247954/247955. Website: www.islamicuniversity.edu.in.

NOTICE

It is notified for information of all concerned that Provisional Merit list of the candidates who have applied for admission to B.Tech. Engineering programmes for Academic Session 2020-21 is available on the university website www.islamicuniversity.edu.in. The merit list is based on the JEE-2020 score as mentioned in the online application form submitted by candidates and supporting documents uploaded by them. Applicants who have not mentioned JEE-2020 score or have not uploaded the score card of JEE-2020 in the online application form were dropped from the merit list.

Discrepancies (if any) in the merit list may be communicated through mail on admissions@islamicuniversity.edu.in by or before 15-10-2020, beyond which no claim whatsoever shall be entertained. The selection lists shall be notified subsequently.

No: IUST/Acad/Admissions/20/595

Dated: 13-10-2020

Office Of The Executive Engineer Sewerage And Drainage Division No.II. (SMC) Srinagar.

CORRIGENDUM No. II TO TENDER NOTICE No.-05/e-NIT OF 2020-21 CHANGE IN UNITS

Kindly read Kg instead of No. in respect of S.No.19 of the BOQ for the works reflected in the NIT No.05 of 2020-21 dated:- 01.10.2020 issued vide endorsement No: SDII/20-21/1756-82 dated:- 01.10.2020.

All other terms and conditions laid down in the NIT shall remain same.

DIPK-NB-2944/20

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, S&D Division IInd,
SMC, Srinagar

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

GIST TO NIT NO. 35 OF 2020-21 DATED:07/10/2020

For and on behalf of Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation tenders are invited from Dealers of Automobile Spare Parts / Distributors and Authorised Dealers for the following works.

S. No.	Name of the Work	Quantity	Total value of the Work (Rs. in lacs.)	Bid Security (Rs.in lacs)	Cost of document	Date & time of opening of technical bid
01.	Supply of Spare Parts/ Conducting of Jobs to the Corporation (Road Rollers ---02 No's) Tiger Make 03 Ton capacity detail mentioned in Annexure "A"	02 No's	5.14 lacs	Rs.10000/-	Rs.500/-	28/10/2020

Detailed e-NIT with terms and conditions can be downloaded from the Departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in with effect from 08/10/2020 to 27/10/2020.

No. SMC/EEM/578-82
Dated:-07/10/2020

DIPK-NB-2939/20

Sd/-
Executive Engineer Mechanical
Srinagar Municipal Corporation

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been received from one.

Shri : Sajad Nadeem S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Malik R/o: Sephora Magam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-9369 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Magam..



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.1611
Dated 13-10-2020

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

MCB

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been received from one. Shri : Ab Gani Najar S/o: Abdul Fateh Najar R/o: Checkpora Kalan Check No2 (Transferor) of LMV M 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04B - 0725. Chassis number 776879 Engine no. 143478 Model 2009, in favour of Shri.. Mohammad Rafiq Bhat S/o. Ghulam Ahmad Bhat R/o Zangi Bagh B.K Pora Chadoora Budgam (Tranferee) 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 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer.

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.1611
Dated 13-10-2020

MCB

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

SHEIK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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



PRAYERS

FAJR	5:12
ZUHR	12:16
ASR	4:21
Magrib	6:03
ISHA	7:22

This Day In History

- 1322 - Robert the Bruce of Scotland defeats King Edward II of England at Byland, forcing Edward to accept Scotland's independence
- 1758 - Battle at Hochkirch, Saksen: Austrian army beats Prussia
- 1773 - American Revolutionary War: The United Kingdom's East India Company tea ships' cargo are burned at Annapolis, Maryland.
- 1774 1st Continental Congress makes Declaration of Colonial Rights in Philadelphia
- 1805 - Battle of Elchingen, France defeats Austria
- 1806 - Battle of Auerstadt-French beat Prussians
- 1931 - Spanish Cortes agrees to separation of Church & State
- 1933 - Nazi Germany announces its withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 1939 - German U-47 sinks British battleship HMS Royal Oak, 833 killed
- 1943 - Japan declares the Philippines independent under President José P. Laurel
- 1944 - Allied troops land in Corfu
- 1944 - British troops march into Athens
- 1948 - Large scale fighting between Israel & Egypt
- 1952 - UN General Assembly first meets at its new headquarters in New York.
- 1954 - Israeli act of revenge in Qibya Jordan, kills 53
- 1957 - Queen Elizabeth II becomes the first Canadian monarch to open the Parliament of Canada with the Speech from the Throne.
- 1958 - Malagasy Republic becomes autonomous republic in French Community.
- 1963 - Algeria & Morocco border conflict
- 1964 - Premier Nikita Khrushchev replaced by Leonid Brezhnev as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party
- 1966 - US Airplanes bomb North Vietnam
- 1973 - Egyptian tanks move further into Israel
- 1976 - Nobel Prize in Economics awarded to American economist Milton Friedman
- 1976 - Soyuz 23 carries 2 to Salut 6, but returns without docking
- 1979 - 100,000 demonstrate in Bonn against nuclear energy
- 1986 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Auschwitz survivor Elie Wiesel, for his efforts to ensure the Holocaust was remembered
- 1988 - Naguib Mahfouz is the 1st Arabic writer to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.
- 1991 - Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi wins Nobel Peace Prize.
- 1994 - Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Yasser Arafat, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres
- 1994 - NASA Space probe Magellan burns up in atmosphere of Venus
- 2013 - Eugene Fama, Lars Peter Hansen, and Robert Shiller win the 2013 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences for their work on asset prices.
- 2014 - World Health Organization announce Ebola virus death toll at 4,447, and the fatality rate has reached 70%.

From KO Archives

Passengers forced to walk 3km with luggage

Observer News Service

SOPORE: Security forces have unleashed terror at Watlab on Sopore-Bandipore road for the past four days in the wake of a recent landmine explosion in which a securityman, Suresh Kumar, was killed. People in general and the commuters and employees in particular are scared travelling on the route for fear of being belaboured by the personnel of 15 RR deployed at Watlab.

Witnesses told Observer News Service the passengers are brought down from the buses and forced to walk over a distance of three kilometres on either side of Watlab. The Bandipore-bound passengers are forced to disembark at Warpora and made to foot the distance upto Sangri top. Likewise, the Sopore-bound passengers have to come down at Watlab and walk three kilometres upto Warpora.

Lending a sadistic touch to the torment, eyewitnesses al-leged, the security forces force the passengers, both men and women, to carry their luggage over their head all through the 3-km ordeal.

They said many a transporter were reluctant to ply their vehicles of the route compounding the people's problems further.

Reports said the hospital authorities here referred a villager of Botengoo to Srinagar after his condition deteriorated following several dog bites. He had been beaten by the security forces at the Watlab camp after which dogs were set at him. He was brought to the sub district hospital where doctors referred him to Srinagar with multiple dog bites.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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KO VIEW

Economy needs help

In a bid to stimulate demand in a pandemic-wrecked economy, the finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman has announced a Rs 12,000 crore interest-free 50-year loan to states for spending on capital projects in a bid to boost the economy. She further announced a one-time Rs 10,000 interest-free festival advance to all its officers and employees as part of plans to increase consumer spending. Similarly the LTC Cash Voucher comes as a big incentive for central government employees. According to finance minister, the private sector spending through LTC tax benefit would be at least Rs 28,000 crore, so the total demand boost due to the new schemes is estimated to be more than Rs 1 lakh crore.

The economy needs a leg up at a time when the GDP has been in a freefall due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. So, the economy needs government to come out with measures to trigger demand. Putting more cash in the hands of the employees is one smart way of doing it.. But for the economy to recover faster, the government needs to spend more and also accelerate the work on the infrastructure projects.

Earlier in the initial phase of the pandemic, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a stimulus package of Rs 20 lakh crore to ease the devastating fallout on the economy of the Covid-19 crisis. The package comprised a facility of Rs 3 lakh crores collateral-free automatic loans for business, including micro, small and medium enterprise (MSMEs). This made borrowers with up to Rs 25 crore outstanding and Rs 100 crore turnover eligible. Loans have 4-year tenure with a moratorium of 12 months on principal repayment. Besides, there was 100 per cent credit guarantee cover to banks and NBFCs on principal and interest. This enabled 45 lakh MSME units to resume business activity and safeguard jobs. A large part of the package, around Rs 8.04 lakh crore, was the additional liquidity injected into the system by the Reserve Bank of India through various measures.

The package went a long way to cushion the impact of Covid-19. But it is also true millions have already lost jobs and a prolonged shutdown of the economy has only piled on the misery. While the fresh stimulus package will offer a further relief, for economy to get back on feet, the government has to open it more and more. Time has come to get around the pandemic and ensure that the fight against it and business activities go together.

OTHER OPINION

Vaccine Allocation

Last month, Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Harsh Vardhan told the Rajya Sabha that he expects a vaccine against COVID-19 to be available by early 2021. But he added a note of caution about the time it could take to reach everyone. On Sunday, he spoke again on the issue: "Prioritisation of groups for the COVID-19 vaccine shall be based on two considerations — occupational hazards and the risk of developing severe disease and increased mortality." The minister has done well to indicate the government's priorities at an early stage — a vaccine for mass use is, by most estimates, at least three months away. But in the coming weeks and months, as the government gives shape to its plans, narrowing down the priority list, it will need to answer more questions.

Choosing from among different sets of vulnerabilities is never easy. It is important, therefore, that the government opens the conversation to a variety of specialists — epidemiologists, ethicists, economists, patient groups, social scientists.

The WHO's preliminary guidelines for vaccine allocation underline the significance of a deliberative procedure: "Employ best available scientific evidence, expertise, and significant engagement with relevant stakeholders for vaccine prioritisation... using transparent, accountable and unbiased processes to engender... trust in prioritisation decisions". A consensus also seems to be emerging globally that allocation strategies should be informed by wide-ranging discussions. In the US, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention asked the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) to develop a plan "to fairly allocate" a vaccine. NASEM reportedly conducted a public hearing in the first week of September before releasing its first draft.

The Drugs Controller General of India said, last month, that it would approve a vaccine "of at least 50 per cent efficacy". Given the magnitude of the crisis, this low bar is understandable. But a less than 100 per cent sure inoculation could mean that plans to track the initial recipients will have to be developed in tandem with the allocation strategy. It's important that a range of specialists are called in to join the dots, think through the difficult issues.

The Indian Express



Kashmir Observer

Not Gunning For Jobs

The militancy is one aspect of the life in Kashmir that has remained unaffected by the revocation of Article 370. But it can't be resolved by offering employment to militants

RIYAZ WANI

Centre has every reason to reach out to militants. The militancy is one aspect of the life in Kashmir that has remained unaffected by the revocation of Article 370. Over the course of the past fourteen months, the militancy has held steady despite an exponential increase in the killings of the militants. So far, 190 militants and around 50 security personnel have been killed this year. Considering there were around 200 militants in Kashmir in the beginning of this year, there should have been no militancy left by now. But that is not the case. The depleted ranks of the militant groups continue to be filled by the twin local recruitment and the influx from across the border.

Last week, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha offered to provide jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities to militants if they choose to surrender. Though there have been such offers to militants by the earlier governments as well, Sinha's was unusual in that it came from a BJP-led union government appointee. BJP has invariably had an in-your-face hardline policy on security issues. Its solution to militancy is the elimination of all militants. Its politics has no space for rehabilitation of "terrorists", let alone for an engagement with them. So, when the LG sought to accommodate the militants, it took many people in the Valley by surprise. Moreover, this was a first of such offer by the J&K Government since the imposition of the central rule in June 2018 and the subsequent withdrawal of Article 370 and bifurcation of J&K into two union territories in August 2019.

As was but to be expected, the BJP has reacted sharply to Sinha, saying the militants didn't deserve rehabilitation but "bullet". The party's loudmouth regional chief Ravinder Raina said, "Who so ever picks up a gun against the nation will be eliminated".

But at the same time, the LG's statement is the position of the J&K Government, which in a union territory is an extension of the central government. So, it can be safely assumed that the LG's utterances speak the mind of the centre on Kashmir. Sinha may not have made it clear so far as the outreach to militants is concerned but he did tell the families of the three Rajouri youth killed recently in a staged encounter at Shopian that he was promising justice to them on behalf of the Prime Minister NarendraModi.

Centre has every reason to reach out to militants. The militancy is one aspect of the life in Kashmir that has remained unaffected by the revocation of Article

370. Over the course of the past fourteen months, the militancy has held steady despite an exponential increase in the killings of the militants. So far, 190 militants and around 50 security personnel have been killed this year. Considering there were around 200 militants in Kashmir in the beginning of this year, there should have been no militancy left by now. But that is not the case. The depleted ranks of the militant groups continue to be filled by the twin local recruitment and the influx from across the border.

True, the number has often sharply declined over the past year but this has hardly lessened the challenge of militancy. In the past too, when the Valley had no more than a hundred militants (2012-13) and South Kashmir which now boasts of around 110 militants had just 15 of them, the Valley was not peaceful. Also, the militancy has often returned from the dead. In 2011, security forces had almost wiped out the Valley-based top HizbulMujahideen leadership with the killing of its senior-most commanders MushtaqJanghi and Dawood, but this didn't finish off the outfit.

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Every year, over the past five years, security forces have killed an average of over 200 militants a year. But the militancy has still continued; earlier replenished mostly by the foreigners, now largely by locals. The pattern of the replenishment has only strengthened since the killing of the popular HizbulMujahideen militant commander BurhanWani. Most of the local recruitment as the figures testify have taken place in South Kashmir and the trend hasn't abated despite the increase in militants killings - albeit, it may have reduced in past several months.

One reason for this is the overwhelming public support that the militancy enjoys in the region. Ever since Wani rose on the scene

around 2014-15, thousands have continued to attend funerals of militants — that is, until the administration stopped giving bodies of fallen militants to their families citing Covid-19 pandemic.

True, erasure of J&K autonomy has ushered in new factors. It has in one fell swoop integrated J&K into India, passed the administration of the state turned union territory directly into the hands of New Delhi enabling it to control political dissent by disproportionately raising the cost for it. This has drastically narrowed the space for a viable mainstream political or civil society opposition to abrogation of autonomy and wiped it out for the separatist politics. The situation is such that whatever is visible to the state, it either tries to shape it in its own image and if it can't, it suppresses it with all the might at its command.

But the militancy being underground escapes government's controlling power. More so, the willingness of the militants to die in pursuit of their cause. True, the government can try and kill its way through the problem, but simultaneous replenishment of the militants' ranks through fresh recruitment and the influx of foreigners has frustrated the government efforts. And as the past three decades testify, it is unlikely that the factors animating the militancy, both sentimental and structural, will change. Only way the militancy can be effectively managed is if government can end the recruitment to its ranks. But this it is unlikely be able to do in the foreseeable future. Hence the offer of jobs. One thing that this government would not do is to embark on a meaningful political engagement to address the issues underlying the long-running conflict in the Valley. A permanent solution only lies therein.

The author is the Political Editor of Kashmir Observer

OBSERVER MAIL

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

A Two-Faceted Technological Development

5G technology is a new global wireless standard after 1G, 2G, 3G, and 4G networks. 5G enables a new kind of network that is designed to connect virtually everyone and everything together including machines, objects, and devices. This wireless technology is meant to deliver higher multi-gbps data speeds, ultra-low latency, more reliability, massive network capacity, increased availability, and a more uniform user experience to more users. Higher performance and improved efficiency empowers new user experiences and connects new industries.

5G is the new and upgraded wireless communication invention that the global industry has chosen to continue ahead as the future of data trans-

fer and connectivity.

For India, the constantly evolving need for higher speed, along with plans for smart cities, industrial automation, connected devices, etc., make 5G unavoidable. So, it becomes critical for both operators and the Government of India to develop and adopt it in a speedy and efficient manner. To take this forward, India and Japan have finalised a pact which requires cooperation in 5G technology, critical information infrastructure and artificial intelligence, among other things. After a meeting between Foreign Minister S Jaishankar and Japanese Foreign Minister ToshiimitsuMotegi in Tokyo, it has been announced that Japan agreed to be a key partner in the Indo-Pacific Initiative.

While the country is looking for-

ward to and making plans of adapting to a technology never seen before, an essential state of India lurks in the dark with restricted internet access barely making 2G accessible.

August 5, 2020 marked a year of restricted and mostly, zero internet connectivity for Kashmir. On 5th August, 2019, the Indian Government shut down all communication in the Union Territory, in order to maintain security as a preventive measure against any mobilisation of anti-state elements.

A year later, the ban on high-speed 4G remains in place and compels one to question: have the "preventive measures", had any impact, at all?

As of 16th of August, 2020, 4G internet services were restored only on a trial basis in 2 districts of Jammu

and Kashmir. The Central Government has also defended the communication and internet blockades and has claimed 'the slow 2G network service was enough to aid digital education during the coronavirus pandemic', according to PTI. The government also asserted that there have been no restrictions on accessing any websites.

With all this in mind, a central question remains, when different parts of the country are making plans to embrace the new technology of 5G services, is Jammu and Kashmir not virtuous enough to develop its resources with the rest of the country?

FayezzaAsad
fayezza.mirza@gmail.com

Gandhianism: A melioristic idea of a 'universal gadfly'

"Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man."

SALIKA RASHID

The above lines were articulated by one of the towering figures of the world whose instrument of transforming the society was based on the notion of love, courage, self-analysis, patience, tolerance, humility, ahimsa and Satyagraha.

This eminent figure practised the already present principles and philosophies of non-violence and truth by experimenting with them in every facet of life. The man whose moral dictums became the symbol of "resolute will and determination" and the courage of conquering "evil with good" against apartheid in South Africa made people to confer upon him the cognomen, Mahatma. American historian, Will Durant, best known for writing The Story of Civilization, rightly remarked that "Not since Buddha has India so revered any man. Not since St. Francis of Assisi has any life known to history been so marked by gentleness, disinterestedness, simplicity of soul and forgiveness of enemies. We have the astonishing phenomenon of a revolution led by a Saint".

Mohan das Karamchand Gandhi, a lawyer by profession, eliminated the darkness of colonialism by becoming the torchbearer of freedom moment and ultimately making people drink the pearl of liberation. Although he was influenced by Russian author Leo Tolstoy, English art critic John Ruskin and American writer Henry David Thoreau but his philosophy had the "freshness and originality". He was deeply inspired by the sacred religious texts which include the Quran, the Bible, Gita and Upanishads. Buddhism and Jainism also left profound impressions on his mind. Tolstoy enunciating on social service, power and Thoreau's self-experiments and civil disobedience gave Gandhi the technique of utilising non-violence for solving major and minor social and political issues. Thus these influencers implanted in him the seed of "simple and service-oriented personality" and he polished them in a remarkable way. Gandhi not only propounded or emphasised the notion of Non-violence and Truth but he walked through these principles; he engrained and absorbed these tenets to the depth of its core.

Non-violence and Truth: The kernel of Gandhi's philosophy

According to Gandhi, Non-violence and Truth are inextricably bound together and it's hard to untangle them; he allots a superior position to the latter one because he contends, it is the end which can be achieved by the means of ahimsa. He highlighted 'means' and 'end' in order to assert the significance of journey and destiny; both are unalienable to each other. Furthermore, underlining the notion of ahimsa, Gandhi defined negative and positive element of it where the latter aids in discerning the essence of the former. The word ahimsa is inferred as a non-injury to any living being but Gandhi goes beyond this by defining ahimsa, a method of avoiding violence in any form whether thought, action or deeds. Gandhi took the notion of non-violence from Jainism but he didn't need to its rigid perspective rather he opined non-violence in certain circumstances is inevitable. He states "injury to any life can be an act of violence under certain conditions which include anger, pride, hatred and bad intention". Thus, the negative connotation of ahimsa is non-injury. Gandhi posits,

"In non-violence, one restrains all impulses. There is non-violence in violence as in the case of using violent methods to restrict the activities of a drunkard. As long as we live a mundane life, we cannot escape violence, but it is possible for us to restrict ourselves. Ahimsa is thus the highest type of renunciation".

Gandhi explained non-violence as the soul-force, a weapon of the strong while violence as the sign of weakness. He elucidates that the one who is violent conceals his/her anger under the cloak of violence accordingly exhibiting his inward fear through outward anger/violence. One can contend that Gandhi finds non-violence like a "radium, which works silently and ceaselessly, and transforms the whole mass of the diseased tissue into a healthy one"; similarly an infinitesimal quantity of true ahimsa can bring out an egalitarian society. Drawing inspiration



from the Gandhi film director and producer Lord Richard Attenborough said, "When asked what attribute he most admired in human nature, Mahatma Gandhi replied, simply and immediately, 'Courage'. 'Nonviolence', he said, 'is not to be used ever as the shield of the coward. It is the weapon of the brave.'" Thus, one can speculate that Gandhian Ahimsa is based on the foundation of courage, love, self-restraint, and faith in God.

Love which is the strongest force in the world becomes the substratum for Gandhian philosophy of Ahimsa.

Gandhi believes it is the love which cleans the inner self and elicits the feelings like "compassion, tolerance, generosity and sympathy for others". The absence of ill-will that Gandhi defends is not only confined for near ones/relatives but also for the opponents; according to Gandhi "Ahimsa is the largest love and the greatest charity".

Gandhi associates the concept of God with Ahimsa. He contends that true faith in God will assist an individual in achieving the tenet of ahimsa. It is prerequisite to generate the inner strength for attaining the faith, which eventually will act as a catalyst for developing the love for humanity. Gandhi says,

"Non-violence succeeds only when we have a living faith in God. Buddha, Jesus, Mohammed, they were all warriors of peace in their own style. We have to enrich the heritage left by these world teachers. God has His own wonderful way of executing His plans and choosing His instruments. The prophet and Abu Bakr trapped in a cave were saved from their persecutors by a spider which had woven its web across the mouth of that cave. All the world teachers, you should know, began with a zero".

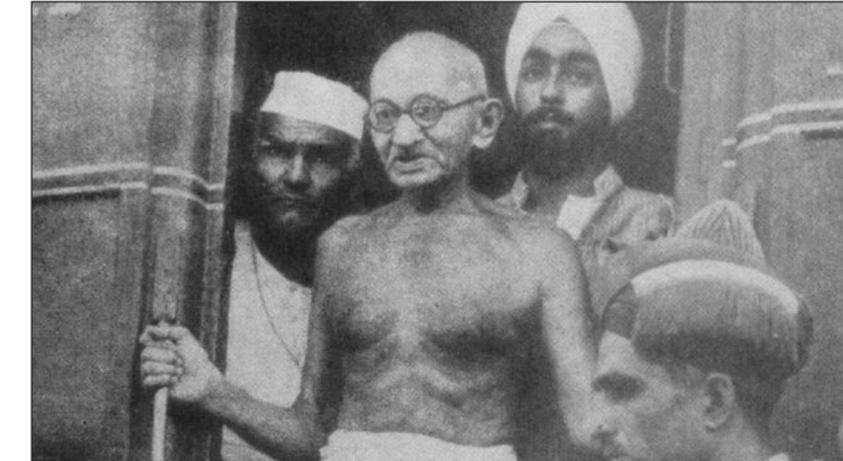
It is essential to comprehend the paradigm of ahimsa that Gandhi has put forth. The ending of desires and the elimination of evil from the hearts, acquired the highest seat in the Gandhian philosophy of non-violence. The simplicity and profundity of his message of love pellucidly make one realize that being selfless in love without any motive of gaining in return, elevates an individual to the highest state of ahimsa. As Gandhi rightly asserted, "Love never claims, it ever gives. Love ever suffers, never resents never revenges itself".

Gandhi was a strong votary of truth, he placed truth before non-violence. He claimed, "As a Jain muni once rightly said, I was not so much a votary of ahimsa as I was of truth, and I put the latter in the first place and the former in the second. For, as he put it, I was capable of sacrificing non-violence for the sake of Truth. In fact, it was in the course of my pursuit of Truth that I discovered non-violence".

He calls truth as the "moral virtue" which can be acquired through "fearlessness and nonpossession" because of these two one can stand against the injustice. And this will aid in realizing the truth in "metaphysical sense in which it is identical with God". He states the truth is "a cornerstone of the edifice" that leads to the path of God. He

asserted "Ahimsa is my God, and Truth is my God. When I look for Ahimsa, Truth says 'Find it through me'. When I look for Truth, Ahimsa says, 'Find it out through me'. But he made a distinction between the relative and absolute truth; according to him the glimpses of the former one can be achieved but the absolute truth is hard to achieve.

On this Gandhi opines, "The relative truth must, meanwhile, be my beacon, my shield and buckler. Even the Himalayan blunders have seemed trifling to me because I have kept strictly to this path. I have gone forward according to my light. Often in my progress, I have had my faint glimpse of the Absolute Truth. And daily the conviction is growing on me that he alone is real and all else is unreal...he who would go in for novel experiments must begin with himself. That leads to a quicker discov-



It is important to question the pertinence of Gandhi in the contemporary time period. Many claim that Gandhian philosophy at present is limited to the classroom and books; they are sceptical if at all it can ameliorate the social, economic and political havoc generated not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the world.

ery of Truth, and God always protects the honest experimenter".

What is theoretical can be brought to practice when the true emphasis is laid upon values that Gandhi put forth. Therefore, it is imperative to understand the technique of ahimsa in order to achieve the moral virtue of life. He expressed that the truth should be of the speech, action, thought and it could be achieved through constant effort and discipline. It is in the truth, all knowledge is encapsulated and what is outside it is not the truth and hence is not knowledge. He calls Satyagraha as the truth-force against "violence, evil and injustice". It is this force which can create an equilibrium, that is, evil can't be demolished with evil rather what Gandhi propounded, eye for an eye leaves the whole world blind stands true in this context.

In Satyagraha, the method of "conversion" is used instead of "coercion". Gandhi believed that there is no enemy or opponent but just wrongdoers who would come to the right path only by the force of love and "change of the heart" should be the objective for achieving an end. Gandhi while differing to relate passive resistance with Satyagraha, propounded Satyagraha does not involve any element of force nor is there any element of injury. Moreover, it has the highest respect for the law- Law of Truth and God. It is based on the notion of appeal rather than force.

In a nutshell, it postulates the annihilation of the disease, not the one who is affected by it. The base of Satyagraha is love, suffering, divine love-God. And the Satyagrahi has to be disciplined, honest, open-minded, determined and fearless. It is worth to mention what

Former US Vice-President and environmentalist Al Gore stated, "Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of satyagraha can be translated to mean truth force. It is this truth-force which can help us to fight this battle honestly and with people's participation."

Is Gandhian philosophy Utopian?

It is important to question the pertinence of Gandhi in the contemporary time period. Many claim that Gandhian philosophy at present is limited to the classroom and books; they are sceptical if at all it can ameliorate the social, economic and political havoc generated not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the world. What is palpable is the chasm that the world is encountering with the rise in nationalistic fervour, intolerance, moral hypocrisy, violence and political populism across

the globe. If this is the current status quo then it is important to not only give prominence to Gandhi's theories and philosophies but to utilize them in order to dust off the menaces prevailing all across the globe.

Gandhi came as a herald to bring the political transformation in a country which was scuffling with so many other challenges. Gandhi believed that attainment of political emancipation from the colonist won't suffice the cause until the social disparity and antagonism are not eradicated from its core. It is the essence of diverse India one finds mélange of culture, religion and ethnicity in camaraderie with each other. But when it is in threat then it is indispensable for us to assimilate Gandhian teaching into practice.

The social disparities in the form of atrocities against the women, minorities- Dalits and Muslims are proliferating day by day. The mushrooming of lynching cases has become the new normal for India. Hyderabad gang rape, Asifa or the recent Hathras gang rape - all such horrendous atrocities - call for Gandhian doctrines. Gandhi rightly said, "The day a woman can walk freely on the roads at night, that day we can say that India has achieved independence." Gandhi emphasised on education - the only way of eradicating perils from society.

Furthermore, one concedes that resentment breeds vengeance and when this takes the shape of political colour then tolerance, sympathy and love which is the sine qua non for unity becomes elusive. In one of the article of Moulana Wahiduddin Khan, Fulfilling Gandhiji's unfulfilled mission states, "In this world, unity is achievable only by learning to unite in spite of differences, rather than insisting on unity without differences. For their total eradication is an impossibility. The secret of attaining peace in life is the tolerance of the disturbance of the peace".

Therefore, Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence is the elixir which can stabilize the society plunged into a disastrous dungeon. Gandhi the progenitor of non-violence enunciated on every issue that threatened India's stability. From being secular to the promotion of peace or importance of ethics Gandhi voiced on every subject. His idealism or utopianism was "completed by realism".

Can Gandhian philosophy rejuvenate Kashmir?

The question that besieges the mind of the people is how would have Gandhi and his philosophy tackled the question of Kashmir. Do we need to give primacy to Gandhian doctrines in order to placate the suffering and pains of the natives? Gandhi exalted as the "prophet of peace" gave prominence to the will of the Kashmiri people. Ramchander Guha, a historian, states in his article titled as "Gandhi in Kashmir, Gandhians on Kashmir" that Gandhi's visit to Kashmir in 1947, had two aims: to get Sheikh Abdullah released from the prison and to comprehend what Kashmiri people were thinking.

It is crucial for us to understand how Gandhi prioritised on people's opinion, something lacking in the current political context. He never favoured the State's coercive measures or Maharaja's oppression because he was an ardent disciple of non-violence and peace. Gandhi would have surprised and at the same time outraged with the unilateral decision of the central government on Kashmir which excluded the consent of the people altogether. The decision 'for them' didn't include 'them' thus eventually generating the political vacuum in the valley, sabotaging the other sectors with its domino effect. Gandhi accentuated debate, discourse and negotiations as the ways of figuring out the problems. The strife-torn region can't survive until proper deliberations and talks are not held with the consensus of the people of the valley. While emphasising on the peaceful measure and upholding the rights Gandhi remarked, "I shall dance with joy even if everybody in Kashmir has to die in defending his land."

It is the need of an hour in these dark times to get back to the teachings of Gandhi, a pacifist whose ideals and principles gave prominence to the truth in action, speech, and deed.

EU COUNTRIES ADOPT COMMON TRAVEL Guidelines Amid Pandemic

Press Trust Of India

European Union countries on Tuesday approved a series of guidelines aimed at facilitating free movement across the bloc and avoiding further disruption during the coronavirus pandemic.

During a meeting in Luxembourg, envoys for the 27 member states agreed on a common approach to travel restrictions and testing to help citizens and workers get more clarity on how they can transit across the continent.

In March, several EU nations hastily closed their borders in an attempt to stop the spread of the virus, even though the EU's Schengen agreement allows residents to move freely between countries without visas. The action blocked traffic and medical equipment.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has



tion and Control (ECDC), which will publish a weekly map sorting regions according to the severity of coronavirus outbreaks.

The criteria used to define the coloured zones – green, orange and red – are the number of newly notified cases per 100,000 in the past 14 days as well as the testing rate and the test positivity rate in the past week.

Member states agreed that they should not restrict free movement of people travelling from or to green areas, but national EU governments will continue to set their own restrictions such as quarantines or mandatory testing upon arrival for people coming from orange or red zones.

A region will be classified as green if the 14-day notification rate is lower than 25 and the test positivity rate below 4%. Under the criteria adopted Tuesday, most EU regions would be either red or orange.

disrupted our daily lives in many ways. Travel restrictions have made it difficult for some of our citizens to get to work, to university or to visit their loved ones," said Michael Roth, the German minister for Europe.

"It is our common duty to ensure coordination on any measures which affect free movement and to give our citizens all the information they need when deciding on their travel."

Member states agreed to provide coronavirus data to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC), which will publish a weekly map sorting regions according to the severity of coronavirus outbreaks.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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Sad Demise

With profound grief and sorrow, we inform the demise of Haji Nazir Ahmad Wali son of Late Haji Habibullah Wali R/O Sekidafar and at present 191-Nursingah Balgardeh who left for heavenly abode after brief illness on 12th October, 2020. May Allah bless him with his mercy and forgiveness. Condolence will be observed for three days only with austerity. In view of the prevalent pandemic, no social gathering will take place. Friends and well-wishers are requested to pray for the departed soul at their homes.

BEREAVED FAMILY
Danish Nazir (Son), Sadiq Majeed (Son-in-Law)
Cell: 908655511, 704899072

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.101/2065/MVD/ARTO/ANG Date:-13/10/020

**NOTICE**

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Mohd Ayoub Ganie S/O Lt.Abdul Rehman Zargar R/O Tehsil Road Bi-jehbara Anantnag(Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Santroo Bearing Regd. No.JK03C-4853(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.Nill. and Mr.Mehraj ud din Ganie S/O Bashir Ahmad Ganie R/O Ganiepora Shopian(Party No.2nd) as Transeree (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 ED Bank Arwani.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

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.101/2055/MVD/ANG Date:-13/10/020

**NOTICE**

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Abd Hussain Khan S/O Mohd Yousef Khan R/O Malaknag Anantnag(Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Wagan R Bearing Regd. No.JK03C-5242(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.Nill. and Mr.Adil Ahmad Sheikh S/O Manzoor Ahmad Sheikh R/O Krangson Mattan Anantnag(Party No.2nd) as Transeree (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 Nill.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

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.101/2068/MVD/ARTO/ANG Date:-13/10/020

**NOTICE**

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Sajad Hussain Zargar S/O Abdul Rehman Zargar R/O Kabamarg Fatehpura Anantnag(Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Motor Cycle Bearing Regd. No.JK03G-3763(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.Nill. and Mr.Mohd Ashraf Goursi S/O Baggah Goursi R/O Kabamarga Kulgam(Party No.2nd) as Transeree (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

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER ANANTNAG

No.101/2063/MVD/ARTO/ANG Date:-13/10/020

**NOTICE**

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Sajad Ahmad Ganie S/O Mohd Sidiq Ganie R/O Kanganhall Achabal Anantnag(Party No.1st) as Transferor, (Seller) Owner of the Vehicle Murati Bearing Regd. No.JK03C-0942(Commercial/ Non-Commercial) covering under R/P No.Nill. and Mr.Gh Mohi ud din Chopan S/O Ab Rehman Chopan R/O Dar Ganiegund Tral Pulwama(Party No.2nd) as Transeree (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 Nill.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

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Union Territory. Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Baramulla.

CORRIGENDUM

Subject: Invitation of Tenders.

Reference: This office NIT No: 80/7001-10/2020-21/RnB/Bla Dated 10.10.2020

Please read Name of work for above referred NIT S. No. 4 as "Construction of Road at Sangri (Zabarwan Toiyaba colony) at Baramulla by way of P/L WBM G-II & RBM Filling" instead of "Constructon of Cement Concrete Drain at Noorbagh & Pipe Culvert at Faqirwani (Under District Sector).

All other terms and conditions shall remain intact as mentioned in the original NIT.

No: 7040-44

Dated: 12.10.2020

DIPK-7365/20

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Baramulla

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Mechanical Hospital & Central Heating Division Srinagar CORRIGENDUM

Subject: - 1 Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of Medical Gases Pipeline system at MMABM Associated Hospital, Anantnag along with operation for Six Months and Maintenance for 3 years.

2. Supply, Installation, Testing , Commissioning of Heatless Air Dryer of 1000 CFM capacity ,PLC Based along with Maintenance for Three Years at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar

3. S.I.T.C of minimum 225 CFM air compressor along with allied Works at Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar

4. Supply, Installation, Testing Commissioning of New Fully Automatic Oxygen Gas Control Panels for two Oxygen Bank Manifolds at Govt. Chest Disease Hospital, Srinagar

References: 1. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2020-21/106/e-tendering Dated 11.09.2020.

2. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2020-21/108/e-tendering Dated 11.09.2020.

3. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2020-21/59/e-tendering Dated 25.08.2020.

4. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2020-21/125/e-tendering Dated 25.09.2020.

In view of poor response to the above referred tender, the critical dates are extended as follows :

S.No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last Date of Bid Submission	17.10.2020 (11.00 hours)
2.	Date of Bid Opening	17.10.2020 (15.00 hours)

All the other terms and conditions will remain the same.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
MHCH Division
Srinagar.

DIPK-7332/20

MHCHD/TS/ 4558-62

Dt:-12.10.2020

Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office Of The Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Kulgam NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Fresh NIT No. 7385/2020-21/RnB/Kul/g-e-tendering/5121-40 dated 10-10-2020

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

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc (In Rs.)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	Construction of R/Wall near house of Bilal Ahmad Mochi at H.S Bugh Ward No.6 M.C.Yaripora	1.00	200	2000	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
2	Construction of drain and footpath from house of Ab. Satar Ganie to house of Zahoor Ahmad Paray at ward No: 05 MC Yaripora	1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
3	Construction of R/Wall with land from House of Mohammad Yousuf Sheikh to NLO Ishaq Khan War No.02 MC Yaripora	1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
4	Construction of Lane / drain form house of Mohammad Yousuf Malik to House of Manzoor Ahmad Sofi at War No.3 MC Yaripora	1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
5	Construction of lane from main road to house of Ab. Satar Mir at RD 66 Ward No. 4 MC Yaripora	1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
6	Construction of Lane at different spots and R/Wall near Masjid at RD 66 at ward No. 04 MC Yaripora	1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
7	Construction of irrigation channel from house of Mohammad Amin to House of Ab. Ahad Pandith at war No.1 MC Yaripora	0.98	200	1960	05 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
8	Construction of lane from House of Abdul Qayoom Wani via House of Ab. Hamid Wani onwards to Gousia MC Kulgam (Phase 2 nd)	2.00	200	4000	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
9	Construction of drain from house of Showkat Bhat via Ab. Rashid Malik onwards at 1.40	200	2800	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT	
10	Construction of link road from main road Bon Kandipora via Mohammad Amin Dar onwards at MC Kulgam	2.10	200	4200	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
11	Construction of lane/ Drain from main road Bonpora to House of Mushtaq Ahmad Lone and Construction of Lane/ drain near house of Mohammad Maqbool Laway onwards at MC Kulgam	2.00	200	4000	07 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT
12	Construction of Protection wall/drain from house of Gh Ahmad Laway via House of 1.40 Ahmad Laway near Nand Kul Tswalgam MC Kulgam	200	2800	05 days	20-10-2020 at 11.00 A.M	Dee	IDMT	

Position of AAA vide No: MC/GKM/2020/2207-10 dated 04-09-2020

Position of funds Available with Director Urban Local Bodies Kmr/ M.C Kulgam/M.C Yaripora

1. The NIT Consiting of providing 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 from 12-10-2020 10.00 A.M to 19-10-2020 4.00 P.M

2. The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in from 12-10-2020 (11.00 AM) to 19-10-2020 upto 4.00PM.The bids uploaded on the Web Site upto due date and time will be opened on 20-09-2020 at 11.00 AM in the Office of Executive Engineer (R&B) Division Kulgam in

3. presence of the bidders who wish to attend. In case of holidays/Office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids, bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.

4. The complete bidding process will be on line.

3.1 Critical DATES

1. Date of Issue of Tender Notice	-

'Main suspect' in Pakistan motorway rape case arrested

Asad Hashim | Al Jazeera

Islamabad, Pakistan – Pakistani police have arrested a second suspect in the gang rape of a woman on a major motorway last month, a case that sparked national outrage and has seen the government draw up proposals to have rapists hanged publicly.

"[The suspect] has been arrested," said government spokesman Shahbaz Gill on Monday night. "[He] will be punished according to the law."

The arrest was also confirmed by Inam Ghani, the provincial police chief in Punjab province, home to roughly half of Pakistan's 207 million people and the site of the crime on a highway outside of the provincial capital, Lahore, on September 9.

The arrest follows a weeks-long manhunt across the province, with police detaining more than a dozen suspects. They eventually narrowed their search down to the two individuals who are now in custody.

The other suspect in the case was arrested by police on September 14 and has already confessed to the crime, according to Punjab Chief Minister Usman Buzdar, as well as to the involvement of the suspect who was arrested on Monday.

Violence against women is endemic in Pakistan, which ranks 130 on the UN's Gender Equality Ranking and 143 on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index. Data on violence against women

is not collected consistently nationwide, but police data released earlier this year showed that there were at least 3,881 cases of rape and 1,359 child sexual abuse cases in Punjab province alone in 2019. In 2018, a poll of global gender security experts ranked Pakistan as the sixth most dangerous country worldwide for women.

"People are angry because they keep seeing these crimes, and perpetrators keep getting away with it," said Rimmel Mohydin, the South Asia campaigner for the rights group Amnesty International.

"Convictions rates are abysmal, reporting mechanisms are neither gender-sensitive nor straightforward and impunity reigns supreme."

'Exemplary punishments'

The rape of the woman on a motorway on September 9, which occurred in the early hours of the morning after her car broke down on the side of the road, sparked countrywide protests.

Rights activists called for greater protection for women and for structural changes to the way that rape cases are handled.

Umar Sheikh, the police chief in Lahore, Punjab's largest city and capital, appeared to blame the victim following the rape.

Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan took notice of the assault, telling a private television news channel that he had ordered the law ministry to come up with proposals to amend existing laws to prescribe harsher punishments.

COVID-19 Reinfection Casts Doubt On Virus Immunity: Study

Agencies

Paris: Covid-19 patients may experience more severe symptoms the second time they are infected, according to research released Tuesday confirming it is possible to catch the potentially deadly disease more than once.

A study published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal charts the first confirmed case of Covid-19 reinfection in the United States – the country worst hit by the pandemic – and indicates that exposure to the virus may not guarantee future immunity.

The patient, a 25-year-old Nevada man, was infected with two distinct variants of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes Covid-19, within a 49-day time frame.

The second infection was more severe than the first, resulting in the patient being hospitalised with oxygen support.

The paper noted four other cases of reinfection confirmed globally, with one patient each in Belgium, the Netherlands, Hong Kong and Ecuador. Experts said the prospect of reinfection could have a profound impact on how the world battles through the pandemic.

In particular, it could influence the hunt for a vaccine -- the currently Holy Grail of pharmaceutical research.

"The possibility of reinfections could have significant implications for our understanding of Covid-19 immunity, especially in the absence of an effective vaccine," said Mark Pandori, for the

Nevada State Public Health Laboratory and lead study author. "We need more research to understand how long immunity may last for people exposed to SARS-CoV-2 and why some of these second infections, while rare, are presenting as more severe."

Waning immunity?

Vaccines work by triggering the body's natural immune response to a certain pathogen, arming it with antibodies to fight off future waves of infection.



But it is not at all clear how long Covid-19 antibodies last.

For some diseases, such as measles, infection confers lifelong immunity. For other pathogens, immunity may be fleeting at best.

The authors said the US patient could have been exposed to a very high dose of the virus the second time around, triggering a more acute reaction. Alternatively, it may have been a more virulent strain of the virus.

Another hypothesis is a mechanism known as antibody dependent enhancement – that is, when antibodies actually make subsequent infections worse, such as with dengue fever.



World will become uninhabitable hell, warns UN

Agencies

saster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). That's almost double the 4,212 disasters recorded from 1980-1999, the UN said in its new report The Human Cost of Disasters 2000-2019.

The Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters' Emergency Events Database characterizes a natural disaster as having at least 10 or more people reported killed, 100 or more people reported affected, declaration of a state of emergency, or a call for international assistance.

The vast majority of those disasters were climate-related, with researchers reporting more flooding, storms, droughts, heatwaves, hurricanes and wildfires in the past 20 years.

The sharp increase has been attributed to rising global temperatures, which scientists say is increasing the frequency of extreme weather and disaster events. The report found floods, storms, heatwaves, droughts, hurricanes and wildfires have all significantly increased in the past 20 years.

"It is baffling that we willingly and knowingly continue to sow

the seeds of our own destruction," said UNDRR chief Mami Mizutori and Debarati Guha-Sapir of Belgium's Center for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, in a joint foreword to the report.

"It really is all about governance if we want to deliver this planet from the scourge of poverty, further loss of species and biodiversity, the explosion of urban risk and the worst consequences of global warming."

Asia was the worst hit from climate disasters in the past 20 years, suffering from 3,068 disaster events between 2000 and 2019. That was followed by 1,756 disasters in the Americas and 1,192 in Africa.

The worst affected country over the past two decades is China, which experienced more than 500 natural disasters, followed by the United States, with 467 disaster events.

Among the deadliest – considered mega disasters because they each killed more than 100,000 people – were the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami, the 2008 Cyclone Nargis in Myanmar, and the 2010 Haiti earthquake.

Explainer: Who's fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh, and why does it matter?

Agencies

Baku: Fighting that broke out on September 27 over the mountain enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh quickly became the deadliest for more than 25 years in a long-running conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Where and what is Nagorno-Karabakh?

It's a mountainous, forested patch of land that sits inside the territory of ex-Soviet Azerbaijan and is recognised under international law as part of that country. But the ethnic Armenians who make up the vast majority of the estimated 150,000 population reject Azeri rule. They have been running their own affairs, with support from Armenia, since Azerbaijan's troops were pushed out in a war in the 1990s. A ceasefire was agreed in 1994 but at least 200 people were killed in a violent flare-up in 2016.

Nagorno-Karabakh survives almost totally on budget support from Armenia and donations from the worldwide Armenian diaspora.

Why has fighting broken out now?

Tensions between the two sides have been building over the summer, and spilled into direct clashes on September 27. The timing is significant because the outside powers that have mediated in the past – namely Russia, France and the United States – are distracted by the Covid-19 pandemic, the upcoming US presidential election and a list of world crises from Lebanon to Belarus. Lower-level clashes in July prompted only a muted international response.

Turkey, which held large

military exercises with Azerbaijan in July and August, has been even more conspicuous in its support compared with past crises. Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan has said Ankara will stand by Azerbaijan "with all its resources and heart".

What are the risks?

Past outbreaks of fighting have killed some 30,000 people since 1988. Military and political analysts say they have witnessed an increase in deployment of heavy weaponry such as rockets and artillery, bringing a higher risk of civilian casualties that would make it harder to pull the two sides back from all-out war. That in turn could draw in other powers such as Turkey and Russia and destabilise the South Caucasus region, an important corridor for pipelines carrying oil and gas.

What could stop the fighting?

Russia potentially holds the key: it has a mutual defence pact with Armenia and a military base there, but also enjoys good relations with Azerbaijan and has no interest in the conflict spreading.

Moscow brokered a humanitarian ceasefire that went into effect on Saturday though it quickly came under strain. If its diplomacy succeeds, Moscow could earn kudos for ending the fighting at a time when it is under intense criticism on other fronts, including over its backing for Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko after a disputed election and over the poisoning of Russian opposition politician Alexei Navalny in Siberia, which Germany says was carried out with a nerve agent.

UK Considers Infecting People With Covid To Aid Vaccine Efforts

Agencies

London: Alex Greer says he'd rather put himself directly in the path of the coronavirus than get blindsided by the disease after an evening at the pub or with friends. It's a scenario that could soon become a reality.

Britain is moving closer to carrying out studies that would intentionally infect healthy people with the virus to help researchers in their quest for Covid-19 vaccines, and thousands of volunteers like Greer, a chemistry student at Durham University in northeast England, are ready to go. Open Orphan Plc, parent of human challenge trial specialist hVivo, has said it's in talks with potential customers including the U.K. to conduct tests of Covid shots.

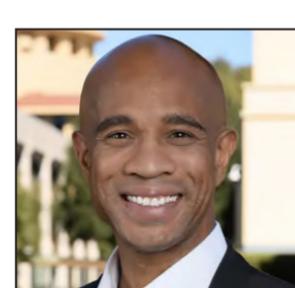
Such studies may help speed development of vaccines and give scientists new insights into a disease that has spread to more than 37 million people globally, but would expose participants to a threat for which there's no cure. Numerous questions about the virus – which volunteers would likely have sprayed into their noses – remain unanswered. Even young people could face dangers.

I can't lie and say it doesn't cross my mind," said Greer, 20. "The long-term consequences of Covid aren't fully researched yet and that does need to be taken into account. But I think the potential successes of the trials outweigh that small risk to myself."

Despite recent strides in treating Covid-19, experts disagree on whether challenge trials are justifiable. One uncertainty is why some young and otherwise healthy people end up with complications months after experiencing mild symptoms, according to Seema Shah, a bioethicist at Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago and Northwestern University.

Crossing a Line

Disney's Kareem Daniel Rises From An Intern To Streaming Czar



As a kid, Kareem Daniel used to spend hours at the comic-book store at his local mall poring over the titles, sometimes with his mom waiting patiently in the car.

On Monday, he ascended to a top job at the dominant force in comic-book lore -- and many other forms of entertainment -- Walt Disney Co.

The native of Chicago's South Side leapfrogged colleagues to become head of a newly formed Media and Entertainment Distribution group. In that position, he'll make decisions over pricing, marketing and how consumers connect with Disney+, the company's flagship effort to take on Netflix Inc. in the fast-growing business of online video.

46-year-old executive owes his rise in large part to his connection with Disney's new chief executive officer, Bob Chapek, who said he first hired him as an intern years ago when Daniel

was in graduate school.

"He is a brilliant executive who has an unbelievable objectivity when it comes to fact-based decision making," Chapek said in an interview. "It perfectly positions him to be the right guy to make decisions. Not because there's a legacy of the business, but because it's right for today."

Chapek, who took over for longtime Disney CEO Bob Iger in February, has been quickly putting his stamp on the entertainment giant -- even as the coronavirus pandemic clobbered its theme-parks, movies and live-sports businesses. In August,

Machu Picchu Reopens, Just For 1 Tourist. Here's Why



Lima, Peru: Peru's best-known tourist site Machu Picchu has opened after months of coronavirus closure, but for just a single visitor -- a Japanese man stranded in the country by the pandemic.

"The first person on Earth who went to Machu Picchu since the lockdown is meeeeeeee," Jesse Katayama posted on his Instagram account alongside pictures of the deserted site.

"This is truly amazing! Thank you," he added in a video posted on the Facebook pages of the local tourism authority in Cusco, where the famed site is located.

Inkaterra, identified by local media as a 26-year-old from Nara, has been stuck in Peru since March, when he bought a ticket for the tourist site just days before the country declared a health emergency.

He told a Peruvian newspaper he had only planned to

instructor, identified by local media as a 26-year-old from Nara, has been stuck in Peru since March, when he bought a ticket for the tourist site just days before the country declared a health emergency.

He told a Peruvian newspaper he had only planned to spend three days in the area,

be able to go, but thanks to all of you who pleaded with the mayor and the government, I was given this super special opportunity," he wrote in Japanese on his Instagram account.

Machu Picchu is the most enduring legacy of the Inca empire that ruled a large swathe of western South America for 100 years before the Spanish conquest in the 16th century.

The ruins of the Inca settlement were rediscovered in 1911 by the American explorer Hiram Bingham, and in 1983, UNESCO declared Machu Picchu a World Heritage Site.

It was originally scheduled to reopen to visitors in July, but that has now been pushed back to November.

Just 675 tourists a day will be allowed in, 30 percent of the number allowed before the pandemic, with visitors expected to maintain social distancing.

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