



Shri Manoj Sinha
Lieutenant Governor

Market Intervention 2020

Scheme for Apple Season

-  **Procurement of Apple at the doorstep of growers commencing from next week**
-  **Registration of growers to start in next two days**
-  **All Marketing Issues including transportation addressed**
-  **Come and sell your apple at Optimum Prices at Kulgam, Anantnag (Jablipora), Shopian (Arhama), Srinagar (Parimpora) and Sopore Mandi**
-  **Payment to be made directly to Bank accounts of growers**

In case of any difficulty, growers may contact Director Horticulture (Kashmir), Director Horticulture (P&M) J&K, Chief Horticulture Officer & Area Marketing officer of the concerned district.



Government of Jammu & Kashmir
DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE

Navy Chief Reviews Combat Readiness; Addresses Combatants Through Broadcast From INS Vikramaditya

NEW DELHI: Chief of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh on Thursday addressed a select group of combatants of the Navy's Carrier Battle Group over a broadcast from the INS Vikramaditya, India's only aircraft carrier, and reviewed the force's overall combat readiness, officials said.

In his remarks, Admiral Singh complimented his force for continuously maintaining "peak combat-readiness" and "high tempo" of operations over the past few months, they said.

The Indian Navy has significantly increased its deployment in the Indian Ocean Region, in an attempt to send across a message to China in the wake of escalation in tension between the two countries over the border row in eastern Ladakh.

Giving an overview of the prevailing security situation, the Chief of Naval Staff stated that the Navy would continue to maintain a high-tempo of operations in the coming months.

"He also complimented the Carrier Battle Group and its combatants for accurate and effective weapon firings, which left no doubt about the Navy's readiness to meet any emergent contingencies," the Navy said in a statement.

A carrier battle group is a mega naval fleet comprising an aircraft carrier, accompanied by a large number of destroyers, frigates and other ships.

Admiral Singh highlighted that tri-service synergy and co-ordination has peaked with establishment of the Department of Military Affairs as was visibly demonstrated in the joint response of the three services to recent events, in an oblique reference to India's response to the border row.

In a mega reform initiative, the government on December 31 last year appointed Gen Bipin Rawat as the country's first Chief of Defence Staff and created the Department of Military Affairs with an aim to bring in convergence in functioning of the three services.

"The Indian Navy has remained mission-deployed and combat-ready across the Indian Ocean Region, even through rough seas during the monsoon period, towards maintaining the maritime security of the nation," the Navy said.

Admiral Karambir Singh, the Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), reviewed the operational preparedness and combat-readiness of the Indian Navy's principal combatants on 22 October 2020.

Earlier, Admiral Singh, accompanied by Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Western Naval Command Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar, arrived at Karwar naval base in Karnataka where he interacted with the Navy personnel deployed there.

During the interaction, he emphasised on various operational aspects including key issues relating to cyber-security, protection against terror attacks, asymmetric warfare, and exhorted all personnel to maintain the highest-level of alertness, officials said.

Admiral Singh, thereafter, departed by helicopter to embark on the Carrier Battle Group, comprising INS Vikramaditya, accompanied by a number of destroyers, frigates, corvettes, fleet support ships and swing-role fighter jets and helicopters.

On embarking on indigenous guided-missile destroyer Chennai, he was given a briefing by the Fleet Commander, after which weapon firings, air-to-air combat operations, anti-submarine drills and fleet manoeuvres were demonstrated, the Navy said.

Following the drill, the Chief of Naval Staff embarked on a fleet support ship Deepak and interacted with the ship's crew. Then he embarked on INS Vikramaditya where he witnessed the Carrier Battle Group's capabilities for air defence as well as strike missions.

In his address, Admiral Singh, also advised continued compliance of protocols by naval personnel and their families to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Indian Navy continues to maintain a high tempo of operations and combat-readiness despite the COVID-19 pandemic by adhering to stringent protocols onboard warships, submarines and aircraft squadrons and bases, and is fully prepared to tackle challenges in the maritime domain," the Navy said.

Bhalla Reviews Distribution Of Assets, Liabilities Between J&K, Ladakh

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Union Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla on Thursday reviewed the apportionment of assets and liabilities between the two Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Chairing a high level meet here, Bhalla reviewed the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Division of Assets and Liabilities between the two newly constituted union territories, an official spokesperson said Thursday. During the meeting which was attended by Chief Secretary, J&K, B V R Subrahmanyam, Advisor to LG Ladakh, and Additional Secretary (JKL), Ministry of Home Affairs, detailed deliberations were held on committee's recommendations.

While reviewing the recommendations, the official spokesperson said Bhalla observed that the administrations of the two UTs are in agreement on many of the recommendations.

"However, in case of those recommendations wherein there exists a difference of opinion, the Union Secretary said that an appropriate view shall be taken by the Government of India at the level of Ministry of Home Affairs," he said.

He added that the Subrahmanyam apprised the Union Home Secretary on Jammu & Kashmir's stand on various issues related to the apportionment of assets, and liabilities.

India Has Taken Up Case Of Workers Not Paid End Of Service Dues In Saudi: MEA

NEW DELHI: The Indian mission in Saudi Arabia has taken up the matter of 286 Indian workers who were reportedly not paid end of service dues by a private firm there, and it is hopeful of a "positive resolution" of the issue, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

As per media reports, many Indian migrant workers from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, who have returned to India after they were laid off by a private company in Saudi Arabia due to the coronavirus pandemic have approached the Indian government over unpaid end of service benefits.

MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava on Thursday said all such cases, including the case of 286 Indian workers who were working for a company in Saudi Arabia, are raised by India's missions in these countries with employers as well as local authorities.

"In this particular case, this has been followed up by our embassy and we are hopeful for a positive resolution," he said at an online media briefing.

Asked about the steps taken by the government to deal with such cases, Srivastava said, "We have a portal called 'Madad' where all such cases, people who are affected, can register their grievances. Our missions and posts in these areas proactively follow it up with concerned authorities to get a resolution."

To a separate question on the upcoming UN Day, Srivastava said this year marks the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and to commemorate this event the UN had held a high-level event last month in which the PM participated.

"In his address, the PM underscored, 'While the world is a better place because of the UN and much has been achieved, today's challenges can't be fought with outdated structures and comprehensive reform of the UN is needed'".

As a special initiative Friday to mark the occasion, the department of Post will be releasing a stamp in the presence of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who is the chief guest for the event, Srivastava said.

"On the issue of the reforms of the UNSC and our preparations for the same, you are aware that India attaches the highest priority to the expansion of the security council in both its categories -- the permanent and non permanent -- so that it reflects com-

temporary realities of the world. Even in our upcoming innings as non-permanent member in 2021 reformed multilateralism is a key pillar of our approach and we aim to make a push in this regard along with like minded partners," Srivastava said.

On another question pertaining to India-South Korea ties, Srivastava said the two countries share a special partnership which spans a whole range of areas and this relationship has taken great strides in recent years, particularly since the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to South Korea in 2015.

"It is spurred by a mutual convergence of interest by mutual goodwill and through high-level visits," he said.

High-level communication has been maintained even in COVID times, including the telephone conversation between Prime Minister Modi and South Korean president Moon Jae-in, Srivastava said.

In these conversations, the two sides have exchanged views on the COVID-19 situation, the challenge it poses to the global health system and the ongoing diversifications of the international value chains, he said.

At the briefing, Srivastava also informed that as on Thursday, 19.40 lakh Indians have been repatriated through the Vande Bharat Mission.

"Phase 7 of VBM has been operational since October 1, 2020. Of the 1,050 international flights scheduled under this phase, 690 flights have already been operated from 20 countries, reaching 22 airports across the country and repatriating an estimated 1,30,000 persons," he said.

Employees Can Now Be...

immediately after allowing him pay and allowances in lieu notice will be entitled to pension from the date of such retirement and the pension shall not be deferred till after the expiry of the three months for which he is paid pay and allowances."

Setting the Time Schedule to be followed, it stated that the exercise of review of performance of the government servants will be initiated for each employee for the first time after her/his completion of 22 years of service or attaining 48 years of age and any time subsequently, as may be required.

The notification further states that a register of the government employees, who are due to attain the age of 48 years or to complete 22 years of service, has to be maintained by the administrative department.

The register should be scrutinised at the beginning of every year by officers to be nominated by the administrative department concerned and the review be undertaken as mentioned in sub-clause (b), the notification read.

The spokesperson said there is no bar on the government to review any such case again where it was decided earlier to retain the officer, but the administrative department is of the opinion that it is expedient to undertake the review again on account of changed circumstances, in public interest.

IT Raids Malls, Businessmen...

documents and records were seized during these I-T raids although none of the I-T officials agreed to come on record to state the reasons behind Thursday's raids.

Pertinently, MS Mall belongs to the Imtiyaz Ahmad Shah son of Haji Mohd Shafi Shah of Rajbagh and City Walk Mall is owned by two partners namely Imtiyaz Ahmad Kawoosa son of Ghulam Qadir of Nishat and Manzoor Ahmad Shah son of Haji Mohammad Shafi of Rajbagh.

Leh Council Polls Record...

in the fray, said the official.

According to reports, this is the tentative polling percentage. The counting of votes is scheduled for October 26, the official added.

BJP, Congress, Aam Aadmi Party and 23 Independent candidates are vying for the 26 councilor seats of the 6th hill council of Leh district. The polling began at 8 am and strong voter turnout was recorded at all the polling stations. Women and youngsters came out in droves to cast their vote, said the official.

Owing to the rising COVID-19 cases, all safety measures like wearing of masks, using sanitisers and following social distancing norms were followed at every polling booth, said the official.

For the first time, the administration extended the postal ballot voting services for senior citizens, people with disabilities, individuals who are under home or institutional quarantine, and doctors and paramedical staff deployed at COVID-19 hospitals.

An electorate of 89,776, including 45,025 women, were entitled to exercise their franchise in 294 polling stations spread over 26 constituencies across Leh to seal the fate of 94 candidates including 26 each of BJP and Congress.

The AAP is also trying its luck for the first time by fielding 19 candidates.

The regional parties including National Conference and Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) have chosen to stay away from the election. The poll process is expected to be completed by October 30.

LAHDC-Leh has a total of 30 seats and four councilors are nominated by the government.

Since the formation of the hill council in 1995, Congress had swept the polls thrice, while the Ladakh Union Territorial Front had won the elections in 2005.

The BJP wrested control of the council from the Congress for the first time in the last elections by winning 18 out of 26 seats.

Kargil district of Ladakh has a separate hill council which was elected in 2018 for a five-year term. PTI

Cases Cross 90K Mark, 584...

Anantnag 27, Bandipora 9, Ganderbal 27, Kulgam 7, Shopian 2, Jammu 103, Rajouri 3, Udhampur 12, Doda 15, Kathua 12, Poonch 5, Samba 13, Kishtwar 22, Ramban 3 and Reasi 4.

Moreover, officials said, 710 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals-- 399 from Jammu Divi-

sion and 311 from Kashmir Valley.

Leh A Part Of China? India's...

users after its geotagging feature displayed "Jammu & Kashmir, People's Republic of China" in a live broadcast from Leh's Hall of Fame, a war memorial for fallen soldiers in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

This triggered angry responses from netizens who demanded that stringent action be initiated against the micro-blogging platform.

Twitter, earlier this week, called it a technical issue which has been swiftly resolved.

Sources said Sawhney, in the letter sent on Wednesday evening, warned Twitter that any attempt to undermine the sovereignty and integrity of India will not just bring disrepute to the micro-blogging site but also raises questions about its neutrality and fairness as an intermediary.

Conveying strong disapproval of the government over misrepresentation of the map of India, Sawhney in his letter reminded Twitter that Leh is the headquarter of the Union Territory of Ladakh. And that both Ladakh as well as Jammu and Kashmir are integral and inalienable parts of India, governed by the Constitution of India.

The government has asked Twitter to respect the sensitivities of Indian citizens and made it clear that any attempt by Twitter to disrespect the sovereignty and integrity of India, which is also reflected by the maps, is totally unacceptable and unlawful.

When contacted, Twitter in an e-mail response said: "Twitter remains committed to working with the Government of India. We respect the sensitivities involved and have duly acknowledged the letter."

LG In KU, Calls For Reviving...

Remembering Sheikh Noor-ud-Din Wali (Nund Rishi), the Lt Governor said that he was an enlightened being and equally revered by Hindus as well as Muslims. He hailed the spirit of humanism in Reshi-Sufi traditions of Kashmir and said that it is greater than any religion.

The Lt Governor also called upon the public to trace roots of true Kashmiriyat, which believes in universal brotherhood and equanimity among people of various races, religions and social status. He said that a major cause of social unrest is because people here have lost touch with their traditional spiritual values.

He asked the people to embrace the Reshi-Sufi traditions of Kashmir and help eliminate all traces of communal divide. 'The Lt Governor appreciated Prof. Basher Bashir and Prof. Talat Ahmad for their attempts to revitalize the Sufi traditions of Kashmir. With such renewed efforts, an atmosphere of peace shall definitely prevail in Jammu & Kashmir', said the Lt Governor.

During his address, Kewal Kumar Sharma, Advisor to the Lt Governor, who was Guest of Honour on the occasion, said that the legacy of Sufis and Reshis is indispensable to the Kashmir heritage & culture, and efforts need to be made to incorporate their teachings in the curriculum so that our younger generation is also connected to this glorious, spiritual and cultural heritage.

Prof. Talat Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir, in his presidential address highlighted the role of Reshi-Sufi traditions in Kashmir and said that a serious disconnect is observed in the present generation towards the spiritual realities.

In his keynote address, Prof. Basher Bashir highlighted the role of Shaikh-ul Aalam (RA) as Reshi and Sufi in promoting harmony and brotherhood in Kashmir and referred to the need for adherence of Reshis Sufi precepts in the contemporary scenario to the understanding of Shaikh-ul-Aalam's poems to make it accessible to the young generation.

Earlier, Chairman Markaz-i-Noor, Prof G.N Khaki, in his introductory and welcome address, underlined the importance of organizing such academic events and welcomed the worthy participants, academics, and scholars.

Editors Guild Of India...

the government should assist the organisations instead of making things worse for them.

The Guild also urged the government to create a circumstance where media organisations can function without hindrance or fear in J&K. "The Editors Guild of India considers the action of state administration vindictive and injurious not just to the Kashmir Times, but also to the entire free media in the Union Territory. The Guild calls upon the government of Jammu and Kashmir to restore status quo, and to create circumstances in which media can function without hindrance

and without fear," the statement read.

3,800 Ceasefire Violations By...

between the two sides. This year, till date, Pakistani forces have carried out more than 3,800 unprovoked ceasefire violations," he said at a media briefing.

The MEA spokesperson said there have also been attempts to drop arms and ammunition close to the LoC in the garb of civilian activities.

"We have also witnessed that Pakistan's aid and abetment to cross-border militancy, smuggling of arms and narcotic substances have spilled over to the International Boundary including through usage of drones and quadcopters," he said.

Srivastava said such violations are regularly highlighted to Pakistan through diplomatic channels and at the regular DGMO- (Director General of Military Operations) level talks.

Asked about the possibility of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) blacklisting Pakistan for failing to check financing, Srivastava said the global anti-terror watchdog has laid out standards and procedures for such action.

"It is understood that Pakistan has addressed only 21 action items so far out of the total 27 points in the FATF action plan. Six important action items are yet to be addressed," he said.

"As is well known, Pakistan continues to provide safe havens to terrorist entities and individuals and has also not yet taken any action against several militant entities and individuals including those proscribed by the UNSC such as Masood Azhar, Dawood Ibrahim, Zakir-ur-Rahman Lakhvi etc," Srivastava added.

The FATF began its three-day virtual plenary meeting on Wednesday. The FATF had put Pakistan on its "grey list" in 2018 for failing to contain terror financing in the country. The global body has been periodically reviewing the implementation of the action plan it had recommended to Pakistan to curb financial activities of militant groups.

Notwithstanding the coronavirus pandemic in the region, Pakistan has been resorting to unprovoked ceasefire violations along the LoC and making concerted efforts to push militants into Kashmir.

Pakistani hostilities increased after India announced its decision to withdraw the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and divide the state into two union territories in August last year.

2 Militant Recruits Surrender...

him as saying in the statement.

He further said that during the encounters police always gives them opportunity to surrender "as they are our own people."

Himalayas Poised For A Series...

a big one in the future. How far from now no one can tell," Mitra, who was not involved in the study, told PTI.

Prior studies have examined the rate of strain accumulation that is occurring along the Himalayan arc from satellite observations. In the latest study, the timing and size of most recent prehistoric earthquakes were defined from geology.

The methodology directly applies geologic principles to defining the past size and timing of earthquakes recorded by sediments broken and deformed by earthquake offsets at sites along the length of the Himalayan Frontal Thrust, Wesnousky said.

Satellites can help in finding the location of active earthquake faults but unable to provide any information on the past timing and size of earthquakes on those faults, he said.

"These observations taken together are telling us that sufficient strain has accumulated along virtually the entire arc to again produce great earthquakes as we observe in the geologic record," Wesnousky explained.

Major cities along and close to the Himalayan frontal thrust include Chandigarh and Dehradun in India; and Kathmandu, Nepal.

Strong and damaging shaking in such great quakes could extend southward as far as India's capital, Delhi, one of the largest cities in the world with a population of more than 11 million, Wesnousky added.

North India has witnessed many earthquakes of small magnitude in the past four months, raising popular speculation about a big one in the region.

However, he said, scientists have yet to find a systematic relationship between the occurrence of small earthquakes and the timing of greater earthquakes in the future.

"These small earthquakes are thousands of times smaller than the

great earthquakes we are studying," he said.

HC Quashes 3 PSA Detention...

son of Nazir Ahmad Lone of Hadipora Rafiabad, Abdul Ahad Dar alias Ahad Molvi of Dar Mohalla Palhallan Pattan and Aijaz Ahmad Mir son of Ghulam Hassan Mir of Pulwama.

While quashing the detention order against Asrar Ahmad Lone, the court observed that record reveals that he was provided the contents of PSA warrant, notice one leaf, grounds of detention two leaves and copy of FIR one leaf in total (five leaves). "

Thus, all the material including the copy of FIR No. 114/2019, and other material relied upon by the Detaining Authority, while passing the order of detention has not been provided to the detenu, "the court said, adding, "This has resulted in an infraction of the Constitutional and statutory rights available to the detenu to make an effective representation before it as well as to the Government. (GNS)

Prof. Mushtaq To Act As...

Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir shall perform the routine duties of the Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST- Kashmir till further orders.

Prof. (Dr.) Nazeer Ahmad, who was the vice-chancellor SKUAST, Kashmir, completed his tenure on Friday.

"Prof. (Dr.) Nazeer Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology Kashmir shall be completing his tenure today. A Selection Committee for drawing up a panel of names for appointment to the post of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir has been constituted and the process would take some time to conclude," the order reads.

The order, issued by additional secretary further reads "In this context, I am desired to convey the approval of Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor (Chancellor, SKUAST-Kashmir) that Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad, Director Extension, SKUAST-Kashmir shall perform the routine duties of the Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST- Kashmir till further orders."

3 Gamblers Arrested In...

Harwan where they remain in custody," the police spokesperson said.

He identified the accused as Mohammad Imran Bhat of Harwan, Mohammad Aslam Wani of Shalimar and Bilal Ahmad Mir of Bemina.

"Accordingly, a case under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Harwan and investigation has been initiated," the police spokesperson added.

6.73 Lakh J&K Residents...

trains at Jammu and Udhampur railway stations from different states and UTs with 1,40,292 passengers while 5,33,233 people, including 937 from abroad, have been evacuated by road by the government through the Lakhampur inter-state border terminal so far.

As per the detailed breakup of the figures, 10,588 stranded passengers have entered through Lakhampur from Wednesday to Thursday morning while 134 trains have reached Jammu with a total of 1,24,596 stranded passengers belonging to different districts so far while 15,696 passengers have reached Udhampur in 21 special trains, so far. No train arrived in Jammu on Thursday.

Two Health Dept Employees...

Jammu, an official order said.

The order states that Sheikh Javid, Senior Assistant of the J&K Secretariat (Subordinate) Service, then posted in Gazetted section of Health & Medical Education Department has been put under suspension and attached with the general administration department.

It further states that Sudesh Kumar, basic health worker, directorate of health services, Jammu, the then Class-IV employee, Legal Section, H&ME department has also been put under suspension and attached with the general administration department--(KNO)

Searches On To Retrieve...

SDRF and locals boat men continued the search operation to retrieve the body from river Jhelum in Sopore.

Meanwhile, Station House Officer (SHO) Sopore, AzimIqbal said the search operation was stopped yesterday due to darkness and started this morning again. "Efforts are on to retrieve the body from the river," he said, adding that a case has already been registered and further investigation has been initiated.



Maximum : 22°C
Minum : 09°C
Humidity : 42%

SUNSET
Today 05:47 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 06:43 AM



News Digest

HC Quashes 3 PSA Detention Orders

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court has quashed detention orders under Public Safety Act against three detainees and ordered authorities to release them forthwith if not required in any other case.

A bench of Justice Sindhu Sharma quashed the detention orders against Asrar Ahmad Lone. ● P-02

Prof. Mushtaq To Act As VC SKUAST-K

SRINAGAR: The Lieutenant Governor's administration on Thursday directed Director Extension Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology, Kashmir Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad to perform the routine duties of vice-chancellor SKUAST-K as the incumbent VC completed his tenure on Thursday.

In an order administration said that Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad, ● P-02

3 Gamblers Arrested In Srinagar: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested three gamblers in a raid in Shalimar area of this capital city.

Acting in specific information, a police team raided friends' colony Shalimar and arrested three gamblers, a police spokesperson said. He said playing cards and an amount of Rs10300 was seized from the gamblers.

"They have been arrested and shifted to Police Station. ● P-02

6.73 Lakh J&K Residents Evacuated: Govt

Jammu: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has evacuated about 6.73 lakh residents of the Union territory till date, who were stranded in other parts of the country due to successive COVID-19 lockdowns, amid strict observance of all necessary guidelines, an official spokesman said.

As per official data, the administration has evacuated 6,73,525 people overall till now by rail and road. Data showed that it has received 155 special. ● P-02

Two Health Dept Employees Suspended

SRINAGAR: The government of Jammu & Kashmir on Thursday suspended two employees of Health & Medical Education department and attached them with the General Administration Department. A senior assistant of the secretariat, then posted in gazette section of H&ME department and a basic health worker, directorate of health services, Jammu, the then Class-IV employee, have been suspended till pending enquiry in a case FIR No. 12/2020 P/S ACB, ● P-02

Searches On To Retrieve Sopore Minor's Body

Sopore: For the second consecutive day, the authorities continued search operation to retrieve the body of a 12-year-old boy, who allegedly committed suicide by jumping into river Jhelum in Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. A 12-year-old boy, who was a class 8th student and identified as Shahid-Nazir Changanal, son of Nazir Ahmad Changanal of Ahadab crossing, jumped into the river from bypass bridge on Wednesday, new agency KNO reported. The report said joint team of Sopore Police, ● P-02

J&K Govt Amends Service Regulation Rules Employees Can Now Be Retired After 22 Years Of Service

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir's civil service regulation rules were amended on Thursday to allow the administration to retire government employees at any time after completing 22 years of service or attaining the age of 48 years, an official said.

The employees can be retired after being given three month notice or three months of pay and allowance in lieu of the notice, the official said.

On the orders of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, the administration has introduced certain substitutes in 226(2) Article of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service Regulations, the official said.

He said a notification was issued by Finance Department in this regard.

The notification states that in exercise of powers conferred under provision to Article 309 of Indian Constitution, Lieutenant Governor has directed that Article 226(2) of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service Regulations may be



KO FILE PHOTO ABID BHAI

substituted as "226 (2): (a) Notwithstanding anything contained in these Regulations, government may, if it is of the opinion that in the public interest to do so, require any government employee other than one working on a post which is included in Schedule II of these rules, to retire at any time after he/she has completed 22 years of qualifying service or on attained 48 years of age.

The notification, however, said the employee can be retired provided the appropriate authority gives a notice at least three months before the date on which he/she is required to leave or three months of pay and allowance in lieu of such a notice, the spokesperson said.

The employee shall be granted pensionary benefits admissible under these rules on the basis of qualifying service put in by him/her on the date of the retirement, the spokesperson added.

According to the official, the notification states, "A government servant who is retired. >>PAGE 02

A GOVERNMENT SERVANT WHO IS RETIRED IMMEDIATELY after allowing him pay and allowances in lieu notice will be entitled to pension from the date of such retirement and the pension shall not be deferred till after the expiry of the three months for which he is paid pay and allowances."

Leh A Part Of China? India's Scathing Letter To Twitter CEO

NEW DELHI: India has warned Twitter over its location setting that showed Leh in China, saying any disrespect of the country's sovereignty and integrity is totally unacceptable.

In a strongly-worded letter, Ajay Sawhney, Secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), asked Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey to respect the country's sensitivities, sources in the ministry said.

Twitter came under heavy criticism and faced backlash from social media. ● P-02

LG In KU, Calls For Reviving Role Of Sufis, Reshis In Kashmir

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Chancellor, University of Kashmir Thursday stressed upon the need to revive the iconic role of Sufis and Reshis in the cultural transformation of Kashmir at an important juncture of history.

Lieutenant Governor who presided over the inaugural session of National Seminar on "Reshi- Sufi Traditions of Kashmir" at the University of Kashmir, observed that this is the most appropriate time for propagating and adhering to the legacy of Reshis and Sufis in



the prevailing chaotic global and regional scenario.

The National Seminar was organized by Markaz-i Noor, Centre for Shaikh-ul Aalam Studies, University of Kashmir, at Gandhi Bhawan, Kashmir University, Srinagar.

The Lt Governor repeated the

words of prominent saint Lal Ded in which she asked the people to seek God within and not create a religious divide among the masses. He also highlighted the unique nature of Kashmiri spiritual thought which seeks to combine elements of Shaivism with Sufism. >>PAGE 02

Art-370 Revocation Unacceptable, Will Fight Against It: PDP

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) on Thursday said "illegal and unconstitutional" disempowerment was perpetrated on the people of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5 last year when the Centre abrogated Article 370, asserting that the changes were unacceptable and would be fought against in unison.

The announcement was made after a meeting of senior leaders of the party chaired by PDP president

Mehbooba Mufti - the first such meeting after her release from over 14 months long detention.

The party president chaired the meeting of the party's top leadership here to discuss and deliberate upon the prevailing situation in Jammu & Kashmir," a PDP spokesperson said.

"The leadership unanimously endorsed the stance taken by the party president on the issue of August 5 events as well as her commitment to a united response to these events, the spokesperson said.

Bandipora Suicide Turns Out To Be Murder Wife, Paramour Drugged; Strangled Sarpanch To Death

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have solved the mystery shrouding the suicide of a Sarpanch in north Kashmir's Bandipora district by arresting his wife and her paramour, who had carried out the murder in a filmy style.

On October 12, police received information that the Sarpanch Javid Ahmad Dar has committed suicide by hanging himself at his home in Zurmanz village of the district, a police spokesperson

said. Accordingly, he said proceedings under section 174 CRPC were initiated.

The police, he said constituted a Special Investigating Team (SIT) and during the course of investigation and from spot visit, it surfaced that the case looks more of a murder than suicide.

"In this connection, many suspects were brought for questioning. Proceedings in the case revealed that wife of the deceased along with another person identified as Shahzad Ahmad Dar, who

were in extra marital affair with each other, administered some sedative drugs to deceased and strangled him to death," the police spokesperson said.

Both the persons, he said have admitted their involvement in the commission of crime and have been arrested.

"Consequently, a case FIR No. 116/2020 under relevant sections of law has been registered in Police Station Bandipora and further investigation into the matter has been initiated," the police spokesperson added.

14 More Deaths Take Covid-19 Toll In J&K To 1418

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Thursday fourteen more coronavirus deaths, including two young women, taking the number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic in the Union Territory to 1418.

While Kashmir valley saw nine more deaths related to Covid-19, five others were reported from Jammu division, officials said. Among the victims from the Valley, they said included a 55-year-old woman from Lal Bazar, who died at SKIMS Soura, nine days after she was admitted there. Besides her, another death of a 75-year-old from man was reported from Nawabagh locality of Lal Bazar. The septuagenarian died at SKIMS, 20 days after he was admitted to the tertiary care hospital.

Besides them, officials said a 29-year-old woman from Watar area of Ganderbal also died at SKIMS Soura, a day after admitted at the tertiary care hospital. The other fatalities, they said included a 70-year-old man from Gurez, a 95-year-old from Natipora, a

75-year-old man from Alamgari Bazar, a 70-year-old from Baghe-Mehtab, and a 65-year-old man from Dhoobi Mohalla Srinagar.

Also, officials said, a 22-year-old from Ganderbal died a day after she was admitted to SKIMS Soura.

In Jammu division, they said three deaths were reported from Jammu district, and one each from Doda and Poonch.

Among others, the victims, officials said included a 77-year-old from New Plot Jammu and a

58-year-old man from R S Pura besides a 74-year-old man from Mendhar Poonch, who died at SKIMS Soura, 12 days after he was admitted there.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 949 in Valley and 469 in Jammu region.

Srinagar district with 342 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (243), Baramulla (137), Budgam (91), Pulwama (79), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (71), Kulgam (46), Bandipora (43), Rajouri (45), Doda (43), Shopian (35), Ganderbal (33), Kathua (30), Udhampur (27), Samba (25), Poonch (23), Kishtwar (14), Ramban (12), and Reasi (7). (With GNS inputs)

Cases Cross 90K Mark, 584 More Positive

Coronavirus cases in Jammu and Kashmir crossed 90000-mark on Thursday, as 584 more people, including twenty three travelers tested positive for virus, taking the total number of infected people across the Union Territory to 90166.

While Kashmir valley detected 392 fresh cases of Covid-19, the remaining 192 were confirmed by the officials from the Jammu division. Giving district-wise details, officials said, Srinagar reported 127, Budgam 19, Baramulla 104, Pulwama 30, Kupwara 40, ● P-02

Editors Guild Of India Condemns Sealing Of KT Office

NEW DELHI: The Editors Guild of India on Thursday criticised the Jammu and Kashmir administration's decision to abruptly seal the offices of regional daily the Kashmir Times. The Editors Guild said the action was reprehensible, and that it would have "disturbing implications" for the media of the two Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

In a strongly worded statement the Editors Guild also said that local media organisations in J&K were already going through tough times because of constant communication shutdowns, lack of advertising revenue and government imposed lockdowns and said that >>PAGE 02

PCI Dismayed

The Press Club of India on Thursday said that it is dismayed to note that the UT administration of Jammu and Kashmir has continued with what it called "calculated and sustained attacks on the media in the UT."

"The latest instance of wielding the rod against independent sections of the media has come in the shape of the administration sealing the office of the prestigious daily Kashmir Times' Srinagar Bureau, in the Press Enclave in J&K's summer capital," PCI said in a statement.

3,800 Ceasefire Violations By Pak This Year: MEA

NEW DELHI: Pakistani troops have resorted to more than 3,800 incidents of unprovoked ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir this year and even supported smuggling of arms and narcotic substances, including through drones and quadcopters, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday.

MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said Pakistani forces have continued to engage in unprovoked ceasefire violations, often from civilian areas, to support infiltration of militants across the LoC.

"This is a clear violation of the 2003 ceasefire understanding. ● P-02

2 Militant Recruits Surrender After Family's Emotional Pleas

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR- Two newly recruited militants surrendered before the state forces during a cordon and search operation in Tujjar area of north Kashmir's Sopore on Thursday, officials said.

"On a specific input regarding presence of militants in Shalpora Tujjar Sharief area of Sopore, a joint cordon and search operation was launched by Police, 22RR and 179Bn CRPF in the area," a police spokesperson said.

During the search operation, he said, as the presence of militants got ascertained they were given opportunity to surrender.

"Family members of the trapped (militants) were called to the en-

counter site to motivate and persuade them to surrender," he said, adding, "Due to the great efforts of police, security forces and repeated surrender appeals by their family members, eventually they surrendered before the joint forces"

News agency GNS identified the duo as Abid Mushtaq Dar son of Mushtaq Ahmad Dar and Mehrajuddin Dar son of Farooq Ahmad Dar, both residents of Wadoora Payeen Bomai Sopore.

Meanwhile, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar congratulated their families. "He further appealed militants to surrender and start living a normal life. Our full support will be available to such militants who lay down their arms and surrender," the spokesman quoted >>PAGE 02

Himalayas Poised For A Series Of Big Earthquakes, Says Study

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The entire Himalayan arc is poised to produce a sequence of great earthquakes, and the next big quake -- of the magnitude of 8 or above -- may occur during our lifetimes, according to a study reviewing geological, historical, and geophysical data.

The human toll of such an event in the densely populated countries across the arc is likely to be unprecedented, the researchers said.

The study notes that the sequence of future Himalayan earthquakes could be similar to the great earthquakes that occurred in the twentieth century along the

Aleutian subduction zone, which extends from the Gulf of Alaska to Kamchatka in Russian Far East.

The review, which appeared in the journal Seismological Research Letters in August, used basic geological principles --stratigraphic analysis, structural analysis, soils analysis, and radiocarbon analysis -- to estimate the size and timing of prehistoric earthquakes and evaluate future risk.

"The entire Himalayan arc extending from the eastern boundary of Arunachal Pradesh (India) in the east to Pakistan (in the west) has in the past been the source of great earthquakes," study author Steven G. Wesnousky told PTI.



File Photo

"These earthquakes will occur again and scientifically, it would not be a surprise if the next great earthquake occurred in our lifetimes.

But the resolution of our studies is at best on the order of 100 years, longer than a human lifetime," said Wesnousky, a professor of geology

and seismology and director of the Center for Neotectonic Studies at the University of Nevada at Reno, US.

Seismologist Supriyo Mitra noted that the research matches previous studies.

"The research is a comprehensive review of paleoseismological studies of past Himalayan earthquakes and a forecast of the future events based on the findings," said Mitra, a professor in the department of Earth sciences at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Kolkata.

"The Himalayan faults, as shown in the paper, are poised to produce an 8-plus magnitude earthquake. So yes, we are staring at >>PAGE 02

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DDCs Are No Solution

On Wednesday, the Union Cabinet approved the adoption of the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989. The move will help establish the three tiers of grassroots-level democracy in Jammu and Kashmir like in other parts of the country. This system was not available in J&K before the revocation of Article 370. Once implemented, this will help the people of Jammu and Kashmir elect their representatives at the village, block and district levels. After holding elections for all the three levels, the centre plans to set up District Development Councils (DDC) which will become new units of governance in J&K. The members of this council will be directly elected by voters in the Union Territory. The term of the DDC will be five years. The Additional District Development Commissioner of the district shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the District Development Council. The DDCs will replace the District Planning and Development Boards (DDBs) that were headed by a cabinet minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

However, the move is being viewed with deep mistrust by the local political class who think empowering DDCs is designed to supplant the local politics in the region. The PDP has come down hard on the arrangement, saying it is a step to deny people of J&K the right to frame their own laws. The party has termed it as a step to depoliticize Kashmir and hand the control to bureaucrats and security agencies. The National Conference has expressed similar apprehensions.

Such opposition, however, to the move is least of the centre's concerns. For the past one year, New Delhi has gone ahead with its project in Kashmir with a single minded devotion. It has passed order after order and tinkered with and made changes to entire edifice of the existing socio-political structure. Now changes to the grassroots empowerment laws is taking place at a time when when there's no knowing about the elections to be held to the union territory's Assembly. There's also no knowing about when or if the centre will restore the statehood. Though the home minister Amit Shah, in a recent interview, indicated an early restoration of the statehood, it is difficult to believe that the centre will do so in near future. That's until perhaps the union government is certain that its new laws for the union territory can be undone by a future dispensation. So, there's likely going to be more wait till J&K has been fully insulated against such a prospect. Meanwhile, the DDCs can be set up as an alternative to an elected government. But while they have their uses and will go a long way to enable grassroots empowerment, they can hardly replace an elected government.

OTHER OPINION

Revising Legal Age Of Marriage Of Girls

On Independence Day, the prime minister had announced that his government might raise the legal age of marriage of girls from 18 to 21. A high-level panel looking into the average age of motherhood, efforts to lower maternal mortality rates, and the health and nutritional status of young women had been appointed, and its report would help the government fix the 'right' age of marriage for women. The prime minister repeated the promise last Friday. The panel's job is certainly important. Raising women's age of marriage would do away with gender discrimination since men can marry legally only at 21, allow girls to continue studying and enhance women's participation in the workforce. Why does minor marriage continue in India in spite of laws against it? The report, Young Voices: National Working Group, based on consultation with 2,500 young people, says that the causes of minor marriage lie in poverty, traditional ideas about marriage and the desire to control female sexuality in a male dominated system. These cannot be addressed by a change in legal age of marriage. Instead, poor families afraid of dowry – another outlawed evil – would tend to get their girls married quickly, while elopements with bleak consequences, including honour killings, would rise. The remoteness of law from lived experience can be seen in the spurt of child marriages during the pandemic when economic stress increased. The prime minister has proudly cited the fact that the gross enrolment ratio of girls has overtaken that of boys for the first time as an argument in favour of raising girls' age of marriage. Yet a recent report shows that in the 15-29 age group – education becomes optional after 14 – only a little above 25 per cent of girls are engaged in learning activities. In January, a report from the Right to Education Forum showed that 40 per cent of girls aged 15-18 are not attending school and 30 per cent have not seen a classroom. The lowering of the school education budget from 4.14 per cent in 2014-15 to 3.40 per cent in 2019-20 seems peculiar given the government's declared objectives. Social workers' reports claim that it is the absence of facilities for secondary education that often lead to early marriage, not the other way round. But the prime minister will know what is best.

Telegraph India

The Politics Of Cultural Despair

Chris Hedges

TRUMP IS A symptom. He is not the disease. And if he leaves office far more competent and dangerous demagogues will rise, if the social conditions are not radically improved, to take his place.

BY VOTING FOR Biden and the Democratic Party you vote for something. You vote to endorse the humiliation of courageous women such as Anita Hill who confronted their abusers. You vote for the architects of the endless wars in the Middle East. You vote for the apartheid state in Israel.

The physical and moral decay of the United States and the malaise it has spawned have predictable results. We have seen in varying forms the consequences of social and political collapse during the twilight of the Greek and Roman empires, the Ottoman and Hapsburg empires, Tsarist Russia, Weimar Germany and the former Yugoslavia. Voices from the past, Aristotle, Cicero, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Joseph Roth and Milovan Djilas, warned us. But blinded by self-delusion and hubris, as if we are somehow exempt from human experience and human nature, we refuse to listen.

The United States is a shadow of itself. It squanders its resources in futile military adventurism, a symptom of all empires in decay as they attempt to restore a lost hegemony by force. Vietnam. Afghanistan. Iraq. Syria. Libya. Tens of millions of lives wrecked. Failed states. Enraged fanatics. There are 1.8 billion Muslims in the world, 24 percent of the global population, and we have turned virtually all of them into our enemies.

I speak to you in Troy, New York, once the second largest producer of iron in the country after Pittsburgh. It was an industrial hub for the garment industry, a center for the production of shirts, shirtwaists, collars, and cuffs, and was once home to foundries that made bells to firms that crafted precision instruments. All that is gone, of course, leaving behind the post-industrial decay, the urban blight and the shattered lives and despair that are sadly familiar in most cities in the United States.

An estimated 300,000 American will be dead from the pandemic in December, a figure that is expected to rise to 400,000 in January. Chronic underemployment and unemployment, close to 20 percent when those who have stopped looking for work, those furloughed with no prospect of being rehired and those who work part-time but are still below the poverty line, are included in the official statistic instead of being magically erased from the unemployment rolls.

The for-profit health service did not stockpile the ventilators, masks, tests or drugs to deal with COVID-19. Why should it? That is not a route to increased revenue. And there is no substantial difference between Trump and Biden's response to the health crisis, where 1,000 people a day are dying.

Forty-eight percent of front line workers remain ineligible for sick pay. Some 43 million Americans have lost their employee-sponsored health insurance. There are ten thousand bankruptcies a day, with perhaps two-thirds of them tied to exorbitant medical costs. Food banks are overrun with tens of thousands of desperate families. Roughly 10 to 14 million renter households, or 23 to 34 million people, were behind on their rent in September. That amounts to \$12 to \$17 billion in unpaid rent. And that figure is expected to rise to \$34 billion in past due rent in January. The lifting of the moratorium on evictions and forecloses will mean that millions of families, many destitute, will be tossed onto the street. Hunger in U.S. households almost tripled between 2019 and August of this year, according to the Census Bureau and the Department of Agriculture. The proportion of American children who do not have enough to eat, the study found, is 14 times higher than it was last year. A study by Columbia University, found that since May there are eight million more Americans who can be classified as poor. Meanwhile, the 50 richest Americans hold as much wealth as half of the United States. Millennials, some 72 million people, have 4.6 percent of U.S. wealth.

Only one thing matters to the corporate state. It is not democracy. It is not truth. It is not the consent of the governed. It is not income inequality. It is not the surveillance state. It is not endless war. It is not jobs. It is not the climate crisis. It is the primacy of corporate power – which has extinguished our democracy, taken from us our most basic civil liberties and left most of the working class in misery – and the increase and consolidation of its wealth and power.

Trump and Biden are repugnant figures, doddering into old age with cognitive lapses and no moral cores. Is Trump more dangerous than Biden? Yes. Is Trump inept and more dishonest? Yes. Is Trump more of a threat to the open society? Yes. Is Biden the solution? No.

Biden cannot plausibly offer change. He can only offer more of the same. And most Americans do not want more of the same. The country's largest voting-age bloc, the 100 million-plus citizens who out of apathy or disgust do not vote, will once again stay home. This demoralization of the electorate is by design.

In America we are only permitted to vote against what we hate.

By voting for Biden and the Democratic Party you vote for something.

You vote to endorse the humiliation of courageous women such as Anita Hill who confronted their abusers. You vote for the architects of the endless wars in the Middle East. You vote for the apartheid state in Israel. You vote for wholesale surveillance of the public by government intelligence agencies and the abolition of due process and habeas corpus. You vote for austerity programs, including the destruction of welfare and cuts to Social Security. You vote for NAFTA, free trade deals, de-industrialization, a real decline in wages, the loss of hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs and the offshoring of jobs to underpaid workers who toil in sweatshops in Mexico, China or Vietnam. You vote for the assault on teachers and public education and the transfer of federal funds to for-profit and Christian charter schools. You vote for the doubling of our prison population, the tripling and quadrupling of sentences and huge expansion of crimes meriting the death penalty. You vote for militarized police who gun down poor people of color with impunity. You vote against the Green New Deal and immigration reform. You vote for the fracking industry. You vote for limiting a woman's right to abortion and reproductive rights. You vote for a segregated public-school system in which the wealthy receive educational opportunities and poor people of color are denied a chance. You vote for punitive levels of student debt and the inability to free yourself of those debt obligations even if file for bankruptcy. You vote for deregulating the banking industry and the abolition of Glass-Steagall. You vote for the for-profit insurance and pharmaceutical corporations and against universal health care. You vote for defense budgets that consume more than half of all discretionary spending. You vote for the use of unlimited oligarchic and corporate money to buy our elections. You vote for a politician who during his time in the Senate abjectly served the interests of MBNA, the largest independent credit card company headquartered in Delaware, which also employed Biden's son Hunter.

Biden was one of the principle architects of the wars in the Middle East, where we have squandered upwards of \$7 trillion and destroyed or extinguished the lives of millions of people. He is responsible for far more suffering and death at home and abroad than Trump. If we had a functioning judicial and legislative system, Biden, along with the other architects of our disastrous imperial wars, corporate plundering of the country and betrayal of the American working class, would be put on trial, not offered up as a solution to our political and economic debacle.

The Democrats and their liberal apologists adopt tolerant positions on issues regarding race, religion, immigration, women's rights and sexual identity and pretend this is politics. These issues are societal or ethical issues. They are important. But they are not social or political issues. The seizure of control of the economy by a class of global speculators and corporations has ruined the lives of the very groups the Democrats pretend to lift up.

The molding of the public into warring factions works commercially. It works politically. It destroys, as it is designed to do, class solidarity. But it is a recipe for social disintegration. It propels us towards the kind of Hobbesian world Primo Levi and Sigmund Freud warned us about.

The United States, awash in military-grade weaponry, is already plagued by an epidemic of mass shootings. There are death threats against critics of Trump, including Rep. Ilhan Omar. There was an aborted plot by 13 members of a right-wing militia group to kidnap and perhaps assassinate the governors of Michigan and Virginia and start a civil war. A Trump supporter mailed pipe bombs to prominent Democrats and CNN, an effort to decapitate the hierarchy of the Democratic Party, as well as terrorize the media outlet that is the party's principal propaganda platform.

Political stagnation and corruption, along with economic and social misery, spawn what anthropologists call crisis cults—movements led by demagogues that prey on an

unbearable psychological and financial distress and champion violence as a form of moral purification. These crisis cults, already well established among followers of the Christian Right, right-wing militia groups and many followers of Donald Trump, who look at him not a politician but as a cult leader, peddle magical thinking and an infantilism that promises—if you surrender all autonomy—prosperity, restored national glory, a return to a mythical past, order and security. Trump is a symptom. He is not the disease. And if he leaves office far more competent and dangerous demagogues will rise, if the social conditions are not radically improved, to take his place.

Tens of millions of Americans live hermetically sealed inside the vast media and educational edifice erected by the Christian Right. In this world, miracles are real, Satan, allied with liberal secular humanists and the deep state, along with Muslims, immigrants, feminists, intellectuals, artists and a host of other internal enemies, is seeking to destroy America. Trump is God's anointed vessel to build the Christian nation and cement into place a government that instills "biblical values." These "biblical values" include banning abortion, protecting the traditional family, turning the Ten Commandments into secular law, crushing "infidels," especially Muslims, indoctrinating children in schools with "biblical" teachings and thwarting sexual license, which includes any sexual relationship other than marriage between a man and a woman. Trump is routinely compared by evangelical leaders to the biblical king Cyrus, who rebuilt the temple in Jerusalem and restored the Jews to the city.


Our corporate masters do not care about abortion, gun rights or the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman. But like the German industrialists who backed the Nazi Party, they know that the Christian Right will give an ideological veneer to ruthless corporate tyranny. These oligarchs view the Christian fascists the same way the German industrialists viewed the Nazis, as buffoons. They are aware that the Christian fascists will trash what is left of our anaemic democracy and the natural ecosystem. But they also know they will make huge profits in the process and the rights of workers and citizens will be ruthlessly suppressed.

If the corporate state is not overthrown, then America will soon become a naked police state where any opposition, however tepid, will be silenced with draconian censorship or force. Police in cities around the country have already thwarted the reporting by dozens of journalists covering the protests through physical force, arrests, tear gas, rubber bullets and pepper spray. This will become normalized. The huge social divides, often built around race, will be used by the Christian fascists to set neighbor against neighbor. Armed Christian patriots will attack those groups blamed for social collapse. Dissent, even non-violent dissent, will become treason.

It is up to us to carry out sustained acts of nonviolent, mass resistance. If we mobilize in large and small ways to fight for an open society, to create communities that, as Vaclav Havel wrote "live in truth," we hold out the possibility of pushing back against these crisis cults, holding at bay the brutality that accompanies social upheaval, as well as slowing and disrupting the march towards ecocide. This requires us to acknowledge that our systems of governance are incapable of being reformed. No one in power will save us. No one but us will stand up for the vulnerable, the demonized and the earth itself. All we do must have the single aim of crippling the power of the ruling elites in the hopes of new systems of governance that can implement the radical reforms to save us and our world.

The most difficult existential dilemma we face is to at once acknowledge the bleakness before us and act, to refuse to succumb to cynicism and despair. And we will only do this through faith, the faith that the good draws to it the good, that all acts that nurture and protect life have an intrinsic power, even if the empirical evidence shows that things are getting worse. We will find our freedom, our autonomy, our meaning and our social bonds among those who also resist, and this will allow us to endure, and maybe even triumph.

This article was originally published by the Scheerpost. The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect Kashmir Observer's views



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Endless Woes Of Teachers Employed Under SSA

"Nation's wellbeing depends on teacher's wellbeing & our teachers are the custodian of our future", said Indira Gandhi once. Sadly, this isn't the case anymore, at least not in Jammu and Kashmir. Here, a section of teachers, previously SSA and now called Grade-2, Grade-3 teachers are being discriminated and undervalued by successive regimes. These teachers were engaged under SSA flagship program which was not meant to eradicate unemployment in J&K but to provide education to all, especially marginalised sections of the society.

As per the scheme, a teacher was to be appointed on a meagre amount on a contractual arrangement for a period of 5 years and it was promised that they will be considered at par with Regular teachers after a completion of these five years. Many young, energetic and qualified youth availed the opportunity without knowing its future consequences. They've now been victimized under this arrangement due to flawed decisions and administrative processes.

Initially, they faced multiple issues including regularisation but were hoping against hopes. Soon, however, a circular asked these teachers to take some screening tests to prove their worth. The move was in contradiction to the Government's self-formulated criteria through which they were inducted on merit basis.

Ironically, even after passing two years some of them are still waiting and the department has failed to complete the 100% conversion of these Grade-2 & Grade-3 teachers.

In fact, these teachers have dedicated the prime of their life in rendering services to the department in different capacities like BLO, Election duty, Census, examination, super 50, winter tutorials & even when the department faces dire need of lecturers or teachers for higher levels, this shortage is compensated by the same erstwhile SSA teacher. In addition to it, these teachers have opened schools in remote & far flung areas.

Targeting only one section on one after other pretext is sheer humiliation and challenges the credibility of this section. These teachers are being discriminated to the extent that they have been debarred from transfer policy which leads to many mental and social difficulties for them.

Even as people at the helm of affairs have made promises about addressing these issues; nothing seems to have been done yet. Teacher discrimination has always resulted in a downfall of academic performance. It's high time for the policy makers of the education department to come up with a single cadre of teachers rather than multiple types of staff performing the same work. It will definitely bring a revolution and improvement in the derailed system.

MushtaqBhat
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The Enduring Popularity Of Mirza Ghalib

Ghalib Is A People’s Poet, A Commentator’s Poet And A Critic’s Poet

SoumyaDuggal

“**CLEARLY, WE** will never know who the real Ghalib was. To say the least, he was an object in human history over whom time was the real Ghalib (victor), a genius flawed by his own idiosyncrasies as the commonest of men are. The “real” Ghalib, is a multifarious literary entity, an author authored by those critics who followed him in the history of time

Ghalib is a name we all familiar with. The sender of a flirtatious “goodnight” text, though she might be unaware of the poet’s disdain for Urdu, knows how to deploy a suitable couplet. A politician retorting to an accusatory comment, though she might be oblivious to the presence of abstract thoughts in concrete images, knows which shi’r would turn the tables on the opposition. A friend teasing a budding poet mockingly calls him Ghalib, though she may never have held an edition of Divan-e-Ghalib. A participant in a tamseelimushairacertainly knows a lot about the poet’s work and tries to embody his self-confidence (or borderline narcissism) and exact style of delivery. A person from an Urdu speaking household delights his listeners by sharing the famous mango anecdote and a scholar points out that Ghalib’s poetry is not difficult but ambiguous. The point is if one has any semblance of exposure to literature, especially to Urdu literature, one would’ve heard the name Ghalib, if not much more.

The posthumous popularity of MirzaAsadullah Khan Ghalib, through the twentieth century to contemporary time, has been immense. It is well known that in his own time, the poet was accused of using convoluted metaphors and a highly Persianised diction, which rendered his Urdu verse difficult, nay, “meaningless”. Moreover, being primarily a ghazal poet, he devised no new styles to overcome the recognised constraints of the literary form and in that sense remained forever bound by the literary conventions of his own age. Yet, his popularity with and relevance for both the masses and the critics, the laymen and the learned, continue till date in the sub-continent, and more so than that of any of his contemporaries or even many of his legendary predecessors. To explain this paradox, let us enlist the help of the celebrated Urdu writer-critic Shamsur Rahman Faruqi, whose work has contributed towards cementing Ghalib’s ‘greatness’ in the field of literary studies.

But before delving into his analysis, the idea of the popularity of art or literature must be touched upon, albeit briefly. What does it mean for poetry to be popular? And with whom must it be popular: the masses, huge in number but inadequate in knowledge?; or the scholars, a small group of educated and ‘cultured’ elite? The common man who claims to appreciate Ghalib’s poetry after all recognises only a handful of shi’rs, which are simple to understand and easy to remember, and mistakes them for a complete representation of the actual content of the vast Urdu diwan. Does the ‘popular’ image of Ghalib in the minds of the masses bear any resemblance with the image produced by Ghalib’s critics, who have devoted myriad hours to the in-depth study of most of his creative output, in their contributions to literary criticism? But how popular is a poet if his popularity is restricted to a select club of admirers? Perhaps these questions are not perplexing at all. Perhaps popular-



ity translates to varying forms of presence across social and intellectual stratifications. So, Ghalib is a people’s poet, a commentator’s poet and a critic’s poet. Different readers share different relationships with the poet, producing different Ghalibs, as it were. A coming together of literary stalwarts and mass entertainment technologies must also be credited with making Ghalib a household name. The 1953 movie MirzaGhalib made by SohrabModi and the later eponymous TV serial directed by Gulzar, truly popularisedGhalib amongst the public at large. Jagjitsingh’s melodious songs based on the poet’s ghazals have made some of his shi’rs “the most popular shi’rs from Ghalib’sdiwan” as we know them.

To return now to the question of the ‘canonical Ghalib’, let us look at Faruqi’s views to discern in what ways he explains the poet’s ‘greatness’ to establish cause for his continuing popularity.

In his essay titled, ‘Ghalib, the Difficult Poet’, Faruqi takes up the oft-repeated characterization of Ghalib as a difficulty loving poet who wrote “meaningless” poetry and offers the explanation that it is the ambiguity of his verse that readers/listeners mistake for difficulty. In his view, difficulty is achieved by a mere use of words or of poetic allusions unknown to the readers; while on the other hand, ambiguity is produced by Ghalib by way of a harmonious marriage

between the complexity of language and the intricacy of thought. So, while the latter produces a multiplicity of meanings and is proof of a poet’s refined poetic skills, the former offers a riddle-like situation where only one right solution is possible to the poetic problem posed in the verse.

Is ambiguity a more difficult difficulty? Does Faruqi create an artificial divide between the two so as to defend Ghalib against the charges traditionally levelled against him? No. The point being made here is that while a difficult verse demands of the reader a laborious attempt to figure out the meaning of the poem as intended by the poet, an ambiguousGhalibian verse allows her to find meanings, numerous or few, thoughtful or superficial, complex or simple, as per her aptitude and convenience.

The second constituent of Ghalib’s distinct style, according to Faruqi, is his “natural” proclivity for uniqueness. Of all the literary styles available to him, that is, Mir’s, Zauq’s, Momin’s, Insha’setc, Ghalib chose to follow none. Except perhaps Bedil’s, whose influence he had renounced only to get away with never really giving it up, but even of Bedil he was never a mere imitator. The essence of Ghalibness therefore lies in being like no one else. Interestingly, this assertion helps place the poet in the classical tradition without tying him to any era of that tradition through association with a particular group of poets.

The third and final constituent in Ghalib is an intellectualism which makes him unique in comparison not only to the poets of his own location, but also to the likes of Baudelaire and Keats. Intellectualist realism as opposed to madness on the part of the poet means here that Ghalib does not get carried away, even while talking about subjects like death, and is able to maintain a witty tone, an inventive language and a logical approach while creating “the world out of practical thought”.

Clearly, we will never know who the real Ghalib was. To say the least, he was an object in human history over whom time was the real Ghalib (victor), a genius flawed by his own idiosyncrasies as the commonest of men are. The “real” Ghalib, is a multifarious literary entity, an author authored by those critics who followed him in the history of time. The ‘real’ Ghalib is perhaps the most special one, for he is borne out of the reader’s own consciousness, a cloud that continues to burgeon till such time as the reader explores the vast output of its poetic genius, and one which contracts into a single drop of that one shi’rwhich touches her heart the most. Even as one partakes of the collectiveGhalib in a classroom or a mushaira, the ‘real’ Ghalib is who one actually converses with in the solitude of one’s mind.

The author can be reached at soumyaduggal@gmail.com

Virtue Of Solitude

Matthew Sharpe

“**SOLITUDE GIVES** us the means to recall the bigger picture: our lives are quietly passing by; there are good people who we too often take for granted; we have neglected many things we deeply wanted to do and Nature or God (if we are religious) is far more awe inspiring than we usually credit

Over the past seven months, many of us have got closer to experiencing the kind of solitude long sought by monks, nuns, philosophers and misanthropes.

For some, this has brought loneliness. Nevertheless, like religions such as Buddhism, the West has a rich literature — both religious and secular — exploring the possible benefits of being alone.

“Take time and see the Lord is good,” Psalm 34 enjoins, in a biblical passage long read as a call to periodically withdraw from worldly occupations. The best form of life will be contemplative, the philosopher Aristotle concurs.

Solitude, according to the Renaissance poet-philosopher Petrarch,

rehabilitates the soul, corrects morals, renews affections, erases blemishes, purges faults, (and) reconciles God and man.

Here are four key benefits of solitude these very different, contemplative authors point to.

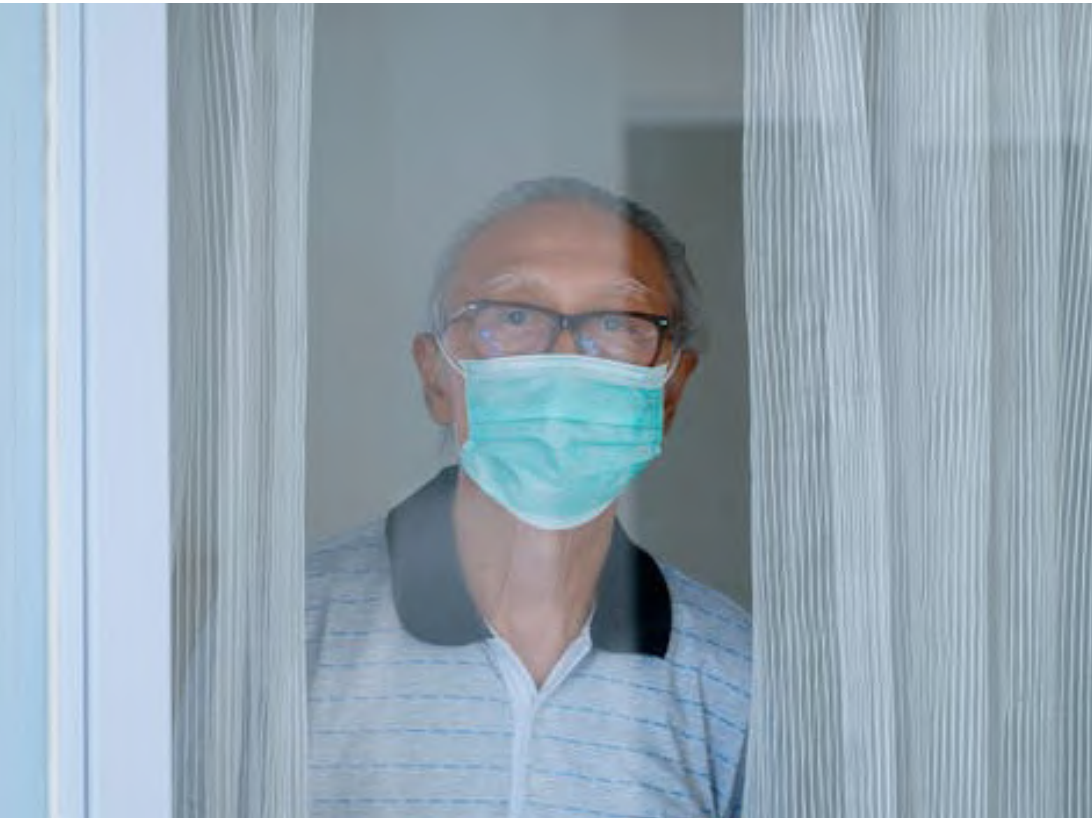
1. Freedom to do what you want — any old time

The first boon identified by those who praise solitude is the leisure and liberty it provides.

There is freedom in space. You can (proverbially) get around in your PJs, and who’s to know? There is the release from the needs and demands of others (a liberty many parents may have found themselves longing for recently). And there may be a freedom in time, also. In solitude, we may do, think, imagine and pay easy attention to whatever pleases us.

“When I dance, I dance; when I sleep, I sleep,” the 16th century French philosopher Montaigne, a connoisseur of the quiet life, mused.

Yes, and when I walk alone in a beautiful orchard, if my thoughts



drift to far-off matters for some part of the time, for some other part I lead them back again to the walk, the orchard, to the sweetness of this solitude, to myself.

2. Reconnecting with yourself

Solitude (unless of course we are working from home) withdraws the external objects, demands and tasks crowding our days. All the energies we have distributed so widely, in different relationships, projects and pursuits can regather themselves, “like a wave rolling from sand and shore back to its ocean source,” as psychologist Oliver Morgan has written.

Advocates of solitude hence stress how, with fewer preoccupa-

tions, we can reconnect to aspects of ourselves we usually don’t have time for. This may not always be pleasant. But periodically reassessing who we are, even when it throws up confronting desires, harrowing fears or humbling insights, may be renewing.

This value of solitude as a test explains why, in many cultures, rites of passage involve periods of enforced withdrawal from the wider group. If a person can’t be content in their own company, the odds are they will not be happy around others either, as the Stoic Epictetus observed.

3. Finding your ‘inner citadel’

Solitude can enable us to re-

charge. As Montaigne joked, it allows you to take a step back from ordinary life, the better to leap into it next time. It also enables us to cultivate a valuable inner distance from the pressures, shocks and follies that usually beset us.

“We should have wives, children, property and, above all, good health,” Montaigne observed. But also, metaphorically, “We should set aside a room, just for ourselves, at the back of the shop, keeping it entirely free and establishing there our true liberty, our principal solitude and asylum ...”

The Roman emperor and thinker Marcus Aurelius called such a virtual back room an “inner citadel”

to which the wise person could retreat, retiring into his own soul.

4. Seeing the bigger picture

In ordinary life, the horizons of our concern are practical and short-range. We are too busy to take stock — fearing and desiring what is coming up today, next week, next month or next year.

Ferried along in this way, years can pass without our noticing.

Solitude gives us the means to recall the bigger picture: our lives are quietly passing by; there are good people who we too often take for granted; we have neglected many things we deeply wanted to do and Nature or God (if we are religious) is far more awe inspiring than we usually credit.

Indeed, many sources suggest it is only through being alone that the highest truths become accessible to the seeker.

As the mystic St John of the Cross reported: “The very pure spirit does not bother about the regard of others or human respect, but communes inwardly with God, alone and in solitude as to all forms, and with delightful tranquillity, for the knowledge of God is received in divine silence.”

It is for these reasons that holy men and women from diverse global traditions have withdrawn into the desert, as Christ did, or onto isolated heights, as did Mohammed in the Quran or Moses in Exodus.

Of course, most of us will not emerge from the pandemic convinced solitaries. It is natural to long for the many goods of human connection.

But one unlikely benefit of 2020 for some harried moderns may be gaining insight into why older cultures valued time alone so highly.

In an arrangement with The Conversation

Study reveals high flavanol diet may lead to lower blood pressure

Agencies

People who consume a diet including flavanol-rich foods and drinks, including tea, apples and berries, could lead to lower blood pressure, according to the first study using objective measures of thousands of UK residents' diet.

The findings, published in Scientific Reports, studied the diet of more than 25,000 people in Norfolk, UK and compared what they ate with their blood pressure. In contrast to most other studies investigating links between nutrition and health, the researchers did not rely on study participants reporting their diet but instead measured flavanol intake objectively using nutritional biomarkers - indicators of dietary intake, metabolism or nutritional status that are present in our blood.

The difference in blood pressure between those with the lowest 10% of flavanol intake and those with the highest 10% of intake was between 2 and 4 mmHg. This is comparable to meaningful changes in blood pressure observed in those following a Mediterranean diet or Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH) diet. Notably, the effect was more pronounced in participants with hypertension.

Professor Gunter Kuhnle, a nutritionist at the University of Reading who led the study said: "Previous studies of large populations have always relied on self-reported data to draw conclusions, but this is the first epide-



miological study of this scale to objectively investigate the association between a specific bioactive compound and health. We are delighted to see that in our study, there was also a meaningful and significant association between flavanol consumption and lower blood pressure.

"What this study gives us is an objective finding of the association between flavanols - found in tea and some fruits - and blood pressure. This research confirms the results from previous dietary intervention studies and shows that the same results can be achieved with a habitual diet rich in flava-

nols. In the British diet, the main sources are tea, cocoa, apples and berries.

"The methodology of the study is of equal importance. This is one of the largest ever studies to use nutritional biomarkers to investigate bioactive compounds. Using nutritional biomarkers to estimate intake of bioactive food compounds has long been seen as the gold standard for research, as it allows the intake to be measured objectively. The development, validation and application of the biomarker were only possible because of the long-term commitment of all collaborators. In contrast to self-reported

dietary data, nutritional biomarkers can address the huge variability in food composition. We can therefore confidently attribute the associations we observed to flavanol intake."

An international team from the University of Reading, Cambridge University, the University of California Davis, and Mars, Incorporated studied 25,618 participants from the European Prospective Investigation into Cancer (EPIC) Norfolk study and found that the biggest difference was observed in participants with the highest blood pressure.

Children with autism, ADHD have more doctor, hospital visits during infancy: Study



Agencies

Children who are later diagnosed with autism or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder visit doctors and hospitals more often in their first year of life than non-affected children, suggest the findings of a new study which enlightens a potential new way to identify the conditions early.

The findings from Duke Health researchers, appearing in the journal Scientific Reports, provide evidence that health care utilisation patterns in a baby's first year can be gleaned from electronic medical records, serving as a roadmap to provide timely diagnoses and treatments that could improve outcomes and reduce health care costs.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) affects approximately

1.5 per cent of children in the United States and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) affects about 11 per cent of US children. ADHD symptoms are also present in up to 60 per cent of children with ASD. The diagnoses are associated with higher utilisation of health care services, at great expense to families.

"This study provides evidence that children who develop autism and ADHD are on a different path from the beginning," said lead author Matthew Engelhard, M.D., Ph.D., a senior research associate at Duke. "We have known that children with these diagnoses have more interactions with the health care system after they've been diagnosed, but this indicates that distinctive patterns of utilization begin early in these children's lives.

Call For Entries: 2nd WHO Health for All Film Festival

Agencies

The World Health Organization has invited independent filmmakers, production companies, public health institutions, NGOs, communities, students, and film schools from around the world to submit their original short films to the 2nd Health for All Film Festival.

Launched in 2020, the festival aims to recruit a new generation of film and video innovators to champion global health issues, according to WHO.

The inaugural Health for All Film Festival in 2019/2020 accepted 1,300 short film submissions from more than 110 countries.

"Telling stories is as old as human civilization. It helps us understand our problems and heal ourselves. WHO is proud to announce the second Health for All Film Festival, to cultivate visual storytelling about public health," said Dr Tedros



World Health Organization

Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General.

"We look forward to receiving creative entries inspired by WHO's mission to promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable."

The competition categories this year will align with WHO's global goals for public health.

Universal health coverage (UHC): films about mental health, non-

communicable diseases and other UHC stories linked to communicable diseases not part of emergencies.

Health emergencies: films about health emergencies, such as Covid-19, Ebola, as well as health responses in the context of humanitarian crises and in conflict-affected settings.

Better health and well-being: films about environmental and so-

cial determinants of health, such as nutrition, sanitation, pollution, gender and/or films about health promotion or health education.

For each of these three Grand Prix categories, judges will accept short documentaries or fiction films (3 to 8 minutes in length), short videos for social media or animation films (1 to 5 minutes in length).

Three other prizes will be awarded for a student-produced film, a health educational film aimed at youth, and a short video designed exclusively for social media platforms.

Submissions are open from 24 October 2020 to 30 January 2021.

After the close of submissions, critically-acclaimed artists from the film and music industries will review the shortlisted films with WHO experts and recommend winners to WHO's Director-General, who will make the final decision.

The jury composition will be announced by January 2021.

محکمہ باغبانی (بارٹیکلچر) کشمیر

مالکان باغات کے لئے ضروری ہدایات

وادی کے مالکان باغات کو اطلاع دی جاتی ہے کہ اپنے میوہ باغات کے بہتر رکھ رکھاؤ کے لئے محکمہ کی طرف سے شائع کردہ درج ذیل ہدایات پر عمل کریں۔

اپنے میوہ باغات کی صفائی کو فی الفور یقینی بنائیں۔

میوہ باغات کے اندر گرے پڑے اور داغ دار میوہ جلت کو جمع کرکے گہرے کپڑے میں ڈال دیں تاکہ سکیب سکیب اور دیگر بیماریوں کے ختم کو ختم کیا جاسکے۔

میوہ درختوں سے گرے ہوئے پتوں کو جلانے کے بجائے گہرے کپڑوں میں دفن کرنے کو ترجیح دیں۔ عالمی وبائی COVID-19 بیماری

کے پیش نظر احتیاطی تدابیر اور ماحولیاتی صفائی کا خیال رکھیں تاکہ نظام تنفس اور سانس سے جڑی بیماریوں سے محفوظ رہا جائے۔

ماہ نومبر میں پھل جڑ کے شروع ہوتے ہی اپنے میوہ باغات میں پوریا بحساب 4.5% فی صد لیٹر پانی میں ملا کر چھڑکاو عمل میں لائیں تاکہ میوہ درختوں پر موجود اور فرش پر گرے پڑے ہوئے پتوں پر لگے بیماری کے ختم کو ختم کیا جاسکے۔

المستہتر :- ڈائریکٹوریٹ آف بارٹیکلچر، راج باغ سرینگر کشمیر

DIPK-7823/20

Social Networks 'Amplifiers For Idiots And Crazy People': Ex-Google Boss

Gerrit De Vynck, Bloomberg

Former Google Chief Executive Officer Eric Schmidt said the "excesses" of social media are likely to result in greater regulation of internet platforms in the coming years.

Schmidt, who left the board of Google's parent Alphabet Inc. in 2019 but is still one of its largest shareholders, said the antitrust lawsuits the U.S. government filed against the company on Tuesday was misplaced, but that more regulation may be in order for social networks in general. "The context of social networks serving as amplifiers for idiots and crazy people is not what we intended," Schmidt said at a virtual conference hosted by the Wall Street Journal on Wednesday. "Unless the industry gets its act together

er in a really clever way, there will be regulation."

Google's YouTube has tried to decrease the spread of misinformation and lies about Covid-19 and U.S. politics over the last year, with mixed results. Facebook Inc. and Twitter Inc. have also been under fire in recent years for allowing racist and discriminatory messages to spread online. Schmidt also argued Google's massive search business -- the target of the U.S. Department of Justice's antitrust suit -- continues to be so successful because people choose it over competitors, not because it uses its size to block smaller rivals.

"I would be careful about these dominance arguments. I just don't agree with them," Schmidt said. "Google's market share is not 100%."

NOTICE

I Huma Latief w/o Intikhab Alam R/o Doulatpora Kreeri Baramulla informs all that I have applied for pesticides licences under the name of M.A.M pesticides address-Doulatpora Kreeri Baramulla. I request if any one has any issue or problem please report it within next 7 days to Distt. Law enforcement officer Department of agriculture/plant protection officer Baramulla Kashmir division.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER Muffasil R&B Division, Budgam

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No: 121/MDb/7345-65 of 2020-21 DATED: 22.10.2020

For and on behalf of the **President of India**, 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	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Earnest Money (In Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Development of road by way of berm filling and Kacha drain and Laying of RCC spun pipes on Bon Sharan Peth Sharan road KM 1 st .	3.20 Lacs	200/-	6400/-	15 days	DEE	C&T
2	Providing and Laying of RCC pipes/ MS pipes on Nasrullahpora Pymus road for X-drainage in place of damaged pipes	1.02 Lacs	200/-	2040/-	10 days	DEE	District sector
3	Construction of Tile Path from Main road to H/O Syed Nazir Ahmad at Wadipora of MC Budgam	3.72 Lacs	200/-	7440/-	15 days	DEE	14 th FC
4	Upgradation of Khanpora link road taking off from KM 1 st of Budgam ichigam road by way of Construction of Edge walls at spots incld. all link near H/O Mohammad Shafi and others	6.00 Lacs	200/-	12000/-	20 days	DEE/CEE	District sector

(i) Position of AAA: - Accorded

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

(ii) Position of funds: Available

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	22.10.2020 4:00 PM
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	22.10.2020 from 4:00 PM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	22.10.2020 from 4:00 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	03.11.2020 upto 4:00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	04.11.2020 at 11:00 A.M in the office of Executive Engineer Muffasil R&B Division Budgam

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of **Treasury Challan** in favour of **Executive Engineer Muffasil R&B Division Budgam** (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money / Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to **Executive Engineer Muffasil R&B Division Budgam** (tender receiving authority).
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.iktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The **bids of Responsive bidders** shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of **Executive Engineer Muffasil R&B Division Budgam** (tender receiving authority).
- The earnest money in favour of unsuccessful bidder shall be released only after submission of Treasury Challan
- The bids for the work shall remain **valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids**
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, if:-
 - Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
 - Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

sd/-

No: 7345-65
Date: 22.10.2020

DIPK-7879/20

Executive Engineer,
Muffasil (R&B) Division, Budgam.

Office of the Executive Engineer

Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag HQ Awantipora

GIST for E-NIT S. No. 32 /MIDA of 2020-21

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

The work has been tendered vide E Nit 10 of 2020-21 Sl.No 05 dt : 24.07.2020 issued vide No MIDA/721-31, stands cancelled due to no response vide No MIDA/1685-94 Dt : 12.10.2020

S. No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Cost of Tender Documents	Earnest Money	Time for completion
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Various electrical repairs at various lift stations of MISD Padgampora	0.588 lacs	100/=	1176/-	07 days

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

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

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
		DD	MM	YYYY	
A	Publishing date of NIT	21	10	2020	06:00 PM.
2	Download start date	21	10	2020	06:00 PM.
3	Bid submission start date	21	10	2020	06:00 PM..
4	Bid submission end date	31	10	2020	04:00 PM.
5	Bid opening date	02	11	2020	11:00 AM.

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

No. MIDA/ 1770-80
Dated:- 21.10.2020

DIPK-7829/20

Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag
HQ Awantipora



Police used water cannons on government employees to disperse them during a protest over their various demands, in Srinagar, Thursday

Home Secy reviews apportionment of assets and liabilities between J&K, Ladakh

SRINAGAR: The Union Home Secretary, Ajay Kumar Bhalla, today chaired a high-level meeting to review the apportionment of assets and liabilities between the two Union Territories of Jammu & Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Chief Secretary, J&K, B V R Subrahmanyam, Advisor to LG Ladakh, and Additional Secretary (JKL), Ministry of Home Affairs participated in the meeting.

During the meeting, detailed deliberations were held on the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Division of Assets and



Liabilities between the two newly constituted union territories.

While reviewing the recommendations of the said Advisory Committee, the Union Home Secretary ob-

served that the administrations of the two UTs are in agreement on many of the recommendations. However, in case of those recommendations wherein there exists a difference of opinion, the Union Secretary said that an appropriate view shall be taken by the Government of India at the level of Ministry of Home Affairs.

Meanwhile, the Chief Secretary, J&K, apprised the Union Home Secretary on Jammu & Kashmir's stand on various issues related to the apportionment of assets, and liabilities.

LG Visits KU, Inaugurates New Admin Block



SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, today visited the University of Kashmir, Srinagar, and inaugurated a new Administration Block worth Rs 14.58 cr and Multipurpose Gymnasium Block costing Rs 2.35 cr at the main campus there.

He also laid the foundation stone of Synthetic Athletic Track Surface at a cost of Rs 6 cr.

The Lt Governor, who is also the Chancellor of the University of Kashmir, observed that the new infrastructure will cater to the need of upgrading both Administrative as well as sports infrastructure in the University.

The J&K Government is giving special attention towards modernization and upgradation of educational infrastructure to evolve the education sector in the UT, said the Lt Governor.

Kewal Kumar Sharma, Advisor to the Lt Governor; Pandurang K. Pole, Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir; Vijay Kumar, IG Kashmir; and Sarmad Hafeez, Secretary to the Government, Youth Services and Sports, Tourism and Culture Departments accompanied the Lt Governor.

14-year-old boy ends life in Bandipora

BANDIPORA: A 14-year-old boy ended life after hanging himself to death in the Plan area of north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Thursday.

Official sources said that said a 14-year-old boy (name withheld), a resident of Nowpora village allegedly committed suicide after hanging himself to death at his maternal uncle's home in Plan Bandipora.

"Body of the deceased has been taken for completing medico-legal formalities and will be later on handed over to his family for last rites," sources added.

Meanwhile, Police have taken cognizance of the incident and have set investigations into motion.

Muzafar Shah slams Yogi's Kashmir remarks

SRINAGAR: Awami National Conference senior vice president Muzafar Ahmed Shah has slammed UP Chief Minister for his Kashmir remarks.

UP Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath in his election rally in Bihar had stated that in the absence of Article 370, anybody can now buy property in Kashmir. "The remarks of Yogi show the extent of hate and grudge he has towards the Muslims of Kashmir. Whenever, BJP feels it is losing, it plays the Kashmir card to goad the sentiments of naïve people during elections," Shah said.

He said that there is a lesson for those in Kashmir remarks of Yogi Adityanath who demand Statehood. "Before demanding statehood, these people in Kashmir should first own the land and property of the people of Kashmir," he said.

Flu vaccine reduces risk of dying from Covid-19: DAK

SRINAGAR: Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Thursday said that the flu vaccine would protect you from severe Covid-19 disease. "Flu shot would reduce your risk of dying from Covid-19 infection," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

"A study on the elderly population in the United States found that a 10 percent increase in the flu vaccine coverage in an area can reduce Covid mortality in the area by 28 percent," he said.

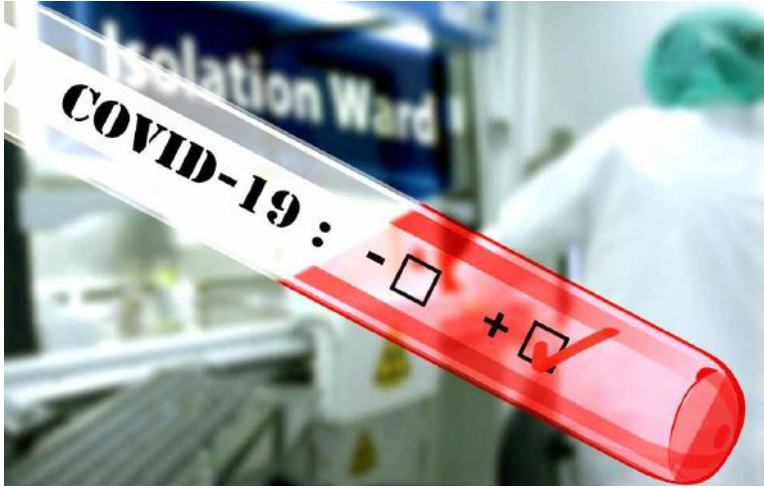
DAK President said at least two other studies have indicated that flu shots provide protection against severe Covid-19 infection.

"One of these studies conducted in Italy indicated that areas in which more people took flu vaccine had a lower death rate from Covid-19 infection," he said.

"In another study, researchers in Brazil found that a flu shot can reduce mortality by 20 percent when taken before the onset of Covid-19 and about 27 percent when the vaccine was given after the onset of Covid-19," he added.

Dr Nisar said the flu vaccine trains the immune system of a person to quickly recognize and clear away any harmful organism including those not targeted by the vaccine.

Also, vaccines produce protective



neutralizing antibodies and specific T-cell responses that could provide cross-protection against Covid-19 infection.

"We could be facing a confluence this winter of a flu pandemic and a still raging Covid-19 pandemic," he said.

"People can catch flu and Covid at the same time and that increases their risk of ending up in ICU or on a ventilator."

"That makes this year's flu vaccine vitally important," Dr Nisar said adding "flu vaccine will reduce the risk of simultaneous infection and re-

duce the burden on the health care system that is currently struggling from the Covid pandemic."

"While flu vaccination is recommended for all, it is especially needed in young children, elderly, pregnant women and people with underlying medical conditions," he said.

"Ideally, people should get the vaccine by the end of October. However, getting vaccinated later can still be beneficial and vaccination should continue to be offered throughout the flu season even into January or later," said Dr Nisar.

SKUAST (K) Seminar Stresses On Importance Of Agro-meteorology For Food Security

SRINAGAR: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Shalimar is holding ten days online international training programme on "Climate Risk Assessment and its Management through Agro meteorological Approaches" from 21st October, 2020.

In this regard, the inaugural function of the training program was organized yesterday at 5:30 PM (IST) through online mode consisting of guests of national and international repute.

Prof. Rattan Lal, Director Carbon Management and Sequestration Center, The Ohio State University USA, who is also the recipient of World Food Prize 2020 (Nobel Prize of Asia) was the Chief Guest of the session.

Dr. Ch. Srinivasarao, Director ICAR NAARM, Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad, Director Extension, SKUAST K, Dr. Nazir A. Ganai, Director, Planning and Monitoring and PI NAHEP SKUASTK were the other guests on the occasion.

During the inaugural address, Dr. Rattan Lal appreciated university work and emphasised on the importance of agro-meteorology in achieving food security and sustainable development goals. He also enlightened participants on the need of soil, water and air conservation. He appreciated the Course and Co-

Course Directors viz., Dr. Latief Ahmad and Dr. Syed Sheraz Mahdi and other members of the organizing committee for organising this much needed training programme of international standard which was attended by more than 330 participants across the globe. He also applauded course design, content and selection of subject matter experts for deliberations on various topics related to climate risks and its management. Dr Mushtaq Ahmed, Director Extension, SKAUST-K, in his address emphasised the need for managing the climate risks affecting the agriculture production of local farmers. Dr. Nazir Ahmad Ganai, Director Planning and PI, NAHEP also emphasized the role of agro-meteorology for food and livelihood security and emphasised the need to combat the climatic risks affecting our agriculture and allied sectors.

Dr. Latief Ahmed, Course Director welcomed the guests and briefed participants and expert guests about the training program.

Dr. M. Anwar Bhat, Professor & Head, Division of Agronomy, FOA, Wadara made opening remarks about the training program. Dr. S. Sheraz Mahdi, Co-Course Director of training programme carried out the proceedings of the training program.

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1086 - Battle of az-Zallaqah: Army of Yusuf ibn Tashfin defeats the forces of Castilian King Alfonso VI.
- 1157 - The Battle of Grathe Heath ends the civil war in Denmark. King Sweyn III is killed and Valdemar I restores the country.
- 1702 - Battle of Bay of Vigo: Dutch & English fleet destroy & occupy Spanish silver fleet & French squadron
- 1739 - War of Jenkins' Ear starts: British Prime Minister, Robert Walpole, reluctantly declares war on Spain
- 1812 - Failed coup against emperor Napoleon
- 1813 - The Pacific Fur Company trading post in Astoria, Oregon is turned over to the rival British North West Company (the fur trade in the Pacific Northwest was dominated for the next three decades by the United Kingdom).
- 1853 - Maastricht-Aken railway in Netherlands opens
- 1854 English newspaper "The Times" gives precise British positions in Crimea during Crimean War
- 1864 - Battle of Westport, Missouri: Union General Samuel R Curtis defeats Confederate General Sterling Price.
- 1935 - Mackenzie King is elected as Prime Minister of Canada for the third time
- 1942 - First ships of invasion fleet to Morocco leave Norfolk
- 1942 - During WW II, Britain launches major offensive at El Alamein, Egypt
- 1944 - Soviet army invades Hungary
- Jackie Robinson
- 1946 - UN General Assembly 2nd session convenes (1st NYC-Flushing Meadows)
- 1947 - NAACP petition on racism "An Appeal to the World" presented to UN
- 1947 - Husband & wife Dr Carl Cori & Dr Gerty Cori are 1st spouses to be awarded joint Nobel Prizes.
- 1953 - France grants Laos' sovereignty
- 1953 - German FR applies to NATO
- 1954 - Britain, France & USSR agree to end occupation of Germany
- 1954 - Pakistan Governor-General Gholaan Mohammed disbands parliament
- 1956 - First video recording on magnetic tape televised coast-to-coast
- 1956 - Thousands of Hungarians protest against the government and Soviet occupation. (The Hungarian Revolution is crushed on November 4).
- 1957 - First test firing of Vanguard satellite launch vehicle, TV-3
- 1958 - De Gaulle offers Algerians defiance "peace of the brave"
- 1958 - Soviet novelist Boris Pasternak, wins Nobel Prize for Literature
- 1959 - Chinese troops move into India, 17 die
- 1973 - UN's revised International Telecommunication Convention adopted
- 1975 - Battle between Cuba & South Africa troops in Angola
- 1978 - China & Japan formally ends 4 decades of dissension
- 1983 - 400,000 demonstrate in Brussels, against cruise missile
- 1983 - Suicide terrorist truck bomb kills 243 US personnel in Beirut
- 1984 - STS 51-A launch vehicle moves to launch pad
- 1987 - Dutch government gives Fokker's Aircraft ¥212 million credit
- 1989 - Hungary proclaims itself a republic & declares communist rule ended
- 1989 - US 62nd manned space mission STS 34 (Atlantis 5) returns from space
- 1990 - Iraq announces release of 330 French hostages
- 1998 - Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Chairman Yasser Arafat reach a "land for peace" agreement.
- 2004 - A powerful earthquake and its aftershocks hit Niigata prefecture, northern Japan, killing 35 people, injuring 2,200, and leaving 85,000 homeless or evacuated.
- 2011 - A powerful 7.2 magnitude earthquake strikes Van Province, Turkey, killing 582 people and injuring thousands.



HIJRI
CALENDAR

05

RABI-UL-

AWWAL

1441

PRAYERS

FAJR

5:21

ZUHR

12:16

ASR

4:11

MAGRIB

5:53

ISHA

7:12

Workshop on Role of Nurses in COVID-19 Management At IUST Concludes

AWANTIPORA: Three Day Online International workshop on "Expanded and Extended Role of Nurses in Covid-19 Pandemic Management" Observation of International Infection Prevention week on the theme "Break the chain of Infection" concluded here on Thursday. Around 100 participants across the globe participated

pioneering scientific discoveries. Vaccines against retrovirus like, HIV, HCV are yet to be done to check their virulence. Further he briefed the role of viruses and vaccines in future perspective. The valediction concluded with a vote of thanks to the experts, contributors and participants by Asmat Parveen, I/C Principal SMMCN&MT



in the said workshop.

While addressing the participants during the session, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mushtaq A. Siddiqi, an eminent Immunologist of the India sub-continent shed light on the current COVID-19 pandemic and its implications. Prof. Siddiqi talked about the viruses and the vaccines curbing their menace. He said most of the vaccines against viral particles are currently used that have extricated most viral diseases like mumps, chickenpox, and rubella. Vaccines against hepatitis-B are one of the

Awantipora. The proceedings of the valediction were held by the faculty members of the concerned Nursing College. The other eminent speakers of the workshop were Dr. Mudasir Saleem Andrabi, (Assistant Professor, Capstone College of Nursing, University of Alabama, Birmingham USA), Prof. Dr. Mehmooda Regu (Principal, AMMCN&MT, IUST), Dr. Tabasum Irshad, (Sr. Nursing Officer SKIMS, Soura Srinagar), Ms. Anjum Khurshid, (Assistant Professor, SMMCN&MT, IUST) & Ms. Roohi Amin (Faculty, Nursing SMMCN&MT, IUST) .

From KO Archives

70-yr-old sets himself ablaze

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR : Overcome by his daughter's defiance, a 70-yr-old set himself and his house ablaze in Sopore village today. Muhammad Sabid Malla later succumbed to burn injuries.

Reports said that Sabir's daughter had opposed the match he had arranged for her. Unable to bear this rebellion, Sabir drenched himself and his two story home with petrol, climbed atop the building and set himself alight. The village Sopar Naghama some 7 kilometres from Handwara watched aghast as flames engulfed the man and his dwelling. Fire tenders rushed from Dangi-wacha prevented the blaze from spreading to the ground floor. Sabir who had sustained extensive burns passed away soon after.

Meanwhile there were reports of two youth and women trying to put an end to their lives in different parts of the Valley.

Tired of his life Shiraz Ahmad Lone of Sahpora Pattan attempted suicide but was rushed to the hospital, where he is reported to be in a serious condition.

Saleema w/o Muhammad Shaban Bhat of Baran Pattan was rushed to hospital after she consumed some poisonous substance in a bid to put an end to her life. Doctors saved her life.

(Kashmir Observer, October 23, 2000)

Business Revival in J&K Progress On Panel Recommendations Reviewed

SRINAGAR: Commissioner Secretary, Industries and Commerce Department, Manoj K. Dwivedi, today reviewed progress on recommendations of the Committee on Business Revival in Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting had a detailed discussion on various financial and administrative measures recommended for revival of business sector in the UT as per timelines set by Lieutenant Governor during the review meeting held on 12th October 2020.

The meeting was attended by Administrative Secretary Hospitality Protocol/ Civil Aviation, Rukshana Ganai, Transport Commissioner, Pardeep Kumar besides representatives of Finance, Tourism, Housing and Urban Development, Youth Service and Sports, Forest, Health and Medical Education Department.

Commissioner Secretary asked the concerned authorities to ensure that all recommendations shall be implemented in a time bound manner besides monitoring progress on a day to day basis. He had a detailed deliberation on progress made, so far, on the recommendations pertaining to Finance, Tourism Sector, Housing and Transport sector. He asked the departmental representatives to furnish the updated status on the points under implementation immediately so that the recommendations are implemented fully.

Saffron, Walnut, Basmati, Apple to be promoted

Special package under ABA to boost micro food processing



SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam today chaired a meeting of the Apex Level Approval Committee (ALAC) to review the rollout of the 'One District-One Product' component of the 'Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises' (FME) scheme in Jammu & Kashmir.

Administrative Secretaries of departments of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry & Fisheries, Cooperatives, Forest, Ecology & Environment, besides HoDs of National Cooperative Development Corporation, National Skill Development Corporation, SRLM, SKUAST, Jammu/Kashmir participated in the meeting.

The meeting was informed that under the umbrella of Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan, the FME scheme through its targeted approach of 'One District-One Product', will provide a framework for value chain development and alignment of support infrastructure by identifying a unique food product per district, with a special focus on perishable items including agri-produce, cereal-based product, and a food product widely produced in a district.

The scheme is aimed at strengthening the backward and forward linkages to the micro food processing enterprises by providing common facilities of incubation centres, training, R&D, and marketing & branding.

The Chief Secretary impressed upon the concerned to develop a mechanism by which the provisions of the scheme are utilized to complement the existing promotional efforts of the Government through Agriculture Crop Clusters, Agriculture Export Policy, and National Rurban Mission.

The department of Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare was asked to identify the district-wise priority agriculture produce for development under the Micro Food Processing Enterprise Scheme with a special focus on region-specific Basmati Rice, Saffron, Apple, Walnut, Maize, Organic Vegetables, Mushroom, Lavender, Trout, Rajmash among others.



India's smartphone market hits record 50 million units in Q3; Chinese cos capture 76% share: Canalys

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Smartphone segment in India rebounded after the lockdown to touch an all-time high of 50 million units in September quarter with Chinese companies collectively holding 76 per cent market share, according to research firm Canalys.

All the top five smartphone vendors -- Xiaomi, Samsung, Vivo, Realme and Oppo -- saw their shipment grow in the third quarter compared to the year-ago period.

"Smartphone shipments in India recovered in Q3 2020, posting 8 per cent growth to 50 million units (from 46.2 million units in year-ago period). This is an all-time record for smartphone shipments in a single quarter in India," Canalys said in a statement.

Xiaomi remained the market leader with 26.1 per cent share, shipping 13.1 million units. Samsung reclaimed the second place from Vivo, with 10.2 million units (20.4 per cent share) - helped by its aggressive product portfolio and pricing strategy in the low-end paid off, it added.

Vivo had 17.6 per cent share (8.8 million units), while Realme had 17.4 per cent share (8.7 million units) and Oppo had 12.1 per cent share (6.1 million units) in the said quarter. Apple

regained momentum in India in the third quarter with double-digit growth to nearly 8,00,000 units.

Collectively, Chinese vendors comprised 76 per cent of total smartphone shipments this quarter, which has grown from 74 per cent a year ago, Canalys said.

This is, however, slightly lower than the June 2020 quarter, when Chinese companies had around 80 per cent cumulative share.

"Ongoing tension between India and China has been a hot topic in the past few months, but we have yet to see a significant impact on purchase decisions of mass market customers," Canalys Research Analyst Varun Kannan said.

However, the tensions have caused Chinese smartphone brands to act more conservatively in recent months, reducing their marketing spend, and carefully trying to project the image that they are important contributors to, and stakeholders in, the economic future of India, he added.

Canalys Analyst Adwait Mardikar noted that smartphone vendors are bullish on the Indian market.

"The government, slowly but surely reducing restrictions on movement after a three-month lockdown, has created the perfect atmosphere for

sustained growth. While almost all vendors have shown positive shipment growth, the true winners are the online channels, who have been buoyed with a huge influx of devices ahead of the festive season," he said. Ongoing sales at Amazon and Flipkart are a clear indication that despite the economic downturn, India's penchant for a good smartphone, and a good bargain, remains intact, he added.

"The impact of COVID-19 in India has been a dichotomy of sorts. The lockdown forced most of working India to stay at home and refrain from big-ticket spending on travel, food and beverages, increasing the overall dispensable income," Mardikar said. On the other hand, unemployment has risen, impacting the lowest rungs of society most, and affecting the long-term outlook of India's smartphone market, he added.

"As much of India remains physically disconnected, the smartphone has increasingly become a necessity not only for social connection, but also for entertainment, education, banking, payment and more. Vendors in it for the long run must acknowledge their responsibility in uplifting the country, and helping India emerge out of COVID-19 as swiftly as possible," he said. PTI

Cybersecurity tops corporate priorities in India now: Study

Press Trust Of India

BENGALURU: Organisations in India are seeing a significant increase in the cybersecurity challenges they face amid the shift to mass remote working, a new study by Cisco shows.

According to the study, 73 per cent of organisations in the country have experienced a 25 per cent or more jump in either cyber threats or alerts since the start of COVID-19.

Cisco's 'Future of Secure Remote Work Report' revealed that many Indian organisations were unprepared to make the accelerated transition to a remote workforce at the outset of COVID-19.

About two-thirds (65 per cent) of organisations adopted cybersecurity measures during COVID-19 to support remote working.

The study is based on a survey of over 3,000 IT decision-makers globally, including over 1,900 respondents across 13 Asia Pacific markets, including India.

It highlights the cybersecurity challenges companies faced as they shifted the majority of their employees to a remote working arrangement in a really short period of time.

With users connecting from out-

side the corporate walls, secure access defined as the ability to verify identity and establish trust no matter how, where, or when users log in, is the top cybersecurity challenge faced by the largest proportion of Indian organisations (68 per cent) when supporting remote workers.



Other concerns raised by organisations include data privacy (66 per cent) and protection against malware (62 per cent).

"Now, as remote work continues to garner traction, organisations are turning their attention to building a robust cybersecurity foundation, with cloud security emerging as the top investment for 31 per cent of companies in reinventing their workplaces post COVID-19," said Vishak Raman, director, Security Business, Cisco India & SAARC.

End points are a growing challenge for organisations to protect as users connect from their home Wi-Fi or use their personal devices to connect to corporate applications.

About two in three respondents stated that office laptops and desktops (66 per cent) and personal devices (58 per cent) posed a challenge to protect in a remote environment, followed by cloud applications at 42 per cent, according to the study.

One trend that emerged in recent months is that a hybrid workplace, where employees move between working remotely and in the office, is the future. The findings of this study further underlined that.

Over half (53 per cent) of the organisations in India said they expected more than half of their workforce to continue working remotely post-pandemic. This compares to an average of just 28 per cent of organisations with more than half of their workforce working remotely before the pandemic.

The good news is that as businesses prepare for this hybrid workplace, cybersecurity now tops corporate priorities, with 84 per cent of organisations in India saying that cybersecurity is now a top priority for them.

J&K Bank's role lauded during 'My Town, My Pride' Program

SRINAGAR: The role of J&K Bank was appreciated by various senior government functionaries during the two-day 'My Town, My Pride' program held across all the towns of the Union Territory. The officials lauded J&K Bank for its role in empowering people on the economic and social front.

J&K Bank had set up its stalls across the UT towns in its bid to make people aware about various government sponsored, social security and financially uplifting schemes. Chief Secretary B. V. R. Subrahmanyam visited the J&K Bank stall set up at Sher-i-Kashmir Park, Srinagar. Sanction letters were handed over to the beneficiaries of PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi Scheme by Joint Commissioner Planning Srinagar Municipal

was visited by Advisor to Lieutenant Governor (LG) R R Bhatnagar, DDC Budgam Shahbaz Mirza, Director Handicrafts Hashmat Ali, SSP Budgam Amod Nagpuri and various officials of the district.

The officials handed over sanction letters among the beneficiaries and hailed J&K Bank for its role in providing employment avenues to the youth of J&K. They said that youth look upto the J&K Bank for the support in their endeavour to establish employment generating units.

The program in Budgam town was graced by Secretary to Government for Rural Development Department and Panchayat Raj Sheetal Nanda. She distributed sanction letters to beneficiaries of various schemes during the program.

J&K Bank stall at mini-Secretariat Ganderbal also



Committee Ghulam Hassan Mir, LDM Srinagar Abdul Majeed Bhat, Cluster Head Shabir Ahmad and various officials from the Bank were also present.

At Jammu, under supervision of its Zonal Head Sunit Kumar, J&K Bank had set up stalls across the zone. Advisor to Lieutenant Governor KK Sharma inspected one such stall at Parade Ground, Jammu. Appreciating J&K Bank's role in supporting people in realizing their economic pursuits, Sharma handed over sanction letters to various beneficiaries under KCC, PM Svanidhi, NULM, and Transport loan schemes. The J&K Bank stalls proved to be an instant attraction among the masses who put up enquiries about various social security, government sponsored and allied schemes.

J&K Bank's stall in Magam

had government functionaries visiting it including Principal Secretary to Housing and Urban Development Deejay Gupta, DDC Ganderbal Shaqat Iqbal and SSP Ganderbal Muhammad Khalil Poswal. Senior officials of the Bank including LDM Ganderbal were also present at the program. The sanction letters were handed over to beneficiaries at the stall.

Dr. Pawan Kotwal (IAS) Principal Secretary /Financial Commissioner Revenue, UT of J&K visited J&K Bank's Cama Housing Colony business unit under the government's outreach programme. He distributed sanction letters under Central Govt. Sponsored scheme like NULM, Street vendors and KCC schemes to the beneficiaries. Zonal Head, Jammu North-2, Udhampur Sushil Gupta was also present.

Tech-driven changes in job markets threaten social contract with workers: Experts

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Changes to job markets driven by new technologies, accelerated further by the COVID-19 pandemic, are opening up workers to threats as well as opportunities, experts and industry leaders said on Thursday at a summit organised by WEF.

Panelists at the World Economic Forum's Jobs Reset Summit 2020, being held online from October 20-23, also said the 21st-century employment model looks a lot like the 19th century, as gaps are becoming visible in the social protection systems and the pandemic has created extraordinary vulnerabilities for workers.

In the next five years, machines will displace an estimated 85 million jobs but create around 97 million new jobs across 15 industries and 26 economies, according to the WEF's Future of Jobs Report 2020.

The global recession driven by the pandemic has accelerated this trend and created a highly uncertain outlook for global labour markets.

The study also found that the pace of automation of workforce and digitisation of workplace is higher than the global average for India operations of companies.

Another WEF study found that as many as 57 per cent of workers in India are concerned about potential job losses in the next one year, although a large majority of employees also expect their employers to help them retrain for new roles.

NEWS MAKERS

Skoda, Dealer Asked To Pay Rs 6 Lakh To Customer Over Car Glitches

THANE: Thane District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has held leading car manufacturer Skoda Auto India Pvt Ltd and its dealer guilty of deficiency in services and asked them to pay more than Rs 6 lakh to a man over complaints about glitches in the car he had purchased.

Commission chief SZ Pawar and its member Poonam V Maharshi passed the order earlier this month.

Dhanesh Mothe, a resident of Palghar district, had approached the commission saying that he had purchased the car worth over Rs 8 lakh

from JMD Auto Pvt Ltd, a Skoda dealer, in 2014.

While using the car, he encountered several problems like brake failure, malfunctioning suspension and power window, he said in the complaint.

Despite informing about these issues, the company did not act on it, he said in the complaint.

He approached the commission seeking replacement of his "defective" vehicle.

In its order, the commission observed that the company failed in removing the defects in the vehicle and providing

a defect-free vehicle as per warranty.

"Therefore, we hold them guilty of deficiency in service and unfair trade practice. However, as the complainant has used the vehicle for more than 60,000 kms, its replacement or refund of entire cost cannot be granted," it added.

"In our view, the complainant is entitled for refund of 75 per cent cost of the vehicle, that is Rs 6,10,078 along with nine per cent interest from the date of this complaint alongwith Rs 10,000 towards the cost of the complaint," the commission said.

India recorded export growth of 4 per cent in September: UN

UNITED NATIONS : Export growth declined in India in the third quarter of 2020 relative to the same quarter last year but picked up pace in September, according to a global trade update by the UN.

The UNCTAD's new global trade update said that global trade recorded a 5 per cent drop in the third quarter of 2020 compared with the same period last year. This marks an improvement on the 19 per cent year-on-year plunge recorded in the second quarter, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) expects the frail recovery to continue in the fourth quarter.

India's export growth saw a decline of 6.1 per cent in the third quarter of 2020 as compared to third quarter of last year. However, India recorded export growth of four per cent in September, it said. Depending on how the COVID-19 pandemic evolves in the winter months, the UN trade and development body expects the value of global trade to contract by 7 per cent to 9 per cent with respect to 2019.

"The uncertain course of the pandemic will continue aggravating trade prospects in the coming months," UNCTAD Secretary-General Mukhisa Kituyi said.

India Keeps \$7 Billion Ready For Vaccine At \$2 A Shot: Report

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration estimates an all-in cost of about \$6-\$7 per person in the nation of 1.3 billion, the people said, asking not to be identified as the details are private.

The government has set aside about 500 billion rupees (\$7 billion) to vaccinate the world's most populous nation after China against the coronavirus, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's administration estimates an all-in cost of about \$6-\$7 per person in the nation of 1.3 billion, the people said, asking not to be identified as the details are private. The

money provisioned so far is for the current financial year ending March 31 and there will be no shortage of further funds for this purpose, they added.

While a government-backed panel predicts that India is past the peak of infections and may contain the spread by February, the nation has taken a massive blow to economic growth and PM Modi has been reopening the economy. Starting this weekend, the country will be celebrating several festivals that could lead to a sharp jump in daily virus infections.

Both Maharashtra and Kerala record more than 8,000 #Covid19 cases in a day.

Assami-wise statement of applicant in whose favour ownership rights respect of occupied state land was approved

Continued on p10

Office of the Tehsildar Budgam

Assami-wise statement of applicant in whose favour ownership rights respect of occupied state land was approved

S. No	Name of Village/ Patwar Halqa	Name of Beneficiary With Parentage	Residence	Survey No	Area under occupation K M	Kind of soil	Status of Land com Resi Agri Inst	Date when occupation since	Date of confirmation of ownership rights	Date on which decided by the committee	NO. & Date of DDC sonication	Value of land decided by the committee	% age allowed	Cost actually deposited by applicant	TR No. & Date
142	DO	Mh Ishaq & Others ss/o ali mohd	s. abad	250, 270	04 13 85	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	470		470	470 20/08/09
143	DO	Hyder Sofi S/o Hassan Sofi	DO	262	02 02	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	210		210	74 15-02-09
144	Humhama	Mh. Yousf S/o Gh Ah Dar	Humhama	487 MIN	00 12	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	60		60	44 2/5/11
145	Karewa Damoder	Ali Mh S/o Ab Rehman Dar	Gogo	293, 2884/12	19 05	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	1925		1925	
146	DO	Mohd Sultan S/o Ab Rehman	DO	896, 893, 884/700	21 05	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	2125		2125	
147	Labertal	Gh. Rasool S/o Mh Ibrahim	S. Abad	853/341	01 15	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	175		175	436
148	Kakr Maran	Gh. Rasool Ganeil S/o Salam Ganeil	Kakr Maran		04 11 1/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ//485	460		460	7 6/6/07
149	DO	Mohd Ramzan S/o Salam	DO	DO	04 11 1/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/486	460		460	DO
150	DO	Gulzar Ah. S/o Salam	DO	DO	04 11 1/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/487	460		460	7 9/6/07
151	DO	Bashir Ah S/o Salam Ganeil	DO	DO	04 11 1/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/488	460		460	7 6/6/07
152	S. Abad	Ahmed Wani S/o Jaffer	S. Abad	290/231	03 10	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/514	350		350	
153	DO	Syed Assadullah S/o Mh. Rizvi	do	do	05 03	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	515		515	
154	do	Gh Ahmed Sheikh S/o Ali Sheikh	DO	DO	05 00	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	500		500	
155	DO	Mohd Sheikh S/o Saffder	DO	DO	04 10	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/515	450		450	
156	DO	Mohd Rather S/o Lala Rather	do	do	04 13	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/516	465		465	
157	DO	Syed Ahmed Rizvi S/O Asger	do	do	07 00	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/517	700		700	
158	Hanji Bagh	SOna Shah SO/o Habib Shah	Haji bagh	13	04 13	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/521	465		465	
159	Hanjik	Mst Mali D/o Mohd Ramzan	Hanjik	255	01 04	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/523	120		120	
160	DO	Ab Hamid S/o Ramzan Wani	do	do	04 13	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/524	465		465	
161	DO	Gh. Hassan Wani S/o Ahad	do	do	03 12	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	360		360	
162	do	Mst Raja D/O Ab Ahad Wani	do	do	03 11	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	355		355	
163	do	Mst Raja D/O Ab Ahad Wani	do	do	03 11	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	' DCB/SQ/	355		355	
164	do	Qadir, Sona, Kabir ss/o Ismail	Haji Bagh	8min	00 10/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/527	55		55	
165	do	Ab. Ahad, Mh. Akram ss/o Ha bib	do	do	00 31/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/528	20		20	
166	do	Mst Mugli d/o Ab. Satar	Hanjik	255	01 03	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/529	115		115	
167	Hanjik	Mh. Sultan Wani s/o Ab. Satar	hanjik	255	01 03	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/530	115		115	
168	do	MstShaha d/o Razaq Wani	do	do	03 10	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/531	350		350	
169	do	Ab. Aziz Wani s/o Satar	do	Do	01 03	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/532	115		115	
170	do	Shabir Ah. s/o Razaq Wani	do	do	03 10	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/533	350		350	
171	DO	Assad Wani S/o MH Wani	DO	DO	10 06	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	1030		1030	
172	DO	(Gh. Nabi Wani s/o Ahmed Wani	do	Ido	01 14	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/536	170		170	
173	DO	Habibullah Wani s/o Gh. Ahmed	do	do	01 14	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCS/SQ/535	170		170	
174	DO	Mh. Subhan Wani s/o Ab gani	do	do	02 1 1/2	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/534	210		210	
175	DO	Ab Majid Wani s/o Ab Gaffar	do	do	00 14	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/538	70		70	
176	DO	Mushtaq Ah. Wani S/O Ab. Gaffar	do	do	00 14	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/539	70		70	
177	DO	Manzoor Ah. Wani s/o Gaffar	do	do	00 14	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/537	70		70	
178	DO	Mohd Shafi s/o Razaq wani	do	do	03 10	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/540	350		350	
179	Gund Hanjik	Ab. Majid Wani S/o Gafar	do	56	01 19	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/542	195		195	
180	Dahermuna	Gh. Rasool Beigh s/o Rehman Beigh	Wad wan	230,240	02 13	Abi Awal	Agri	Prior to 2004	3/4/08	3/4/08	DCB/SQ/	265		265	

Details of applications under Roshni Sechmeme decided by Committee held at Budgam on 16/01/2008

S.No	Name of Tehsil	Location of land	Name of applicant	Parentage	Residence	Survey No	State land under occupation Kanal Marla Sarsai	Category of occupants	Anchor Value of Land	Price of land determined by the committee	Application for conformation of ownership rights
1	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Ab. Aziz Wani	Mohd Wani	Gurwait Kalan	1757/61 min	5 0 0	Agriculture	200,000	500	Approved
2	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Gh. Hassan Wani	Aziz wani	Gurwait Kalan	61 min	3 0 0	Agriculture	1,20,000	300	Approved
3	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Mohd Yousuf Wani	Aziz Wani	Gurwait Kalan	61 min, 730 min	8 10 0	Agriculture	3,40,000	850	Approved
4	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Mohd Dar	Mohd Dar	Gurwait Kalan	730 min	5 19 0	Agriculture	2,40,000	595	Approved
5	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Mohd Amin Wani	Aziz Wani	Gurwait Kalan	61 min	5 5 0	Agriculture	2,10,000	525	Approved
6	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Mohd Akram Wani	Aziz Wani	Gurwait Kalan	61 min	7 0 0	Agriculture	2,80,000	700	Approved
7	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Mehda Khan	Ahmed Khan	Gurwait Kalan	61 min, 251 min	3 0 0	Agriculture	1,20,000	300	Approved
8	Khansahib	Gurwait Kalan	Zooni Begum	D/o Lassi Wani	Gurwait Kalan	61 min	5 0 0	Agriculture	2,00,000	500	Approved
9	Khansahib	Lanilab	Sonullah & Manzoor Ahmed Najar	Habib Najar	Gurwait Kalan	384, 386 min	2 0 0	Agriculture	80,000	200	Approved
10	Khansahib	Lanilab	Aziz Chopan	Shaban Chopan	Gurwait Kalan	487, 489 min	4 5 0	Agriculture	1,70,000	425	Approved
11	Khansahib	Lanilab	Satar Wagay	Ismail Wgagay	Gurwait Kalan	485 min	2 0 0	Agriculture	80,000	200	Approved
12	Khansahib	Lanilab	Gh. Mohi-ud-din, Gulla Hassan Khan	Mohd Khan	Gurwait Kalan	241min, 269 min	3 5 0	Agriculture	1,30,000	325	Approved
13	Khansahib	Lanilab	Ab. Ahad, Mushtaq, Ahmed Khan	Salam Khan	Gurwait Kalan	269 min	1 5 0	Agriculture	50,000	125	Approved
14	Khansahib	Lanilab	Gh. Mohd Wani	Ab. Gani Wani	Gurwait Kalan	470 min, 483 min, 484 min	0 11 0	Agriculture	22,000	55	Approved
15	Khansahib	Lanilab	Ab Satar Najar	Shaban Najar	Lanilab	389 min	1 10 0	Agriculture	60,000	150	Approved
16	Khansahib	Lanilab	Shear Firmed & Ekber Goier	Narim Goier	Lanilab	302 min	2 0 0	Agriculture	80,000	200	Approved
17	Khansahib	Lanilab	Mohd Ashraf Bhat	Gh. Mohd Bhat	Gurwait Kalan	468 min, 472 min	1 12 0	Agriculture	65,000	160	Approved
18	Khansahib	Lanilab	Mohd Yaqob Bhat	Gh. Qadir Bhat	Gurwait Kalan	468 min, 472 min	1 12 1/2	Agriculture	65,000	165	Approved
19	Khansahib	Lanilab	Gh. Mohd Bhat	Razak Bhat	Gurwait Kalan	499 min	0 15 0	Agriculture	30,000	75	Approved
20	Khansahib	Lanilab	Gani Bhat	Gaffar Bhat	Gurwait Kalan	499 min	0 9 0	Agriculture	18,000	45	Approved
21	Khansahib	Lanilab	Mohd Afzal Wani	Ganie wani	Gurwait Kalan	470 min, 483 min, 484 min	0 11 0	Agriculture	22,000	55	Approved
22	Khansahib	Lanilab	Zo. Razak Najar	Ahmed Najar	Lanilab	385 min, 386 min, 390 min, 392 min, 395 min	5 6 0	Agriculture	2,12,000	530	Approved
23	Khansahib	Lanilab	Ab. Rashid Najar	Gani Najar	Lanilab	379 min, 382 min, 383 min, 389 min	1 13 0	Agriculture	66,000	165	Approved
24	Khansahib	Lanilab	Ab. Gafar Kahn	Abdulla Khan	Gurwait Kalan	269 min	2 10 0	Agriculture	100000	250	Approved
25	Khansahib	Lanilab	Mohda Bhat	Gaffar Bhat	Lanilab	730 min	3 0 0	Agriculture	120,000	300	Approved
26	Khansahib	Lanilab	Bashir Najar	Gani Najar	Lanilab	379 min, 382 min, 383 min	1 0 0	Agriculture	40,000	100	Approved
27	Khansahib	Lanilab	Ab. Khaliq Bhat	Ab. Aziz Bhat	Gurwait Kalan	499 min	1 0 0	Agriculture	40,000	100	Approved
28	Khansahib	Lanilab	Gh. Qadir Najar	Gani Najar	Lanilab	379 min, 382 min, 383 min	0 18 0	Agriculture	36,000	90	Approved
29	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Hassan Denda	Fateh Denda	Rayar Ich	193 min	7 16 0	Agriculture	3,90,000	760	Approved
30	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Gani Hajam	Mohd Hajam	Rayar Ich	161 min, 165 min	5 3 0	Agriculture	2,58,000	515	Approved
31	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Rashid, Gh. Ahmad Dar	Mohd Dar	Rayar Ich	145 min, 153 min	2 2 0	Agriculture	1,05,000	210	Approved
32	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Gani Tantry	Gh. Qadir Tantry	Rayar Ich	145 min.	6 5 0	Agriculture	3,13,000	625	Approved
33	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Assadulla & Mohd Akbar Sheikh	Khaliq Sheikh	Rayar Ich	311 min	2 0 0	Agriculture	100,000	200	Approved
34	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mohd Ashraf, Noor Danda	Mohd Danda	Rayar Ich	193 min	7 16 0	Agriculture	3,90,000	750	Approved

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36	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mohd Jamal Hajam	Hassan Hajam	Rayar Ich	161 min, 165 min	8 8 0	Agriculture	4,20,000	840	Approved
37	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Mohd Dar	Mohd Shaban Dar	Rehkey	311 min	6 0 0	Agriculture	300,000	600	Approved
38	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Reham, Gh. Mohd, Gh. Hassan, Ab. Raziq, Jamal Hajam	Gh. Ahmad Hajam	Rayar Ich	173 min	1 9 0	Agriculture	37000	145	Approved
39	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Noor Mohd Dar	Ali Dar	Humhama	311 min	7 0 0	Agriculture	3,50,000	700	Approved
40	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Rashma	D/o Akbar Danda	Rayar Ich	193 min	12 0 0	Agriculture	600,000	1200	Approved
41	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Noor Mohd Danda	Mirbaz Danda	Rayar Ich	193 min	12 0 0	Agriculture	600,000	1200	Approved
42	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Majid, Ahmad Danda	Gh. Mohd Danda	Rayar Ich	193 min	7 16 0	Agriculture	3,90,000	760	Approved
43	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gulla Dar	Rasool Dar	Rayar Ich	228 min	0 18 0	Agriculture	45,000	90	Approved
44	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gulla S/o Rasool Bhat & Farooq Ahmad & others	Nabi Bhat	Rayar Ich	245 min	0 12 0	Agriculture	30,000	60	Approved
45	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Assadulla Sheikh, Mohd Akbar, Ab. Gani, Ab. Rashid	Khaliq Sheikh	Rayar Ich	145 min	0 11 0	Agriculture	28,000	55	Approved
46	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Gaffar Dar	Rehman Dar	Rayar Ich	153 min, 145 min	8 11 0	Agriculture	4,28,000	855	Approved
47	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mohd Akbar Chopan & others	Ab. Ahad Chopan	Trajkhal	311 min	8 0 0	Agriculture	400,000	800	Approved
48	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Hassan Chopan	Lassi Chopan	Trajkhal	311 min	14 0 0	Agriculture	700,000	1400	Approved
49	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Aziz Bhat S/o Akbar Bhat & Mst. Mughli	Mst. Mahtabi	Rayar Ich	233 min	2 12 0	Agriculture	1,30,000	260	Approved
50	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Rasool Hajam	Gh. Hassan Hajam	Rayar Ich	161 min	2 5 0	Agriculture	1,13,000	225	Approved
51	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Mohd Dar	Adi S/O Gani Dar	Rayar Ich	228 min	0 18 0	Agriculture	45,000	90	Approved
52	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Rasool, Manzoor Ahmad Dar	Habib Dar	Rayar Ich	145 min, 153 min	2 2 0	Agriculture	1,05,000	210	Approved
53	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Rehman Chopan	Kamal Chopan	Kralpathri	311 min	1 10 0	Agriculture	75,000	150	Approved

53	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mst. Saleema, Mst. Haseena, Mst. Ma hmooda (daughters) Mst. Raja (wife)	Ali Mohd Mir	Rayar Ich	24 min	0	10	0	Agriculture	25,000	50	Approved
54	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Rashid Chopan	Khalqi Chopan	Rayar Ich	311 min	1	0	0	Agriculture	50,000	100	Approved
55	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Qadir Dar	Mehda Dar	Rayar Ich	311 min	3	0	0	Agriculture	1,50,000	150	Approved
56	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Ab. Rahim Chopan	Ab. Razaq Chopan	Rayar Ich	311 min	6	0	0	Agriculture	3,00,000	600	Approved
57	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Noor-u-din Tantray	Gh. Mohd Tantray	Rayar Ich	145 min	1	14	0	Agriculture	85,000	170	Approved
58	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mst. Jani	Dio Mst. Khati	Rayar Ich	145 min	3	10	0	Agriculture	1,75,000	350	Approved
59	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Hassan Hajam	Gh. Rasool Hajam	Rayar Ich	145 min	0	10	0	Agriculture	25,000	50	Approved
60	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mohd Subhan Najar	Mohd Najar	Rayar Ich	145 min	3	5	0	Agriculture	1,58,000	325	Approved
61	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Gh. Mohd Denda	Qadir Denda	Rayar Ich	311 min	2	0	0	Agriculture	1,60,000	200	Approved
62	Khansahib	Rayar Ich	Mst. Zeena	Dio Gh. Hussain Hajam	Rayar Ich	130 min	3	4	0	Agriculture	1,60,000	320	Approved
63	Khansahib	Kralpathri	Gh. Mohd Chopan	Rahim Chopan	Kralpathri	40 min	1	15	0	Agriculture	70,000	175	Approved
64	Khansahib	Kralpathri	Ab. Rashid Chopan	Assadulsha Chopan	Kralpathri	40 min	1	15		Agriculture	70,000	175	Approved
65	Khansahib	Kachwari	Nazir Ahmed Kooli	Nika Kooli	Kachwari	101 min, 105 min	1	16	0	Agriculture	65,000	180	Approved
66	Khansahib	Kachwari	Gani Khan	Samad Khan	Kachwari	1127	1	15	0	Agriculture	63,000	175	Approved
67	Khansahib	Kachwari	Mst. Khati	Dio Noor Khan	Kachwari	540 min	0	14	0	Agriculture	27,000	70	Approved
68	Khansahib	Kachwari	Ali Wani	Rehman Wani	Kachwari	250 min, 251 min, 259 min	4	10	0	Agriculture	1,70,000	480	Approved
69	Khansahib	Kachwari	Mohd Ramzan Wani	Ab. Aziz Wani	Kachwari	256 min	1	14	0	Agriculture	62,000	170	Approved

AstraZeneca Covid vaccine trial Brazil volunteer dies; trial to continue

SAO PAULO/FRANKFURT: Brazilian health authority Anvisa said on Wednesday that a volunteer in a clinical trial of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by AstraZeneca and Oxford University had died but added that the trial would continue.

Oxford confirmed the plan to keep testing, saying in a statement that after careful assessment "there have been no concerns about safety of the clinical trial." AstraZeneca declined to comment immediately.

A source familiar with the matter told Reuters the trial would have been suspended if the volunteer who died had received the COVID-19 vaccine, suggesting the person was part of the control group that was given a meningitis jab.



The Federal University of Sao Paulo, which is helping coordinate phase 3 clinical trials in Brazil, said an independent review committee had also recommended the trial continue. The university earlier confirmed the volunteer was Brazilian but gave no further personal details.

"Everything is proceeding as expected, without any record of serious vaccine-related complications involving any of the participating volunteers," the Brazilian university said in a statement.

So far, 8,000 of the planned 10,000 volunteers in the trial have been recruited and given the first dose in six cities in Brazil, and many have already received the second shot, said a university spokesman.

CNN Brasil reported that the volunteer was a 28-year-old man who lived in Rio de Janeiro and died from COVID-19 complications.

Anvisa provided no further details, citing medical confidentiality of those involved in trials.

Brazil's federal government has plans to purchase the UK vaccine and produce it at biomedical research center FioCruz in Rio de Janeiro, while a competing vaccine from China's Sinovac Biotech Ltd is being tested by Sao Paulo state's research center Butantan Institute.

Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro said on Wednesday the federal government will not buy the Sinovac vaccine.

Brazil has the second deadliest outbreak of the coronavirus, after the United States, with more than 154,000 killed. It has the third largest number of cases, with more than 5.2 million infected, after the United States and India.

China Seeking To Build World's Biggest Maritime Fleet, Says UK



LONDON: Britain's defence minister said on Wednesday that China was seeking to build the world's biggest surface and subsurface maritime fleet.

"China is growing the largest maritime surface and subsurface fleet in the world," Defence Secretary Ben Wallace told the Atlantic Future Forum. "Our competitors continue to challenge us in the grey zone between war and peace."

(Except for the headline, this story has not been edited by NDTV staff and is published from a syndicated feed.)



US intelligence agencies say Iran, Russia have tried to interfere in 2020 election

REUTERS: Ratcliffe made the announcements at a hastily arranged news conference that also included FBI Director Chris Wray.

The announcement two weeks before the election showed the level of alarm among top US officials that foreign actors were seeking to undermine Americans' confidence in the integrity of the vote and spread misinformation in an attempt to sway its outcome.

"We have confirmed that some voter registration information has been obtained by Iran, and separately, by Russia," Ratcliffe said during the news conference.

Most of that voter registration is public. But Ratcliffe said that government officials "have already seen Iran sending spoofed emails designed to intimidate voters, incite social unrest and damage President Trump."

Ratcliffe was referring to emails sent on Wednesday and designed to look like they came from the pro-Trump Proud Boys group, according to government sources.

US intelligence agencies previously warned that Iran might interfere to hurt Trump and that Russia was

trying to help him in the election.

Outside experts said that if Ratcliffe was correct, Iran would be trying to make Trump look bad by calling attention to support and threats by the sometimes violent group.

A spokesperson for Iran's mission to the United Nations denied Iran had sought to meddle in the US election.

"Iran has no interest in interfering in the US election and no preference for the outcome," spokesperson Alireza Miryousefi said in a statement.

US Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer, who received a classified briefing on Wednesday afternoon on election security, said he disagreed with Ratcliffe that Iran was specifically trying to hurt Trump.

"It was clear to me that the intent of Iran in this case and Russia in many more cases is to basically undermine confidence in our elections. This action I do not believe was aimed [...] at discrediting President Trump," Schumer told MSNBC in an interview.

White House spokesperson Judd Deere said Trump has directed government agencies "to proactively

monitor and thwart any attempts to interfere in US elections, and because of the great work of our law enforcement agencies we have stopped an attempt by America's adversaries to undermine our elections".

The emails are under investigation, and one intelligence source said it was still unclear who was behind them. Another government source said that US officials are investigating whether people in Iran had hacked into a Proud Boys network or website to distribute threatening materials. This source said US officials suspect the Iranian government was involved but that the evidence remains inconclusive.

Some of those emails also contained a video, debunked by experts, that purported to show how fake ballots could be submitted. Ratcliffe said that claim was false.

The second government source said US authorities have evidence that Russia and Iran had tried to hack into voter roll data in unidentified states. But the source added that because much of that voter data is available commercially, the hacking may have been aimed at avoiding payment.

45 lawmakers urge US to boycott Saudi-hosted G20

NEW DELHI: The letter comes as Riyadh on Wednesday began a two-day Women 20 (W20) conference, aimed at promoting gender equality, ahead of the G20 summit on November 21-22.

Forty-five American lawmakers have urged the US government to boycott next month's G20 summit in Riyadh unless Saudi authorities address key human rights concerns, according to correspondence released Wednesday.

The letter from US Congress members to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo comes after European lawmakers passed a resolution this month calling for the European Union to downgrade its attendance at the summit, also over human rights.

The developments are a source of embarrassment for the kingdom, the current G20 president, as it gears up to host world leaders next month at what is widely seen as a crucial event for Saudi international diplomacy.

Among a suite of demands, Congress members called on Riyadh to release jailed activists including several women, end its military campaign in neighbouring Yemen and provide accountability for the 2018 murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi

in Istanbul.

"As the world's leading democracy and purveyor of human rights, our government should demand dramatic changes to Saudi Arabia's dismal record of human rights violations," said the letter, seen by AFP.



"Should the Saudi government fail to take immediate steps to address this record, we should withdraw from the Saudi-led G20 summit and commit to making human rights reforms a condition of all future dealings with Saudi Arabia's government." Jan Schakowsky and Ilhan Omar, Democratic members of the US House of Representatives, were among the 45 lawmakers who signed the letter, which was supported by advocacy group Freedom Forward.

There was no immediate reaction from the Saudi government or Pompeo. The administration of US President Donald Trump is a key ally and supporter of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler.

'Whitewashing'

The letter comes as Riyadh on Wednesday began a two-day Women 20 (W20) conference, aimed at promoting gender equality, ahead of the G20 summit on November 21-22.

"The Saudi presidency of the G20 has given special attention to discussing policies related to women," Saudi Arabia's King Salman told the conference in a speech delivered by a minister. "Saudi Arabia has embarked on an exceptional reform journey... to empower women."

But the virtual conference came under fire from human rights campaigners angered at the ongoing detention of several Saudi women activists, including Loujain al-Hathloul.

"While courageous women are subjected to torture for peaceful activities, the Saudi government seeks to assert itself on the international stage as a 'reforming' power," said the New York-based Human Rights Watch.

US Covid Patient Dies On Flight, Officials Didn't Know She Was Positive

WASHINGTON: A Texas woman died of covid-19 while she was on board a Spirit Airlines flight heading home to Dallas from Las Vegas in late July, officials said this week. The Spirit flight left Las Vegas on the evening of July 24, bound for Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and was diverted to Albuquerque because the woman was unresponsive, said Stephanie Kitts, a spokeswoman for Albuquerque International Support. The woman was dead by the time she arrived, Kitts said.

The woman, who was 38,

fell unconscious on the flight and stopped breathing, according to a police report documenting the incident. A member of the flight's crew tried to administer CPR and passed out from exhaustion, according to the report.

When the plane landed, emergency crews carried the woman from the jet on a gurney and tried to resuscitate her but gave up after several minutes.

The Dallas County Judge's Office, which first disclosed the woman's death, said she had an underlying medical condition.

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report. When the plane landed, emergency crews carried the woman from the jet on a gurney and tried to resuscitate her but gave up after several minutes.

The Dallas County Judge's Office, which first disclosed the woman's death, said she had an underlying medical condition. The investigation into her death by officials in New Mexico concluded that her cause of death was a covid-19 infection, contributed to by asthma and morbid obesity.

Airport managers in Albuquerque did not learn until later that the woman had covid-19, so the case was handled as a typical medical diversion, Kitts said. Officials in Dallas County added the woman to their virus death count on Sunday.

US Proposal On H-1B For Speciality Jobs May Affect Hundreds Of Indians

WASHINGTON: The State Department has proposed not to issue temporary business visas for H-1B speciality occupations which allowed companies to send their technology professionals for a short stay to complete jobs on site in the US, a move which could affect hundreds of Indians.

The proposal, if finalised, will eliminate any misconception that the "B-1 in lieu of H policy" provides an alternative avenue for foreign professionals to enter the US for skilled labour that allows, and potentially even encourages them and their employers, to circumvent

"The proposed changes and the resulting transparency would reduce the impact of foreign labour on the US workforce of aliens performing activities in a speciality occupation without the procedural protections attendant to the H-1B classification," it said.

In its notification issued on Wednesday, the State Department said US architecture firms seeking protection from rising labour costs in the country might believe they could lay off US architects and contracts for the same services to be provided by a foreign architecture firm.

If a foreign firm sought



the restrictions and requirements relating to the "H" non-immigrant classification established by the Congress to protect US workers, the State Department said.

The move, made public on Wednesday, less than two weeks ahead of the November 3 presidential election, is likely to affect several Indian companies which send their technology professionals on B-1 visas for a short stay to complete jobs on site in the US.

In December 2019, the Attorney General of California announced a \$800,000 settlement against Infosys Ltd to resolve allegations that approximately 500 Infosys employees worked in the state on company-sponsored B-1 visas rather than H-1B visas, the State Department said.

H-1B visas for its architects, it would be required to pay the prevailing wage for architects in the area of intended employment in the US, presumably the same wage the US architects had been paid, and meet the other requirements enacted by the Congress to protect US workers.

But under the B-1 in lieu of H policy, the foreign architects could ostensibly seek B-1 visas and travel to the US to fill a temporary need for architecture services, as long as they retained a residence in the foreign country and continued to receive a salary, perhaps significantly lower than what is customary for US architects, dispersed abroad by the foreign firm (or under the auspices of a foreign parent or subsidiary), the State Department said.

Nigeria in turmoil after police fire on demonstrators



LAGOS: Nigeria's biggest city Lagos and several states were under curfew on Wednesday as unrest rooted in anti-police protests broke out again following a day of violence, including the shooting of civilians by security forces.

Fires burned across Lagos and residents reported hearing gunfire despite President Muhammadu Buhari's appeal for "understanding and calm".

Armed police tried to enforce a round-the-clock curfew in the commercial capital, setting up checkpoints. But groups of young men blocked a number of major roads with overturned traffic signs, tree branches and rocks. Smoke billowed from buildings that were ablaze.

Videos circulating on social media showed armed police in the Yaba area of Lagos

kicking a man as he lay on the ground. One officer fired into his back and dragged his limp body down the street.

Images taken after the incident showed crowds gathering and burning tyres with thick black smoke, and more police gathering with guns drawn and pointed.

Rights group Amnesty International said the Nigerian army and police killed at least 12 peaceful protesters at two locations in Lagos on Tuesday.

At least 56 people have died across Nigeria since nationwide protests began on Oct 8, with about 38 killed on Tuesday alone, it said.

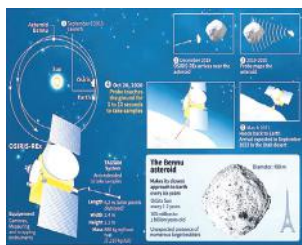
Thousands of Nigerians, many driven closer to poverty by the economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic, have joined the protests that initially focused on a special police unit.

NEWS MAKERS

US spacecraft touches asteroid surface for rare rubble grab

WASHINGTON: After a four-year journey, Nasa's robotic spacecraft Osiris-Rex briefly touched down on asteroid Bennu's boulder-strewn surface on Tuesday to collect rock and dust samples in a precision operation 200 million miles (330 million kilometres) from Earth.

The so-called "Touch-And-Go" or TAG maneuver was managed by Lockheed Martin Space in Denver, Colorado, where at 6:12pm an announcer said: "Touchdown declared. Sampling is in progress," and scientists erupted in celebration.



The historic mission was 12 years in the making and rested on a critical 16 second period where the spacecraft performed a delicate autonomous maneuver to grab its precious payload: at least 60 grams (two ounces), or a candy-bar sized amount of

regolith that scientists hope will help unravel the origins of our solar system.

If Osiris-Rex successfully comes home in September 2023, it will have collected the largest sample returned from space since the Apollo era. "We think we actually might be coming back with a baby picture of what the solar system was like, of what our chemistry was like, billions of years ago," Nasa scientist Michelle Thaller said.

"We're looking for our own origins out there, and that's why we've gone so far to bring a bit of Bennu back."

India's New Rules On Who Can Visit And Who Isn't Allowed



India is reopening its borders to international visitors in a bid to revive economic growth even as the South Asian nation battles the world's second-worst coronavirus outbreak.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is using a dip in new Covid-19 infections to prise open the economy from a strict lockdown, welcoming foreigners on business trips, but not tourists.

While regular scheduled commercial flights remain off limits for the time being, overseas travelers can use other options, including flights under a government repatriation program, so-called air-bubble agreements, and private charters, the Ministry of Home Affairs said in a statement Thursday. Ships will also be permitted. All travelers must "strictly adhere" to the guidelines on quarantine and other rules.

The surprise decision comes after the number of daily infections in India dropped to around 55,000 versus almost 100,000 last month. A government panel of scientists said this week the nation may have seen a peak in new infections and could contain the outbreak by February. But critics have attributed that decline to lower rates of testing as the disease spreads to the country's vast hinterland.

Conferences, Study

All existing visas -- except electronic, tourist and medical ones -- will be restored immediately, the government said.

People holding expired visas can apply again and foreigners wishing to visit for business, conferences, work, study, research or medical reasons will be allowed to apply, the government said.

India may not be alone in welcoming foreigners amid a worsening outbreak. Indonesia, Southeast Asia's largest economy and the nation with that region's worst outbreak, is also considering reopening borders, Foreign Minister Retno Marsudi said in a Thursday briefing.

Indonesia reported 4,432 new cases in the 24 hours through midday Thursday, the most since Oct. 11, bringing the total to 377,541.

India has extended a government repatriation program to allow private carriers including IndiGo and SpiceJet Ltd. to operate such flights with special permission. The nation has also struck air-bubble agreements with 18 countries, including the U.S., U.K., Germany, Afghanistan and Canada.

India's lockdown at the end of March was the world's largest and one of its most severe, causing the economy to contract about 24% in the quarter ended June from a year earlier as businesses and jobs were demolished. Once restrictions were eased, authorities struggled to get the pandemic under control with the number of infections now second only to the U.S.

India has also been allowing local airlines to fly a limited schedule since May. But most carriers failed to fill even 70% of their seats last month as passengers remained wary about catching the deadly virus. PM Modi's administration has set aside about 500 billion rupees (\$7 billion) to vaccinate the world's most populous nation after China, Bloomberg News reported Thursday.



EXHIBITING ERA: A Kashmiri man clicking a picture at SKICC Convention Centre during the two-day symposium organized by Ministry of Culture on Thursday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Transparent, Accountable Governance My Priority: LG

SRINAGAR: In yet another step to make the grievance redressal mechanism more dynamic and efficient, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today held the first run of "LG's Mulaqaat"- Live Public Grievance Hearing, an interactive session with the randomly selected people across the Union territory of J&K to take stock of their grievances and to gather genuine feedback about the overall performance of the online Grievance Redressal System-JKIGRAMS.

In today's two-hour long programme, the Lt Governor interacted with a total of 19 randomly selected applicants from across the UT through video conferencing and took first-hand appraisal of their grievances. All Administrative Secretaries, DCs, SSPs and other senior officers of the various government departments and agencies remained present throughout the interaction and briefed the Lt Governor in response to the grievances raised by the applicants, besides giving timelines for redressing the same.

With the intervention of the Lt Governor, grievances of 15 applicants were redressed on-spot, while necessary directions were passed to the concerned officers for conducting the enquiry and taking the requisite action for redressing the remaining grievances within a week's time.

The intent of the initiative is to lay thrust on objective disposal of grievances; discourage feigned compliance by the concerned and to make an assessment of the performance efficiency of the online Grievance Redressal System.

The Lt Governor observed that the J&K Government is working on the principles of transparent, accountable and people-centric governance and the UT administration is taking every step for prompt and speedy disposal of the public grievances by strengthening and augmenting the existing Grievance mechanism to achieve the optimum efficiency.

The Lt Governor also took stock of the positive feedback posted by the citizens on the grievance portal after the disposal of their grievances. He underscored that the 'Jan Abhiyan' in tandem with a robust and responsive grievance redressal mechanism can do wonders in formalizing a citizen-centric governance model centred on peoples' welfare. 'Once this system is institutionalized, people of J&K will get great relief through prompt redressal of their grievances', he added.

In the new mechanism, the instructions issued by the Lt Governor would be punched into the online JK-IGRAMS system and it would be made available simultaneously to the concerned officers and for the perusal of the applicants as well.

Earlier, Secretary, Public Grievances, Simrandeep Singh briefed the Lt Governor on the status of grievances. It was informed that more than 50% of the grievances have been disposed of as on date and in the month of September, a total of 2529 grievances were disposed of on JK-IGRAMS.

The Lt Governor expressed his satisfaction over the progress report on the status of grievances and observed that the faith of people in the grievance redressal mechanism has been cemented further now. He also complimented the officers who made untiring efforts for the successful conduct of ambitious initiatives of the J&K Government - 'Back to Village-3' and 'My Town My Pride' on the sidelines of the occasion.

UP Family Court Orders Wife To Pay Rs 1,000 Monthly Maintenance Allowance To Husband

MUZAFFARNAGAR: A family court here has ordered a woman, who is a government pensioner, to pay a monthly maintenance allowance to her husband, following a petition filed by the latter in this regard.

The woman and the husband have been living separately for many years. The man had filed a petition in 2013 under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, seeking maintenance allowance from his wife.

The judge of the Family Court on Wednesday allowed the petition of complainant and ordered the woman to pay Rs 1,000 per month to her husband as maintenance allowance since she was a retired government servant and getting of Rs 12,000 pension per month. PTI

Woman Axes Son To Death In Suspected Human Sacrifice In Madhya Pradesh: Police

In a suspected case of human sacrifice, a woman allegedly axed her 24-year-old son to death, claiming that she felt like a goddess, at a village in Madhya Pradesh's Panna district on Thursday, police said.

The incident took place at Kohni village at around 4.30 am, when Suni Bai Lodhi attacked her son Dwarka with an axe, police official Arun Soni said.

The accused, who is in her 50s, claimed that she "felt like a goddess at times" and on Wednesday night, she felt the same way and attacked her son with an axe, the official said.

The police have arrested the woman and seized the weapon used in the attack, he said, adding that further probe is underway.

Meanwhile, Ram Bhagat, a resident of the village, told reporters, "At the time of the incident, Lodhi's husband was asleep in the house and after committing the act, she informed him that she had sacrificed her son."

The incident triggered panic in the area, following which the police were deployed in the village.

Delhi Riots: Umar Khalid Tells Court He's In Sort Of Solitary Confinement

NEW DELHI: Former JNU student leader Umar Khalid, arrested under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in connection with north-east Delhi riots in February, told a court here on Thursday that he was not allowed to step out of his cell and it was sort of a "solitary confinement".

Additional Sessions Judge Amitabh Rawat directed Tihar Jail Superintendent to be present before the court on Friday to hear the matter.

Khalid made his submissions directly to the court through video conferencing when he was produced before it on expiry of his judicial custody in the case.

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