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News Digest

Drone Shot Down Along LoC: Army

Srinagar: A surveillance drone of Chinese make was on Saturday shot down by Army troops shortly after it crossed into this side of the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said. The DJI Mavic 2 Pro drone, fitted with cameras, was spotted hovering in air by the alert troops in Keran sector and subsequently shot down, the officials said. They said the drone was seized and further investigation is on. There has been a spurt in the use of drones from Pakistani side over the past few months. **● P-02**

Massive Forest Fire Rages In Bandipora

Srinagar: A massive fire broke out in a forest near Khayar village of north Kashmir's Bandipora district on Saturday evening. Officials said that the fire broke out in compartment number 22 of Khuihama forest range during which dozens of trees got destroyed. "The fire later spread to the adjoining compartments of the forest area," they said. Locals said that massive fire has caused extensive damage to the forest area, adding that the massive fire broke out and has spread to a vast area as the concerned officials failed to. **● P-02**

Biker Killed In Kulgam Mishap

Srinagar: A bike-rider was killed while his pillion rider sustained injuries on Saturday after the motorcycle they were travelling on met with an accident in Damhal Hanjipora in south Kashmir's Kulgam district. A police officer said that a motorcycle bearing registration number JK02BF-7299 met collided with a tipper bearing registration number JK01H-1255 at Manzgam road, leaving the biker dead on the spot and his pillion rider wounded. The officer identified the deceased as Muheeb Ahmad Shah, son of Mukhtar Ahmad Shah from Manzgam Kulgam while as the injured. **● P-02**

Drugs Racket Busted In Jammu, 7 Held: Police

Jammu: Seven people, including two who were accused in the 2005 Delhi blast case, were arrested in connection with the seizure of 62 kg of heroin and opium last month near the Indo-Pak border here, police said on Saturday. The seizure was made on the intervening night of September 19 and 20 by a joint team of the Jammu Police and the Border Security Force (BSF) near the Budhwar Post, Inspector General (IG) of Police, Jammu Zone, Mukesh Singh, told reporters here. With these arrests an international drugs racket has been busted, police claimed and. **● P-02**

Ladakh Records 28 New Covid-19 Cases

Leh: With 28 fresh cases, the COVID-19 tally of the Union Territory of Ladakh has shot up to 5,840, an official bulletin said on Saturday. Ladakh has so far recorded 68 deaths due to COVID-19, while the number of cured patients has gone up to 4,984 with 82 people being discharged from various hospitals in the last 24 hours, the bulletin released by the Directorate of Health Services said. Of the new cases, 18 were reported from Leh district and 10 from Kargil district. The bulletin said 72 patients were discharged in Leh and 10 in Kargil, bringing down the number of active COVID-19 cases in the Union Territory to 788 -- 650 in Leh and 138 in Kargil. **● P-02**

'Peoples Alliance' Raises J&K Flag To Fight For Special Status

Conglomerate Names Dr Farooq Chairman, Mehbooba Deputy



KO Photo Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Seven mainstream parties of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday gave a formal shape to their recently cobbled alliance for the restoration of Article 370, electing National Conference's Farooq Abdullah as its chairman and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti as vice-chairperson, and asserted that theirs was "not an anti-national" grouping

CPM leader M Y Tarigami was elected as the convenor while Lok Sabha member from South Kashmir Hasnain Masoodi would be the coordinator of the conglomerate known as Peoples Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD). Sajad Gani Lone of People's Conference would be the spokesman for the amalgam. After a meeting held at Mehbooba's house, Abdullah, who turned 84 earlier this week, said

the alliance is fighting for the restoration of special status to Jammu and Kashmir and is an "anti-BJP platform" and not an anti-national amalgam.

"I want to tell you that this is false propaganda by the BJP that the PAGD is anti-national. I want

BJP Seeks Mehbooba's Arrest

The Jammu and Kashmir BJP has demanded PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti's arrest for her "seditious" remarks, wherein she said she would only hold the tricolour when the flag of the erstwhile state is restored.

The BJP said "no power on earth" can either hoist the state flag again or restore Article 370 of

the Constitution, which granted a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing reporters on Friday for the first time since her release from a 14-month detention following the abrogation of Article 370 in August last year, Mufti said she will only hold the national flag after the flag of Jammu and Kashmir is **▶ PAGE 02**

SOZ: Can't Be Business As Usual Post 370

Leading support to former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti, Congress leader and former Union Minister Saifuddin Soz on Saturday said Mehbooba's views on restoration of the flag of the erstwhile state of Jammu and

Kashmir reflects the wishes of the people.

"Mehbooba Mufti has reflected the feelings of an average Kashmiri by saying that she will not hold tricolour till the State's flag is restored with the status of the State," he said.

He said the question is as to what does the Union expect from the beleaguered people of Kashmir who are determined to continue their struggle for restoration of the special status.

"That the Modi government has internationalized the Kash-

mir issue once again is an obvious fact. It is not for nothing that world famous intellectuals like Noam Chomsky of America and Johan Galtung of Spain have raised their voice against the treatment meted out to Kashmir by the Modi **▶ PAGE 02**

I WANT TO TELL YOU THAT THIS IS FALSE PROPAGANDA BY THE BJP THAT THE PAGD IS ANTI-NATIONAL. I WANT TO TELL THEM THAT THIS IS NOT TRUE. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT IT IS ANTI-BJP, BUT IT IS NOT ANTI-NATIONAL."

Govt Introduces 43 Central Laws In Ladakh UT

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Government of India on Friday issued an order for adaptation of state and central laws for the newly carved out Union Territory of Ladakh.

According to an order, as many as 86 laws enacted by legislature of the erstwhile State of Jammu & Kashmir have been repealed while 56 such statutes have been made applicable with modifications.

As many as 43 central laws have been made applicable to the UT of Ladakh with certain modifications and substitutions, the order reveals.

This was the first such order issued for UT of Ladakh under section 96 of Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act, which empowers Centre to amend J&K specific laws through an executive order.

"For the purpose of facilitating the application in relation to the successor Union Territories, of any law made before the appointed day, as detailed in Fifth Schedule, the Central Government may, before the expiration of one year from that day, by order, make such adaptations and modifications of the law, whether by way of repeal or amendment, as may be necessary or expedient, and thereupon **▶ PAGE 02**

J&K Reports 4 More Covid-19 Deaths

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: At least four more people succumbed to coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, taking the number of virus related fatalities across the Union Territory to 1432.

Three more people succumbed to the deadly infection in Jammu division while one death due to coronavirus was reported in the Kashmir valley, officials said. Among the three victims from Jammu region, two were residents of Jammu district and one Doda.

Among others the victims included a 40-year-old man from Satwari, an 82-year-old man

577 More Test Covid-19 Positive

Jammu and Kashmir reported on Saturday 577 fresh cases of coronavirus, including thirty travelers, taking the total number of people infected by the virus in the Union Territory to 91329. According to the officials, 364 new cases of Covid-19 were detected in Kashmir valley on Saturday and 213 in Jammu division.

Giving the district wise details, officials said, **● P-02**

from Paloura Jammu. The victim from Valley was a resident of Anantnag, they said.

With these deaths, the fatality count has reached 956 in Valley and 476 in Jammu region.

Srinagar district with 345 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu

(248), Baramulla (138), Budgam (91), Pulwama (79), Kupwara (71), Anantnag (74), Kulgam (46), Bandipora (45), Rajouri (45), Doda (44), Shopian (35), Ganderbal (32), Kathua (30), Udhampur (28), Samba (25), Poonch (23), Kishtwar (14), Ramban (12), and Reasi (7). (With GNS inputs)

Right Wing Activists 'Attack' PDP Office In Jammu

SRINAGAR: Right wing activists on Saturday allegedly attacked the office of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in Jammu city, a day after the party President and former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti vowed not to raise tricolour till the flag of Jammu and Kashmir is returned.

Former PDP legislator and party spokesperson Firdous Tak told Kashmir Observer that he was seated in his party office with his colleagues when a mob of right

THESE GOONS tried to scale wall and raise Indian flag. When we went out to check the situation, they abused us and threatened to burn our office to ground."

wing activists came in charging. He said the security deployment pushed the right wing activists behind the gate to repulse the attack.

"These goons tried to scale wall and raise Indian flag. When we went out to check the situation, they abused us and threatened to burn our office to ground," Tak said.

He alleged that no adequate security arrangements were put in place by the administration even as the right wing goons had posted videos on social media announcing to storm the PDP office.

When asked if today's alleged attack was a reaction to PDP President's tricolour remark, Tak said "These people have nothing to offer to the people of the country. Not only the general masses but even to their voters. So, they are raking up issues from one corner to another just to divert the attention of the people from the real issues. Any person who dissents with their views is **▶ PAGE 02**

LG Orders Transfer Of 4 KAS Officers

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday transferred four KAS officers by the orders of the Lieutenant Governor.

As per the order, Pankaj Magotra (KAS) Additional Secretary to the Government, Jal Shakti Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Department of Agriculture Production and Farmers' Welfare.

"He shall also hold the additional charge of Additional Secretary to the Government, Horticulture Department, till further orders," reads the order.

Mohammad Shahid Saleem Dar (KAS) awaiting orders of adjustment in the General Administration Department **● P-02**

Eid-i-Milad Holidays Rescheduled

SRINAGAR: Government on Saturday rescheduled two holidays including 'Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi' and 'Friday Following' in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

An official communique in this regard reads that the holiday on account of Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi shall now be observed on 30th October, 2020 (Friday) instead of 29th October, 2020 (Thursday).

"The holiday on account of Friday following Eid-i-Milad-un-Nabi shall now be observed on 6th November, 2020 (Friday) instead 30th October, 2020 **● P-02**

ITBP To Have 47 New Outposts On LAC

Press Trust Of India

GREATER NOIDA (UP): The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), in developments that took place in the last few months, has broken the myth of some countries that they have a powerful army, Union minister G Kishan Reddy said on Saturday, in an indirect reference to the ongoing standoff between India and China in Ladakh.

The minister of state for home was addressing the troops of the mountain warfare-trained border force on the occasion of its 59th raising day here. He did not take names but said

US Closely Monitoring LAC Row

The US is closely monitoring the border row between India and China and does not want the situation to escalate, a senior Trump administration official has said. The official told the reporters during a conference **● P-02**

while India believes in the philosophy of "vasudhaiva **▶ PAGE 02**

India, Pak Troops Trade Fire Along LoC, IB

JAMMU: India and Pakistani troops on Saturday traded heavy gunfire and mortar shells along the Line of Control (LoC) and the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir.

Officials said that Pakistani troops violated ceasefire by resorting to unprovoked firing and mortar shelling in three sectors along the LoC and IB in Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday.

The Indian Army and the Border Security Force (BSF) retaliated effectively. **● P-02**

Child Pornography In Valley US Based NGO Raises Alarm

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Police has registered a case in connection with production, possession and transmission of child pornography by some persons in the valley, said a police spokesman.

The case was registered by the Cyber Police on the basis of 'Tipline Reports' received from the National Center For Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), a US-based non-profit organization.

Cyber Police Station Kashmir Zone, Srinagar has received a number of reports from the NCMEC against the individuals residing in the Kashmir valley who have published, transmitted, circulated child pornography on social media plat-

forms, the spokesman said.

He said the NCMEC receives tips-offs through citizens, service providers and uses software to track child pornography content uploading/sharing online that is then shared with law enforcement agencies in the form of 'Tipline Reports'.

Based on the reports, a case was registered in Cyber Police Station Kashmir and investigation was initiated, he said.

The spokesman said a number of paedophiles from the valley were found involved in either transmission or uploading of child pornography contents on the social media platforms.

The accused will be arrested in the coming days, he said.

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From Front page...



DR FAROOQ ABDULLAH on Saturday visited the 'Durga Nag' temple here on the occasion of 'Durga ashtami' and 'Ram navami', and paid obeisance to the deity. KO Photo Abid Bhat

'Peoples Alliance' Raises...

NC president said "I want to tell them that this (PAGD) is not an anti-national jamaat. Our aim is that the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh should get their rights back. That's where our battle is. Our battle is not for more than that," he said
 Abdullah said the BJP was doing propaganda against the constituents of the PAGD in Jammu and elsewhere in the country
 "They are trying to divide us (people of Jammu Kashmir and Ladakh) in the name of religion. This attempt will not succeed. This is not a religious battle, this is a fight for our identity, and for that identity, we are standing together," he said
 The amalgam, which met for the first time after its formation, will come out with a white paper within one month on governance in Jammu and Kashmir over the past one year since the abrogation of article 370, Lone told reporters after the meeting
 "The white paper will not be rhetoric. It will be based on facts and figures to present the reality to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and around the country...? An impression is being given that all the corruption had happened in Jammu and Kashmir," Lone said
 The amalgam decided to hold its next meeting after a fortnight in Jammu, followed by a convention in Srinagar on November 17
 As a mark of defiance to the constitutional changes made by the Centre with respect to Jammu and Kashmir last year, the alliance adopted the flag of the erstwhile state as its symbol
 While the Communist Party of India's Kashmir head A R Trukroo joined the PAGD, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee has quietly distanced itself from the alliance
 JKPC chief Ghulam Ahmad Mir, who was part of the meetings that took place before the formalisation of PAGD earlier this month, has skipped the last two meetings
 The JKPC had issued a statement after the previous meeting that Mir could not attend due to the advice of doctors
 This time the party did not explain its absence from the meeting

BJP Seeks Mehbooba's Arrest...

restored. In an act seen as defiance, the flag of the erstwhile state was prominently placed on a table in front of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) president, along with that of her party, during a press conference.
 "I request Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to take cognisance of the seditious remarks of Mehbooba Mufti, book her for the seditious act and put her behind bars," Jammu and Kashmir BJP president Ravinder Raina told reporters.
 "We will sacrifice every drop of our blood for our flag, country and motherland. Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of our country, so only one flag can be hoisted in Jammu and Kashmir and that is the national flag," he said.
 Raina said the saffron party will not tolerate such "nefarious designs" aimed at instigating the people of Kashmir.
 "I warn leaders like Mehbooba Mufti not to instigate the people of Kashmir. We will not allow anyone to disturb peace, normalcy and brotherhood. In case anything wrong happens, she will have to face the consequences," he said.
 If Kashmiri leaders are feeling insecure in India, they can go to Pakistan and China, he added.
 Referring to the Centre's move to abrogate Article 370 on August 5 last year, Raina said no decision taken by the government can be reversed.
 He said Article 370 gave rise to separatism, militancy and was instrumental behind thousands of killings.
 "As the government has permanently scrapped Article 370, no power on earth can restore it. No power on earth can hoist any flag other than the national flag in Jammu and Kashmir," the BJP leader said.
 Raina also said that "conspiracies of the Gupkar Gang" would not be tolerated and anyone challenging the unity and integrity of the country would be jailed.
 This time we have Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah and those conspiring against the country will not be forgiven. We will give our blood and our lives for our motherland and the tricolour, Raina, holding the national flag in his hand, told reporters here.
 Referring to the National Conference and PDP leaders, he claimed that when they are in power, they praise India, but when out of power, they remember Pakistan and China.
 They will not be allowed to take forward an anti-India agenda. Let them try, this Gupkar Gang is getting strengthened from six parties to 600, we will not allow them to fulfil their dreams. They are a bunch of power hungry people and the people of Jammu and Kashmir know them very well...," Raina alleged.
 "What if Mehbooba does not hold the tricolour in her hand, there are crores of people in Jammu and Kashmir who love and respect the national flag from the core of their hearts," he said.
 We will celebrate October 26, the day when Maharaja Hari Singh signed the instrument of accession, as 'Villai Diwas' like Diwali and freedom celebration," the BJP leader asserted.
 "Any leader who is found conspiring against the country will pay a heavy price. They cannot save themselves and Tihar jail is waiting for them," he added.

Mehbooba Disrespecting...

New Delhi: The BJP on Saturday accused PDP president Mehbooba Mufti of "disrespecting" the Indian flag and asserted that the revocation of Article 370 was done constitutionally and that it will not be restored.
 Her comments that she will not hold the tricolour till the Kashmiri flag is restored is "downright denunciation" of the national flag's sanctity, senior BJP leader and Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said.
 The former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister had on Friday said that she was not interested in contesting elections or holding the tricolour, the national flag, till the constitutional changes enforced

on August 5 last year were rolled back.
 She said she would hold the tricolour only when the separate flag of the erstwhile state is restored.
 Prasad asserted that Article 370, which gave the erstwhile state a special status and was revoked last year, will not be restored.
 It was removed following a proper constitutional process and both Houses of Parliament approved it with overwhelming numbers, he said.
 Revoking it was our commitment to the nation and people have appreciated it, he said.
 In many ways, Mufti has shown serious disrespect to the very image of India which the tricolour represents, he added.
 The minister also hit out at other opposition parties, saying they have maintained a stony silence at her remarks showing serious disrespect to the national flag, even as they criticise the saffron party at the "slightest of issues".
 "This is hypocrisy and double standard," Prasad said.
 He claimed that the revocation of the Article 370 has led to increased development in the union territory with the weaker sections of society, like SCs, STs, OBCs and women, enjoying the same rights that they do in the rest of the country.
 People participated in local polls in Jammu and Kashmir with joy and happiness, he said.
 "Some people and families who used to rule with impunity and without accountability are going to have problems," he said.

SOZ: Can't Be Business...

government. Both these high ranking intellectuals have said that Kashmir has been rendered into a prison with the entire population there as prisoners," he said.
 He said it cannot be business as usual in Kashmir after abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution of India.

Right Wing Activists 'Attack'...

dubbed anti-national," He said that attack on PDP office was a cognizable offence and police has to take note of it and bring the guilty to task.
 "Under the watch of the cameras some people have violated laws, they have entered into a private office, they have trespassed, they have assaulted and they have threatened openly. This is a cognizable offence," he added.
 Pertinently, Mehbooba's tricolor remark during her presser in Srinagar has triggered a row with BJP, Shiv Sena and other parties demanding her to be booked and arrested under sedition charges.

Govt Introduces 43 Central...

every such law shall have effect subject to the adaptations and modifications so made until altered, repealed or amended by a competent Legislature or other competent authority," reads the provision of the law.
 The order has been issued six days before the first anniversary of re-organisation of the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir into two Union Territories.
 Both J&K and Ladakh formally separated and started functioning as UTs from October 31, 2019 nearly two months after Centre abrogated Article 370 and approved legal framework for re-organisation of Jammu & Kashmir—(KNO)

577 More Test Covid-19...

Srinagar reported 122 cases, Budgam 50, Baramulla 47, Pulwama 12, Kupwara 45, Anantnag 27, Bandipora 24, Ganderbal 12, Kulgam 11, Shopian 6, Jammu 116, Rajouri 7, Udhampur 8, Doda 33, Kathua 8, Poonch 9, Samba 7, Kishtwar 13, Ramban 7and Reasi 5.

LG Orders Transfer Of 4 KAS...

has been posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Housing and Urban Development Department.
 Arun Kishore Kotwal (KAS) Additional Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Jal Shakti Department.
 Dr. Des Raj Bhagat (KAS) Additional Secretary in the J&K Government Grievance Cell, holding additional charge of Additional Secretary to the 24/22 Government, Planning, Development and Monitoring Department, has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to the Government, Power Development Department.

Eid-i-Milad Holidays...

(Friday)", the communique reads further.
 A copy of the communique has been sent to all departments for intimation. (GNS)

India, Pak Troops Trade Fire...

they said. "At about 6.30 pm (on Saturday), Pakistan initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and shelling mortars along the LoC in the Degwar sector in Poonch district, a defence spokesman said.
 He said the Indian Army retaliated befittingly and the cross-border shelling between the two sides was going on when last reports were received.
 Pakistani Rangers also fired on forward posts and villages in Rajpuri in the Ghagwal sector of Samba district and Faqera and Manyari in the Hiranagar sector along the IB in Kathua district, a police official said.
 He said firing from across the border in Rajpuri started around 2 am. The exchange of fire between Pakistani Rangers and the BSF continued till 3.45 am, the spokesman said.
 In Kathua district, Pakistani Rangers resorted to firing around 10.30 pm on Friday which continued till 4.30 am, he said.
 However, there was no report of any casualty on the Indian side in the firing from across the border, the officials said.

ITBP To Have 47 New...

kutumbakam" or the world is one family, the culture of the country teaches it to worship both "shastra and astra" or sacred scriptures and

weapons at the same time.

"This has taught us that the enemy can raise its head anytime, anywhere and we should be fully prepared to face any possibility. The ITBP is an important pillar of that preparedness of the country," Reddy said.
 "The armies of some countries had a myth that they were among the powerful armies of the world, but during the developments in the past few months, the ITBP has broken that myth," he added.
 The country and its citizens are proud of the ITBP's valour and dedication, the minister said.
 The ITBP is the designated force to guard the 3,488-km-long Sino-India Line of Actual Control (LAC) that runs from Ladakh to Arunachal Pradesh in the northeastern flank of the country.
 The Army and the border-guarding force are engaged in a military standoff in the Ladakh region for the past few months. The ITBP had sometime ago said it "fought the whole night" and gave a befitting reply to the Chinese PLA troops during a violent clash between the two sides on June 15-16.

Reddy said the force not only mans the borders and ensures the internal security of the country, but also protects its economic interests.
 "India is surrounded by a hostile neighbourhood and our enemy, time and again, puts obstacles to stop our economic development. When you defeat these designs of the enemy, you ensure the country's economic development," he said.
 Reddy said the Narendra Modi government is "determined" to strengthen and "modernise" the force, and informed about certain sanctions given to it in the recent past.
 "I am happy to inform that the ITBP has been given the approval by the Ministry of Home Affairs to establish 47 border posts, uniform special clothing and mountaineering equipment for high-altitude locations, latest weapons are being provided and work is on to prepare priority border roads for the force," he said.
 The minister said the Centre had approved a budget of Rs 7,223 crore for the force for financial year 2019-20.

"I assure you that there will be no dearth of funds for the ITBP," Reddy added.

ITBP Director General (DG) Surjeet Singh Deswal also spoke at the event as he lauded the bravery displayed by the troops recently in Ladakh under "very challenging circumstances".
 Deswal said he toured the Ladakh border front recently and himself honoured the gallant personnel, while adding that recommendations have been sent to the government for awarding gallantry medals to some of them who fought against the Chinese troops.
 The force has left no stone unturned to guard this border, faced with challenges of weather, low temperatures and oxygen levels and a difficult terrain, he said.
 Deswal said the force has finalised and sent to the home ministry a proposal for constructing "phase-2 of India-China border roads".
 "A proposal has also been sent to the high-level empowered committee for the creation of 18 foot-tracks in Arunachal Pradesh. We hope that the work on this will begin soon," the ITBP chief said.
 He added that the force is providing better vehicles, bullet-proof jackets and helmets, clothing and ration to its troops on the border.
 New systems for better communication have been installed, Deswal said.
 The ITBP was raised in the aftermath of the 1962 Chinese aggression and it has a strength of about 90,000 personnel with 60 battalions on the ground.

US Closely Monitoring...

call on Friday, ahead of the next week's 2+2 India-US Ministerial in New Delhi, that the Trump administration was providing support to India through defence sales, joint military exercises and information sharing.
 "We as a government are covering the situation in the Himalayas closely, and understandably. We certainly want to ensure that the situation doesn't escalate," the official said.
 "These are all areas where we cooperate with the Indians on, and not just as it relates to the tensions in the Himalayas," the official said.
 India and China are locked in a bitter border standoff in eastern Ladakh since early May that has significantly strained the bilateral ties. Both sides have held a series of diplomatic and military talks to resolve the row. However, no breakthrough has been achieved to end the standoff.
 China unsuccessfully attempted to occupy Indian territory on the southern bank of Pangong Lake in the last week of August.
 In response to a question, the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said that the US was having an ongoing dialogue with India about increased cooperation in Southeast Asia, and not simply about the South China Sea.
 "And we encourage their involvement. That cuts across development investments, it cuts across security cooperation, and then it also involves presence. So, we welcome greater Indian participation in Southeast Asia across all three of those areas," said the official.
 The senior official's remarks came in the midst of a growing global concern over China's expansionist behaviour.
 The evolving situation in the Indo-Pacific region in the wake of China's increasing military muscle-flexing has become a major talking point among leading global powers.
 The US has been favouring making Quad a security architecture to check China's growing assertiveness.
 China is engaged in hotly contested territorial disputes in the South and East China Seas. Beijing has also made substantial progress in militarising its man-made islands in the past few years.
 Beijing claims sovereignty over all of the South China Sea. But Vietnam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Brunei and Taiwan have counter-claims. In the East China Sea, China has territorial disputes with Japan. The South China Sea and the East China Sea are stated to be rich in minerals, oil, and other natural resources. They are also vital to global trade. Although the US lays no claims to the disputed waters, it has challenged China's growing territorial claims in the South China Sea by deploying warships and fighter jets to assert freedom of navigation and overflight patrols in the strategically vital region.

Drone Shot Down Along...

to smuggle arms and narcotics.
 Earlier in June, an attempt to drop weapons through drone was scuttled by BSF personnel when they shot down a Hexa-copter with a payload of five-and-a-half kgs including a sophisticated US-made M4 semi-automatic carbine and seven Chinese grenades along the International border in Kathua district.

Rajnath Reviews LAC Situation In Eastern Sector At Army's Trishakti Corps In Sukna

NEW DELHI: Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday reviewed the combat preparedness of the Indian Army at the Sukna-based headquarters of its 33 Corps which is responsible for guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in the Sikkim sector, officials said.
 The defence minister arrived at the key military base, popularly known as 'Trishakti' Corps, in Darjeeling district in late afternoon as part of his two-day visit to West Bengal and Sikkim to review the military preparedness in view of the border row with China in eastern Ladakh as well as to celebrate Dussehra with soldiers.
 Singh is accompanied by Chief of the Army Staff General Manoj Mukund Naravane.
 The Army has significantly bolstered deployment of troops and weaponry along the nearly 3,500 km-long LAC including in the Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh sectors.

The officials said top commanders of the 33 Corps gave detailed briefing to the defence minister and Gen Naravane on the situation along the LAC in Sikkim sector as well as about deployment of troops and weapons.
 In an interaction with a group of Army personnel, the defence minister conveyed his wishes to them on the occasion of Vijayadashami and hailed their dedication in securing the nation's borders.
 "Due to brave soldiers like you, the borders of this country are protected. The whole country is proud of you," he said.
 The defence minister also talked about the rich history of the Trishakti Corps.
 "The Trishakti Corps has a great golden history. Especially in 1962, 1967, 1971 and 1975, this Corps demonstrated examples of valour. It has been excellent," he said.
 "I extend my best wishes to all of you and your family for the

festival of Vijayadashami," the defence minister's office tweeted quoting him as saying.
 Officials said Singh will perform 'Shastra puja' (worship of weapons) at Sherathang area in Sikkim on Sunday morning on the occasion of Dussehra.
 The defence minister had performed Shastra Puja in the French port city of Bordeaux during Dussehra last year as he was on a bilateral visit to the country then.
 Singh has been performing Shastra Puja during Dussehra for the last several years including during his tenure as the Union Home Minister in the previous NDA government.
 Almost all formations of the Indian Army along the LAC are on a very high-level of alert in view of the border row with China in eastern Ladakh.
 India and China are locked in an over five-month-long bitter border standoff in eastern Ladakh that has significantly strained their ties.

Massive Forest Fire Rages...

douse the flames on time.
 The officials, however, said after receiving the information, a team of officials and firefighters reached the spot and they are dousing the flames. They also said that the forest men are on job to douse the flames and prevent it from spreading further (KNO)

Biker Killed In Kulgam Mishap

Ishfaq Ahmad Bhat, son Ghulam Rasool Bhat from Lisserpora, Manzgam was taken to a nearby hospital where he is being treated.
 "A case has been registered under relevant sections of law and further investigations have been taken up," he said

Drugs Racket Busted In...

added that the drugs consignment was dropped by unidentified Pakistani smugglers near the border.
 Two of the seven accused in the narcotics case were earlier arrested in the 2005 Delhi blast case, Singh said, adding that the involvement of terrorists in using drugs to fund their activities cannot be ruled out.
 During the intervening night of September 19 and 20, a smuggling bid was foiled by a joint party of Jammu Police and Border Security Force (BSF) at Bullaychak near Budhwar Post in Arnia area, leading to the seizure of 61 packets of heroin, one packet of opium, two pistols, three magazines and 100 live cartridges, the IG said.
 Each packet of heroin and opium weighed one kg, according to police.

The seven were arrested during raids in different places in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said.
 Those arrested were identified as Jash Raj Singh of Saikalan, Subash-Chander of SaiPhagala, Sham Lal of Arnia, Gurbaksh Singh of Bhour Camp Satwari, Bishan Dass alias Raju of Akhnoor, Ajeet Kumar alias Kala of Khour and Gurtu Parag Singh of Taran Taran in Punjab, he said, adding that Ajeet Kumar and Dass were accused in the 2005 blast case.
 During investigation, it was found that Jash Raj Singh and Chander, at the behest of Lal, had gone to the zero-line on the International Border near the Budhwar post to collect the consignment dropped from across the border by unidentified Pakistani smugglers, Singh said.

Their suspicious movement was noticed and exchange of fire started at the spot, and these two persons, taking the advantage of darkness, managed to escape leaving behind the huge consignment which was recovered by the joint teams of police and the BSF, he said.
 The Jammu police chief said it was completely a blind case and no lead was available as the recovery had taken place near the border fence and there was no information about the sender or the receiver.
 Working on technical and human intelligence, a special team of the police analysed old records and after hectic efforts busted the gang of international drug traffickers with the arrest of seven accused so far, the IG said.

Both Dass and Ajeet had a history of drug cases and were earlier arrested in the 2005 Delhi blast case. Ajeet's brother, Sarfu is based outside India and is wanted in various heroin smuggling cases in Jammu and Kashmir, Singh said.

He said preliminary investigations revealed that this racket has two parts one based in India and the other based in Pakistan and Dubai.
 "On our side, there were three sub-groups working in tandem with each other. First group used to visit border villages to identify possible receiving points and then collect the consignment to deliver it to the second group based in Jammu, the main supplier who further dispatched the consignment to Punjab, where it was received and sold by the third group, the officer said.
 Lal, who was found to be involved in drug cases in Punjab, was the assigned the task of identifying the location along the border for smuggling of drugs from Pakistan, Singh said.

He said Ajeet was behind a failed attempt to smuggle 11 kgs of heroin from the same sector in 2014 while another consignment of 10 kgs of heroin was smuggled through the sector to Punjab in early September. The IG said the Jammu police over the past one year has launched a war against drugs and efforts are on to identify and arrest the main suppliers to root out the drug menace.
 Earlier, he said, 12 kgs of heroin was recovered about three months back from Rajouri district, while another consignment of three kg heroin was seized in the Mendhar sector of Poonch district a few days back.

To a question, Singh said there is a possibility of terrorists using drugs to fund their activities.
 He said that as far as the terrorist angle is concerned, investigation is ongoing.
 There is a possibility because two of the accused were earlier involved in terror activities and the recovery of two pistols also points towards it, IG Singh said

Ladakh Records 28 New...

Meanwhile, Lieutenant Governor (LG) Radha Krishna Mathur inaugurated a newly-established RT-PCR laboratory at a hospital designated for treating COVID-19 patients at Kurbathang in Kargil district on Friday.
 The laboratory, with a fully automatic Biorad RTPCR machine and an RNA extractor machine, has the capacity to test 96 samples at one go, an official spokesperson said, adding that with three runs every 24 hours, it can conduct 288 tests.

J&K Govt makes amendments in Panchayati Raj Rules, 1996

SRINAGAR: In exercise of powers conferred by section 80 of Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act, 1989 and all other provisions enabling in this behalf, the Government of Jammu and Kashmir has made amendments in the Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Rules, 1996.

As per a notification issued here today in this regard by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Sub-rule (1) of rule 74 shall be substituted by the sub-rule namely " (1) Every candidate who desires to contest the election of Sarpanch/Panch of Halqa Panchayat/Elected Member in District Development Council/Chairperson of Panchayati Adalat/ Chairperson, Block Development Council/Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of District Development Council shall have to take an oath as per "Form 4" of the rules before the prescribed authorities."

In rule 74-A, in sub-rule (1) for the words "Chairman of Block Development Council", the words and sign "Chairperson of Block Development Council/Member of District Development Council/Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of District Development Council" shall be substituted.

After sub-rule (3) of rule 108-A, the sub-rules shall be inserted namely "(3A) The number of constituencies reserved for Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled

Castes and Women for each District Development Council shall be fixed on the basis of prescribed ratio under section 45-A of the Act for each category and applying the principles of mathematic round off with the part fraction of 0.5 and above being rounded off to one and part fraction below 0.5 being ignored for each constituency separately. (3B) The number of seats reserved for Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste as provided in Rule 3A shall be allotted to different territorial constituencies on the basis of proportion of Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste population to total population of the constituency in descending order, that is, from amongst the territorial constituencies in the District Development Council, the territorial constituency having the largest proportion of the Scheduled Tribes population shall be allotted to them and the territorial constituencies having the largest proportion of Scheduled Caste population shall be allotted to them.

In the subsequent elections, the allotment shall be made in the aforesaid manner so that as far as may be practicable, the territorial constituency reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in the previous election shall not be allotted to Scheduled Tribes, and the territorial constituency reserved for the Scheduled Castes shall not be allotted to



Government of Jammu & Kashmir

the Scheduled Castes. (3C) The allocation of constituencies to be reserved for Women shall be made on a three-point roster system for each category separately of Women (Open Category), Women (Scheduled Caste Category) and Women (Scheduled Tribe Category). The roster points shall be taken as under: (i) Seat reserved for women; (ii) Open seat; and (iii) Open seat (3D) The three-point roster system under sub-rule (3C) shall be applied for each constituency of the District Development Council in each category of Open, Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe separately after listing them in alphabetic order for each

category. In case the roster leads to a constituency which is reserved for the elections in a particular year under the same category, the constituency immediately next in serial shall be reserved for that particular roster point in the subsequent elections. (3E) If on the basis of population of the Scheduled Tribes or of the Scheduled Castes in a District, only one seat can be reserved for the Scheduled Tribes or for the Scheduled Castes as the case may be, such seat shall be treated as part of the Open Category for the purpose of reservation of seats for women. The roster for women reservation as prescribed in Rule 3C and 3D above shall also be

applicable to the elections of the Chairpersons of the District Development Councils. After rule 108-ZJ, the rules to be inserted included "108-ZJJ. Resignation before taking oath of office. An elected member of the District Development Council who also happens to be a Sarpanch/Panch or Chairperson of the Block Development Council may after being so elected and before taking an oath of office for the District Development Council under rule 74-A shall tender his resignation from Sarpanch/Panch or Chairperson of the Block Development Council to the District Development Commissioner who shall after its acceptance inform the Election Authority and the Government.

Progress Reviewed on PMDP projects for Flood Management

SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar, chaired a meeting to review progress on PMDP projects of Jal Shakti (I&FC) department for Comprehensive Flood Management works on river Jhelum here today.

The meeting was attended by Secretary Jal Shakti Department, M Raju; Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (I&FC) Kashmir, Ifthikar Ahmad Kakroo, Chief Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Kashmir, Ifthikar Ahmad Wani and other senior officials of the department.

Chairing the meeting, the Advisor asked the concerned officers for expeditious completion of all projects with timely submission of Utilization Certificates (UCs). He also asked for taking up necessary steps to give push to completion of pending works and provision of budgetary support in respect of the works which have already been executed.

During the meeting, the Advisor was informed that the PMDP project for Comprehensive Flood Management works on river Jhelum



has been divided into two phases; Phase I and Phase II at the cost of Rs. 399.29 crore and Rs. 1684.60 crore respectively.

Giving details on achievements under Phase I, the Chief Engineer I&FC informed the meeting that Rs. 313.797 crore have been spent on dif-

ferent works besides other critical infrastructure. He further informed the meeting that under Phase I, the discharge carrying capacity of river Jhelum has been increased from 31800 cusecs to 41000 cusecs while as the carrying capacity of Flood Spill Channel (FSC) Padshahi Bagh

has been increased from 4000 to 8700 cusecs. He revealed that re-sectioning at Bemina and Shariefabad of FSC has been completed while as the construction of two bridges at NaidKhari and Shariefabad on FSC is going on and will be completed within a month. Addressing the officers, Advisor Bhatnagar stressed on them to maintain quality of works besides taking up proactive measures to make the flood management successful. He asked them to ensure that all the ongoing works are completed within the fixed timelines. The Advisor directed the concerned officials to raise the embankments at all vulnerable spots besides carrying out dredging works at critical points to increase the carrying capacity of the river and FSC. Advisor Bhatnagar further directed the officials to evolve an effective mechanism for controlling the soil erosion around the embankments besides formulating a long term plan for management of tributaries so as to reduce the impact of floods.

Theft case solved within hours: Police

ANANTANG: Anantnag police on Saturday said that it solved the theft case within and made recovery within hours. In a statement issued to news agency KDC, Police said, "Police Station Srigrufwara received a written complaint from Gham Mohd Reshi son of Gh. Ahmad Reshi Resident of Srigrufwara said that from his residential house some Golden ornaments and cash was stolen."

"Police Party headed by SHO Police Station Srigrufwara under the supervision of SDPO Srigrufwara swiftly swung into action upon this information and initiated thorough investigation into the matter and recovered stolen Cash and Golden ornaments from the possession of Mukhtar Ahmad Bhat son Wali Mohd Bhat Resident of Mugal Bagh Wanpoh Kulgam," statement added. In this connection the accused has been arrested and case FIR No. 90/2020 under relevant sections of the law has been registered in Police Station Srigrufwara and further investigation into the matter has been taken up.

Half burned body found in Anantnag

SRINAGAR: An unidentified burned male dead body was found on Saturday evening in Tulkan area of Bijbehara in South Kashmir's Anantnag district.

An official said that a half burned male body was spotted by some locals in orchards of Tulkan area on Saturday evening and they informed the concerned police station.

A Police officer said that a team has reached the spot and recovered the burned male dead body of an unknown person. We have registered a case in this regard and have launched further investigations in this regard.

CS greets people on Dussehra

SRINAGAR,: The Chief Secretary, B V R Subrahmanyam, today extended greetings to the people on the occasion of Dussehra.

In his message on the eve of Dussehra, the Chief Secretary said that this festival is a celebration of victory of good over evil, truth over untruth and inspires us to adopt the principles of honesty, truthfulness, and righteousness in our lives.

The Chief Secretary hoped that the festival further strengthens the bond of brotherhood, and urged people to abide by the COVID appropriate behaviour during the festivities.

Progress on Baramulla-Gulmarg National Highway work reviewed

BARAMULLA: With an aim to upgrade basic infrastructure for developing tourism sector in the district, a meeting of concerned was convened here to review the progress on the strengthening and upgradation work on Baramulla-Gulmarg National Highway via Babreshi road.

On the occasion, Executive Director NHIDCL gave a detailed power point presentation during which he highlighted various issues

and bottlenecks hampering the smooth execution of the work. He informed that the road having a length of 42.80 km, is being upgraded at an estimated cost of Rs 84.62 cr. He further added that the road was declared as National Highway 701A in 2018 by the Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Dr G N Itoo took a detailed account of all the aspects and said that

the roads play a vital role in developing tourism as it connects Baramulla with the famous tourist destination, Gulmarg.

He directed the concerned agencies to ramp up the pace of work so that it is completed well within the stipulated timeframe.

He also stressed the concerned to work in coordination and cohesion besides directed to sort out all bottlenecks in a time bound man-

ner. Moreover, he assured that all the bottlenecks shall be resolved in a time bound manner so that the execution work is not affected in any way.

Among others, the meeting was attended by Executive Director National Highway Infrastructural Development Corporation limited (NHICDL), Additional Deputy Commissioner Baramulla, SE R&B, DFO Tangmarg, Tehsildars and heads of various engineering departments.

LG extends Mahanavami, Dussehra greetings

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha has extended his warm greetings on the occasion of Mahanavami and Dussehra to the people of Jammu & Kashmir.

In his message, the Lt Governor has prayed for peace, prosperity and development in the Union Territory.

'Mahanavami marks the end of the 9-day Navratra festival and the devotees are filled with renewed energy and enthusiasm in their lives. I pray

that with the divine blessings, may we all steer ahead the task of overhauling Jammu & Kashmir for our future generations', observed the Lt Governor.

Highlighting the significance of Dussehra, the Lt Governor said that the day marks the victory of good over evil. He said that the day gives us hope that the most powerful woes could be defeated with determination and a positive outlook.

'May we all achieve victory over evils, both internal as well as worldly, and move towards a better world', he prayed.

Drug peddler held in Srinagar: Police

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested a drug peddler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

In a statement issued, police said, "Police party of Police Station Parimpora stopped vehicle Alto bearing Regd. No. JK22A9281 driven by one namely Bilal Ahmad Mir son of Gh Mohd Mir, a resident of Nowpora Tral and during search 425

bottles of Codeine phosphate and 2304 capsules of Spaslock Proxyvon was found in his vehicle, were recovered." "The recovered illicit drugs/vehicle was seized on the spot and the person arrested," the statement added.

Meanwhile, in this regard a Case FIR No. 230/2020 U/S 8/21 NDPS Act has been registered in Police Station Parimpora and investigation has been taken up.

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR
07
RABI-UL-AWWAL
1441

This Day in History

- 1930 - 1st scheduled transcontinental air service began
- 1932 - Benito Mussolini promises to remain dictator for 30 years
- 1935 - Hurricane-produced floods kill 2,000 in Jeremie & Jacmel Haiti
- 1938 - Japanese troops occupies Hankou & Wuhan
- 1944 - Battle at Cape Engano: 4 Japanese ships sink
- 1944 - Battle at Samar-Island
- 1944 - Battle in Straits of Surigao: Japanese fleet destroyed
- 1951 - Peace talks aimed at ending Korean War resumed in Panmunjom
- 1952 - Nazim Mohammad scores Pakistan's 1st Test century 124* v India
- 1955 - Austria resumed its sovereignty after departure of last Allied occupation forces, for 1st time since German occupation of 1938
- 1955 - Tappan sells 1st microwave oven
- 1960 - 1st electronic wrist watch placed on sale, NYC
- 1960 - Cuba nationalizes all remaining US businesses
- 1971 - Belgium & People's Republic of China establish diplomatic relations
- 1971 - General Meeting of UN agrees to admit People's Republic of China
- 1971 - United Nations votes to expel the Chinese Nationalist ruled Taiwan and admit the Communist People's Republic of China
- 1974 - US Air Force fires 1st ICBM
- 1975 - USSR's Venera 10 makes day-side Venus landing
- 1977 - Digital Equipment Corporation releases OpenVMS V1.0.
- 1978 - Israeli government approves "in principle", a draft compromise peace
- 1979 - USSR performs underground nuclear test
- 1981 - 200,000 demonstrate in Brussel against cruise missile
- 1983 - US invades Grenada, a country 1/2,000 its population (US Wins!)
- 1984 - USSR performs nuclear test at Novaya Zemlya USSR
- 1985 - Kosmos 1700 communications satellite placed in geostationary orbit
- 1986 - International Red Cross ousted from South Africa
- 1991 - Aaqib Javed takes 7-37 in 10 overs v India in cric 1-day at Sharjah
- 1992 - Lithuania holds a referendum on its first post-Soviet constitution.
- 1997 - After a brief civil war which has driven President Pascal Lissouba out of Brazzaville, Denis Sassou-Nguesso proclaims himself the President of the Republic of the Congo.
- 2000 - A team led by Brigitte Senut and Martin Pickford discover *Orrorin tugenensis*, one of the earliest species on the human family tree that lived about 6 million years ago, in the Tugen Hills, Kenya
- 2001 - Windows XP first becomes available
- 2004 - Fidel Castro, Cuba's President, announces that transactions using the American Dollar will be banned by November 8
- 2007 - The first Airbus A380 passenger flight, operating for Singapore Airlines, with flight number SQ 380, flying scheduled service between Singapore and Sydney, Australia.
- 2009 - The 25 October 2009 Baghdad bombings kills 155 and wounds at least 721.
- 2012 - Hurricane Sandy makes landfall in Cuba and Haiti killing 65 people and causing over \$80 million in damage
- 2012 - The double dip recession in the UK economy ends with growth of 1.0% in GDP in the third quarter of 2012, with help from the London Olympic Games
- 2013 - 74 Boko Haram members killed in a coordinated assault in Borno State, Nigeria

PRAYERS

- FAJR 5:20
- ZUHR 12:15
- ASR 4:08
- MAGRIB 5:49
- ISHA 7:10

From KO Archives

'Kashmiri' held with \$71,000 in New Delhi

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR : Busting the second major currency racket in the capital in a week, the enforcement directorate (ED) has arrested a person and recovered huge quantities of foreign and Indian currencies from his possession!

Acting on a tip-off, ED officials searched a person, hailing from Kashmir, and recovered 71,083 dollars (over Rs 32 lakh), Rs 90,000 worth Indian currency and some documents from his car, ED special director KR.Bhargava said here today. He said the car was also seized and the Delhi police had been asked to check the person's, antecedents whether he had any links with militants in Kashmir.

ED sleuths had recovered nearly Rs one crore in Indian as well as foreign currency during raids last week at 11 premises belonging to ten global hawala operators and foreign exchange racketeers.

Active older adults have better physical, mental health: Study

Agencies

Older adults with higher physical activity and lower sitting time have better overall physical and mental health, according to a new study from the American Cancer Society (ACS).

The study, appearing in the journal, *CANCER*, suggests that higher amounts of regular moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity (MVPA) and lower duration of sedentary time is associated with higher global mental and physical health for older cancer survivors and older adults, in general.

With a rapidly ageing population and nearly 16.9 million cancer survivors in the United States today, there is a need to identify strategies associated with healthy ageing and improving quality of life for ageing cancer survivors. Being physically active is related to several health benefits, and in this study, ACS investigators led by Dr Erika Rees-Punia analysed self-reported aerobic and muscle-strengthening physical activities, sitting time, and mental and physical health among nearly 78,000 participants in the ACS's Cancer Prevention Study II Nutrition Cohort. Participants (average



age 78 years) included older cancer survivors up to 10 years post-diagnosis, and cancer-free adults.

The investigators found that regardless of cancer history, the differences in global mental and physical health between the most and least active, and the least and most sedentary, were clinically meaningful. These findings pro-

vide evidence for the importance of engaging in regular MVPA and decreasing sitting time as a reasonable non-pharmacologic strategy to improve quality of life in older men and women, with or without a prior cancer diagnosis. In fact, the recently published ACS physical activity guidelines recommend that adults get 150-300

minutes of moderate-intensity activity or 75-150 minutes of vigorous-intensity activity through the week, and to limit sedentary behaviours such as screen-based entertainment.

"The findings reinforce the importance of moving more and sitting less for both physical and mental health, no matter what

your age or history of cancer," said Rees-Punia. "This is especially relevant now as so many of us, particularly cancer survivors, maybe staying home to avoid COVID-19 exposure, and maybe feeling a little isolated or down. A simple walk or other physical activity that you enjoy may be good for your mind and body."

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you need to have a strong knowledge of all the tested topics if you want to have enough time to answer all the questions. That is why it's important to download the 200-901 blueprint before you start Skills . This will help you understand what preparation materials you need to use to develop the right skills to nail your exam.

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we have created this 200-901 DEVASC > .
<https://www.examcollection.co>

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<https://www.examsnap.com/devnet-professional-certification-dumps.html>

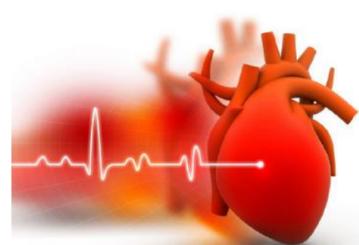
New tool can diagnose stroke with a smartphone

Agencies

A new tool created by researchers could diagnose a stroke based on abnormalities in a patient's speech ability and facial muscular movements, and with the accuracy -- all within minutes from an interaction with a smartphone. According to a study, researchers have developed a machine learning model to aid in, and potentially speed up, the diagnostic process by physicians in a

computational facial motion analysis and natural language processing to identify abnormalities in a patient's face or voice, such as a drooping cheek or slurred speech. To train the computer model, the researchers built a dataset from more than 80 patients experiencing stroke symptoms at Houston Methodist Hospital in Texas.

Each patient was asked to perform a speech test to analyse their speech and cognitive communication while being recorded on an Apple



clinical setting.

"Currently, physicians have to use their past training and experience to determine at what stage a patient should be sent for a CT scan," said study author James Wang from Penn State University in the US. "We are trying to simulate or emulate this process by using our machine learning approach," Wang added.

The team's novel approach analysed the presence of stroke among actual emergency room patients with suspicion of stroke by using

iPhone.

"The acquisition of facial data in natural settings makes our work robust and useful for real-world clinical use, and ultimately empowers our method for remote diagnosis of stroke and self-assessment," said Huang.

Testing the model on the Houston Methodist dataset, the researchers found that its performance achieved 79 per cent accuracy -- comparable to clinical diagnostics by emergency room doctors, who use additional tests such as CT scans.

Consuming dietary soy may reduce dementia risk: Study



Agencies

Researchers have found that metabolite produced following consumption of dietary soy may decrease a key risk factor for dementia--with the help of the right bacteria.

The study, published in the journal *Alzheimer's & Dementia*, reported that elderly Japanese men and women who produce equol--a metabolite of dietary soy created by certain types of gut bacteria--display lower levels of white matter lesions within the brain.

"White matter lesions are significant risk factors for cognitive decline, dementia and all-cause mortality," said lead author Akira Sekikawa from the University of Pittsburgh in the US.

"We found 50 per cent more white matter lesions in people who cannot produce equol compared to people who can produce it, which

is a surprisingly huge effect," Sekikawa added.

For the findings, the research team measured equol levels within the blood of 91 elderly Japanese participants with normal cognition.

Participants were sorted by their equol production status, and then six to nine years later underwent brain imaging to detect levels of white matter lesions and deposits of amyloid-beta, which is the suspected molecular cause of Alzheimer's disease.

The researchers found that while equol production did not appear to impact levels of amyloid-beta deposited within the brain, it was associated with reduced white matter lesion volumes.

They also discovered that high levels of isoflavones--soy nutrients that are metabolized into equol--had no effect on levels of white matter lesions or amyloid-beta

when equol wasn't produced.

According to Sekikawa, the ability to produce equol from soy isoflavones may be the key to unlocking protective health benefits from a soy-rich diet, and his team has previously shown that equol production is associated with a lower risk of heart disease.

As heart disease is strongly associated with cognitive decline and dementia, equol production could help protect the aging brain as well as the heart.

Epidemiological studies in Japan, where soy is regularly consumed, have shown that dietary intake of soy isoflavones has been linked to a lower risk for heart disease and dementia.

This type of study always catches people's attention, but we cannot prove that equol protects against dementia until we get a randomised clinical trial with sufficient evidence," Sekikawa noted.

Scholarships This Week

Kashmir Observer in association with Buddy 4 Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmir

SCHOLARSHIP NAME 1: Department of Mining Engineering Junior/Senior Research Fellowship, IIT Kharagpur 2020

Description: Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur invites applications for Department of Mining Engineering Junior/Senior Research Fellowship, IIT Kharagpur 2020 from MSc/BTech/BE degree holders. The fellows are required to work on the project titled, "Low-Cost Treatment of Mine Drainage by Phytoremediation and Implementation in an Affected Mine(LDI)".

ELIGIBILITY: The fellowship is open for candidates who hold a BTech/BE degree in Biotechnology/ Environmental Engineer-

ing/Chemical Engineering with valid GATE/NET score OR hold an MSc degree in Botany/Bioscience/Microbiology/Physical Chemistry with valid GATE/NET score. They must have two years of research experience (for Senior Research Fellowship).

PRIZES & REWARDS: INR 35,000 PER MONTH

LAST DATE TO APPLY: 27-10-2020
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/DMS5

Scholarship Name 2: AICTE Pragati Scholarship for Girls 2020-21

Description: All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) invites applications for AICTE Pragati Scholarship for Girls 2020-21 from girl students studying in the first year of a technical diploma/degree (2020-21 batch) at an AICTE approved institution. The students who are already availing this scholarship can also apply for renewal of the same. The schol-



arship scheme aims to empower young girls with knowledge, skills and self-confidence so that they could contribute to the development process.

ELIGIBILITY: The scholarship is open for girl students who are pursuing a technical degree/diploma course in the first year or second year (through lateral entry only) on the basis of percentage of marks obtained in the 10+2/

equivalent examination. They must have a family income of less than INR 8 lakh per annum. Up to two girls per family are eligible for this scholarship.

PRIZES & REWARDS:

Up to INR 50,000 per annum and other benefits

Last Date to Apply: 31-10-2020
Application mode: Online applications only
Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/SGC5

Scholarship Name 3: AICTE-Saksham Scholarship Scheme 2020-21

Description: All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) invites applications for AICTE-Saksham Scholarship Scheme 2020-21 from differently-abled students pursuing technical degree/diploma courses from recognized institutions. The students who are already availing this scholarship can also apply for renewal of the same. The aim of this schol-

arship is to promote technical education by offering financial assistance to specially-abled students for continuation of their professional studies.

ELIGIBILITY: The scholarship is open for specially-abled students having a disability of not less than 40%. They must be admitted to the first year of degree/diploma level course or second year of degree/diploma level course through lateral entry in any of the AICTE approved institution. They must have a family income of less than INR 8 lakh per annum.

PRIZES & REWARDS: UP TO INR 50,000 PER ANNUM AND OTHER BENEFITS

LAST DATE TO APPLY: 31-10-2020

APPLICATION MODE: ONLINE APPLICATIONS ONLY

SHORT URL: www.b4s.in/observer/SDA3

New clashes in Nagorno-Karabakh after Washington talks

WASHINGTON: New clashes broke out between Azerbaijan and ethnic Armenian forces over Nagorno-Karabakh a day after talks in Washington to try to end the deadliest fighting in the mountain enclave in more than a quarter of a century.

Azerbaijan's defence ministry reported fighting in and around Nagorno-Karabakh, a part of Azerbaijan populated



and controlled by ethnic Armenians.

Local officials accused Azerbaijan's forces of shelling buildings in Stepanakert, the largest city in the region, which Baku denied.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo met separately with the foreign ministers of Azerbaijan and Armenia on Friday in a new attempt to end nearly a month of bloodshed that Russian President Vladimir Putin said may have killed 5,000 people.

The collapse of two Russia-brokered ceasefires had already dimmed the prospect of

a quick end to fighting that broke out on September 27 over Nagorno-Karabakh.

Azeri forces say they have made territorial gains, including full control over the border with Iran, which Armenia denies. Nagorno-Karabakh's ethnic Armenian administration says its forces have repulsed attacks.

President Ilham Aliyev told French newspaper

Le Figaro that Azerbaijan was ready to sit down for negotiations but blamed Armenia's actions for the continued hostilities.

"We are ready to stop even today," Aliyev was quoted as saying. "But, unfortunately, Armenia grossly violated the ceasefire [...] If they don't stop, we will go to the end with the aim of liberating all the occupied territories."

US President Donald Trump said "good progress" was being made on the issue but did not elaborate and declined to say if he had spoken with the leaders of either country.

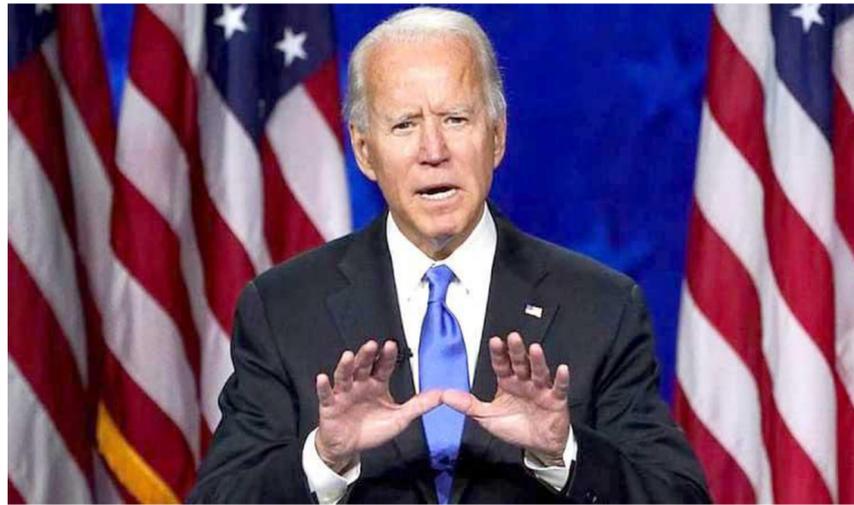
India-US Dialogue To Lay Down Next Steps For Global Cooperation: Official



WASHINGTON: The 2+2 India-US ministerial in New Delhi next week would review the accomplishments and lay down the next steps for the global cooperation between the two largest democracies in the world, a senior Trump administration official has said.

The last major diplomatic engagement of the Trump administration days before the November 3 presidential election, the two-day meeting, involving four top cabinet ministers from India and the US, is expected to lay the foundation for the next four years of this relationship irrespective of who comes to power. Speaking on the conditions of anonymity, senior administration officials from the State Department and the Pentagon asserted that there was a bipartisan support in the US on its relationship with India. "The 2+2 ministerial will serve as a capstone to review our many accomplishments as well as lay down next steps for the

US-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership," a senior administration official told reporters during a conference call organised by the Foreign Press Center in Washington DC. Broadly, they intend to focus on four major themes at this year's 2+2: global cooperation, which includes public health collaboration and work in the Indo-Pacific; economic cooperation, which includes partnership on energy and in space; people-to-people ties; and defense and security ties. Noting that on the US-India economic cooperation, they are working together towards economic recovery and getting bilateral trade back on track, the official said the US International Development Finance Corporation has made commitments to support more than USD 500 million in investment projects in India and has recently assigned a managing director in Mumbai, who will help expand their investments in India and in the region.



Biden breaks all-time television spending record

WASHINGTON: Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden's campaign has spent a record amount of money on television and digital advertising than any other presidential candidate in the US' history.

Data from Advertising Analytics, a non-partisan firm, revealed on Friday that the former Vice President has spent more than \$582 million on television advertising since launching his

campaign last year. The Hill news website reported.

Only last week, Biden's team spent \$45 million on air.

Biden's campaign has another \$57 million in television time reserved over the final 10-day sprint to the November 3 Election Day.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump's campaign has spent \$342 million in the last two years, according to Advertising Analytics.

The two sides dropped \$160 million on television and digital ads in just the past seven days.

Biden, Trump and their allies have run more than 100,000 advertisements per week since the beginning of October, according to counts maintained by the Wesleyan Media Project.

Most ads were run in Phoenix, Arizona; Charlotte, North Carolina; and Des Moines, Iowa; the three swing states that Trump won in 2016.

What happens if the US election is contested?

LONDON: US President Donald Trump has claimed without evidence that unprecedented numbers of mail-in ballots will lead to widespread fraud by Democrats in the November presidential election.

The president has also repeatedly refused to commit to a peaceful transfer of power if the vote count indicates he has lost to Democratic challenger Joe Biden.

The comments have Democrats worried that Trump's campaign will seek to dispute the election results. That could set off one of many legal and political dramas in which the presidency could be decided by some combination of the courts, state politicians and Congress.

Early voting data shows Democrats are voting by mail in far greater numbers than Republicans. In states such as Pennsylvania and Wisconsin that do not count mail-in ballots until Election Day, initial results could skew in Trump's favour, experts say, while the mail ballots counted more slowly are expected to favour Biden.

Democrats have expressed concern that Trump will declare victory on election night and then claim mail-in ballots counted in the following days are tainted by fraud.

A close election could result in litigation over voting and ballot-counting procedures in battleground states. Cases filed in individual states could eventually reach the US Supreme Court, as Florida's election did in 2000, when Republican George W. Bush prevailed over Democrat Al Gore by just 537 votes in Florida after the high court halted a recount.

Trump has pushed the Republican-held Senate to confirm Amy Coney Barrett as Supreme Court justice, which would create a 6-3 conservative majority that could favor the president if the courts



weigh in on a contested election.

The US president is not elected by a majority of the popular vote. Under the Constitution, the candidate who wins the majority of 538 electors, known as the Electoral College, becomes the next president.

In 2016, Trump lost the national popular vote to Democrat Hillary Clinton but secured 304 electoral votes to her 227.

The candidate who wins each state's popular vote typically earns that state's electors. This year, the electors meet on December 14 to cast votes. Both chambers of Congress will meet on Jan. 6 to count the votes and name the winner.

Normally, governors certify the results in their respective states and share the information with Congress.

But, some academics have outlined a scenario in which the governor and the legislature in a closely contested state submit two different election results. Battleground states of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin and North Carolina all have Democratic governors and Republican-controlled legislatures.

According to legal experts, it is unclear in this scenario whether Congress should accept the governor's electoral slate or not count the state's electoral votes at all.

While most experts view the scenario as unlikely, there is historical precedent. The Republican-controlled Florida legislature considered submitting its own electors in 2000 before the Supreme Court ended the contest between Bush and Gore.

Under the act, each chamber of Congress would separately decide which slate of "dueling electors" to accept. As of now, Republicans hold the Senate while Democrats control the House of Representatives, but the electoral count is conducted by the new Congress, which will be sworn in on January 3.

The act says that the electors approved by each state's "executive" should prevail. Many scholars interpret that as a state's governor, but others reject that argument.

The law has never been tested or interpreted by the courts.

Ned Foley, a law professor at Ohio State University, called the ECA's wording "virtually impenetrable" in a 2019 paper exploring the possibility of an Electoral College dispute.

Another unlikely possibility is that Trump's Vice President Mike Pence, in his role as Senate president, could try to throw out a state's disputed electoral votes entirely if the two chambers cannot agree, according to Foley's analysis.

Sudan becomes third Arab state to set aside hostilities with Israel this year

WASHINGTON: Israel and Sudan agreed on Friday to take steps to normalize relations in a deal brokered with the help of the United States, making Khartoum the third Arab government to set aside hostilities with Israel in the last two months.

US President Donald Trump, seeking re-election on November 3, sealed the agreement in a phone call with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Sudanese Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok and Transitional Council Head Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, senior US officials said.

Israel and Sudan plan to begin by opening economic and trade links, with an initial focus on agriculture, the joint statement said. A senior US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said such issues as formal establishment of diplomatic ties would be resolved later.

Trump touted the deal to reporters in the Oval Office with the Israeli and Sudanese leaders on the line in a three-way phone call, saying at least five other countries wanted to follow suit and normalize relations with Israel.

"Do you think 'Sleepy Joe'



Trump's decision this week to remove Sudan from the US list of state sponsors of terrorism paved the way for the accord with Israel, marking a foreign policy achievement for the Republican president as he seeks a second term trailing in opinion polls behind Democratic rival Joe Biden.

Netanyahu hailed it as a "new era" for the region, but the Palestinian leadership, watching as more of their Arab brethren appear to give their quest for statehood a lower priority, called it a "new stab in the back."

"The leaders agreed to the normalization of relations between Sudan and Israel and to end the state of belligerence between their nations," according to a joint statement issued by the three countries that also promised US help for Khartoum to se-

could have made this deal?" Trump asked Netanyahu, using the president's pejorative nickname for Biden a day after their final, rancorous debate of the 2020 presidential campaign.

"Somehow I don't think so." Netanyahu, reliant on bipartisan support for Israel in Washington, responded haltingly: "Well, Mr. President, one thing I can tell you, um, uh, we appreciate the help for peace from anyone in America."

Trump's aides view his pro-Israel policies as appealing to Christian evangelical voters, who are among his biggest supporters.

In recent weeks the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain became the first Arab states in a quarter of a century to agree to formal links with Israel, forged largely through shared fears of Iran.

'Yellow dust from China could spread Covid'; North Korea warns people to stay inside

CHINA: North Korea has warned its citizens to stay indoors, saying seasonal yellow dust blowing in from China might carry the new coronavirus into the country.

"As the new coronavirus infections continue to spread around the world, the need to deal with the yellow dust and take thorough measures has become more critical," North Korea's official party newspaper Rodong Sinmun said on Thursday. The claim that the virus that causes COVID-19 could spread to North Korea from the Gobi desert, 1,900 km (1,200 miles) away, appears unsupported. Two metres (6 feet) is a common social-distancing metric, although the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says droplets containing the virus can sometimes linger in the air for hours.

The North Korean newspaper said citizens should refrain from outdoor activities and must follow prevention guidelines such as wearing masks

when they go outside.

North Korea has reported no confirmed cases of the coronavirus, a claim that health experts question. Pyongyang has imposed strict border controls and quarantine measures to prevent an outbreak. Analysts say an outbreak could be devastating for the economically and politically isolated country.

State-run KRT television said on Wednesday the yellow dust and fine dust may contain harmful substances, such as heavy metals and pathogenic microorganisms including viruses.

"People must pay attention to personal hygiene after returning from outside," a news reader said. "Also, workers should avoid outdoor construction work even at reconstruction sites."

On Thursday, the Russian embassy in North Korea wrote on Facebook that North Korea's Foreign Ministry had ordered all visitors to the country and its staff to wait out the dust storm inside.

NEWS MAKERS

Man wins \$2m after mistakenly buying extra lottery ticket

WASHINGTON: In what most people would consider a lucrative mistake, a Detroit-area man who accidentally bought an extra lottery ticket has won two \$1 million jackpots.

Samir Mazahem, 56, of Dearborn Heights in the US state of Michigan said he was saving numbers on a lottery app after buying a \$2 ticket for the June 9 Mega Millions game. He then realized that he had purchased a second ticket with the same numbers, AP reports.

"I was a little bummed but didn't think much about it," Mazahem said.



Until he recently logged onto the app and found he had two \$1 million winners.

"I couldn't believe it was real," Mazahem said. "It took several days for the reality to set in that my mistake had paid off to the tune of \$2 million!"

He recently claimed his prize and plans to buy a new house and save the rest.

Ex-Editor Of Jared Kushner-Owned Newspaper Charged With Cyberstalking

ISLAMABAD: The former editor of a New York newspaper once owned by President Donald Trump's son-in-law Jared Kushner was charged on Friday by federal prosecutors with cyberstalking three people in connection with his divorce.

Prosecutors in Brooklyn said Ken Kurson, who is also a political consultant and former speechwriter for Trump's personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, sent threatening messages and used aliases to file false complaints against his victims in late 2015 amid the divorce proceedings.

They also said Kurson traveled on multiple occasions to where two victims worked, taking photos and asking about the work schedule of one, prompting their employer to hire a security guard for them.

Kurson is being released on \$100,000 bond following a virtual appearance before a Brooklyn federal judge, following his arrest earlier Friday. Kushner was not charged or implicated in wrongdoing.

"Ken Kurson is an honorable man, a loving father and a talented writer," his lawyer Marc Mukasey said.

Hitler's speeches sell at Munich auction despite objections

MUNICH: A sheaf of papers, scrawled with notes in a vigorous hand, here and there a recognisable phrase: "the Jewish problem", "work, sacrifice" — these are Adolf Hitler's speaking notes, which went under the hammer at a Munich auction house on Friday.

The collection of post-1919 historical artefacts at Munich's Hermann Historica auctioneers has attracted attention because of the presence of large amounts of memorabilia linked to the Nazi leader, responsible for some of the worst crimes in history.

Apart from the notes to several speeches by the man who unleashed World War Two and the genocide of 6 million European Jews, the connection contains

initialled pots from his personal tea service and presentation copies of his books.

But Bernhard Pacher, manager of the auctioneers, denied that the objects would end up in the hands of neo-Nazis or sympathisers, saying that only well-heeled museums and "private collectors" could afford them.

"Almost none of the buyers are right-wing extremist neo-Nazis because they don't need that stuff. They are happy with copies, cheap copies," he said. "No one would spend that kind of money to create a private altar with Hitler memorabilia." But sale prices clearly showed more interest in relics closely associated with the wartime leader's crimes.

KASHMIR
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NO HOLDS BARRED



DOMESTICALLY, THE ALLIANCE MUST HEED the needs of the common man who has suffered a lot. Its agitation must be peaceful and constitutional. Once confidence is established it must assert the fundamental rights to assemble peaceably and march in procession.

Are You the 'Loud Minority'?

There is a clear attempt to stereotype the activist as an unruly delinquent and thereby curb basic freedoms of political expression that unsettles those in power.

ANURAG TIWARI

The Supreme Court of India recently, delivered its judgment in the case of Amit Sahni v. Commissioner of Police. The decision effectively transforms the "reasonable restriction" exception to Freedom of Speech and Expression as the new norm, and conversely alters the right itself into an exception. This is stated to have wide-ranging repercussions as the court's wordings have given rise to problematic interpretations that could be adopted by the state in the longer run.

The grievance made in the petition was that the persons opposing the CAA and the NRC in the national capital had adopted a method of protest which resulted in the closure of public roads, affecting daily commute of passengers and causing grave inconvenience to the citizens residing in the nearby area. The petition argued that such encroachment by protestors into public spaces could not be permitted as it violated "public order".

The question before the court therefore was on the point of "balancing of interests of the residents in the area and the passengers vis-à-vis the interest of the protestors to hold demonstrations". The court held that, "we have to make it unequivocally clear that public ways and public places cannot be occupied in such a manner and that too indefinitely". It further held that protests could be carried out only in "designated places". This was reasoned as a "reasonable regulation" and not an "arbitrary exclusion".

The idea of restricting access to public spaces for protest by activists has been a colonial dream of the state. The petition before the court aimed at achieving the same. It was successful but, the larger question is, are we losing our legacy of a 'protest democracy'? Not just in the context of the judgment in 'Amit Sahni' but as a larger political conspiracy in the recent past to close down streets, parks and playgrounds where citizens have found the comfort of a shared opinion in their fight against a common enemy.

At first look, the protest culture itself seems odd. Standing in the heat, chanting, sloganeering, singing songs, dancing and demonstrating, looks like a futile exercise. The state is mighty after all! Moreover, its actions are presumed to be constitutional in the eyes of law. Protests also look like a chaotic adventure by a group of anarchists whose main motive is to disrupt the system. They are irrational, disordered and a dysfunctional mob who have no respect for democracy. They are unruly and have an illusionary sense of being free thinkers, artists, libertarians, observers, intellectuals, academicians, etc.

However, these notions about the nature of a protest and the motivation that drives the protesters are in line with the recent political attempt at stereotyping the activist. Majoritarian Politics has always been terrified by the ability of the people to command the streets. It's a colonial idea. The unmaturing of the marginal voices and the delegitimization of a protest shows a larger political process that is at play. It starts with demonizing the idea of a protest and protesters by calling them



The idea of restricting access to public spaces for protest by activists has been a colonial dream of the state. The petition before the court aimed at achieving the same. It was successful but, the larger question is, are we losing our legacy of a 'protest democracy'?

unruly delinquents and generalizing the idea of a protest to mean a violent mob only. Then, working towards marginalizing and writing-off their voices in popular media. Many a time, slapping them with cases of sedition, criminality, violence, intimidation and imposing on them strict conditions for free movement. All this, even though the present governments shows itself as followers of leaders like Gandhi, Bhagat Singh and Dr Ambedkar.

Protestors are now being termed as the "Loud Minority" – in line with the Richard Nixon rhetoric of the "Silent Majority" used during the 1969 Vietnam War. Daniel Q. Gillion in his book "The Loud Minority" goes on to characterize how activists are stereotyped as promoting the interests of only a small section of the community.

This mindset is, however, against the rich history of protest and dissent that civilizations across borders and philosophers like Gandhi, Thoreau, Martin Luther King Jr. and Chavez have propounded and celebrated. In his 'Letter from a Birmingham Jail', King Jr. quotes Socrates by saying, that it is "necessary to create a tension in the mind

(of the people as well as the governments) so that individuals could rise from the bondage of myths and half-truths to the unfettered realms of creative analysis and objective appraisal." He says that protests give rise to 'understanding and brotherhood'. He was inspired by Gandhi's civil disobedience and philosophy of non-violence. These philosophers and leaders believed and proved that "norm shift" can only be brought by peaceful and direct action.

Simon Jenkins, a renowned British author, says, that, "streets are a sacred political space, the last resort and are liberty rampant. But they are consistently shown to be as licensed unreason". The status of public spaces in the history of political discourse, in every country across the globe, is symbolic and has a communicative value. Many a time, the ability to protest at a particular site is directly related to the communicative value of the protest. Judgments in foreign jurisdictions like 'Brown v. Tasmania' and 'Hague v. Committee for Industrial Organizations' go on to even legally recognize the special status of streets as public places and their significance in a protest.

The judgment in Amit Sahni grants arbitrary powers to the state and its authorities. They can now decide whether a protest site is a public place or not. It also grants them the power to allot 'designated spaces' for protest. Resultantly, these spaces will be far from the public eye. Use of established public spaces for assembly and communication between citizens on matters relating to important public questions will eventually wither away and democratic freedom will be curtailed.

The judgment of the court, although cautiously, lays down an alternative to physical protests in the form of online protests. However, dissent is more powerful when it is visible. Physical protests have a symbolic value and a visual impact. Streets are many a time, the only meaningful avenue for democratic expression.

Democracy must begin with ordinary people and must be centered around ordinary people. The present government's attempt to discredit social movements and protests as unorganized and led by incompetent organizations who are devoid of a clear message, is threatening. Protests on the streets allows for new political imaginations. It challenges the presence of elites in elections and pitches in for a Rule of Law and representative democracy. The question is, will protests ever be the same anymore?

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THE National Conference led by Dr Farooq Abdullah and the People's Democratic Party (PDP) led by Mehbooba Mufti have joined hands to face the onslaught on Kashmir's rights launched by the BJP government on Aug 5, 2019. On the eve of that vicious attack, these two and other political parties had come together to set up a united front to combat the dire threat to the very existence of Kashmir. A well-drafted, unanimous statement called the Gupkar Declaration was issued.

The very next day, the blow fell. Abrogation of Article 370 of India's constitution, which supposedly guaranteed Kashmir's autonomy and its special status, was always the BJP's dream. The Modi regime did worse. It destroyed Kashmir's very identity. Kashmir was now to be ruled as a centrally governed union territory along with Jammu with a lieutenant governor at the head. Ladakh was lopped off to be centrally governed. The political parties have rightly decided not to contest an election under the new set-up and thus legitimise it. What is afoot is a plan to confer supremacy on Jammu and BJP rule over Kashmir.

The assembly has 111 seats. In 2002, the status quo was frozen by law until 2026. "Until the relevant figures for the first census taken after the year 2026 have been published, it shall not be necessary to constitute a (delimitation) commission to determine the delimitation of the assembly constituencies."

Ominously, the centre has set up a delimitation commission as part of its abrogation process. The entire game is unconstitutional and dishonest. Article 370 cannot be amended let alone abrogated. The centre has set at naught Kashmir's constitution. It will

Kashmir's Future

A.G. NOORANI

The red lines are: India will not accept Kashmir exercising autonomy; Pakistan will not accept the LoC as the international border; Kashmiris will not accept partition or denial of democracy. The Musharraf-Manmohan formula met all these tests in its famous

have panchayat raj.

The PDP has been split by one of its former ministers, Altaf Bukhari. He is a great admirer of Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed who, in concert with Nehru, had Sheikh Abdullah removed from office as premier and imprisoned for 11 long years.

India has based its rule on several props. One is a mole in the Kashmir government. Before his arrest, prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru had marked a copy of his letter to Shaikh Sahib to Bakshi. Abdullah mentioned that to Nehru. It had no effect.

The worst of the lot was P.D. Thakur. "What does morality have to do with politics?" he asked governor B.K. Nehru, who records in his memoirs how the Intelligence Bureau's pouches were used to send lakhs of rupees to buy MLAs to remove Farooq

Abdullah as chief minister.

India's Intelligence Bureau was itself suborned by Vallabhbhai Patel early enough, as its director B.N. Mullick recorded in his memoirs. Unlike Nehru, Patel did not like his reports and he did as desired. Former spy chief A.S. Dulat writes that the Intelligence Bureau was "key ... to the central government's hold on Kashmir".

This sordid game succeeded only because the principal political elements in Kashmir were divided and fought bitterly against each other. That explains the roots of militancy. Gupkar holds out hope that Farooq Abdullah would at long last bury the hatchet and present a united front to New Delhi. After their release from imprisonment the major parties of the Gupkar conclave of Aug 4, 2019, met again in Srinagar at Farooq Abdullah's residence on Oct 15, 2020. They decided to form an alli-

ance called People's Alliance for the Gupkar Declaration.

Farooq Abdullah struck a fresh note: "Dialogue with all the stakeholders who are involved in the problems of Jammu & Kashmir" — ie Pakistan. He pledged to reach out to the people. Above all, Kashmir's leaders must come out with sets of proposals; a duty they have evaded. Why not a conclave on the lines of the one Shaikh Sahib convened in 1968 and 1970?

President Pervez Musharraf and prime minister Manmohan Singh had brought Kashmir to the gates of a settlement. Small minds in India, Pakistan and Kashmir wrecked it; some for personal reasons. Kashmiris were obsessed with Geelani & Co. He is now a spent force.

The red lines are: India will not accept Kashmir exercising autonomy; Pakistan will not accept the LoC as the international border; Kashmiris will not accept partition or denial of democracy. The Musharraf-Manmohan formula met all these tests in its famous four-point formula.

Domestically, the alliance must heed the needs of the common man who has suffered a lot. Its agitation must be peaceful and constitutional. Once confidence is established it must assert the fundamental rights to assemble peaceably and march in procession.

The hateful politics has harmed the poor shopkeepers. The alliance must draw up a programme for attending to the needs of the common man which the Hurriyat harmed.

It must win the confidence of the people, draw up a list of grievances and work for their redress. The test for the top leadership of Kashmir has just begun. They have acted wisely. History will not forgive them if they fall apart and fail the people.

How To Sharpen Your Sword Before Going Into Battle?

SABA MEHJOOR

I must have been around nine or ten years old. Pheeh had come to stay with us. It was a rare treat. She hardly ever left her home. She would always say, "agar akysis dohas naere, yima dinam attyi naar" (if I leave even for a day, they will set fire to the place).

This time she had planned to stay for a whole week. It was lovely to come back from school and see her waiting at the gate. She would scoop me up, cuddle me and ask me what I had been taught at school. When I had finished telling her my daastan (my story) she would cheekily add, "amyi manz kuutah roodei yaad?" (and how much do you remember from it all?)

One day, I came home accompanied by two policemen. She saw us walking towards her and I could see that the colour and warmth drained from her face and she began running towards us.

"Kya daleel? Soriy cha theek?" (what's wrong? Is everything okay?), she asked.

One of the policemen instructed me to go inside while he spoke to her. I did as I was told. I went inside. I was terrified. I had done something very, very terrible.

I sat in the kitchen and I waited.

I heard the gate being closed and a few moments later, she walked in. She sat down beside me and took out two cigarettes. She lit them and smoked them in silence. Once done, she said, "paghee pyeath yimai bae seeith. Subhai ti, shaamas ti" (from tomorrow I will accompany you. Morning and evening).

"Walle bae dimai khande batte" (come, I will give you khande batte (sugar rice)).

I wanted to cry. I wanted to tell her that I had not meant to be naughty or bad, but I stayed quiet. I had by that time developed a great habit of making things ten times worse, especially when I opened my mouth.

She had already soaked raisins, almonds, cashews and coconut slices in hot water with strands of saffron and green cardamom pods. To this, she had added lots of sugar.

I realised that she had probably done this in the morning so I could have it now and I felt guilty for ruining everything.

She took some rice and fried it in ghee in a pressure cooker. She then took the soaked fruits and added them to the mixture. She fried it a little bit more and added the sugary syrup to the mixture. She then added a little milk, put the lid on and a couple of whistles later she gave me a bowl to which she added a dollop of fresh malai.

"Khe saa waen" (eat now), she said.

I ate slowly – waiting. I was waiting for the world to come crashing down on me.

But nothing. She said nothing. Not a word.



After breakfast, I got dressed and as she had promised she accompanied me to school. My school was only about a fifteen-minute walk away. We were walking in complete silence when I saw him, again sitting in the same place. I froze.

When I had finished, she instructed me to go upstairs and do my homework. I didn't see her for the rest of the evening until dinner time. At dinner, she said nothing and nor did anyone else. I kept wondering if she had told them anything about what I had done. A part of me was relieved at not having to face the consequences but a part of me also wished it would be better to get it over and done with.

Before going up to sleep, I went to say goodnight to her in the kitchen and saw her making my father's favourite, chilli oil. There was a huge copper deg (pot) on the stove with the chilli oil bubbling away in it. I kissed her goodnight and went upstairs.

Next morning when I woke up, I was exhausted. It had

taken me forever to fall asleep. I kept tossing and turning and wondering what the hell was happening or not happening. After breakfast, I got dressed and as she had promised she accompanied me to school. My school was only about a fifteen-minute walk away. We were walking in complete silence when I saw him, again sitting in the same place. I froze. She asked me what was wrong, but I would neither say anything nor move an inch.

"Rath yi kettle" (hold this kettle), she said.

I did wonder why on earth a kettle was with her in the first place but at that point I didn't want to rock the boat.

"Yohai chaa su?" (is that him?), she asked.

"Kus?" (who) I replied.

"Sui? Su armywoal yus tohi ausuv haavan panun

banyum" (him? The army-waala who was showing you all his below region yesterday).

I was shocked.

I said, "Yes. Yes, it was him. Yesterday when I was walking back with my friends from school, this man was sitting by a tree with his trousers pulled down and asking all the schoolgirls who went by 'aazaadi chahiye' (do you want azaadi)?"

It made me angry, I said. Nobody did anything so I went to the police station and reported him. But instead of telling him off they scolded me. They said why was I looking in the first place? They said I was a bad girl. They said that I was kharaab koor. I felt confused and guilty. I thought what he was doing was wrong, but they said I was wrong. In the end I asked myself the same question – Why had I looked? I wished I hadn't said anything.

"Walle" (come), she said.

She snatched the kettle out of my hand and dragged me to where he was.

She smiled at him and said, "chai piyenga tum?" (will you drink tea?)

He looked confused. She unscrewed the kettle top and poured something hot over his ding a ling. It was hot chilli oil. I watched in horror as he started screaming and running around like a headless chicken.

"Paagal hogayi ho...paagal hogayi ho...paagal hogayi ho" (Have you lost it?), he kept on screaming and running in the opposite direction.

"Walle, di waen aazaadi, kole, peyi trath" (come, give me azaadi now, you ass, may you be struck by lightning), she screamed after him.

"Yi yeene waen waapas" (he won't come back now), she said, smiling at me.

"Pakh, nate gatchi sacoolas tcheer" (come let's go, or else you will be late for school).

"I thought you were angry with me. I thought that's why you didn't speak to me", I said, crying.

"Baekal koor" (silly girl), she said. She scooped me up into her arms, with my heavy bag and said, "yelli jangas aasakh naeraan, talwaar gatchi tez karyin" (when you leave for a battle, make sure you have sharpened your sword).

When we reached my school, she gave me two rose coconut sweets and said, "shaamas khetre banaawai beyi, yuth yi hemath roziy barkaraar" (I will make more for the evening, so that your courage will never falter).

The views expressed in this article are author's own and do not necessarily represent Kashmir Observer's views

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It is a fact not so easily known, thus rarely acknowledged, that the British colonial project in India at one moment turned into an excavation of India's pasts. This excavation was aimed at exploring the arrival of various foreign people, cultures, religions and politics into the subcontinent. After all, the Indian peninsula had been the site of commercial, political and military incursions by the Portuguese, the Dutch and the Timurids since 1498. Surely, one reason for the excavation was that, as the latest foreigners to arrive in India, the British wanted a justification for their own arrival. The other reason is tied to the way in which the British saw themselves as heirs to the Romans.

Edward Gibbon published the first volume of his book *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire* in 1776, the year Great Britain lost 13 of its colonies in America. All six volumes of the book came out by 1788 to tremendous acclaim and sales. A central theme in Gibbon's work was his quest for historical linkages between Pax Britannica – the period of British-dominated world order – and Pax Romana.

He provided the foundational stone for a theory that sought to legitimise British colonial enterprise as a successor to a great empire of the past that brought a long era of peace and prosperity for Europe in its wake. Even more influential, I would argue, is his exploration of the relationship between race and politics within the context of the Roman experience. This relationship was immediately employed in legitimising the British conquest of India.

Series of scholar-warriors

The British formally began their imperial project in India in 1757 after the Battle of Plassey. In 1783, William Jones arrived as a sessions judge at Fort William in Calcutta. Over the next decade, he founded the new science of philology that combined linguistics with human migration patterns and mingling of races across the Indo-European region. He linked ancient languages and prehistoric migrations to the long history of foreign arrivals into India, a process that would culminate in the advent of the British presence in the subcontinent. He came up with a story that linked Greek, Latin and Sanskrit languages via a "common source" that "no longer existed". This "common source" was "conquerors from other kingdoms in some very remote age".

By the early 19th century, a new generation of British officers became scholars of India's pasts. They imagined themselves as latter-day Alexander the Greats, amassing accounts of geographies, peoples and objects that connected India to the Greeks, and by extension to the Romans, of the past. Alexander Burnes, James Tod, Richard F Burton and Edward B Eastwick were most prominent among them.

They travelled between Kabul and Bombay and collected manuscripts, coins and copper utensils in order to establish how India came under Greek influence through Alexander the Great's conquest of the northwestern parts of the subcontinent. Their research focused on Greek and Roman trade with India, Alexander's conquest and the remnants of his armies that stayed back in the areas he had passed through.

They also looked into migrations from the Central Asian Steppe into the subcontinent and the relationship of all these developments to the evolution of languages, cities, religions and politics. The journals of the royal Asiatic societies of Bengal and Bombay published their findings on the presence of the Arya, the Indo-Parthians, the Indo-Bactrians and the "White Huns" in the Indian subcontinent – communities that had hints of a common Eurasian ancestry.

By the middle of the 19th century, a new generation of British historians took up the project of collating this raw data into historical treatises. HM Elliot and M Elphinstone were the fore-runners in this generation. They were followed by Vincent Smith, Stanley Lane-Poole, Alexander Cunningham and RB Whitehead,

Myth Of Muslims As 'Invaders'

MANAN AHMAD ASIF

We need all this to stem the erasure of nuance and diversity in historical accounts, a practice that started with colonial historiography and continues in our postcolonial present.

among others. As the British colonial project expanded geographically – from Calcutta to Delhi, from Madras to Bombay and from Lahore to Peshawar – it delved deeper and deeper in time as far as excavation of India's pasts was concerned.

The roots of the Sanskrit language, the genealogy of the Aryan race, the origins of the subcontinent's "indigenous tribes" and the etymology of names of places show up regularly in the huge reams of colonial speeches, journal articles, travelogues, district reports, histories and commentaries of that era. Nestled in the middle of this project – and first highlighted in the middle of the 19th century – is the question of Muslim arrival in India.

Righting old wrongs

The East India Company defeated the Talpur Mirs in 1843 at Miani and conquered the princely state of Sindh. The conquest was cast as a corrective to the Muslim conquest of India – a move to emancipate the Hindus from the clutches of foreign Muslim rule going as far back as the early 8th century. Centred on the delta of the Indus River opening into the Arabian Sea, Sindh comprised a series of ports and large tracts of dry, desert-like terrain.

The state was a borderland for the East India Company at the beginning of the 19th century, though in contemporary maps it is surrounded by other parts of the subcontinent such as Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Balochistan. Indus, uncharted by the company till then, offered an upstream link from Bombay to Lahore, the capital of Ranjit Singh's Sikh kingdom. Through the deserts of Thar and Balochistan, Sindh linked India to the Durrani court in Kabul.

The company envisioned it as a necessary buffer between its long-established Bombay Presidency and Afghanistan (as well as French and Russian interests in Central Asia and Iran). More importantly, its scholar-warriors had already discovered that it was in Sindh that Muhammad bin Qasim had defeated the polity founded by the "White Huns" – remnants of the Indo-Bactrians – in 712 and pushed the Hindus of India into a millennium of domination by the Muslims. This discovery was immediately put to political use.

Edward Law Ellenborough, governor-general of the East India Company at the time, dramatically brought back the "gates of Somnath" temple from Kabul to show to the Hindus that his company was there to counter Muslim tyranny. In his declaration of 1842 to "all Princes and Chiefs and People of India", he announced that the return of the spoiled remains of the temple to India avenged "the insult of 800 years...the gates of the temple of Somnath, so long the memorial of your humiliation, are become the proudest record of your national glory". Ellenborough's political strategy was to cast the company as a rectifier of the historical harm the Muslims had inflicted on Hindus. It mattered little that the "gates" had little to do with Somnath.

Charles Napier, a veteran military commander of imperial wars in Europe who was chosen by Ellenborough to conquer Sindh, was a deeply religious man. He had just arrived in India when he launched his campaign in Sindh.

He was convinced that the company had become beholden to commerce and had shied away from its divine mission. He saw the purported liberation of Sindh from its despotic Muslim rulers as his Christian duty. He called the Talpurs the "greatest ruffians" and "imbeciles" who possessed "zenanas filled with young girls torn from their friends" and treated the women in the harem "with revolting barbarity". The Talpurs, he said, were even prone to enjoying occasional "human sacrifice".

Napier's annexation of Sindh on February 17, 1843, was hailed by the British as a heroic event. Some of them likened it to the Battle of Plassey, the founding moment of British rule in India. "Since Clive's glorious victory at Plassey there has been nothing achieved by native or European troops in India at all to compare to it," wrote one. It was in his victory that stories about the advent of British rule in India – portrayed as the return of the long displaced and dominated Indo-European races – and those about the origins of Muslim rule in the Subcontinent, presented as domination by a foreign religious power, converged.

British quest for Muslim origins in India subsequently shaped the historical consciousness of native historians trained at University of Calcutta, Aligarh Muslim University, Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda and Osmania University. Shibli Nomani (1857-1914), Jadunath Sarkar (1870-1958), Syed Sulaiman Nadvi (1884-1953), RC Majumdar (1888-1980), Mohamad Habib (1895-1971) and BD Mirchandani (1906-1980) are some of the key historians who grappled with the question of Muslim arrival in the subcontinent as they endeavoured to find a nationalist response to colonial historiography.

Writing in journals such as *Calcutta Review*, *Muslim Review*, *Islamic Culture* and *Indian Historical Review*, many of them found their efforts to come up with an anti-colonial history clashing with colonial narratives about Muslim rule in India. They struggled to weave Muslim history into a nationalist narrative, given that Muslim rulers in the subcontinent had been shown by colonial historians to be despots of foreign origin who had demolished countless Hindu temples during their conquests and reigns.

Central to the argument about Muslims in India being religious invaders from outside was a particular text – Chachnama. It entered, in bits and pieces, into colonial historiography in the early 19th century. From Elliot to Elphinstone and Smith, the British historians writing on the history of Islam in India treated Chachnama as a book of conquest. Originally written in Farsi around 1220, it was a self-proclaimed translation of an 8th century Arabic history of Muhammad bin Qasim's campaign in Sindh. It describes events that preceded his conquest as well those that happened during his stay in this part of the world – a period stretching roughly over 60 years.

In the writings of Indian nationalist historians such as Sarkar and Majumdar, Chachnama and the figure of the outsider Muslim loomed large. Sarkar's lectures on Indian pasts – as well as his histories of Mughal India – took their cue from British historians and argued that India's conquest by "foreign immigrant"

Muslims differed fundamentally from all preceding invasions because of Islam's "fiercely monotheistic nature" – something that contrasted with polytheistic religious practices of pre-Islam India. Majumdar's treatment of the "Arab Conquest of Sindh" presented the Muslims as conquerors by disposition who inevitably cast their covetous eyes on India after conquering Spain.

Settlers, not conquerors

In contrast, a generation of Muslim scholars emphasised historical connections between Arabia and India that predate Muhammad bin Qasim's arrival. Nomani highlighted those connections in his biographies of the Prophet of Islam and other key figures of early Islam. Between 1882 and 1898, he produced a wide variety of historical essays on the early Muslim state in India, highlighting the earliest links between the two regions. Nadvi and Abdul Halim Sharrar wrote histories of Sindh in the early decades of the 20th century in the same vein. Habib, a Marxist historian, forcefully argued in his 1929 essay *Arab Conquest of Sindh* that Muslims arrived in India not as conquerors but as settlers.

These Muslim historians, however, could not get past Chachnama's categorisation as a book of conquest. Even after 1947, historians working across South Asia and the United Kingdom have produced further investigations into the history of Muslim pasts in Sindh, treating this ancient text the way the colonial historians did. UM Daudpota, Nabi Bukhsh Khan Baloch, Mubarak Ali, HT Lambrick and Peter Hardy have all written numerous articles and books on Chachnama. They all agree that Sindh's military conquest by Muhammad bin Qasim heralded Muslim arrival in India.

Yet this origins narrative was based on the false categorisation of Chachnama. It reads unlike any other history of conquest written in Arabic or Farsi at the time. It incorporates much that is of little relevance to Muhammad bin Qasim's invasion and occupation of Sindh. It is less a history of the 8th century and more a political theory for the 13th century. Its claim to be a translation of an earlier Arabic text is, in fact, meant to evoke the memory of nearly 500 years of Muslim presence in Sindh as an era of cohabitation and accommodation.

It offers a history of both land and sea links between ports in Sindh and Gujarat – such as Daybul, Diu and Thane – and the Arabian ports of Aden, Muscat, Bahrain, Dammam and Siraf. It draws upon texts in Farsi, Pahlavi and Prakrit that explore thousands of years of connections between Oman and Yemen on the one hand and Sri Lanka and Zanzibar on the other. In Chachnama, these relationships span trade, marriages, settlement, languages and customs and they render it impossible to create and maintain a dichotomy between the Muslims and the Hindus as being merely rivals.

The book has been deliberately misappropriated and misread by British colonial historians since the early 1820s. They changed the "other" with the "outsider" in their work and a history of belonging became a history of exclusion.

We need to encourage the study of languages such as Sanskrit, Pahlavi, Farsi, Arabic, Sindh and Gujarati in which these sources were written so that we do not end up misreading and misinterpreting them as we did in the case of Chachnama. These studies can enable our students to look at medieval pasts in all their complexity. We also need to equip our institutions to promote new methods of researching and writing history.

We need all this to stem the erasure of nuance and diversity in historical accounts, a practice that started with colonial historiography and continues in our postcolonial present. The last footnote in Bede's dissertation offers a strong rationale for working against this erasure.

J&K Bank Committed to Revival of Businesses: CMD Chhibber

SRINAGAR: Federation of All India Vyapar Mandal (AIVFM) lauded the role of J&K Bank for its whole-hearted support extended to all the businesses in these hard times by providing them with much needed liquidity besides expeditiously passing on all regulatory packages announced by RBI, Central and UT Government from time to time.

The federation led by its National President Jayendra Tanna expressed this at its webinar wherein J&K Bank Chairman and MD R K Chhibber was invited for 'Special Talk' as the Chief Guest.

The webinar titled - Various schemes of Central and UT Government especially for traders implemented by J&K Bank - was organized by the federation's J&K

continue to remain in touch with all our stakeholders that include businesses through an elaborate series of deliberations and discussions at different forums wherein we listened to their concerns and constraints caused by the pandemic.

"Taking all the stakeholders along, J&K Bank remains committed to revival of businesses despite ongoing pandemic through its customer-specific tailored products and best customer services besides playing an instrumental role in extending benefits to the people under various government sponsored schemes and packages from time to time", he added.

Earlier, the members of FAIVM led by their National President welcomed the Chairman &



Unit. The bank's Executive Presidents Arun Gandotra and Sunil Gupta were also present on the occasion. The participants from the federation included its National General Secretary V K Bansal, President J&K Unit Sanjay Bansal, Vice-presidents Sandeep Mengi and Siddharth Bhatia, Joint-Secretary Sanjeev Agarwal, Treasurer Ajay Ahuja and other members of the federation from across the country.

Speaking on the occasion, J&K Bank Chairman and MD R K Chhibber said, "The growth of bank is always linked to the growth of businesses in every economy. However, in J&K, our Bank and the businesses enjoy such a unique relationship that growth of both is intertwined to the extent of mutual interdependence. Therefore, during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we

MD R K Chhibber and appreciated his leadership in making the bank safer. They said that under his guidance the dealings of the bank had become more transparent leading to significant improvement in its customer services.

During the webinar, the members dwelt in detail on the challenges faced by the traders primarily due to Covid-19 induced economic disruption leading to reduced public spending. The participants also voiced few more suggestions for strengthening the bond between the bank and the federation comprising of 2.50 lac traders in the UT alone besides around 150 associations affiliated with All India Vyapar Mandal. The suggestions were duly responded to by the Chairman to the satisfaction of participants.

3rd Buyer-Seller Horticulture Meet Today

SRINAGAR: In view of the good response from the public and for the benefit of growers under 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan Scheme', the Department of Horticulture Kashmir is organizing 3rd Buyer-Seller meet here at Horticulture Complex on Sunday, 25 October.

In the event, maximum stalls shall be established for display and sale of fresh as well as dry fruits.

Prominent orchardists from all the districts of Kashmir division

are scheduled to participate in the event, besides various cultural programmes are being arranged as well. The event has been organised to create awareness among the public for consumption of fruit to help boost the immune system.

It was given out that the timing of the event shall be from 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM and all the SOPs to contain spread of COVID-19 Pandemic issued by the Government from time to time shall be strictly followed.



Relief to borrowers on loans not repaid during 6-month moratorium

NEW DELHI: After announcing a host of demand generating initiatives earlier this month, the government has now approved a new scheme for ex gratia payment to borrowers that will reimburse differential between compound and simple interests for the six-month loan moratorium period.

This means all borrowers who took advantage of loan moratorium extended by the government between March 1 and August 31 will pay only simple interest on repayments not made during the moratorium period. Excess amount charged due to compounding of interest would be returned as ex gratia payment.

The Finance Ministry announced

the scheme after the Supreme Court directed the Centre to implement the relief as soon as possible and ahead of upcoming Diwali.

As per the details of the scheme put out by the Department of Financial Services (DFS), the ex gratia payments will be made only to borrowers whose aggregate loan sanctions and outstanding is not more than Rs 2 crore as on February 29, 2020.

All categories of loans -- MSME, education, housing, personal, consumer -- and credit card dues will be eligible.

Also, the borrower accounts with the lending institutions should be standard as of February-end. Loans

extended by all institutions, including banks, NBFCs, HFCs, MFIs, cooperative banks will be covered under the scheme.

As per the court's direction, the Finance Ministry had directed financial institutions to credit ex gratia payments into the accounts of borrowers by November 5.

The Centre will reimburse the ex gratia payments and the lending institutions can lodge their claims designated SBI Cell.

To provide relief from higher interest rates, it had been decided that the new scheme will take the interest rate prevalent during February-end to do the calculations for relief.



Deadline for filing income tax returns extended till Dec 31

NEW DELHI: For those taxpayers whose accounts need to be audited, the Income-Tax Return filing deadline has been extended by two months till January 31, 2021.

The government had in May extended the date for filing ITR for FY2019-20 from July 31 to November 30, to give compliance relief to taxpayers.

In a statement, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said, "The due date for furnishing of Income Tax Returns for the taxpayers [for whom the due date (i.e. before the extension by the said notification) as per the Act was July 31, 2020] has been extended to December 31, 2020."

The due date for furnishing of ITR

for the taxpayers, who are required to get their accounts audited (for whom the due date as per the I-T Act is October 31, 2020), has been extended to January 31, 2021, it added.

The CBDT said the deadlines have been extended in order to "provide more time to taxpayers for furnishing of Income Tax Returns".

Govt finalizes 'One District One Product' list for Food Processing Enterprises Scheme

537 units allocated to J&K; scheme offers 35% subsidy with the ceiling of Rs 10 lakh per Unit; Navin

SRINAGAR: The list of "One District One Product" under the Formalization of Food Processing Enterprises Scheme was today finalized here at a meeting chaired by Principal Secretary, Agriculture Production & Farmers' Welfare Department, Navin Kumar Choudhary.

Taking into account the feedback received from various stakeholders, the Principal Secretary finalized the list of "One District One Product" under the Scheme.

The approved list incorporated Jammu for Dairy

Dairy products; Kupwara for Walnut; Ganderbal for Honey; Bandipora for Processed Poultry/Mutton.

Earlier, the meeting, attended by senior officers of Agriculture and its allied Departments, discussed in detail the potential of each district.

During threadbare discussions, Navin Choudhary said that 537 units have been allocated to J&K under the Scheme. "A total 35% subsidy with the ceiling of Rs 10 lakh per Unit will be provided for strengthening the



products; Rajouri for Spices; Poonch for Mutton and Poultry processing; Kishtwar for Walnut processing; Doda for Walnut processing; Ramban for Honey processing; Udhampur for Pickles and Jam; Reasi for Organic vegetables; Kathua for Spices, Samba for Mushroom. For Kashmir division, the approved list incorporated Anantnag for Trout Fish; Pulwama for Saffron; Shopian for Apple; Kulgam for Apple/Spices; Srinagar for Flowers; Budgam for Exotic vegetables; Baramulla for

existing units and the new units of Micro Food Processing Enterprises" he added.

The meeting was attended by Director, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Department, Kashmir/Jammu; Director, Horticulture, Kashmir/Jammu; Director, Horticulture P&M, J&K; Director, Animal Husbandry, Kashmir/Jammu; Director, Sheep Husbandry, Kashmir/Jammu; Director, Fisheries, Kashmir/Jammu; Director, Command Area Development, Kashmir/Jammu and other concerned officers.

CUK's Deptt of Economics Holds Workshop

GANDERBAL: Department of Economics, Central University of Kashmir (CUC) Saturday organised a one-day workshop on "Making use of Economic Outlook Database" for research scholars at varsity's Green-Campus here.

Welcoming the resource person, Mr. Rajeev Ranjan, Assistant Vice-President, Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMI) Pvt. Ltd, Director, Research and Development, Prof G.M. Bhat, highlighted the importance of workshops for scholars

the country through copious reliable data, independent analysis, forecasts and regular alerts.

He said the database is comprehensive and thoroughly monitored which is especially dedicated to Indian Economy and has reliable data on "over half a million indicators" from many official sources. Mr Ranjan said the economic outlook database provides a complete picture of the "past, the present and the future of the Indian economy". He gave a detailed ex-



especially for those using secondary data in their research work.

Mr. Rajiv Ranjan began his lecture with a broad overview of the Economic Outlook database and said that the database is a useful resource as far as reliable data and independent analysis is concerned. Mr. Ranjan said the Economic Outlook is an information service with the main aim of keeping the users abreast with the changes in the macro-economic environment of

planation of the data being covered, their sources and frequencies. The database covers data on macro-economic, sectoral, business and socio-economic indicators. He also gave a practical demonstration on how to use the database and gave detailed description of the statistics covered by the Economic outlook database.

The session was followed by an interactive session wherein the resource person answered the questions of the participants.

NEWS MAKERS

Workshop cum seminar on GeM held at Sanatnagar, Srinagar

BUDGAM: A workshop cum seminar was organised here with an aim and objective to prepare business community of UT, J&K to shift their trade including buying, selling, procurement on the newly introduced portal GeM. The workshop was organized by District Industries Centre Budgam in collaboration with FCIK at Industries unit complex Sanatnagar Rawalpura.

Speaking on the occasion incharge GeM for the states of Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and UT of J&K representing Minis-

try of Commerce, Government of India, Kaushal Tyagi made public the aim and objectives of new procurement, buyer, seller portal GeM and added that its work structure is based on three tier system, Cashless, Contactless and paperless business. He said GeM (Government-e-Marketing) is on spot line procurement portal for government buyers including central/state departments, besides can cover bidding of PSU business.

Tyagi said the GeM has been launched to enhance the effi-

ciency, transparency, inclusiveness under public procurement programme as it provides tools of bidding, raw procurement, and direct procurement to facilitate the process for users to achieve the best value for their money. He said GeM is supported by Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of MSME besides other public sector undertakings and renowned banking sector are fully envisaging cooperation, in addition CII and FCCI and other trade organizations are also cooperating best way.

Rs 11200 recovered from erring traders

BANDIPORA: On the directions of Deputy Commissioner Bandipora, a market checking squad of Legal Metrology today realized a fine of Rs 11200 from erring shopkeepers here.

Taking strong note of the complaints of overpricing and use of single use plastic bags on the eve of Eid Milad-un-Nabi (SAW), the district administration launched

a massive district-wide inspection drive to curb over pricing and take immediate action against instances of violations.

DC has directed all the concerned officers to ensure regular inspections of markets falling within their respective jurisdiction and take strict action against those indulging in overpricing and other malpractices.

Kerala CM launches 26 new tourism projects

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has launched 26 new tourism projects across the state in a bid to boost the crisis-hit tourism sector.

Vijayan on Thursday said the tourism sector in the state has suffered an estimated loss of around Rs 25,000 crore due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said the epidemic arrived at a time when the tourism sector in the state was thriving after overcoming several crises.

"Once our state, the country and the world survive COVID-19, Kerala will once again become a tourist paradise."

Vijayan said while inaugurating the projects in 14 districts through video conference.

He said the state government is implementing adequate projects to boost the tourism sector.

"The tourism sector was estimated to have lost Rs 25,000 crore due to the COVID-19 crisis, which had also resulted in huge job losses," he said.



People were doubting us but we didn't doubt ourselves, we were always with the manager. When you wear this badge you have to give everything in the 90 minutes, and we really put in a big effort today and deserved to get the win.

Real Madrid sink Barca in 'Clasico' with help of Ramos penalty

BARCELONA: Real Madrid captain Sergio Ramos once again proved to be the man for the big occasion as he converted a fiercely debated penalty to help his side to a 3-1 win over rivals Barcelona at an empty Camp Nou in La Liga on Saturday.

Ramos, making a record 45th appearance in the 'Clasico' fixture, was awarded the spot-kick following a VAR review, after falling in the area when his shirt was tugged by Barca's Clement Lenglet as the pair contested a corner.

The defender showed his customary calm to score from the spot in the 63rd minute and restore the champions' lead, after Federico Valverde had opened the scoring in the fifth minute only for Barca's 17-year-old forward Ansu Fati to equalise less than three minutes later.

Barca ran out of steam in the second half and Madrid missed two big chances to seal the points after Ramos' penalty before substitute Luka Modric finally put the result beyond doubt with a goal in added time.

The victory took La Liga champions Madrid back to the top of the standings on 13 points from six games, while Barca, who have only taken one point from their last three league outings, are all the way down in 10th on seven points from five games.

The win is a huge boost for Zinedine Zidane's side, who went into the match reeling from back-to-back



home defeats to promoted Cadiz and a depleted Shakhtar Donetsk.

"This win gives us three points but it also gives us confidence after a difficult week for us," said keeper Thibaut Courtois. "People were doubting us but we didn't doubt ourselves, we were always with the manager. When you wear this badge you have to give everything in the 90 minutes, and we

really put in a big effort today and deserved to get the win."

Barca coach Ronald Koeman dropped 120 million euro forward Antoine Griezmann for the second game in a row but was slow to turn to his bench, not making a change until bringing on Griezmann and Francisco Trincao with nine minutes to go. Courtois and Neto each made im-

pressive saves in the first half, while Barca midfielder Coutinho should have given the Catalans the lead shortly before the penalty but somehow missed the target with a free header teed up by Ansu.

"They had chances and we had chances, but they were just a little sharper," said Barca defender Sergino Dest. Reuters



Alisson, Jesus recalled by Brazil after injuries

MADRID: Liverpool goalkeeper Alisson Becker and Manchester City forward Gabriel Jesus were recalled by Brazil coach Tite Friday as he named his squad for next month's World Cup qualifiers against Venezuela and Uruguay. Real Madrid pair Vinicius Junior and Eder Militao, and Juventus midfielder Arthur have also been brought back into the

squad alongside stars Neymar, Coutinho, Casemiro and Thiago Silva.

Alisson and Jesus were both called up for the victories over Bolivia (5-0) and Peru (4-2) earlier this month but had to pull out after picking up injuries with their clubs.

Vinicius, 20, was last selected in September 2019 while Militao, 22, had not been part

of a squad since last November.

Tite praised Vinicius, who scored seconds after coming on as a substitute for Real in their shock 3-2 home defeat to Shakhtar Donetsk in the Champions League Wednesday.

Former Barcelona player Arthur missed last month's first two qualifiers as he wasn't match-fit.

Misbah bats for extending World Test Championship

KARACHI: Pakistan head coach Misbah-ul-Haq wants the International Cricket Council (ICC) to conduct the World Test Championship exactly the way it has been planned even if it means extending the duration of the event due to the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.



Misbah's statement came amid reports that the ICC is considering splitting points for unplayed games in the championship cycle which was originally scheduled to end in June-July 2021 with the final in England.

"The Covid-19 situation has hit the World Test Championship series but I would still prefer to see the ICC complete the championship with all teams completing their scheduled matches," Misbah said in an interview on the Cricket Baaz channel on YouTube, according to Press Trust of India.

It was reported that the ICC's cricket committee, which meets next month, will consider two options - splitting points or consider only those matches played by end of March and base final positions on the percentage of points sides have won from those they've contested. "I think the matches can be rescheduled because every team should get a fair chance to take a shot at qualifying for the final," Misbah said.

Pakistan's one Test against Bangladesh in April has not been played due to the pandemic. Other countries have also had several of their scheduled series disrupted due to the pandemic.

"It is now up to the ICC. I don't know how they will manage things and I hope it is for the best but personally I would think all teams would want a proper closure of the [Test] championship," the Pakistan head coach remarked.

Meanwhile, Misbah said players from "western countries" are more likely to be hit by mental health issues if cricket is continued to be

played in a strict bio-secure environment.

Pakistan themselves played in a bio-bubble created for their England tour in August this year.

The almost two-month long Indian Premier League is also being held in a protected environment amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Yes it is an issue about players and team officials facing mental health issues if cricket continues to be played like it is being held right now. As far as Pakistan is concerned I think our players due to their social environment are mentally very strong so they can get through this period," Misbah said. "But yes I believe in the long run, players and officials from western countries could be facing more such problems because their culture is different from ours," Misbah told the Cricket Baaz channel on YouTube.

He noted that in Pakistani culture socialising was done differently but in western countries people were used to going out.

"For them I think this existing Covid-19 environment that has been created to ensure cricket is played is more of a challenge," he added.

He said the restricted and isolated conditions on the England tour were difficult for the players but from a cricket point of view it also helped the Pakistani players and officials a lot.

Zimbabwe T20s shifted to Rawalpindi, PSL matches to Karachi

LAHORE: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has shifted the three Twenty20 Internationals from Lahore to Rawalpindi while the remaining matches of the Pakistan Super League will be played in Karachi due to the smog situation in the Punjab capital.

"Taking into consideration the health and well-being of professional athletes and match officials due to the recent deterioration in the air quality caused by an early onset of intense air pollution in Lahore, which is expected to deepen next month, the Pakistan Cricket Board today decided to relocate scheduled matches at the cricket headquarters to Rawalpindi and Karachi," the PCB said in a statement on Friday.

"This rescheduling due to weather conditions impacts the three T20s between Pakistan and Zimbabwe, and the remaining four HBL Pakistan Super League 2020 fixtures, which will now be held in Rawalpindi and Karachi, respectively, on the dates announced earlier."

The T20 matches against Zimbabwe will be held on the same dates on November 7, 8 and 10. The PSL



matches will be held as per previous dates from November 14 to 17.

PCB chief executive Wasim Khan said the board had "been keeping a close eye on air quality forecasts over the last two weeks."

"The early onset of hazardous

pollution and subsequent poor air quality meant that the risk to keep matches in Lahore at this stage was too great," he was quoted as saying in the news release. "An early decision was made to ensure logistical challenges could be dealt with

sooner rather than later. We cannot and will not compromise on the health and well-being of the players or officials."

"The decision to move matches from Lahore was not one that was taken lightly. For the sake of ev-

eryone involved and to ensure the remaining four matches of the HBL PSL and the three T20s against Zimbabwe were completed without risk or interruption, it was important to move the matches."

Meanwhile, the High Performance department has decided that players featuring in the first-class Quaid-i-Azam Trophy will be released following the third round match to spend the break at their homes.

REVISED SCHEDULE: Pakistan v Zimbabwe (matches to start at 3.30pm PST):

1st T20: November 7 (Rawalpindi)
2nd T20: November 8 (Rawalpindi)
3rd T20: November 10 (Rawalpindi)
Pakistan Super League (matches in Karachi):

November 14: Qualifier (Multan Sultans v Karachi Kings) (3pm-6.30pm); Eliminator 1 (Lahore Qalandars v Peshawar Zalmi) (8pm-11.30pm).

November 15: Eliminator 2 (loser Qualifier v winner Eliminator 1) (8pm-11.30pm).

November 17: Final (winner Qualifier v winner Eliminator 2) (8pm-11.30pm).

Bowlers shine as Sunrisers Hyderabad restrict Kings XI Punjab to 126/7

ABU DHABI: Sunrisers Hyderabad bowlers produced a clinical performance to restrict Kings XI Punjab to a modest 126 for seven in an Indian Premier League match in Dubai on Saturday.

SRH bowlers responded impressively to their skipper David Warner's decision to field first, picking wickets at regular intervals to control the innings. KXIP Skipper K.L. Rahul (27), Mandeep Singh (17) and Chris Gayle (20) all got starts but their innings never got going as

they failed to grab the momentum. SRH perfectly planned Gayle's dismissal who came at one down. They kept the big-hitting batsman quiet for a long time, consistently bowling wide of the off stump and in the process frustrated him.

Gayle repeatedly tried to force his way out of the shackles but was dismissed by his West Indian teammate Jason Holder (2/27), caught at long-off by Warner with a wide of the stumps delivery in the 10th over.



Rashid Khan (2/14) then went through the defence of captain Rahul in the first ball off the next over

as KXIP slumped to 66 for three. Glenn Maxwell's (12) struggle with the bat continued as he too de-

parted soon, holed out to Warner at long-on off Sandeep Sharma (2/29) before Deepak Hooda was stumped by Jonny Bairstow off Rashid.

Boundaries and sixes were hard to come by and KXIP batsmen's struggle can be gauged from the fact they failed to find the fence for more than 11 overs, which was finally broken by Nicholas Pooran in the 19th over.

Pooran ended being the top-scorer, making an unbeaten 32 off 28 balls.

IPL 2020: DC looking to put campaign back on track against KKR

ABU DHABI: Table-toppers Delhi Capitals (DC) will aim to return on the winning path when they face fourth-placed Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the 42nd match of the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium on Saturday.

After a five-wicket defeat against King XI Punjab (KXIP) in their last match, Delhi will expect their batters to raise the bar as barring Shikhar Dhawan, all others have faltered.

It was Dhawan's second consecutive ton which had single-handedly propelled DC to a fighting total against KXIP before their bowlers failed to defend the target.

Young Prithvi Shah's last four outings include two ducks while captain Shreyas Iyer has struggled to regain his form with the bat he showed in much of the first half

of the league stage since sustaining a side-strain.

Rishabh Pant had made a comeback from injury in the previous game but the dashing stumper is yet to regain his momentum with the bat.

In the bowling department, in-form pacer Kagiso Rabada will once again try to put the KKR batsmen in trouble along with his South African compatriot Anrich Nortje, who missed the last match against KXIP but is likely to make a return against KKR.

Axar Patel and ace spinner Ravichandran Ashwin will once again look to use the conditions effectively to get the breakthroughs in the middle overs. On the other hand, despite sitting at the fourth spot, KKR's advancement to the playoffs



is uncertain and the Eoin Morgan-led side now needs to forget the heart-breaking loss against Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) on Wednesday.

KKR had an embarrassing outing against RCB, being restricted to a paltry 84 despite batting for 20 overs. While Shubman Gill and Rahul Tripathi will have to

provide an ideal start, Nitish Rana, Dinesh Karthik and Morgan need to convert the starts they have got in recent games. Andre Russell missed the last game due to an injury and the team would be hoping the explosive Caribbean all-rounder gets back into the scheme of things soon. Along with his batting fireworks, Russell is capable of getting wickets at crucial junctures. New Zealand fast bowler Lockie Ferguson has, undoubtedly, strengthened KKR's bowling but the others - Pat Cummins and Prasad Krishna - need to hand an equal support to the Kiwi.

Meanwhile, Kuldeep Yadav and Varun Chakravathy will look after the spin attack on a track that has assisted the spinners in the recent past.

Squads: Kolkata Knight Riders: Eoin

Morgan (Captain), Shubman Gill, Nitish Rana, Rahul Tripathi, Dinesh Karthik (wicketkeeper), Andre Russell, Kuldeep Yadav, Lockie Ferguson, Pat Cummins, Varun Chakravathy, Sunil Narine, Tom Banton, Siddhesh Lad, Kamlesh Nagarkoti, Prasad Krishna, Sandeep Warrier, Shivam Mavi, Rinku Singh, Chris Green, M Sid-dharth and Nikhil Naik.

Delhi Capitals: Shreyas Iyer (Captain), Kagiso Rabada, Marcus Stoinis, Sandeep Lamichhane, Ajinkya Rahane, Ravichandran Ashwin, Shikhar Dhawan, Shimron Hetmyer, Alex Carey (wicketkeeper), Mohit Sharma, Prithvi Shaw, Lalit Yadav, Avesh Khan, Axar Patel, Tushar Deshpande, Rishabh Pant (wicketkeeper), Harshal Patel, Keemo Paul, Anrich Nortje, Daniel Sams

Continued from yesterday

Office Of The Tehsildar Budgam

List of Beneficiaries Approved by the empowered Committee in respect of Ownership rights and who have deposited the amount into treasuries

S. NO	Name and Particulars of beneficiaries	Date of application	Khasra No.	Quntum of land K-M-S	Name of Halqa / Tehsil where land situated	Rate per Kanal	Amount approved	Order NO & Date	Amount deposited with TSY	TV. No & Date	Name of treasury	Nature of land	Mutation no & date
53	Nisar Ahmad S/o Rasool Dar R/o Arampora	2007	713, 621	1-1-, 1-1- = 2-2-	Kawoosa Jugger	100/-	210-00	DCB/SQ/ Roshni / 769 4-4-08	210-00	146 18/8/09	Beerwa	Agri	5089 30-11-09
54	Nazir Ahmad Dar S/o Rasool Dar R/O --	DO	713, 621	1-1-, 1-1- = 2-2-	DO	DO	210-0	DO / 770 4-4-08	210-0	DO	DO	DO	5090 26-9-09
55	Mohd Dar S/o Ramzan R/o Arampora	DO	834	5-4	DO	DO	520-0	767 4-4-08	520-0	DO	DO	DO	5091 - do
56	Gh Rasool Dar S/o Mohd Ramzan R/o Arampora	DO	833	9-8	DO	DO	940-	775 4-4-08	940-	DO	DO	DO	5092 - do
57	Ishaq Dar S/o Rahim R/O Arampora	DO	833	1-5	DO	DO	125-0	774 4-4-08	125-0	DO	DO	DO	5093 - do
58	Rehman Dar S/O Ramzan R/O Arampora	DO	834	5-4 1/2	DO	DO	522-50	761 4-4-08	522-50	DO	DO	DO	5094 - do
59	Mirza S/o Hassan Mahk R/o Arampora	DO	819, 820	1-19-, 3-14= 5-13	DO	DO	565-0	760 4-4-08	565-0	DO	DO	DO	5095 - do
60	Gh. Hassan Dar R/o Rehman R/o Arampora	DO	833	1-12	DO	DO	470-00	756 4-4-08	470-00	DO	DO	DO	5096 - do
61	Mohd Jaffar Dar S/o Ab Rahim R/o DO	DO	834	4-14	DO	DO	225-00	754 4-4-08	225-00	DO	DO	DO	5097 - do
62	Ali Dar S/o Rehman R/O DO	DO	833	2-5-	DO	DO	645-00	752 4-4-08	645-00	DO	DO	DO	5098 - do
63	Ali Dar S/o Ramzan R/O Arampora	DO	834	6-9-	DO	DO	530-	753 4-4-08	530-	DO	DO	DO	5099 - do
64	Mohada S/o Asgar Dar R/o Arampora	DO	834	5-6-	DO	DO	747	4-4-08		DO	DO	DO	5100 - do
65	Gh Ahmad Dar S/O Rasool R/O DO	DO	833	1-3 1/2	DO	DO	117-50	745 4-4-08	117-50	DO	DO	DO	5101 - do
66	Nisar Ahmad Dar S/o Rasool R/o DO	DO	833	1-3	DO	DO	115-00	744 4-4-08	115-00	DO	DO	DO	5102 - do
67	Mohsin Dar S/o Rasool R/o Arampora	DO	833	1-3	DO	DO	115-00	742 4-4-08	115-00	DO	DO	DO	5103 - do
68	Ali Mohd Mir S/o Jaffar R/o DO	DO	833	3-2	DO	DO	310-00	734 4-4-08	310-00	DO	DO	DO	5104- do
69	Abbas Malik S/o Assad R/O Mirchimar Pat-tan	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	DO	DO	342-50	759 4-4-08	342-50	DO	DO	DO	5105 - do
70	Mohd Malik S/O Assad R/O Mirchaimar	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	DO	DO	342-50	758 4-4-08	342-50	DO	DO	DO	5106 - do
71	Ali Malik S/O Assad R/o Mirchimar	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	DO	DO	342-50	766 4-4-08	342-50	DO	DO	DO	5107 - do
72	Mohd Akbar Malik S/o Ramzan R/o Mirchimar	DO	2597	0-7	DO	DO	35-0	737 4-4-08	35-0	DO	DO	DO	5185- do
73	Mohd Amir Malik S/o Ramzan R/o DO	DO	2597	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	738 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	5186- do
74	Farooq Ahmad Malik S/O Ramzan R/o do	DO	2597	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	739 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	5187- do
75	Nisar Ahmad Dar S/o Rasool R/o Arampora	DO	833	1-3	DO	DO	115-0	743 4-4-08	115-0	DO	DO	DO	5188- do
76	Ibrahim Malik S/O Assad R/o Michimar	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	DO	DO	342-50	764 4-4-08	342-50	DO	DO	DO	5108- do
77	Gh Mohiuddin Malik S/o Assad R.o do	DO	2667	3-8	DO	DO	340-00	763 4-4-08	340-00	DO	DO	DO	5109- do
78	Jaffar Malik S/O Assad R/o Do	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	DO	DO	342-50	746 4-4-08	342-50	DO	DO	DO	5111- do
79	Sakeena D/O Assad Malik R/o DO	DO	2667	1-14 1/2	DO	DO	172-50	732 4-4-08	172-50	DO	DO	DO	5110- do
80	Fatima D/o Assad R/o DO	DO	2667	1-15	DO	DO	175-00	733 4-4-08	175-00	DO	DO	DO	1285- do
81	Ab Rahman Najar S/o Assadullah R/o Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	1-9	DO	DO	145-00	596 4-4-08		DO	DO	DO	5176- 22/2/11
82	Bashir Ahamd Najar S/o Assadullah R/o Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	1-9	DO	DO	145-00	785 4-4-08	145-00	DO	DO	DO	5177 - 22/2/11
83	Fayaz Ahmad Najar S/o Assadullah R/o do	DO	1910	1-8 1/2	DO	DO	142-50	778 4-4-08	142-50	DO	DO	DO	5178- 22/2/11
84	Nazir Ahmad Najar S/o Assadullah R/O Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	1-9	DO	DO	145-00	786 4-4-08	145-00	DO	DO	DO	5179- 22/2/11
85	Ab Rashid Najar S/o Assadullah R/O Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	1-8 1/2	DO	DO	142-50	788 4-4-08	142-50	DO	DO	DO	5180 - 22/2/11
86	Fatima Bano D/o Ab Rahman Najar R/o Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	7-3	DO	DO	715-00	885 4-4-08	715-00	DO	DO	DO	5181 - 22/2/11
87	Ab Rahman Para S/O Sona R/o Chek Kawoosa	DO	2344	3-9	DO	DO	345-00	784 4-4-08	345-00	DO	DO	DO	5182 - 22/2/11
88	Gh Mohd Malik S/o Ramzan R/o Michimar	DO	2597	0-7	DO	DO	35-0	735 4-4-08	35-0	DO	DO	DO	5183 - 22/2/11
89	Mohd Sultan S/o Ramzan Malik R/o DO	DO	2597	0-7	DO	DO	35-00	736 4-4-08	35-00	DO	DO	DO	5184 - 22/2/11
90	Syed Ali Shah S/o Mohsin R/o Mirchimar	DO	2602	7-17	DO	DO	785-00	755 4-4-08	785-00	DO	DO	DO	5189 - 22/2/11
91	Mst Salmi D/o Assad Dar R/o Mirchimar	DO	2596	7-8-	DO	DO	740-00	759 4-4-08	740-00	DO	DO	DO	5190 - 22/2/11
92	Mohd Yousuf Mir S/o Rahim R/o Rambial-gardh	DO	2591	1-18-	DO	DO	190-00	765 4-4-08	190-00	DO	DO	DO	5191 - 22/2/11
93	Ab Hamid, Zahoor Ahmad Ss/o Gh Mohd Najar R/o Kawoosa Khalisa	DO	1910	7-4	DO	DO	720-00	590 4-4-08	720-00	DO	DO	DO	5217 - 22/2/11
94	Mst Saleema D/o Talib Kuchay R/o Magam	DO	1311, 1318	-1-0, -1-5 =-2-5	Magam	DO	57500-00	126 4-4-08	57500-00	03 18-1-11	Budgam	Commercial	1307- 24-6-11
95	Bilal Ahmad, Asif Hussain Ss/o Subhan Wani R/o DO	DO	601	1-15	DO	DO	175-00	152 4-4-08	175-00	223 29-9-11	Beerwa	Agri	1317 - 15/11/11
96	Ali Mir S/o Ghulam R/o DO	DO	1021	6-19	DO	DO	695-00	883 4-4-08	695-00	397 KR 18-2-12	DO	DO	1243
97	Mohd Akbar S/o Baqir Mir R/o do	DO	1021	2-7	DO	DO	235-00	880 4-4-08	235-00	DO	DO	DO	
98	Gh Mohd S/o Baqir R/o Do	DO	1021	2-6 1/2	DO	DO	232-00	881 4-4-08	232-00	DO	DO	DO	
99	Mohd Abdullah S/o Baqir R/o DO	DO	1021	2-6 1/2	DO	DO	232-00	882 4-4-08	232-00	DO	DO	DO	
100	Mohd Afzal S/o Ali R/o DO	DO	712	0-13	DO	DO	65-00	875 4-4-08	65-00	DO	DO	DO	
101	Nazir Ahmad S/o Ali Mir R/o Magam	DO	712	-13-	Magam	DO	65-00	786 4-4-08	65-00	DO	DO	DO	
102	Ahmad S/o Jawad Mir R/o Magam	DO	672	-6	DO	DO	30-0	879 4-4-08	30-0	DO	DO	DO	
103	Mhd Mir S/o Yaqoob R/o Magam	DO	718, 719, 720	-5-, -2-, -7--14	DO	DO	70-0	878 4-4-08	70-0	DO	DO	DO	
104	Mohd Jaffar S/o Ali Mir R/o DO	DO	718, 719, 720	0-5, 0-2, 0-7=14	DO	DO	70-0	877 4-4-08	70-0	DO	DO	DO	1251
105	Ab Gaffar S/o Ali Mohd, Mohd Akbar S/o Khaliq Dar, R/o Sozieth Goripora, Habibullah Mir S/o Rahman Mir R/o Zainakote Sgr	DO	165 MIN	0-11-	Sozieth	DO	39600-	127 6/1/11	39600-	01 24/ 1/11	Budgam	Commercial	
106	Ab Gani Dar S/o Abdullah Dar R/o Russu,	DO	329	1-5-	Russu	DO	125-00	794 4-4-08	125-00	400 18-2-12	Beerwa	Agri	714 25-2-12
107	Haleema D/o Rasool R/o DO	DO	471	1-3	DO	DO	115-00	792 4-4-08	115-00	DO	DO	DO	713 25-2-12
108	Gh Ahmad S/o Ramzan Dar R/O do	DO	262	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	795 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	715 25-2-12
109	Ab Rahman S/o Ramzan Dar R/o do	DO	262	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	796 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	716 25-2-12
110	Ab Majeed S/o Ramzan Dar R/o DO	DO	262	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	798 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	718 25-2-12
111	Mohd Sultan S/o Ramzan Dar R/o Russu	DO	262	0-6 1/2	DO	DO	32-50	797 4-4-08	32-50	DO	DO	DO	717 25-2-12
112	Ali Mohd S/o Ramzan Dar R/o Russu	DO	262	0-6	DO	DO	30-0	797 4-4-08	30-0	DO	DO	DO	719 25-2-12
113	Mohd Yousuf S/o Aziz Dar R/o Russu	DO	471	1-5	DO	DO	125-00	800 4-4-08	125-00	DO	DO	DO	720 25-2-12
114	GH Mohd S/o Ab Gani Dar R/o Russu	DO	471	1-4	DO	DO	120-00	801 4-4-08	120-00	DO	DO	DO	721 25-2-12
115	Subhan Mir S/o Ismal R/o Russu	DO	417	0-15	DO	DO	75-00	802 4-4-08	75-00	DO	DO	DO	722 25-2-12
116	Rahman Mir S/o Ismal Mir R/o Russu	DO	417	0-15	DO	DO	75-00	803 4-4-08	75-00	DO	DO	DO	723 25-2-12
117	Sultan Dar S/o Habib Dar R/o Russu	DO	471, 229	0-13 1/2	DO	DO	67-50	804 4-4-08	67-50	DO	DO	DO	724 25-2-12
118	Akbar Dar S/o Habib Dar R/o Russu	DO	471, 229	1-13 1/2	DO	DO	67-50	805 4-4-08	67-50	DO	DO	DO	725 25-2-12
119	Mohd Dar S/o Ali Dar R/o Russu	DO	262	1-12	DO	DO	160-00	806 4-4-08	160-00	DO	DO	DO	726 25-2-12
120	Gh Ahmad Dar S/o Rasool Dar R/o Russu	DO	471	0-9	DO	DO	45-00	807 4-4-08	45-00	DO	DO	DO	727 25-2-12
121	Gh Nabi Dar S/o Rasool Dar R/o Russu	DO	471	0-9	DO	DO	45-00	808 4-4-08	45-00	DO	DO	DO	728 25-2-12
122	Mohd Ramzan S/o Habib Lone R/o Hardu Malapora	DO	259	2-0	Panches	DO	200-00	809 4-4-08	200-00	399 /do	DO	DO	778 25-2-12
123	Mst Aziz D/o Ahad Lone R/o Hardu Malapora	DO	259	2-0	DO	DO	200-00	810 4-4-08	200-00	DO	DO	DO	779 25-2-12

Continued on Next Page

Continued from previous Page

124	Gh Rasool Lone S/o Ismal R/o Hardu Malpora	DO	259	2-0	DO	DO	200-00	811 4-4-08	200-00	DO	DO	DO	780 25-2-12
125	Ab Gaffar S/o Mohd Lone R/o DO	DO	259	2-0	DO	DO	200-00	812 4-4-08	200-00	DO	DO	DO	781 25-2-12
126	Raza Shah R/o Panches	DO	304	1-10	DO	DO	150-00	8013 4-4-08	150-00	DO	DO	DO	782 25-2-12
127	Syed Yousuf S/o Raza Shah R/o do	DO	304	1-10	DO	DO	150-00	814 4-4-08	150-00	DO	DO	DO	783 25-2-12
130	Ali Mohd S/o Ahmad Mir R/o do	DO	68	0-6	DO	DO	30-00	819 4-4-08	30-00	DO	DO	DO	5 / Do
131	Asad Mir S/o Mohd R/o DO	DO	68	0-3	DO	DO	10-00	820 4-4-08	10-00	DO	DO	DO	6/ DO
132	Gh Mohi-udin Wani S/o Mohd R/o DO	DO	68	0-9 1/2	DO	DO	47-50	821 4-4-08	47-50	DO	DO	DO	7/ DO
133	Ali Mohd Wani S/o Mohd Wani R/o DO	DO	68	0-9 1/2	DO	DO	47-50	822 4-4-08	47-50	DO	DO	DO	8/ DO
134	Nisar Ahmad S/o Mohd Wani R/O DO	DO	68	0-9	DO	DO	45-00	823 4-4-08	45-00	DO	DO	DO	9 / DO
135	Ab Gani S/o Akber Mir R/o DO	DO	68	0-11	DO	DO	55-00	824 4-4-08	55-00	DO	DO	DO	10/ DO
136	Farooq Ahmad S/o Akber Mir R/o DO	DO	68	0-10 1/2	DO	DO	52-50	825 4-4-08	52-50	DO	DO	DO	11/ DO
137	Fayaz Ahmad S/o Akber Mir R/o DO	DO	68	0-10 1/2	DO	DO	52-50	826 4-4-08	52-50	DO	DO	DO	12/ DO
138	Gh Rasool Mir S/o Akber Mir R/o Watalpora	DO	68	-6	DO	DO	30-00	827 4-4-08	30-00	DO	DO	DO	13/ DO
139	Ab Rashid S/o Gaffar Mir R/o DO	DO	35	0-4 1/2	DO	DO	22-50	828 4-4-08	22-50	DO	DO	DO	14/ DO
140	Mohd Sidiq S/o Gaffar Mir R/o DO	DO	35	0-4 1/2	DO	DO	22-50	829 4-4-08	22-50	DO	DO	DO	15/ DO
141	Gh Qadir S/o Gaffar Mir R/o DO	DO	35	0-4 1/2	DO	DO	22-50	832 4-4-08	22-50	DO	DO	DO	16/ DO
142	Mohd Ayoub S/o Gaffar Mir R/o DO	DO	35	0-4 1/2	DO	DO	22-50	833 4-4-08	22-50	DO	DO	DO	17/ DO
143	Gh Hassan S/o Gaffar Mir R/o DO	DO	35	-0-4	DO	DO	20-00	834 4-4-08	20-00	DO	DO	DO	18/ DO
144	Ali Mohd S/o Mohda Mir R/o do	DO	35	1-1	DO	DO	105-00	835 4-4-08	105-00	DO	DO	DO	19/ DO
145	Gaffar Ganie S/o Ahmad R/o DO	DO	35	0-10	DO	DO	50-00	836 4-4-08	50-00	DO	DO	DO	20/ DO
146	Asadullah S/o Rahman Dar R/o Russu	DO	68	0-10	DO	DO	50-00	837 4-4-08	50-00	DO	DO	DO	21/ DO
147	Gaffar Mir S/o Rahman R/o DO	DO	68	0-10	DO	DO	50-00	838 4-4-08	50-00	DO	DO	DO	22/ DO
148	Mohd Sultan Teli Adpt. S/o Ab Gani Dar	DO	68	0-11	DO	DO	55-00	839 4-4-08	55-00	DO	DO	DO	23/ DO
149	Gh Nabi Mir S/o Salam R/o DO	DO	68	0-6	DO	DO	30-00	841 4-4-08	30-00	DO	DO	DO	24/ DO
150	Ab Rashid S/o Aziz Mir R/o DO	DO	68	2-2	DO	DO	210-00	842 4-4-08	210-00	DO	DO	DO	25/ DO
151	Aziz Mir S/o Rahman R/o Watalpora	DO	68	1-0	DO	DO	100-00	843 4-4-08	100-00	DO	DO	DO	26/ DO
152	Mohada Mir S/o Ali R/o DO	DO	68	0-2	DO	DO	10-00	844 4-4-08	10-00	DO	DO	DO	27/ DO
153	Akram Ganie S/o Karim Ganie R/o DO	DO	35	0-12	DO	DO	60-00	597 3-4-8	60-00	DO	DO	DO	3 / 25-2-12
154	Ab Rashid Zargar S/o Gh Ahmad R/o SK Pora	DO	419	0-01	Sanoor Kalipora	120000	6000	60 23-10-9	6000	8229 7/7/9	Budgam	Rabi	X
155	Ali Mohd Mir S/o Sona Mir R/o Sanoor Kantipora	DO	419	0-03	DO	120000	18000	61 23-10-9	18000	DO	DO	DO	DO

Annexure B

List of the beneficiaries approved by the empowered committee in respect of ownership rights in who have not deposited the amount into treasury

S. NO	Name and Particulars of beneficiaries	Date of application	Khasra No.	Quantum of land K-M-S	Name of Halqa / Tehsil where land situated	Rate per Kanal	Amount approved	Order NO & Date	Amount deposited with TSY	TV. No & Date	Name of treasury	Nature of land	Time Elapsed since date of approval	Action taken after failure of payment within stipulated time
1	Gh Mohd S/o Rasool Najar R/o Wanihama	2007	302	0-19	Check Dewan	100/-	95-00	DCB/SQ/Roshni / 892 4-4-8	---	--	--	Agri Cul	5 years	
2	Fayaz Ahmad S/o --Rasool Najar R/o Wanihama	DO	302	0-19	DO	DO	95-00	DO/ 893 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
3	Gani Najar S/o SalaM Njar R/o Wani Gam	DO	302	3-14 1/2	DO	DO	372-50	890 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
4	Ali Najar S/o Abl Njar R/o wANIGAM	DO	302	3-14 1/2	DO	DO	372-50	894 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
5	Ali Najar S/o Qadir Najar R/o Chekdewan	DO	302	3-16 1/2	DO	DO	387-50	861 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
6	Gh Mohd s/o Rahim Njar R/o --	DO	302	1-18 1/4	DO	DO	191-50	859 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
7	Mushtaq Ali S/o --	DO	302	1-18 1/4	DO	DO	191-50	860 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
8	Abli Dar S/o Ramzan R/o Meripora	DO	302	2-11 1/2	DO	DO	207-50	863 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
9	Gh Ahmd S/O Mohd Wani R/O Ohgam	DO	47, 48	0-13, 1-2 1/2 =1-15 1/2	DO	DO	170-50	848 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
10	Ali Mohd S/o Ab Satar, Ab Ahad S/o Ab Wahab R/o Wudwan	DO	382	5-0	DO	DO	500-00	151 20/7/11	---	--	--	DO	DO	
11	Qazim Malik S/o Asad R/o Machimur	DO	2667	3-8 1/2	Kawoosa & Jagger	DO	343-00	-	---	--	--	DO	DO	
12	Asgar Malik S/o Hassan R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2656, 2597	0-9 1/2	DO	DO	47-50	740 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
13	Musa Malik S/O Hassan R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2656, 2597	0-10	DO	DO	50-00	741 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
14	Qasim Malik S/o Jaffar R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2626	1-15 1/2	DO	DO	277-50	748 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
15	Abdullah Malik S/o Jaffar R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2656,	2-15 1/2	DO	DO	277-50	749 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
16	Saleema D/o Mohd Malik R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2656,	7-6	DO	DO	730-00	750 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
17	Sabli Malik S/o Rahim Malik R/o Machimur	DO	2626, 2656, 2597	3-19	DO	DO	395-00	762 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
18	Gh Mohd Dar S/o Mohd Ramzan R/o Machimur	DO	2590, 2594	1-17	DO	DO	185-00	772 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
19	Ab Ahad S/o Sona Reshi R/o K. Jagger	DO	2344	1-17	DO	DO	185-00	783 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
20	Tanvir Ahmad S/o Mohada R/o K. Jagger	DO	2344	1-17	DO	DO	185-00	782 4/4/8	---	--	--	DO	DO	
21	Mohd Ashraf, Mohd Satar, Mohd Ramzan Ss/o Gh Mohi-ud-din R/o K. Jagger	DO	2842	0-10	DO	DO	975-00	155 20/8/11	---	--	--	Rabi/c	2 YRS	
22	Gh Hassan, Asadullah S/o Ghulam Wani R/o K. Jagger	DO	2860	1-2	DO	DO	2145-00	156 do	---	--	--	DO	DO	
23	Khaliq S/o Ismail, Rahamn S/o Mohd Dar R/o Kawoosa Jagger	DO	2703	0-9	DO	DO	87750-00	157/ 20/8/11	---	--	--	DO	DO	
24	Khaliq S/o Mohd, Gh Mohd, Ab Rahman, Ss/o Khazir Ganie	DO	2895, 2848	0-10	DO	DO	97500-00	158 / do	---	--	--	DO	DO	
25	Ab Gani s/O Aziz Mohiu-din R/o R/o Kawoosa Jagger	DO	2865	0-3-1	DO	DO	30407-	160/ do	---	--	--	DO	DO	
26	Noor Mohd Bhat S/o Mohd Subhan R/o Kawoosa Jagger	DO	2842	0-7-	DO	DO	68250-00	161 / do	---	--	--	DO	DO	
27	Gh Mohi-ud-din Wani S/o Assad R/o Roshanabad	DO	39	0-7-1	Roshanabad	90,000	32000	62/ 23-10-09	---	--	--	DO	4 yrs	
28	Assad Mir S/o Rahim R/o Roshanabad	DO	96	0-5-0	DO		75000	128 1-1-11	---	--	--	DO	02yr	
29	----	DO			DO	100/=		181 4-4-8	---	--	--	Agri	DO	
30	Bashir Ahmad Hajam S/o Mohd Kamal R/o Narbal	DO	53	0-14-	Narbal	100/=	70-00	884 4-4-8	---	--	--	DO	5 yrs	
39	Gh Ahmad Bhat S/o Ismail R/o Aqilpora	DO	147	-0-6	Aqilpora	DO	30-00	123 5/1/11	---	--	--	DO	46	
40	Ab Jabar Bhat S/o Ismail R/o Aqilpora	DO	147	-0-7	DO	DO	35-00	124 5/1/11	---	--	--	DO	DO	
41	Mohd Maqbool, Bashir Ahmad S/o Ahmad Bhat R/o Aqilpora	DO	147	-0-6	DO	DO	30-00	122 5/1/11	---	--	--	DO	DO	

India Bans Imported Goods At Army Canteens, List May Include Liquor: Report



NEW DELHI: The government has ordered 4,000 army shops in the country to stop buying imported goods, according to a document reviewed by news agency Reuters, a move that could send an unwelcome signal to foreign liquor firms such as Diageo and Pernod Ricard.

Army canteens sell liquor, electronics and other goods at discounted prices to soldiers, ex-servicemen and their families. With annual sales of over \$2 billion, they make up one of the largest retail chains in India. The October 19 internal order from the defence ministry said that in future, "procurement of direct imported items shall not be undertaken".

The order said the issue had been discussed with the army, air force and navy in May and July, and was aimed at supporting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's campaign to promote domestic

goods. A defence ministry spokesman declined to comment.

The order did not specify which products would be targeted. However, industry sources said they believed imported liquor could be on the list.

Imports make up around 6-7% of total sales value in the defence shops, according to an August research column of the government-funded Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA). Chinese products such as diapers, vacuum cleaners, handbags and laptops, account for the bulk of it, it said.

Reuters reported in June that Pernod and Diageo had briefly stopped receiving orders for their imported brands from such government stores. Diageo did not respond to a request for comment, while a Pernod spokesman declined comment.

While imported liquor sales at defence stores generate only about \$17 million in annual sales, the order would send a negative signal, said an executive whose company sells products at defence stores.

"False And Defamatory": Mahesh Bhatt Dismisses Model's Drug Charges

MUMBAI: Filmmaker Mahesh Bhatt and Actor Amyra Dastur Have Refuted Actor-Model Luvina Lodh's Claims That The Two Are Part Of Alleged Bollywood Drug-Nexus.

In a video posted on Instagram on Friday, Ms Lodh claimed that she is wife of Mr Bhatt's nephew Sumit Sabharwal.

She alleged that Mr Sabharwal used to procure drugs and supply it to Mr Bhatt, Ms Dastur and actor Sapna Pabbi.

Ms Lodh also claimed that she was subjected to harassment by Mr Bhatt after she sought di-

voice from Mr Sabharwal.

"If you don't play by his rules, he will make life difficult for you. Mahesh Bhatt has ruined a lot of lives by putting them out of work. He makes one phone call and people lose their job."

"Ever since I filed a case against him, he has been trying to enter my house and remove me from this house," she claimed in the video.

Later on Friday, Mr Bhatt released a statement through his lawyer which was posted on the official Twitter handle of his banner Vishesh Films.



SPRAWLING SIGHT: Asia's largest fresh water lake, the Wular Lake of Bandipora, offers a spectacular view on Saturday. KO Photo Aijaz Ali Dar

First-Of-Its-Kind Flash Flood Warning System For South Asian Countries Launched

NEW DELHI: The first-of-its-kind system for South Asian countries that will provide alerts for flash floods 6-24 hours in advance was launched at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Friday.

The World Meteorological Department (WMO) has entrusted India with the responsibility of the Regional Centre of South Asia Flash Flood Guidance System for coordination, development and its implementation.

India also shares cyclone warning alerts with neighbouring countries.

The system will enable the member countries -- India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan -- issue impact-based forecasting of floods which are very sudden and of short duration at watershed and also city level, IMD director general Mrutunjay Mohapatra said at the online launch.

Representatives of the member countries attended the event.

Flash floods are highly localised events of short duration with a very high peak and usually have less than six hours between the occurrence of the rainfall and peak flood. There is a general lack of flash



flood warning capabilities and capacities among countries across the world.

Recognising that flash floods have a particularly disastrous impact on lives and properties of the affected populations, the 15th WMO Congress had approved the implementation of a Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS) project with global coverage.

The system has been developed by the WMO Commission for Hydrology, jointly with the WMO Commission for Basic Systems and in collaboration with the US National Weather Service, the US Hydrologic Research Centre (HRC).

The IMD has highly advanced capabilities with respect to computing pow-

er, numerical weather prediction, vast observational network (ground, air and space based), and an internationally acclaimed weather forecasting system.

It has tested the performance of the system during recent monsoon seasons in the pre-operational mode and the flash flood bulletins were issued to national hydrological and meteorological services in the region for its validation, said BP Yadav, a senior scientist at the IMD.

The system has in-depth science, dynamics and diagnostics to provide guidance for the possible occurrences of flash floods at local level, Yadav added.

"The guidance for flash floods in the form of Threats (6 hours in advance) and Risks (24 hours in advance) will be provided by Regional Centre to National Meteorological & Hydrological Services, National and State Disaster Management Authorities and all other stakeholders for taking necessary mitigation measures to reduce the loss of life and property in the South Asian region countries of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka," Mr Mohapatra said.

Mehbooba Mufti Disrespecting National Flag; Art 370 Won't Be Restored: Prasad

Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Saturday lashed out at former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mehbooba Mufti, saying her remarks were "downright denunciation" of the national flag's sanctity. The minister added that Article 370 will not be restored.

On Friday, addressing reporters for the first time since her release from a 14-month detention following the abrogation of Article 370 in August last year, Mufti had said she would only hold the national flag after the flag of Jammu and Kashmir was restored.

In an act seen as defiance, the flag of the erstwhile state was prominently placed on a table

the saffron party at the "slightest of issues".

"This is hypocrisy and double standard," Prasad said.

During her presser, Mufti had accused the BJP of "looting" the dignity of the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"We had acceded to a liberal, democratic, secular India. Let me tell them that we are not comfortable, we are incompatible with today's India where minorities and Dalits are not safe and where they tried to disrespect us by looting our dignity," she said.

The BJP had demanded Mufti's arrest for her "seditious" remarks. The party said "no power on earth" can either hoist



in front of the PDP president, along with that of her party, during the press conference.

"Article 370 was removed following a proper constitutional process and both houses of Parliament approved it with overwhelming numbers," Prasad said, adding that revoking the provision was BJP's commitment to the nation.

The minister also hit out at other opposition parties, saying they have maintained a stony silence at her remarks showing serious disrespect to the national flag, even as they criticise

the state flag again or restore Article 370 of the Constitution, which granted a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the Congress party asked Mufti to desist from making highly provocative and irresponsible remarks on the national flag.

Reacting to Mufti's statement on the national flag, Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) chief spokesperson Ravinder Sharma said the former CM had hurt the patriotic sentiments of people.

ARTICLE 370 WAS REMOVED following a proper constitutional process and both houses of Parliament approved it with overwhelming numbers," Prasad said, adding that revoking the provision was BJP's commitment to the nation.

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