



Maximum : 6.1°
Minimum : -8.4°
Humidity : 90%

SUNSET Today 05:45 PM
SUNRISE Tomorrow 07:37 AM

Contact: -0194-2502327
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Quote!

The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times
— Paulo Coelho

NEWS DIGEST

Pak Says Soldier Killed In Indian Firing

ISLAMABAD: The Pakistani army said Thursday that a soldier was killed in the Indian firing along the Line of Control (LoC) in Pakistan controlled Kashmir (Pck). An army statement said that the Indian troops initiated "unprovoked ceasefire violation" along the LoC in Dewa sector. The Pakistani army troops responded promptly and inflicted heavy losses to the Indian side "in terms of men and material," the statement from the army's media wing, the Inter-Services Public Relations said. In an intense exchange of fire, a soldier was killed "while responding to Indian unprovoked" More On P6

CRPF Officer Injured In Road Accident

QAZIGUND: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officer was critically injured in a collision here in South Kashmir. The incident occurred late Wednesday night at Lower Munda area of Qazigund. Police sources said that there was a collision between a private truck (JK06A-4580) and CRPF Gypsy (HR55C-3665) resulting critical injuries to one CRPF Inspector namely Joshi Sharma of 163 Battalion. The officer was evacuated to Emergency Hospital Qazigund for treatment from where he has been referred to SKIMS Srinagar for advanced treatment. The condition of the CRPF More On P6

Police 'Detains' Sarjan Barkati

SRINAGAR: Religious preacher Sarjan Barkati was detained by police on Thursday almost two months after he was released after four year detention. Barkati was rounded up by police from his residence in Reban area of Shopain on Thursday evening, news agency GNS reported while quoting an unnamed official. However, the officer did not reveal the reasons behind the police action. Official sources said that Barkati was supposed to lead prayers at Budgam tomorrow and he might be detained temporarily. Barkati was released on October 28 last, four years after More On P6

Detained PDP Leader Hospitalised

SRINAGAR: Senior Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) leader and former minister, Naeem Akhtar was on Thursday shifted to hospital here for treatment after he developed health issues. Naeem, who is under detention from the last nearly 20 days, was kept at MLA hostel here where he developed health issues today. PDP spokesman, Najam-u-Saqib said that the detained leader was shifted to Khyber hospital after he developed some health issues today. "Naeem Sahab has been shifted to hospital and is under medical observation," he said.

2 Held In SMHS With 5 Cell Phones

SRINAGAR: Police on Thursday claimed to have arrested two thieves and recovered stolen property from their possession. A police spokesman in a statement issued here said that January 12, Police Station Karan Nagar received a written complaint from Muhammad Ashraf of Lajoura Pulwama, stating therein that some unknown person(s) have stolen his mobile phone at SMHS Hospital Srinagar. Accordingly, police said that a case under FIR number 01/2021 under relevant sections of law was registered in Police Station Karan Nagar and investigation was initiated. "During the course More On P6



■ Icicles formed inside Srinagar's Botanical garden on Thursday as the mercury dropped to a low of minus 8.4 Degree Celsius. KO Photo: Abid Bhat

Intense Cold Wave In Kashmir, Dal Freezes

Srinagar Records Coldest Night In 30Yrs

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

SRINAGAR: Kashmir valley is in the grip of an intense cold wave and most of the water bodies, including Srinagar's iconic Dal Lake, have frozen. According to the Met office Srinagar on Thursday recorded the coldest night in 30 years. "Srinagar recorded a low of minus 8.4 degrees Celsius, which was the coldest temperature recorded in the city in 30 years", an official of the MET department said. He said while Srinagar had recorded minus 8.3 degrees Celsius in 1995, the temperature has fallen to minus 11.3 degrees Celsius in 1991. The lowest temperature ever recorded in Srinagar was minus 14.4 degrees Celsius in 1893. The rest of the valley was also reeling under intense cold. Pahalgam tourist resort More On P6

QRTs Deployed Around Frozen Dal Lake

Authorities here on Thursday deployed SDRF personnel in the Dal Lake, which has frozen due to record low minimum temperature in Kashmir, to prevent people from walking on the frozen surface of the water body. "Due to freezing temperatures, More On P6

'It's Dangerous': Admin Sounds Caution

The authorities in Srinagar on Thursday advised people not to walk on the frozen surface of water bodies, especially the Dal Lake, underlining that it could be dangerous. Deputy Commissioner Srinagar Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary said that SDRF More On P6

Traffic On Banihal Highway To Resume In 2-3 Days: Govt

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The administration of the mountainous Ramban district said on Thursday that the traffic on the vital Srinagar-Jammu highway will start within 2-3 days through the Bailey bridge being erected by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) on "war footing basis". District Development Commissioner (DDC), Ramban, Nazim Zai Khan on Thursday inspected the progress on the construction of

Bailey Bridge besides repairing work of damaged concrete bridge, here at Kela Morh and said that traffic would start on the highway within 2-3 days through Bailey bridge on which the work is in progress on war footing, an official spokesperson said. The damage to the bridge at Kela Morh has blocked the national highway, the only all-weather road linking Kashmir with rest of the country. After that administration has started immediate restoration operation. More On P6



DC Ramban, Nazim Zai Khan inspecting progress on the construction of Bailey Bridge at Kela Morh, Ramban on Thursday. Photo: Info dept

THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF INDIA is already working day and night to repair the damaged bridge which will take a few days because of huge volume of work."

Leh Reports Case Of New Covid Strain

AGENCIES

LEH: Ladakh Thursday reported the first positive case for the new Covid-19 strain who had travelled and stayed in Germany in December last. The 38-year-old male patient, who was isolated for two weeks on his arrival to Leh has tested positive for the new Covid strain and has been isolated and kept at a separate facility and all necessary precautions have been taken, local news agency KNO reported Thursday. Quoting an unnamed health official, the report said that the man has a travel More On P6

Kashmir Reports 3 More Covid-19 Deaths

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Valley on Thursday reported three more coronavirus deaths, even as 79 fresh cases of Covid-19, including 3 travellers were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. Among the victims, officials said were a 55-year-old man from Rainawari here, a 75-year-old man from Chattergam and a 78-year-old man from Chadoora in central Kashmir's Budgam district. So far 1915 people have succumbed to virus in J&K- 1203 in the Valley and 712 in Jammu region. Srinagar district with 453 deaths tops the More On P6

WHO Shows J&K, Ladakh Separate From India

India Protests, Demands Immediate Removal of Map

AGENCIES

NEW DELHI: The World Health Organisation (WHO) map showing Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as separate from India has sparked a controversy with the Indian government taking offence at the "inaccurate depiction" Indian has raised the matter with the organisation. Reports said the issue was raised by Indian envoy to United Nations in Geneva, Indramani Pandey, with WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. Pandey has expressed "deep displeasure" at the WHO move and sought its chief's "immediate intervention" for "removal of maps" which have been inaccurately depicting the boundaries of India and replacing them with "accurate maps". This is the third time in a month that India has raised this issue More On P6

For India, Pakistan To Resolve Kashmir, Says UK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

LONDON: The UK government on Wednesday reiterated its unchanged stance that the situation in Kashmir remains an issue for India and Pakistan to find a lasting political resolution to the issue. Responding to a debate held in the House of Parliament complex on the Political situation in Kashmir, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) minister Nigel Adams stressed that it is not for Britain to play any mediatory role in a bilateral matter, even as he accepted



there were human rights concerns on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC). The government's policy [on Kashmir] remains stable, it's unchanged. We continue to believe that this is for India and Pakistan to find a lasting political resolution to the situation that takes into account the wishes of the Kashmiri people as laid out in the Simla Agreement, said Adams, in his capacity as Minister for Asia. It's not appropriate for the UK government More On P6

'False Assertions' on Kashmir in UK Parliament: India

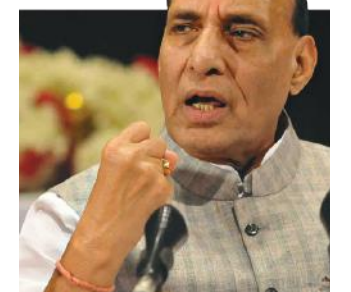
India has expressed its dismay at some of the parliamentarians who participated in a debate on Kashmir in the Houses of Parliament complex in London relying on "false assertions" and unsubstantiated allegations propagated by a "third country" - an apparent reference to Pakistan. The debate, organised by backbench British MPs at Westminster Hall in the House of Commons on Wednesday evening, was entitled "Political situation in Kashmir" - terminology the More On P6

Rajnath's Veiled Threat To China

'Befitting Reply If Any Superpower Hurts National Pride'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BENGALURU: India does not want a war but its soldiers are capable of giving befitting reply if any 'superpower' hurts the country's pride, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday amid the eight-month-old border standoff with China. "We don't want war and we are in favour of protecting everyone's security but I want to say this in clear terms that if any superpower wants to hurt our pride then our soldiers are capable of giving them a befitting reply," Singh said. The Defence minister insisted that India never wanted conflict with any nation and preferred to maintain peace and friendly ties with its neighbours. "It always wanted peace and friendly ties with its neighbours because it's in our blood



and culture," he said at the fifth Armed Forces Veterans' Day at the Headquarters Training Command of the Indian Air Force in Bengaluru. Referring to the standoff with China, he said the Indian soldiers displayed exemplary courage and patience and if that can be narrated then every Indian will feel proud. Singh hailed the Indian soldiers who showed extraordinary courage in More On P6

Bird Flu Scare

J&K Extends Poultry Import Ban

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Government on Thursday extended by four more days the ban on import of poultry as bird flu spreads in many states of India. "In continuation of the government order no. 09-ASH of 20121 dated 07-01-2021 and in exercise of the powers conferred under contagious Disease Act, 2009, the ban imposed on import of live birds including poultry and unprocessed poultry meat for any purpose into J-K shall continue to remain operative till 18 January," reads a government order.



"The decision will be reviewed based on the evolving situation," the order by Navin K Choudhary, Principal Secretary to Government, added. The order comes as the administration continues to maintain that there is no cases of bird flu or avian influenza in the J-K so far even as it urged people not to panic or stop using poultry products. More On P6

Finance Department Issues Formal Orders On Assets Sharing

20% Each of Equity, Loans of SFC, Grameen Bank Notionally Transferred To Ladakh

AGENCIES

SRINAGAR: After one and half year into the bifurcation of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir state into two Union territories, the Finance Department on Thursday issued formal orders for apportionment of economic affairs and posts between J&K and Ladakh. "Consequent upon issuance of SO 339 notified on 30th

of October, 2020 by General Administration Department, sanction is hereby accorded to the apportionment of Assets, Rights, Liabilities and Posts of erstwhile State of J&K between the Union Territory of J&K and Union Territory of Ladakh as per the given arrangements," reads an order. "This consequential order is as per the figures as stood on 31-10-2019 and as per the recommendations of the Advisory committee on appointment of Assess and Liabilities of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir", the order reads. The Companies, Corporations and entities, which as per

the order, include; Jammu and Kashmir State Financial Corporation and Jammu and Kashmir, Grameen Bank Limited, pertaining to the domain of the Finance Department, 20% of the Equity and 20% of the Loans extended by the erstwhile Government of Jammu and Kashmir are notionally/temporarily transferred to the Union Territory of Ladakh. The immovable assets of these Companies, Corporations and entities, located in the UT of Ladakh shall be transferred to another entity as and when it is setup by the UT of Ladakh as appropriate, the order reads. More On P6

'LAWAYPORA ENCOUNTER'

Families Demand Probe By SIT, Ask Govt To Break Silence

'Either Prove Our Kin Were Militants Or Return Their Bodies'

PULWAMA: The three families from South Kashmir, whose kin were killed in alleged encounter in Lawaypora on 30th December last year, sought probe by a special investigation team (SIT).

The three youth namely Athar Mushtaq resident of Bel-low Pulwama, Aijaz Ahmad resident of Putrigam Pulwama and Zubair Ahmad lone were killed by troops at Lawaypora in the outskirts of Srinagar on 30th of December last. While as police and army claimed that the trio were militants, their families insist that the trio were innocent and killed in a staged encounter.

The families also urged authorities to break the silence on the incident and either prove their wards militants or return their bodies.

Questioning the silence



KO File Photo Abid Bhat

Mushtaq Wani, father of Athar Mushtaq told a local news agency KNO that "Two weeks have passed but no investigation has been ordered. We too were silent as we had given time to the authorities to prove that our children were mili-

tants but they have failed to do so." Wani urged authorities to "start the investigation at the earliest." Family members of Zubair Ahmad also said that if authorities prove their son was a militant, they will never seek his body.

TRIO WERE INNOCENT AND WERE killed in a fake encounter," they said while requesting authorities to constitute SIT and investigate the matter besides returning their dead bodies.

"However, if they have failed to get single evidence against him, then they must return his body and punish the culprits who killed him," they said.

Mohammed Maqbool, father of Aijaz Ahmad also echoed the same and said that authorities must come clear and break the silence.

The families of the trio also said that if they were hardcore OGWs then there would have been at least a single FIR registered against them.

"If they would have joined militant ranks, they would have called their families once that they got trapped but we didn't receive any call in 18-hour long

encounter," they said. "Trio were innocent and were killed in a fake encounter," they said while requesting authorities to constitute SIT and investigate the matter besides returning their dead bodies.

Earlier, Lieutenant Governor (LG) Manoj Sinha said that he will come up with facts about the Lawaypora encounter at an "appropriate time."

"Let me tell you that J&K is a very sensitive UT. I have noted all versions including that of forces' and the families of the (slain trio). I will come up with facts before you at an appropriate time," he said

People With Allergies Can Take COVID-19 Vaccine: DAK

SRINAGAR: With COVID-19 vaccination drive set to begin across the country including Jammu and Kashmir on January 16, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Thursday said People with allergies can take Oxford Covid-19 vaccine Covishield, manufactured by Pune-based Serum Institute of India.

"Anyone with a history of allergy to food or medicine can have the vaccine," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan said in a statement.

"However, people allergic to any of the ingredients present in the vaccine should not take the vaccine," he said. "Covishield contains weakened adenovirus encoding Covid-19 spike protein. The other components in the vaccine are L-histidine, L-histidine hydrochloride monohydrate, magnesium chloride hexahydrate, polysorbate 80, ethanol, sucrose, sodium chloride, disodium edetate dihydrate and water for injection."

DAK President said the vaccine can be considered for use in pregnancy when the potential benefits outweigh the risks. "Pregnant women can take the vaccine if the risk of exposure to

Covid-19 is high or if the woman has an underlying condition heightening her risk of serious complications," he said.

"Women who are breastfeeding can also be given the vaccine," Dr Nisar said the Oxford vaccine is in injectable form and the route of administration is intramuscular. It is to be given into the muscle at the top of the upper arm (deltoid muscle).

"The vaccine has been approved for use in people 18 years or older and consists of two separate doses of 0.5 ml each. The second dose should be given between 4 to 6 weeks after the first dose," he said.

"However, there is data available for administration of the second dose upto 12 weeks after the first dose from the overseas studies." "The vaccine can be stored in ordinary refrigerators which means the vaccine can be administered in existing health-care settings," said Dr Nisar.

"Vaccine is the single best defense against Covid-19 that would save lives and prevent disease transmission," he said. "We need to communicate to people about the importance of the vaccine and dispel miscommunication, conspiracies and anti-vaccination distortions."

IUST Signs MoU With MSME & JKHPMC

AWANTIPORA : To accentuate the capacity building in the food processing segment of " Horticulture Products Processing and Packaging" under MSME's Department of Food Technology, Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Awantipora, JK Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation (JKHPMC) Ltd and Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Technology Development Centre, Srinagar signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Thursday.

MOU was signed to increase the capacity building as per "A Scheme For Promotion Of Innovation, Rural Indus-

try & Entrepreneurship(ASPIRE)".

Under the scheme, the unemployed youth shall be trained for entrepreneurship in Horticulture and allied fields.

The MoU was signed by the Dean, Research IUST, Prof H R Naik on behalf of IUST, Project Director MSME-Technology Development Centre Srinagar, Mir Altaf Ahmad on behalf of MSME and MD JKHPMC, Mr Shafat Sultan on behalf of Government of J&K in the presence of Hon'ble Vice Chancellor IUST, Prof Mushtaq A. Siddiqi. The Registrar IUST, Prof Naseer Iqbal, thanked the signatories for signing up the MoU.

The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education Division Kashmir

The candidate whose photograph is published in the notice is claiming to have lost his/her original marks card of class 10th and Qualification issued by the Jammu and Kashmir State Board of School Education with following particulars:

Mehraj Ud Din Dar Fathers Name Mohammad Maqbool Dar Mother's Name Hamida Bano Regd No; 08NKM308767 DOB 08/10/1994

Class 10th Roll No; 679505 Year / Session Annual Private 2013

Now the candidate has applied for the Duplicate Marks Card and Qualification certificate. Anybody having any objection may file the same before undersigned within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the original marks card be treated as cancelled.

Assistant Secretary Certificates, KD

AMS

Government of Jammu and Kashmir, H&ME Department OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL GOVT MEDICAL COLLEGE ANANTNAG

(Camp Office Associated (MMABM) Hospital, Anantnag)

Phone no.01932-227624 email: gmcanantnag2018@gmail.com

NO:GMCA/ESTT./2021/ 142-49

Dated: 12.01.2021

ORDER No. 03 GMCA of 2021

DATED: 12.01.2021

Subject: Cancellation of Selection and Operation of Waiting List thereof for the post of "Anaesthesia Assistant/ Technician" under (NHM) in Government Medical College Anantnag.

- Reference:**
1. SHS/NHM/I&K/13543-53 dated 14.10.2020.
 2. SHS/NHM/I&K/13625-52 dated 23.10.2020
 3. No.315 GMCA of 2020 dated 24.12.2020

Whereas after recommendation by the Selection Committee constituted for engagement of Anaesthesia Assistant / Technician" under (NHM) (32) candidates were selected against the post of Anaesthesia Assistant / Technician" under (NHM) vide this office No. No.315 GMCA of 2020 dated 24.12.2020

Whereas only (08) candidates have been joined in GMC Anantnag within stipulated time and (24) candidates mentioned at Annexure "A" have not joined within the stipulated time.

Therefore selection in favour of candidates, who failed to join in GMC Anantnag, is hereby cancelled ab-initio. In view of the above, the candidates figuring in waiting list listed at Annexure "B" are selected against available vacant posts of "Anaesthesia Assistant / Technician" under (NHM) in GMC Anantnag, as per terms and conditions of such appointments under NHM, on contractual basis for a period of three months only under ERCP (Emergency COVID-19 response Package) in ICU's and HDU's for COVID-19 management in GMC Anantnag.

Candidates shall report to the Principal/Dean, Government Medical College, Anantnag for document verification/joining within a period of 07 days from the date of issuance of this order keeping in view Covid-19 pandemic, failing which their selection shall stand cancelled ab-initio without any further notice and candidates in waiting list shall be considered for selection.

The arrangement shall be purely on temporary basis and shall not confer upon him/her any special claim/preferential right for engagement against the post of Anaesthesia Assistant / Technician" under (NHM) on regular basis.

The appointment of these candidates shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. She/He shall have to submit an affidavit duly signed by 1st Class Magistrate to the effect that:
 1. I will adhere to the roster of duties to be issued by the administration.
 2. I will not participate in any kind of strike/protest against the administration during my tenure in the college/hospital.
 3. My engagement shall be purely on contractual basis and shall be non-transferable.
 4. My engagement is contractual and do not confer any right for the permanent absorption in the department.
 5. My engagement shall be terminated on account of non performance/adverse conduct without any notice, keeping in view the public health importance of the programme.
 6. If the documents filed by me are found wrong/incorrect at any point at time, my selection shall be terminated immediately and disciplinary action and legal proceedings shall be initiated against me alongwith recovery of remuneration.
 7. I will reside in the vicinity of GMC Anantnag during the whole period of my temporary services as Anaesthesia Assistant / Technician in GMC Anantnag and shall provide residential details in GMC Vicinity to the administration at time of joining.

DIPK-11641/20

Sd/- (Prof. Shaukat A Jeelani) Principal/Dean Government Medical College Anantnag

ANNEXURE "A"

S.No	S.L.No.	Name	Fathers Name
1	01	Binish Ellahi Hazzari	Mushtaq Ahmad
2	02	Mohsin Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Rather
3	03	Aaqib Bashir Hajam	Bashir Ahmad Hajam
4	04	Muneeb Qadir	Gh. Qadir Malik
5	05	Farah Sultan	Mohd Sultan
6	06	Akash Hussain Rone	Ghulam Hassan Rone
7	08	Safi Ud Din Muzaffar	Mohd Muzaffar
8	10	Arsheena Tariq	Tariq Ahmad Shah
9	12	Ulfaat Nazir	Nazir Ahmad Dar
10	14	Azra Jan	Shawkeen Shakir Rashid
11	15	Asif Qaisar Hameed	Abdul Hameed Bhat
12	17	Firdous Ahmad Mir	Mohd Akbar Mir
13	18	Zubair Ahmad Dar	Nazir Ahmad Dar
14	19	Asif Ahmad Dar	Gh Nabi Dar
15	20	Shahid Bashir	Late Bashir Ahmad Ganie
16	22	Taezeema Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Bhat
17	23	Shahid Ahmad Bhat	Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Bhat
18	24	Rouf Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Bhat
19	25	Muzaffar Ahmad Deka	Ab Rehman Deka
20	26	Shahid Hussain Bhat	Mohd Hussain Bhat
21	27	Sameer Ahmad Mir	Bashir Ahmad Mir
22	29	Ulfaat Jan	Mohammad Jabar Wani
23	31	Zubaida Hassan	Gh Hassan Wagay
24	32	Qulsouma Nazir	Nazir Ahmad Wani

ANNEXURE "B"

S.No	S.L.No	Name	Fathers Name
1	33	Adil Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Hajam
2	34	Aarif Yousuf Baba	Mohd Yousuf Baba
3	35	Insha Majid	Abdul Majid Bangroo
4	36	Arsalan Hamid	Ab Hamid Sofi
5	37	Pawan Kumar	Sain Dass
6	38	Iram Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Bhat
7	39	Adil Farooq	Farooq Ahmad Sheikh
8	40	Basit Nazir	Nazir Ahmad Parry
9	41	Rameez Maqbool Haji	Mohd Maqbool Haji
10	42	Abid Yousuf	Mohd Yousuf Mir
11	43	Iqra Shakeel	Shakeel Ahmad Khan
12	44	Waseem Ahmad Malla	Mohd Momin Malla
13	45	Aniyat Ullah Sheikh	Atta Ullah Sheikh
14	46	Irfan Akbar Mir	Mohammad Akbar Mir
15	47	Arshid Hassan Ganie	Gh Hassan Ganie
16	48	Irfan Mohiuddin Rather	Ghulam Mohi Ud Din Rather
17	49	Showkat Hussain Khan	Assad Ullah Khan
18	50	Azmat Mushtaq	Mushtaq Ahmad Rather
19	51	Nazia Hassan	Gh Hassan Dar
20	52	Tahir Ahmad Wagay	Mohd Khalil Wagay
21	53	Shafait Bashir	Bashir Ahmad Wani
22	54	Tajamul Ahmad Dar	Gh. Nabi Dar
23	55	Jahangir Ahmad Malik	Ghulam Rasool Malik
24	56	Rumasa Rafiq	Mohammad Rafiq Dar

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1943 - World's largest office building, the Pentagon is completed
- 1943 - 1,000 workers complete air conditioning system for Pentagon
- 1943 - World War II: The Soviets begin a counter-offensive at Voronezh
- 1944 - European Advisory Commission decides to divide Germany
- 1955 - USSR ends state of war with German Federal Republic
- 1962 - Dutch & Indonesian navy encounter in Etna Bay New Guinea
- 1965 - Soviet underground nuclear test creates the atomic lake Chagan, Kazakhstan
- 1969 - Nuclear test at Pacific Ocean
- 1969 - Soyuz 5 launched by Soviet Union
- 1970 - Nigerian civil war officially ends after 2 1/2 years of fighting when the Republic of Biafra disbands and joins Nigeria
- 1970 - Muammar Gaddafi is proclaimed premier of Libya
- 1973 - US President Richard Nixon suspends all US offensive action in N Vietnam
- 1974 - Expert panel reports 18 1/2 minute gap in Watergate tape, 5 separate erasures
- 1975 - Portugal signs accord for Angola's independence
- 1975 - Space Mountain opens at Disneyland
- 1976 - US-German Helios B solar probe launched into solar orbit
- 1976 USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalitinsk USSR
- 1983 - Javed Miandad & Mudassar Nazar make 451 stand v India
- 1991 - Australia beat NZ 2-0 to win cricket's World Series Cup
- 1991 - UN's deadline for Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait (they don't)



HIJRI CALENDAR

01

JAMADI -UL-SANI 1442

PRAYERS

FAJR 6:08
ZUHR 12:38
ASR 4:07
MAGRIB 5:48
ISHA 7:12

From KO Archives

I DON'T WANT TO FILL JAILS: FAROOQ

'My Orders To The Police; Wherever You Find A Militant, Kill Him'

NAFA

SRINAGAR- The chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdul-lah, today said that his government would give mili-tants no quarter and hinted 'extra-ordinary security measures' to be undertaken in the state very soon.

Speaking today at a gathering at the residence of former minister and National Confer-ence MLA, Muhammad Dilawar Mir, whose brother was gunned down by unidentified gunmen at Rohama in Rafiabab yesterday, he said, "I don't want to fill jails. My orders to the police are; wherever you find a militant, dispatch him."

According to Dr. Abdullah, militants were killing innocent people and therefore deserved to be paid in the same coin.

Referring to a meeting he had had with prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, he said that he had told him that militants had not stopped killing innocents despite the prime minister's talk of peace. "Make one final push and fin-ish the matter off, I told the prime minis-ter."

He said that he had presented his formula long ago: Kashmir is an integral part of India; Pakistan should be given the territory under its control and the LoC converted into an international border; the Rawalpindi road should be opened; Kashmiris should be given internal autonomy -and the Kashmir issue will dissolve automatically.

"India will never give up Kashmir even if all Kashmiris per-ish." Desisting from his customary tirade against the Hur-riyet, he said the APHC leader's visit to Paki-stan would not alter the LoC. "I want to see how the Pakista-nis react." Later, talking to NAFA, Dr. Abdullah said that he would be talking to the PM and the HM soon, and extraordinary secu-rity measures would be put in place after that. "We will not al-low our campaign against mili-tants to be slackened," he said.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 15 January, 2001)

Infighting Leaves 5 Jawans Dead

SRINAGAR- Five se-curity personnel were killed and four others wounded in two firing incidents inside their camps here since last night, of-ficial sources said today

They said three BSF per-sonnel lost their lives and three others were injured when one at their colleagues opened fire on them inside their camp at Jamallatta in downtown Srinagar around 4:46 a.m. to-day.

The culprit, who was also injured while being overpow-ered, resorted to firing due to loss of mental balance, they added. In another incident, a con-stant of CRPF, identified as Balbir Singh, shot and killed two jawans including a sub-in-spector of the force at Hyderpora on Srinagar-Airport road last night. The constable was arrested after the shootout, the sources said.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 15 January, 2001)

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

SC steps in

In a step towards resolving the ongoing farmers' protest, the Supreme Court on Tuesday stayed the implementation of the three farming laws and announced the establishment of a committee of experts to recommend if any changes were needed in the laws. The court, however, said that the suspension cannot be indefinite or for "an empty purpose". "All it needs to be seen is which part needs to be deleted from the law and which should stay. That is why a committee is needed," the Chief Justice of India S A Bobde said.

The court's decision was welcomed by farmer leaders but they made it clear that they would not call off their protest until the laws are repealed. In a statement, the All India Kisan Sangharsh Coordination Committee (AIKSCC) also said that they will not participate in any court-ordered committee process. The farmers body also expressed apprehensions over the members chosen for the committee saying these people "are known for their support to the three Acts".

As is clear, the farmers are not ready to budge. They want the three farm laws passed by the union government that deregulate crop pricing withdrawn. They argue that the laws will only hurt their livelihoods and will only benefit large corporations. The situation remains deadlocked. For over a month now the farmers have laid a siege to New Delhi, blocking its main entry points. If the protests continue, the government, it seems, will have fewer options left but to accede to farmers' demands. If this happens this will be the first time that the Modi government will be forced to withdraw any of the laws it has passed so far.

One of the biggest charge against the BJP-led union government is that it has been unilaterally passing the far-reaching laws with a bearing on the lives of the millions of people. This started with sudden demonitisation of Rs 1000 and Rs 500 notes in November 2016 that plunged the country into a virtual chaos. People thronged the banks to either exchange or deposit their old currency. Long queues of people, a significant number of them senior citizens, appeared outside the banks and ATMs to deposit their cash. Scores lost their lives in the process. Then followed the GST reform which crushed the small businesses. This was followed by the revocation of Article 370 that granted J&K its semi-autonomous status within Indian Union. The move's disruptive fallout is still playing out in J&K and Ladakh, the former parts of J&K state, now downgraded into two union territories. Following this, the centre came up with Citizenship Amendment Act that ensured that only non-Muslim refugees from the neighbouring countries are entitled to Indian citizenship. Though the CAA was also resisted by people, the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic ended the protest. Now the farmers protest is taking place despite the pandemic. And it remains to be seen how the central government responds to it. The best course for the government is to address the anxieties of the farmers and do everything to assure them that their livelihoods will not be threatened.

OTHER OPINION

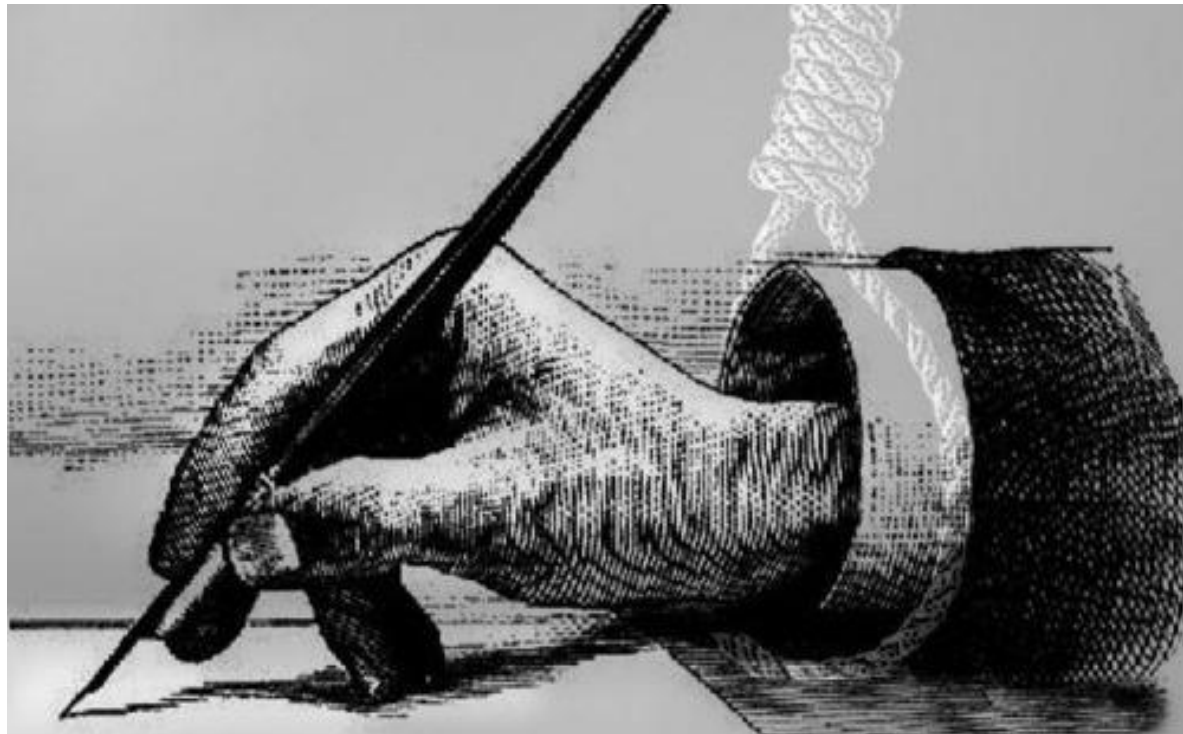
On courts and laws

The Supreme Court's interim order in the ongoing contestation between large sections of the farmers and the Centre over the new farm laws may be motivated by a laudable intention to break the deadlock in negotiations. However, it is difficult to shake off the impression that the Court is seeking to impose a compromise on the farmers' unions. One portion of the order stays the three laws, seeks to maintain the Minimum Support Price as before and prevents possible dispossession of farmers of their land under the new laws. The stated reason is that the stay would "assuage the hurt feelings of the farmers" and encourage them to go to the negotiating table. However, it is somewhat disconcerting that the stay of legislation is effected solely as an instrument to facilitate the Court's arrangement rather than on the basis of any identified legal or constitutional infirmities in the laws. The order forming a four-member committee may indeed help relieve the current tension and allay the government's fears that the Republic Day celebrations may be disrupted, but it is not clear if it would help the reaching of an amicable settlement as the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, the umbrella body spearheading the protests, has refused to appear before the panel. The Court's approach raises the question whether it should traverse beyond its adjudicative role and pass judicial orders of significant import on the basis of sanguine hope and mediational zeal.

The Court did make its position amply clear during the hearing, with the Chief Justice of India, S.A. Bobde, faulting the Centre for its failure to break the deadlock arising out of the weeks-long protest by thousands of farmers in the vicinity of Delhi, demanding nothing short of an outright repeal of the laws. It is only in the wake of the government's perceived failure that the Court has chosen to intervene, but it is unfortunate that it is not in the form of adjudicating key questions such as the constitutionality of the laws, but by handing over the role of thrashing out the issues involved to a four-member panel. It is not clear how the four members on the committee were chosen, and there is already some well-founded criticism that some of them have already voiced their support for the farm laws in question. The Court wants the panel to give its recommendations on hearing the views of all stakeholders. Here, the exercise could turn tricky. How will the Court deal with a possible recommendation that the laws be amended? It would be strange and even questionable if the Court directed Parliament to bring the laws in line with the committee's views. While a negotiated settlement is always preferable, it is equally important that judicial power is not seen as being used to dilute the import of the protest or delegitimise farmer unions that stay away from the proceedings of the panel or interfere with the powers of Parliament to legislate.

The Hindu

Straight Strokes
Of Conversations,
Courage And Memory



GOWHAR GEELANI

It appears that the people, politicians, pulpit and Kashmir's opinion makers and the civil society — all are in the Freeze mode. They do not know what to do or lack resources and means to change anything substantial on the ground. Perchance they are waiting for a miracle. But do miracles happen?

The virulent acts of criminalising opinions in Kashmir will have far-reaching consequences. When conversations do not happen something undesirable happens. It is an irrefutable fact that since August 5, 2019, censorship has been normalised in the Kashmir Valley. And conversations criminalised.

It appears that the entire Kashmir society is put on the ventilator where it is gasping for breath in the absence of proper medical aid, professional advice or due to medical negligence.

For the last two years or so, Kashmir's once vibrant civil society is on the silent mode. Also, Kashmir's social media space is circumspect. Kashmir's cafes and shop fronts (Waane Pyaend), once the places for catharsis, are either deserted or dull. Even when some are filled they sound dreary in the absence of meaningful conversations.

In the words of one professor of political science, Kashmir's "cafeteria approach" to conversations and controversies would provide vent to emotions and sentiments of all kinds. Now people who go out often look around, rolling their eyes out in all directions to make sure that no one else is listening to their possible conversations. On the mobile phone devices, people seldom speak their heart out and prefer speaking in a coded language to avoid scrutiny of any sort from the Big Brother. Many have reached to a disconcerting conclusion that expressing a view on the region's political landscape is unlawful or entails a cost.

Generally, all sorts of conversations would happen on the shop fronts in Srinagar's downtown or in the suburbs and ruburbs of the vale. In the coffee shops. And in the editorials of newspapers, too. It was a norm, but not anymore.

No conversations are happening. There are whispers and murmurs, though. Or, there are cryptic conversations.

The situation is so dire that even the unionist camp is complaining of suffocation and strangulation. One can only imagine the mood of the other ideological camp. That is one of the measuring rods to understand the severity.

Worse, the region's leadership across the ideological spectrum has abdicated responsibility. Leaders, who once upon a time would talk about the Kashmir issue and its pos-

sible impact on South Asian politics or geopolitical matters, are absent from the scene. There was a time when they claimed to control and own up the street sentiment. Now they do not even issue symbolic statements on existential matters.

In their appreciation, they have paid a cost for their expression. And in a choked atmosphere there are consequences for any form of expression. That is largely true. But what had they expected? That the path of resilience will be a bed of roses?

To a large extent, this unfortunate situation is a result of extreme fear. In extreme fear, psychologists say, there are three possibilities. First possible reaction is to succumb to fear. That is called Flight. Another possibility is to resist. That is called Fight. There is one more possibility; not knowing what to do. This one is called Freeze. It appears that the people, politicians, pulpit and Kashmir's opinion makers and the civil society — all are in the Freeze mode. They do not know what to do or lack resources and means to change anything substantial on the ground. Perchance they are waiting for a miracle. But do miracles happen?

Is this a healthy sign for any society? Is this an evolution or a near collapse? Can the institution of dialogue remain discredited forever? While the Big Brother and Ministry of Love can afford to remain busy in self-congratulatory chatter for enforcing silence in the society, it is not healthy by any stretch of the imagination.

History tells us that chronicling ordeal or documenting pain has never been easy.

Elie Wiesel in Night — a book that sheds light on the horrors of violence of Holocaust during Adolf Hitler's time — makes some important observations. Answering the basic question about why he wrote the book, Wiesel notes: "Was it to leave behind a legacy of words, of memories, to help prevent history from repeating itself?"

Wiesel's autobiographical account documents suffering, survival and hope. As a teenager he found himself captive at Auschwitz, one of the deadliest Nazi German concentration camps at the time. The survivor developed hatred for all of humanity while suffering in the camp. That was being human.

Similarly, we have bone chilling accounts on Holocaust by Primo Levi, Viktor E. Frankl, Heather Morris, Anne Frank and many more.

Why is it important to write and to document?

"Did I write it so as not to get mad or, on the contrary, to go mad in order to understand the nature of madness — the immense, terrifying madness that had erupted in history and in the conscience of mankind?" writes Wiesel in Night.

Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl, would write her diary while in hiding in Amsterdam. After being captured by the Nazi troops the family was taken to a concentration camp. Anne's father survived and remembered that his daughter had been maintaining a diary. He went back to the house where the family was hiding to find his daughter's diary. It was published as a book titled The Diary of a Young Girl which sold millions of copies and was translated in several languages.

But is it easy to write when surveillance is at peak, and thought police an undeniable reality? Can one search for meaning in times of extreme fear? Viktor E. Frankl's Man's Search For Meaning tells us that it is indeed possible to find meaning and cling on to hope in distress. In Elie Wiesel's words, his survival in the concentration camp was a matter of chance because others were not as lucky.

In writing also lies moral obligation to chronicle, to document and to tell the tale. The aim of the powerful has always been to erase memories. All dark periods in history are judged one day. The response of the people is judged. The response of the leadership is judged. The response of the pulpit will also be judged!

There are times when one wants to write but it is difficult to find words. At other times it is the lack of will that becomes an obstacle. Sometimes survival takes precedence because of fear.

Courage, the ancient Greeks held, was not a virtue in itself, but that it was a quality that made all the virtues possible. Indeed, Kashmir has shown grace under pressure. Now it must also summon courage to initiate conversations, dialogues and to write what is long overdue!

The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

Gowhar Geelani is an author-journalist and a political commentator



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

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Dilemma in Career Choices

It is winter in Kashmir, and for a student, it is a time to wake up early and rush towards coaching centers. Kashmir is one among the beautiful places on earth, but, taking its youth into cognizance, they have made this wonderful heaven a wandering one.

In Kashmir, after passing class 10th examinations, students get a welcome in different coaching centers to opt their streams. But, this time they have to be careful because whatever they will be in future is purely reflected by the subjects they opt. Students must understand and know why they're opting a particular

stream. Consistency, sticking to goals, inquisitiveness, time management and dedication is the key to success. And proper strategy, clear perspective and motivation are three basic factors they need to work upon. I see a number of students wandering in coaching centers. They go to almost every coaching center but they are still in a dilemma and confusion.

I have seen a number of students getting admission in coaching centers without consulting their parents or elders. Parents have to give freedom and independence to their children but to some limits. Parents are known as the best counsellors of a child, but if they

become abortive to give right opinions and decisions to their children, then they are responsible for their arrogance. Home is the best school for children and they should get proper nourishment here or else they will become unsuccessful in his goals.

Parents sometimes force their children to choose medical stream: a practice typical in our society. Children have the right to choose their subject of interest. Parents must encourage them and appreciate their choice and support them fully, this will lead them to achieve their goals easily because if a person has not any sort of interest in studies he can never achieve his goal

in life. When parents send their children to outside places far from home to study, they should keep in consideration that their children should not become victims of bad evils of our society like drug abuse etc that can set a blot on a student's character.

The hand of a parent is the best support that a child can hold. So, parents should look after the likes, dislikes and choices of a child and make proper decisions for them. So that they can turn the wandering heaven into a wonderful one!

Hina Jaan
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Mindful Fridays

This column is intended to democratise the discussions around mental health. Recently, we published a call out for questions related to mental health for our readers. These questions have been answered below by mental health professionals. To send us your questions, write to us at editpage.ko@gmail.com.

NADIA ISHFAQ NAHVI

Stigmatization is a very common thing in our society and culture. Stigmatization about mental illness is when one feels afraid to disclose the bothersome issues to someone they know for the fear that they may be judged, they may be called weak, or that they may be given names and deemed Pagal/Insane/Mad.

What should be done to reduce the stigmatization of mental health and asking for assistance in case someone feels the need to do so?

Stigmatization is a very common thing in our society and culture. Stigmatization about mental illness is when one feels afraid to disclose the bothersome issues to someone they know for the fear that they may be judged, they may be called weak, or that they may be given names and deemed Pagal/Insane/Mad.

Always remember that it is the sign of utmost strength and not the weakness when one asks for help. It greatly defines how willing one is to keep oneself sane and protected and maintain peace of mind. After all, keeping yourself mentally healthy is not being selfish. Think of it in this way, when a person breaks his leg; you don't call him lame you take him to a specialist. Ironically, one brags about having diabetes or taking pills for hypo/hyperthyroidism. But when it comes to our state of being- "the mental health" we suffer alone. The time when you need to be talking about it you hide it.

It is always appropriate to seek professional help (Clinical Psychologists/Psychiatrists) than asking the same from the ones you are afraid of reaching or someone who does not have the required expertise. This can cause complications which even weren't there at all. This happened during the pandemic when people sought help from those who weren't professionals. Later when the patients came up to professionals it was difficult for us to remove the biases that they have been taught earlier. A person can always reach out to a licensed clinical psychologist or a counselor working under a licensed clinical psychologist so there are little chances of getting carried away by random talking and more chances of getting a technical professions conversation.



Ben the illustrator

What are some root causes of the stigma attached to Mental health issues?

Causes can be varied depending upon the society that we are in. In our case, it is mostly lack of awareness and education regarding the same. When our elders would hear about someone going to a mental hospital they would share the news in whispers and not in a natural tone. The name tags associated with it like Oruk yoruk, Pagal, Jinn Chaaamut, charsi to name a few make it very difficult to reach out to a mental health expert.

How can we differentiate between general sadness and anxiety issues?

Sadness is per se not a saddening condition to be worried about unless it stays for a very long duration (not more than 14 days). Sadness is a state of being unhappy, which might be a causative factor of any untoward event which directly or indirectly had played a part in a person's life. You may be feeling sad because you spent most of your time thinking about the unwanted past events. Sadness may appear to be feelings like that of a heavy heart, unhappy mood but it does not make one's socio-occupational life dysfunctional. The

person can still go to the office, do house chores and perform day to day activities. Sadness when persisted for longer or not taken care of can eventually lead to dysthymia or even depressive states. Psychotherapy, mindfulness, being in a better support system and a few activity scheduling have proven to be very beneficial and helpful in coming out of the crises of sad emotions.

Anxiety on the other hand is an apprehension that something untoward will happen in the future without any proper or rational ground for the same. In anxiety, one can feel extremely worried or show an intense fear towards something which most of the times disturbs one's day to day functioning. Oftentimes, a person is found to produce better results when feeling anxious e.g. when preparing for an exam one does feel worried but that is making them study effectively. Anxiety at an optimum level will do no harm but once the boundaries are crossed, anxiety can prove to be interfering and hence can take a toll on one's peace of mind.

Is procrastination a mental health issue?

Can it become debilitating or chronic? Procrastination is a deliberate and

conscious attempt to delay a particular work in order to avoid the unnecessary stress associated with it. The pleasure in avoiding the situation reinforces the person to continue to procrastinate the things. Some people procrastinate because they have their set firm beliefs about themselves that they are not anyway capable enough so what's the point of working, or that they might not do good enough, their work might be a huge disaster (sometimes these cognitive distortions may be an indication that person is suffering from depressive disorder). These negative thoughts keep getting stronger as the more they delay, little is the effort they put to work and hence poorer results. They get worried about the end results even before the work is started. This leads to anxiety like features e.g. avoidance, worrying excessively, restlessness.

More or less depressive features like loss of motivation, decreased interest, fatigability makes a person procrastinate.

For some others, procrastination is a part of their usual way of working and mostly they do fairly well. But for those who cannot face the challenges of procrastination, it makes their work way too disturbed which ultimately leads to an adverse effect on bodily needs like sleeping and eating patterns.

So, when you feel like procrastinating: be aware that this might be harmful, be mindful about it and immediately get up and do the task;

break the task in segments and go for easier ones first.

Take small breaks and continue working.

Views expressed in the articles are the author's own responsibility. The content is not intended to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis, or treatment and is strictly for educational/informative purposes only.

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It may seem counterintuitive, but health officials say that even after getting vaccinated against Covid-19, people still need to practice the usual pandemic precautions, at least for a while.

This means they still need to steer clear of crowds, continue to wear a good mask in public, maintain six feet or more of distance from people outside their household and frequently wash their hands, reports National Public Radio (NPR).

Here is a discussion with infectious disease specialists to get a better understanding of why.

Why continue with precautions after vaccination?

In the short run, it will take some time for the vaccine's effectiveness to build up.

With the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, a study published in The New England Journal of Medicine in December found that protection does not start until 12 days after the first shot and that it reaches 52% effectiveness a few weeks later.

A week after the second vaccination, the effectiveness rate hits 95%. In its application for authorization, Moderna reported a protection rate of 51% two weeks after the first immunization and 94% two weeks after the second dose.

"That's not 100%," says Paul Offit, director of the Vaccine Education Center and a member of the Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisory board. "That means one out of every 20 people who get this vaccine could still get moderate to severe infection."

Can one spread the virus even if fully vaccinated?

Scientists studying the shots' effectiveness do not have an answer yet. And for public health experts, that lack of knowledge means one should act like the answer is yes.

Here is why – before approving the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines, the FDA asked the vaccine manufacturers only whether their products protect people from Covid-19 symptoms.

They did not ask if the vaccines stop people who have been vaccinated from nevertheless spreading the virus to others.

Also read - Experts: Covid-19 vaccine roll-out won't achieve herd immunity this year

The emergency authorizations by the FDA that have allowed distribution of the two new vaccines cite only their ability to keep the person vaccinated from becoming severely sick with Covid-19.

In the words of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: "Experts need to understand more about the protection that Covid-19 vaccines provide before deciding to change recommendations on steps everyone should take to slow the spread of the virus that causes Covid-19."

How can the virus spread after vaccination?

All the Covid-19 vaccines and vaccine candidates under consideration for use in the US rely on bits of genetic material or virus protein – not anything that could grow into an active SARS-CoV-2 virus, the virus that causes the disease Covid-19.

The concern instead with the Covid-19 vaccine is about whether one might still have an asymptom-



Vaccinate but Isolate

atic infection despite immunization – without symptoms, but able to shed virus.

Here's how that might work – a vaccinated person encounters SARS-CoV-2. He or she is much less likely to develop symptoms – that is clear.

However, their immune system may not fight off the virus completely – it might allow some viruses to survive and reproduce and get expelled from the nose or mouth in a breath, cough or sneeze.

Why didn't the FDA demand information on infectivity before authorizing the first two vaccines?

Dr Larry Corey is a virologist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle and helps lead the Covid-19 Prevention Network, a federally funded consortium of vaccine experts who have been testing vaccines.

"We wanted to get an answer quickly," said Corey, and to do so required as simple an experimental protocol as possible. "You can't hang a lot of bells and whistles on a trial," he added.

Even though the pre-authorization studies of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines were as streamlined as possible, they still required quite a lot of work. And in the midst of the pandemic, speed was of the essence.

So how to get an answer to whether vaccinated people can infect others?

Researchers are checking now on the folks vacci-

nated in the Pfizer and Moderna trials for antibodies showing that they have been infected.

It is not a perfect measure, Corey notes, because the antibody tests are not always accurate and antibodies can be transient.

Moderna officials have hinted that their vaccine prevents some shedding, but they have not been specific on how much. Some people who volunteered for the vaccine studies will be checked for evidence of the virus itself.

If someone is found to be shedding the virus, then

“If someone is found to be shedding the virus, then researchers will check to see if that virus is capable of reproducing itself and, if it is, whether there's enough to infect other people. That raises another unknown: It is not yet clear what an infectious dose would be.”

researchers will check to see if that virus is capable of reproducing itself and, if it is, whether there's enough to infect other people. That raises another unknown: It is not yet clear what an infectious dose would be.

Nailing down the answers to all these questions is a laborious process. And no one is saying yet how soon the results of these sorts of studies of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines will be available.

There are other ways to get at the answer. The Covid-19 Prevention Network has proposed an experimental study that would involve vaccinating more than 20,000 college students with Moderna's vaccine, checking them multiple times per week for virus shedding and doing contact tracing when infections occurred. The trial, which would cost several hundred million dollars, has so far been turned down by federal funders.

Maybe one of the vaccines that are in the pipeline would be a better idea?

While vaccines currently being tested are different in design from the Pfizer and Moderna products, scientists say there is no biological reason to think those vaccines will be more or less protective against shedding.

Once vaccinated, can masks be taken off in a crowded room where everyone else is vaccinated?

One might think they are home free in that case, but not yet. Remember that the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are not 100% effective, and many in the research community still advise caution.

Once most people are protected and there's less virus circulating in the air – and less circulating in the community – the advice and restrictions on this may ease up a bit.

Will the new variant from UK make a difference in terms of spreading the virus after vaccination?

The newly identified variant, B.1.1.7, has not been around long enough to say for certain that the new vaccines are effective against it, but scientists are not too worried about that – lab studies suggest the vaccines will be protective against this strain.

However, infectious disease specialists are concerned that any strain that is more contagious – which B.1.1.7 clearly is – might quickly increase the number of Covid-19 cases in the world.

So what's the bottom line?

With cases and deaths surging throughout the US, the people who are treating Covid-19 patients really want everyone to continue to wear a mask, keep distance and wash hands, even if they have been vaccinated, until the research on shedding has yielded some answers.

Dr Carlos del Rio of Emory University said: "It's not like you'll need to wear a mask for the rest of your life. You need to wear your mask until we have the data, and we're trying to get the answers as fast as we can."

LG Inaugurates Hi-tech Call Centre for Devotees in Katra

KATRA: Taking a major leap towards creating a robust response mechanism to address the queries and grievances regarding Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Ji pilgrimage, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, who is also the Chairman of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board, today inaugurated a hi-tech, round the clock Call Centre for devotees of the Holy Shrine at Spiritual Growth Centre, Katra.

Terminating the Call Centre as yet another initiative of the Shrine Board towards optimum utilization of available technologies for larger facilitation of the pilgrims, the Lt Governor said that the first such facility put in place by the Shrine Board, will be of immense help to the



devotees worldwide, as their queries and grievances in regard to the pilgrimage will be

addressed by providing them information sought for on real-time basis.

Underscoring the significance of the new facility, the Lt Governor observed that the initiative is aimed at providing much needed assistance to the pilgrims to plan their visit to this most revered Holy Shrine, keeping in view the prevailing weather conditions, yatra status, availability of helicopter services, battery operated vehicles, accommodation and other facilities at any given point of time, making their yatra experience more pleasant and memorable.

The devotees can enquire about the booking and other facilities made available by the Shrine Board and can also contact in case of any emergency or for any medical help during the Yatra, he added.

India Will Not Have R-Day Chief Guest Due To Global Coronavirus Situation: MEA

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday announced that there will be no foreign leader as the chief guest at the upcoming Republic Day celebrations due to the global situation arising out of the coronavirus pandemic.

It will be for the first time in over five decades that India will not have a chief guest at the Republic Day parade.

"Due to the global COVID-19 situation, it has been decided that this year there will not be a foreign head of state or head of government as the chief guest for our Republic Day event," MEA Spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said at a media briefing.

The decision comes days after British Prime Minister Boris Johnson cancelled his visit to India to grace the Republic Day celebrations in view of the spread of a new variant of the coronavirus in the United Kingdom.

India had invited Johnson as the Republic Day chief guest and he accepted India's invitation, calling it "a great honour".

However, on January 5, Johnson cancelled his India visit due to the pandemic.

The last time India did not have a chief guest at the Republic Day parade was in 1966 when it had taken place in the aftermath of death of then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

India did not have any foreign leader as Republic Day chief

guest in 1952, 1953 also.

Brazilian President Jair Messias Bolsonaro was the chief guest at Republic Day celebrations last year. He was the third President from Brazil to have been invited as the chief guest for Republic Day.

In 2019, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa was the chief guest at the R-Day parade, while in 2018, leaders of all 10 ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries attended the celebrations.

In 2017, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan was the chief guest at the celebrations, while then French president Francois Hollande graced the occasion in 2016.

In 2015, then US president Barack Obama watched the parade.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Srinagar Records...

in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 11.1 degrees Celsius up from the previous night's minus 11.7 degrees Celsius.

The resort was the coldest recorded place in Jammu and Kashmir.

The minimum temperature in Gulmarg tourist resort settled at minus 7 degrees Celsius up from minus 10 degrees Celsius the night earlier.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 10 degrees Celsius compared to minus 1.4 degrees Celsius a day earlier.

Kupwara, in north Kashmir recorded a low of minus 6.7 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag, in south, minus 10.3 degrees Celsius.

Vast areas of many water bodies including Dal Lake have frozen due to the bone chilling cold.

The plunge in the minimum temperature has resulted in freezing of water supply pipes. A thick layer of ice has settled over several roads in the city and elsewhere in the valley, making it difficult for motorists to drive.

Kashmir is currently under the grip of 'Chillai-Kalan' -- the 40-day harshest winter period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy snowfall.

QRTs Deployed...

many water bodies in the valley, including the world famous Dal Lake have frozen. It has been observed that some people, particularly youth and children attempt to walk on the frozen water bodies," Aamir Ali, Nodal Officer of the State Emergency Operation Centre, Srinagar said.

Ali said that moving on this thin layer of ice, particularly the Dal Lake, is very risky and can result in slips, falls, fractures and fatal injuries.

"When the thickness of ice is less than four inches, it is very unsafe to walk, or play and the ice can break resulting in drowning. There are many springs inside the Dal Lake and the ice is very thin at these spots and it's difficult to spot these locations while walking or playing on the ice surface," he said.

Ali said the district magistrate Srinagar has issued an advisory to dissuade people from walking, playing or moving on the frozen Dal Lake, as it is unsafe.

He said action will be initiated against anyone trying to violate these instructions.

"Quick Response Teams (QRTs) of the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and River Police have been deployed in the Dal Lake, as a precautionary measure," he added.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 8.4 degrees Celsius on Thursday, which is the lowest since 1991 when the mercury plunged to minus 11.4 degrees Celsius.

'It's Dangerous'...

teams have been deployed to dissuade locals from taking to such risky adventures.

"Walking on frozen Dal Lake could be dangerous. Please avoid it. (SDRF teams deployed for safety)," he said in a tweet.

Replying to him, a renowned doctor said that almost 50 per cent of drowning victims are children less than nine years old playing on the ice, reported news agency GNS.

"The majority of victims drowning while in vehicles, such as snowmobiles, are young adults less than 24 years old," the doctor added.

Last night in Srinagar was coldest after 30 years as mercury settled to minus 8.4°C in the summer capital. It follows minus 7.8°C on the night earlier as a result of which parts of the Dal Lake and other water bodies have frozen.

The freezing of the Dal Lake also refreshes memories of times when the former prime minister of erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir Bakshi Gulam Muhammad drove his jeep on the frozen lake almost six decades ago. It is said that Bakshi drove the jeep for about 20 minutes near the Hazratbal coast of the Lake, the flagship of Kashmir's tourism.

As per locals, the Dal Lake wore a festive look then as people from all corners of the Valley cherished walking over the frozen crest which some people say was very thin.

In 2018, videos emerged that some boys were playing cricket on the fringes of the water body following which the then deputy commissioner Srinagar issued an advisory, asking people, especially youth, not to resort to such dangerous adventures. The police had underscored that it was not bravery to walk over the frozen parts of the lake as it could be fatal.

Traffic On Highway...

Khan, as per the official spokesperson informed that Border Road Organization (BRO) has started the work to erect a Bailey bridge at the location to immediately restore the traffic on the national highway.

"He said that the National Highway Authority of India is already working day and night to repair the damaged bridge which will take a few days because of huge volume of work," he said.

"He directed the executing agencies to speed up the construction work at both sites to restore the road for hassle free supply of essentials to Kashmir and traffic movement for the conveniences of commuters," he added.

The DDC was accompanied by the ADC, Harbans Lal; Project Director, National Highway Authority of India (NHAI), Parshotam Kumar and Officers from BRO.

Leh Reports...

history of Germany and had tested positive for novel coronavirus under RT-PCR test after his arrival to Ladakh on December 26 last year.

"Without taking any further time samples for the variant strain were conducted given the foreign travel history and were sent to Delhi for final confirmation," he said.

The health official said that the report from Delhi was received earlier today and the individual was found positive and infected with the new UK variant of SARS-CoV-2.

He said that all the necessary precautionary measures have been taken and ensured that there is no transmission.

The Health official further said that the individual has a travel history of Germany and he had reached Paris on 24 December wherefrom he reached New Delhi on 25 and from there he left for Ladakh on 26 December last year.

As already made mandatory for all the passengers, the official said that the individual was made to undergo an RT-PCR test and on 28 December he tested positive for Novel Coronavirus and was put at an isolation facility of SNM hospital Leh.

The official said that given the travel history all the necessary precautions were out in place and as soon as the report was received today mandatory required arrangements were made.

He furthermore said that as good things about it are the individual has not been to any place or home ever since the arrival in Ladakh and has no contacts still whatever is required will be done well on time to curtail the spread.

This is the first positive infected with the new UK variant of SARS-CoV-2 in the entire Ladakh UT, he said.

Kashmir Reports...

list followed by Jammu (365), Baramulla (172), Budgam (113), Kupwara (94), Pulwama (88), Anantnag (84), Doda (64), Bandipora (61), Udhampur (57), Kulgam (53), Rajouri (55), Kathua (50), Ganderbal (46), Shopian (39), Samba (39), Poonch (24), Ramban (21), Kishtwar (22), and Reasi (15).

Meanwhile, three travellers were among 79 fresh novel coronavirus cases reported in J&K in the last 24 hours, officials said. Among the fresh cases, they said, 30 are from Jammu Division and 49 from Kashmir Valley, taking the total tally to 122964.

Giving district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 26, Baramulla 3, Budgam 4, Pulwama 4, Kupwara 1, Anantnag 3, Bandipora 1, Ganderbal 5, Kulgam 2, Jammu 23, Udhampur 4, Doda 1, Kathua 1 and Ramban one new case of coronavirus.

Moreover, officials said, 237 more patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals—125 from Jammu Division and 112 from Kashmir valley. The number of active cases has reduced to 1468 in J&K. (With GNS inputs)

WHO Shows J&K...

with the WHO. WHO Map Marks Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh With Colours 'Different' Than Rest of India, Draws Flak.

WHO had issued a colour-coded map of countries to show the latest pandemic numbers. The map has depicted Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as separate from the Indian mainland.

WHO shows India as navy blue, whereas Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh have been coloured grey as a separate region.

WHO has been criticised heavily by US and other countries for siding with China during the Covid 19 pandemic. US President Donald Trump had called WHO a "puppet of China".

For India, Pakistan...

to prescribe a solution or act as a mediator, he said.

At the end of the debate held at Westminster Hall in the House of Commons, the minister made reference to the District Development Council (DDC) democratic elections held in the region in December last year, which Labour Party MP Barry Gardiner pointed out attracted the free and fair participation of over 50 per cent of the local electorate.

And, responding to issues raised by cross-party MPs around the revocation of Article 370, which led to the creation of Jammu and Kashmir as Union Territories in August 2019, the minister welcomed the release of politicians held in protective custody and reports of broadband restrictions being lifted in the region.

We understand some of these restrictions may have been relaxed, with broadband/internet partially restored along with some access to social media. This is welcome news, but more should be done, he said.

The debate, organised by backbench members of Parliament led by Labour's Sarah Owen, included the participation of cross-party British MPs, many of whom have a large Kashmiri diaspora constituency base.

The people of Kashmir deserve the opportunity to thrive and succeed, so more broadly we welcome the commitment that the Indian government has made to the economic and social development" of Kashmir, said Adams.

Indian has categorically told the international community that the scrapping of Article 370 was its internal matter. It also advised Pakistan to accept the reality and stop all anti-India propaganda.

The Indian High Commission in London sought to highlight that since last year, a smart wi-fi project has enabled high-speed internet access in the region and that despite threats of militant attacks, challenging weather conditions and the Covid-19 pandemic, landmark DDC elections were concluded in December 2020.

J&K has not only normalised since August 2019 but is actually progressing on a positive trajectory of optimism and development in all sectors, a High Commission fact-sheet notes.

'False Assertions' on...

Indian High Commission in London pointed out as problematic in itself.

"Regarding the reference to 'Kashmir' in the title: the need is felt to differentiate between the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, which is an integral part of India, and Pakistan controlled Kashmir (when the erstwhile princely state of Kashmir legally acceded to India in October 1947, this part was forcibly and illegally occupied by Pakistan)," the High Commission said in a statement.

"It was also noted that references to the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, despite the volumes of authentic information available in the public domain -- based on up to date and visible facts on the ground -- ignored current ground reality and, instead chose to reflect false assertions of the kind promoted by a third country, such as unsubstantiated allegations of 'genocide', 'rampant violence' and 'torture'," it noted.

Responding to the debate on behalf of the UK government, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) minister Nigel Adams had reiterated the official stance that it is not for Britain to play any mediatory role in a bilateral India-Pakistan matter, even as he accepted there were human rights concerns on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC).

"The government's policy [on Kashmir] remains stable, it's unchanged. We continue to believe that this is for India and Pakistan to find a lasting political resolution to the situation that takes into account the wishes of the Kashmiri people... as laid out in the Simla Agreement," said Adams, in his capacity as Minister for Asia.

"It's not appropriate for the UK government to prescribe a solution or act as a mediator in this regard but it would be wrong to not acknowledge there are serious human rights concerns in both India-administered and Pakistan-administered Kashmir. This has been confirmed by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in his reports," he said.

The minister also made a reference to the District Development Council (DDC) democratic elections held in the region in December last year, which Labour Party MP Barry Gardiner pointed out attracted the free and fair participation of over 50 per cent of the local electorate.

"The people of Kashmir deserve the opportunity to thrive and succeed, so more broadly we welcome the commitment that the Indian

government has made to the economic and social development of India-administered Kashmir and we continue to seek further details of their plans," added Adams.

The debate, organised by Labour's Sarah Owen, included the participation of cross-party British MPs, many of whom have a large Kashmiri diaspora constituency base.

They raised concerns of alleged human rights violations and called on the UK government to seek access to the region for direct reports from Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK) to be presented in the UK Parliament in future.

The Indian High Commission in London sought to highlight that since last year, a smart wi-fi project has enabled high-speed internet access in the region and that despite threats of militant attacks, challenging weather conditions and the Covid-19 pandemic, landmark DDC elections were concluded in December 2020.

"Since the administrative reorganisation of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2019, it is well on the path of good governance and accelerated development. All administrative measures taken by the Government of India in Jammu and Kashmir are entirely an internal matter of India," the Indian High Commission statement said.

"Regarding the reference to peace and stability of our region, it is reiterated that India stands ready to engage with Pakistan on all outstanding issues -- including on Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the Shimla Agreement (1972) and the Lahore Declaration (1999) in an atmosphere free from militancy, hostility and violence," it noted.

The statement asserted that while it was not the policy of India to take "undue interest" in the internal discussions within a foreign Parliament, the High Commission of India continues to engage with all concerned -- including the UK government and parliamentarians -- to avoid "misperceptions and misinformation" by making authentic information about India available to all.

'Befitting Reply'...

"eliminating militants on the Pakistan soil".

J&K Extends...

The administration has already issued an advisory to poultry owners and dealers for the prevention of the spread of the disease.

The advisory, issued by the Animal/Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department to stakeholders, directed the poultry farmers to improve bio-security measures in the farms and not allow any artificial ponds, small water bodies inside and around the farm premises which may attract wild birds and is a risk to the poultry.

Keep the farm premises and shed surroundings vegetation-free. Regularly clean the areas. Keep feed supplies and water for poultry protected as they attract wild birds and rodents, it said. (GNS)

Finance Department...

The order reads that the employees of these transferred Corporations, posted in the UT of Ladakh or otherwise shall be given the option to work in the UT of Ladakh and based on such option their services will be placed at the disposal of the UT or any entity designated by it. These companies shall continue their operations for both UT's till and if transferred to a designated entity in UT of Ladakh, the order reads.

The UT of Ladakh will have one representative on the Board of Directors of J&K Grameen Bank and the exercise for seeking options and transferring staff of the (Grameen) Bank to the UT of Ladakh or to its designated entity shall be completed by next Board meeting, it says.

With regard to the Jammu and Kashmir State Financial Corporation (JKFSFC), the arrangements to be made for appointment between UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, as per the Order include; setting up of a joint Finance corporation for UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh, which is to be renamed as 'The Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh Finance Corporation' under the provisions of section 3A of SFC ACT, 1951.

"20% of the Equity and 20% of the Loan extended by the erstwhile Government of J&K to the J&K State Finance Corporation is hereby apportioned in favour of UT of Ladakh," the order says.

"This joint Corporation i.e Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh Finance Corporation will have one Director from Ladakh in its Board of Directors", as per the order.

With regard to arrangements for Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited, the order says that "Arrangements for Jammu and Kashmir Bank Limited is hereby also made as per the

provisions of the SO 339 dated 30.10.2020 issued by the General Administration Department in furtherance of recommendations of Advisory Committee on Assets and Liabilities of erstwhile state of J&K as with reference to 31.10.2019."

J&K Bank Ltd., as per the Order, shall continue its operations as a going concern in both the UTs.

"The UT of J&K shall continue to have majority shareholding in the bank with 51% of the shareholding in the J&K Bank Ltd. (approximately 13.89% as on 31.10.2019 of the existing shareholding of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir) is hereby transferred to the UT of Ladakh," the Order says.

One post of Director on the Board of the J&K Bank, as per the Order, is earmarked for the UT of Ladakh.

"A reasonable proportion of employees of the J&K Bank Ltd. shall be recruited from the UT of Ladakh, details of which shall be worked out by the Bank."

On the Immovable and Movable Assets Inside Erstwhile State, the Order says that such assets located inside the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir is hereby also made as per the provisions of the said SO 339.

"All immovable assets belonging to the erstwhile Government of J&K, excluding those belonging to Corporations/Boards/ other Entities, except where expenditure provided for, stand apportioned to the UTs of J&K and Ladakh respectively on an 'as is where is' basis", the Order reads.

"All moveable assets belonging to the erstwhile Government of J&K, excluding those belonging to Corporations/Boards/ other entities, which are location specific such as office equipment, laboratory equipment, office supplies, records, etc. except where it is explicitly provided for, stand assigned on an 'as is where is' basis based on their locations in the UTs of J&K and Ladakh."

In the matter of apportionment of Movable Assets, it is as per to the Order notionally to be followed that, "All unpaid Liabilities/Bills shall be discharged, after due process/ scrutiny, by the respective UT where the works/projects were excited or expenditure incurred."

Investments in capital works/projects indicated in the statement of Financial assets under 'capital expenditure', amounting to RS. 1956 crores stand transferred to the UT of Ladakh, the order maintains.

"Funds and pension liabilities stand apportioned as required following the actual allocation of employees between the UT's of J&K and Ladakh."

"Financial liabilities of Rs. 2504.46 crores stand transferred to the UT of Ladakh @2% of the total liabilities."

The book value of capital assets of the erstwhile state of J&K, as per the Order, are hereby transferred on a notional basis to the UT of Ladakh on the principle of 'as is where is' basis. (GNS)

Pak Says Soldier...

ceasefire violation," according to the statement.

CRPF Officer...

officer is stated to be critical.

Muhammed Saleem Bhat, a resident of Batote Jammu, who was driving the truck, has been detained while a formal case was registered by police in this regard. (KNT)

Police 'Detains'...

he was arrested during unrest in the aftermath of the killing of Hizb commander Burhan Wani in 2016.

Soon after his arrest, he was subsequently booked under Public Safety Act for organising anti-government rallies.

The cleric had earned the sobriquets like "pied piper of Kashmir" during 2016 agitation for his peculiar method of sloganeering that attracted large crowds. (GNS)

2 Held In SMHS...

of investigation, a special team was constituted and deputed to SMHS hospital Srinagar who nabbed one suspect identified as Sameer Ahmad Katto resident of Noorbagh Bagwanpora Srinagar. During his personal search five (05) mobile phones were recovered," police said.

"When the officers spoke to him, they learnt about his involvement along with an accomplice identified as Sharif Ahmad Sheikh resident of Barthana Qamarwari Srinagar in the commission of crime. Subsequently, he was also arrested. Both the accused persons were involved in stealing the mobile phones and other belongings of people in distress at hospital," police said, adding that further investigation into the matter is going on while more arrests and recoveries are expected.

China Reports First Covid Death In 8 Months As WHO Huddles On New Strains



Agencies

WUHAN, CHINA: China recorded its first Covid-19 death in eight months on Thursday, as experts huddled to discuss worrying new strains of the coronavirus that are spreading rapidly around the globe. The gathering in Geneva of the World Health Organization's emergency committee comes as their colleagues landed in Wuhan for a long-delayed mission to find the origins of the virus. More than 91 million people have been infected, with almost two million of them dying, according to figures widely thought to be an underestimate.

Much of the planet is enveloped in a second or third wave of the disease, with populations chafing under painful and economically damaging restrictions.

China -- where the virus first emerged -- has again locked down millions of people as it fights to control a fresh outbreak that has now claimed its first victim, spark-

ing anguish on social media.

The hashtag "New virus death in Hebei" quickly ratcheted up 100 million views on the Twitter-like Weibo platform.

"I haven't seen the words 'virus-death' in so long, it's a bit shocking! I hope the epidemic can pass soon," one user wrote.

The death comes as a politically sensitive investigation into the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic finally got under way with the arrival of a 10-strong team in Wuhan, where the virus emerged in late 2019.

Mission leader Peter Ben Embarek said the group would start with a two-week quarantine at a hotel before the probe begins in earnest.

But, he warned, it "could be a very long journey before we get a full understanding of what happened".

Beijing has argued Wuhan might not be where the virus originated, only where it was first identified.

"I don't think we will have clear answers after this initial mission, but we will be on the way," Embarek added.

What's Next Now That Trump Is Impeached Again

Agencies

WASHINGTON: The US House of Representatives impeached President Donald Trump on Wednesday for a second time -- just days before he is scheduled to leave office -- raising questions about what happens next.

The House voted 232-197 to impeach the president, with 10 members of Trump's Republican Party joining 222 Democrats.

Here are some of the possible scenarios after the House impeached Trump for inciting last week's attack by his supporters on the US Capitol as Congress certified Democrat Joe Biden's presidential election victory:

Senate trial
Now that Trump has been impeached, it is up to Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi to submit the article of impeachment to the Senate at a time of her choosing.

The Senate would then hold a trial. That's what happened last year after Trump was impeached in 2019 by the Democratic-controlled House for pressuring the leader of Ukraine to dig up political dirt on Biden.

Trump was acquitted by the Republican-majority Senate in February 2020. This time, however, Trump has only a week left in the White House and Biden is to be sworn in as the 46th president of the United States on January 20. The Senate is currently in recess and is not scheduled to return until January 19.

Democratic Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell could call the Senate back early and hold an emergency session -- but McConnell ruled that out.

Even if the Senate did move "promptly," there is no way it could conduct a trial before Biden is inaugurated and Trump leaves office, McConnell said in a statement.

"Given the rules, procedures, and Senate precedents that govern presidential impeachment trials, there is simply no chance that a fair or serious trial could conclude before President-elect Biden is sworn in next week," he said.

McConnell noted that the three previous presidential impeachment trials had lasted 83 days, 37 days, and 21 days.

Schumer, in a statement welcoming Trump's impeachment by the House, said that regardless of



when it starts "make no mistake, there will be an impeachment trial in the United States Senate."

"Donald Trump has deservedly become the first president in American history to bear the stain of impeachment twice over," Schumer said. "The Senate is required to act and will proceed with his trial and hold a vote on his conviction."

Post-presidency trial?
While three US presidents have been impeached, none has ever been tried by the Senate after leaving office.

All three previous presidential impeachments -- those of Trump and presidents Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton -- occurred while the leaders were still in the White House.

Like Trump, both Johnson -- in 1868 -- and Clinton -- in 1998-99 -- were impeached by the House but acquitted by the Senate. Some constitutional scholars argue that an ex-president cannot be tried by the Senate.

Doval Meets Ghani In Unannounced Kabul Visit

Agencies

NEW DELHI: India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval on Wednesday held talks with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani and top Afghan peace negotiator Abdullah Abdullah in Kabul covering a range of key issues, including ways to synchronise efforts to combat terrorism and bring peace to Afghanistan.

Doval also met his Afghan counterpart Hamdullah Mohib and discussed issues of mutual interest, according to Tahir Qadiry, the charge d'affaires in Afghan embassy in New Delhi. 'HE President @ashrafghani met Indian NSA HE Ajit Doval who is on a 2-day visit to #Kabul, at the Presidential Palace today. The sides discussed cooperation in countering terrorism and strengthening a regional consensus on the Afghan peace process,' Qadiry tweeted.

After the meeting Doval, Abdullah, the chairman of the powerful High Council for National Reconciliation, said views were exchanged on the Afghan peace process and India's role in establishing peace in Afghanistan. The influential Afghan leader had visited India in October last year during which he extensively discussed the Afghan peace process with the Indian leadership.

"We exchanged views on the Peace Process, the beginning of 2nd round of talks, & the role of India in establishing peace in AFG. I thanked India for its principled position on supporting the peace process," Abdullah tweeted.



About Doval's meeting with Afghan NSA Mohib, Qadiry said the two sides held extensive conversations on 'issues of strategic mutual interest, including on synchronising efforts to combat terrorism and build peace'. He said Doval is on a two-day visit to Kabul. India has been a major stakeholder in the peace and stability of Afghanistan. It has already invested \$2 billion in aid and reconstruction activities in the country.

In November, India announced a new package of over 100 high impact community projects worth \$80 million for Afghanistan at a global conference in Afghanistan.

India has been keenly following the evolving political situation after the US signed a peace deal with the Taliban in February.

The deal provided for the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan, effectively drawing curtains to Washington's 18-year war with Taliban in the country.

Trump Isolating In White House, In 'Self-Pity' Mode

WASHINGTON [US]: As President Donald Trump created history by becoming the only US president to be impeached twice, a source on Wednesday (local time) said the outgoing President is now in self-pity mode.

"He's in self-pity mode," the source told CNN.

CNN reported that the view among many close to Trump is "his actions led to here, no one else," adding, "he instigated a mob to charge on the Capitol building to stop de-certification (of the Electoral College votes that certified President-elect Joe Biden as the winner of the election), he's not going to find a lot of sympathetic Republicans."

Trump allies in and out of the White House "publicly defended him" and sent out talking points throughout the



impeachment proceeding during the last impeachment effort (in 2020). However, Trump was left to fend for himself at the White House, releasing a statement first given to Fox News denouncing further violence, followed by a five-minute video.

examining are indications that some participants at the Trump rally at the Ellipse, outside the White House, left the event early, perhaps to retrieve items to be used in the assault on the Capitol.

On January 6, a group of Trump supporters stormed the US Capitol to protest legislators confirming electoral slates from battleground US states they thought were invalid.

Trump had made a speech among thousands of supporters earlier that day reiterated his claim a massive voter fraud had robbed his election victory and encouraged supporters to maintain support to "stop the steal."

Five people died in the riot, including one police officer as well as one Air Force veteran and Trump supporter who was shot dead by police. (ANI)

'At 6 Pm, Life Stops': Europe Uses Curfews To Fight Virus

PARIS: As the wan winter sun sets over France's Champagne region, the count-down clock kicks in.

Labourers stop pruning the vines as the light fades at about 4:30 pm, leaving them 90 minutes to come in from the cold, change out of their work clothes, hop in their cars and zoom home before a 6 pm coronavirus curfew.

Forget about any after-work socialising with friends, after-school clubs for children or doing any evening shopping beyond quick trips for essentials. Police on patrol demand valid reasons from people seen out and about. For those without them, the threat of mounting fines for curfew-breakers is increasingly



making life outside of the week-ends all work and no play.

"At 6 pm, life stops," says Champagne producer Alexandre Prat.

Trying to fend off the need for a third nationwide lockdown that would further dent Europe's second-largest econ-

omy and put more jobs in danger, France is instead opting for creeping curfews. Big chunks of eastern France, including most of its regions that border Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, face 6 pm to 6 am restrictions on movement.

The rest of France could quickly follow suit, losing two extra hours of liberty that have been just enough for residents to maintain bare-bones social lives.

Until a couple of weeks ago, the nightly curfew didn't kick in until 8 p.m. in Prat's region, the Marne. Customers still stopped to buy bottles of his family's bubbly wines on their way home, he said. But when the cut-off time was

advanced to 6 pm to slow viral infections, the drinkers disappeared.

"Now we have no one," Prat said. The village where retiree Jerome Brunault lives alone in the Burgundy wine region is also in one of the 6 pm curfew zones. The 67-year-old says his solitude weighs more heavily without the opportunity for early evening drinks, nibbles and chats with friends, the so-called "apero" get-togethers so beloved by the French that were but still feasible when curfew started two hours later.

"With the 6 pm curfew, we cannot go to see friends for a drink anymore," Brunault said.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-IST, BEMINA, SRINAGAR, 190018

Tele/Fax: 0194-2491345, email: XENSTD1@gmail.com
NOTICE INVITING TENDER
e-NIT No: STD-I/ReT/03 of 2020-21 Dated: 12.01.2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of Jammu and Kashmir, Executive Engineer Sub Transmission Division-Ist Bemina, Srinagar invites online e-bids for Annual Stage contract for "Repairs and Maintenance of 33/11 kV Receiving Stations falling under the jurisdiction of Sub Transmission Division-I, Bemina, Srinagar for year 2020-21 or till next Stage Contract.

S.No	Description of Work	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Cost of Document	Last Date of Submission
1.	Annual Stage contract for "Repairs and Maintenance of 33/11kV Receiving Stations falling under the jurisdiction of Sub Transmission Division-I, Bemina, Srinagar for year 2020-21 or till next Stage Contract.	10,000	500.00	02.02.2021 03:00PM

The complete tender document is available at website <http://jktenders.gov.in>. Interested bidder/tenderers may view, download the e-Bid document, seek clarification and submit their e-Bid online up to the date and time mentioned in the table below. Bidding Documents contain Qualifying Criteria for Bidders, Specifications, Bill of Quantities, Terms and Conditions of Contract and other details.

i)	Date and Time of downloading/Sale (Start) of Tender Document	12.01.2021; 14:00 Hrs
ii)	Date & Time of Download/Sale (End) of Tender Document	02.02.2021; 11:00 Hrs
iii)	Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End)	12.01.2021; 14:00Hrs to 02.02.2021; 15:00 Hrs
iv)	Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time	04.02.2021 at 15:00 Hrs
v)	Financial Bid Opening	Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders.
vi)	Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening	Soft Copy Electronically in the office of Executive Engineer STD-Ist Bemina Srinagar, J&K.
vii)	Cost of e-Bid document	Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred only).
viii)	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit	Rs.10,000.00 (Rupees One thousand only).

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Sub Transmission Division-Ist
Bemina Srinagar.

DIPK-NB-5108/20

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
JAL SHAKTI (PHE) DEPARTMENT, DIVISION PULWAMA

email : xenpheapulwama@gmail.com
Notice Inviting e-Tender
E-NIT S. No. 99/PHEP of 2020-21

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of J&K e-tenders Fresh (Two cover System) on Item Rate Basis including the maintenance cost for a period of Three Years which includes 12 months of DLP are invited from Reputed and resourceful contractors/ Firms/Companies/Joint Venture of repute in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD/ Railways and other state Governments for the following works, which should be uploaded on the Procurement web portal <http://jktenders.gov.in> for the subjected work(s) referred below to be received by the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Division Pulwama and as per the details mentioned in this e-tender notification and to whom all the terms and conditions of detailed e-NIT /Tender Documents/ PWD Form No:- 25 double are accepted.

The cost of tender documents (Non-refundable/Non-Transferable) should be in the shape of e-Challan or Treasury Challan/Receipt in favour Executive Engineer Jal Shakti (PHE) Department, Division Pulwama..

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	EMD (in)	Cost of TD (in)	Time of completion	Class of Contract
	Retrofitting of Water Supply Scheme Syed Mohalla Sontbugh by way of providing and fixing of pipes for WSS Syed Mohalla Sontbugh which includes maintenance for a period of three years which includes DLP of 12 months. (JJM).	8.60	17200	300	30 days	C & D

Position of Funds: -Available;
Major Head of Account: Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
The Bidding documents consisting of eligibility criteria, specification, drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms & conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the e-procurement Portal "<http://jktenders.gov.in>" as per schedule of dates given below: -

S. No.	Description	Date	Time
		MM	
1	Publishing date of NIT	14	01 2021 1400 Hrs
2	Download start date	14	01 2021 1400 Hrs
3	Bid submission start date	14	01 2021 1400 Hrs
4	Bid submission end date	27	01 2021 1600 Hrs.
	Bid opening date (Technical Cover)	28	01 2021 1000 Hrs.

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of Jammu & Kashmir

DIPK-11697/20

No: -PHEP/5614-26
Dated:- 14-01-2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
(JSD) PHE Div, Pulwama,

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR
Ganderbal. Website www.cukashmir.ac.in

EXTENSION NOTICE

In view of bad weather and consequent disruption in transport / electricity, internet services etc., the last date for e - tender submission in response to NIT No. Est.-05 of 2020, dated 24-12- 2020 is extended till 15th January, 2021 (04:00P.M). The other Terms and Conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged.

By Order, **Sd/- Campus Development Officer**
(Estates & Stores)

संख्या - : CUKmr/Est/ Cafeteria /F.No.313/14(III)/1250
दिनांक- : 08th January, 2021

'Title Challengers' Real Kashmir FC Take On Chennai City In I-League Fixture Today

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Former champions Chennai City FC would look to build on their winning start when they take on Real Kashmir FC in their second I-League match here on Friday.

Chennai City had rallied to beat Gokulam Kerala 2-1 in their campaign opener, but coach Satyasagara believes the clash against Real Kashmir will be a different ball game.

"Real Kashmir are title challengers this season and they are a very strong side. We are expecting a strong battle, but we will try to grab the early goal and take the lead," Satyasagara said.

"Against Gokulam, we played very decent football and the win has given us a lot of confidence. Credit goes to my players for showing fighting spirit and I am confident they can once again grab a win against Real Kashmir FC."

Though Real Kashmir played out a 1-1 draw against TRAU, their attacking prowess was very well on display. The snow leopard dominated possession and



REAL KASHMIR ARE TITLE CHALLENGERS THIS SEASON and they are a very strong side. We are expecting a strong battle, but we will try to grab the early goal and take the lead."

created chances at will.

Head coach David Robertson said, "We had enough chances to win the match. After the early goal, we struggled, but

we could have won in the second half."

"Against Chennai, it won't be an easy outing. We know they are physically a very

good side and we cannot afford to be complacent. We will have to be focused and start the match better than the last time around."

In another match at Kalyani, NEROCA FC will kick-start their I-League campaign against city rivals TRAU FC in the much-anticipated Imphal Derby.

NEROCA would aim to start the season on a winning note, head coach Gift Raikhan said.

"We have to work hard and play for the win. It is a very big and important match for us against TRAU as it is a local derby. However, TRAU are a very good team and they will present us with challenges," said Raikhan.

"Our strength is the youth. They are strong and are ready to go. However, they will take some time to settle in the Hero I-League and we aim to build match by match. The talent that we have is very good and we look forward to tomorrow."

Asked about TRAU's Tajik import Komron Tursunov, who scored the fastest goal of the I-League in just nine seconds, Raikhan said, "We have a plan to deal with him. We will nullify him in front of goal."

Real Kashmir Vs Chennai City will KO at 2 PM IST.

SYED MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY 2021

Mujtaba's Fine Bowling, Samad's Berserker Innings Give J&K Emphatic Win Over UP



GNS

SRINAGAR: After a splendid bowling performance in the first innings, the Jammu and Kashmir batters teared into Uttar Pradesh bowling unit to register an emphatic win, second consecutive in the tournament, at KSCA Cricket Ground, Alur.

Asked to bat first after losing the toss, Uttar Pradesh was left reeling by two quick blows by young left-arm medium pacer Mujtaba Yousaf.

Yousaf, who had remained the most economical bowler for his team against Tripura as well, picked up 3 important wickets for just 14 runs in his four overs besides also bowling a maiden.

In his first over, Yousaf first picked Karan Sharma for 1, followed by prized scalp of Suresh Raina, for a naught, in the same over, as the aggregate score of the team read 6-2.

Madhav Kaushik alongside Skipper Priyam Garh stitched a partnership to tread along however it was Abid Mushtaq who removed the former to put a brake on UP's scoring rate. Abdul Samad, who only bowled one over, provided his team with another important breakthrough in the form of Priyam Garh.

The middle order batsmen went on cautiously before a

disciplined bowling line up, with Shubham Chaudhary contributing with 28 and Arun Juyal scoring an unbeaten 22 respectively to settle at 124/5 in allotted twenty hours.

Up against a fairly good bowling line-up led by Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Ankit Rajpoot, the Jammu and Kashmir opening pair - Qamran Iqbal and last match highest scorer Suryansh Raina - played cautiously before an onslaught by recent IPL sensation Abdul Samad.

Promoted up the order, Samad went after the opponent's bowling by hammering them all across the ground to score his maiden fifty of the season so far.

Samad who scored unbeaten 54 of just 35 deliveries with four sixes and two fours, was ably supported by his teammate Shubham Khajuria who scored an unbeaten 34 of merely 25 deliveries (4x3, 6x1) to take their team through towards the end of fifteenth over itself, with eight wickets in hand.

This emphatic win, after running over Tripura in the previous match, is surely going to brighten up the prospects for Parvez Rasool led Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Team to qualify for next round of the tournament.

Bess Takes 5 As England Restrict Sri Lanka For 135 In 1st Test



Agencies

GALLE: England off-spinner Dom Bess took a career-best 5-30 as injury-hit Sri Lanka was bowled out for 135 inside the first two sessions of the first Test.

Stand-in captain Dinesh Chandimal, who won the toss and opted to bat Thursday, top-scored with 28 after regular skipper Dimuth Karunaratne was ruled out with a fractured thumb.

Stuart Broad (3-20) picked up two early wickets in one over before Bess found some unexpected assistance from the Galle International Stadium wicket to dismiss the home team just before tea.

Bess, playing in Asia for the first time, took his first wicket with his second delivery when Kusal Perera went for an ambitious reverse sweep and gloved a simple catch to skipper Joe Root at first slip.

Lahiru Thirimanne (4), replacing Karunaratne as an opener, was outsmarted by some intelligent field placing by Root early on.

Broad, bowling around the wicket, had the left-hander Thirimanne caught at leg slip in his fourth over. One ball later, Kusal Mendis fell for his fourth successive score of zero in test matches as he got a faint edge off Broad's brilliant leg-cutter.

Senior pros -- Chandimal and Angelo Mathews -- shared a

56-run fourth-wicket stand before both departed in successive overs after lunch.

Mathews scored 27 and reached a milestone when he became only the fifth Sri Lankan batsman to pass 6,000 test runs, joining Kumar Sangakkara (12,400), Mahela Jayawardene (11,814), Sanath Jayasuriya (6,973), Aravinda de Silva (6,361). But the former skipper was outdone by Broad after the break when he went for a loose shot and Root took a sharp, chest high catch at slip.

In the next over, Chandimal, who completed 4,000 runs in test matches, offered a tame catch in the covers off Jack Leach before Bess ran through the tail quickly.

Sri Lanka packed its playing XI with three spinners -- Wanindu Hasaranga, Dilruwan Perera and Lasith Embuldeniya -- with Asitha Fernando as the sole specialist fast bowler.

England gave a Test cap to Essex's 23-year-old batsman Dan Lawrence, who dropped an easy catch of Chandimal in the covers just before lunch. The visitors opted to rest James Anderson and picked Sam Curran and Mark Wood to partner Broad upfront with the new ball.

England players wore black armbands in memory of former England Test cricketers -- John Edrich, Robin Jackman and Dom Smith -- who passed away recently.

'Monitoring Bumrah, Only Deserving Players Will Make It To Starting Eleven,' Says Coach Rathour

Press Trust of India

BRISBANE: India's batting coach Vikram Rathour said that Jasprit Bumrah's abdominal strain is being monitored but dropped a hint that major changes are on the cards for the final Test against Australia after increase in the touring squad's injured tally.

Even a half fit Bumrah is unlikely to be risked by the Indian team management as it wants its pace spearhead in the World Test Championship deciding series against England, scheduled at home from February 5.

"Injuries are still being monitored. Our medical staff is working with the players. I wouldn't be in a position to comment how it stands at the moment."

"We would like to give them as much time as they can and only tomorrow morning you will know, which XI is going to play," Rathour said on the eve of the series decider.

Star spinner R Ashwin and opener Mayank Agarwal are also not fully fit.

Interestingly, Rathour's another comment on playing XI was pretty telling where he put up a brave front, stating that all who would take the field deserve to play for India.

"With or without injuries, the eleven that India will put up will be the best eleven on the ground and all of them deserve to be there. All of them deserve the opportunity



to play Test cricket and if they play to their potential, I don't see why won't do well.

"So we are again backing our processes and backing our players," the former opener said hinting that both Washington Sundar and Shardul Thakur are in fray.

As far as providing specifics on Bumrah, it seemed that the collective strategy of the team management is to not let the Australians feel that one of its biggest threats is already out of contention.

"The medical team is looking at him and so again we will wait till tomorrow morning to know whether he is fit to play or not," Rathour ducked another query.

The next one was whether India can afford to field a

half-fit bowler, the answer that Rathour gave seemed that he will play only if he is fit.

"Depending on advice from medical team we will take this call. If he can play, he will play, if he can't, he won't," Rathour dodged that bullet too.

Ditto for the question on whether both Rishabh Pant and Wriddhiman Saha will get to play.

"Still lot of injury concerns are there. They are still being monitored, and how they react to rehab process that they are going through, all these questions we can only answer tomorrow morning once we know who are XI which are going to play this game," he said.

AUS Vs IND 4th Test: Lively Track At Gabba Awaits Depleted India As Australia Seek To Regain Border-Gavaskar Trophy

Press Trust of India

BRISBANE: After denting the ego of mighty Australians with their bruised and battered bodies in a Sydney epic, Ajinkya Rahane's wounded India will take no prisoners in a 'winners take all' fourth Test, starting Friday on the liveliest of tracks in the series.

Australia need a win to regain Border-Gavaskar Trophy but a draw will be enough for India to retain it for another couple of years.

There are times when the human body responds differently to the adrenaline rush and the likes of Ravichandran Ashwin, Rishabh Pant and Hanuma Vihari have given their million fans a reason to believe in their gumption that was on display in Sydney.

Jasprit Bumrah played with an abdominal strain and didn't want to come out despite the experience was painful and Ravindra Jadeja with a broken thumb was ready to do what Malcolm Marshall did with a fractured wrist three decades back.

They battled against everybody -- the racist ones in the galleries, the abusive one behind the stumps and those lethal

ones with the shiny red nut that broke a few bones but could not dent the steely resolve of the Indians.

The new India that Virat Kohli so raved about, is now ready to battle a whole new set of adversities at a venue where Australia hasn't lost a Test since 1988.

There won't be a Jadeja and Bumrah and on one of the most difficult tracks, it couldn't have gotten more worse for India. And insult to injury is Mayank Agarwal being hit on the forearm in the nets and Ashwin battling back spasms.

"We will take a call tomorrow. The medical team is working with all the injured players. If Bumrah is fit, he plays, if he is not fit, he doesn't play," batting coach Vikram Rathour said at the pre-match conference.

For Tim Paine, the series-decider couldn't have been played at the better venue than the bouncy Woolloongabba or Gabba for fans around the world.

"From a distance it looks like it always does," you could gauge the confidence in Paine's voice even as he gave the news of young Will Pucovski's shoulder injury ruling him out of playing eleven.

"We love playing here, and one of the main reasons is because that wicket.



This is a good place to come and play, because I don't have to go and look at it, I know what is going to be like," he said and it was like warning to Indian team that looks more like a second string A team save three senior batsmen.

But Ajinkya Rahane will still smile, Cheteshwar Pujara will be uncomplaining and trust Rohit Sharma to still go for the

pull shot if Pat Cummins digs one short.

There will be no Vihari in Sydney but he has set a different benchmark for the 'walking wounded' and expect Rishabh Pant to play another blinder in the only way he can.

The combination has all gone for a toss and Rahane would only understand that discretion is the better part of valour.

'Life Inside COVID Bio-Bubble A Challenge For Everyone,' Says Aussie Captain After Complaints By India

Press Trust of India

BRISBANE: Australian skipper Tim Paine admitted that life inside a bio-bubble could be challenging for the Indian team in an alien land without family but his own players, including Steve Smith, have also endured similar difficulties since the Indian Premier League in the UAE.

The Indian and Australian teams are once again in a hard quarantine after new cases of UK mutant strain were found in the Queensland capital. The organisers have provided only basic facilities to the players.

However, Indian batting coach Vikram Rathour said that one doesn't need "housekeeping services" to keep the motivation going before an important Test match.

Paine's teammate Mitchell Starc's wife and Southern Stars international Alyssa Healy had mocked the Indian team for the alleged complaints about Brisbane quarantine.

"I haven't seen those comments and frankly speaking never read any

comments from the Indian players. It's been challenging for everyone and more so for them, to be in a different country and more away from their families," Paine said.

"I know the difficulties they must be going through and I know Steve Smith and Pat Cummins are in the same shoes as them. It is difficult but haven't heard anything directly from Indian players," the home team captain said.

For Rathour, the problems in the hotel didn't for once affect their focus on the Test match ahead.

"We are playing Australia in Australia against one of the best attacks in the world. So I think motivation is there. You don't need housekeeping or room service to motivate yourself," the former Punjab captain said.

"Of course, these were concerns which were passed on to BCCI, I think the BCCI is in touch with CA to deal with all these things. As far as team is concerned, we are focussed on the game and we are looking forward towards this game."

attack and Warner is not known to fail in too many innings.

It's a very difficult task at hand and whatever the result, this Indian team under Rahane has covered itself in glory with bare minimum resources.

TEAMS



Australia

Tim Paine (captain), David Warner, Marcus Harris, Marnus Labuschagne, Steve Smith, Matthew Wade, Cameron Green, Pat Cummins, Mitchell Starc, Nathan Lyon and Josh Hazlewood.



India

Ajinkya Rahane (captain), Rohit Sharma (vc), Shubman Gill, Cheteshwar Pujara, Mayank Agarwal, Prithvi Shaw, Wriddhiman Saha (wk), Rishabh Pant (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Navdeep Saini, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Jasprit Bumrah, T Natarajan, Washington Sundar.