



Maximum : 2.0° Today 06:01 PM SUNRISE Minmum : -7.2° Tommrow 07:29 AM Humidity : 91%

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P4 WORLD

CHINA ARE KEY AREAS OF FOCUS US President Joe Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, says dealing with China, Afghanistan and Iran are key early priorities for the new...

BIDEN ADVISER: IRAN, AFGHANISTAN,

REVEALING REMINISCENCE BAITHAK(S) OF HERITAGE KASHMIRI HOUSES

In #Kashmir Diwan Khana usually refers to a large room/ hall located on any of the floors (mostly ground/ top) used.



P11 SPORTS **VIRAT KOHLI AT 4, CHETESHWAR PUJARA RISES TO 6 IN LATEST ICC TEST RANKINGS** Virat Kohli remained the highest-placed Indian batsman at fourth position even as Cheteshwar...



^{Contact:} -0194-2502327

YOUR COPY OF

FOR SUBSCRIPTIONS &

C Quote

We never know the worth of water till the well is dry." — Thomas Fuller

NEWS DIGEST

Electric Shock Injures PDD Daily Wager

SRINAGAR: A daily wager of the Power Development Department (PDD) on Saturday was injured due to electrocution in Kulgam district of south Kashmir. Manzoor Ahmad Dar of Damhal Hanjipora received an electric shock when he came in contact with a live wire in Nandmarg locality while repairing a transform, resulting in injuries to him, news agency KNO reported. Quoting officials,

More On P10

OGW Arrested In Pampore: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Saturday claimed to have arrested a militant associate of Lashkar-e-Taiba from Pampore town of Pulwama district. Junaid Altaf of Konibal locality of Pampore was arrested by a joint team of police, army's 50 RR and CRPF 110 battalion and incriminating material of LeT was recovered from his possession, a police spokesperson said Saturday. He said all the recovered
More On P10

Banned Wildlife Items Seized, Man Held

SRINAGAR: A joint team of wildlife department officials, police and CRPF personnel recovered a large guantity of contraband wildlife products during a raid in south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Saturday and arrested the accused. On a specific information provided by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, New Delhi (WLCCB), a team of Police, personnel of CRPF 40 Battalion and wildlife officials of
More On P10

Centre Okays Use Of J&K Forest Land For **Non-Forestry Purposes**

P7

THINK

Agencies

SRINAGAR: For the first time after abrogation of Article 370, the Government of India has given its clearance for use of forest land for non-forestry purposes in Jammu & Kashmir for construction of a multipurpose project of geo-strategic and national importance.

Central government has given approval for nonforest use of 680.1 hectares of forest land for construction of Ujh multipurpose hydro-electric project in district Kathua of Jammu &



Kashmir, a local news agensaid that this was the first cy KNO reported Saturday project submitted to Centre's while quoting official docu-Forest Advisory Committee ments. The report further after
More On P10

THE REHABILITATION & RESETTLEMENT PLAN shall ensure that no rehabilitation is proposed over forest land. A copy of the approved R&R plan shall be submitted by the user agency to the UT administration who will monitor to ensure that no project affected person occupies forest land."

"As regards to the jobs, out

of 6,000 posts, 3,841 can-

didates have already been

selected and appointed in

various departments. The re-

maining 2,000-odd posts have

been referred to J&K Service

Selection Board (JKSSB)," a re-

lief and rehabilitation depart-

ment spokesperson said.



Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: lammu and Kashmir reported on Saturday three more coronavirus deaths while 76 new of virus cases were detected across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. The victims officials

said, were a 95-year-old man from
More On P10

Doda Becomes Corona Free

Press Trust Of India

BHADERWAH: Jammu and Kashmir's Doda has become the first coronavirus-free district in the Union Territory after the last three active cases turned negative and subsequently discharged from hospital, officials said on Saturday.

Chilleh Kalan Ends, Chill Persists



A woman carries a bucket of water on her head as water lines in Srinagar and elsewhere froze due to severe cold conditions on Saturday. KO Picture, Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Kashmir Valley

continued to reel under intense cold conditions even as the winter's harshest

Chilleh Kalan-ended with Srinagar recording the season's coldest day at minus 2 degree Celsius on Saturday. Srinagar city
More On P10

phase—the 40-dav long



Highway To Remain Closed On Thursdays J-Srinagar, the only surface link connect ng Kashmir Valley with the outside world, all remain closed for next four
More On P10

30,000 KP's Apply For 2,000 Posts Under PM's Package

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Over 30,000 Kashmiri Pandits have applied for the 2.000 re-allocated government jobs under the prime minister's employment package and the selection process would be completed by the end of April, officials said on Saturday.

"The JKSSB has already re-The prime minister's packceived more than 30,000 apage for Kashmiri Pandit miplications for these posts and grants announced in 2008 the selection process shall be completed by the end of April has two maior components

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two local militants of Hizbul Mujahideen, one among them injured, laid down their arms during a gunfight with government forces in Lelhar area of Pulwama district, police said Saturday.

Acting on a specific input about the presence of militants, police, army's 50 RR and the personnel of CRPF 183 battalion

launched a cordon and search

operation in Lelhar area of the

south Kashmir district around

8:00 pm Friday, a police spokes-

person here said. The holed up

militants, he said, fired upon

Injured Militant, Associate Surrenders During Pulwama Encounter: Police

Will Welcome Those With Open Arms Who Shun Violence: IGP



Cross-Border Firing Rattles Kathua

Observer Monitoring Desk

JAMMU: After exchanging fire along the Line of Control (LoC) for two consecutive days, the Indian and Pakistani troops on Saturday traded heavy gunfire along the International Border in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Saturday.

The Pakistani army has violated the ceasefire again by resorting to unprovoked firing along the IB in Kathua district, they said.

The firing from across the borler started around 10.10 pm on Friday in the Bobiyaan border outpost area of Hiranagar sector, prompting an effective retaliation by the Border Security Force (BSF), the officials said. They said the cross-border firing between the
More On P10



Missing Man Found Dead In Kupwara

SRINAGAR: The body of a missing man was recovered on Saturday in Cherkoot area of north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

33-year-old Javaid Ahmad Mir's body was recovered in the forest area of Cherkoot on Saturday, a fortnight after he went missing from his home in Izgund village of Khumriyal on January 15, news agency GNS reported. Four days after his disappearance, the report said, a missing report
More On P10

ITBP Gets New Commander In Ladakh

NEW DELHI: The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), which guards the Line of Actual Control with China. has posted a new officer to head its frontier in Ladakh, official sources said on Saturday. Lhari Dorjee Lhatoo, a 1999-batch officer of the Manipur cadre, will be replacing ITBP Inspector General

(IG) Deepam Seth, who was commanding the force troops deployed along the LAC with China in Ladakh. Seth, a 1995-batch
More On P10

- one pertaining to the provision of 6,000 jobs for youth and another pertaining to the provision of 6,000 accommodation units for the recruited employees.

This will ensure completion of the PM package component related to jobs," the official said. He said there are a few posts which have remained unfilled due to
More On P10

JKP Among Best Forces: LG

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Saturday that Jammu and Kashmir police was among the best police organisations in the country and being accorded with one of the highest numbers of gallantry medals in the last few years, itself speaks about the courage and bravery of the JKP personnel.

Sinha made these remarks while attending Special Security Force's (SSF) 'Bada Khana' held here at Raj Bhavan on Saturday, an official spokesperson said. The LG, he said, lauded the SSF personnel for performing their duties with a high order of
More On P10

CBI Arrests ESIC Deputy Director With Rs 50K Bribe

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday arrested Deputy Director of the ESIC posted in Jammu for allegedly demand-

ing and accepting a bribe of Rs 50,000. Darbara Singh, incharge Regional ESIC Director. Jammu was arrested by CBI on the ba-

sis of a complaint filed by an employee of a private firm that provides security services to different private institutions, a spokesperson said. "The complainant came

to know in the month of December 2020 that a notice has been issued to the firm by ESIC, Regional Office," he said. On knowing this, the spokesperson said, the complainant and the owner, both visited the office

of ESIC to meet Dy. Director and during the meeting Singh allegedly told them that their papers were not proper and ESIC would impose a penalty

of Rs.23, 90,850/-(approx) on them and if they would pay him a bribe of Rs.2 lakh, he can reduce the penalty amount.

"After negotiation,
 More On P10



the search team when their presence got ascertained. "The search party retaliated

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Gull Hassan Wani, fa-

ther of senior journalist and Editor-

in-Chief 'Kashmir Life', Masood

Hussian passed away Saturday

Wani was not keeping well

for some time and was ad-

mitted to SKIMS Soura on

Wednesday, late evening,

morning at SKIMS, Soura.

to the fire leading to an encounter. However, the joint forces showed utmost

More On P10

A resident of Gehend vil-

lage in Shopian district in

south Kashmir, he was laid to

rest at his ancestral graveyard.

wife, five sons and a daughter.

condoled the demise of Gull

Hassan Wani, father of Masood

Hussain, Editor Kashmir Life

In a condolence message

KEG expressed grief over Mr

Wani's demise. A highly re-

vered person, Gull Hassan

ashmir Editors Guild (KEG) condoles

the sad demise of mother of senior

Wani \star More On P10

and KEG Secretary General.

Late Wani is survived by

Kashmir Editors Guild (KEG)

Kashmir Life Editor Bereaved **Govt Orders Minor Reshuffle In Admin KEG Expresses Solidarity With Masood Hussain**

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Saturday ordered minor reshuffle in the administration by shifting half a dozen officers with immediate effect.

As per an order issued here in this regard, Rajesh Sharma, Secretary, I&K Public Service Commission. has been transferred and posted as Custodian General, J&K, replacing Suriya Jabeen, who has been transferred and posted as Additional Secretary to Government, Tribal Affairs Department, an official spokesperson said.

He said Raj Kumar Katoch, Director, Tourism, Jammu, has been transferred and • More On P10

As his condition deteriorated, he was put on ventilator support, where he breathed his last at around 5 am.

Family sources said.

KEG Condoles Journalist Nazir Masoodi. In a condo-Demise of Masoodi's Mother lence message KEG expressed
More On P10



Kashmir Through Pages: Five Upcoming Books To Watch Out For

Yash Daiv

he abrogation of Article 370 that revoked Kashmir's semiautonomous status was a thunderclap in a storm that has been brewing in the region for decades.

While it brokered many emotions - confusion and anger being the prominent ones - it also generated many stories that have now found their expression in books

The coming quarter of 2021 has in-teresting books in the offing, ones that reflect the current mood and others that invoke the memories of past.

Then, there are commentaries on

the geography and old battles that have now found place in the limelight. This thoughtful, organic travel-

ogue is born in the dark that came over Kashmir after August 5, 2019. Author Suhas Munshi, who has spent a decade reporting politics, conflict and culture across India, was visiting Habba Khatoon's relic in Gurez when Article 370 was abrogated.

The narrative of his book was extracted from the gloom that foreshadowed Kashmir. It tries to give a sense of what that moment has meant to the common Kashmiri.

Apart from these stories, this insightful travelogue breaks away from the clichéd view of Kashmir – one that sees it "either as an earthly paradise or a living hell".

It takes you to unexpected places, into the homes of poets, playwrights and street performers; to the minuscule Christian community in Baramulla and much more.

Farah Bashir, a former photojournalist with Reuters, is set to make a scintillating debut with Rumours of Spring.

In the book, she documents her adolescent years in Kashmir during the 90s – the epoch marked by the siege.

She writes about understanding militarisation of domestic spaces and forming new etiquette with the boundaries that turned Kashmir into a sore oyster.

The book has already been hailed by stalwarts from many domains for it is the kind of on-ground, honest narratives that world needs.

In Forgotten Kashmir, Dinkar Indian Srivastava—who joined Foreign Service in 1978 and is current Indian Ambassador to Iransets a chronology of events that led to stretching of barbed wires, diving one people and the subsequent evolution of Pakistan-administered Kashmir over seven decades.

It includes major milestones like the 'tribal' war in 1947-48, • More On P10



O To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm) No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir





Scientists Develop New Tool That May Help Decontaminate Viruses In Aerosols

Press Trust Of India

cientists have engineered a new tool which exposes aerosolised virus particles to microwaves in a controlled manner, an advance that may lead to the development of novel methods to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, studies have found that the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 spreads via aerosols that can be generated and spread through breathing, coughing, sneezing, or talking by infected individuals.

While previous studies have explored the use of electromagnetic energy to deactivate viruses in bulk fluids, the researchers, including those from the Air Force Research Laboratory in the US, said less work has been done to understand the role of microwaves in inactivating viral pathogens in aerosols

In the current research, published in the journal Physics of Fluids, the scientists developed experimental tools capable of presenting electromagnetic waves to an aerosol mixture contain-

ing viruses. They said the apparatus offers the ability to vary power, energy, and fre-quency of the electromagnetic exposure.

With further research, the scientists hope to better characterise the threshold levels of microwave energy needed to inactivate aerosolised viral particles and reduce their ability to spread infection.

They believe the new experimental design can provide the means to identify a wide variety of virus inactivation mechanisms.

According to the researchers, the systems are designed to prevent the release of microwaves into the work environment since at high levels the radiation could potentially interfere

Ams

with diagnostic equipment and other electronics.

They plan to expose coronavirus surrogate-bovine coronavirus-to microwaves at frequencies ranging from 2.8 gigahertz to 7.5 gigahertz (GHz).

In comparison, commercial microwave ovens operate at around 2.45 GHz.

Explaining, the need for the surrogate virus, Brad Hoff, a co-author of the study from the Air Force Research Laboratory, said the bovine coronavirus is "similar in size and configuration to human coronavirus, but is safe to humans.

"If shown to be effective, the use of microwaves may enable the potential for rapid decontamination not currently addressed by ultraviolet light or chemical cleaning for highly cluttered areas, while potentially operating at levels safely compatible with human occupancy," Hoff added.

Union Territory Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION SUMBAL**

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FRESH NIT50/ET/R&B/SUMBAL of 01/2021.

(Single Cover System)

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

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost	Cost of T/Doc.	Time of	M.H of	Class of
		(Rs. In Lacs)	(In Rupees)	completion	Account	Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Development of berm at Bon-Mohalla Canal road and		300/-	20- Days	Cities and	CEE/DEE
	Shakur-Ud-Din Mohalla by way of P/L of Khak Bajree.				Towns	
	Under Scheme: - Inner links at Hajin.	5.04				
2.	Restoration of road surface by way of Providing and		200/-	20- Days	3054-M&R	DEE
	laying of WBM G-I and G-II at Gundjahangir.					
		2 30				

Position of AAA: Accorded

Position of funds Available

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	30.01.2021 from 2.00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	30.01.2021 from 3.00 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	05.02.2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	06.02.2021 at 11.00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division
		Sumbal

3. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender inviting authority) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority)

4. All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)

- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- 6. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.iktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Sumbal (tender receiving authority).
 - The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- **8.** 8.1. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
 - Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www. o acquaint bid submission process.
- 8.2 To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
 - The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
 - Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option

No. R&B/Sbl/21/2298-2307 Dated: -30-01-2021.

Sd./ **Executive Engineer** (R&B) Division Sumbal /R.MIR/

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly written in my Passport bearing No: B 295144 as Imtiyaz Untoo while my correct name is Imtiyaz Habib which needs immediate correction . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file /her objection in the office Passport Office Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Imtiyaz Habib S/o Habibullah

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in school records as 01-06-2008 while my correct DOB Is 01-06-2010 which needs immediate correction . If anybody having any objection in this e/she may file /her objection in the Office Shah F gardh Memorial Welkin Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall he entertained Immad Mustifa Lone Mustifa Rashid Lone R/o Zalora Sopore Ams

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER** JAL SHAKTI DIVISION (PHE)BIJBEHARA

E-NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

(e-mail: phebijbehara230@gmail.com Telephone/Fax:01932-234230) NITNo: e-NITNo 31/PHED/Bijbehara/ of 2020-21 Dated29-01-2021

For & on behalf of the lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders in Two cover system are invitedon item rate basisfrom Registered Contractors registered J&K UT, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

Name of work Advt. Cost of Time for Class of Head of No tender Doc Compl Contrac-Account Cost tor Rs Lacs Days

PUBLIC NOTICE

My name has been wrongly spelled in school records of my Daughter as Mohd Ashraf Parray while the correct spelling is Mohammad Ashraf Parray which needs immediate correction . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file /her objection in the Office Gulzar Memorial Education Trust Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Ashraf Parray F/o Hafsah Ashraf **R/o Nowpora Kalan Sopore** Ams



8.5.

8.3 8.4 .4.

5.

DIPK-12337/20

The Jammu And Kashmir State **Board Of School Education**,

BRANCH OFFICE SOPORE

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original Migration certificate of 12th under Below mentioned particulars

Name Shakir Hussain Fathers Name Fida Hussain Ahanger Mothers Name Khatija Begum Roll No 3180233 Session /Year annual



Migr No; 18AKTR/15702 Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Migratioin Certificate . Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Ams

regular 2018

Sd/ Assistant Secretary

Branch Office Sopore

1



	1	Providing design Constt and successful testing & commissioning of 0.92 lac gallons capacity OHT incl. soil testing and trial run for six		1200	180	AAY	JKIDFC
l		months (DLP 09 months) WSS ReshiMohallahKhandipehri					
	2			600	180	AAY	MNP Distt. Sector
	3	Providing design, Construction and succesful testing and commis- sioning of 0.15 MGD RSFP comprising of Clarifloculator, flash mixer, filter house, seperate back wash tank of required capacity alongwith all electrical/mechnical components incld trial run trial run for six months (DLP 09 months) at sakhras and providing fixing of 80 mm dia D.1 to connect 65mm dia pipe of village Babgund WSS Amirpor- aNambal (NABARD)		600	180	AAY	NABARD
		Crate works for WSS Regional shangus	39.41	400	15	AAY/BEE	NRDWP
	5	Providing design, Constt. and succesful testing and commissioning of 0.15 MGD RSFP comprising of Clarifloculator, flash mixer, filter house, seperate back wash tank of required capacity alongwith all electrical/ mechanical components incld trial run and trial run for six months (DLP 09 months) WSS semthan under NABARD	114.00	1000	180	AAY	NRDWP
ĺ	6		118.69	1100	90	AAY	NRDWP

The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, Bill of Quantities (BOQ), terms & condition of contract can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in as per the dates shownbelow:

S.	De-	Date			Time
No.		DD	MM	YYYY	
1	Publishing date of NIT	29	1	2021	10.00 AM
2	Download start date	29	1	2021	10.00 AM
3	Bid submission start date	29	1	2021	10.00 AM
4	Bid submission end date	09	2	2021	02.00PM
5	Pre-bid meeting date	08	2	2021	11.00AM
б	Bid opening date (Technical Cover)	10	2	2021	11.00 AM
7	Bid opening date (Financial Cover)	12	2	2021	11.00 AM
	Only for those who qualify 1st cover				
8	Place for opening of bids and address for communica- Office Of The Executive Engineer PHE Division E		PHE Division Bijbehara (phebijbe-		
	tion	hara230@gmail.com)			

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

In case of bid of the lowest bidder is found unbalanced, he has to produce additional performance securityin the shape of CDR/FDR/BG before fixation of contract as per following break up within four days from the opening oftenders.

No	Percentage of unbalanced bid viz advertised cost on account of low rates	Additionalperformance security
	Upto and including 15% below	Nil
	Greater than 15% below	3%

The tenderer should in his own interest inspect and examine the site, its surroundings/topography, nature of ground, climatic conditions, accessibility or other relevant information at his own expenses and responsibility to satisfy himself before tendering for the advertised work. The bidder will have to execute each part of the work i.e. Civil / Electro-Mechanical part under the close supervision of the respective Engineer- in- Charges of Civil & Mechanical wings In-charge of theScheme.

If LI fails to start the work within 15 days of the issuance of letter of intent or allotment, whichever is earlier, the department shall allot the work to the other willing Lowest bidder like L2, L3, L4 debarring the Contractor for a period of two years for participating in the e-Nit's issued by the kmr. PHE Department Srinagar.

Executive Engineer, (JSD) PHE Div, Bijbehara,

Maruti 800 bearing registration No. JK01N-8791 chasis No: 2797138 Engine No: 4226485 Model 2010 in favour of Masarat Sarwer W/o Ghulam Mohi-ud-din R/o Jamia Masjid Srinagar

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

NOJK-RTOK 5977 Sd/-Regional Transport Office, Kashmir Dated: 28/01/2021

Office Of The Regional **Transport Officer Kashmir**

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from M/S Moder Hospital Prop: Muzaffar Jan R/o Rajbagh Srinagar (Transferor) of Altoo 800 bearing registration No. JK01W-9197 chasis No: 566459 Engine No: 535051 Model 2014

in favour of Ghulam Mohammad Wani S/o Ab Ahad Wani R/o Wagoora Chinarbagh Pahroo Budgam

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

NOIK-RTOK 5993 Sd/-Regional Transport Office, Kashmir Dated: 29/01/2021

AS

PUBLIC NOTICE

My DOB has been wrongly written in school records as 01-01-2011 while my correct DOB Is 15-01-2012 which needs immediate correction . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file /her objection in the Office Shah i Hamdan Memorial Institute Shopian within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Zuhan Sarfaraz S/o Sarfaraz Ahmad Mir R/o Shahdab Karewa Shopian

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DIPK-12315/20

News



'Shopkeepers Shifting To Other Places Following Decline In Business'

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The century-old Zaina Kadal heritage market in downtown Srinagar is shutting down literally as more and more, once popular businesses, are either shifting to other areas or are closing down.

The shopkeepers in the market said that majority businessmen have shifted to other places following the decline in business here.

"The increase in number of markets across the Valley is one of the major causes of the decline in the business in this market," said Muhammad Yaseen, a coppersmith at Zaina Kadal market.

Sitting idle at his old shop, locat- glected by all the successive goved near Budshah Tomb, Yaseen said ernments to date," Yaseen said. he has been doing business in this market from the last 48 years.



market has changed vastly.

"The only positive change that has taken place all these years wise the market has been ne-

About the decline in business, Yaseen said that after the virtual

However, he said over the decentralisation of commercial cenyears the business profile of the tres in the capital city, people prefer to visit the markets closer to them. "Many of the malls have also

come up, which is the first prefwas the road widening, other- erence for the people at present," he said. According to Yaseen, the

keep the market's charm alive. the shop almost 140 years ago. Meraj-ud-din, a shoe seller in ernment failed to give attention of Kiryana items a century ago, to the market, the shopkeepers they said. here preferred to open up their business units at other places.

"The people have no need decades. to visit this market any more as besides old shops, there is nothing. There was a time with people from all over Kashmir. There was a bus stand and a post office here too," he said.

'Government should open up offices in the old market and Meraj-ud-din said. Abdul Aziz Bazaz and his

modernization has affected the brother, sitting at their shop in that government has taken to business of the old market and Zaina Kadal, said that their an- revive the old market over the at the same time, the govern- cestors used to sell Pashmina years," Bazaz brothers said

ment didn't pay attention to and other similar material at "Due to some issues, we the market, said that as the gov- started the wholesale business

The duo said the time has changed in the last couple of

"I remember the time when customers used to stay at our house for a night due to rush at when this market was bustling the shop. But, today only a few customers visit throughout the day," they said. "The market has lost its charm completely."

They said the government six months back started a process shift the bus stand back, to re- of upgrading the market and vive the market," 70-year-old came up with similar boards for the shopkeepers.

"This is the only visible step

Para-Medical Students Stage Protest Against GMC

'Say, Selected On Merit, Denied Admissions

SRINAGAR: Para-medical students Saturday accused Government Medical College authorities of ruining their career for petty gains.

The aspirants of various paramedical courses of AMT School Srinagar staged a protest in Press Enclave Srinagar castigating GMC Srinagar for cancelling their admission on what they described as flimsy grounds. They said despite being selected on merit basis they were denied the admission.

"Ironically, the notice issued by GMC Srinagar with regard to cancellation of admissions dates back to 19 January 2020 authorities why they played with our caand today it was uploaded on its official website," the protesting students alleged.

They said due to this 'arrogance' of GMC students have lost a precious year of their career.

ary last year and the tentative selection list came out after eight months in October. It had been clearly written in the tentative selection list that was issued, that the admission process will be started within 15 days posh Ganju Under Secretary to the Govof the publishing of the list. Since October ernment & Medical Education Depart-



reers," questioned a student.

The students accused Principal GMC Srinagar of misbehavior and arrogance saying this woman doesn't listen to anyone and always misbehave with those who "We had submitted our forms in Febru- appear before her with any grievance.

'If GMC says admissions are done by BOPEE then why they wasted our time, issued forms and selection list," they said. Meanwhile, the order issued by Pam-

2020, we were waiting for the admission ment reads that BOPEE has been notified but yesterday a shocker came from the au- as the Designated Authority for making thorities when they uploaded a notice in- admissions in a centralized manner to forming us our admissions have been can- the Nursing, Pharmacy and various Paramedical Courses in the Government run At least 420 students were waiting Institutions as well as the Private Instituwith a hope to get admission but for the tions and also the Universities in J&K. As such it is not possible to make an exception by allowing AMT School, Srinagar The protesting students sought the in- to take the batch of the session 2019-20 tervention of Lieutenant Governor. "Mr at this stage as this will be in violation

SMC Seals Commercial Structure At Palpora



SRINAGAR: Srinagar Municipal Corporation with the help of its enforcement wing sealed a commercial structure at Palpora on Saturday.

The commercial structure had come up in violation of Municipal rules therefore a team led by the Chief Enforcement officer went to the site and sealed the said structure.

The sealed structure has been put under the superdari of the concerned station house officer and Ward Officer.

Meanwhile continuing with its demolition one at Malbagh and another at Ali Jan road.

The Enforcement Wing also stopped work of all those structures at a very initial stage which had deviations in sanctioned building permissions during the drive.

The practice of acting on a number of illegal constructions including public complaints made against violators in the city will continue.

It is time and again being monitored by the authority whether building permissions are regularly being checked at construction drive, SMC also demolished illegal structures sites and the structures are coming up as per the permission.



1948 - Magnetic tape recorder developed by Wireway 1950 - US President Harry Truman publicly announces support for the development of a hydrogen bomb

12:44

ASR

4:22

MAGRIB

6:03

ISHA

7:26

- 1957 Trans-Iranian oil pipe line finished
- 1958 James van Allen discovers radiation belt 1958 - US launches their 1st artificial satellite, Explorer 1
- 1961 USAF launches Samos spy satellite to replace U-2 flights
- 1966 USSR launches Luna 9 towards Moon 1971 - Apollo 14 launched, 1st landing in lunar highlands
- 1972 Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev becomes 11th
- King of Nepal 1972 - Military coup ousts civilian government of Ghana
- 1972 US launches HEOS A-2 for interplanetary observations (396/244,998).
- 1982 Gustafson skates world record 10 km
- (14:26.59) 1985 - South African President P. W. Botha offers
- to free Nelson Mandela if he denounces violence
- 1987 United Steel workers union ratified a concessionary with USX Corp
- 1988 Barge sinks near Anacortes, WA, spills
- 70,000 gallons of oil 1990 - 1st McDonalds in the Soviet Union opens
- in Moscow 1990 - 1st ever all-sports daily "National" begins
- publishing 1990 - Jushin "Thunder" Liger beats Naoki Sano to
- become New Japan IWGP champ 1991 - Denver Nuggets Michael Adams becomes
- shortest NBAer to get a triple-double
- 1991 Robert Gibson flies record 27,040 feet altitude 1991 - "Close-Up", Iranian film dii



celled," said a student Fayaz Ahmed.

reason better known to the Principal GMC, the admissions were cancelled.

LG, could you please intervene and ask standing statutory orders.

▲ IRONICALLY, THE NOTICE ISSUED BY GMC SRINAGAR

with regard to cancellation of admissions dates back to 19 January 2020 and today it was uploaded on its official website," the protesting students alleged.

Mysterious Fire Damages IG CRPF's Car On Gupkar Road

SRINAGAR: A bulletproof Ambassador car of Inspector General of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) was partially damaged in a mysterious fire incident at Gupkar road in Srinagar on Saturday afternoon.

Sources said that a vehicle bearing registration number AP23AA4862 parked at Gupkar road near Hotel Lalit mysteriously caught fire resulting in partial damage to the vehicle. They said no loss of life or injury was reported in the incident, adding that the fire broke out due to accelerator damage.

However, timely action of CRPF, Station House Officer (SHO) Nishat and fire tenders managed to douse the fire.

KASHMIR OBSERVER IS AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING **NEWS AGENCIES**

حاجی سید حسین شاہ ہدائی ولد سید علی شاہ ہد

ر عناداری حال نابدی پوره بوره جد یبل سرینگر

کا سانچہ ارتحال

آغاسيد حسن الموسوى الصفوى كا اظهار ربخ وغم، لواحقين و

بسماندگان سے تعزیت

سید حسن الموسوی الصفوی نے حاجی سید حسین شاہ جمدانی ولد سید

علی شاہ ہمدانی کے سانحہ ارتحال پر گہرے رہنج و غم کا اظہار کرتے

ہوءے مرحوم کے جملہ لوا تحقین و پسماند گان ے تعزیت و تسلیت

مدر المجمن نثرعى شيعيان جمول وتشمير تتججت الاسلام والم

کی۔ آغا سید حسن الموسوی الصفوی نے مرحوم کی بخ اور جنت نشینی کی دعا کی۔

RIGHT RIVER CIRCULAR ROAD DIVISION, SRINAGAR ABBREVIATED TENDER NOTICE e-TENDER NOTICE FOR ZONE-WISE SNOW CLEARANCE

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B)

(Single Cover System)

NIT No: -71/RRCR/5759-66,

DATED: -28-01-2021

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

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (Rs. In Lacs)	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor	Major Head of Account
1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9
1.	Restoration of fresh winter dam- ages / P.H.E Cuts / sunken portion around NBCC cuts along KZP road by way of 2nd class sand filling / GSB and P/L of WBM G-II.	2.16 lacs	0.0432	20 days	04-02-2021	AAY & DEE	3054-M&R

Position of AAA/TS Accorded

Position of funds Available

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-01-2021
	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 28-01-2021, 4.00 P.M to 02-02-2021 4.00 P.M
2. 3. 4. 5.	Bid submission Start Date	28-01-2021 from 5.00 P.M
4.	Bid Submission End Date	03-02-2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	04-02-2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Right Riv.Cir.Rd.Div.Sgr.
		Sd/-
		Executive Engineer
	DIPK-12361/20	Right Riv.Cir.Rd. Div.Sgr

- Kiarostami, starring Hossain Sabzian and Mohsen Makhmalbaf, is released
- 1995 President Bill Clinton authorizes a \$20 billion loan to Mexico to stabilize its economy.
- 1996 50 people die and many more injured in a
- suicide bombing in Sri Lanka by separatist Tamil Tigers 1998 - Australian Open Women's Tennis: Switzerland's
- Martina Hingis retains her title; beats Conchita Martinez of Spain 6-3, 6-3 for 5th Grand Slam title

From KO Archives

4 MILITANTS, SOLDIER AMONG 7 KILLED

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - Seven people, including four militants and an army jaw an, were killed and three others wounded in militancy-related incidents in Kashmir valley since last night, official sources said today. Militants today shot dead two persons at village Binner Baramulla district and Wuranhal in Anantnag district.

Two militants were killed in an encounter with security forces in Machipora Tillage in Kupwara district last night.

The encounter took place in the village yesterday when militants opened fire on an army patrol killing a jawan, they said, adding the operation in the area was still going on for the second day today. A civilian who was seriously injured in shootout was shifted to hospital. In an encounter, two foreign militants, Hafiz Abu Sanan Nayeem and Abu Usman, associated with Lashkar-e-Taiba, were killed and two securitymen injured at Wangipora in Baramulla district yesterday. Some arms and ammunition were recovered from the slain militants, they said.

Militants opened fire on a security camp at Watergam in Baramulla last night The security forces fired back but there was no casualty reported from the either side, they said

BSF troops detected a powerful explosive device hidden in a 14inch television set al Dooru in Anantnag district last night, they said. BSF arrested a militant and recovered an AK-56 rifle, eight magazines, 137 rounds and some ammunition at Noor Bagh area of Sopore in Baramulla Yesterday, they said.

Meanwhile, four army personnel were wounded when militants lobbed a grenade at their vehicle at the busy Jehangir Chowk here today, security sources said. The army, however, exercised restraint and did not fire in retaliation to avoid civilian casualties; they said adding the explosion caused panic in the area. In another incident, the sources said Captain N.Roy of Rajput Rifles was seriously injured in a militant ambush at Rangertop in frontier district of Kupwara today. Security forces conducted a cordon and search operation at Wagub near Sopore and Mangnipora in Bandipore area of Baramulla district today, reports from Sopore said. No arrests were reported.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 31 January, 2001)

FOR THE WINTER SEASON 2020-21

World

Scare In Tunisia Over **Poisonous Letter To President**



Agencies

office of Tunisian he President Kais Saied said Thursday that he had been the victim of an "attempted poisoning" via a letter addressed to him and opened by an aide who fell ill.

The announcement confirmed reports circulating for more than a day that someone had tried to poison the president.

The statement said a letter received Monday from an "un- been made not to publish the known sender" addressed to Saied went to the desk of his top aide, Nadia Akacha.

no written document, but her the poison letter and was in good health guickly deteriorated," the statement said. "She suddenly felt weak, nearly lost her elected to the presidency in 2019.

vision and got a migraine headache." Another official in the room felt a bit ill, it added.

The aide was placed in Tunisia's military hospital and the letter sent for analysis by a special service of the Interior Ministry, the statement said.

The spokesman for the Tunis prosecutor's office, Mohsen Dali, said a special brigade was investigating the case.

The statement from the president's office said a decision had information the day of the incident "to avoid spreading panic" p aide, Nadia Akacha. among the population. It said "On opening it, she found that Saied I "was not effected" by health. Saied, a former law professor and political outsider, was

Outrage After Mahatma Gandhi's Statue Broken, **Ripped From Base In California**

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON: A group of unknown people have vandalised, broken and ripped from the base a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in a park in the US state of California, shocking and outraging Indian-Americans across the country, who have demanded that the officials investigate it as an incident of hate crime.

The 6-ft tall, 650-pound (294 kg) bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi, in the Central Park of the City of Davis in northern California, appeared to have been sawed off at the ankles and half its face was severed and missing, local news firm

Davis Enterprise reported. The vandalised statue of Mahatma Gandhi was found by a park employee in the early hours of the morning of January 27, the police said.

The statue is being removed and will be stored in a safe place until it can be evaluated, said Davis City councilman Lucas Frerichs. Investigators are still unsure of when exactly the statue was torn down or what the motive may have been, another local news firm Sacramento Bee reported.



Indian-Americans have expressed deep anguish and shock at the incident.

"An atmosphere of hatred was being created by many anti-India and hinduphobic radical organisations like OFMI and other Khalistani separatists for many years now," said Guarang Desai of Friends of India Society International (FISI).

"They have not only run hate campaigns against Indian icons but have been at the forefront of attempts to push hinduphobia and erase India from California school textbooks," Mr Desai said. In 2016, the OFMI was part of a campaign to remove the mentions of 'India' from the sixth and seventh grade California school textbooks and replace them with 'South Asia'. After massive protests from parents and students, the California Department of Education had dropped the controversial changes. Appalled at the desecration, the Hindu American Foundation (HAF) has demanded that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) investigate the incident as a hate crime. We condemn this cowardly desecration and call upon the Department of Homeland Security and FBI to investigate this hate crime, as it was likely done with the intention of intimidating the Indian American community, said HAF California Advocacy Director Easan Katir, a former member of the Davis Business and Finance Commission.



PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN'S national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, explained the new administration's approach to key US foreign policy challenges [File: Carolyn Kaster/AP Photo]

Biden Adviser: Iran, Afghanistan, China Are Key Areas Of Focus

terpart, Mevlut Cavusoglu.

impose sanctions on Tehran.

it achieved before the accord.

if US sanctions are lifted.

obligations in full," he said.

Agencies

S President Joe Biden's national security adviser, Jake Sullivan, eration of its nuclear programme says dealing with China, Afghanistan and Iran are tions, Foreign Minister Mohamkey early priorities for the new administration.

"From our perspective, a criti- and will not happen", he said cal early priority has to be to deal with what is an escalating nuclear crisis as they (Iran) move closer and closer to having enough fissile material for a the accord in a step-by-step reweapon," Sullivan told an online programme sponsored by the US Institute of Peace on Friday.

"We would like to make sure that we establish some of the parameters and constraints around the program that have fallen away over the course of the past few years," Sullivan continued.

Sullivan's comments come after Biden's new secretary of state, Tony Blinken, on Wednesday insisted Tehran must resume complying with the 2015 obligations, we will fulfil our Iran nuclear deal before Washington would do so.

Blinken said "that if Iran comes back into full compli- 1 deadline to withdraw the re- without the Taliban meeting its ance with its obligations under maining US forces in Afghani- commitments.

the JCPOA, the United States stan under the deal, stating they are "taking a hard look" at how would do the same thing". Tehran will not accept the US's the Taliban is complying with its agreement with the US before demands that it reverse accel-

deciding how to proceed. The February 2020 agreement before Washington lifts sancwith the Taliban calls for a commad Javad Zarif said on Friday. plete US troop withdrawal by The demand "is not practical May 2021 in return for the group fulfilling security guarantees.

at a joint news conference in The agreement, Sullivan point-Istanbul with his Turkish couned out, has three conditions that 'stand out" to the Biden admin-Iran breached the terms of istration: The Taliban's cutting of ties with "terrorist" groups, their sponse to the decision by Biden's "meaningful" reduction of viopredecessor, Donald Trump, to lence and support of ceasefires, abandon the deal in 2018 and reand their participation in "real ... not fake" negotiations with the Earlier this month, Iran re-Afghan government.

"What we're doing right now, sumed enriching uranium to 20 percent at its underground is taking a hard look at the extent Fordow nuclear plant – a level to which the Taliban are in fact complying with those three con-However, Iran has said it can ditions, and in that context, we quickly reverse those violations make decisions about our force posture and our diplomatic strat-"If the United States fulfils its egy going forward," Sullivan said. His comments come one day after the Pentagon said 'Hard look' at Taliban agreement "it is very hard" to see a "way Sullivan discussed the May forward" with the agreement

Trump unilaterally recog-

"These were facts that were nev-

er going to change on the ground.

Jerusalem was never going to

Trump Went Around Palestinians To Get UAE, Bahrain, Israel Accord

Agencies The Trump administration



Blinken Dials Pak FM Qureshi Seeking Accountability In Daniel Pearl Murder Case

Kashmir Observer

Sunday | 31-01-2021



WASHINGTON/ISLAMABAD: US Secretary of State Tony Blinken has and in the mutual interest that jusspoken over phone with Pakistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi and discussed the acof American journalist Daniel Pearl, according to the State Department. Pearl, the 38-year-old South Asia bureau chief for The Wall Street Journal, was abducted and beheaded while he was in Pakistan investigating a story in 2002 on the links between the

country's powerful spy agency ISI and al-Qaeda. State Department spokesperson Ned Price said on Friday that Blinken reinforced America's concern over Pakistan Supreme Court's ruling acquitting Pearl's killers.

of American journalist Daniel Pearl,"

Price said in a readout of the call.

commercial ties, Price said.

"Blinken and Qureshi discussed how to ensure accountability for tated the Afghan peace process and convicted terrorist Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh and others respon-

for peace, the Foreign Office said. Qureshi and Blinken also agreed

and beyond, it said.

A day earlier, Blinken expressed discussed "recent developments in that the judgement was an affront the Daniel Pearl case" and Qureshi to terrorism victims everywhere.

Bangladesh Sends More Rohingya Refugees To Remote Island Despite Criticism

DHAKA: More than 1,400 Rohingya Muslim refugees set sail for a remote island in the Bay of Bengal on Saturday, a Bangladesh navy official said, despite opposition from rights groups concerned about the site's vulnerability to storms and flooding. They bring to at least 6,700 the



tice is served through legal means". Qureshi congratulated Secretary Blinken on assuming his office, uncountability of convicted terrorists derscoring Pakistan's commitment responsible for the brutal murder to forging a comprehensive partnership with the United States based on the convergence of interests on a whole range of issues, it said.

Oureshi told Blinken that peace in Afghanistan through a negotiated political settlement was one of the fundamental convergences

"underscored that it was important

between the two countries. He said it was essential to have a reduction in violence leading to the ceasefire and to work towards securing an inclusive political solu-

tion in Āfghanistan. Qureshi said Pakistan had faciliremained committed to working with the United States as a partner sible for the kidnapping and murder

to remain engaged and work to-In addition, Blinken and Qureshi gether on advancing the two countries' bilateral agenda and promotdiscussed the importance of continued US-Pakistan cooperation ing common interests in the region

on the Afghan peace process, support for regional stability, and the concern over the Pakistan Supreme potential to expand our trade and Court's decision of acquitting those The Pakistan Foreign Office said involved in the sensational kidnapin a statement that the two leaders ping and murder of Pearl and said

Seeing as it's a cultural icon to a portion of the people in Davis, we are taking it very seriously, Deputy Chief Paul Doroshov of the Davis Police Department was quoted as saying by the daily.

The statue of Mahatma Gandhi, which was donated by the Indian government to the city of Davis, was installed by the city council four vears ago amidst protests from anti-Gandhi and anti-India organisations.

Organisation for Minorities in India (OFMI), which spearheaded these protests and opposed the installation of the statue. The City of Davis had however voted to go ahead with the installation. Since then OFMI had launched a campaign to remove the statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

decided to go around the Palestinians to forge normalisation agreements last year between Israel, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, a former Trump official said.

Robert O'Brien, national security adviser to former President Donald Trump, said the Trump administration sought to build "political capital" with Israel first by moving the US embassy to Jerusalem and recognising Israeli sovereignty over the Golan Heights. "We couldn't allow the Pales-

tinians to stand as a roadblock to a broader Middle East peace," O'Brien said, describing for the first time since leaving office the strategy behind Trump's diplomatic moves.

"So we went to our friends and partners and allies and we built

He said a number of countries

Voronkov said the experiences of

The executive director of the U.N.

condemned elsewhere as detrecognising the Golan Heights, as rimental to internationally sup-Israeli territory," O'Brien said. Former President Trump forged ported Palestinian interests.

normalisation agreements called the "Abraham Accords" between nised Israeli sovereignty over Israel, the United Arab Emirates the Golan in 2019, contravenand Bahrain in September 2020. ing international law. Israel had seized the territory from Syria Additional agreements were in the Six Day War of 1967. reached to include Morocco in December and Sudan in January.

Trump had announced in 2017 the US would move its empolitical capital. And one way we bassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem change being the capital of Israel. built political capital in Israel was and recognise Jerusalem as the Israel was never going to give the by moving the embassy to Jeru- capital of Israel. The move was Golan Heights back to Assad or any salem, one way we did it was by celebrated in Israel but widely other regime in Syria," O'Brien said.

umber of Rohingva refugees from neighbouring Myanmar that Bangladesh has sent to the island of Bhasan Char since early December, cember, spoke of being coerced from border camps where a million live in ramshackle huts.

"We are ready to receive the new zar district fuels crime. arrivals," Commodore Abdullah Al charge of the island, told Reuters by telephone.

Five ships left with the Rohingya and their belongings after they were transferred from the camps to the nearby port city of Chittagong, he said.

Bangladesh on Friday moved cades ago and is several hours' journey away from the southern port.

The Rohingya, a minority group who fled violence in Buddhistmajority Myanmar, are not allowed to move off the island without government permission.

is voluntary, but some of the first technical and protection assess-

The government also says overcrowding in camps in the Cox's Ba-

It has dismissed flood concerns Mamun Chowdhury, the officer in over the island, citing the building of a 12-km (7.5-mile) stretch of embankment 2 metres (6.5 feet)

high, in addition to housing for 1,00,000 people, hospitals and cyclone centres.

Bangladesh has drawn criticism for a reluctance to consult with the 1,776 Rohingya to the island, which United Nations refugee agency and emerged from the sea just two de- other aid bodies over the transfers. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees says the agency has not been allowed to evaluate the safety and sustainability of life on the island.

"We look forward to continuing a constructive dialogue with the government regarding its Bhasan Char Bangladesh says the relocation project, including the proposed UN

group of refugees, moved in De- ments," it said in an email. Reuters

NEWS MAKERS

UN Urges Countries To Repatriate 27,000 Children From Syria

Agencies

UNITED NATIONS: The U.N. counterterrorism chief is urging countries to repatriate the 27,000 children stranded in a massive camp in northeastern Syria, many of them sons and daughters of Islamic State extremists who once controlled large swathes of Iraq and Syria.

Vladimir Voronkov told an informal meeting of the U.N. Security Council on Friday that "the horrific situation of the children in Al Hol (camp) is one of the most pressing issues in the world today.'

The 27,000 children "remain stranded, abandoned to their fate," vulnerable to be preyed on by Islamic State enforcers, "and at risk of radicalization within the camp," he said.

Al Hol, the largest camp for refugees and displaced Syrians in the ers are guarding Al-Hol and other country, is currently home to almost 62,000 residents, according to U.N. State fighters and boys in prisons.



humanitarian officials. More than 80% are women and children, many including Russia and Kazakhstan that who fled there after Islamic State milconvened the virtual meeting -- "have collectively repatriated nearly 1,000 itants lost their last Syrian stronghold in 2019. There are a number of other children and their family members." camps in the northeast as well.

Voronkov said there are children the returnees are being compiled "and from 60 countries in the camps who what we see thus far is that fears of are the responsibility of their memsecurity risks have been unfounded." ber states, not of Syria or the groups Counterterrorism Center stressed that control the camps. Kurdish fightcamps as well as thousands of Islamic

History has shown that children are resilient and can recover from violent experiences if they are supported in reintegrating into communities, Voronkov said. "Every effort should be made to

ensure children are not kept in institutions but allowed to reintegrate with family members within their communities," he said.

Virginia Gamba, the U.N. special representative for children and armed conflict, told the Security Council that children catalogued as being associated with armed groups including the Islamic State and al-Qaida "are the children who have been left adrift by conflict, like flotsam in the sea."

She echoed Voronkov's call that they be treated "primarily as victims, not as security threats, and that children "must be treated pri- that detention be used as a measure marily as victims" and youngsters of last resort and for the shortest under the age of 14 should not be possible period."

Fearing Eviction From Home, Japan Woman Hid Mother's Corpse For 10 Years

TOKYO, JAPAN: A Japanese woman who said she hid her mother's corpse in a freezer in her apartment for a decade told police she feared eviction if the death was discovered, media reported Saturday. Police told AFP that Yumi Yoshino, 48, was held "on suspicion of abandoning and hiding a female body" found Wednesday inside the freezer in a Tokyo apartment. Yoshino said she hid the body 10 years ago because she "didn't want to move out" of the home she shared with her mother, after finding her dead, local media reported, citing unnamed police sources.

The mother, thought to be aged around 60 at the time of her death, was named on the lease of the apartment in a municipal housing complex, Kyodo News said. Yoshino had been forced to leave the apartment in mid-January after missing rent payments, the reports said, and a cleaner discovered the body in a freezer hidden in a closet. An autopsy could not determine the time and cause of woman's death, the reports said.

West Virginia newspaper publisher sues Google, Facebook

CHARLESTON (US): A West Virginia news publisher has filed an antitrust suit against Google and Facebook, who together receive roughly half of all digital ad dollars in the US and are facing antitrust charges from federal and state authorities. The company, HD Media, owns several papers in the state, including the Herald-Dispatch in Huntington and the Charleston Gazette-Mail.

HD Media claims Google has so monopolised the online ad market that "it threatens the extinction of local newspapers across the country". The suit also alleges that Google and Facebook conspired to further their dominance with a secret agreement, referring to a suit filed by 10 Republican attorneys general in December. The company does not specify the impact on its business of the behaviour of Facebook and Google beyond saying that it has hurt its ability to "effectively monetise its content" because Google is enabled to take an uncompetitive share of the news publisher's ad revenues. A lawyer for the company declined to speak on the record.

Azad Asks Govt To Bring Restoration Of J&K Statehood Bill In Parliament



promised that statehood would be restored in J&K. This is the time to bring a bill in Parliament regarding restoration of statehood in J&K," he said during his speech in a virtual meeting of All Parties. "DDC and Panchayat elections were held recently. Now they should have no excuses to grant statehood to J&K.

SRINAGAR: Former Chief Minister J&K and Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has asked the Government of India of India to give power to the to bring restoration of statehood in J&K bill in parliament.

done unilaterally and the state was downgraded. The Prime and Pakistan where the situa-Minister, Home Minister have tion is bad there.

He asked the Government elected representatives and said that it is not good to give unlim-'Scrapping of Article 370 was ited power to officers in a place which has borders with China

SCRAPPING OF ARTICLE 370 WAS DONE unilaterally and the state was downgraded. The Prime

Minister, Home Minister have promised that statehood would be restored in J&K. This is the time to bring a bill in Parliament regarding restoration of statehood in J&K,"

Union Addl Secretary DARPG Visits Grievance Cell, JK IGRAMS



JAMMU: Union Additional Sec- grievances being disposed of retary, Department of Admin- is also increasing every month istrative Reforms and Public since and the LG reviews the Grievances (DARPG), V Srinivas, cell's working on a monthly batoday inspected the functioning sis', informed the Secretary Pubof Jammu and Kashmir Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (JK-IGRAMS) and lauded the efforts of the depart-Grievance Cell at Civil Secretari- ment and expressed satisfac-

at here today. Pertinently, JK-IGRAMS is a mechanism has been functioncentralized online grievance ing. He suggested that the deregistration and monitoring initiative of J&K Government launched by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, on 11th September, 2020.

Secretary Public Grievances, of the JK-IGRAMS. Simrandeep Singh, briefed the Union Additional Secretary about working of the portal, the tals with JK-IGRAMS and said grievance cell and the entire that it would lay a roadmap for grievance redressal mechanism integration of CPGRAMS with in place. He elaborately ex- other district portals in the plained that a central grievance country. He also appreciated the handling team collates griev- Union Territory for being the ances received from various first in reaching district level for modes, which includes social media, letters, web portal and posal. 'Quality disposal, not just even the ones received during public meetings. He also briefed be our goal', he maintained. that more than 1900 sub-users have been created across 20 dis- Secretary Grievance Cell to tricts which redress the grievances registered by the people. and much appreciated grievance The grievances are regularly monitored by LG, Chief Secretary, Departmental Secretaries tricts of India. He also suggested and the District Magistrates, he added. It was highlighted that ever their wholesome remedy would since September, 2020, the help departments to eliminate number of grievances getting their root cause forever. registered on the Portal has inthis new initiative of the Union ta Qureshi were also present in Government. 'The number of the meeting.

lic Grievances.

Additional Secretary DARPG tion over the way the Grievance partment should document and publish some notable success stories and resolved grievances which will further enhance the working and thus the credibility

Srinivas lauded the effort of integration of district level por-



Wildlife Trafficking Syndicates In J&K Busted

Huge Quantity Of Wildlife Contrabands Seized

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: In an unprecedented intelligence operation of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB), New Delhi, two epicenters of illegal wildlife poaching and trade were identified in Anantnag area of Kashmir valley and Manwal in the Jammu region.

In a joint operation of WCCB officers, who flew in from Delhi, officers of Jammu and Kashmir Chief Wildlife Warden and Police, simultaneous raids were conducted in both these places on 29.01.2021.

In the raid in Anantnag, 08 leopard pelts, 38 bear biles, 04

Sherpura, Anantnag. Five Leopard pelts, 07 leoptraders' linkages. ard nails, 08 canines, 02 molars, 02 leopard skulls and of the largest seizures in the leopard bones (04 Jaw bones, recent past. Musk deer and Hi-140 bones pieces), 01 musk malayan Black bear are endanteeth were seized in Manwal gered species and poached for of Jammu region from one musk pods, bear bile, which Kushal Hussain Bocked R/o is used in Traditional Chi-Kingriyal, Jammu. Preliminary nese Medicines (TCM). These poached animals - leopard, investigation revealed that both the offenders arrested in bear and musk deer are listed two places were partners in in Schedule I of the Wildthe Illegal Wildlife Trade.

life (Protection) Act. 1972. As Further investigation will re- per the provisions of the Act, poaching of these animals veal for how long they have been involved in this illegal trade, as and trading them by parts is also quantum, extent and assopunishable with a minimum ciates of this illegal business. Ef-03 years of imprisonment exforts are being made to trace the tendable up to 07 years. A case musk pods were seized from forward and backward linkages has been registered in police Mr. Gul Mohammad Ganie R/o of this illegal activity, demand station Anantnag.

and supply chains and onward

The present seizure is one

Banihal-Qazigund Tunnel Likely To Be Thrown Open For Traffic In March

4-Lane Tunnel Built On Austrian Model

Agencies

QAZIGUND: The work on the four-lane Qazigund-Banihal tunnel is going on in full swing and is expected to be thrown open this year in March. The 8.4 km Navayuga Tunnel

will connect the hilly region of Banihal directly with South Kashmir's Qazigund area. An official said that much to the relief of the people, this

double-tube tunnel will reduce the distance between Banihal and Qazigund by 16 kilometers. While divulging informa

tion about the tunnel, Muneeb





Police Bust Jaish Module, Arrest Six In Anantnag

ANANTNAG: Police Saturday claimed to have arrested six militants and their associates along with pistols and grenades in South Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Police sources said that two youths were apprehended in Doniwara area of Bijbehara. After being questioned the arrested youth revealed the names of their associates and

persons were arrested. Meanwhile, police in this regard issued a statement stating by Pakistan. that acting upon a specific input that the Lashker-e- Mustafa (Parent Organization Jaish-e-Muhammad) are contemplating an attack in Anantnag and Bijbehara towns, joint multiple Nakas were established by solat Donipora Bijbehera, an Alto

Naka and it was signaled to stop and two persons boarding the apprehended tactfully.

identified as two freshly recruited militants namely Imran Ahmed Hajam of Nathpora outfit JeM were arrested. Khanabal and Irfan Ahmed Ahand divulged that LeM was re- spokesperson said.



accordingly during raids 4 more cently floated to give an impression that militancy in Kashmir is indigenous and not sponsored

Police spokesperson said that they further revealed they are close associates of Hidayat Malik alias Hasnain of Sharafpora Shopian chief of LeM, Umer alias Wahid Khan of Shopian and Aftab alias Ali Bhai of Dachipora, and diers from 3 Rashtriya Rifles and they were carrying rece of the Anantnag Police and meanwhile area to plant an IED in order to at one of the MVCP established target security forces and Police.

"Later on multiple raids were car K-10 bearing registration conducted at various locations No. HP12C 0981 approached the and 4 over ground workers including Bilal Ahmed Kumar of Haff Shopian, Tawfeeg Ahmed said car tried to escape but were Lawey of Pushwara Anantnag, Muzamil Ahmed Wani of Muni-On questioning they were ward Anantnag and Aadil Ahmed Rather of Khandipari Harnag, affiliated with banned militant

"Two grenades, one kg exploanger of Nandpora Khanabal sive material and 30 rounds of and from their possession two AK-47 rifle were recovered from pistols along with three maga- their possession. In this regard, zines and 116 rounds were re- a case under relevant sections covered. During questioning of law has been registered in they confessed that they have Police Station Bijbehara and injoined the JeM outfit recently vestigation taken up," the police

ARTO Kupwara Clarifies Fare Rate From Kupwara To Srinagar

KUPWARA: In view of com- nagar. blaints regarding overcharging of Meanwhile,

plaints regarding overcharging of notified fare rate of the said route. rate. Accordingly the fare of Xylo/

passengers fare by Cab drivers from Kupwara boarding the cabs from the said to Srinagar, ARTO Kupwara in a route are asked to pay the fare communiqué today clarified the as per the mentioned notified

Besides, the drivers have been Innova as per notified rates warned about strict action in works out at Rs.258.50 per pas- case of violation of the notified senger from Kupwara to Sri- fare rates.

Failure In Devising SOPs For Railway Services Reflect Reckless Approach Of J&K Govt: Bukhari

Observer News Service

tion of reserve train services across the country," Bukhari said, while reof the I&K administration that is vet Apni Party President said that on people avail railway services in just Banihal to Baramulla section of Northern Railways in J&K and it is because of the administrative inermuters have been left high and dry. "These figures reflect just a section ment in Banihal to Baramulla section "Maharashtra government has on a daily basis. Over all the business

SRINAGAR- April Party President gretting the irresponsible approach mad Altaf Bukhari on Saturday took a strong exception to to formulate the requisite Standard the lackadaisical approach adopted Operating Procedures (SOPs) for reby the J&K administration which sumption of train services in J&K. has resulted into unnecessary halt in railway services, causing immense an average around 15,000 to 20,000 sufferings to the local commuters. In a statement issued. Bukhari said that a time when the railways reserve services have been resumed in other parts of the country, J&K tia that this hapless section of comgovernment seems to be a mute spectator to the miseries of thousands of people who would primar- of the passengers who are provided ily avail the cheap and hassle free with the tickets by the railway departrailway services on a daily basis. already resumed the sub urban community, essential workers, patrain services for essential workers, tients and student community in parwomen and other categories months ticular are suffering direly for want of ago. This is apart from the resump- railway facility," Bukhari remarked.

grievance registration and disthe number of disposals, should

Additional Secretary asked study some of the successful redressal models and softwares being implemented in other disthat a thorough study into the most common grievances and

Special Secretary Grievances, creased by 94 percent, which is Veerji Hangloo and Under Seca clear sign of people's faith over retary, Public Grievances, Azee-

Tak, Chief Manager, Navayuga Engineering Company said that the tunnel is 400 meters Tunnel on the Jammu-Srinagar National Highway and it will reduce the travel distance between Qazigand and Banihal by 16 kms.

Srinagar-Jammu due to inclement weather but this new tunnel will bypass Jawahar Tunnel and Shaitan Nalla which means there will be no obstruction in vehicular movement on highway even during winters.

The Chief Engineer said that underway," Tak said. Over Rs 2000 crore is being work is going on smoothly and spent on this tunnel project. if everything remains perfect, the tunnel will be thrown Its executing company, Nabelow the existing Jawahar open for traffic by March this vayuga Engineering Limited year. He said this project is is Andhra Pradesh based that a masterpiece of engineer- has pressed men and machining and has been constructed ery into service caring for a fig from Austrian Tunnelling for the harsh weather.

When contacted District De-He said during winters "Modern style and a state- velopment Commissioner Ram-rinagar-Jammu Highway of-the-art "exhaust system" ban Mussarat Islam said that frequently witnesses closure has been introduced in the the work on the project was delayed due to several reasons tunnel to remove gas from it and bring fresh air into it. At but now everything is going Least 126 Jet fans, 234 CCTV smoothly. "We are expecting modern cameras and fire- the inauguration of this tunnel fighting systems are being after over a month. It will hopeinstalled in both tubes of the fully be thrown open for traffic tunnel for which the work is in March this year," he said.

NEWS MAKERS

Info Dept Condole With Masood Hussain, Nazir Masoodi



AMMU: Director Information and Public Relations, Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar has condoled the sad demise of father of Masood Hussain, Editor in Chief Kashmir Life and mother of Nazir Masoodi, Bureau Chief NDTV.

In this connection, a condolence meet was held in the office chambers of Director Information in which all the officers participated. Dr.

Sehrish and other participants expressed deep sorrow and grief over their demises.

Dr. Sehrish also offered her deepest condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and courage for the bereaved families to bear their irreparable losses.

Digital Calendar, Coffee Table Book Of IWMP Works Out

IAMMU: Secretary Rural Development Department and Panchayati Raj, Sheetal Nanda, today released Digital Calendar and a Coffee Table Book of IWMP works in respect of Udhampur district.

Secretary appreciated the efforts of the district IWMP team for achieving the set goals and expressed hope that they will continue to work with the same spirit and devotion in future also to make the IWMP scheme a grand success enabling Udhampur to become a role model for the entire Union Territory.

Project Manager IWMP, Udhampur, Sapna Kotwal, highlighted the working and achievements of works being executed in different watersheds of IWMP in the district.

Raj Bhavan Staff Pay Homage To The Martyrs

Method (ATM).



JAMMU: On the occasion of Martyrs' Day, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, and the civil and security officers, besides the staff members of the Raj Bhavan observed a two-minute silence at 11 am today as homage to Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi and brave Indians who sacrificed their lives during the Indian freedom struggle.



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NO HOLDS BARRED



Education in winters has been virtually outsourced by the government to these private players and getting good education is a matter of privilege which, unfortunately, the poor can't afford

Kashmir Observer Sunday 31-01-2021

Poor and Private

Truth is that most of the coaching centres located in towns are acting like a state within the state

Malik Javid

There is no definite fee policy and centres are involved in arbitrary hike of fee structure year after year and the bigger problem is the manner in which this fee is collected. Instead of collecting the fee at the end of the course or month wise ,students are made to deposit half the fee in advance and in some cases they accept the complete fee before the course has even been started.

w days back, I had to visit a local J&K bank branch to replace my expired debit card with a new one. I had just driven a few Kilometers from home till I was caught in a traffic mess. First I thought it might be a usual traffic halt. common in our narrow streets, but I was wrong as my wait for resumption of normal traffic kept on brewing. With no transit route available, I was left with no other option other than to leave my cosy car to know about the whys and wherefores behind this traffic mess. I had just walked a few steps from my car when I began to spot a huge crowd gathering on a road, this time I thought they might be protesting the usual electricity woes or water scarcity crisis quite common in winters in our vale. But I was again proven wrong as I reached ground zero. I was astonished and literally felt numb after listening to the whole saga from the people who had gathered there to pacify the young boys involved in fist fight. I came to know, that a gang of young boys studying at a local coaching centre had a heated verbal scuffle over some issue, to soothe the raw emotions of these young boys, a local tuition teacher tried to intervene to calm the things down, but instead of listening to his advice ,one of the guy in a state of rage spanked the young teacher, exasperating the situation further. Thus, a teacher who had tried to be the part of the solution became the part of the problem himself. The situation could have taken ugly turn had the local police not arbitrated quickly. The above situation is the microcosm of the bigger picture of moral deprivation dominant in coaching centres.

Back to my driving seat, I turned off the stereo of my wagon to have a deeper thought on the growing moral threat of coaching centres, I began to question myself, where are we heading as a society? Has moral bankruptcy taken over our sanity? Why don't our parents keep an eye on their ward's doings? And more importantly why is our administration reluctant in keeping the tab on those coaching centres which are involved in violating the rules and regulations important for normal functioning of an educational institution in broad daylight?

Truth is that most of the coaching centres located in towns are acting like a state within the state, authorities have lost control over them, poor students have been left at the mercy of these greenhorns managing these money minting centres in the name of coaching centres under open sky. Beyond mandatory registration of the coaching centres, authorities don't put any more checks and



balances on the working of these coaching centres. From poor location to poor infrastructure to indefinite teacher student ratio, nothing is hunky dory in these centres. There is no definite fee policy and centres are involved in arbitrary hike of fee structure year after year and the bigger problem is the manner in which this fee is collected. Instead of collecting the fee at the end of the course or month wise ,students are made to deposit half the fee in advance and in some cases they accept the complete fee before the course has even been started. Thus, there is no exit window left for students to quit in the middle if they feel that they are not getting the quality education that they were promised, as there is no refund policy in these coaching centres.

Also, in a place like Kashmir one can't be certain about tomorrow, like we have been witnessing from the past decade in the form of summer unrest becoming a new normal in our routine. Thus, education in winters has been virtually outsourced by the government to these private players and getting good education is a matter of privilege which, unfortunately, the poor can't afford. dents and it bridges the status gap between the students belonging to two different backgrounds i.e. poor and rich. I am not advocating for separate uniforms for tuitions just like schools, I am pleading for proper dress code in these centres. Not everyone can afford to wear new fancy dress every day, in many cases students from poor backgrounds have become the victims of inferiority complexes and end up forcing their financially constrained parents to take extreme steps to afford unaffordable luxuries for their wards. I know, I might sound more utopian and less realistic here but for the larger good of our society, we have to do something productive with these coaching centres in shaping our better future.

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

It's said Uniform brings uniformity in stu-

The author can be reached at malikjavid86@gmail.com

ASHINGTON, DC/UPPSALA – When the World Health Organization launched last year's World Antimicrobial Awareness Week, it expanded the campaign's focus from antibiotics to all antimicrobials – including antiviral, antifungal, and antiprotozoal drugs. The WHO said that framing the response to antibiotic resistance (ABR) within the broader antimicrobial resistance (ABR) within the broader antimicrobial resistance (AMR) agenda, including HIV and malaria, would "facilitate programmatic synergy and efficiency, and catalyze country-level action to combat drug-resistant infections." But although there are many commonalities between ABR and AMR, there are also important differences that justify paying specific attention to antibiotics.

ABR has been a slow-growing pandemic, fueled in part by relatively weak political support for implementing national action plans that include the establishment of well-resourced surveillance systems. The resulting lack of context-specific data on the health and economic burden of resistance has created an obstacle to policy action.

Although aggregate numbers on the global AMR burden exist – the most cited, from the United Kingdom's independent 2014-16 AMR review, chaired by the economist Jim O'Neill, put the toll at 700,000 deaths per year – these underrepresent the ABR problem, owing to the limited scope of bacteria covered. In fact, estimates suggest that ABR alone claims more than 750,000 lives every year, with the largest toll most likely occurring among children in the poorest countries. In a recent global survey, 79% of physicians treating newborns reported an increasing trend of multi-drug-resistant infections over the last five years, while 54% cited ABR as the leading cause of failure to treat neonatal sepsis, a blood infection affecting newborns.

In the past, the drug-resistance problem has typically been addressed by researching and developing new antibiotics. But although R&D is an important element of the ABR response, it is scientifically challenging and expensive. In effect, an arms race between drug development and resistance has ensued. With few novel antibiotics in the development pipeline, we need incentives to spur R&D while decoupling investment returns from sales volumes in order to slow the evolution of resistance.

At the same time, new drugs coming to market

The Silent Pandemic Of Antibiotic Resistance

Antibiotic resistance has been a slow-growing scourge, fueled in part by relatively weak political support for implementing national action plans and surveillance systems. Because the problem is essentially the result of multiple systems failures, overcoming it requires urgent global collective action.

PATRICIA GELI | OTTO CARS



must be accessible and affordable for all those who need them. The additional median overall cost of resistance imposed by moving to second-line treatments can be significant, amounting to \$700 per infection. In fragile states where out-of-pocket payments by individuals account for 55% of total health expenditure, this can have catastrophic consequences, including increased morbidity and mortality, and longterm impoverishment.

The health and economic costs of ABR must be

quantified to convince governments to intervene and strengthen incentives for the development of antibiotics. That, in turn, will justify the investments and public-private partnerships needed to bring new drugs to market.

The fact that ABR seems to be winning the arms race makes it even more important to preserve existing antibiotics. But there is no one-size-fits-all way to do this. In many countries, for example, increased access to drugs is imperative to reduce unnecessary morbidity and mortality from bacterial infections. Initiatives such as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria have partly addressed the issue of access to effective antiretroviral, anti-TB, and antimalarial drugs.

But as a WHO report puts it, "there is no similar funding or distribution mechanism to cater for the corresponding needs for effective antibiotics against the broad range of common bacterial infections in developing countries." In this context, the newly established Multi-Partner Trust Fund is an important step in the right direction. Although the fund's financial scope is still modest, it will support countries in implementing national action plans against the threat of AMR, including ABR.

Balancing the need to preserve antibiotics' effectiveness while expanding access to them is challenging, because wider use inevitably will increase ABR. The problem is compounded in many poorer countries, where civil conflicts, poor hygiene and nutrition, and unreliable water supplies risk facilitating the rapid spread of resistant pathogens. But the full extent of the problem remains hidden, owing to the lack of national surveillance systems for monitoring antibiotic drug use and resistance. A health-systems approach is critical to ensure that unintended consequences of controlling ABR do not hamper equitable and sustainable access to life-saving drugs.

Africa has recently made important progress in this regard. Last September, African Union heads of state and government endorsed a common position on controlling AMR. In addition, Africa is leading the way in collaborative efforts on COVID-19, including the roll-out of cutting-edge technologies such as digital surveillance and next-generation sequencing. These could become an essential component of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention's AMR Surveillance Network, which aims to connect actors from the human and animal health sectors. Such efforts are particularly important in the African context, where many low-income and fragile countries are expected to bear the brunt of AMR's negative consequences.

The growing ABR problem does not respect national borders. It is essentially the result of multiple systemic failures, which only urgent global collective action can overcome.

Antiquity

Revealing Reminiscence *Baithak(s)* of Heritage Kashmiri Houses

Hakim Sameer Hamdani

n #Kashmir Diwan Khana usually refers to a large room/ hall located on any of the floors (mostly ground/ top) used to entertain guests and host ceremonies like weddings. Also known as Baithak, the larger ones in the mohalla would be used by neighbors lacking such large spaces

Handoo House, Narwara

The first three images are of Handoo house at Narwara. The house known as Draag-i Laer (Famine House) was constructed by the family during a famine in the 19th century as a relief effort. Those who worked would be paid and would also be given free lunch and dinner.



Begum Park, Dana Mazzar

The next image is from an imposing house at Dana Mazzar constructed by the Shah family, with a rather catchy name of 'Begum Park'. It dates back to early 20th century



Ganai's House, Nawa Kadal

This image is of the family house of the Ganai's at Nawa Kadal. A large rambling mansion- partly used as a school partly as a residence, the house was about to be dismantled



Daryal "Heritage Homes", Nowhatta

These next images are from the Darayal family who own four "heritage homes" at Nowhatta. Again, these buildings date from the 20th century and are located on the top floor of the house: kani.



Jalali House, Zadibal

This image is from the famous Jalali house at Zadibal dating back to the 19th century. (Image credit Zainab Mustafa). The house has two other halls on the ground and the first floor.



Dewan Khana, Safa Kadal

My personal favorite is the Dewan Khana on the first floor of a house built by a Pandit family at Safa Kadal along the riverfront. Particularly love the floor tiles, known as Minton tiles. These used to be manufactured in Bombay.



Khan House, Aali Kadal and Zaz House, Bohri Kadal

ending with some images from Khan house at Aali Kadal & Zaz house at Bohri Kadal. (I hope I remember the house right). These images were taken in 2004 as

a part of INTACH's listing of Srinagar. Those interested may check the 2nd volume of INTACH publication, Shehar-i Kashmir.

I may add that the owners have always been open and welcoming about allowing people (complete strangers) to visit and take pictures of these wonderful houses. Those interested must surely visit them.



One must also listen to the owners as they reminiscence about the times and people who built them!

when I last visited it.

The author is the Design Director at INTACH Kashmir and holds a PhD. Islamic Architecture. Tweets at @hamdanisameer

Plunder of Kashmiri Antiques in Central Asia

PROF FIDA MUHAMMED HASSNAIN

We have every reason to believe that almost all the wall paintings of Central Asian temples and viharas were created by the Kashmiri artists. The painted book covers of the Buddhist manuscripts found at Gilgit are the tangible evidence of the Kashmiri school of art, which flourished in Kashgar and Ladakh uring the 7th and the 8th centuries, the powerful Kushanas extended their hold over vast areas, stretching from Kashgar.Yarkand and Khotan to Kabul, Kashmir, and Mathura. With the advent of Kanishka. Buddhism received a tremendous support and Kashmir because the foremost centre of Buddhist learning art, and culture.

He held his 4th Buddhist Council in Kashmir which resulted in a new orientation of Buddhism in the form of the Mahayana. After this historic event, several Kashmiri Buddhist scholars and artists migrated to many Central Asian oasis towns on the Silk Road to conduct missionary activities. Vairchana, a famous Kashmiri Buddhist scholar built the first Buddhist monastery at Khotan. The Kashmiris also went to Kucha, Kashgar, Yarkand and Turfan. The successive wave of Buddhist learning, art and culture traveled to Central Asia from Kashmir. It is for this reason that we find the imprint of Kashmiri art in the works, found at Kizil. Dandanuiliq. Tun-huang, Khotan and Kashgar. All these works of art have been executed by the Kashmiri artists, calligraphers and painters. This Kashmiri art style is some times called the Gandhara art and the Greeco-Iranian Buddhist art. Others have termed it as the Kushana-Ghandhara art. However, it cannot be denied that besides maintaining its individuality, the Kashmiri art, during various periods of its development, got inter-mingled with the art style and traditions of other countries. In this regard, it enriched itself from the Greek, Persian, Indian. Tibetan and



Chinese artists.

The paintings and sculptures, taken away by Stein from Kizij. Karashr, Khotan and Turfan are definitely Kashmirian and bear a close connection with similar relies from Ushkar, parhaspura. Kanispur and Harwan in Kashmir. The tiles of Akhnoor, Ahan, Mattan and Harwan in Kashmir depict the features of the Central Asian men and women. A careful study of these titles would reveal that during ancient times, the valley of Kashmir shared a common civilization and culture with the people of Chinese Turkestan. The most glorious phase of the Kashmiri art reached its zenith in the reign of Lalitaditya Mukta-pida (725-726 A.D.) when Kashmir established its sway over a vast region in Central Asia. Afghanistan and Northern India. We have every reason to believe that almost all the wall paintings of Central Asian temples and viharas were created by the Kashmiri artists. The painted book covers of the Buddhist manuscripts found at Gilgit are the tangible evidence of the Kashmiri school of art, which flourished in Kashgar and Ladakh.

> This article is being reproduced from KO archives (24th November 2010)

LIFE & TIMES

With great detail, scientists map heart recovery rate after heart attack

Agencies

mphasising the importance of heart muscle cells intracellular communication, researchers from the Hubrecht Institute mapped the recovery of the heart after a heart attack with great detail.

The study published in Communications Biology shows that the heart muscle cells also called cardiomyocytes play an important role in intracellular communication after a heart attack.

The researchers documented their findings in a database that is accessible for scientists around the world. This brings the research field a step closer to the development of therapies for improved recovery after heart injury.

As per the reports, during a heart attack, the blood supply to a part of the heart is blocked, for example, due to a blood clot in a coronary artery. Attempts to restore the blood supply are made as soon as possible, also known as reperfusion.

However, a part of the heart has already been without oxygen for some time. Depending on the size and duration of the infarction, this causes heart muscle cells also called cardiomyocytes, to die. This can result in the formation of scar tissue, which is stiffer than normal heart tissue



of cells during the recovery pro-

data to map a communication network. Louk Timmer, the re-

searcher on the project, explains:

"Cells communicate with each

other by secreting molecules.

These molecules then trigger the

recipient cell to take a specific ac-

tion, which may be important for

the recovery process. We have

now mapped with great detail

how different cells communicate

with each other at different time

points after a heart attack. That

had never been done so thor-

myocytes in the recovery follow-

ing a heart attack was still largely

unknown, partly because of tech-

nical difficulties. However, anoth-

er recent paper from Van Rooij's

Especially the role of cardio-

oughly before.

Consequently, they used the

cess after a heart attack.

and therefore makes it more difficult for the heart to properly contract. This can also cause the pumping function of the heart to deteriorate, which can eventually lead to heart failure.

In other words, insight into the recovery of the heart after a heart attack and how this leads to the formation of scar tissue is extremely important. However, much is still unknown. Reason enough for researchers from the lab of Eva van Rooij to examine this further.

They studied how the hearts of mice recover at three different time points following a heart attack. To this end, they used single-cell sequencing, a technique that enables the examination of the RNA of individual cells. The researchers generated an enormous dataset with information about the role of different types

lab solved these obstacles, allowing the researchers to specifically study the function of cardiomyo cytes in the recovery process.

"We noticed that at the earliest time point measured after the heart attack, cardiomyocytes were secreting increased amounts of a molecule called B2M. Subsequent experiments showed that the secretion of B2M can result in the activation of socalled fibroblasts - cells responsible for the formation of scar tissue," says Timmer.

Cardiomyocytes thus seem to indirectly stimulate the production of scar tissue early in the recovery process. "Intuitively, we already thought that cardiomyocytes play an important role in intracellular communication during heart recovery and it is great that we have now been able to confirm that."

When asked about the next steps within this field of research, Timmer emphasizes the importance of additional studies.

'Various scientists and experts can use this data, which enables us to gain a better understanding of the cells and molecules that are involved in the recovery of the heart and the way they communicate with each other. Hopefully, we can eventually improve the recovery process, so that people end up with less damage after a heart attack." he told

Scholarships This Week

ashmir Observer in association with Buddy4Study.com presents scholarships available for the meritorious students of Jammu and Kashmii

Scholarship Name 1: IIT Gandhinagar Department of Physics Post-Doctoral Fellowship 2021

Description: Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar invites applications for IIT Gandhinagar Department of Physics Post-Doctoral Fellowship 2021 from PhD degree holders. The

the possibility of extension to another year based on performance and availability of the fund. The fellowship is open Eligibility: for candidates who hold a PhD degree in Physics with specialisation in theoretical aspects of gravitation and the black hole physics. Candidates who have submitted their thesis are equally eligible for the position. Prizes & Rewards: Up to INR 45,000-48,000

per month Last Date to Apply: 15-02-2021

appointment initially will be for one year, with

Application mode: Via email only www.b4s.in/observer/GDP7 Short Url:

Scholarship Name 2: The J N Tata Endowment Loan Scholarship 2020-21

Description: Tata Trusts invites applications from Indian students who wish to pursue their higher studies outside India. The programme also offers 'Gift Scholarship' and 'Travel Grants' to Indian students for their study abroad programmes

Indian students who have Eligibility: completed their graduation, or are in the final year of any graduation programme at a rec-Last Date to Apply: ognised institution in India can apply for this scholarship. Applicants must have scored minimum 60% marks in their last academic examinations. Only students applying for PG/PhD/ Short Url:

Postdoctoral/Research programmes at academic institutions outside India are eligible. The age of the candidates should not exceed 45 years as on Loan scholarship up to 08-03-2021 Online applications only

Scholarship Name 3: The Institute of Mathematical Sciences Doctoral Programme 2020

cal Sciences, Chennai invites applications for The Institute of Mathematical Sciences Doctoral Programme 2020 from PhD degree holders. The fellowship is open in all areas of Theoretical Physics, Mathematics, Theoretical Computer Science and Computational Biology. A special feature of research at IMSc is its interdisciplinary character.

The programme is open for

INR 25,000 to INR 28,000 Prizes & Rewards: per month plus HRA 15-02-2021

Application mode: By post to The Institute of Mathematical Sciences IV Cross Road, CIT Campus Taramani Chennai 600 113 Tamil Nadu, India www.b4s.in/observer/M

THE J&K BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL **ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS**

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Sunday 31-01-2021

Tel/Fax: 0194-2433590- , 2437647 (srinagar) : 0191-2479371, 2470102 (jammu) website: http://www.jakbopee.org.email: ceojakbopee@gmail.com

- Provisional Merit List of candidates for Avush/ BPT Courses and filling-up of the Subject: -Avush/ BPT seats in Government/ Private Colleges-online counselling thereof.
- (i) Notification No. 065-BOPEE of 2020 dated 24-12-2020 Reference: -(ii). Ministry of AYUSH F Order No.14011/2/2021-EP-1 dated 15.01.2021 of (iii) Notification No. 009-BOPEE of 2021 dated 18-01-2021.

Notification No.014- BOPEE of 2021 Dated: 29-01-2021.

In pursuance of Notification No.065-BOPEE of 2020 dated 24.12.2020 read with other Notices and letters on the subject, the list of candidates, who have registered online for consideration for counselling of Ayush/ BPT courses based on the NEET Rank/ Score as per annexure "A" to this notification is hereby notified for the information of the candidates. These candidates shall figure appropriately in the UT merit list notified by the Board vide Notification No.049-BOPEE of 2020 dated 18.11.2020 (NEET-UG Merit List). The list so updated shall accordingly be utilized for the purpose of online counselling of the candidates for filling-up of seats in Ayush/ BPT courses.

Consequent upon the above, it is further notified that:-

I. Online counselling for filling-up of seats under Ayush/ BPT courses-2020 will start w.e.f. 1st of Feb.2021 to 6th of Feb.2021.

IMPORTANT

- 1. The candidates who have not uploaded their domicile certificates or 12th class marks card or DOB certificate shall be allowed to participate in the counselling process and in case of allotment of a seat to them, they shall have to produce the same in the allotted college along with other requisite certificates/ documents at the time of admission failing which their provisional selection shall be cancelled on their own risk and responsibility.
- 2. The candidates who have not uploaded any document during the registration shall not be eligible for their participation in online counselling process, however, their candidature can be considered if they submits the relevant valid documents physically in BOPEE Office, Srinagar/ Jammu in between 01-02-2021 to 06-02-2021.
- 3. The candidates, who have already registered themselves for MBBS/BDS courses shall not require to deposit any counselling fee.
- 4. The candidates who have made registration a fresh after lowering of cut off NEET Score or those who missed the registration earlier shall have to pay online fee of Rs.1500/-
- 5. Last date of payment of fee is 06-02-2021.
- 6, Reservation shall be applicable in Government Ayurveda / Unani Colleges.
- The cut of score for Open Merit (OM) candidates is 113 and for Reserve Category candidates other than JKPM/CDP/Sports category/P&B/EWS candidates are 87. For PwD candidates the cut off score is 99.
- The candidates are advised in their own interest to go through the instructions contained in the e-Brochure for submitting the online preference forms. The candidates after locking the preferences / making the payment cannot modify the preferences unless they approach the Board offices at Srinagar/ Jammu and are permitted to do so by the Board. Time for deposition of the online fee of Rs.1500/- shall be upto 06-02-2021 mid night after which no fee shall be accepted by the system. The fee can be paid online through credit card/ debit card/ e-banking etc
- As of now no admission is being made in Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research, Jammu as the college has not yet produced the Approval of Regulatory Body(Ministry of Ayush) and the said seats shall be filled-up during second round of physical counselling subject to production of necessary approval of Ministry of Ayush for the academic session-2020-21 by the concerned Institution.
- The tentative seat matrix shall be made available on the BOPEE website IV. www.jkbopee.gov.in in due course of time which is however, subject to changes, if
- In pursuance of Government Order No.634-HMEof 2019 dated 04.07.2019 issued by the V. Health & Medical Education Department, J&K the seats under management quota in private colleges under Ayush (BUMS/BAMS/BPT) shall be filled during the online counselling.
- The conditions not mentioned hereinabove but otherwise notified by the Board through VI. various Notifications/Notices on the subject will be applicable to the counselling/ admission process.
- The seats under BPT in Composite Regional Center (CRC) Bemina, Srinagar shall also be VII. filled during this round of counselling.

Since, the candidates from the UT merit list notified vide annexure "A" to this Notification are also eligible along with those notified vide Notification No.049-BOPEE of 2020 dated 18.11.2020. Therefore, the NEET Rank will determine the inter-se rank of the candidates. The candidates in their own interest are advised to remain in touch with the BOPEE

E&OE.

website ww.jkbopee.gov.in for further information/ updates.





30th June 2021. Prizes & Rewards: INR 10 lakh Last Date to Apply: Application mode: Short Url: www.b4s.in/observer/JNT4

Description: The Institute of Mathemati-

Eligibility: candidates who hold a PhD degree.

SAD DEMISE	از نیابت ماگام بااجلاص جناب نائب تحسیلدار صاحب ماگام	UT of Jammu& Kashmir Sher-i-Kashmir International Convention Centre Srinagar
This is to inform you all about the sad demise Of ALI MOHAMMAD AKHOON s/o mohammad akbar akhoon R/o zaildar mohalla saida kadal ranger stop, the deceased person left for after- world on 30th of January 2021. The deceased	عنوان: معنمون درخواست اعباز احد گوجر کلفاند ولد خاما رسول گوجر کلفاند ساکنه موضع ماگام بمراد عطا یکی هذی <i>ل زیب سرافطیف تحت</i> SRO 294 معامله مندربیه عنوان الصدر میں ساکل نے ایک درخواست بمراد بیکارڈ ایمیا سرافطیک چیش کی ہے۔ جو کہ فتر بذا میں زیر کاردائی ہے اور اجرا کرنے مطلوب ہے کہ بذیل افتراد پر صنتل ہے	Tender Notice Inviting Tenders Single Cover System FRESH e-NIT No. of 11 OF 2020-21 Dated: 25.01.21 For and on behalf of the Governor, J&K State, e-tender (In single cover system) is invited on item rate basisfrom the Registered/Reputed Dealer/supplier approved by UT JK Govt ,CPWD, Railways and other state/central govt for the following works
persons fateh Khawani will be held on Monday 1st February 2021 at 7:30 am at their ancestral graveyard opposite imambara hassanabad. May the Almighty Allah take the departed	علام رسول کوچر کلھانے دلد غلام محی الدین کوچر تشعانہ کسی کھر کیوگام 52 سال حاجرہ بیکم زویہ غلام رسول کوچر تشعانہ گھریلہ کام 48 اعلا احمد کوچر تشعانہ پر غلام رسول گھریلہ کام 35	S. No Name of work Adv. Cost of T/ TIME OF Class of contractor Cost Doc. (In COMPLE- Rupees) TION
soul to heavenly abode and give the entire family strength and courage to bear this irreparable loss. Bereaved family	سکید تیگر زوبه اعباز احم گرید کام 30 حیده اختر دفتر زیرتعکیم 06 سجاد احمد پسر در یو در مد	01 Annual Rate contract for Supply, installation, testing and commissioning of 12 V,65 AH SMF batteries OEM/Authorized dealers
Mushtaq Ahmad Akhoon (Son) Mobile no 9419068429 6006295832 INF	انچه احمد پر محکوم کی بط کام 24 افتانه دفتر سبانه اختر دفتر اسکه علاوه عمه کی مهانه آمدنی درایی و فیر درگی/8756 بے مرتفکیت زیر بخش اکر کرنے میں اگر	02 Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of 3.7 lac 1000/- 2 years OEM/Authorized dealers having relevant experience in dealing with such similar a period 02 years jobs.
ولديت کې درستې	کی فض یا انتخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو دو اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیم کر بیٹ کرویا ہوتے کر اگر کے لیا اگر کی فض یا انتخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلی تبول نہیں ہو گاہ۔ گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلی تبول نہیں ہو گاہ۔ tia	03 Replacement of 11KV Link Sets(AB switch) of Feeder III and Feeder IV feeding the main Conven- tion Centre and Musical Fountain at SKICC. 500/- 10 days Electrical registers contrac- tors /Suppliers having rele- vant experience in executing similar nature of jobs.
ہر خاص و عام کو بزریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے غلطی سے اسکول ریکارڈییں میر کی بیٹی مسمی صورت جان دختر جاعابد حسین چو پان اندراج ہوا ہے جبکہ اصلی نام صورت جان جنہ بیٹی	از نیابت ماگام بااجلاص جناب نائب تحسیلدار صاحب ماگام عوان مقمون درخواست غلام محمد دار دلد عبدالحد دار ساکنه مرش داشک براد هایی میکورند ایم سرتفکیک تحت SRO294	04 Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) for smooth functioning of EPABX (Siemens Hipath 3000 Model 3550) System at SKICC for the year 2020-21.
دختر جاویداحمہ چوپان ہےاب اسکی در تق کرانی مطلوب ہے اس ضمن میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی بھی عذریا اعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندرا پنا اعتراض حنفیہ انسچو ٹ	سالنہ موت دان براد حطایی بیدارڈ ایم اسر علیف محت SRO294 ا شتربار برار کا میں میں میں میں میں دردوات براد برگارڈ ایم خطف و عام معالمہ مندرد عنوان الصدر میں ساک نے ایک دردفوات براد برگارڈ ایم سر کلیک چیش کی ہے۔ جو کہ فتر بذا میں زیر کاردائی ہے اور اجرا کرنے مطلوب _{جن} ے کہہ بذیل افتراد پر طنتیل ہے	
دیالگام کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔ المشتر:۔جاوید احمد چویان دالد صورت جان سا کنہ برنٹی بیہ یورہ	اغلام محمد ذار ولد عبدالعد ذار زیر طلیم م 30 سال سلیه زدید عبدالعه ذار گریله کام 26 انگسمان خیر علی دلد زرتعلیم 02	2. Period of downloading of bidding documents 28.01.21 AT 3:00 PM 3. Bid submission start date (on line) 28.01.21 FROM 2:00 PM 4. Bid submission End date (on line) 10.02.21 TILL 5:00 PM
از نیابت ماگام بااجلاص جناب نائب تحسیلدار صاحب ماگام	السط علادہ عمیہ کی مہانہ آمدنی زرایع و غیر زرایع 3708 ہے مرتفکیک زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر سمی فض یا اشکاس کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو دو اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ دیم کے اعدر چیش کریں۔ میعاد گری نہ ہے ہے کہ کہ میں مدینہ جاتم انسب میں	5. Date & time of opening of bids (online) 11.02.21 AT 11.30 AM 1. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender documents in shape of demand draft in favor of the Executive engineer SKICC, Srinagar (Tender inviting/Receiving Authority). The date of DD should be between the date of start of bid and bid submission end date. 2. All bidders have to submit bid security declaration form instead of earnest money as per annexure A as per circular of finance department. 3. The first lowest has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in the shape of CDR /FDR within 3 days before
عنوان: معنمون درخواست زاکر طحی الدین کپر و باسید کی الدین دختر علام طحی الدین فق ساکنه موشع والده بوره براد عطا کی بیگوارڈ ایریا سرکنیکی شخص علی SRO294 اشتهار براد آگادی جر خاص و عام	از نیابت ماگام بااجلاص جناب نائب تحسیدار صاحب ماگام	 fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work. The date and time of opening of bids shall be notified on web site www.jktenders.gov.in. The bids for the contract shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of financial bid. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:
یں زیر کاردائی ہے اور اجرا کرنے مطلوب ہے تمہ بذیل افتراد پر مصل ہے اعلام کمی الدین ولد عبدانی فتح (سینداری	عنوان: سعمون درخواست تویش احمہ چوپان ولد عبرمجید چوپان ساکنہ موسق سڈدل بمراد عطا یکی بیلوارڈ ایما سرطیلیک تحت SRO294 اشتہار بمراد آگانگی جر خاص و عام معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کی ساکل نے ایک درخوات بمراد برگارڈ ایما سرکھیک چیش کی ہے۔ جو کہ فتر ہذا	 a) Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract. 7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process. a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads "option as well as from "Bidders manual Kit" on website www. jktenders.gov.in to acquired bid submission process. b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) as per information technology Act 2000, bidders can
طاریق احمد می مادیم می محمد می ساتند و نظر زیرتعلیم 22 ایا سعد دفتر زیرتعلیم 14 مناظراه دفتر زیرتعلیم 11	یں زیر کاروائی بے اور اجرا کرنے مطلوب ہے کمیہ بذیل افتراد پر مطحتل ہے عبدالمجید چوپان دامد موبرالتار چوپان زمیندری محیدہ میکم زویہ عبدالمجید چوپان گرمد کام تویق احمد کبر در میں لیکم ملو کام	get digital certificate from any approved vendors. c. The bidders have to submit their bids on line in electronic format with digital signature. No financial bids will be accepted in physical form. d. Bids will be opened on line as per time schedule. e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary/documents with bid. f. The rates quoted by the supplier shall involve all prevailing taxes including carriages & other charges. Note: Scan all the documents on 100 doi with black and white option
معاطراہ دسر ایسے علاوہ عمیہ کی مجاند آمدنی زرایع و غیر زرایت 10583 ہے سرنظیمید زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی هخص یا اطخاص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ دیم کے اندر چیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلی قدل نہیں ہو گاہ۔ کارنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلی قدل نہیں ہو گاہ۔	سمیرہ بانو دختر زیر لطبیم میں 700 ہے۔ اسمی علاوہ عمیہ کی مہانہ آمدنی زرائع و غیر زرائع 4000ہے سرگلیک زیر بیٹ ادا کرنے میں اگر سمی همض یا اشکامی کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو دو اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ایم کے اعدر شیش کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابلی تبول نہی ہو گاہ۔	HD Executive Engineer SKICC SKICC/EE/21/197-200 Dated: 28 /01/2021 DIPK-NB-5347/20

Business

India's Eight Core Industries' **Production Down 1.3% In December**



last month

production was down 2.7 per cent

The extraction of crude oil,

which has an 8.98 weightage, de-

clined by 3.6 per cent during the

The sub-index for natural gas

Cement production, which has

Fertiliser manufacturing, which

"Discouragingly, the core index

continued to contract for the third

generated by the upticks recorded

in several other lead indicators of

tors in that month," ICRA Principal

and recovery in non-oil merchan-

rebound to a modest growth of

trailing the level seen in October

2020. The available high frequency

indicators for January 2021, such

"Based on the plateau in the core

Economist Aditi Nayar said.

a weightage of 5.37, slid by 9.7 per

cent in the month under review.

-- also declined by 2.9 per cent.

month under consideration.

declined by 7.2 per cent.

Agencies

The production of India's eight major industries decelerated on a year-on-year basis during December.

The Index of Eight Core Industries' reading in December showed output, with a weightage of 6.88, an output contraction of 1.3 per cent from an expansion of 3.1 per cent.

On a sequential basis, the output of eight major industries had contracted by 1.4 per cent in November. ECI index comprises 40.27 per

has the least weightage -- only 2.63 cent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP). These industries comprise coal, consecutive month in December

crude oil, natural gas, refinery 2020, tempering the exuberance products, fertilisers, steel, cement, and electricity. the industrial and services sec-

On a sector specific basis, the output of coal, which has a weight of 10.33 per cent in the index, performed better than others, showing an increase of 2.2 per cent in sector data, juxtaposed with the December 2020 over the same uptick in auto production trends month of the previous year.

But the output of refinery dise exports, we expect the IIP to products, which has the highest weightage of 28.04, declined 0.5-1.5 per cent in December 2020, 2.8 per cent in December 2020, compared to the corresponding month of the last fiscal.

However, electricity generaas electricity demand, generation tion, which has the second highof GST e-way bills and rail freight, est weightage of 19.85, increased indicate a reasonably steady moby 4.2 per cent, whereas the steel mentum of growth.

Sales Of Affordable Homes

Improving; Signalling Recovery

In Real Estate Sector: Survey



International tourist arrivals fell by one billion, or 74 percent, in 2020. (Representational)

Bollywood FAM Delegation Assures Support To Local Producers, Artists

Visits Various Locations At Pahalgam For Film Shooting

ducers on a FAM trip to Kashmir Saturday held a series of interactions with the local travel and hospitality sector, line producers and artists in Srinagar and Pahalgam and assured them that they would utilise their services in their future

films to be shot in Kashmir. Producer Aashish Singh said their visit to Kashmir was very shooting in Kashmir to its old golden days. "We had an amazing experi-

ence in Kashmir. We talked to every sector here associated with the tourism and film industry which has given us an insight about our new future films. We will bring many film crews here to revive our old association with the Valley when many blockbusters were shot here," he said.

SRINAGAR: The Bollywood pro- wonderful due to the excessive ing Bollywood projects. snow here. "We will take back beautiful and great memories with us and come back with film

units," he said. Singh said the government is also willing to support them and they are looking forward to a lasting relationship with the J&K. CEO of Producers Guild Nitin Ahuja assured that they will fruitful and will revive film take on board local stakeholders and artists and provide them ample opportunities during their

shoots in Kashmir. President Travel Agents Association of Kashmir (TAAK) Farooq Kuthoo, Kashmir Tourism Alliance Chairman Manzoor Pakthtoon besides some filmmakers and producers of Kashmir were also present in the meeting and discussed with the visiting delegation about opportunities for

Later, the delegation of visiting film producers left for Pahalgam where they took a tour of Betab Valley where popular film Betab was shot and also saw the facili-

Director Tourism Kashmir Dr. G N Itoo gave a detailed information to the delegation on how the J&K Government followed all SOPs while facilitating tourists in Kashmir after opening of the tourism sector across the country under current pandemic.

He also assured them that the tourism department would facilitate film makers in Kashmir for their hassle-free shootings.

A 24-member delegation from various banners of Bollywood had arrived here on January 27 and visited Gulmarg on January 28 and Pahalgam today to explore the He said their FAM trip has been the local industry in the upcom- locations for the film shooting.

tended its "golden" visa system

- which grants 10-year residen-

cy in the Gulf state – to certain

The UAE also has a growing com-

munity of wealthy expats attracted

by the low-tax regime and the

luxury megaprojects and tourist at-

The Emirates has long guaran-

teed its 1.4 million citizens a high

standard of living through reserved

jobs and a cradle to grave welfare

system. To protect it, they have sel-

NDIA IS LIKELY

dom allowed naturalisations.

tractions of the larger emirates.

holders and others.

UAE To Grant Citizenship To Investors, Professionals

Agencies

Kashmir Observer Sunday | 31-01-2021

Autonomous Driving To Be Cheaper Than Cost Of A Car: Softbank Chief Son



Agencies

ass production of vehicles without a driving wheel will start in about two years and autonomous driving is going to be cheaper than the present cost of a car, Softbank Group CEO Masayoshi Son said on Friday. Speaking at the World Economic Forum's online Davos

Agenda Summit, he said the COVID-19 situation is a tragedy, but technology is evolving faster due to the pandemic.

Speaking to BlackRock chief Larry Fink during a session on the last day of the week-long summit, attended by top government and business leaders from across the world, Son said he is optimistic in the long-run about recovery from the pandemic, adding that vaccines have come as a sign of hope.

But it will take some time to get people vaccinated, causing worry in the short run, he added. changing people lives and the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated those developments, Son said.

"Tragedy is tragedy. It's a disastrous situation. But technology-wise, it's evolving quicker," he said. For example, video confer-

encing has taken off and so has education-technology and autonomous driving, both spurred by innovations in artificial intelligence (AI), the Softbank Group Corp Chairman and CEO said.

New tech unicorns represent USD 510 billion -- half of that from US, and two-thirds of the remaining half from China, with only one company from Japan," he said.

"Some of it is not just a disruption Some of it are miracles. We wouldn't have been able to stay as connected as we are today just six years ago," Fink said.

"Think about how we are able to do our work and live our lives in this remote world as we try to say healthy. I look at that as a miracle," said Flink, who heads one of the biggest asset managers in the world.

Son added, "Consider autonomous vehicles. Licensed mass production of a vehicle without a driving wheel is starting in two years. Shortly after that, autonomous driving will be cheaper than the cost of a car." "I think a drastic change will happen to the way we live, the way we commute, the way we interact," he further said.

Asked what will it mean for workers, Son said, "People have to adapt. The technology revolution cannot be stopped or slowed down. It's happening anyway. We cannot stop it. Technological advances are We have to educate ourselves, we have to learn." Fink said a zero-carbon future is estimated to need a spending of USD 40 trillion and asked Son about his priorities for environmentallyfocused investments, to which the world's foremost startup and tech investor said he is fo-

cused on investing in solar. Asked whether AI is good for humanity or not, Son said, "Definitely it's good for humanity. It's helping people's lives. No more traffic accidents. AI is helping people connect to each other. Even global climate AI is helping. As long as we use the power of AI for the good of humanity -- which I believe that most people are -- then it is good for humanity."

ties at Pahalgam Club.





PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The COVID-19 pandemic affected the residential property market during the April-June period last year but sales have improved in affordable homes segment since July onwards, reflecting economic recovery in the real estate sector, according to the Economic Survey.

The National Housing Bank's (NHB) Housing Price Indices (HPIs) are a broad measure of movement of residential property prices observed within a geographic boundary. The NHB-RESIDEX captures tate sector," the document said. two housing price indices -- HPI@ Assessment Prices and HPI@ Market that housing loans growth deceler-Prices - Under Construction Properties based on the data available for 50 cities with quarterly updation.

valuation data collected from primary lending institutions, while in 2020-21 (April-December)

reduced by 71 per cent from March 20 to June 20 on Q-o-Q (Quarteron-Quarter) basis while on Year-on-Year basis transactions reduced by 67 per cent from June 2019 to June 2020, indicating that COVID-19 crisis has significantly impacted the residential real estate market. New listings were down significantly and buyers also reduced their home

HPI @ Market Prices for under

construction properties primary

and secondary data is collected

"The total number of transac-

ons for HPI@Assessment Price

through market survey.

buying activity," the survey said. However, during the quarter July to September 2020, transac-tions for HPI@Assessment Prices have increased by around 150 per cent on Q-o-Q basis. "...thus, it is observed that sales have retrieved in affordable segments, reflecting economic recovery in the real es-

Moreover, the survey revealed ated to 8.5 per cent in November 2020 from 18.3 per cent a year ago. A significant fall has been observed The housing price index HPI in housing inflation from 6.7 per @ Assessment Prices is based on cent in 2018-19 to 4.5 per cent in 2019-20 and further to 3.3 per cent

he United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced it is opening a path to citizenship for select foreigners, but it is unclear if new passport holders will benefit from the public welfare system.

Dubai ruler and UAE Prime Minister Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashed Al Maktoum on Saturday said "investors, specialised talents and professionals including scientists, doctors, engineers, artists, authors and their fami-

lies" would be eligible for naturalisation under the new amendment to the citizenship law. "The UAE cabinet, local emiri courts and executive councils will

nominate those eligible for the citizenship under clear criteria set for each category," he said. "The law allows receivers of the UAE passport to keep their existing citizenship." The UAE government said the

amendment "aims at appreciating the talents and competencies present in the UAE and attracting more bright minds to the Emirati



community"

Citizens make up a small minority of the nine million-strong population of the UAE, which has a huge migrant labour force, professionals, specialised degree largely from South Asia, some of whom are second or third generation residents.

UAE's visa system Foreigners in the UAE usually have renewable visas valid for only a few years tied to employment.

The government in recent has made its visa policy more flexible, offering longer residencies for certain types of investors, students and professionals.

Fruit Growers Demand Import Ban On Iranian Apples

SRINAGAR: A delegation of Jammu & Kashmir Fruit Growers Association today called on Director Horticulture Kashmir, Aiaz Ahmad Bhat to apprise him of the issues faced by them including the import of Iranian apples via Afghanistan.

The association demanded that the import and sale of Iranian Apples via Afghanistan in New Sabzi Mandi Azadpur, New Delhi must be

restricted as it severely jeopardizes the interest of fruit growers of the valley.

assured the delegation that the issue has been taken up with the UT Government as well as GoI with the request to take appropriate action as torate of Horticulture, here.



warranted.

The delegation was further assured that all their genuine issues shall be redressed.

Later, a meeting of the Sub Committee of SLEC for examina-The Director Horticulture tion and scrutiny of DPRs related to C.A. Storage units/Reefer Vans under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) was held at the Direc-

NEWS MAKERS

What's In Focus For Government's High Stakes Union

The country's ruling party has promised 'gamechanger' plans to boost economic growth when Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presents the 2021/2022 federal budget on February 1. Here's a look at some top topics she is likely to cover on Monday, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government tries to bring the country's economy back on track. (Also Read: Healthcare Spending Must Increase To 2.5-3% Of GDP: Eco Survey)

Healthcare Spending

India is likely to double healthcare spending in the next fiscal year with the aim of raising expenditure in the sector to 4 per cent of gross



domestic output in the com- ing four years, as the country looks to fix shortcomings ex- posed by the pandemic.

corporate tax to fund the new Institution programme.

in energy, mining and banking, large companies such as Life Insurance Corp.

the banking system due to the pandemic.

Aiming to boost lending in the economy and improve the valuation of state-run banks before selling stakes in them, the government could finally "bad bank", where bad assets of state-run banks could be The government could also parked and later sold at a discounted price in the market. **Development Financial**

India has set itself an ambi-

Privatisation Drive

tious target of building infra-India is likely to aim to raise structure worth 1.02 trillion \$40 billion from privatisation in the country. However, fundof a whole host of companies ing these infrastructure projects may be a challenge given and selling minority stake of the revenue constraints and strained banks' loan books. Sitharaman is likely to an-

The central bank is expect- nounce a dedicated developing a sharp rise in bad loans in ment financial institution to facilitate financing greenfield infrastructure projects.

Import Duty

India is considering hiking import duties by 5 per cent-10 per cent on more than 50 items including smartphones, announce the creation of a electronic components and appliances. The move to increase import duties is part of Modi's "self-reliant India" campaign that aims to promote and support domestic manufacturing.

to aim to raise \$40 billion from privatisation of a whole host of companies in energy, mining and banking, and selling minority stake of large companies such as Life

increase a health tax from the current 1% of income and

Insurance Corp.

NEWS

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NC Proposes Charter To Forge Unity Among Different Communities, Regions Of J&K

Press Trust of India

JAMMU: National Conference leader Devender Singh Rana on Saturday proposed a charter to forge unity and reinforce trust among different communities and regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

The core of the 'Jammu Declaration' will be to engage the people in inter-region and intra-region dialogue to bridge "the fault lines being created by divisive forces", Rana told a public meeting in the border town of Thanamandi in Rajouri district.

He strongly pitched for wideranging confidence-building measures between the two regions of Kashmir and Jammu and within each region, and among



various religious and ethnic groups and shades of opinion. He said a collective effort is needed to find out the genesis of

the fault lines and suggest corrective measures to revive and sustain the glorious ethos for which Jammu and Kashmir was known the world over.

"Time has come when such a proposition should emanate from Jammu, the abode of Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Christians, and bring into its compass the regions of Kashmir and Ladakh, given our spirit of unity," Rana, the Jammu provincial president of the National Conference, said. He hoped that the people of

Jammu region would rise above party politics and endeavour for restoring the pristine glory of their heritage based on inclusive coexistence. f "Eventually, the Jammu Declaration will encompass both the regions and help in ensuring equitable development of each region and their sub-regions," he said.

"Those claiming that Jammu and Kashmir has now joined the national mainstream are exposing their ignorance as the state had consciously chosen to become an integral part of India way back in 1947, he said in an apparent reference to the BJP leadership defending the nullification of Article 370 of the Constitution, which accorded special status to the erstwhile state.

Article 370 provisions were abrogated in August 2019 and Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into the union territories of Ladakh, and Jammu and Kashmir.

Govt Should Not Implicate Innocent Farmers Else Their Agitation Would Grow: Azad

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha Ghulam Nabi Azad Saturday asked the government to not implicate innocent farmers in the Red Fort incident otherwise their agitation would spread further, even as he condemned the January 26 violence and vandalism at the monument.

Stating this at an all-party meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Azad said the government should catch the real culprits behind the incident.

He said the government has already committed a "mistake" by not sending to a standing or a select committee the three farm sector bills before they were passed into laws, triggering protest by farmers.

"I urge the government not to commit another mistake by implicating innocent farmer leaders. If they do so then the agitation will spread," he told the meeting. "I urge the government not to stand on prestige as farmers are our own and have contributed to the freedom struggle. The government should not make it a prestige issue with our anndatas," he said.

On January 26, thousands of the protesting farmers had clashed the with the police during a tractor parade called by their unions to highlight their demand for a repeal of curves.

the Centre's three farm laws. Many of the protesters, driving tractors, had reached the Red Fort and entered the monument. Some protesters even hoisted religious flags on its domes and the flagstaff at the ramparts.

The Delhi Police has issued the notices to around 20 farmer leaders over the violence during the farmers' tractor parade, asking why legal action should not be taken against them.

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Azad said the incident is shameful and one never expected it and "we strongly condemn that and want the culprits should be punished.

However, he added, "The way this agitation is panning out, this agitation will swell and I hold the government responsible. Instead of catching the culprits, they are trying to implicate the farmer leaders.

"Lumpen elements are involved in the Red fort incident and no farmer leader is involved. That lumpen element should be caught and punished," he said.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT** PAGE

Centre Okays

abrogation of Article 370. The FAC in its meeting held on December 22, 2020 gave its go-ahead to the project subject to certain conditions, the report said.

It added that as per these conditions, every effort shall be made to ensure that trees are felled only when felling is unavoidable and it shall be done in a phased manner.

"The UT administration shall therefore also ensure that compensatory afforestation is taken up in the first year of the construction of the project, and adequate post-planting measures are taken to ensure healthy growth of regenerated forest," reads minutes of the meeting, as per the report.

As per the proceedings of FAC, the UT administration shall prepare a catchment treatment plan (CAT) which will be implemented at the cost of the user agency.

"The Rehabilitation & Resettlement plan shall ensure that no rehabilitation is proposed over forest land. A copy of the approved R&R plan shall be submitted by the user agency to the UT administration who will monitor to ensure that no project affected person occupies forest land," reads the note.

The FAC observed that "the project is of national importance which provides geo-political strategic advantage in form of more effective use of water of Ujh River".

"This project will ameliorate the agricultural and power sectors in the otherwise barren Kandi area. It will also be a boon in the dry Kandi belt which is reeling under the peril of impending water crisis during dry season and also reduce the miseries of floods in the mon-

soons," the record note further states. Agencies **J&K Reports**

Noorbagh Srinagar, a 70-year-old woman from Sanatnagar Srinagar and a 77-year-old man from Vill Naugran Bishnah Jammu. The deaths took the fatality count to 1936 in J&K– 1215 in Valley and 721 in Jammu division.

Srinagar district with 456 deaths tops the list followed by Jammu (371), Baramulla (174), Budgam (117), Kupwara (95), Pulwama (88), Anantnag (85), Doda (64), Bandipora Udhampur (57), Kulgam (54), Rajouri (61)(55), Kathua (52), Ganderbal (46), Shopian (39), Samba (39), Poonch (24), Ramban (21), Kishtwar(22), and Reasi Meanwhile, J&K reported 76 fresh Covid-19 cases, including 27 travelers, in the last 24 hours, taking the total infection count to 124449, officials said. They said that among the cases, Srinagar reported 27, Baramulla 4, Budgam Pulwama 9, Kupwara 1, Anantnag 4, Bandipora 3, Ganderbal 5, Kulgam, Shopian 1, Jammu 8, Udhampur 1, and Poonch 8. Meanwhile, 135 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and were discharged from various hospitals-25 from Jammu Division and 110 from Kashmir, taking the number of people who recovered so far to 121752. While 1936 people have died, the active case tally in J&K reduced to 761–571 in Valley and 190 in Jammu. (With GNS inputs)

Chenab region, said.

He said Bhadarwah Development Authority should play a proactive role in the revival of tourism in the valley.

Rashid Choudhary, a local youth leader from Bhaderwah, said it is a very positive sign that Doda has become the first district in the entire UT to be free from coronavirus cases.

It became possible because of the joint efforts of the residents and the district administration which implemented all SOPs in letter and spirit," he said, cautioning people not to get carried away by the scenario and keep taking precautionary measures to keep the virus at bay.

Besides Doda, five other districts in Jammu region have single digit positive cases. Kishtwar district has one positive case, Ramban (two), Kathua (three) and Rajouri and Reasi (five each).

Chilleh Kalan

recorded a low of minus 7.2 degrees Celsius marginally up from minus 7.7 degrees Celsius the previous night, officials said.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 8.8 degrees Celsius up from minus 10.8 degrees Celsius the previous night, they said.

The minimum temperature at the Gulmarg skiing resort, in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, settled at minus 10.0 degrees Celsius - up from last night's minus 11.5 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 12.5 degrees Celsius marginally down from previous night's minus 12.0 degrees Celsius.

Kupwara recorded a low of minus 3.7 degrees Celsius, while the minimum temperature in Kokernag, in the south, settled at minus 10.9 degrees Celsius.

The extreme subzero temperatures have resulted in freezing of water bodies and drinking water supply lines in many areas of the valley.

The minimum temperatures are expected to remain below freezing point for the next few days as the weatherman has forecast the possibility of a western disturbance hitting the valley on February 2.

"Light to Moderate snow and rain is most likely at scattered places of J&K and Ladakh mainly during 2-3rd February," a MeT official said. (With PTI inputs) the Kashmiri Pandit migrants residing at Jagti township here who are agitating for the last over four months.

"Till their safe and honourable return to their homes in the Valley, every effort is needed to be made to mitigate the sufferings of the migrants," Rana said during his visit to the Jagti township and interaction with those protesting on Friday.

As a mark of solidarity, he along with leaders of the NC Minority Cell, sat with the protesters, who are demanding increase of cash relief from Rs 13,000 to Rs 35,000 per month for each family, disbursement of pending amount of compensation for their damaged properties and retrieval of their encroached lands and houses in the Valley.

The protesting migrants have also been demanding filling up of the remaining posts under the PM package, issuance of appointment orders in favour of 45 and 83 candidates under the package, whose appointments were stayed and subsequently vacated by the court.

The agitating migrants also sought adequate accommodation for the migrant employees posted in Srinagar and elsewhere in the Valley. **Injured Militant,**

restraint and provided them an opportunity to surrender. Family members of the trapped militants were also called to the encounter site to motivate and persuade them to surrender," the police spokesperson said.

He further said that due to the great efforts and utmost patience of the government forces and repeated appeals with the help of their family members, both the militants ultimately laid down their arms before the joint forces.

The police spokesperson identified them as Akeel Ahmad Lone of Lelhar and Rouf Ahmad of Wasoora Pulwama, both associated with Hizb. Lone, who was injured in the initial exchange of fire, was evacuated to the hospital for treatment, he said.

"Incriminating materials, arms & ammunition including 01 AK-47 and 01 AK-56 rifles laid down by them were seized," he added.

The police spokesperson further said that a case under relevant sections of law have been registered in this regard and further investigations initiated.

"People are requested to cooperate with

Commission while Naseem Javid Choudhary, KAS, Secretary, J&K Sports Council, has been transferred and posted as Director, Tourism, Jammu.

According to the order, Nuzhat Gul, Secretary, Royal Springs Golf Course, Srinagar, holding additional charge of Managing Director-cum-Chief Executive Officer, Golf Development and Management Authority and Kashmir Golf Club, has been transferred and posted as Secretary, J&K Sports Council.

Similarly, Bakshi Javaid Humayaun, Director, SKICC, shall hold the charge of posts of Managing Director-cum-Chief Executive Officer, Golf Development and Management Authority, Secretary, Royal Spring Golf Course, Srinagar and Kashmir Golf Course, in addition to his own duties, till further orders, the official spokesperson said.

Kashmir Life Editor

was a noble soul.

KEG stands with Masood Hussain in this hour of grief and expresses solidarity with the bereaved family.

Meanwhile, Director Information and Public Relations, Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar condoled the demise of Father of Masood Hussain, Editor in Chief Kashmir Life and Mother of Nazir Masoodi, Bureau Chief NDTV.

"In this connection, a condolence meet was held in the office chambers of Director Information in which all the officers participated. Dr. Sehrish and other participants expressed deep sorrow and grief over their demises," an official spokesperson said.

Dr. Sehrish, he said, also offered her deepest condolences to the bereaved families and prayed for eternal peace to the departed souls and courage for the bereaved families to bear their irreparable losses.

KEG Condoles

grief over her demise terming it as a great loss for Mr Masoodi . KEG stands with Nazir Masoodi in this hour of grief and expresses solidarity with the bereaved family.

CBI Arrests ESIC

it was told to pay the bribe in four instalments of Rs.50, 000 each," the spokesperson said, adding "CBI laid a trap and caught the accused red-handed while demanding & accepting a bribe of Rs. 50, 000," political identities, social churning and economic returns.

From Alexander's campaign to the bloodshed during Partition — the book covers a wide spectrum. It is history by the banks of a river as old as the world.

Former chief secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Sudhir S Boleria has penned an account of Battles of Zojila.

The breakthrough at Zojila (a mountain pass in Ladakh) ensured the security of Ladakh which was gravely threatened by the hostility at that time (1947-48).

The book contains interviews with people who were part of the operations during which the garrisons of Skardu and Punch withstood long sieges against very heavy odds and a much larger enemy force.

Electric Shock

the report said that Manzoor was immediately taken to District Hospital Kulgam where doctors referred him to SMHS Srinagar in serious condition.

OGW Arrested

materials have been taken into case records for further investigation.

"As per police records, he was involved in providing shelter, logistic and other support to the active militants in Pampore and Khrew areas of Awantipora. He has also been found in touch with the PaK militant commanders through various social media platforms," the police spokesperson said.

In this connection, he said, a case FIR No. 75/2020 under relevant section of law stands **+** already registered in Police Station Pampore against him.

"Further investigation is in progress," he

added. Banned Wildlife

the forest department on Saturday raided Shirpora area of Anantnag and recovered a large quantity of contraband wildlife products including eight leopard skins, four musk deer pods and 38 bear gall bladders, an official spokesperson said. He said a man identified as Gul Mohammad Ganai has been arrested in the case.

"Significantly, a large quantity of contraband wildlife items have been recovered in Jammu, as well, as part of the same operation," the official spokesperson said. He said a case FIR no. 16/2021 under relevant sections of law stands registered in Police Station Anantnag and further investigations in the case were going on.

Doda Becomes

bringing a ray of hope among the residents especially those linked with tourism for revival of normal activities.

Doda has recorded a total of 3,428 positive cases, of whom 64 died of the infection. Jammu and Kashmir had recorded a total of 1,933 COVID-related deaths till Friday evening, while 1,21,617 of the total 1,24,373 cases recovered.

With the recovery of the last three positive cases on Friday evening, there is no active case left in our district, Block Medical Officer (BMO), Bhaderwah, Shakeel Ahmad Sumbria told PTI.

He said for the last couple of weeks, no positive case has been reported from the entire district and the credit for this goes entirely to the residents of the district who have been following the SOPs religiously.

This is a very good sign for us but it does not mean that we are permanently disease free. To maintain this status (COVID-free district), we have to keep following SOPs and do vaccination without fail," he said.

The business community, especially those associated with tourism, expressed their happiness over the development and hoped that this feat can become a turning point for the early revival of tourism related activities in the district which has suffered maximum due to the pandemic.

"Tourism is still a growing industry in Bhadarwah and other parts of Doda district. Due to the pandemic, trade came to a standstill but our district becoming coronavirus free is definitely a blessing in disguise for us and hopefully, we will be able to attract tourist again to this beautiful valley, Imtiaz-Ur-Rehman, leading eco-tourism promoter of

Highway To Remain

consecutive Thursday for repairs, officials said on Saturday. "In order to undertake major repairs and maintenance of the highway, the Government has declared every Thursday falling on February 4, 11, 18 & 25 as dry days. Please avoid journeys on the above notified days on the Highway," reads an advisory issued by Deputy Commissioner Ramban and shared on twitter.

Meanwhile, there will be one-way traffic tomorrow from Jammu towards Kashmir Valley.

"Tomorrow (January 31) subject to fair weather and better road condition only one way traffic shall be allowed from Jammu towards Srinagar including Ramban- Banihal (local traffic) on Jammu-Srinagar highway," a traffic department official said. "No vehicle carrying even live stock or fresh perishable shall be allowed in the opposite direction," the official added.

Meanwhile, Mughal road, connecting Shopian and Poonch districts, also remained closed due to the snowfall. Srinagar-Leh highway has been officially closed on the orders by Divisional Commissioner Kashmir on December 30.

30,000 KP's Apply

matters which are sub-judice.

About the construction of 6,000 accommodation units, the spokesperson said significant progress has been achieved in the last few months.

While 1,000-odd units have already been constructed, another 1,500 were approved for construction in November last year, he said, adding the tenders for these units have either been finalised or will be finalised before the end of March.

"Land identification has been done for another 2,200 units. The Detailed Project Reports for these units are under finalisation and their tenders will be finalised before the end of May," the spokesperson said.

Cumulatively, he said the procedural process has substantially been completed for nearly 5,000 accommodation units.

"It is expected that land for the remaining 1,000 units will be identified within a month which will substantially expedite the project. The migrants employees recruited under the PM package will be fully accommodated within the next 18 to 24 months," he said.

Meanwhile, National Conference (NC) Provincial President Devender Singh Rana has exhorted Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to take a considerate view with regard to demands of police till the area is completely sanitized and cleared off of all the explosive materials, if any," he said.

The surrender of the two militants, as claimed by police, comes barely a day after Inspector General of Police, Kashmir, Vijay Kumar said in a presser on Friday that the focus of police in 2021 will be to ensure surrender of local militants.

"As you may have seen, in Bandipora, Manzoor, a local militant was intercepted at a checkpoint by our party. He was given ample opportunity to surrender. He raised his hands and surrendered. We recovered five grenades and a pistol from him," Kumar said in the news conference.

"We made an effort to make him surrender because it not only helps us extract information but also persuades others to surrender," he had added.

The IGP had further said that police will make every effort to newly joined local militants to lay down their arms. He had said the police will also seek help from the parents of the militants to ensure their surrender.

Meanwhile, as per the police spokesperson IGP Kashmir has congratulated the joint team for showing utmost patience and exhibiting professionalism, which resulted in saving the life of two "misguided youth".

"IGP Kashmir once again makes a fervent appeal to all misguided youth who have joined militant ranks to shun the path of violence and return to mainstream as the society needs them and most importantly their parents. We will welcome and accept them with open arms," Kumar, as per police spokesperson said.

Cross-Border

two sides continued till 3 am but there was no report of any damage on the Indian side.

On Friday, the two armies had exchanged heavy fire and mortars along the LoC in Rajouri district. A day earlier, a 20-year-old man was injured in shelling by Pakistani troops along the LoC in Shahpur sector of Poonch district.

In 2020, over 5,400 instances of ceasefire violations by Pakistan, the highest in the past 19 years, were recorded along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir. A total of 36 people were killed and over 130 injured in these ceasefire violations, according to the officials.

They said the shelling and firing by Pakistani troops last year was "very heavy", virtually making the 2003 India-Pakistan border truce redundant. (With PTI inputs) **Govt Orders Minor**

posted as Secretary, J&K Public Service

He further said that searches were conducted at the premises of accused in Chandigarh, Mohali & Jammu which led to recovery of a cash of Rs. 7 lakh and documents related to properties.

JKP Among

professionalism, utmost dedication, and courage to oversee the security of the Raj Bhavan.

Referring to the current era of technological advancement, Sinha, as per official spokesperson laid special emphasis on the need for adopting the latest technologies by the Armed Forces personnel while discharging their duties.

"The Lt Governor observed that the whole nation has acknowledged the courage of the J&K Armed Forces' jawans. He said that JKP is among the best police organizations in the country and being accorded with one of the highest numbers of gallantry medals in the last few years, itself speaks about the courage and bravery of our Jawans of J&K Police," the official spokesperson said.

He added that Shakti Pathak, Director, Special Security Force (SSF) at the LG's Secretariat, in his welcome address, expressed his gratitude towards Sinha for continuous support and guidance and boosting the morale of the SSF personnel with his words of appreciation on the occasion. MF Qureshi, Joint Director, HQ SSF presented the vote of thanks,

Kashmir Through Pages

the Sudhan revolt in the 1950s, the Ayub era, the Simla Agreement, the adoption of an 'Interim Constitution of 1974' and the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

It is not simply a historical account but one that analyses the events in Muzaffarabad against the background of developments in Pakistan's polity to understand Islamabad's motivations for its policies in the region.

Uttam Kumar Sinha is associated with Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses since 2001.

Known for his commentaries on transboundary water issues, human security and more his research and archival material forms the content of Indus Basin Uninterrupted.

The book, in its early reviews from scholars and ministers, has been hailed for the "accounted history".

The Indus system of rivers, as a powerful symbol of the passage of time, represents not only the interdependence and interpenetration of land and water, but equally the unfolding of

Missing Man

was filed by his family with the concerned police station on January 19.

Over this time, he neither returned back to his home nor went to any of his relatives. A manhunt was launched but he could not be traced until his body was found near Cherkoot, a forest area, the report said.

Meanwhile, a police officer said that investigations have been started in this regard.

ITBP Gets New

Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, has been transferred to the ITBP Headquarters in Delhi, as per an order issued by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Headquarters here.

Lhatoo had recently joined the border guarding force. He has earlier served in the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and the Special Protection Group (SPG).

"The transfer has been done on administrative and strategic grounds. IG Seth has been posted in the same capacity and will handle the personnel and vigilance charge at the ITBP Headquarters in Delhi," a senior officer told PTI.

The new IG is expected to take charge in Ladakh in the next few days, he said.

Leh is the base for the ITBP north-west frontier and an IG-rank officer, equivalent to a Maj General rank in the Army, commands the formation that is responsible for the deployment of the troops in this part of the 3,488-km long Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China that runs from the Karakoram Pass in the Himalayas to Jachep La in Arunachal Pradesh.

Seth has been a part of various military talks, as a representative of the Union Home Ministry, being held with the Chinese to move forward on the long-negotiated disengagement process in eastern Ladakh as thousands of troops from both the sides remain deployed at friction points under freezing conditions since May last year.

He also oversaw induction of additional ITBP troops in Ladakh that was undertaken in the wake of the standoff.

The officer was posted to head the newlycreated formation in mid-2019 and was decorated with the president's police medal for distinguished service this Republic Day.

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11 Kashmir Observer

SYED MUSHTAQ ALI T20 FINAL **Formidable Tamil Nadu Favourites** Against **Underdogs Baroda**



Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: A formidable Tamil Nadu team with oodles of experience in its rank and file will have a head-start over an unheralded Baroda which shrugged off the offfield controversies to set up a promising grand finale of the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament on Sunday.

The Tamil Nadu side with right blend of youth and experience under Dinesh Karthik, has hardly looked in any sort of trouble since their group stage encounters with dominating victories while chasing.

Baroda, under their battlehardened stand-in captain Kedar Devdhar, had won some one-sided matches but also a cliff-hanger against Harvana in the quarter-final where Vishnu Solanki hit a last-ball helicopter shot to win the match.

Baroda's performance is more praiseworthy after their premier batsman Deepak Hooda stormed out after his differences with skipper Krunal Pandya, who also had to leave after his father's death.

Tamil Nadu was also in a spot of bother in the quarterfinal against Himachal Pradesh but some bighitting by Shahrukh Khan and a composed knock by Baba Aparajith saw them through.

Veteran K B Arun Karthik then played a beautiful knock of 89 against Rajasthan to take his state to the final. Opener N Jagadeesan (350 runs) tops the run-scorers list while his opening partner C Hari Nishaanth's form has tapered off after a bright start.

Skipper Karthik hasn't played a big knock but has been a stabilising influence in the middle-order during tricky run-chases.

Shahrukh will be eager to impress talent scouts in what will effectively be his last chance before the IPL auctions next month.

Lanky left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore (8 wkts so far) will have to play a big role on Sunday along with leggie M Ashwin and Aparajith, who has been more than useful with his off-breaks.

Mohammed Medium-pacers Mohammed and R Sonu Yadav have played their parts but Tamil Nadu think-tank might be tempted to drop a misfiring Aswin Crist, who came in for Sandeep Warrier and bring G Periyasamy into the playing XI.

For Baroda, a title triumph will mean their third national trophy in shortest format.

And for that to happen, burly opener Devdhar, the highest rungetter for the team with 333 runs. will have to score big again.

Apart from Devdhar, Baroda will relay on one-down Solanki, who pulled off a last over heist against Haryana in the quarter final. He, however, failed to make an impact on the semi-final and will be keen to add to his tally.

The Baroda team management will be more than happy that Kartik Kakade has roared back to form and that gives the middle order a strong look. They can continue to open with Ninad Rathva, so that he can put pressure on Tamil Nadu bowlers, with

Smit Patel coming down the order. Also, Babashafi Pathan, will be another important cog in their wheel, with both the bat and ball

Baroda's impressive pace duo of Atit Sheth and Lukman Meriwala, will try to make early inroads. Meriwala picked up three wickets in the semi-final but conceded some runs towards the end, something he would be keen to change.

However, the duo would be up against a formidable TN batting line up, and hence the challenge would be much more.

The role of the spin trio of leftarm spinners Bhargav Bhatt, Ninad Rathva and offie Kartik Kakade, will also be vital in the middle overs and in deciding the match's fate.

Toothless Real Kashmir Draw O-O Against Gokulam **Kerala In I-League**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir's defensivestart to 2020-21 Hero I-League season was on show yet again on Saturday as they drew 0-0 against a tough Gokulam Kerala FC side at Kalyani Stadium, West Bengal.

Theconsecutive draw means that the Srinagar-based Real Kashmir have won only 1 match and drawn 3, while scoring just 4 goals in their opening 4 matches of the I-League campaign.

Gokulam Kerala created several chances in both halves of the match and will be disappointed at not being able to come away with all 3 points. TheMalabarians proved a constant threatwith the attacking flair of their forward line led by D Antwi and P Adjah.

The defensive achievements of Mason Robertson captained Real Kashmir were also on full display as they thwarted all attempts at their goal. The defensive unit has been a saving grace for them this season, as they have conceded a miserly amount of 2 goals.

The Snow Leopards had chances of their own in the opposition



ish, Aser and Samuel failed to capitalize. Coach David Robertson's tactic of not making attacking changes and using only 1 of his 3available substitutes, alsoirked some RKFC fans.

With this result, Real Kashmir FC sit 5thwith 6 points, and a

Ranji Trophy Cancelled For The First Time In 87 Years

One Day tournament simulta-

Trophy and follow it up with

Vinoo Mankad Trophy Under-19.

This has been decided after hav-

ing received your feedback on

the domestic season 2020-21,"

Shah wrote a letter to state units,

It is understood that BCCI will

probably follow the same group-

ings and bio-bubble for the Hazare

Trophy that will start next month.

how difficult it was to plan out

the domestic calendar for the

season in the post COVID world.

lost a lot of time and conse-

quently, it has been difficult to

plan the cricket calendar on ac-

count of the precautions that are

necessary for the safe conduct of

decided that players will be

compensated in case there is a

truncated season and with play-

ers missing out on Ranji Trophy

The BCCI during its AGM had

the games," Shah wrote.

"As you are aware, we have

Shah in his letter spoke about

which is in possession of PTI.

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: The BCCI will not be conducting its premier firstclass domestic tournament Ranji Trophy for the first time in 87 years as the parent body opted for the Vijay Hazare Trophy as per the wishes of majority of the state units.

The BCCI will also host the U-19 National One Day tournament for the Vinoo Mankad Trophy and the Women's national 50-over tournament as per a letter sent by BCCI secretary Jay Shah to the state units.

While BCCI president Sourav Ganguly and secretary Shah were keen to have the blue riband tournament that pays the maximum match fee (Rs 1.5 lakh per game approx) for the players, it is understood that a twomonth long bio-bubble even for a truncated two-phased Ranji Trophy in times of the COVID-19

pandemic wasn't feasible. "I am extremely happy to inform you that we are going to

conduct the Senior Women's match fees, it is expected that the board will devise a mechaneously with the Vijay Hazare nism by which the premier domestic cricketers of the country are taken care of financially.

moved up to 4th with 7 points.

Leaders Churchill Brothers have

amassed 11 points from the open-

Real Kashmir will next play In-

dian Arrows FC on Thursday, 4th

ing 5 games.

February.

Shah, in his letter, thanked the state units which successfully conducted the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament.

"I write this with some satisfaction and whole lot of gratitude towards the state associations and staff of the BCCI for the successful conduct of the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 tournament so far after having delivered a flawless IPL earlier," Shah wrote.

He also informed the members that preparations for the England series is in full swing.

"The preparations for the England tour of India which commences on 5th February onwards, are in full swing and there is a lot of excitement around it after the historic tour of Australia where, as you are aware, the team had performed miraculously under extremely trying circumstances," he said.

Virat Kohli At 4, Cheteshwar Pujara Rises To 6 In Latest **ICC** Test Rankings



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: Virat Kohli remained the highest-placed Indian batsman at fourth position even as Cheteshwar Pujara rose a rung to sixth in the latest ICC Test rankings issued on Saturday.

Apart from Kohli (862) and Pujara (760), Test vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane (748) is the other Indian batsman in the top-10, hanging on to the eighth spot.

Pujara moved up one place to sixth while wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant and star opener Rohit Sharma remained static on the 13th and 18th spots, respectively. New Zealand captain Kane Wil-

liamson (919) continued to lead

tralian duo of Steve Smith (891) and Marnus Labuschagne (878) rounding up the top three while England skipper Joe Root (823) retained the fifth spot. Among the bowlers, veteran

the batting charts, with the Aus-

spinner Ravichandran Ashwin (760) and pace ace Jasprit Bumrah (757) retained their eighth and ninth spots, respectively.

Pat Cummins (908) continues to lead the chart followed by England pacer Stuart Broad (839) and New Zealand's Neil Wagner (835). Ravindra Jadeja (419) and Ash-

win (281) also retained the third and sixth place, respectively, in the all-rounders' list led by England's Ben Stokes (427).

IND VS ENG Ben Stokes, Jofra Archer **Train As England Squad Clear** Second COVID Test

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: All-rounder Ben Stokes, pacer Jofra Archer and reserve opener Rory Burns on Saturday had their first training session at the Chepauk after successfully completing six days of hard quarantine, while other members of the squad cleared their second COVID-19 test.

The trio were not a part of the Sri Lanka Test series with Stokes and Archer being rested for workload management purpose while Burns skipped the previous tour due to the birth of his first child.

The trio had reached India earlier than their colleagues and having already cleared their three RT-PCR tests could hit the nets on Saturday.

"The first group of players -Archer, Burns and Stokes - will practice each morning for the next three days. They are limited to a two-hour session," England's media manager Danny Reuben in-



formed.

"The entire England touring party received their second PCR COVID-19 test yesterday. All results returned negative results," he added.

The full England squad is scheduled to start its training from February 2 ahead of the series opener against India, starting February 5 here.



Australian Open Prepares For A Big Week Ahead As 14-Day Quarantine Period Ends

Agencies

MELBOURNE: The last group of quarantined players in Melbourne ahead of the Australian Open and a week of tune-up tournaments was set to leave their hotels at midnight Saturday night, ending a mammoth twoweek effort to reduce the chance of any international arrivals bringing the coronavirus Down Under.

More than 1,000 players and officials went into a two-week guarantine from January 14 when the first of 17 flights chartered by Tennis Australia landed in Melbourne and Adelaide.

Three of those charters contained players or entourages with COVID-19, meaning that 72 players had to go into hard quarantine with no opportunity to practice. Other players not in hard quarantine were allowed out of their rooms for up to five hours a day to train.

Melbourne Park, site of the Australian Open, was busy Saturday with all but 22 players out of hotel quarantine and preparing for the tune-up tournaments which get under way on Sunday. Japan's Kei Nishikori and Benoit Paire of France were among those who could exit their hotels at 11.59 pm on Saturday. Two WTA tournaments kick off official proceedings on Sunday, and Australia's world no 1 Ash Barty has a

first-round bye in one of them. Ajla Tomljanovic, ranked no 69, takes on Alize Cornet of France in the first round to determine who will play 2019 Australian Open champion Naomi Osaka in the second.

There is one other WTA tournament scheduled only for those players who were in hard lockdown.

As well, the ATP Cup team event begins Tuesday and there are two other ATP men's tournaments scheduled in Melbourne ahead of the February 8-21 Australian Open. The first Grand Slam tournament of the year was delayed by three weeks to allow for the 14-day guarantine and a week of warm-up tournaments.

Some of the big stars got their season started unofficially on Friday in an exhibition tournament at

Adelaide's Memorial Drive, where Serena Williams beat Osaka, Rafael Nadal defeated US Open champion Dominic Thiem and second-ranked Simona Halep beat no 1 Ash Barty. Australian Open chief executive Craig Tiley said Saturday the Australian Open will be fair for all players despite differing preparations. Tiley said the players who were in hard lockdown had been given priority with their

schedules and access to training facilities. He said with all players having at least nine days between guarantine and the start of the Open, the tournament would be as fair as it could be. "There have been a lot of questions about a fair playing field some players have had to quarantine,

some have not," Tiley said. "We've given nine days when coming out of quarantine to when they'll really need to be playing. It's not going to be perfectly ideal, but it's enough time to be as ready as you possibly can be. No different to inclement weather or someone being a bit sick and having to take a few days off."

Media Reports In Australia Say Players **Unhappy With Justin Langer's Coaching Style**

Press Trust of India

MELBOURNE: Australia head coach Justin Langer's intense "micro-management" coaching style has apparently not gone down well with a lot of players even as the former opener termed the insinuations as something that "couldn't be further from truth".

The fissures in the Australian camp have come out in the open after an under-strength India came back from behind to hammer Australia 2-1 in their own den.

According to a report in the 'Sydney Morning Herald' quoting multiple sources close to the Australian set-up, some players are apparently not happy with Langer's management style because of his intensity and mood swings.

The report suggested that Langer is no longer able to cope up with demands of being a threeformat coach.

"Dressing-room sources say

that over a gruelling summer, Langer's management style wore thin with some players, who on top of having to live in a bubble for months on end say they have become drained by his intensity and mood swings," the SMH reported. "...some senior players are frustrated at the atmosphere in the team being brought down by the coach's shifting emotions and what they see as too much micromanagement. They say that has extended to bowlers being bombarded with statistics and instructions about where to bowl at lunch breaks including during the fourth and final Test against India at the

Gabba." the report further read. Langer, however, refuted the claims that his relationship with players had soared.

"Couldn't be further from the truth," adding that "leadership isn't a popularity contest."

"If players just want someone to tickle their stomachs all the

time then I'm not doing my job. "It's actually the opposite of what happens. I never talk about statistics to the bowlers, ever. I don't go to any of the bowlers' meetings. That's what the bowlers' coach is meant to be doing," he said.

"I don't do any of that. I never, ever, ever speak to any of the bowlers about any of that sort of stuff. And the learnings of the last few months are I should start looking at that more.'

Langer still has 18 months left in his contract and the 50-year-old former left-handed opening partner of Matthew Hayden said he has no problems with his workload.

"There are stresses to the job. It's a big job," he said.

The report further states many Australian current team players now have developed an affinity for assistant coach Andrew Mc-Donald, who they feel is more approachable.

"Players believe Langer means

well and respect his legacy in the sport but some have turned more and more to assistant coach Andrew McDonald for support because they increasingly don't know where they stand with the boss," it read.

"During the Brisbane Test Langer ordered a player not to persist with a habit of jamming a toasted sandwich in his pocket to eat on the field."

"...the coach's headmaster-like manner and difficulty coping with pressure was in the summer increasingly incompatible with a team consisting largely of experienced players in their late 20s or 30s."

But Langer defended the decision, saying such a habit was unacceptable from a national cricketer as the team was in pursuit of a Test match victory over a side like India.

"You're walking on against India, we're trying to win a Test match and one of our players walks on with a toasted sandwich

'Can't Field The Best Team In Every Series Because Of The COVID Pandemic,' Says Jos Buttler

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: England's dashing wicketkeeper Jos Buttler on Saturday said the top players of world cricket won't feature in every series going ahead as they focus on their mental well-being in a world scarred by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Playing the game while living in a bio-bubble has forced Buttler to only focus on his "short-term goals" at the moment.

"You want your strongest team out every time, but unfortunately. that doesn't seem possible at the moment," Buttler said during a virtual media conference.

His comments made it clear where the team stands on Jonny Bairstow being rested for the first two Tests of the upcoming fourmatch series against India.

Buttler supported the England and Wales Cricket Board's (ECB) rotation policy during their twin tours of Sri Lanka and India.

While his complete focus in on upcoming series, he may not feature in the last two matches and may come back for the white ball leg, as Bairstow is set to join the team before the third Test.

"It's certainly a challenge but people around the world are going through tough situations. The pandemic has had people whose world has been turned upside down and we are very fortunate to play cricket and do our job that we love," Buttler said. "Having said that you do find it challenging having to stay away



from your families, being in quarantine and locked up in hotels. ECB has been forward thinking in rotating players for this series.

"At times, it's frustrating as you want to have best players on the show all the time but it's not possible with the amount of time that one spends in a bio bubble. You can't expect people to keep doing that," he said during the conference organised by ECB for Indian journalists.

Buttler conceded that shortterm goals seems practical to him considering the uncertainty.

"You have to try and look after yourself as best as you can. Short term goals I think are really important and when you look ahead there is so much uncertainty in

most of the things that we are doing. I am looking at this series to start with."

While he agreed that the IPL will be a good preparatory ground for him personally, he said the five T20 Internationals in March will benefit the team, which is not as experienced as England's ODI squad, in the year of the T20 World Cup.

"We had a very settled team during ODI World Cup as guys played for a long period of time, and I think that was a huge plus for us going into the tournament.

"T20 side, we haven't had that time to play together as a group and familiarity with roles, so to play against a brilliant side like India gives us the perfect preparation for that tournament (T20 World Cup)."

Playing the IPL does give him an extra edge as getting used to facing someone as unique as Jasprit Bumrah takes time.

"I think the thing what IPL does give you is familiarity of the wickets, and the guy having played against majority of the guys, sort of understanding of their action and how they try and bowl.

"If you haven't faced guys before and somebody like a (Jasprit) Bumrah, who has a bit of unique action it can be bit of problem. It takes some (time) getting used to it.

"Certainly for the boys who have played international cricket before against India and played against (them) in the IPL, certainly know the angles and what to expect a little bit.'

OUTPOST

Modi: Govt Offer On Suspending Farm Laws Still Stands; Tomar Just A Phone Call Away



sure Parliament functions smooth-

ly, there are no disruptions and

thus, the smaller parties are able

to voice their views in Parliament,'

The all-party meeting is con-

vened for the government to put

forth its legislative agenda before

political parties. Leaders from vari-

ous parties flag issues they wish to

The prime minister also con-

demned the vandalism of Mahat-

ma Gandhi's statue in California in

the US, the parliamentary affairs

leaders including Ghulam Nabi

Azad of Congress, Sudip Bandyo-

padhyay of Trinamool Congress,

Balwinder Singh Bhunder of Shiro-

mani Akali Dal and Vinayak Raut of

Shiv Sena raised the issue of pro-

All major opposition parties

While almost all opposition par-

ties condemned the violence and

vandalism at Red fort by a group

of protesting farmers on Republic

Day, they asserted that other farm-

ers protesting peacefully should

the passage of women's reserva-

tion bill during the budget session

which was supported by the YSR

TMC's Bandyopadhyay said boy-

cott of President's address by 20

opposition parties was a strong

message for the government

to withdraw the farm laws, the

Meanwhile, the BJD demanded

not be held responsible for it.

Congress and the TRS.

sources said.

sought discussions on farmers' is-

testing farmers, sources said.

sues during the meeting.

At Friday's meeting, various

raise during the meeting.

minister said.

Joshi said citing Modi's remarks.

Press Trust of India

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday told floor leaders of various political parties that his government's offer on agriculture laws made to protesting farmers "still stands" and it was a "phone call away" for talks, days after violence broke out in parts of the national capital on Republic Day.

Addressing these leaders at the customary all-party meeting convened by the government for the smooth conduct of the Budget Session, the prime minister, responding to the references by opposition leaders about the "unfortunate incident" on Republic Day, said that the "law will take its own course".

Sharing the details of the meeting chaired by Modi and attended by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said, "The prime minister assured that the Centre is approaching the farmers issue with an open mind."

"The prime minister said the Centre's stand is same as it was on January 22, the last meeting between the protesting farmers and the Centre and proposal given by Agriculture Minister on the farm laws still stands. Modiji reiterated what Tomarji had said—that he (Narendra Singh Tomar) is a phone call away for talks," Joshi said quoting Modi.

Emphasising on the need for smooth functioning of Parliament, Modi said smaller parties suffer the most due to disruptions as they do not get chance to raise their issues.

"It is for the bigger parties to en-

GHAZIPUR BORDER

Resolve Grows Stronger, Farmers Say Movement Not Affected By Jan 26 Incident

Press Trust of India

Solidarity among farmers at the Ghazipur border protest site showed no signs of waning on Saturday with their leaders reaffirming their resolve to carry on the long-drawn movement against the new farm laws. Days after BKU leader Rakesh

Tikait's emotional appeal had galvanised farmers from Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand to flock to the Delhi-UP border site, several farmers said, "the fight shall go on against all odds." Tikait on Saturday addressed

a huge crowd at the protest site, which has become a new focal point of the agitation after his teary-eyed speech when the number of farmers at Ghazipur border seemed to have thinned after the January 26 violent clashes.

He reaffirmed the resolve of the farmers in this agitation, saying they have fought this battle for over two months now, and "they won't relent or retreat".

A man from Amritsar offered water to Tikait on the dais, saying "The tears shed by Tikait ji were not just tears, they were tears of a farmer, from which solidarity has grown."

In various camps at Ghazipur border, farmers PTI spoke to still tremble at the mention of the infamous Red Fort incident of unfurling a religious flag from the ramparts of the national monument and the violent clashes that preceded. "Those people who did it, they

are not our people. That faction had an ulterior motive, and what happened on January 26, seemed to be part of a plan by our detractors to defame and weaken our movement which has been going strong," said 75-year-old D P Singh.

member of the Central Kisan Committee of All India Kisan Sabha. "Yes, we were emotionally hurt by the incident and all the aspersions cast on us after it, but



that incident has not affected our movement, it has only grown stronger, with more solidarity coming from people," he said.

At Ghazipur , a multitude of green-and-white caps, symbolic of the unions fronting the battle, flags of unions and tricolours, planted on tractors, dot the highway.

On various tractors and camps, photos of legendary leaders such as Chaudhary Charan Singh and Mahendra Singh Tikait, and slogans like 'I Love Kheti' and like 'Garv se Kaho Kisan ke Putra ho', seek to pump up energy among the farmers, whose enthusiasm had ebbed away a bit in the wake of Republic Day incident and fears of a crackdown by security forces on the night of January 28.

However, the emotional outburst of Rakesh Tikait again galvanised people and many from parts of western Uttar Pradesh continued to stream in on Saturday too.

Pankaj Pradhan, 52, head of Charaura village in Bulandshahr, who arrived in the afternoon along with seven other people to Ghazipur border protest site, became emotional, recalling the night of January 28.

"We were all awake, watching Tikait ji crying, some were glued to TV sets, others on mobile phones, and we all felt restless. I was moved to tests too, and women too got emotional. But, his tears touched a chord with everyone, and made them connect stronger to the movement," he said.

Farmers also came from Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and other parts of Uttar Pradesh, many of whom addressed the crowd at the protest site. All of them alleged that "attempts were made to malign this

movement" and "defame it", but the agitation has "come out stronger". Anil Chaudhary, who came from Bulandshahr too, rued what

happened at Red Fort and in the streets of Delhi on January 26, and said, "it did hurt our morale". "But, we feel stronger now,

and Tikaitji's tears brought me here. Every person in my village is touched by his emotional appeal. And, our solidarity will only grow from here, even though they may stack up odds against us," he said.

Kashmir Observer 12

ISRAEL EMBASSY BLAST

Two People Seen on CCTV; Delhi Police Investigates Possible Involvement

Agenceis

ACCTV footage of the Israel Embassy blast site has revealed that a cab had dropped two persons near the embassy and it is yet to be ascertained whether these persons have any role in the explosion, according to Delhi Police sources.

The Delhi Police Special Cell has contacted the concerned cab driver and enquired about the two persons. Police are drawing out the pictures of the two persons on the basis of inputs gathered from the cab driver.

The police are on high alert following the Israel Embassy lowintensity blast and sources have confirmed that ammonium nitrate was used for the explosion. Sources have also said this blast may be a trial of some "bigger conspiracy". "The forensic team has got evi-

dence of the usage of ammonium nitrate for the blast which caused a small trench at the site," sources said, adding that if RDX was used then the ing it to ascertain information. The envelope that was found from the spot was found around 12 yards away from the blast site and police sources have said that the letter was addressed to the Israel Ambassador. Police are tracing its fingerprints and examining its contents.

A low-intensity explosion took place near the Israel Embassy this evening. No injuries have been reported in the incident so far. Windscreens of several cars parked in the vicinity of the Embassy on Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Road were found damaged.

The explosion took place not far from Vijay Chowk, where several VVIPS including President Ram Nath Kovind, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was in attendance during the 'Beating Retreat' ceremony.

The Special Cell is investigating the blast and according to Delhi Police sources, the preliminary investigation has suggested a mischievous act with the aim to spread panic. Security has been increased in and around the area.



impact would have been higher. Police have also recovered a separate CCTV footage, a halfburnt pink scarf and an envelope addressed to Israel Ambassador from the blast site, sources said. Police also found a camera hidden behind a tree near the blast site. In the footage retrieved from the camera, the timestamp was of the year 1970 but the content is

not clear and police are investigat-

An alert has also been issued at all airports, important installations, and government buildings in view of the blast. Enhanced security measures have been put in place, the Central Industrial Security Force said.

The Mumbai Police is also on high alert after the incident and security has been stepped up across the city. There is also a high alert in Uttar Pradesh after the incident in Delhi.

Booked During Anti-CAA Protests On Campus, AMU Student Banned From Aligarh For 6 Months

ALIGARH: The Aligarh administration has banned AMU student leader Arif Khan Tyagi from the district for six months terming him a threat to peace in the city, a year after he was booked under different charges during the anti-CAA protests on the campus.

LI-CAA protests on the campus. Aligarh Muslim University spokesman Professor Shafay Kidwai told PTI the externment order pertained to the protests on the campus against the Cit-



Shaking Off Covid-19 Gloom, KIIT On Track to Achieve Record Placement for 2020-21 Graduating Batch

he Covid-19 pandemic brought life to a standstill in the country and the ene globe. Even as the stu munity is among the worst-hit - academic activities are yet to resume in schools and colleges - KIIT Deemed to be University was the first institution to adapt to the "new normal". It is the first university in the country to start online classes for its 30.000 students in 50 countries right from the beginning of the lockdown. Online teaching-learning, which is continuing successfully and effectively, has helped the university to maintain its academic schedule perfectly. KIIT has smoothly conducted all academic processes like examinations, convocation, seminars, workshops, etc. on virtual mode due to its good technology and high internet bandwidth. KIIT was founded in 1992 as a modest vocational training centre by eminent educationist and social activist Prof. Achyuta Samanta. However, it was opened as a centre of higher learning in 1997, which is considered as the base year. The first batch of degree engineering students passed out in 2001. KIIT is known for its very successful track record in campus placement since its inception. Maintaining the trend, it achieved excellent campus placement for the 2019-20 graduating batch. Despite the prevailing pandemic situation, the university is on track to achieve record campus placement for its 2020 - 21 passing out batch also. The process, which commenced online from July 1, has already resulted in the placement of about 80% eligible students of the Schools of Technology (SOT) of KIIT Deemed to be University. Shaking off Covid-19 gloom, as many as 90 companies have visited online for campus placement for the 2021 passing out batch generating 3500 job offers. Over 2500 SOT students have already been placed in different national and multinational companies. As many as 1000 students have multiple offers in their hands. Students have bagged jobs offers with high pay packages of Rs. 30 lakh, Rs. 24 lakh and Rs. 19 lakh, while the average salary is Rs. 6 lakh. Going by the commitments from companies, KIIT is set to achieve placement of 700 more students by April 2021. Even though the campus placements are being conducted online, KIIT has bettered its record compared to the last academic session. Campus placement in KIT School of Management and KIIT School of



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izenship Amendment Act which began on December 15, 2019.

The externment order was issued to the final-year post graduate student by the Additional District Magistrate (ADM) City Rakesh Kumar Maalpani last week under the Uttar Pradesh Control of Goondas Act. Arif received it two days back.

The order stated that Arif was a threat to the peace of the city and his presence posed a danger to its peaceloving residents.

Arif has had more than half a dozen cases registered against him during the two months of anti-CAA protest on the campus in December 2019 and January 2020.

After he was served the order, Arif p told mediapersons that all the cases against him pertained to protests on the campus. He said all citizens whether h farmers, trade union members or stu-

dents have a right to peaceful protest. "The externment order was yet another attempt to muzzle freedom of expression," he said, adding he would move court against the order. AMU spokesperson Kidwai said

the student had been named by the

police for the violent incidents which took place on the night of December 15, 2019. He said that the university had not separately filed any complaint against the student.

Violent protests had broken out against the CAA on the campus on December 15 in which over 70 people, including students, AMU security staff and police personnel were injured. The university had to announce an extended winter break following the clashes.



Model Airport For Flying Cars To Be Unveiled In England

Agencies

LONDON: An airport for flying cars will thrust the English city of Coventry into the future later this year, with a project aimed at demonstrating how air taxis will work in urban centres.

Urban-Air Port, a British-based start-up, has partnered with car giant Hyundai Motor to develop the infrastructure required for when flying cars take to the skies to ferry around people and goods. From November, visitors to Coventry will be able to see what a flying car airport looks like and see a passengercarrying drone and an operational electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) vehicle on the landing pad.

Urban-Air Port was selected by a government programme aimed at developing zero-emission flying and new air vehicles, winning a 1.2-million-pound (\$1.65-million) grant to help fund the temporary installation of the airport in Coventry city centre.

"With UK government backing and Hyundai Motor Group's backing we'll be realising the first fully operational airport in the world," Urban Air-Port founder and executive chairman Ricky Sandhu told Reuters on Friday.

While there has been progress on developing flying cars, Sandhu said the infrastructure was the missing piece.

"You can't get off the train or get on the train unless you get to the train station so that supporting ground infrastructure is absolutely key," he said. Law has just started and it is hoped that these two Schools will also achieve cent percent success like every year.

Parents and students are very happy over the placement achievement in KIIT. After the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, parents and guardians of students had become disheartened about the future of their children, particularly in terms of campus placement. The job market scenario was looking very bleak with the entire corporate world resorting to reduced staffing and even mass retrenchment due to the prolonged lockdown. However, against all odds, KIIT has been ensuring very good campus placement for its 2020-21 graduating batch. It has been possible due to the leadership of its founder Prof. Achyuta Samanta, who has ensured a strong branding of KIIT in the corporate world and an exceptionally proactive Training & Placement Cell.

KIIT has academic tie-up with 195 international universities providing an excellent opportunity for students to pursue higher education abroad. KIIT facilitates the academic placement of about 500 students every year in reputed national and international institutions for higher studies. Renowned academicians, industry leaders and prominent personalities from all walks of life visit KIIT and students gain immense exposure by interacting with them. Under the innovative platform Nobel Lecture Series, 22 Nobel Laureates have delivered lectures at KIIT on subjects ranging from medicine, chemistry, physics, biotechnology to economics.

Research accomplishments of the faculty and students demonstrate the positive impact of KIIT's focus on quality academics, research and innovation. Currently, nearly 100 research and consultancy projects are funded by various national and international funding agencies. Faculty members and research scholars of the University have published about 12,000 papers in various national and international journals of repute. Over 4500 research papers have been indexed in international databases like Scopus with a high citation index.

Besides a truly world-class infrastructure, KIIT's focus on quality academics and research are reflected in its accreditation in high grades by various national and international accreditation bodies. It has been recognized as an 'Institution of Eminence' by the Govt. of India. It is accredited by NAAC in 'A' Grade and by NBA in Tier 1 (Washington Accord) for engineering streams. Its B.Tech programmes have also got the coveted Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), UK accreditation.

KIIT has been ranked 1st among selffinancing institutions of India in the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020, an annual ranking by the Govt. of India. It is the winner of 'Awards Asia 2020' in the category 'Workplace of the Year' by the Times Higher Education (THE). Among several accolades, it has been conferred with the 13th Quality Council of India - DL Shah Quality Silver Award and Viswakarma Award by the AICTE. KIIT also has impressive positions in national and global rankings like NIRF, Times Higher Education (THE), Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) and many others.

KIIT has the highest contribution to promote sports and games in the country as a university. It has the most elaborate and comprehensive sports infrastructure located at an educational institution. KIIT has produced hundreds of talented sportspersons who have brought glory for India at various international level meets like Olympics, World University Games, Commonwealth Games and Asian Games.