

GQuote No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it. — Albert Einstein

NEWS DIGEST

HC Quashes PSA Slapped On Jamaat Chief

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir High Court has quashed the Public Safety Act slapped on Jamaat-e-Islami chief Abdul Hamid Ganai saying the detention order was vitiated by "total non-application of mind" by the detaining authority. A division bench of justices Sanjeev Kumar and Rajnesh Oswal on Monday set >> More On P10

Woman Delivers Baby In Army Vehicle

SRINAGAR: The joy of Gulam Rabani, a casual labourer in North Kashmir's Kupwara district, knew no bounds when he finally cuddled his baby girl who was born in an Army vehicle in adverse weather, officials said here on Tuesday. The child was born on Monday when the mother was being shifted to a hospital for delivery in the Army vehicle, they said. The Army, which often provides relief >> More On P10

J&K Admin Issues SOPs For Cinemas, Theatres

JAMMU: A day after allowing cinema halls and theatres to operate at full capacity, the Jammu and Kashmir administration on Tuesday issued fresh guidelines on preventive measures to contain the spread of COVID-19 like noting the contact numbers of the audience and frequent sanitisation >> More On P10

Brain Dead Teen Saves Four Lives

JAIPUR: Four people got a new lease of life after the family of a 14-year-old boy, declared brain-dead after suffering critical injuries in a road accident. decided to donate his vital organs, an official said. Dr Sudhir Bhandari, the principal of Sawai Mansingh Medical College on

34 LAKH Domicile Certificates Issued In J&K Till Jan 25

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u and Kashmir AR MENDHAR Lifficate

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has issued almost 34 lakh domicile certificates across the Union territory till January 25, Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday.

Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy also said that since the abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into Union Territories in August 2019. a total of 58 civilians have



Jammu and Kashmir has reported that up to January 25, 2021, a total of 33, 80, 234 domicile certificates have been issued in Jammu and Kashmir," he said. Reddy said as Jammu

and Kashmir is battling the menace >> More On P10

370 and sliced the erstwhile

State of J&K into two Union

Union Minister of State for

Home Affairs G K Reddy in a

written reply to a query raised

by BJP MP Jugal Kishore in the

Parliament said: "During the fi-

nancial year of year 2019-2020, Rs 1267 crore were released as

The reply further reads that

in addition, the MHA also re-

leased Rs 40.20 crore for the

modernization of J&K police

under the SRE (Police).'

Territories—J&K and Ladakh.

Security Expenditure In J&K All Time High

Centre Pumped Rs 1267 Cr Post Art-370 Abrogation: MHA

Agencies

ON THE EVE OF

WORLD

CANCER

DAY **4TH FEBRUARY** 2021

CANCER SOCIETY

OF KASHMIR

کینسر سوسائیٹے آف کشمیر

Is Organizing

Free Consultation for the Patients suffering from various Gastrointestinal concerns.

Patients with Gastrointestinal Problems particularly having family

history of Cancer can avail the opportunity by registering their names in CSK's office or on phone no's of the society shown below.

Consultation shall be provided by reputed oncologists & other reputed

experts on the subject from 10:00am to 02:00 pm on 04-02-2021.

Venue: - 4-Bagh-i-Islam Colony Lal Nagar, Chanapora, Srinagar 190015.

TIME: - 10:00AM TO 2:00PM For prior appointment contact :- 0194-2441899/2430899

Issued In Public Interest By: CANCER SOCIETY OF KASHMIR

SRINAGAR: The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Tuesday revealed that the annual security related expenditure (SRE) for the J&K was Rs 1267 crorehighest ever since the killing of top Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani in 2016. The highest ever figure of

for the same period i.e. 2019-SRE also coincided with the 2020. "Modernisation of the financial year of 2019-20, police force is an ongoing prothe year when Centre ancess," the reply state nounced scrapping the article Figures reveal » More On P10

2 Day Wet Spell In Kashmir From Today Surface, Air Traffic Likely To Get Affected: MeT



SRINAGAR: The minimum Tuesday, even as the MET Office forecast >> More On P10 temperature in Kashmir,



Ex Excise Commissioner **Faces Graft Charges**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The anti-corruption bureau (ACB) on Tuesday filed a case against a former excise commissioner for amassing wealth "grossly disproportionate" to his known sources of income.

Mohammad Javed Khan, the then Excise Commissioner, J&K was booked by the anti-graft body on the basis of a preliminary enquiry that he has accumulated huge assets, both immovable and movable properties in his own name, and in the name of his wife and other family members within J&K and outside J&K, ▶ More On P10

since August 2019 is 76,80,775. On August 5, 2019, the Centre revoked the special status,

or limited autonomy, grant-Constitution >> More On P10

ئمرشل یعنی تحارت کے لئے۔۔

اس کی شناخت___

والےزندہ مرغوں کی کڑی نگرانی۔

جانا_اچا نکموت،خون آلودہ ڈائریا،

میں خاصی گراوٹ، سانس لینے میں مشکلات، چلنے میں دشواری وغیرہ۔

ہیں کی کڑی نگرانی کےعلاوہ قفتیش وتحقیق و پڑ تال کاعمل جاری رکھیں۔

زِگ قاضی گنڈیل قائم لائیوسٹاک چیک یوسٹ پر باہر سے درآمد ہونے

قدرتى آبي ذ خائر،آبي پڼاه گاموں دغیرہ جو^{د بنگ}ل، بدیس، ومہاجر پرندوں کی آماجگاہیں

تچھوٹے پیمانے پر پالےجانےوالے پرندے۔۔۔

بہتر غذا کھائیے تندر ست ریلیے ؟ ۔۔ بھی واقع ہو سے تی ہے۔ وائر سس سے بھیلنے والاانفیکشن (عفونت)جو پر ندوں م

طیوری وباڈی زکام بھیلانے ولے دائرس کے کئی اقسام ہیں،جن میں سے چندامک پولٹر می جبکہ چند دیگرانسانوں وحانوروں پراثرا ندازہوتے ہیں

تجارتی بنیادوں پر پالے جانے والے پر ندوں کے جھنڈ پر یہ وائر س کیسے انفیکشن (عفونت) کر تا ھے۔

Shelling Continues Along LoC

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Tension continues to rise along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir where Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged gunfire and mortars for the sixth consecutive day Tuesday.

The Pakistan Army opened heavy fire and shelled forward posts along the LoC in several sectors of Poonch district on Tuesday, drawing retaliation from Indian troops, a defence spokesman said.

"At about 1445 hours, Pakistan Army initiated unprovoked ceasefire violation by firing with small arms and intense shelling with mortars along Line of Control (LoC) in Mankote sector in district Poonch", he said.

The Indian Army retaliated befittingly, he said.

Pakistan troops also resorted to shelling and firing in >> More On P10

From 1 Million To 84 Thousand **Tourist Arrivals Nosedived After August 2019**

Highway Open

For Srinagar To

Jammu Traffic

ObserverNewsService

ne way traffic will be

owed on the 270-km

ammu-Srinagar highway subject to fair weather

and better road conditions, as

the weather department has

predicted another wet spell

across Kashmir, officials said

Tuesday. According to a com-

lice, only one way traffic shall

muniqué by J&K traffic po-

be allowed from Srinagar

towards >> More On P10

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Tourist arrivals in Jammu & Kashmir have witnessed a steep decline as a mere 84.000 tourists visited Kashmir in the 18 months as against over one million tourists who visited Kashmir valley in 2010-13

In a written reply to a query in Rajya Sabha, Tourism Minister Prahlad Patel informed Parliament on Tuesday that 84,326 tourists visited Kashmir since August 5, 2019 while 87,94,837 visited Jammu and 1,00931 tourists visited Ladakh. The total number of pilgrims/ tourists who visited Jammu

ed under Article 370 of the

Tuesday said with → More On P10

طیوری وبائی زکام تصلالے والے وائرس اکثر جنگلی پرندوں میں پائے جاتے ہیں خاصکر آبی پرندے (واٹر فاول) بطح ، بنس،وغیر ہگران میں یہ بیاری پیدانہیں کرتا۔ مرغوں کے جھنڈ میں یافنیکشن (عفونت) پھیلنے کے بعداس بیاری کا جرثومہ کئی اقسام بنا تاہےجس وجہ سے شدید بیاری پھیل سکتی ہے۔ بپاری پاتوبراہ راست را بطے کے ذریعہ تھیل سکتی ہے پاپالواسط طریقہ کے ذریعہ۔مثلاً۔۔۔آلودہ پانی کے ذخائر یہ بپاری تھیلانے کامؤجب بن سکتے ہیں

اینےمویشیوں کوجنگل یرندوں کی پہنچ سے دوررکھیں۔ نڈ هال ین، بھوک نہلگنا، ناک سے رطوبت بہنا، بار بارچھینکنااور کھانسی، چہرےاورو ينگز (Wattle) كاورم 🧦 🔬 اور تبھى تبھى ان كانيلاير مرغوں اور اندوں كوہا تھ لگاتے وقت احتياط سے كام كيں۔ ان چيزوں كوہا تھ لگانے كے بعدابينے بائتھاور برتن دغیرہ اچھی طرح دھولیں۔فارم دغیرہ میں غیر متعلقہ افراد کا داخلہ منوع انڈوں کی پیدادار بنائیں۔

فهاجر___

مرغوں کے ساتھ رابطہ اور ہاتھ لگانے کے بعد اپنالیاس تبدیل کریں۔ 🚃 محکمهانیملهسبنڈریآپکیمددکےلئےهروقتتیار جوں حیاتیاتی(بائیوسیکیورٹی) اور حفظان صحت کے اصولوں کواپنانے پر خاص دھیان دیں۔ مرغ فارم میں داخل ہونے والی تمام گاڑیوں کا داخلہ سے پہلے اور بعد میں مناسب طور جراثیم کش ادویات کا چھڑ کاؤ کریں۔

كباكباجائس ہاری کی علامات ظاہر ہونے کی صورت میں نز دیکی و پیڑنری ڈاکٹر کے سائٹرفوری رابطہ کریں۔

مذیدجا نکاری کے لئے۔۔۔۔ محکمہ کی ویب سائٹ www.jkahd.net کی میل 🛛 iec@jkahd.net محکمہ انیمل ہسبنڈری کے ہیلیے لائن نمبر 0194-2455369 ڈ اکٹرمشاق احمد شاہ نوڈل آفیسرومیڈیالیزان آفیسر برائ ایوین انفلوانزا /برڈفلیو جوائییٹ ڈائریکٹر پولٹری کم ایل پی پی ہاری پر بت سرینگر

DIPK-12417/20



U To place an advertisement CALL +91-194 2502327

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

BAZAR OBSERVER Wednesday | 03-02-2021

Bleeding Gums May Indicate Vitamin C Deficiency

Agencies

f your gums bleed, make sure to improve your intake of vitamin C to reverse Letthe problem, a new study suggests.

The study, published in the journal Nutrition Reviews, shows that bleeding of the gums on gentle probing, or gingival bleeding tendency and also bleeding in the eye, or retinal haemorrhaging, were associated with low vitamin C levels in the bloodstream.

"When you see your gums bleed, the first thing you should think about is not, I should brush more. You should try to figure out why your gums are bleeding. And vitamin C deficiency is one possible reason," said lead author Philippe Hujoel from the University of Washington in the US.

For the study, the team analyzed published studies of 15 clinical trials in six countries, involving 1,140 predominantly healthy participants. The results showed that bleeding of the gums on gentle probing, or gingival bleeding tendency, and also bleeding in the eye, or retinal haemorrhaging, were associated with low vitamin C levels in the bloodstream. And, the researchers found that increasing daily intake of vitamin C in those people with low vitamin C plasma levels

helped to reverse these bleeding issues. The researcher recommends people attempt to keep an eye on their vitamin C intake through incorporation of non-processed foods such as kale, peppers or kiwis into your diet, and if you can't find palatable foods rich in vitamin C to consider a supplement of about 100 to 200 milligrams a day.

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Gulzar Ahmad



Teli S/o: Abdul Salam Teli R/o: Putlibagh Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-8554 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin B/U Srinagar. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper

Sd/- Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir Dated 02/02/2021

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2391

JAMMU & KASHMIR (UT)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER JAL SHAKTI (PHE) MECHANICAL DIVISION SOUTH AWANTIPORA

Telefax: 01933295537; Email Id: phemechsouth@gmail.com GIST NIT (Short Term)

ISD/PHE/MDSA/ e-NIT No:95 of 2020-21 DATE:01-02-2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory Jammu and Kashmir online e-tenders are invited in Single Cover System, (Technical and Financial) from Registered SSI Unit Holders/ workshop holders in similar field as works contractor as mentioned below for execution of the following Works

(S.No	Name of Work			Earnest Money (Rs)	Time of Comp	Class of contractor	Programme/ Funds
ſ	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	1	Repairs to 10 HP open well submersible motor and allied works at WSS Hillar Shahabad Tunel point and 50 KVA voltage stabilizer at WSS Malikabad.	0.27	50.00	2% of Adv Cost	05 days	Registered SSI Unit Holders/ workshop holders	M&R
	2	Rewinding of 7.5 HP OPEN SUBMERSIBLE mo- tor AT WSS ZADIPORA PADGAMPORA.	0.10	50.00	2% of Adv Cost	05 days	Registered SSI Unit Holders/ workshop holders	M&R
	3	REPAIRS AT WATER SUPPLY SCHEME LELHAR and LARKIPORA. Snow Damage.	0.18	50.00	2% of Adv Cost	05 days	Registered SSI Unit Holders/ workshop holders	M&R
	1	Shifting Installation of 40000 GPH Pumping Unit of WSS Kakpora Nehma at WSS Wampora.	0.30	50.00	2% of Adv Cost	05 days	Registered SSI Unit Holders/ workshop holders	M&R

The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, and bill of quantities (B.O.Q)s set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen /downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in and www.phekashmir.com as per schedule of dates given below:

01	Publish Date	01-02-2021 (04:00 PM)
02	Start of downloading of tender documents	01-02-2021 (04:00 PM)
03	On line bid uploading start date	01-02-2021 (04:00 PM)
04	Last date of uploading of bid	09-02-2021 (04:00 PM)
05	Date and time of opening of Tech bids (online)	10-02-2021 (11:00 AM)
06	Date and time of opening of Price bid	To be notified

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri: Aijaz Ahmad Rather S/o: Mohd Sadia Rahter R/o: Sonpah Beerwah Budgam owne of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-6334 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S State Bank of India B/U Budgam. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the

general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper

Sd/- Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2397 Dated 02/02/2021

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR NOTICE

Where a application for trans-

fer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Ab. Gani Mir S/o: Gh Mohammad R/o: Nasrullahpora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV M 800. Vehicle bearing registra-

tion number JK04C - 3914. Chasis number 886511 Engine no. 69192 Model 2013. in favour of Shri.. Gh. Mohammad Reshi S/o. Mohammad Abdullah Reshi R/o Dalwash Khurd Poshkar Khag Budgam (Tranferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Nasrullahpora. Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2398 Dated 02/02/2021

Sd/- Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

Board of school education Branch office Sopore, within a period of Seven days from the date of publication of his notice .After that no objection shall Be entertained Shakir Hussain S/o Fida Hussain Ahanger

OFFICE OF THE

ASSISTANT REGIONAL

TRANSPORT OFFICER

BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Ali Mohammad Bhat R/o:

Attina Beerwah Budgam own

er of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04D-5742

for cancellation of hire pur-

chase agreement with M/S J &

K Bank Ltd B/U Beerwah, Now

therefore it is notified for the in-

formation of the general public

that objections if any to the pro-

posed cancellation of hire pur-

chase Agreement shall be filed

in writing in the office of the

Assistant Regional Transport

office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date

of publication of this notice in

Sd/- Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam

Kashmi

Whereas

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has been

recieved

from one.

Shri : Altaf

Hussain

Bhat S/o:

ap

an



Of the same if any having and objection in this regard he/she may file his /her objection In the office of the Islamic collage science and co merce Hawah Srinagar . within a period of Seven days from the date of publication of his notice .After that no objection shall

PUBLIC NOTICE

Rashid Lateef Mir S/o . Lateef Ahmad Mir R/o. Jighar Pora Handwara

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Subject: Corrigendum for minor typing error to E-NIT No 07 of 2021 dated 16/01/2021 fixation of Annual Rate Contract for supply of conservancy items.

Please read 2% Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) instead to 5% mentioned in tender document at page Ni: (1) Colum No (5) due to typing mistake of E-NIT no 07 of 2021 dated 16/01/2021 for Fixation of Annual Rate Contract for supply of different types of Conservancy items. The other allotment documents shown correct 2%.

Sd-

Purchase & Procurement Officer, Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2393 Dated 02/02/2021

the daily newspaper

DIPK-NB-5377/20

THE J&K BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS (BOPEE)

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar): 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu) Websiteiwww.jkbopee.gov.in E-mail:coejakbopee@gmail.com/helpdeskiakbopee@gmail.com Provisional Select List of 2nd Round up-gradation / allotment of seats to the candidates Subject: for admission to M.Sc. Nursing Courses-2020 in Govt./ Private Colleges of J&K. Reference: (i) Notification No.064-BOPEE of 2020 dated 23-12-2020. (ii) Notification N0.O66-BOPEE of 2020 dated 26-12-2020.

(iii) Notice No.014-BOPEE of 2021 dated 28-1-2021

NOTIFICATION No: 015-BOPEE of 2021 DATED: 01-02-2021.

Consequent upon receipt of the shortfall from the Colleges, the Board vide Notice No.014-BOPEE of 2021 dated 28-01-2021 conducted 2ndround of up-gradation / allotment (physical) counselling of eligible candidates who had applied for M.Sc. Nursing course 2020 on31-01-2021 at BOPEE Office, Srinagar/ Jammu simultaneously. The candidates who participated in the said counselling and have been Upgraded /allotted seat/ College as per their merit-cum preferences are hereby provisionally selected for admission to M. Sc. Nursing Courses-2020in Government/ Private colleges of Union Territory of J&K as per the list annexed as Annexure "A" to this notification which is available on website of the Board www.jkbopee.gov.in only. The candidates are advised to report to their respective allottedColleges/ Institutions w.e.f.01-02-2021 to 10-02-2021 (03.00 PM) along with following documents:-

Note: - CDR & Treasury Receipt/e-Challan mentioning NIT No and Work shall be pledged to Executive Engineer Tal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Division South Awantipora as per the format annexed. Head 0215 - Revenue & Miscellaneous. All other details can be had from the departmental website www. iktenders.gov.in and www.phekashmir.com

Sd/ Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Mechanical Division (South) Awantipora

No: JSD/PHE/MDSA/2972 Date: 01-02-2021 DIPK-12399/20

Government of Jammu & Kashmir **MECHANICAL HOSPITAL & CENTRAL HEATING DIVISION SRINAGAR**

(Phone No: 0194-2496089, E-mail id: xenmhchdk@yahoo.in) Website: www.medkmr.org

Dated:01.02.2021

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Date of sale of tender documents.	From 02.02.2021to 09.02.2021(2.00 P.M)
Last date of receipt of Tenders.	10.02.2021upto 2PM.

For & on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir , sealed tenders affixed with Rs.5/- revenue stamps are invited from the registered firms/

Govt. Contractors for the below mentioned work:

S.No	Description of work.	Estimated cost in Rupees	Cost of Tender document in Rs.	Time of completion	AA NO.	TS No.
1	SITC of HDPE Tank for storage of water in CSSD Section of Govt. LD Hospital, Srinagar.	30000/-	200/-	05Days	N o n - P I a n Works	100 of 0 1 / 2 0 2 1 (AEE 2nd)
2	Providing and fitting of sequence controller for 20 Kcal/hrThermax Make Hot water Generators (No. 1,2 and 3) installed at Central Heating Plant of Govt. SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.	93900/-	200/-	05Days	Non-Plan Works	11 of 01/2021 (AEE 1st)
3	Providing and Laying of Dual chemical earthing to the 320KVA DG set at Govt L.D hospital Srinagar	16000/-	200/-	05Days	Non-Plan Works	82 of 12/2020 (AEE 2nd)

The tender document can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours against cost mentioned above, in the form of IPO/Demand Draft or Cash Payment. Tender documents shall be issued subject to production of certificates to the following effect:

Latest Sales tax clearance certificate/or as applicable as per new GST rules.

NIT No: MHCHD/TS/2020-21/264

- J&K State Sales Tax Registration Certificate/ GST registration certificate. 2.
- Documentary proof of similar nature of work in any Govt./Semi-Govt. Department. 3.

The tenders should reach the office of undersigned on 10.02.2021 upto 2 P.M and shall be opened on the same day or any subsequent date convenient to the undersigned in presence of the tenderers who may be present on the spot.

The envelope containing tender should properly be superscripted with Tender Notice no, Name of work and Name of tenderer.

Sd/- Executive Engineer Mechanical Hospital & Central Heating Division, Srinagar.

NO: - MHCHD/TS/9241-48 Dated:01-02-2021 DIPK-12405/20

- 1. Marks Card of B.Sc. Nursing/B.Sc. Hons. Nursing/Post-Basic Nursing with minimum of 55% aggregate marks.
- 2. Registration Certificateregistered with any State Nursing Registration Council.
- 3. Domicile Certificate
- 4. Category Certificate, if any
- 5. One year work experience after B.Sc. Nursing.
- 6. One year work experience prior to or after Post-Basic B.Sc. Nursing.
- 7. Any other certificates/ documents required by the College authorities.

The candidates are advised to report to the allotted College within prescribed time, otherwise they shall not be eligible to participate in subsequent round of physical up-gradation/ allotment counseling under any circumstances.

It shall be sole responsibility of the Heads of the Colleges / Institutions to ensure proper check and verification of documents before the candidate is allowed for admission and in case any discrepancy in the requisite documents is found the same should be reported to the Board for further course of action under rules.

In order to complete admission process within the prescribed cut-off date (10-02-2021) the Colleges/ Institutions shall keep their admission counters open even on holiday/ off days and designate Nodal Officers to facilitate the candidates to complete their admission process well in time. However, the candidates should in their own interest avoid waiting for the last day to complete admission formalities as such delay has the potential of causing hardships to the candidates only.

The Heads of the Colleges/ Institutions are advised to furnish the shortfall, if any, to the Board through e-mail helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com / jakbopee@gmail.com / coeiakbopee@gmail. comon 10thof February, 2021 (04.00 PM) toenable the Board to consolidate the same for preparation of seat matrix for further course of action.

Note:

- 1. The admission of the candidates is purely provisional and shall be cancelled in case any information furnished by any candidate proves to be false/ fabricated, and action as warranted under law shall be initiated against such candidates.
- 2. As already notified vide Notice No. dated 28-01-2021 the following Reserved category seats which remained unfilled during 2nd Round of counselling have been converted into Open Merit as under and filled up accordingly: ST = 02, PSP = 01, ALC = 01 & CDP = 1.
- 3. The other terms and conditions shall remain same as notified in Notifications/ Notices issued by the Board from time to time.

Sd/- Secretary J&KBOPEE

No:BOPEE/Exam-35(III)/2020 Dated 01-02-2021 DIPK-NB-5371/20

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News





AS THE CHILLING COLD FROZE water taps across Kashmir, people were seen filling water tanks on Tuesday.

Will KU Start Class Work From Feb 7 Without **Opening Hostels?**

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir is in a fix whether to open the varsity with or without hostels from February 7.

Insiders said that there is a section of officials who want both hostels and university to open from February 15, but other section feels there is no need to open the hostels for students in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

The Cluster University and the Islamic University for Science and Technology have already issued notices stating these universities will open on Feb 15. However, Kashmir University



Members To Elect Chairperson Of DDC Srinagar On Feb 6

SRINAGAR: The District Election Officer Srinagar Dr Shahid Igbal Choudhary Monday issued a notification for a meeting of members elected to the District Development Council Srinagar to elect the chairperson and the vice chairperson of the council as mandated under section 45-B of the Jammu & Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act 1989.

The notification issued in pursuance of sub-rule (4) of rule 108- the meeting will be held at 11 am ZN of the Jammu & Kashmir Pan- on 6 February 2021 in the Meetchayati Raj Rules 1996 states that ing Hall of DC Office Srinagar.

Stray Dog Menace Hits Activity At SKUAST-K



cially during late hours", he said. The steep rise in the number dogs has created a reign of



1944 - World War II: United States troops

"Homo erectus")

- capture the Marshall Islands.
- 1945 Almost 1,000 Flying Fortresses drop 3.000 tons of bombs on Berlin
- 1962 US President John F. Kennedy bans all trade with Cuba except for food & amp; drugs
- 1965 Orbiting Solar Observatory 2 launches into Earth orbit (552/636 km)

has decided to open the university on Feb 1, but later on it issued a separate notice extending the vacation period till Feb 7.

Insiders said that over 2,000 students, both male and female are residing in different university hostels while one wonders where these students will go if university won't open up the hostels for them.

"There are students who are from far flung areas including Tulail, Gurez, Keran, Rajouri, Poonch etc. These students will face tough times if they won't be allowed to stay at hostels," the University of Kashmir is least bothered about the welfare of the students.



said an insider alleging that students stay in hostels.

students despite Covid-19 decision in this regard. "The guidelines in place can attend Committee will take a final a coaching centre why can't decision tomorrow or day after tomorrow. This Committee When contacted, Dean, will decide whether hostels Academic Affairs, Mr Akbar will be thrown open for stu-Masoodi said that a commit- dents or not," Masoodi said.

THERE ARE STUDENTS WHO ARE FROM FAR FLUNG AREAS including Tulail, Gurez, Keran, Rajouri, Poonch etc. These students will face tough times if they won't be allowed to stay at hostels,"

Observer News service

SRINAGAR: Packs of stray dogs roaming the campus of of hampering the movement of students and staff alike in the varsity.

Dogs start barking in chorus through the day and night disturbing the inmates and nearby residents alike, said Nisar Ahmad Dar Public Relations Officer and Incharge Guest House, Security & Sanitation of the university.

"The number of stray dogs in the past one week alone, he said. the University has risen alarmingly. The rise in their number the notice of concerned municihas led to various other problems such as food and shelter sort of action or remedial meabesides threat for the employ- sures the menace of stray dogs ees, students and visitors espe- will not go", he said.

terror among the students and employees of the university. Every morning we have to see a lot of scattered garbage and dirt in and around the campus, said Mushtaq Ahmad Ganaie who visits the university frequently. Demanding urgent attention

of the Srinagar Municipal authorities, Nisar Ahmad said the university officials would heave SKUAST-Kashmir at Shalimar is a sigh of relief if they ever get rid of the canine menace.

The packs of dogs often get involved in fierce fights which pose serious threats to the safety of residents staying in the main campus, especially their children playing in the parks. Two girl students of this University have been bitten by these dogs during "The matter was brought to pal authorities, but without any

1971 - OPEC mandates "total embargo" against

- any company that rejects 55 percent tax rate 1978 - Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat and
- US President Jimmy Carter discuss the Middle East peace process in Washington, D.C.
- 1994 President Bill Clinton lifts US trade embargo against Vietnam
- 1994 STS-60 (Discovery) launches into orbit
- 1995 STS 63 (Discovery 19), launches into orbit
- 1999 In Jammu and Kashmir the political party
- Democratic Janata Dal (Jammu and Kashmir) is revived.
- 2007 A Baghdad market bombing kills at least 135 people and injures a further 339.
- 2013 33 people are killed by a suicide bombing by an explosive-packed truck in Kirkuk. Iraq
- 2016 US President Barack Obama visits his first US mosque - the Islamic Society of Baltimore mosque in Maryland

From KO Archives



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - Two senior leaders of the All Party Hurriyat Conference will leave for the Kumbh in Uttar Pradesh on Friday for talks with Swami Adhyokshanada Dev Tirathjee, a rival claimant to the seat of Shankarncharya of Pun and various other prominent Hindu religious leaders.

The decision to send two executive members of the Hurriyat to Kumhh was taken after the top leadership of the conglomerate held detailed talks with Pandit N K Sharma, political advisor to former prune minister P V Narasimha Rao. Sharma will accompany the Hurriyat delegation, which is likely to include Mirwaiz Ömer Farooq, relugious head and Sved Ali Shah Gilani

In case Geelani is unable to go due to poor health, Abdul Ghani Lone will accompany the Mirwaiz, Sharma said. During their stay, the Hurriyat leaders will brief the religious leaders on the security and political situation in the state.

The Hurriyat leaders recently held talks with former law minister Ram Jethmalani, who is taking an active role in Kashmir affairs these days. The visit is primarily a goodwill one to explain to them that the Hurrivat wants a peaceful settlement of the Kashmir problem. Jethmalani also had several meetings with the Hurriyat leaders, which was also arranged by Pandit Sharma. Jethmalani met Home Minister Lai Krishna Advani and Swami Adhyokshananda before talking to the Hurrivat leaders.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 03 February, 2001)

Filthy Mounds Of Snow Along City Roads, SMC Helpless

SRINAGAR: Mounds of frozen snow adorn the city centre Lal Chowk and other roads of the capital Srinagar. Heaps of solid snow accumulated on the sidewalks and roadsides talk a lot about the 'failure' of Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

No effort is being made by SMC to lift these mounds of snow. It is affecting not only pedestrian movement but business as well. The shoppers are unable to park their cars while at some place shopkeepers are finding it difficult to open up their shops.

"I want to ask Ward Officer Lal Chowk, where is he and why he ty to get their photographs uphis bosses. During the snow they are in hibernation," said a clearance operation, SMC work- shopkeeper. ers didn't waste any opportuni-



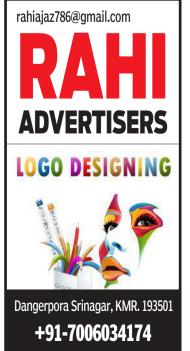
SMC workers for the present doesn't take up the matter with loaded on social media but now mess. "After the snowfall, SMC workers in Lal Chowk and adjoining areas cleared snow

Another shopkeeper blamed from the roads but deposited everything," he said. (KNT)

the same on roadsides and sidewalks causing problems for both pedestrians and shopkeepers," he said and sought intervention of Commissioner Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

"This is not a good sign for the development. The filthy mounds of solid snow are present everywhere and still you are describing Srinagar as 'city of lights' and 'smart city'. Do something and get these mounds of snow lifted from the city centre," said a pedestrian.

Both the cell phones of Commissioner SMC were switched off, however, Ward Officer Lal Chowk said that accumulated snow is very hard and thus can't be lifted. "Another snowfall is expected. Let that happen and then we will lift



World

India Ranks 86 Out Of **98 Nations In Covid Handling: Report**



Agencies

NEW DELHI: With more than 11 million Covid-19 cases, India has ranked 86 in a performance index of 98 countries for their handling of the Covid-19 pandemic, a report said on Thursday.

According to the performance index compiled by the Sydneybased Lowy Institute, neighbouring Sri Lanka was in the 10th position in handling the Covid-19 outbreak.

The performance index showed that New Zealand handled the pandemic more effectively than any other country in the world, while Brazil sits at the bottom of the list. New Zealand was closely fol-

lowed by Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand and Cyprus, while the US was the fifth-worst performing country, The Sydney Morning Herald reported on Thursday.

In the report, the Lowy Institute revealed that smaller populations, cohesive societies and capable institutions were big factors in successfully dealing with the pandemic.

The study measured a number of key indicators, including confirmed cases, deaths, cases per million people and deaths per million people. China was not included in the study because all of its testing rates

are not publicly available. With 11,666 new Covid-19 cases getting reported in the last 24 hours on Thursday, India has continued its streak of low single-day cases, even as the overall tally mounted to 1,07,01,193, health officials said.

For the past 21 days, the country has been recording less than 20,000 new infections daily. Also, the death toll remained below the 300-mark for the past 31 days.

On January 19, India had reported 10,064 new cases, the lowest so far this year. Last year, the lowest was recorded on June 3 at 9,633 cases. The nationwide immunisation

drive began on January 16 after the approval of two Covid vaccines -- Covaxin and Covishield -- in the country. As many as 23,55,979 beneficiaries have received the first dose of Covid vaccine in the first phase so far.

France Debates Bill Against 'Disease' Of Islamic Radicalism

Agencies

PARIS: The French parliament on Monday began debating a controversial new bill against what the interior minister described as the "disease" of Islamic radicalism eating away at the country's unity.

President Emmanuel Macron has pushed the legislation which would tighten rules on issues ranging from religiousbased education to polygamy after a spate of attacks blamed on extremists late last year.

The lower house National Assembly kicked off two weeks of performed a virginity test on girls. what are expected to be tense debates on the legislation, for lawed in France but the new while the left says it stigma- law would also ban authorities tises Muslims, the right argues



against the teacher, gave fresh impetus to the bill.

It prompted the inclusion of the specific crimes of online hate speech and divulging personal information on the internet.

Under the legislation, doctors also would be fined or jailed if they Polygamy is already outfrom issuing residency papers



PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION. REUTERS FILE

UNSC To Meet As Fears For Myanmar Rohingya **Grow After Coup**

tions fears the coup in Myan- extremely limited access to mar will worsen the plight of basic health and education sersome 6,00,000 Rohingya Muslims still in the country, a UN spokesman said on Monday as the Security Council planned to meet on the latest developments on Tuesday.

Myanmar's military seized elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi, who was detained along with other political leaders of in early morning raids. A 2017 military crackdown in

Myanmar's Rakhine state sent more than 7,00,000 Rohingya Muslims fleeing into Bangladesh, where they are still stranded in refugee camps. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres and Western states accused the Myanmar military of ethnic cleansing, which it denied.

"There are about 6,00,000 Rohingya those that remain

vices," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters.

"So, our fear is that the events may make the situation worse for them," he said.

The 15-member UN Security Council plans to discuss Myanpower on Monday in a coup mar in a closed meeting on against the democratically Tuesday, diplomats said.

"We want to address the long-term threats to peace and security, of course working closely with Myanmar's Asia and ASEAN neighbors," Britain's UN Ambassador Barbara Woodward, president of the council for February, told reporters. China, backed by Russia, shielded Myanmar from any

significant council action after the 2017 military crackdown. Beijing and Moscow are coun-

cil veto powers along with France, Britain and the United States. China's UN mission told Rein Rakhine State, including uters on Monday that it hoped 1,20,000 people who are effec- to find out more about the lattively confined to camps, they est developments in Myanmar

NEW YORK: The United Na- cannot move freely and have from the Security Council briefing on Tuesday.

"It's also our hope that any move of the Council would be conducive to the stability of Myanmar rather than making the situation more complicated," a spokesperson for the Chinese UN mission said.

The Myanmar army said it had detained Suu Kyi and others in response to "election fraud", handing power to military chief Min Aung Hlaing and imposing a state of emergency for one year. The United Nations called for the release of all those detained, Dujarric said. He said Guterre's special envoy on Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, "remains actively engaged" and was likely to brief the Security Council.

The United Nations has long had a presence in Myanmar.

Security Council envoys travelled to Myanmar in April 2018 and met separately with Suu Kyi and Min Aung Hlaing following the crackdown on the Rohingya. **Reuters**

Chinese State Media Calls Myanmar Coup "A Major Cabinet Reshuffle" it sees as interference in its "in-

BEIJING: The military takeover

Kashmir Observer Wednesday | 03-02-2021

Pakistan Court Orders Release Of Daniel Pearl Murder 'Mastermind'



Agencies

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Supreme Court has ordered the release from prison of a British-Pakistani man accused of masterminding the kidnapping and beheading of Wall Street Journal correspondent Daniel Pearl in 2002.

At a hearing in the capital Islamabad on Tuesday, the court ordered that Ahmed Omar Sheikh be moved from death row to a governmentrun "rest house", where he is to be Karachi in January 2002, months kept under a form of house arrest. "He should be moved to a com-

something like a rest house, where he can live a normal life," judge Omar Ata Bandial said, hearing a petition in which Sheikh had challenged his

detention after having been acquitted by the Sindh High Court last year. Local media reported that Sheikh's family will be allowed to visit him for nine hours a day, but he will not be allowed access to a mobile phone or the internet. The exact terms of Sheikh's confinement, if any, will be made clear earlier. Pearl's body was found by once the court issues formal orders. authorities in May that year

Tuesday's decision came after the Pakistani government appealed the court's decision last week to order the release of Sheikh from custody year sentence on the kidnapping after he was acquitted of Pearl's murder by the Sindh High Court last year.

acquittal on Thursday in a two-to-

were acquitted on all charges and The Supreme Court upheld that ordered to be released as well. The US termed the Supreme one verdict, ruling that there was in- Court verdict last week "an affront sufficient evidence to convict Sheikh to terrorism victims everywhere, for murder. The top court, however, including in Pakistan".

did uphold the kidnapping charge.

Hearings in the government's re-

view petition against that Supreme

Court acquittal are continuing, al-

though no date for the next hearing

Sheikh, along with three oth-

ers, was accused of kidnapping

Pearl, who was reporting a story on

armed religious extremist groups

in the southern Pakistani city of

after the 9/11 attacks and the US-

led invasion of Pakistan's north-

Pearl went missing after leaving his

Days later, his kidnappers released

images of him alongside a list of de-

mands from the US that included the

freeing of Pakistani citizens held dur-

ing the US's so-called "war on terror".

Less than a month later, a video

Sheikh, who was arrested in

2002 and convicted later that

year, has already served his seven-

charge. The three other accused

was released showing Pearl being

beheaded. Sheikh and his alleged ac-

complices had been arrested weeks

hotel for a meeting he was told was

western neighbour, Afghanistan.

with the leader of an armed group.

has yet been set.

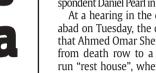
Pearl's kidnapping

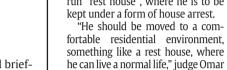
"Life-Threatening Situation": Snow, Wind Hammer US Northeast

Agencies

NEW YORK: A powerful winter storm engulfed the U.S. Northeast on Monday, blanketing much of the region in heavy snow, blasting coastal areas with high winds and bringing New York City and other major urban centers to nearly a standstill.







it fails to tackle the core issue.

The legislation is dubbed the anti-separatism bill as minis- of attacks in France this year, inters fear radical Muslims are creating communities separate from France's staunchly secular identity. It has been bitterly criticised in Muslim countries.

"Our country is sick from separatism, above all Islamism which is damaging our national unity," Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin told parliament.

"You have to know what to call the disease, you have to find the medicine," he added. "This text does not fight reli- ry group leader of The Republigions but the Islamist takeover bid." he added.

The law was in the pipeline before the October killing of Samuel Paty, a junior leader Marine Le Pen - who high school teacher who was analysts believe will be Macron's beheaded in the street. But main rival in 2022 elections the killing, committed by an last week outlined her own plan, 18-year old Chechen after a which include a ban on Muslim virulent social media campaign headscarves in all public places.

to polygamous applicants. Paty's death came amid a spate

cluding a knife assault outside the former offices of the Charlie Hebdo satirical magazine and deadly stabbings at a church in Nice.

Macron has become a figure of hate in some Muslim countries and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has called the draft law an "open provocation". In France, far-left leader Jean-

Luc Melenchon opposes a text that he says "stigmatises Muslims".

On the right, the parliamentacans Damien Abad said the text ignores issues such as radicalisation in prison and migration.

Meanwhile French far-right

Aung San Suu Kyi was "a major cabinet reshuffle" according to Chinese state media, who rolled out the euphemisms to avoid calling a coup a coup.

As democratic leaders around the world slammed the Burmese military and President Joe Biden said the US was "taking note" of who was standing up for Myanmar's people, China's communist leadership took a softly-softly approach.

Beijing called for all parties its fiery commentaries against in Myanmar to "resolve their differences", and the official Xinhua news agency on Monday described the military replacing elected ministers after the coup as a "major cabinet reshuffle". The nationalist Global Times

experts as saying the generals' admit his election defeat and power-grab could be seen as reportedly incited the Capitol But the paper -- known for

ternal affairs" -- such as criticism over its human rights record -and has taken a similarly neutral stance on most foreign affairs. Myanmar is also a vital piece of Beijing's huge Belt and Road infrastructure initiative.

President Xi Jinping visited the country last January, and promised to support the Myanmar government on a development path "suited to its own national conditions".

Biden has called for a quick restoration of democracy in China's critics -- also used the Myanmar, while United Nations occasion to take a pop at former Secretary-General Antonio US president Donald Trump, Guterres, the European Union whose combative approach to and Australia were among oth-Beijing had plunged US-China ers to condemn the coup.

The Myanmar military has ties to their lowest in decades. justified its seizure of power by "Some experts mentioned meanwhile quoted unnamed that... Trump, who refused to alleging widespread fraud in elections held three months ago that the NLD won in a landslide. an adjustment to the country's riots, might be the Myanmar It has imposed a state of emerdysfunctional power structure". military's inspiration," it wrote. gency for a year, and claimed it Beijing has long rebuffed what would then hold fresh elections.

The nor'easter - an Fast storm with winds blowing from the northeast - could bring accumulations of 1 to 2 feet (31 cm to 61 cm) to the country's most the first to bring more than 2 feet of tapering off on Tuesday, the National Weather Service said.

By early Monday evening, the country's most populous city, acnor'easter had dumped as much as cording to the weather service. 27 inches (68 cm) of snow in parts of New Jersey and Pennsylvania (33 cm) covered Manhattan's Cenmoving north into New England.

By early evening, Boston re- yard and Nantucket. ported a mix of snow and rain, the Weather Service's forecaster and heavy, wet snow are possible Marc Chenard said. But just a few overnight across the region, but no miles inland from the New England coast, up to 12 inches (30 cm) of snow were reported, he said.

By Tuesday morning, some areas If the winter storm achieves its Jersey, noting he had been clearing maximum potential, it would be snow for 30 years.

NEWS MAKERS

Dubai Creates 'Space Court' For Out-Of-This-World Disputes



Dubai announced on Monday the creation of a "space court" to settle commercial disputes, as

the UAE – which is also sending a probe to Mars – builds its presence in the space sector. The tribunal will be based at the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) Courts, an independent British-inspired arbitration centre based on common law.

Space law is governed by international conventions and resolutions, including the UN Outer Space Treaty which entered into force in 1967. Several states have also signed bilateral or multilateral agreements to regulate their space activities. However, while until recently the field was almost exclusively the domain of nations and institutions, space has become a commercial issue involving more and more private companies.

"An integrated space industry, supported by human resources, infrastructure, and scientific research, is under way," Zaki Azmi, Chief Justice at DIFC Courts, said in a statement. "The Courts of

Space is a global initiative that will operate in parallel, helping to build a new judicial support network to serve the stringent commercial demands of international space exploration in the 21st century.'

Established in 2004, the DIFC Courts already draw many foreign companies to arbitrate their commercial disputes, but did not yet have courts specialised in the space activities of private companies. Azmi said that as space commerce becomes more global, the complex commercial agreements that govern them "will also require an equally innovative judicial system to keep pace".

The UAE, which takes in seven emirates including Dubai, has invested heavily in the space sector in recent years.

After sending its first astronaut into space in 2019, the country last year launched a probe named "Hope" towards Mars. It is due to reach its destination next week. "That was for us an eye opener that we need to provide the UAE with the right infrastructure [in case of disputes]," Amna Al Owais, Chief Registrar at DIFC Courts, told AFP. "We want to set the scene in terms of what courts can do. We believe that there will be a huge appetite for it," she said, citing as examples disagreements over satellite purchases or collisions between devices in space. Companies and institutions based both in the UAE and abroad will now have the option of agreeing to take grievances to the tribunal, with new contracts potentially specifying the new "space court" as the forum for resolving disputes. The oil-rich nation, whose colossal skyscrapers and mega-projects put it on the world map, hopes otherworldly new industries could be a boost to its economic future. It is also looking at other new frontiers – space tourism and mining – and has made plans to also help regulate those fledgling industries. No Image

Erdogan Hints At Moves To Draft New Turkish Constitution

could see 15 inches (38 cm).

ANKARA; President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said on Monday it may be time for Turkey to adopt a new constitution, feeding speculation that he could seek a way to extend his rule.

Erdogan, 66, has governed Turkey as prime minister or president since 2002, cementing his control over the nation of 83 million people and surviving a failed coup.

As prime minister, he pushed through changes to the constitution in 2017 that created an executive presidency and abolished the premiership. He then won the 2018 presidential election, the first of two potential five-year terms. Turkey is scheduled to hold parliamentary and presidential elections in 2023, meaning that his rule would have to end by 2028 if he were re-elected.

But after chairing a four-hour cabinet meeting, Erdogan raised the idea of writing a brand new constitution to replace one that Turkey has been using since 1982. It was drafted following a military coup.

"It is clear that the source of Turkey's problems is that constitutions have always been written by putschists," Erdogan said in nationally televised remarks.

Google To Pay \$3.8 Million To Settle Pay Gap, Hiring Bias Claims

San Ramon (California): Google will pay \$2.6 million to more than 5,500 employees and past job applicants to resolve allegations that the internet giant discriminated against female engineers and Asians in California and Washington state. The settlement announced Monday closes a 4-year-old case that the Labour Department brought as part its periodic reviews of the pay practices at federal government contractors such as Google. That inquiry resulted in accusations that during a period spanning from 2014 to 2017, Google paid female engineers less than men in similar positions. The pay discrepancies were cited in several Google offices in its home state of California, as well as at locations in Seattle and Kirkland, Washington. Google had fiercely contested the allegations as unfounded before reaching the settlement without acknowledging any wrongdoing. "We believe everyone should be paid based upon the work they do, not who they are, and invest heavily to make our hiring and compensation processes fair and unbiased," Google said on Monday.

densely populated region before snow in New York City since 2016, when a record-breaking blizzard dumped 27.5 inches (70 cm) on the

Damaging winds of 30 to 40 miles per hour (48 to 64 km per and 17 inches (43 cm) in parts of hour) were forecast along the New New York City. More than 13 inches Jersey coast. In Massachusetts, the weather service forecast gusts up tral Park, as bands of snow began to 60 mph (97 kph) on Cape Cod and the islands of Martha's Vine-

Power outages driven by wind major outages were reported early Monday evening.

"It's the storm of the century!" predicted snowplow operator James Carew, 56, of Union, New

Kashmir Observer Wednesday | 03-02-2021

Two Militant Associates Held Along With Arms In Bandipora, Sangrama: Police

BANDIPORA: Bandipora police rounds. Tuesday claimed to have arrested two over ground workers of Jaishin two Bandipora and Sangrama areas of north Kashmir.

the police and security forces had that there were certain anti-national elements who were indoctrinating youths and influencing on his further disclosure, he them with false narratives and motivating them to take violent a resident of Sangrama area of path, besides providing them arms, ammunition and other resources for this purpose.

He said that acting on specific tion was launched in Sangrama human and technical inputs Ban- with Sopore Police and 52RR dipora police along with 13 RR apprehended one suspected person Abdul Majeed Khan, a resident of Kralpora Bandipora near cused person. Wular Vantage Park in Aragam area and recovered arms, ammunition from his possession.

He said that the arms and ammunition include 01 Pistol, 03 gam and further investigation live hand grenades and 10 live has been taken up.

"On his preliminary enquiry, the accused revealed that he e-Mohammad militant output is associated with the Jaish E along with arms and ammunition Mohammad militant outfit and he is in contact with handlers across the border from were he In a statement police said that received instructions to identify innocent youth for joining milireceived reliable information tancy and pass on arms and ammunition to them," he said.

The spokesperson said that named Showkat Ahmad Malik, Sopore as his accomplice in carrying out his nefarious designs and accordingly a search operaleading to the recovery of 01 Pistol, 05 live hand grenades and 20 live rounds from the ac-

He further said that in this regard a case FIR No. 04/2021 under relevant sections of law has been registered at PS Ara-

Bukhari Censures JK Govt For Applying SRO-202 On In-**Service Recruits**

Urges Lt. Governor For Swift Security Clearance Of MBBS Doctors Who Have Studied In Pakistan

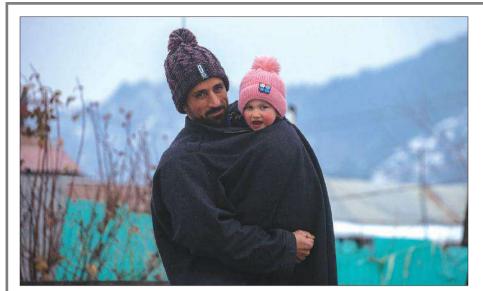


SRINAGAR: Apni Party Presi- government employees who dent Syed Mohammad Altaf face the brunt of such unfavor-Bukhari on Tuesday censured able policies is appalling. SROthe J&K government for neglecting the genuine grievances welfare and thus a sense of of the in-service candidates alienation is on the rise. Apni who are being deprived of their party reiterates its demand for rightful claims because of the complete removal of such a reimplementation of draconian SRO-202.

Governor to intervene into the sonally into the genuine grievspeedy clearance of the ante- ance of the MBBS students who cedents of MBBS doctors who have completed their degrees have returned last year after from different medical colcompleting their degrees from leges of Pakistan but are being

202 is detrimental to youth gressive SRO," he demanded.

Bukhari also appealed to the Bukhari also urged the Lt. Lt. Governor to intervene perdifferent medical colleges of pushed from pillar to post for



Picture Perfect: A Kashmiri man lapping his child posing for camera in Srinagar on Tuesday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Covid Claims 2 More Lives, **44 Test Positive In J&K**

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday recorded two more lives deaths due to COVID-19 taking the death toll to 1.938 in the Union Territory while 44 positive cases were reported taking the tally of positive cases to 124,594 in J&K.

Of the exact number of 124,594 cases, 73,021 are from Kashmir and 51,573 from Jammu division. Officials said that among 44 new cases, 32 belong to Kashmir division while as 12 are from Jammu division, adding that the total number of positive cases in Kashmir division have reached

to 73,021 including 71,272 recoveries and 1,217 deaths while as total number of positive cases in Jammu division have reached to 51,573 including 50,716 recover-

ies and 721 deaths. The officials said that the total number of active cases in Jammu 532 from Kashmir division and 136 from Jammu division.

of the total cases.

Baramulla, 01 from Budgam, 05 cases including 4,614 and 61 from Pulwama, 00 from Kup- deaths are from Bandipora, 4,628 wara, 02 from Anantnag, 00 from including 4,527 recoveries and 46 Bandipora, 09 from Ganderbal, 01 deaths are from Ganderbal, 2,697 from Kulgam and 00 from Shopian in Kashmir division while as 12 54 deaths are from Kulgam and from Jammu division include 08 2,573 including 2,508 recoveries sons have recovered and 1,938 from Jammu, 01 from Udhampur, and 39 deaths are from Shopian.

CASES TESTED POSITIVE IN J&K INCLUDE 12 FROM SRINAGAR, 02 from Baramulla, 01 from Budgam, 05 from Pulwama, 00 from Kupwara, 02 from

Anantnag, 00 from Bandipora, 09 from Ganderbal, 01 from Kulgam and 00 from Shopian in Kashmir division while as 12 from Jammu division include 08 from Jammu, 01 from Udhampur, 00 from Rajouri, 00 from Doda, 00 from Kathua, 02 from Samba, 00 from Kishtwar, 01 from Poonch, 00 from Ramban and 00 from Reasi,"

Cop Among 3 Held With Charas In Budgam

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Police on Tuesday arrested one of its members and two civilians along with contraband substances in Central Kashmir's Budgam district.

Reports said that a police constable was among the three drug peddlers arrested along with contraband substances in Budgam. "The seizure included 11

strips of banned drug Spasmoproxivan, 3 lathies of Charas and some heroin substance,' they said.

The contraband substances were recovered from a vehicle bearing registration number DI5CN-1322.

Sources identified them as Constable Arshid Ahmad Dar of Farashgund posted at DPL Budgam, Riyaz Ahmad Mir, a resi-



dent of Budgam and Sajad Ahmad Bhat a resident of Narkara Budgam.

Meanwhile, Police have registered a case under FIR number 21/2021 under sections 8, 21 of NDPS Act in Police Station Budgam and further investigation pertaining to the incident are on.

ARTO Files FIR Against Complainant For Social Media Posts

BARAMULLA: Assistant Re- an RTI application before APIO gional Transport Officer (ARTO) against a person for 'misusing' social media to 'malign' his rep-

utation in the society. ARTO Baramulla, Mubashir Jan said that he has approached Cyber Police Station Srinagar, seeking registration of FIR against a person who he alleged 'defamed' him by uploading 'unverified' videos on social media platforms.

The officer in his complaint has one Sirajudin Salam, a resident of Baramulla for uploading unverified video on social media.

and same was replied within Baramulla has filed a complaint time framework, now repeatedly he again tried to defame the image of our organization by uploading a video without verifying the facts," reads the complaint.

He further alleged that Salam recently uploaded a similar video following which he filed an application before SHO Cyber Police Station, Srinagar for lodging an FIR.

"Investigation agency has evsought registration of FIR against ery right to verify facts but how can a common person certify things with authority on social media defaming organizations, "One person namely Sirajudin especially me," ARTO wrote in

Salam R/O Baramulla submitted his complaint.

Choudhary Reviews Functioning Of Animal Husbandry Department



In Jammu division, 24,979 in-

cluding 24.548 recoveries and

371 deaths are from Jammu dis-

trict, 4,204 including 4,128 recoveries and 57 deaths are from

Udhampur, 3,868 including 3,811

recoveries and 55 deaths are

from Rajouri, 3,432 including

3,364 recoveries and 64 deaths

are from Doda, 3,254 including

3,199 recoveries and 52 deaths

are from Kathua, 2,832 including

2,776 recoveries and 40 deaths

2,709 recoveries and 22 deaths

are from Kishtwar, 2,501 in-

cluding 2,450 recoveries and 24

deaths are from Poonch, 2,133

21 deaths are from Ramban and

1,638 including 1,622 recoveries

As per the daily information

According to the bulletin,

995,709 persons have completed

surveillance period and 101,506

persons are under home surveil-

lance besides that so far results of

Out of 4,580,204 the number of

4,580,204 samples are available.

samples tested negative stands at

4.455.610 while as 124.594 have

persons are active, 121,988 per-

persons have died.

bulletin 1,134,200 persons in

Jammu and Kashmir are under

and 15 deaths are from Reasi.

00 from Rajouri, 00 from Doda, 00 from Kathua, 02 from Samba, 00 from Kishtwar, 01 from Poonch, are from Samba, 2,732 including 00 from Ramban and 00 from Reasi," officials disclosed.

Notably, in the last 24 hours two persons belonging to Kashmir division who were tested positive for including 2,109 recoveries and COVID-19 have died.

As per officials figures, 26,238 positive cases including 457 deaths and 25,570 recoveries are from Srinagar, 8,121 including 174 and Kashmir are 668 including deaths and 7,907 recoveries are from Baramulla, 7,772 including observation while 34,379 per-7,624 recoveries and 118 deaths sons have been kept under home With 83 more recoveries, the are from Budgam, 5,729 including quarantine besides that 668 pertally of total recoveries in Jam- 5,594 recoveries and 88 deaths sons are in isolation. mu and Kashmir has reached are from Pulwama, 5,662 includ-121,988 which is 97.83 percent ing 95 deaths and 5,539 recoveries are from Kupwara, 4,907 "Cases tested positive in J&K including 4,771 recoveries and 85 include 12 from Srinagar, 02 from deaths are from Anantnag, 4,693 including 2,618 recoveries and tested positive, among them 668

clearance of their verification. Pakistan.

Speaking to a delegation of are working in different departapplication of SRO-202 on the in-service candidates who have opted for different services after going through the direct recruitment of Service Selection Board is sheer injustice.

"These candidates have been unjustifiably categorized under SRO-202. Their salaries stand nominal devoid of any increment or allowances for two more years while they have already completed their probation period and have gained much higher grade pay in their receptive departments," Bukhari observed.

Bukhari assured the delegates ment which bars them from apthat all their grievances will be pearing in the MCI examination brought into the consideration of a mandatory prerequisite for Lt. Governor of J&K so as to miti- their practices in J&K and elsegate their sufferings at the earliest. where in the country. I appeal

over the ramifications of SRO- and resolve the grievances of 202 on all the qualified youth these bright medics who want who after toiling hard get ab- to contribute in the bettersorbed in the government sec- ment of our healthcare system," tor in J&K. "The condition of Bukhari added.

"There are bright and promthe in-service candidates who ising doctors whose only sin is that they have completed their ments in J&K, Bukhari said that medical degree from different colleges of Pakistan. I request the Lt. Governor of Jammu and Kashmir for his kind intervention so that the home department clears their antecedents on priority basis," he demanded. He said that the delay in clear-

ance of their verification in the home department has not only impeded their future prospectus but has created frustration among their families who had pinned high hopes on their wards.

"These doctors are in possession of valid passports but their verification is still being delayed by the police depart-

He expressed deep concern to the Lt. Governor to intervene

Pulse Polio Campaign Successfully Held Across UT Of Jammu & Kashmir

KO Photo: Abid Bhat

SRINAGAR: Pulse Polio Campaign 2021 was Successfully held across the UT of Jammu & Kashmir with Total Achievement of 1940767 Children from the age group of 0-5yrs (100% achievement).

IPPI 2021 was inaugurated by Atal Dulloo, Financial Commissioner, Health & Medical Education Department at Govt. Hospital Sarwal Jammu on 31st January 2021.

On the first day 1667763 (87%) children were covered in both activity while as 1859326 (97%) children were covered on the 2nd day House to House activity. On the 3rd and final day a total with 100% achievement in the UT of Jammu & Kashmir.

In Kashmir Division 1049874 Children were administered Po-

snow bound areas like Gurez,



Karna, etc, vaccines were made available in such hard to reach

areas in advance. At Jammu Division 890893

lio vaccine in most far flung and Children were covered with Kashmir for Successful conduct 100% achievement in most far of Pulse Polio Campaign 2021.

1940767 children were covered Tulail Machil, Tangdar, Keran, flung areas like Paddar, Dachin, Madwah, Gol etc.

Total No. of 42836 vaccinators were deployed in 10709 booths across UT of Jammu &

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Ani- bandry Officers from Rajouri and mal, Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department, Navin K. Choudhary, today convened an officers meeting to review functioning of Animal Husbandry Department.

Navin had a detailed review of Cattle Feed Production Scheme, Integrated Poultry Development Scheme, Fodder Development Scheme, Integrated Poultry Development Scheme and other related schemes.

Addressing the officers, Principal Secretary asked them to focus on an alluring source of self employsetting up and supporting milk proenough potential to double its milk production and all efforts should be initiated to tap this prospective.

courage and support entrepreneurs and large milk processing units. He asked the concerned officers to ensure that there should be no delay in disbursal of subsidies to the entrepreneurs.

NEWS MAKERS

DWP Observes 'World Wetlands Day'

SRINAGAR: On 'World Wetlands Day', the Department of Wildlife Protection, Jammu and Kashmir government today stressed for the need to conserve and protect Wetlands, here.

The 'World Wetlands Day' is being observed every year on 2nd of February and this year it is being observed with theme 'Wetlands & Water' to raise awareness about healthy Wetlands and clean Water. In this connection, a function was organised at Hokersar Wetland Reserve, Srinagar by the Wetlands Division, Kashmir in collaboration with an NGO, National Society for Protection of Water Resource, Wetlands and Forest.

Addressing the participants, the Conservator of Forests, Wildlife/ Regional Wildlife Warden, Kashmir Region, Rashid Yahya Naqash, emphasized upon the need to conserve and protect our Wetlands particularly in relation to the theme that Wetlands, Water and life are inseparable.

He highlighted the role and importance of Wetlands and called them as the most productive life support system in the World, he also outlined the precautions necessary at this juncture to combat different challenges faced by the Wetlands.

Speaking on the occasion, Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division, Kashmir highlighted the importance of the Wetlands acting as absorption basin and carbon sinks besides harbouring lakhs of Migratory birds during winter season.

The students from various schools threw light on the theme and stressed for the measures to be adopted for betterment of the Wetlands.

DLSCC Clears SRO-43 Cases At Bandipora

BANDIPORA: The District Level Screeningcum-Consultative Committee (DLCC) meeting on Tuesday cleared two militancy-affected cases and sanctioned compensation in favor of 32 families whose properties were damaged in across LoC shelling at Gurez.

The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad.

During the meeting a case was cleared for recruitment under SRO-43 while another case was approved and referred to the concerned department for further necessary action.

32 cases of damage due to cross border shelling at Gurez were also approved subject to confirmation of losses incurred by Executive Engineer (SSD) Gurez.

Power Shutdown

SRINAGAR: According to the Power Controller, Kashmir province, in order to facilitate project wing to carry out laying of Bus Bars, the Receiving Stations Yaripora and Rooh shall observe shutdown on February 04, from 11am to 4pm.

Similarly, Receiving Sta-tion Mitalhama shall also observe shutdown on February 06 and 08 from 11am to 4 pm. Meanwhile, the power supply to the areas fed from above mentioned Receiving Stations shall remain affected during the given period.



▶ SERVICES PROVIDED: E-FILLING, E TDS, INCOME TAX ▶ RETURNS, SALES TAX/ VAT RETURNS, BOOK KEEPING, ALSO SERVICE FOR PAN, TAN AND DIGITAL SIGNATURE CERTIFICATE (DSC) REGISTRATION

Cell: +91- :9419540025 / 9596020164 / 7006818341 SATHU PAYEEN BAGHWANPORA, BARBARSHAH, SRINAGAR, KMR.

Poonch to enthuse new life to the departmental activities with emphasis on encouraging people to set up cattle feed production units. He said that the twin districts can

provide good quality feed to farmers from both the provinces of the UT which would also boost their income in return.

Navin Choudhary said that animal husbandry sector has the scope and potential to become ment in certain regions of the UT cessing, packaging, value addition where agriculture is not quite viand marketing besides increasing able. He asked the district officers milk production in the Union Ter- to organise regular promotional ritory. He said that the region has activities besides conducting interactive sessions with the college students regarding entrepreneurship avenues in animal husbandry.

Principal Secretary highlighted He also shared the success story of that the need of the hour is to en- Aijaz Rather, who has set a fisheries unit in Kokernag and is generating handsome income.

Regarding Bird Flu, Principal Secretary was briefed that a control room has been set up in the office of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir

He asked the Chief Animal Husto monitor and control the menace.

OPINION

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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Boost For Economy

he budget presented by finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman sent the stock market soaring with sensex scaling over 2300 points. The total size of the 2021-22 budget was at Rs 34.83 lakh crore. Around 5.54 lakh crore was provided for capital expenditure. Sitharaman announced a slew of taxation reforms. A large allocation has been made for healthcare. This included a total spend of around Rs 2 lakh crore on healthcare with Rs 35,000 crore on Covid-19 vaccine development and inoculation. This is an increase of 137 percent compared to the outlay on healthcare which was Rs 94,452 crore in 2020. The finance minister also announced a new cess on agriculture development – Rs 2.5 per litre on petrol and Rs 4 per litre on diesel. Also, four poll-bound states - Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Assam and West Bengal - will see significant spending on highway road expansion.

Significantly, the budget also has a new vehicle scrapping policy that aims to provide the auto sector a boost. There will now be a vehicle fitness test after 20 years in case of personal vehicles and 15 years in case of commercial vehicles. The auto sector has been in a slump over the last three years. In fact, 2019 had witnessed the biggest decline in auto sales. Overall, the focus has been on healthcare and infrastructure. The budget provided Rs 1.18 lakh crore for ministry of Roads and Rs 1.10 lakh crore for Railways.

The budget was Nirmala Sitharaman's third and also India's first paperless budget. She used a 'made in India' tablet to deliver the budget address. In the budget, the finance minister has chosen to spend her way out of the current financial crisis. And this is what the economy needed in the given circumstances. The budget is thus a step in the direction towards a self-reliant economy also called Atmanirbharta. This is expected to drive economic momentum and growth.

But given the battering the economy has received due to the ongoing pandemic, it will be a long time before things return to normal. As per estimates released by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation last year, India's Gross Domestic Product for the April-June quarter slipped by a whopping 23.9 per cent, owing to a strict nationwide lockdown due to the novel coronavirus. In 2019, the GDP had expanded by 5.2 per cent in the comparable quarter. The gaping dent in the GDP has meant that the lakhs of jobs have been lost which will not be created in near future. For that to happen, the economy will have to kickstart and start functioning normally. And this, in turn, will not be possible on a sustainable basis until the vaccination is done on a mass scale and the government gets a grip on the runaway pandemic. This would mean probably a wait of three to six more months. But a budget that has focussed on health care and infrastructure development will certainly go a long way to give economy the necessary boost it needed.

Need For A Separate Shia Wakf Board

All 133 Mosques And Shrines With An Annual Income Of Rs. 26 Crore And 9500 Kanals Of Land In Jammu And Kashmir Have Come Under The Central Wakf Board Under The J&K Reorganization Act

Mohammad Muzafar Thakur

THE EXISTING Jammu and **Kashmir Board** for Muslims Specified Wakf in Kashmir is awaiting the decision to be implemented as it plans to open a chain of general stores next to religious shrines and start a clothing brand that would be available at nominal prices. It also plans to establish diagnostic testing laboratories on nominal charges for the benefit of the patients.

ince the creation of Shia Wakf Board in Jammu and Kashmir is a hot topic these days I deem it important to put across my views on the issue which I'm sure reflects views of the society at large. Even though I live in America, I can't detach myself from my community, culture and ethos. I have the highest regard and respect for every political leader, religious scholars, preachers and members of my community back home. However, this doesn't stop me from having differences of opinion on the issues of public importance and it does not tantamount to arrogance or disrespect. This is in fact, the essence of democracy and necessary for creating a democratic temper in the society.

I heard many statements for and against the creation of the Shia Wakf Act, but I personally feel we should have a separate Wakf Act for better administration and management of Augaf properties belonging to for the reasons enumerated below. Wakf Act will maintain transparency and account-

ability in the system. Every penny out of Auqaf property will be accounted for and if there is any mismanagement or discrepancy in the revenue, action under rules will be taken. Every member of our community will have the right to have access to any record after fulfilling certain formalities and the officer in charge shall be bound by resentation of the facts that more acts were enacted like law to publish income and outsiders will be nominated Jammu and Kashmir Shri expenditure statements on the Shia Wakf Board. Amarnathji Shrine Act 2000, duly certified by a firm of However, the Minister Jammu and Kashmir Mata Chartered Accountants after every year in local dailies for the information of the general public. Some people are of the or Boards that the Minister Jammu and Kashmir Sikh view that the 'assistants'

appointed by the Mara'ja (scholars of jurisprudence) in Qom and Najaf at differviolate the fundamental



THE GOVERNMENT IS FINALIZING the formation of two Wakf Boards in Kashmir and one in Ladakh under the Central Wakf Act 1995 that would map up wakf properties in the two union territories and digitise records as well.

is comparable to AIIMS.

Shia Muslim community are accountable. I have nev- agement of Wakf properer seen in my lifetime any ties. For instance Jammu income and expenditure and Kashmir Shri Mata statement of wakf proper- Vaishno Devi Shrine Act was ties in Kashmir being pub-

lished in any newspaper. When a Wakf Board of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine is constituted it will be Board increased then the manned, managed and run by local Shia persons of repute or who are elected for the post. No outsider will have a place in the Board. Hussain (AS) Hospital, Be-It is on this analogy that no Shia can be nominated on Sunni Wakf Board or any a shabby condition. Much Hindu Trust. This is misrepincharge who should be a Shia will be chairman. It is and Shri Shiv Khori Shrine general guideline in respect Act 1999, Shri Mata Bala all Muslim Auguaf Trusts Sundari Shrine Act 2013 and incharge heads the board.

dowment Act of 1988 were 4. The Government is finalizing the formation of enacted thereafter. two Wakf Boards in Kashent places are only autho- mir and one in Ladakh and Kashmir Board for dowments in the form of rised to look into the wakf under the Central Wakf Muslims Specified Wakf in cash and jewellery and run related issues. But I fail to Act 1995 that would map Kashmir is awaiting the de- the affairs on their own. The understand that if the 'as- up wakf properties in the cision to be implemented Central Wakf Act calls for 7% sistants' sell augaf land two union territories and as it plans to open a chain of revenue share from these to some private person or digitise records as well. of general stores next to re- shrines. However, unlike the The Jammu and Kashmir ligious shrines and start a principles of wakf prop- Muslim Auquaf Trust was clothing brand that would be available at nominal of the augaf or there is no hammad Abdullah, former prices. It also plans to establish diagnostic testing sent a letter to late Aga Syed laboratories on nominal Yousuf Almosvi of Budgam charges for the benefit of seeking his consent for en- the patients. We must learn able to foray into the health interpretation of sharia and actment of separate Shia lessons from other com-Auqaf. Unfortunately, this munities. Sikhs have establetter was ignored and we lished low price medicine lost the opportunity of en- shops at Gurudwara Bangla not be sold to anyone under actment of a separate Shia Sahib. New Delhi where own and do not necessarily any circumstances." No per- Auqaf. Notwithstanding the medicine and diagnostic son is above law. Everybody fact, that Trusts or Boards facilities are available to evis accountable in this world of endowments of less im- eryone on nominal charges. and hereafter for every portance were established The J&K BMSW also plans to

especially women. All 133 Muslim mosques and shrines with an annual income of Rs. 26 crore enacted 1988. With the enand 9500 kanals of land in actment of Act the revenue Jammu and Kashmir have come under the Central Wakf Board under the J&K Re-organisation Act. The idea of University and Hospital was conceived, which Jammu and Kashmir Muslim Wakf Board is a rich or-On the contrary our Imam ganisation and has pushed for modernisation of educamina was started much eartion in the Kashmir Valley lier but this institution is in by supporting the setting up of the Islamic University after its establishment many of Science and Technology between 2002 to 2008. The Jammu and Kashmir Wakf Board is taking care of 2000 buildings and kiosks and Sukrala Shrine Act, 1988 runs three Nursing Colleges. Compared with the centralized revenue collecting system of Jammu and Kashmir Wakf Board, the Central Wakf Board gives

Gurdwara Religious and Enmore powers to Mutwalis, the traditional caretakers 5. The existing Jammu of the shrines to collect enrest of the country, the lam mu and Kashmir Wakf Board centralizes all revenue and plans for expansion of basic infrastructure. The previous J&K board given the assets and revenue model, was and education sectors. The views expressed in this article are the author's reflect the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

OTHER OPINION

A Productive Budget Session

n Friday, Parliament convened for its Budget Session. The pandemic shortened the Budget Session last year, and the winter session was not held at all. This makes the current session even more significant, for it is not just the Union Budget 2021-22 which needs to be tabled, discussed and passed, but a range of other issues which merit greater deliberation in the space which symbolises the expression of popular sovereignty.

Unfortunately, the Budget Session has started off with a note of discord - with most Opposition parties boycotting the President's address to register their resistance to the farm laws and the Centre's handling of the protests. Instead of the government skirting a debate or the Opposition walking out, it is crucial to have a structured discussion on agriculture, reforms, protests and what happened on January 26 in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Remember, it was because the legislative process was fast-tracked that apprehensions about the laws deepened. An open discussion – with both supportive and critical points of views being expressed freely - will help send a signal that the appetite for debate is alive, and assure farmers that their concerns are being articulated in Parliament.

India has faced a national security, public health and economic crisis over the past year. And each of these elements needs greater deliberation too. The standoff with China has persisted - and a lot has happened since raksha mantri Rajnath Singh last briefed Parliament. The government would do well to put out a detailed statement on the exact state of play both in the western and eastern sectors, and what it plans to do to oust China from Indian territory. The pandemic has abated – but there is no room for complacency. As the vaccination drive intensifies, Parliament should see a discussion on India's record in handling the pandemic so far. And, of course, given that this is the Budget Session, there must be a comprehensive discussion on each element of India's economic story, from the macro- economic indicators and revival in select sectors to the persistence of high unemployment and entrenchment of structural inequalities. All of this is possible only if both the Treasury and Opposition benches recognise that they differ, but the expression of these differences must happen on the floor of the House. The government must shed any unilateralism, and the Opposition must shed any plans of disruption.

Hindustan Times

erty or conceal the income established by Sheikh Motransparency in the system, Chief Minister in 1978. He whether that person will continue to hold the position? In fact, this is a misthe Mara'ja have already conveyed their decision that 'the donated land can-

act they have done in this which brought tremendous provide interest free loans America and can be reached world. Even the prophets improvement in the man- to budding entrepreneurs,

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The Times Of Covid-19 And Beyond

and experiences for most of us to to not be too ambitious about future, spend and invest in the present we are living in. into poverty, the leaders in these countries It taught us to revisit our selfish exploitation of nature. 2020 would infamously be remembered for being the year in which a deadly contagious virus heralded into this world. Covid-19 left a devastating imprint in our memories many of us lost our friends and family members to this pandemic. The picture of the entire world was dystopic aires in this time frame. It won't be wrong and grim throughout the major part of this year. However, since the year has passed and people around the world are rejuvenated, 2021 is being welcomed amid a new strand of Covid-19. The only silver-lining millions are jobless, many local busiworth noticing here is the fact that the world now has a vaccine which could be affective in immunizing people against such a highly contagious virus.

OBSERVER

MAII

Crisis creates an exigency and panic among the common people, the paranoia which was inculcated among the people lionaires have grown their net worth by a by most of the countries around the globe backfired enormously. In major countries the pathetic and underdeveloped health

lost their lives while rowing through these observe and experience. It taught us trying times. In several countries a botched up and thoughtless lockdown forced people heavily wrested their beliefs on conspiracy theories and unacceptable unscientific methods to deal with the pandemic.

Almost everyone in the working class ation however surprisingly we also observed a spike in the assets of the billionto remark that the economic crisis of this magnitude wasn't felt ever since the times of The Great Depression of 1929. A year nesses have shut down completely, this however doesn't mean that this recession has impacted everyone equally. We have people have profited during these times substantially. For instance, in USA 614 bilswooping 931 billion\$ collectively.

back of the economy around the globe, influence of US capitalism could also

The year 2020 has passed, leaving sector got exposed, people lost jobs in mil- Coffee giant Starbucks came up with an end up making things more unpleasant behind many unpleasant memories lions and hundreds of thousands of people initiative of supplying free coffee to healthcare workers. It's obviously less about the sympathy and more about the business and brand promotion. In contrast to that, if we take local businesses and small scale entrepreneurial initiatives or even the laborers into account, it will be clearly seen that they have been affected badly by the

crisis. The problems for such small scale section felt the impact of this uneven situ- and indigenous businesses worsened further due to a botched up handling of this pandemic by their respective leaders.

We have overcome a deadly disease and its impact but the consequence of a potential political apathy still awaits us. Now, with the advent of a vaccine people down the line we have a situation where are seeing a bleak hope of turning back to their normal lives. This becomes more interesting to see how countries with absolute privatized institutions are going to distribute the vaccine, even in a country observed that globally several wealthiest like USA which is infamous for a very costly medical treatment of its citizens. We have witnessed issues of Insulin injections adorning the newspapers of the US. Similarly, poor and underdeveloped When novel coronavirus had broken the countries which remain under a strict

for their citizens if they follow a heavily privatized healthcare regime. The best way to rid this world of this deadly virus could be a government sponsored subsidy on the virus. But this becomes a challenging task for the governments which are mostly funded by high profile corporates and billionaires, the probability of reaping as much profit as possible from the paranoia, fear and exigency of the people becomes very high in such circumstances. The private companies and corporates involved in the development and distribution of this anti-virus can compel the governments to sell them at the price of their choice. This will hamper the distribution and immunization process in poor and developing countries particularly making it tough for them to bounce back to a normal life like the rest of the privileged nations of the world. The year 2020 might have ended but it's too early to celebrate given the uncertainties, influence and influx of rich capitalist billionaires in global politics.

> Sheikh Imran shkimran@rediffmail

PANORAMA



Old And Forlorn

OFTEN WHILE making important family decisions you completely sideline your aged parents. They are watching you as mute spectators, while you take decisions and you don't bother to ask their view because you think that the oldage has taken a toll on their wit

Bashir Ahmad Dar



YOUR PARENTS are aged. Old age has sucked all their strength out of their every single bone. You are their strength. But, your fearful sidelong look makes them old beyond their years.

ights and duties are two inseparable entities. They go hand in hand. They are two sides of the same coin. Every person has certain duties that they are obliged to fulfill. However, for the effective fulfilment of these duties their knowledge is a prerequisite thing. It is only after one has done one's duties that one can talk about one's rights. Performing duties effectively and enjoying rights handsomely makes life beautiful. Right from the stepping out of the moth-er's womb into this world, a person holds certain identities. Being son/daughter, brother/sister, friend, student to name a few. The number of identities continue to surge as one grows. But every identity associates itself with some rights and duties. For instance, as a student your rights are that you get a good education, best teachers to teach you and opportunities to play in school. But it is your duty to work hard and excel in studies. You are also bound to abide by the rules and regulations of your school. Similarly, as a kid of your family, it is your right that you get a safe and secure environment at your home.You get a house to live in. You get love from your with respect and honour. parents and siblings, and everyone else remade fun of But at the same time you love, affection and care that you are get- which they had so carefully nurtured with commanded you to be fair to them but

ting from them in your childhood.

Parents top the list of blessings which God has bestowed upon the progeny of Adam (AS). They are the most selfless and altruistic creatures of Allah. It is only your parents who are most sincere to you, who love you unconditionally, who despite all worries and sorrows, not only raise you but also want to see you at the highest level of achievement. Only an orphan can tell you how it feels to be without parents. To him, the world is cruel and crazy. The world seems intimidating as hell. The world is a concoction of bitterness and indignation for him/her. So,value your parents while they are with you. Islam has made it obligatory for you to obey your parents and have mercy on them. Islam has told you to seek paradise under the feet of your mother and enter the paradise through the gate(your father). So, God has made it mandatory for us to care for our parents and respect them beyond measures. Like Islam, every other religion has laid special emphasis on to love and respect the parents. For example, both Christianity and Hinduism teaches

are obliged to respect your elders, listen spectators, while you take decisions and the gratitude. to their advice and not mock your family you don't bother to ask their view because members. So, basically as a son or daugh- you think that the old-age has taken a toll sucked all their strength out of their evter, your rights constitute the duties of on their wit. Do you know how painful it ery single bone. You are their strength.

their sweat and blood?

You play with your spouse and kids. The parents are watching and you don't have word of love and kindness for them. You think it is fair? Your own kids are watching you. Remember, children are the best observers and imitators of things. What you do to your parents, will surely be emulated by your children. You are digging a pit for yourself. It reminds me of a very short but meaningful story. In the story, a man takes his aged father to a hilltop to kill him by pushing him down the hill. But, just when the son was about to push him, the father stopped him. Pointing to a nearby spot, he asks his son to take him there and push. On asking why the father wishes to be pushed from the spot, the old man replies that he too had pushed his father from that spot when his father was old. So, you reap what you sow.

Parents have undergone a long toil and difficulties to raise you. They have not rested years together to make your future. They have ensured your good edu-cation and proper nutrition. They have that children should treat their parents had countless sleepless nights to ensure that you sleep comfortably. They have lost being and happiness. They won't curse you Often while making important family de- their youthful grace to build yours. They but the owner of heavens is all watching. siding with you.You are not teased at and cisions you completely sideline your aged have cut their expenses to fulfill your de- Hammer of God hits late but batters surely. parents. They are watching you as mute sizes. Now it is your turn to show them Your parents are aged. Old age has your parents. Likewise, as you grow and is for them to see their exclusion from the But, your fearful sidelong look makes fession, working in zone Vailoo and can be turn to youth, you owe your parents the very family matters of the same family them old beyond their years. God has reached at darbashir1234321@gmail.com

vou leave no stone unturned to hurt them. Believe me, you are inviting the wrath of His Holy Scheme.

You have been mistreating your parents since long. Now, your presence is frightful to them. You are out and your parents are cracking jokes. You suddenly open the door and an awful stillness falls upon them. They have given words to your tongue when you were helpless in their lap and now the same tongue is silencing theirs. Aren't you ashamed?

Medical concerns are common in old age. Chronic ailments attack the elderly people easily because of decreased immunity. Your parents are no exception. They need medication and care, and you deem them as parasites, sorry to be too harsh, who drain your money, time and mental peace. What if they had deemed you the same way when you were draining their money, health and time? Give it a thought.

Still, your parents are not complaining about your negligence which has left them in a state of absolute pain and misery. They are a few moments away from their graves but they are still worried about your well-Please fulfill your duties towards your pa

ents before it is too late.

Bashir Ahmad Dar is a teacher by pro-

How A Hypochondriac Survived The Pandemic

Anamika Chatterjee

y father never wore a monkev cap during winters. He did not believe in conforming to stereotypes about Bengali men. Rather he did the next best thing – he'd wrap his head with multiple layers of men's shawl while dropping me to school every morning. Seeing the bare heads of other parents, my claims of 'my daddy strongest' would often fall flat. Whenever I did request him to brave the cold and take off the shawl, he would warn, "It's better to be safe than sorry."

I grew up ingraining these words in my mind. As a teen, the moment my temperature hit 100, I would ask for a Crocin in order to function normally, even if that function meant lying down and reading a book. When I'd be taken to the doctor for general check-ups, I'd ask for supplements that could keep me in the pink of health. As the doc warned against unnecessary pillpopping, I'd tell him exactly what I was told — "It's better to be safe than sorry."

In my adult life, my friends finally found a nomenclature for my 'condition': hypochondria. A basic Google search will tell you that hypochondriacs are people who are excessively concerned about contracting illnesses. In my mind, nothing was excessive about my need to protect myself from a prospective illness, it was selfpreservation. I even told myself that I possessed foresight my friends were not gifted with. After all, what was with this whole business of playing outdoors during rains? Or cycling when the heat was oppressive? Privilege, to me, meant every single opportunity that allowed me to read books or watch television, activities that demanded application of mind rather than body.

To people like me, an outbreak marks a



TO PEOPLE LIKE ME, AN OUTBREAK MARKS A setback; an epidemic points to a calamity and a pandemic implies catastrophe. So, what does it mean for a hypochondriac to live through the pandemic? At the beginning, it was about compulsive sanitisation. I would sanitise my hands after touching a surface or collecting a food parcel

setback; an epidemic points to a calamity live through the pandemic? At the begin- ing a surface or collecting a food parcel. It and a pandemic implies catastrophe. So, ning, it was about compulsive sanitisation. reached a point where the skin on my palms what does it mean for a hypochondriac to I would sanitise my hands after touch- began to scrape off, and I found myself

straight at a dermatologist's. A cough or a sniffle heard from a mile away would set the alarm bells ringing. I loaded my medicine box with Vitamin C supplements just so I'd never run out of the immunity booster. The few times I turned out to be secondary contact to someone who'd contracted Covid-19, not only did I lock myself up in the room, I would imagine something going terribly wrong with my throat – I'd spray perfume over my arms just to check if my sense of smell was still intact and would eat salty chips to check if my taste buds were working just fine. But the mind simply wouldn't stop playing games till the test result came out to be negative. The one time I needed to travel to India to attend to a medical emergency, I stood outside the Terminal 3 entrance wondering for half an hour whether I should go ahead and take the flight, after all. Psychologically, I have died several deaths before the impending end.

A year into the pandemic, I am not any braver. But somewhere the gates of fear have been sealed. Covid-19 has taught an important lesson: the value of living in the present fully. It means not ruing about the past nor worrying about the future, but making the most of the present because it is the only certainty we have. My greatest joy once was travelling to India to see family and friends. That joy is now condensed to watching them talk on my laptop screen. My greatest disappointment was to see a loved one passing away. I have lived through that too virtually. With the pandemic having realised our worst fears, there is a lot less to be fearful of. And as mass vaccination programmes are being rolled out, it's hope whose time has come.

> anamika@khaleejtimes.com Khaleei Times

O8 Kashmir Observer

'Sport Participation Levels Reduced In Students From Lower Socio-Economic Groups'

Agencies

According to a new research, students from lower socioeconomic groups (SEG) are less likely to participate in sport or physical activity at university.

The research, led by Sheffield Hallam University, was published in the journal 'Sport, Education and Society'. The main barriers affecting par-

The main barriers affecting participation were found to be down to the cost of being part of a sports team, lack of time due to academic commitments, part-time working or their social life taking precedence, and limited prior knowledge of and participation in a sport before starting university.

Funded by British Universities and Colleges Sport, the study surveyed over 700 students from 20 universities and found those that had participated in sport and physical activity prior to starting university were more likely to continue participating when at university, regardless of socio-economic group.

New students to university were unlikely to take up a sport that they hadn't done previously, and confidence to try new activities declined with age. Other university-specific factors affecting participation included facilities and accessibility and whether or not students lived on or close to campus or commuted to university.

A large proportion of commuting students were in the low SEG group and were found to be less likely to be involved in university sports clubs and access university facilities, but they were found to be more likely to maintain any existing participation at home.

Dr Kerry Griffiths of the Sport Industry Research Centre at Sheffield Hallam, said, "Evidence suggests that participation in sport and physical activity declines as



young people reach university age and it is clear that universities should have a key role in maintaining existing participation as well as in engaging and sustaining participation in potential new participants."

"There is also evidence to show that people from low socio-economic groups are less likely to participate in sport and physical activity at all ages," added Dr Griffiths.

Dr Griffiths noted, "Universities could build on their outreach programmes with schools or local communities to look at ways in which they could help to develop sporting habits at an earlier age."

Griffiths further stated that "For those that do come to university as existing sport participants, there is a need to ensure that they have the right opportunities, support, and encouragement to be able to continue to participate. Exploring or developing links with local community clubs may also be a useful strategy to enable participation to be sustained amongst existing participants."

Verbal reasoning may not always have positive effect on children: Study

Agencies

Parents, take note! Explaining to your child why their behaviour is wrong may not always have the intended positive effect if the parent is loud and abrupt, a new study suggested.

The findings of the study were published in the journal 'International Journal of Behavioral Development'. Research conducted globally shows that spanking is not the best option. But verbal reasoning, which explains why the behaviour is wrong, may not always have the intended positive effect if the parent is loud and abrupt, according to the study, led by the University of Michigan.

The findings indicate both positive and negative outcomes that could have lasting consequences on children's emotional development. Verbal reasoning was associated with higher levels of getting along with others, but also with increased aggression and

higher levels of distraction. "Positive discipline does not always seem to have all that many positive benefits," said Andrew Grogan-Kaylor, professor of social work and lead author of the study published in the latest issue of International Journal of Behavioral

Development. "It is more likely that the longterm investments that parents make in children, such as spending time with them, letting them know they are loved, and listening to them, have more positive effects than nonviolent discipline. This has yet to be thoroughly researched in a global context," added Grogan-Kaylor.



Research has continually shown that spanking leads to negative child outcomes, such as aggression and distraction, regardless of the context in which children are disciplined, including country, race and ethnicity, and neighbourhood.

In the new study, researchers at U-M's Ann Arbor and Flint campuses analyzed different forms of punishment associated with children's behaviors in a global sample of nearly 216,000 families from 62 countries. The data came from the United Nations Children's Fund Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys.

The results confirmed that spanking was not associated with children getting along with their counterparts. It also led to increased aggression and distraction. For nonviolent discipline, which involved verbal reasoning and taking away privileges, mixed outcomes occurred, Grogan-Kaylor said.

Verbal reasoning did promote pr

one positive result: Children were more prosocial with others, especially in countries where this discipline was more common. Surprisingly, verbal reasoning also increased aggression, likely in cases when the parents used harsh tones and language, the study suggested.

"Verbal reasoning may have negative effects on children if it is not employed in a way that is developmentally appropriate for the child to understand why their behavior is inappropriate," Grogan-Kaylor said. Meanwhile, children did not get along with other children and

showed higher levels of aggression, and became distracted when parents took away privileges. So what is the best way to disci-

pline a child? Grogan-Kaylor suggested providing them structure, keeping the lines of communication open, and providing developmentally appropriate removal of privileges.

Novel Biosensors Quickly Detect Coronavirus Proteins, Antibodies

Press Trust Of India

Scientists have developed new protein-based biosensors that glow when mixed with components of the novel coronavirus or specific COVID-19 antibodies, a breakthrough that could enable faster and more widespread testing for the disease.

When mixed with fluid from a nasal swab or blood sample, these protein sensors emit light within minutes, according to the research published in the journal Nature.

Current coronavirus diagnosis relies mostly on a technique called RT-PCR, which amplifies genetic material from the virus so that it can be seen.

This technique requires specialised staff and equipment, and also consumes lab supplies that are now in high demand all over the world. In order to directly detect coronavirus in patient samples without the need for genetic amplification, researchers led by David Baker, a professor at the University of Washington in the US, used computers to design new biosensors.

These protein-based devices, described in the journal Nature,



UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) DIVISION GANDERBAL Address: Mini-Secretariat Ganderbal Ph.01942951904 NOTICE INVITING TENDER NIT NO.170/2020-21 issue under endorsement No.14797-14806

Dated:02-02-2021

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

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (In Rupees)		M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	7	6
1.	Construction of road from Waliwar Baba Buderdin (R.A) to Sheikh Mohalla, Chechi Mohalla, Khak Mohalla b.w.o P/L Khak Bajree in stretches, WBM G-2nd in full and Cross Drainage pipes at required spots. Name of Scheme:- Development of Qureshi/Mughal Mohalla link roads	04.75	200/-	15 Cal Days	District Sector	Dee
2	Construction of R/wall, B/wall and slip clearance RD 1600 Mtrs at National Highway to Hillpati road at Kangan Name of Scheme:- Upgrd. of various link roads at Gund (Ist two Kms of Hariganiwan-Surfraw road, Dev. Of Rayil link, Rezon link & Haknar road) under State Sector	13.95	600/=	20 Cal Days	State- Sector	DEE/CEE/ BEE
3	Construction of R/wall near L/o. Mir Ahmad S/O:Mohammad Yaqoob for pre- ventation against soil erosion. Name of Scheme:-Upgrd. of link roads at Manigam (Dursuma Manigam road km-lst, Arhama Yarmuqam km-lst & Lari Prang linkroad incl. Wussan Chattergul road).	15.00	600/=	20 Cal Days	State- Sector	DEE/CEE/ BEE

DIRECTORATE OF ISM J&K JAMMU

Directorate of ISM J&K is looking for approx. 6000 sq. ft. space/hall having good ventilation on rent, located in clean & healthy environment within a radius of 15 km. from Directorate of ISM, Indira Chowk Jammu for the purpose of ISM Drug Store/Drug Ware House. It should have:-

Facility of ramp/lift (preferably) from ground floor upto the 1st floor in case of two storeyed building.

- Water and Electricity connections with power backup facility.
 - Separate male and female toilets.
- Compound wall
- Access to free movement of Trucks round-the-clock with a capacity of parking for minimum 04-05 trucks at a stretch.

Terms & Conditions

- 1. The property owner shall have to sign an agreement for the rent period of minimum 05 years in the 1st instance.
- 2. After 05 years, in case the owner wants to get the accommodation vacated, minimum of

LIFE & TIMES

cal reaction.

ID-19 in the past.

plies and equipment.

COVID-19 antibodies.

recognise specific molecules on the

surface of the virus, bind to them,

then emit light through a biochemi-

Antibody testing can reveal

It is being used to track the

spread of the pandemic, but it too

requires complex laboratory sup-

The same team also created bio-

They showed that these sensors

According to the researchers, this

"We have shown in the lab that

do not react to other antibodies that

might also be in the blood, includ-

ing those that target other viruses.

sensitivity is important for avoiding

these new sensors can readily de-

tect virus proteins or antibodies in

simulated nasal fluid or donated

can be used reliably in a diagnostic

setting. This work illustrates the

power of de novo protein design

to create molecular devices from

scratch with new and useful func-

"Our next goal is to ensure they

false-positive test results.

serum," said Baker.

sensors that glow when mixed with

whether a person has had COV-

Wednesday | 03.02.2021

Position of AAA: Accorded Position of funds Available

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

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	02.02.2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	02.02.2021 from 03.00 PM
3	Bid submission Start Date	02.02.2021 from 03.30 PM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	09.02.2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	10.02.2021 at 10:00 AM in the office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal (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 Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).

3. 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)

4. 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.

5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.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 Ganderbal (tender receiving authority).

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids

7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

7.1. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www. jktenders.gov.into acquaint bid submission process.

7.2. 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.

- 7.3. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- 7.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- 7.5. 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.

8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

9. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Division Ganderbal (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 Construction Division Ganderbal must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

10. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually.

11. Price escalation and Taxes:- The %age quoted by the bidder shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

12. Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required.

13. In case of CRF and any other specified project. the relevant guidelines / standard bidding document shall be followed.

a. On contractor's representation based on the grounds as detailed above the time for completion of the work may be extended by a period considered reasonable by the Department.

b. Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.

26. The tender / bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.

27. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25

No. 14797-14806	
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Dated:02.02.2021

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DIPK-12441/20

- 03 months prior notice needs to be given.
- 3. The monthly rent shall be assessed/fixed by the Rent Assessment Committee constituted for the purpose
- 4. The rented property should not have interference of anybody else.
- 5. Any maintenance including Power facility, Drinking Water facility, Drainage System, leakage of roof etc shall be the liability of the owner.
- 6. The accommodation should be equipped with Fire Safety System
- 7. The accommodation can be ready to use or owner can construct and hand it over to this Directorate within 03 months time period.

Interesting parties may contact within 07 days at:-

Directorate of ISM J&K Indira Chowk Jammu

Contact No: - 0191-2543988

E-mail:- dgism786@gmail.com

DIRECTORATE OF ISM J&K JAMMU

Directorate of ISM J&K is looking for approx. 6000 sq. ft. space/hall having good ventilation on rent, located in clean & healthy environment between Nowgam Bypass and Shaltang along Srinagar Baramulla Highway for the purpose of ISM Drug Store/Drug Ware House Kashmir. It should have:-

• Facility of ramp/lift (preferably) from ground floor upto the lst floor in case of two storeyed building.

- Water and Electricity connections with power backup facility.
- Separate male and female toilets.
- Compound wall
- Access to free movement of Trucks round-the-clock with a capacity of parking for minimum 04-05 trucks at a stretch.

Terms & Conditions

- 1. The property owner shall have to sign an agreement for the rent period of minimum 05 years in the 1st instance.
- 2. After 05 years, in case the owner wants to get the accommodation vacated, minimum of 03 months prior notice needs to be given.
- 3. The monthly rent shall be assessed/fixed by the Rent Assessment Committee constituted for the purpose
- 4. The rented property should not have interference of anybody else.
- 5. Any maintenance including Power facility, Drinking Water facility, Drainage System, leakage of roof etc shall be the liability of the owner.
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Interesting parties may contact within 07 days at :-

Directorate of ISM J&K Indira Chowk Jammu

Sd/-Executive Engineer R&B Division Ganderbal DIPK-12425/20 E-mail:- dgism786@gmail.com

Business



Budget: Trade Unions Call For Nationwide Protest Tomorrow **Against Privatisation**



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

joint platform of 10 central trade unions on Tuesday gave a call for a nationwide protest on February 3 against privatisation and other "anti-people" policies proposed in the Budget for 2021-22 and to press for scrapping labour codes and providing income and food support to the families of poor workers.

The 10 central trade unions are Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC), All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC). Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS), Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC), Trade Union Coordination Centre (TUCC), Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), Labour Progressive Federation (LPF) and United Trade Union Congress (UTUC).

"The joint platform of Central Trade Unions and the independent sectoral federations/associations calls upon the unions and working class to observe nationwide protest on 3rd February demanding, scrapping of labour codes and electricity bill 2020, No privatisation, Income support and food support to all poor workers' households and (to protest) against antipeople policies as reflected by union budget (presented on Feb1, 2021)," a statement by joint forum said.

According to statement protest day to be observed through massive the poor masses and their needs. demonstrations/mobilizations at the workplaces, and industrial centres/ areas and also burning the copies of the Labour Codes.

The Joint Platform of Central unions added. Trade Unions and Independent Federations has called upon the trade rather repeated her presentation unions and workers in general to of the same deceptive packages carry on an intensive campaign in announced in the month of May all the workplaces and in residen- 2020, they added.

tial areas throughout the country against the destructive anti-worker, anti-farmer and anti-national policies of the government and make the programme a massive success to pave the way for further combative struggles including multiple day's strike in the days to come to

fight, defy and resist the destructive and anti-national policy regime. The unions said that the budget presented by the Finance Minister is full of rhetoric and far away from the ground realities.

It is totally deceptive and destructive for the national economy. besides being cruelly insensitive to the suffering of the mass of the toiling people.

The finance minister has repeated the claim of the government's economic survey that the labour codes are good for the workers, similarly, the farm laws were also praised.

"There is no relief to the farmers' rather the government has only announced the increase of the threshold for taking loans. It is a cruel joke on the farming community which is already finding itself in a tight corner and is already entrenched in debt. The demands of the farmers are totally ignored rather the farm laws are being praised by the government as a boon to them, when they are braving all odds seeking their total repeal," they highlighted. The budget has totally ignored The government has stood for the corporates and abandoned the common masses pushing Indian economy further into a mess, the

She has actually extended,

Synchronize, Calibrate Efforts **To Revitalize Rural Economy: Khan To Stakeholders**

NABARD Seminar Pegs J&K's Credit Potential At Rs 35583 Cr; Sets

Priorities For FY 2021-22



JAMMU: In a seminar held today on the theme of 'Credit and Development' by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NAB-ARD), Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, exhorted upon all stakeholders to synchronize and calibrate efforts to achieve the desired outcomes regarding agricultural growth and development. On the Occasion, Advisor un-

veiled a concept paper prepared by NABARD on the credit potential estimation of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. The paper titled 'Collectivization of Agricultural Produce for Enhancing Farmer's Income' estimates the total credit potential to priority sectors in J&K at Rs 35583.25 crore. The document has been prepared by consolidating the potentials identified in the potential linked credit plans in priority sectors of every district of the UT.

The seminar was attended by Secretary RDD; VCs SKUAST Jammu and Kashmir; CMD NABARD: CMD J&K Bank; Regional Director, RBI and other senior level bankers, government officers besides agriculturists.

Advisor Khan reiterated that our approach should be cluster based having wholesome impact on ground. He asked for introspection on previous models that has not yielded expected results and using innovative methods to revitalize them either. He also emphasised on resurrecting farmers' income by putting focus not only on infrastructure building

He further asked for fine-tuning the plans with local needs to

ground. He exhorted upon the need for promoting initiatives like 'One District One Product' for making tangible changes. Chairman and Managing Direc-

tor, NABARD, said that NABARD is rolling out a package of Rs 25991 crore for Jammu and Kashmir for next 5 years as accepted by Government of India. He said that by lending and upgrading the priority sectors like agriculture, handloom, handicrafts NABARD is making rural economy vibrant and sustainable

He said that for the welfare of farmers, the necessary guidelines and plans are envisaged each year in line with the consultations made with banks and government departments. He further impressed on agricultural universities to provide high yielding and climate resilient seeds to farmers for increasing their produce and thereby their income.

Vice Chancellor SKUAST. Kashmir, said that we have to ensure that agricultural lands are not converted for non-agricultural purposes. He recommended added fodder production and enhancing output of agriculture by adopting integrative farming system.

VC, SKUAST Jammu emphasised on replicating many of the success stories he mentioned from this region saying that we have less land and less production so diversification and marketing of produce is going to make things better. He also stressed on reducing the wastage and increasing processing to make returns increase manifold as done by few of our agribusiness entrepreneurs. He asked for increasing share of farmers in consumer rupee from current 23% to 70%.

Secretary, Rural Development Department, said that for raisportant. She said that social sector ral Haats supported by NABARD.

development holds key towards overall development of priority sectors adding that all our activities should encourage farmers to adopt better techniques and technology to boost his income.

Chairman and Managing Director, J&K Bank, said that in the month of October last year, the bank visited each panchayat of J&K and offered a loan of Rs 260 crore to unemployed youth on the eve of 'Back to Village' programme. He said that we are working towards providing banking facilities to every area and would realise it shortly. He said that Rs 13000 crore have been lent for raising the CA stores across J&K and with the help of NABARD it could be taken to next level.

Regional Director of RBI appeciated the paper being all inclusive saying that this exercise can be used to plan better by our government and public institutions. He said times have changed so we all should make changes individually and collectively for welfare of the society. He said that Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs) are focus on livestock development, a brilliant idea of doubling the farmers income. He pushed for enhancing their capacity to realise their potential fully.

The Focus paper presented the potential linked credit estimates for various sub-sectors of priority sector which inter alia included Rs 20697.23 crore for agriculture and Rs 10817.82 crore for MSME segment for the year 2021-22.

Presentations on NABARD initiatives in I&K reflecting impact of various projects was given by DGM, NABARD while representatives of NGOs presented the impact of NABARD aided FPOs in both the divisions of J&K.

Besides, various products of NABARD supported FPOs, OFPOs, ing the income of farmers strat- SHGs were also demonstrated at egizing, raising infrastructure and the venue including handicraft maximize the benefits besides creating avenues is equally im- and handloom products from Ru-

Gol Admits Significant Tourist Decline Post Aug 5 In Kashmir

mir after the abrogation of Article 370 on August 5 2019.

In response to the question said, "Since, August, 5, 2019, the number of tourist arrivals in J&K the last few months."

A total of 84,326 tourists have Sledge/Dandi Walla, (2150.) visited In Kashmir Valley since 2019. In Jammu about 87,94,837 pilgrims and tourists visited. 1,00,931 tourists visited Ladakh UT. "However Union Ministry of Tourism has not conducted any fontal study to assess the job losses of artisans and weavers, tour operators, house boat owners, tourist transport, Shikaras, hotel and restaurant industry, tour guides and other allied sectors." "In respect of handcraft sector, no noticeable job losses in J&K have happened since August 05,2019. The artisans engaged in different Handicrafts activities are continu-

ing their job and the government is providing support through different schemes and steps."

SRINAGAR: Union Government steps are being taken to provide has admitted in Parliament that every possible assistance to arthere has been a significant de- tisans of J&K through various cline in tourist arrivals in Kash- schemes of Central Government. As per the information received

from J&K UT administration, the government released a stimuput by Member of Parliament Jus package of Rs.5.6742 Crore Elamaram Kareent, Minister of as relief in the wake of Covid-19 State for Tourism (Independent pandemic for its disbursement Charge), Prahlad Singh Patel has among the tourism stakeholders.

"The amount of relief which has been disbursed among the declined. The impact was felt stakeholders is to the extent more severely in Kashmir val- of Rs.1000 per beneficiary per ley than in the Jammu Division. month for a period of three (03) However, the tourist footfall in months as per details-Shikara J&K is gradually increasing since Wala's (4880), Pony Walla, (10571), Tourist Guides, (1313),

The benefit has further been extended for a period of six months @ Rs.1000 per month and an amount of Rs.618.70 Lakh has recently been approved by the Government for further release to beneficiaries. In addition to the efforts of the UT Administrations, Ministry of Tourism is giving financial assistance to service providers in the UT of J&K and Ladakh approved by the Ministry of Tourism and UT Tourism Department for undertaking promotional activities including participation in international and domestic travel marts/ fairs/exhibitions/road shows and undertaking online promotion/ sales tours overseas to give boost Union Ministry has said that to the tourism sector in the region.

Budget Euphoria: Sensex Soars Nearly 1,200 Points; Nifty Tops 14,600



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI: The BSE benchmark Sensex zoomed nearly 1,200 points while the NSE Nifty reclaimed the 14,600-level on

tively to the Budget primarily due to higher capital expenditure plans, status quo on direct taxes and no incremental taxes on capital gains.

On Monday, foreign institu-Tuesday as the post-Budget rally tional investors bought equities continued for the second session. worth a net Rs 1,494.23 crore. The Sensex ended 1,197.11 Economists and market anapoints or 2.46 per cent higher lysts opined that this is a bold growth-oriented Budget and

Agriculture Deptt Kashmir To **Implement DBT In All Schemes**

SRINAGAR: To ensure financial empowerment of the farmer commu- aim of introducing DBT scheme is renity and cent percent transparency, forming the Government delivery systhe Department of Agriculture is tem by modifying the procedures in all set to implement Direct Benefit welfare schemes for accurate target-

On the occasion Director said the BT) in different Agricul, ing of beneficiaries bring in transpar

but on social sectors also. He asked the officers to cre-

ate ample awareness among the farmers about the success of their counterparts elsewhere. He directed for highlighting the success stories during village seminars or utilizing services of panchayats.

enhancing their applicability on

tural schemes under implementa- ency in flow of information and funds. tion of the department.

This was stated by Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal in a meeting con- chase of seeds for Kharif 2021. It vened here to discuss Direct Benefit Transfer among the beneficiaries of various schemes

It was given out that the introduction of the DBT system will prove to be a positive shift from an old and orthodox system to a multi dimensional online system that will envis- amount of the same will be credited age a transparent and accountable to their accounts through DBT. system in the agriculture sector.

officers to chalk out the modalities for in Hi-tech Poly houses have been effecting DBT/ digitalization in most of identified by the technical comthe schemes as per the vision of the mittee after analyzing their various Prime Minister for a digital India.

Earlier the Director Agriculture reviewed the functioning of the Technical committee set for purwas emphasized that quality seeds with high yield potential need to be

made available to the farmers. Director was apprised that the farmers will be given the choice of purchasing seeds as per the guidelines of the scheme and the subsidy

It was also informed that the hy-The Director impressed upon the brid seeds required for raising them traits and yield thereof.

Gold Declines Rs 480; Silver Tumbles Rs 3,097

NEW DELH: Gold in the national capital declined by Rs 480 to Rs 47,702 per 10 gram on Tuesday inline with fall in global precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the metal had closed at Rs 48,182 per 10 gram. Silver also tumbled Rs

3,097 to Rs 70,122 per kilogram from Rs 73,219 per kilogram in the previous trade. In the international market,

gold traded lower at USD 1,847

per ounce and silver also dipped

to USD 27.50 per ounce. "Gold prices declined on lack of

progress over the US stimulus package and in absence of fresh triggers. Traders and investors also rushed to book some profits," according to HDFC Securities, Senior Analyst (Commodities), Tapan Patel.

Navneet Damani, VP - Commodities Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services said, investors are witnessing some profit-booking from the highs, after yesterday's Union Budget's duty cut announcement.

at 49 797 72 The BSE gauge topped the 50,000-level briefly the absence of the much-feared and swung 1,554 points during the day. Likewise, the Nifty income tax is a great relief. advanced 366.65 points or 2.57 per cent to end the session at nationalised banks and proposal 14,647.85.

Together with Budget day gains, the Sensex has amassed ing to them. 3,511 points or 7.58 per cent in two sessions, and the Nifty has get reflects growth optimism accumulated 1,007.25 points or 7.38 per cent.

Tuesday's top gainers included SBI, UltraTech Cement, HDFC times, they said. Bank, L&T, Bharti Airtel, Maruti Suzuki and Kotak Bank.

Of the Sensex constituents, 27 equity markets reacted posi- 72.96 against the US dollar.

'COVID tax' and surcharges on

Besides, privatisation of two of monetisation of assets like

land are clear positives, accord-Market response to the Bud-

and the government has presented a pragmatic, bold and visionary Budget in these difficult

Elsewhere in Asia, stock markets closed with gains on Tuesday amid signs of progress in US stimulus shares closed in the green. Most talks. On the forex market front. analysts are of the view that the the rupee ended 6 paise higher at

NEWS MAKERS

Budget 2021, A Disappointment: Tarigami

SRINAGAR: Stating that the Union Budget is a huge disappointment for the common people, CPI (M) leader Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami has said that it has failed to address the issue of growing people's miseries i.e rising unemployment, hunger, skyrocketing price rise.

"It has miserably failed to address the economic recession and the issue of sharp fall in the domestic demand due to the massive decline in the purchasing power of the people. It has not suggested any effective measures to address the virus of inequality. The job losses in the organized sector are alarming. Massive job loss among the educated young people is disturbing", Tarigami said.

The unemployment scenario in rural India, which was at 9 per cent even in December, sue at the national level and 2020 according to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy any private sector. The un-(CMIE), it is inexcusable that employment level in J&K has the Finance Minister's speech



did not have a single mention of MGNREGS.

Providing employment to the youth has become a chronic ismuch more so in I&K as it lacks reached a crescendo.

It is a fact that a majority of farmers in India are still outside the procurement network, and are denied access to MSPs. However, the government has announced no plan on how to expand the access of farmers to procurement or MSP. In fact. the Finance Minister has tried to mislead by comparing in her budget speech procurement of last year with procurement in 2013-14, when open market prices were higher than the MSP for many crops and farmers did not need to sell the produce to government agencies. The Finance Minister has herself stated that only 1.54 crore farmers benefited from MSPs for paddy and wheat in 2020-21. This is an admission that a vast majority of farmers have not benefited from the MSP-based procure-

ment. In fact, its medium-term plan is to reduce procurement, which is visible through its insistence on implementing the three Farm Acts

Mohanty Takes Charge As MD Of LIC



SRINAGAR: Siddhartha Mohanty, managing director and chief executive officer of LIC Housing Finance, on Monday took charge as one of the four managing directors of the parent LIC of India.

He was appointed as a managing director by the government on January 20.

LIC subsidiary LICHFL is the second-largest pure-play housing finance company.

Mohanty started his career as a direct recruit officer with LIC n 1985 and has risen through the ranks. Before joining LICHFL, he was an executive director (legal) at LIC.

Over the past three decades, Mohanty has made his mark in the areas of marketing, human resource, investments and legal. He has also served as chief of investments (monitoring) at LIC.

Mohanty has a postgraduate degree in political science with a degree in law.

12 Fishermen Selected For Financial Assistance

KUPWARA: As many as 12 fishermen were today selected for financial assistance under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) scheme during a draw of lots conducted at D.C Office here.

The draw of lots was organised by Fisheries Department Kupwara under Blue Revolution scheme for selection of fishermen to be covered for providing financial assistance to construct their own low cost houses.

The function was presided over by Additional Deputy Commissioner Kupwara, Nazir Ahmad Lone in presence of members of District Level Committee for selection of the beneficiaries.

Meanwhile, 33 fishermen from Kupwara, Langate and Karnah participated in the draw of lots for financial assistance.

On the occasion, the ADC directed the concerned officers to monitor the activities involved in the process and ensure that farmers get the benefits in a time bound manner.

NEWS

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Data Of 25 Lakh Airtel **Customers In J&K 'Leaked'**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Data of around 25 lakh Bharti Airtel subscribers of Jammu and Kashmir circle, including Aadhaar numbers, address and date of birth, has reportedly been leaked by hackers, even as the telecom operator denied any breach in its servers.

A sample of the leaked database was shared on Twitter by cybersecurity researcher Rajshekhar Rajaharia which shows masked details of the subscribers.

Rajaharia also shared a video of an email conversation between Bharti Airtel and the hackers with the name of "Red Rabbit Team".

The video shows that the hackers informed Bharti Airtel about the breach in December and demanded money.

"Hackers have claimed that they have access to pan-India data of Airtel subscribers and they only uploaded a sample of subscribers data from Jammu and Kashmir.

"It may be possible that the hacker may have uploaded a shell (malicious software code) in Airtel servers. During the Covid-19 peak period several



companies could not focus on security and their data was breached," Rajaharia

The hackers also uploaded the subscriber data on a website, but it was not accessible later.

When contacted, a Bharti Airtel spokesperson denied any breach of the company's servers. "Airtel takes great pride in deploying

various measures to safeguard the privacy of its customers. In this specific case, we confirm that there is no data breach at our end. "In fact, the claims made by this group

reveal glaring inaccuracies and a large proportion of the data records do not even belong to Airtel. We have already apprised the relevant authorities of the matter," the spokesperson said.

Freedom Of Expression Is Fundamental, **Universal Freedom: UN Spokesman**

Press Trust Of India

UNITED NATIONS: A spokesperson for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has said that the freedom of expression is a fundamental, universal freedom, and people should be able to speak their minds and opine freely.

"Look, I'm not particularly familiar with that case. What I can tell you is that the freedom of expression is a fundamental, universal freedom, and people should be able to speak their minds and opine freely," Stephane Dujarric, Spokesman for the Secretary-General, said on Monday.

Dujarric was responding to a question by a Pakistani journalist on the sedition charges against Congress MP Shashi Tharoor and six journalists following the farmers' tractor rally in New Delhi on January 26.

Tharoor and journalists Mrinal Pande, Rajdeep Sardesai, Vinod Jose, Zafar Agha, Paresh Nath and Anant Nath were booked by the Noida Police for sedition, among other charges, over the violence during the farmers' tractor rally in New Delhi.

The FIR was lodged following a complaint by a resident who alleged that "digital broadcast" and "social media posts" by these people were responsible for the violence during a tractor rally by farmers in the national capital. Media bodies have strongly con-

demned the filing of FIRs against senior editors and journalists for their reporting on the farmers' tractor rally and the ensuing violence here on Republic Day, saying it was an attempt to "browbeat' and "intimidate" the media. The Editors Guild (EGI) said it

"strongly condemns the intimidating manner in the way in which the Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh Police" have registered FIRs against senior editors and journalists (including current and former officebearers of EGI) for reporting on the farmers' protest rallies and the ensuing violence that took place in the national capital on January 26.

The Press Club of India said it is shocked to learn that UP and MP police have lodged FIRs against respected journalists, and others, on various counts of breach of criminal law, including sedition.

support equipment and other re-

quired infrastructure at the bas-

es and around Rs 7,000 for basic

The HAL chairman and man-

aging director said the cost for

each fighter version of the four-

and-half generation aircraft will

be Rs 309 crore and Rs 280 crore

crore includes design and de-

velopment cost of Rs 2,500

crore to be given to Aeronautical

Development Agency (ADA) and

around Rs 2,250 crore set aside

for variations in foreign curren-

The total cost of Rs 48,000

for the trainer version.

customs duty and output GST.

CBSE Board Exams To Begin On May 4

said.

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) announced on Tuesday the schedule for classes 10 and 12 board exams which will begin on May 4. According to the datesheet,

the exams for class 10 will conclude on June 7, while those for class 12 will end on June 11. The exams for class 12 will be conducted in two shifts to reduce the number of exam days.

Over 34 lakh students have registered this year for classes 10 and 12 examinations.

Usually, practical exams are conducted in January and written exams begin in February and conclude in March. However, the exams are delayed this session in

view of the COVID-19 pandemic. Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' who announced the schedule wished luck to students appearing for the exams. "Please be assured that we

have done our best to ensure that these exams go smoothly for you. Wish you good luck! Pokhriyal tweeted.

Schools across the country were closed in March last year to contain the spread of COVID-19. They were partially reopened in some states from October 15. The board exams last year had to be postponed mid-way in March. They were later cancelled and the results announced on the basis of an alternative assessment scheme.

Elaborating on the exam

schedule, Sanvam Bhardwai, Controller of Examination of CBSE, said, "Class 12 exams would be conducted in two shifts to reduce the number of days in conducting examinations. In the second shift, examinations will be conducted in subjects which are not opted by students in schools

situated abroad". The timings for the two shifts will be 10:30 am to 1:30 pm and 2:30 pm-5:30 pm. "In the second shift, examinations will be conducted on

four days. On those days exams for class 10 will be conducted in morning shift. The exam datesheet has been prepared in such a manner that on any day, the total number of students in an examination centre is limited.

Rs 48,000 Crore Tejas Aircraft Deal To Be Signed On Wednesday **Press Trust Of India**

highly agile multi-role super-sonic fighter aircraft capable of operating in high-threat air environments.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month approved the deal for procurement of the 73 Tejas Mk-IA variant and 10 LCA Tejas Mk-I trainer aircraft from the HAL to boost IAF's combat prowess.

The Tejas Mk-ÎA will be equipped with an active electronically scanned array radar, beyond visual range missile, electronic warfare suite and airto-air refuelling system. On Tuesday, Defence Minister

Singh inaugurated a new manufacturing plant in Bengaluru to double the production of Tejas.

Speaking on the occasion, he said of the Indian Air Force.

form for air combat and offen-Chairman and Director of

around 16 aircraft will be rolled the total supply of 83 jets. Madhavan said the basic price of the aircraft will be around Rs

25,000 crore while Rs 11,000 crore will be used for ground

procurement of the Tejas fleet will significantly enhance the capability The aircraft is a potent plat-

sive air support missions while reconnaissance and anti-ship operations are its secondary roles. Managing Hindustan Aeronautics Limited R Madhavan told PTI recently that the delivery of the Tejas aircraft to the IAF will begin from March 2024 and out annually till completion of

cy exchange rate. The Aero India, known as Asia's largest defence and aerospace exhibition, is being held in Bengaluru from February 3-5.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

⁺ 34 Lakh Domicile

of militancy for the last three decades, various measures have been taken to protect the life and property of the people, particularly those belonging to the vulnerable sections.

"This includes overall, as well as specific security arrangements, through appropriate deployment based on intelligence inputs, identification and arrest of supporters of militancy, proactive operations to seek and arrest and neutralisation of militants, intensified night patrolling and checking at 'Nakas', etc. Coordination meetings are held regularly and a high level of alertness is maintained by the security forces." he said.

The communiqué further said that the traffic control unit (TCU) Srinagar shall liaise with TCU Ramban before releasing the traffic.

About the cut off timings, it said that light motor vehicles shall be allowed from Zig Qazigund from 8:00 am till noon. "No vehicle shall be allowed before and after cut off timing. Heavy motor vehicles shall

be allowed from Zig towards Jammu after light motor vehicles," the communiqué reads. It also advised security forces not to ply against traffic plan in view of congestion on Jammu-Srinagar highway and narrowness of Bailey bridge.

"They may ply from Srinagar towards Jammu ter confirming the status of highway. the communiqué said, adding "Mughal road closed due to snow accumulation,"

security-related measures. These include expenditure on carriage of constabulary, material supplies, rent of accommodation, honorarium to Special Police Officers, civic action programmes, air-lift charges, raising cost of Îndia Reserve Battalions, transport, boarding and lodging, alternate accommodation for forces, etc, officials said.

NEW DELHI: The government

will formally seal on February

3 the Rs 48,000 crore deal to

procure 83 Tejas light combat

aircraft from state-run aero-

space behemoth Hindustan

Aeronautics Ltd which will be

the biggest ever indigenous de-

fence procurement programme,

The contract will be signed between the Ministry of

Defence and the HAL at the

'Aero India' aerospace exhibi-

tion in Bengaluru in presence of

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh

and top brass of the Indian Air

HAL, is a single engine and

Tejas, manufactured by the

Force, they said.

officials said on Tuesday.

Officials in the MHA said that the spike in the expenditure appears to have occurred because of massive mobilization of the forces and other measures in the wake of revocation of special status to erstwhile J&K State.

A senior security official said that over 400 additional companies are brought to the valley after the Centre's announcement of abrogation of Article 370 to curb possible protests.

The amount of relief which has been disbursed among the stakeholders is to the extent of Rs 1,000 per beneficiary per month for a period of three months, he said.

He further informed the House that this benefit has further been extended for a period of six months at Rs 1,000 per month and an amount of Rs 618.70 lakh has recently been approved by the government for further release to beneficiaries.

"In addition to the efforts of the UT administrations, Ministry of Tourism is giving financial assistance to service providers in the UT of J&K and Ladakh approved by the Ministry of Tourism and UT Tourism Department for undertaking promotional activities including participation in international and domestic travel marts/fairs/exhibitions/road shows and undertaking online promotion/sales tours overseas to give boost to the tourism sector in the region," Patel said.

to park the vehicle by the road side as patient's +condition was serious. She along with the Army medical team decided to carry out the delivery inside the Gypsy and got into action in low visibility and snow conditions," the official said. (PTI)

J&K Admin

of premises.

The guidelines were issued by the State Executive Committee (SEC) here, warning penal action under the Disaster Management Act in case of any deviation.

Referring to the revised SOPs issued by the Centre to be followed in cinema halls and theatres, a member-secretary of SEC in an order said 100 per cent seating capacity inside cinemas, theatres and multiplexes is allowed to be utilised but the management would ensure staged, row-wise exit of audience in order to avoid crowding. "Sufficient time interval between successive screenings will be ensured to allow staggered exit, longer intermissions may be done to allow movement of people by maintaining distance and time of commencement, intermission and finish time of two different shows should not overlap," the order read. It asked for maintenance of a six-feet distance outside auditoriums, common area and waiting areas and noting down of contact numbers of audience during the booking of tickets to facilitate contact tracing, if required later. "Digital/no contact transactions should be preferred and floor markers should be deployed for better queue management," the order said, adding availability of hand sanitisers, preferably in touch-free mode and thermal scanning at entry points should be ensured. The order also called for frequent and compulsory sanitisation of premises after each screening and temperature setting of air-conditioning in the range of 24-30 degrees Celsius. (PTI)

2 Day Wet Spell

light to moderate rain and snow in some areas over the next two days, officials said.

Srinagar and Pahalgam were the only places in the valley where the mercury went down on Monday night, while there was an improvement in the minimum temperature in the rest of the weather stations, officials said.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 4.6 degrees Celsius on Monday night 1.5 degrees down from the previous night's minus 3.1 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 9.3 degrees Celsius over three degrees down from the previous night's minus 6.1 degrees Celsius.

Pahalgam was the coldest recorded place in Jammu and Kashmir.

Qazigund recorded a minimum of 4.5 degrees Celsius over three degrees up from minus 7.6 degrees Celsius the previous night, they said.

The minimum temperature at the Gulmarg skiing resort, in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, settled at minus 7 degrees Celsius last night up from minus 8.2 degrees Celsius the previous night.

Kupwara town, in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag, in the south, minus 8.4 degrees Celsius.

The MET Office has forecast the possibility of light to moderate snow/ rain at scattered to fairly-widespread places of J-K over three days from Tuesday under the influence of a fresh Western Disturbance.

"There's very less chances of heavy precipitation in plains of J&K but heavy snowfall especially on higher reaches of J&K can't be ruled out either especially on February 3," a MeT official said.

The official further said that the weather disturbance could also lead to temporary closure of highway due to land and mudslides and also cause disruption in flight operations due to snowfall and poor visibility.

There will be an increase in cloud cover over both UTs. As a result, there will be a rise in minimum temperature by 2-3 Degrees Celsius and fall in day temperature by 4-5 Degrees Celsius," he added.

Highway Open

Jammu, including Banihal-Ramban route tomorrow, subject to fair weather and better road condition. It further added that no vehicle including livestock or fresh perishable shall be allowed in the opposite direction.

Shelling Continues

Qasba, Kerni and Mendhar sectors triggering brief exchanges, officials said.

Meanwhile, Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday that a total of 10,752 cases of ceasefire violation have taken place along India's border with Pakistan in the last three years in which 72 security personnel and 70 civilians were killed.

Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy said 364 security personnel and 341 civilians were injured in these ceasefire violations along the International Border and the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir in 2018, 2019 and 2020.

During the three years, 1,452 militant attacks have taken place in Jammu and Kashmir in which 233 security personnel and 115 civilians were killed, he said in a written reply to a question.

As many as 635 militants were also killed in gunfights with security forces in 2018, 2019 and 2020, he said.

Reddy said a total of 484 security personnel and 373 civilians were injured in militant attacks.

The minister said the government has adopted a policy of zero tolerance towards militancy, and immediate and effective retaliation is undertaken by the security forces in cases of ceasefire violations or cross-border firings.

There has been a substantial decline in militant attacks over the last three years due to a slew of pre-emptive measures undertaken by the government, he said.

Security Expenditure

that during 2018-19 Centre allotted Rs 650 crore to J&K under the SRE scheme. In 2017-18, the figure was Rs 628 crore and in 2016-2017. the amount released by the Centre was Rs 750 crore. Since the scheme was launched in 1989, the Government of India has released almost 9000 crore alone for J&K's security related expenditure.

The money disbursed by the government of India to the J&K government as "security expenditure" got doubled compared to the 2018-19 figure (financial year) as Kashmir witnessed over three-month long spontaneous shutdown coupled with stringent curbs even though the there was no major law and order situation despite the fact that over 300 protests were reported across the Valley.

The MHA reimburses the expenditure incurred by the UT government on a variety of

"The forces remained deployed across the length and breadth of the UT for three months, which itself was a challenge," he said wishing anonymity.

Officials in the MHA opine that to support the UT government, the central government makes available Central armed police forces as and when necessary and provides all possible help to strengthen the UT police—(Agencies)

Ex Excise Commissioner

an ACB spokesperson said Tuesday. The immovable assets, he said, includes properties worth crores in Gurugram, Haryana and movable properties in the shape of cars and other luxurious household items, costly electronics gadgets, jewellerv etc.

'The value of the assets found in possession of Mohammad Javed Khan, his family members and the expenditure incurred by him is grossly disproportionate to his known sources of income which constitute offences punishable u/s 5(1)(e) r/w 5(2) J&K PC Act Svt. 2006," the bureau spokesperson said.

He further said that during the course of investigation, search warrants were obtained from the Hon'ble Court and two teams were dispatched to conduct the searches at Gurugram and Noida (NCR Delhi)

"House search was also conducted at the present residence of the accused at Bathandi, Jammu. The search teams found and seized incriminating documents relating to un-accounted for wealth/assets acquired by the accused by resorting to corrupt practices," the ACB spokesperson said.

He added that further investigation of the case is going on.

Tourist Arrivals

to Jammu and Kashmir.

"Since, August, 5, 2019, the number of tourist arrivals in Jammu & Kashmir declined. The impact was felt more severely in Kashmir valley than in the Jammu division. However, the tourist footfall in J&K is gradually increasing since the last few months. In respect of the handicraft sector, no noticeable job losses in J&K have happened since August 05,2019. The artisans engaged in different handicrafts activities are continuing their job and the government is providing support through different schemes and steps taken by the central government," Patel said.

He also said that the government released stimulus package of Rs 5.6742 crore as relief in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic for its disbursement among the tourism stakeholders.

HC Quashes

aside the writ court judgment which had upheld the PSA detention of Ganai.

The Jamaat chief was arrested in March 2019 after the socio-religious organisation was banned by the government on the grounds that Ganai's activities were inimical to the security of the erstwhile state.

He was booked in an FIR under Unlawful Activities Act as the authority felt it was imperative to keep him under preventive detention so as to prevent him from indulging in nefarious and anti-national activities.

The court said while the allegations against Ganai may justify his detention, the law of preventive detention law is required to be adhered to scrupulously.

It observed that the order of detention is "clearly vitiated by total non-application of mind by the detaining authority and it should have been held so by the writ court".

The bench also held that the police dossier or the grounds of detention made no mention whether Ganai was arrested in connection with the FIRs.

"The detaining authority has also not indicated any reason as to why the substantive laws of the State were not sufficient to deter the detenu from pursuing his activities aimed at destabilizing the State and thereby threatening its security," the court said. (PTI)

Woman Delivers

like medical facilities to the locals living along the Line of Control, got a distress call from an Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) worker of Kalaroos area in the frontier district about the deteriorating condition of a pregnant woman, they said.

"In the early hours of February 1 at around 4:15 am when it was snowing, the Kalaroos company commander received a distress call from the ASHA worker requesting for immediate evacuation of a patient in labour pains to a local hospital from Narikoot village, as the ambulance could not honour their request due to the inclement weather," an official said.

Immediately, an Army Gypsy along with a medical team was sent to Narikoot for evacuating the patient.

"Enroute to the hospital, the ASHA worker accompanying the patient requested the team

Brain Dead Teen

the donation of kidneys, lungs, liver and heart of their son, the family saved lives of four people three in Jaipur and one in Chennai.

Both the kidneys were transplanted to patients admitted at Sawai Mansingh Hospital, Jaipur and the liver to a patient in Mahatma Gandhi Hospital, Jaipur.

The boy's heart and lungs were air-dashed to Chennai and transplanted there to a 46-yearold woman at Apollo Hospital.

He said the heart and lungs were airlifted from Sawai Mansingh Hospital to Chennai and sent to the Apollo Hospital there from the airport through a green traffic corridor.

Vishal, a resident of Bassi near Jaipur, was riding a bike along with his three friends on January 26, when a bus moving ahead suddenly came to a grinding halt with the bike hitting from behind.

Vishal was seriously injured in the accident as he was not wearing a helmet, Dr Bhandari said, adding he was admitted to Sawai Mansingh Hospital, where his condition deteriorated and was declared brain dead on January 31

After doctors explained about his health to family members and suggested them to consider donating organs, they agreed to it. (PTI)

Aussie Pacer Merv Hughes Inducted Into Australian Cricket Hall Of Fame

Press Trust of India

MELBOURNE: Former pacer Merv Hughes has been inducted into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame, the country's board (CA) said on Tuesday, describing him as a "larrikin who demolished batting line-ups all over the world".

The 59-year-old captured 212 Test wickets at an average of 28.38 in a career spanning 53 Tests and 33 ODIs for Australia from 1985 to 1994.

His career-best figures of 8-87 against the West Indies at the WACA in 1988 included the final wicket of a hat-trick spread across three separate overs, two innings and two different days. He also played 33 ODIs taking 38 wickets.

"Absolutely stoked and blown away by this!!", Hugues, who also represented Victoria, Essex, and the ACT over a First-Class career spanning 14 seasons, wrote on his twitter handle.

In 2005, Hughes became a selector for the Australian cricket team, a role he would hold through until 2010. Hughes' handlebar moustache, menacing run-up and displays of affection for his teammates made him a favourite for a generation of cricket fans, the CA said.

"Merv Hughes was an icon of the Australian summer for so many of us, a larger-than-life personality, a wonderful international cricketer, an ambassador for the sport and a deserved inductee into the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame," Peter King, the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame Chairman, said in a statement.

"He has left his legacy on the sport in postcareer mentorship with modern-day teams, administrations roles as a National Selector and the heartbeat of Australian cricket. The Australian Cricket Hall of Fame is delighted to recognise Mery Hughes.

Earl Eddings, Cricket Australia Chair, said: "He gave everything he had to try and help his team to win, coupled with his enthusiastic theatrics on the pitch and his love for the game he will always be warmly remembered as the big-hearted fastbowler and larrikin who demolished batting lineups all over the world.

"I couldn't think of a more well-deserved inductee into the Australian Cricket Hall of fame, who now joins an elite group of individuals who have given so much to the game we all love."

Govt Holds The Power To Relax Sports Code Provisions: Sports Ministry

Press Trust of India

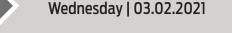
NEW DELHI: The Sports Ministry will have the power to relax provisions of the National Sports Development Code while deciding on grant of recognition to federations and the management of the Indian Olympic Association, a circular issued by the ministry has stated.

A circular issued by Joint Secretary in Sports Ministry, L Siddhartha Singh stated that the government has decided to add the relaxation clause provision in the National Sports Code 2011 to assist promotion of sports.

"Government shall have the power to relax any of the provisions of the National Sports Code of India, 2011 and other instructions issued with regard to recognition of National Sports Federations (NSFs)...," the circular stated.

The ministry's power to relax the sports code will cover "renewal of recognition of NSFs on annual basis and governance and management of Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and NSFs, as a special exemption where considered necessary."

The sports code has been mired in controvers



⁴Left-Arm Wrist Spinners Like Kuldeep Yadav Are Unique, Should Play Against England,' Says Irfan Pathan

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: "You don't get left-arm wrist spinners everyday," former pacer Irfan Pathan said, firmly backing Kuldeep Yadav and hoped that there will be place for him in the Indian team for the Test-series against England.

Yadav has been warming the bench for more than three months now but Pathan said he is a "unique bowler" who would do well in the upcoming Test assignment, starting February 5 in Chennai.

"It is very important from the team management point of view, how they keep mind-set of a player, who is not playing. I am sure they must be doing a right job, and that's why the guys, when we saw some of the youngsters, they came and played really well," Pathan told PTI in an interaction.

"I am sure they must be supporting and backing Kuldeep Yadav because he has got immense talent. You don't find left-arm wrist spinners on every-day-basis.

"He is a unique bowler. The guys is about 25-26 and this is where he is going to get maturity. Whenever he gets opportunity, first Test, second Test, whenever he will be raring to go and I am pretty sure that he will do well." Further making a case for Yadav to play

against England, Pathan cited history. 'When it comes to England, look at the history, if you are a leg-spinner, you always have a chance of performing well, I just hope that whenever he plays, he does really well and he does," added Pathan, who has

played 29 Tests and 120 ODIs for India. Yadav has so far played six Tests and picked 24 wickets. He played his last Test against Australia at Sydney in January 2019.

Asked about combination of the seriesopener, Pathan said fielding three spinners would not be a bad option, considering the nature of the Chennai pitch.

"It depends on the wickets but there is a high chance in Chennai they play three spinners because we see how Chennai pitch can really help the spinners with that extra



bounce as well and the soil, which is very conducive for spin bowling," he elaborated.

"India is such a good side that even if they have to play three fast bowlers, they will be ready to play, in any kind of pitch," he said, adding that now there is more pronounced seam in the red ball as well, which can help both spinners and fast bowlers equally.

"But conditions which is helping, with dry pitches, you will definitely see three spinners playing," he added.

Pathan also foresees a scenario where young Washington Sundar and RavichandranAshwin can play together in the four Test series, of which the final two Tests will be held in Ahmedabad.

"There could a chance because if you play Washington Sundar, you are not playing Washington Sundar just for pure ability for his bowling, you are playing him as an all-rounder. He bats really well and he can really do well as a spinner in India specially when the conditions are really helping the spinners and we have always seen wrist-spinners are important.

"But on Indian pitches finger spinners can be very very useful, specially guys who can bowl fast-spin like (Ravindra) Jadeja. He (Sundar) can play a similar role even (though) he is an off-spinner, there could be a chance where you could see Ashwin, Washington Sundar and Kuldeep Yadav, these three guys playing," the left-arm pacer added.

Pathan predicted a 2-1 win for India in the Test series.

"Definitely India will win the series, no doubt about that. England side has done really well, just recently in Sri Lanka, pitches are similar and for them Joe Root will be the key," he added.

"Lot of people are talking about their spin department but I am really looking forward to see how their pace bowling department goes. Their quality fast bowlers, Jofra Archer, James Anderson, Stuart Board, Chris Woakes, if they stay fit for all the four Test matches, it would be a competitive series," he said.

The Test series, starting February 5 in Chennai, will be aired on 'Star Sports' Network.

Rishabh Pant Nominated For ICC Player Of The Month Along With Joe Root & Paul Sterling

Press Trust of India

Dubai: One of the architects of India's historic win in Australia, wicketkeeper-batsman Rishabh Pant was on Tuesday nominated for the ICC Men's Player of the Month award along with England skipper Joe Root and Ireland's Paul Stirling. The International Cricket

Council announced the nominees for the inaugural Player of the Month Awards which will "recognise and celebrate the best performances from both male and female cricketers across all forms of international cricket throughout the year' 23-year-old Pant The played two Tests against Australia where he scored a 97 at Sydney to ensure a draw before an unbeaten 89 at Brisbane that led India to a



186 and led his team to a 2-0 Test series victory. ca, where she led the wicket-The third nominee in the takers with nine wickets in

Marizanne played two ODIs and two T20Is against Pakistan where she made 115 runs at a strike rate of 110.57 and added three wickets in the ODI series against Pakistan.

Explaining the voting process, ICC said its Voting Academy, comprising prominent members of the cricket family including senior journalists, former players, and broadcasters and some members of the ICC Hall of Fame, will primarily decide the winner. "The Voting Academy will submit their votes by email and will retain a 90% share of

challenge.

ing in right direction," Leach said. Reacting to news that 50 percent spectators will be allowed for the

IND VS ENG

'Don't Have To Bowl Faster In Order To Be Successful In India,' Says England Spinner Jack Leach

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Bowling quicker in the air brought success to Monty Panesar in the 2012 tour of India but England left-arm spinner Jack Leach feels the same tactic may not work for him on his maiden series against the mighty hosts. Panesar and Graeme Swann

bowled quicker than their Indian counterparts in 2012, engineering a famous away Test series win for England. However, Leach said he would like to stick his strengths.

"Monty and Swann are two bowlers I love to watch. I watch a lot of spin videos to try and take things from the spinners. Monty bowled at a quicker pace in India and that could be very tricky on a spinning wicket," said Leach in an online media interaction after the team completed its six-day quarantine here ahead of the first Test beginning on Friday.

"I am probably not going to be bowling the same speed. It is probably more about how the ball gets to the batsman in terms of trajectory. There have been other successful bowlers who didn't bowl as fast as Monty did."

"It is about sticking to my strengths and knowing what my optimum pace and then going up and down a little bit from there. Everyone has an optimum pace. It's important to stick to that as much as possible," said Leach who took 10 wickets in the recent series in Sri Lanka.

Bowling in India is as tough as it gets for a visiting spinner but Leach

He may not bowl as quick as Panesar did but a fellow left-arm spinner doing well in India does inspire a lot of confidence.

SPORTS

"I definitely think I can make an impact in this series, obviously we have got three days training and I am not sure what the wicket is going to be like or anything, so not looking too far ahead...

"...but definitively want to make an impact and they have got quite a lot of right-handers, so I see that as a good thing for me," said Leach, who has played 12 Tests.

Will he fancy bowling the legstump line from over the wicket, something Ashley Giles did in the 2001 series in India?

"That is something we have talked about in Sri Lanka, definitely I guess change in our angles. Bowling over the wicket, for him, for his action, I prefer to bowl round the wicket.

"I feel I have got more dismissals in play and I guess change something just because someone else did it, I think it is sticking to your strengths, and doing that, so it might be something we can use at some point for sure."

Leach said he is not thinking about becoming the number one spinner in the team with a good showing against India and just wants to build on the success he enjoyed in Sri Lanka.

"I think it has been a long time not playing and in that time I did a lot of work, to try and become the bowler I guess I want to be. I feel that it is all in there and just need to bring out now and Sri Lanka was a good start and I felt like I am go-



I AM PROBABLY NOT GOING to be bowling the same speed. It is probably more about how the ball gets to the batsman in terms of trajectory. There have been other successful bowlers who didn't bowl as fast as Monty did."

is looking forward to the "ultimate" "They are obviously a quality

with several NSFs and the IOA opposing its age and tenure cap regulations for office-bearers before finally coming around in the last couple of years.

The circular further states that the discretionary relaxation of norms would be done only "for the promotion of sports, sportspersons or to remove difficulties in giving true effect to that particular provision of the Sports Code...

The ministry said its decisions would be "guided by and not inconsistent with the overreaching spirit of good governance and ethical conduct enshrined in the Sports Code 2011."

historic series-clinching win. In January, Root played two Tests against Sri Lanka, where he scored a 228 and

tegory. Stirling played two ODIs against the UAE and three ODIs vs Afghanistan, where he scored three centuries. Among women cricket-

ers, Pakistan Diana Baig and the South African duo of Shabnim Ismail and MarizanneKapp were nominated for the monthly honours. Baig played three ODIs and

the three-match ODI series against South Africa.

Ismail also played three ODIs and two T20Is against Pakistan and took seven wickets in the victorious ODI series against Pakistan, before taking five wickets in the second T20I against the same opposition

Her compatriot all-rounder

the vote "Additionally, fans registered with the ICC will be able to vote via the ICC website once the shortlisted players

side and have come back off a great win in Australia, but I think it is just a great opportunity for all of us to test ourselves against probably the are announced and will have best side in the world and to do a 10 per cent share of the vote. here in India, my first time in India. "This is what the dream you "Winners will be anhave, to come to places like these. nounced every second Monday of the month on the ICC's Obviously, it is a fantastic opportunity, and I want to enjoy," said the 29-year-old from Somerset.

second Test, he added: "Yes, potentially, definitely we want to play in front of the crowds, that is for sure...

"...but yes obviously it needs to be safe and we don't want to obviously be adding, you know the problem which is affecting the whole world, so if it is safe and good then great but we will obviously love to play in front of crowds, as soon as possible."

Liverpool Legend & SC East Bengal Coach Robbie Fowler **Faces ISL Ban For Alleged Racist Remarks Against Referees**

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: The Indian Super League (ISL) is making headlines for the wrong reasons as East Bengal's star English coach Robbie Fowler faces a minimum ban of five matches and Rs 6 lakh fine for an alleged racist remark against referees after a match against FC Goa.

Frustrated after East Bengal's 1-1 draw against a 10-man FC Goa in Margaon on January 29, Fowler had allegedly said the refereeing was either "anti-English or anti-East Bengal".

Video footage of the Englishman making the remark could not be assessed as it has been deleted from all platforms.

The match commissioner has taken a strong note of the incident and reported the matter to the disciplinary committee which will take the decision after hearing Fowler's version on Wednesday evening," an ISL official told PTI on Tuesday.

"If he's proven guilty, he is liable for a minimum five-match ban and Rs 6 lakh fine," he added.

On Tuesday, Indian Super League side Odisha FC sacked its head coach Stuart Baxter for making an unsavoury comment on rape to criticise a refereeing decision after the team's loss to Jamshedpur FC.

The All India Football Federation's (AIFF) disciplinary committee will make a decision on Wednesday after hearing Fowler's version through video conferencing.



"Furthermore, a stadium ban and

The Liverpool legend is being criminatory or denigratory words charged under Article 59.1 (a) of or actions concerning race, colour, the AIFF disciplinary code that language, religion or origin shall be states: "Anyone who offends the suspended for at least five matches. dignity of a person or group of persons through contemptuous, disa fine of at least Rs 3,00,000 shall be imposed. If the perpetrator is an official, the fine shall be at least Rs 6,00,000."

The standard of refereeing has often been an issue in the ISL.

Odisha FC sacked Baxter with immediate effect and issued a public apology after the coach said, "One of my players will have to rape someone or get raped himself if he was going to get a penalty..."

As for Fowler, he had expressed his displeasure with refereeing on more than one occasion in this edition of the league, which is his first.

The 45-year-old had remarked that the referees probably need a "bit of help" after they were denied at least two penalties in a 0-2 loss against NorthEast United FC in December.

Then, after a goalless draw against Chennaiyin FC in January, he termed the refereeing "disgraceful" and had said he's "fighting battles with the referees every single game and it's an absolute joke".

Fowler had also been suspended for one match after receiving his second caution of the season, which forced him to miss their match against Bengaluru FC on January 9. Danny Fox was, however, allowed to play in the said game after the disciplinary committee overturned a red card following a complaint by SCEB against the refereeing.

Playing in their maiden ISL season, East Bengal are currently placed 10th, above Odisha FC with six matches left.

Abu Dhabi T10 League: Northern Warriors **Defeat Team Abu Dhabi By 8 Wickets**

Press Trust of India

digital channels."

Abu Dhabi: Waseem Muhammad smashed a fighting fifty as Northern Warriors beat Team Abu Dhabi by eightwickets in a last-ball thriller at the Abu Dhabi T10 event here.

Chasing 124 to win, Warriors rode on UAE's domestic cricketer Muhammad's 76 runs off 34 balls and opener Lendl Simmons' unbeaten 37 off 25 balls.

Warriors scored 31 runs off the last two overs with 15 coming off the last over.

Earlier, put in to bat, Team Abu Dhabi scored 123 for three, with Joe Clarke scoring 50 off 24 balls.

The match got off to a sensational start when WahabRiaz clean bowled Paul Stirling in the first ball of the match through a swinging yorker.

Skipper Luke Wright, however, hit Riaz for two consecutive boundaries and a six in the same over.

Wright did not spare Junaid Siddique in the second over and hit him for a six and a boundary. RayadEmrit ended Wright's quick knock by forcing him to hit straight to Fabian Allen at mid-

When Siddique had Chris Gayle caught at long-on by Rovman Powell, Team Abu Dhabi slipped to 38 for 3 in 3.1 overs.

Clarke began by hitting Siddique for two consecutive bound-



aries. Warriors re-introduced Riaz for the fifth over and he gave away just eight runs.

Clarke opened up in the eighth over and hit Emrit for two sixes and two boundaries to take 22 runs. Ben Duckett too chipped in by hitting Lakshan for two sixes to steer the total past the 100-run mark.

In reply, Warriors went for big hits right away with Simmons hitting Usman Shinwari's third delivery for a six over mid-wicket while Muhammad smashing him for a boundary past point.

Simmons also hit Naveen Ul-Hag for two successive boundaries and a six in the second over.

Jamie Overton's deceptive slower deliveries made Muhammad swing and miss twice, but he hit the next two deliveries to the

boundary

Rohan Mustafa bowled a tight fourth over despite Simmons hitting him for a boundary.

With 31 runs needed off the last two overs. Simmons smashed McCoy through the covers for a boundary. Muhammad too hit McCoy for two boundaries and a six to reduce the margin to 15 runs off the last six balls.

With three runs needed off the last four deliveries, Overton trapped Muhammad leg before for 76. Nicholas Pooran then walked in but was out when he lifted Overton straight to McCoy at long-on.

Simmons picked a single off the fifth ball. Powell replaced Pooran and hit Overton to midwicket, but a fumble by Mustafa gave them the required two runs.

wicket for 33.





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