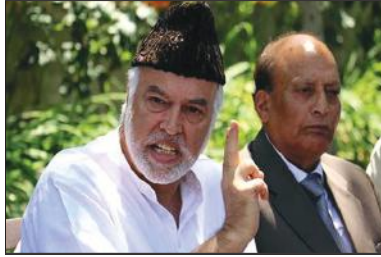




Maximum : 9.2°
Minum : 0.2°
Humidity : 92%

SUNSET
Today 06:12 PM
SUNRISE
Tomorrow 07:20 AM



P3 NEWS

MUZAFFAR SHAH HITS OUT AT FAROOQ ABDULLAH

Senior Vice President, Awami National Conference, Muzaffar Shah Wednesday hit out at National Conference President Farooq Abdullah over ...

P7 WORLD

WILL THE COVID-19 VACCINE WORK AS WELL IN PATIENTS WITH OBESITY?

When researchers began to develop what they hoped would be an effective COVID-19 vaccine, they already knew that H1N1 influenza – a novel virus...



P11 SPORTS

'JOE ROOT CAN BREAK ALL OF ENGLAND'S BATTING RECORDS,' SAYS NASSER HUSSAIN

Former England captain Nasser Hussain feels incumbent Joe Root is "arguably" the country's best ever player of spin...



Widom Quote!

We live in an age when unnecessary things are our only necessities.

— Oscar Wilde

NEWS DIGEST

10 Teachers Suspended In B'pora

SRINAGAR: Chief Education Officer (CEO) Bandipora on Wednesday suspended ten teachers of Gurez, Hajin and Bandipora zone for failing to verify the applications of students on National Scholarship portal. The order issued by the CEO mentioned that teachers haven't taken the communications seriously. The teachers of various zones have failed to verify the applications of students on National Scholarship. **▶ More On P10**

CASO Carried Out In Kreeeri

SRINAGAR: The government forces on Wednesday launched a Cordon and Search Operation (CASO) in Kreeeri area of Baramulla district. A joint team of army's 52 RR and police launched CASO at Bangdara village of Kreeeri after receiving information about suspicious movement of militants in the area, news agency CNS reported. The joint team, the report said, carried out door to door search operation after sealing. **▶ More On P10**

Sopore Says Goodbye To Tongas

SRINAGAR: The administration in Sopore town in north Kashmir's Baramulla district has banned the movement of horse carts (Tongas) within the municipal limits of the town from Thursday saying the move is aimed at "de-congesting the area." Interestingly, several grievances were submitted to Lieutenant Governor's office by the locals stating that the town mostly remains under. **▶ More On P10**

Panthers Party Leader Joins JKAP In Jammu

JAMMU: S Zorawar Singh, a former General Secretary of the National Panthers Party (NPP), Wednesday joined the Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party (JKAP), led by ex-minister Altaf Bukhari, a JKAP spokesman said here. Singh and over a dozen of his colleagues were welcomed into the party fold by senior JKAP leaders including former minister Dilawar Mir, General Secretary Vijay Bakaya and provincial president Manjit Singh at the. **▶ More On P10**

J&K Cong Protests Fuel Hike

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Congress Wednesday staged a sit-in outside the party headquarters here against the BJP-led Centre over the "incessant hike" in the prices of petrol, diesel and cooking gas. The protest was organised by Jammu district Congress committee (Urban) and was led by senior party leaders including former minister Raman Bhalla. Carrying placards denouncing the. **▶ More On P10**

No Civilian Was Aware About August 5 Move: GOI



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The government on Wednesday denied that civilians, including a journalist, were privy to information related to the abrogation of Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

The Central government got the approval of Parliament on August 5, 2019 for the abrogation of Article 370 and bifurcation of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories. No sir, Union Minister of State for **▶ More On P10**

RESTRICTIONS ON MOBILE DATA service in all the remaining Districts of Jammu and Kashmir have been revoked by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir

J&K Logs 45 New Corona Cases

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: With 45 fresh cases, Jammu and Kashmir's COVID-19 tally climbed to 1,25,052 on Wednesday, while one more fatality pushed the death toll due to the disease to 1,945 in the Union Territory, officials said.

Six of the fresh coronavirus cases were reported from the Jammu division, while 39 were recorded in the Kashmir division, they added.

The officials said Srinagar district recorded the highest number of 23 cases, including six tourists. While eight districts did not report any fresh case of the coronavirus infection, 11 other districts recorded fresh cases in single digits.

The number of active COVID-19 cases has risen to 605 in the Union Territory, while 1,22,502 patients have recovered so far, the officials said.

One more fatality due to the viral. **▶ More On P10**

PMAY SCHEME

RTI Movement Alleges Bungling, Demands CBI Probe

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement on Wednesday alleged large-scale bungling in the centrally sponsored Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) housing scheme for homeless and demanded a CBI probe to identify the touts who are preventing the funds from reaching the real beneficiaries.

In a statement issued here on Wednesday, Chairman RTI Movement, Dr. Raja Muzaffar said that national flagship scheme PMAY earlier known as Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) continues to be mismanaged. He said that PMAY Rural and Urban both are not implemented transparently and an urgent probe is needed to identify the beneficiaries who have been allotted the money during. **▶ More On P10**

Ladakh Stand-Off: Chinese, Indian Troops Start 'Synchronised' Disengagement

Press Trust Of India

BEIJING/NEW DELHI: The front-line troops of China and India at the south and north banks of the Pangong Lake in eastern Ladakh started "synchronised and organised" disengagement from Wednesday, the Chinese defence ministry said, in what is seen as a forward movement in the overall disengagement process to defuse the over nine-month border standoff.

There was no official



comment by either the Indian defence ministry or the Indian Army on the Chinese

HC Seeks Report On Non-Completion Of Bridges By JKPC

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir High Court on Wednesday granted two more weeks' time for "action taken report" regarding completion of bridges in Kashmir being constructed by JKPC and languishing due to the paucity of the funds.



A bench of Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur passed the orders after Additional Advocate General M A Chashoo sought more time after the court observed that "fresh action taken report" in terms of order on November 27 last year has not been filed. "As prayed, two weeks' further time is allowed for filing the report," the. **▶ More On P10**

Govt Forms District Panels For Clearing Mining Leases

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The government on Wednesday ordered the constitution of District Level Single Window Committee(s)

for each district of Jammu and Kashmir for facilitating the execution of mining leases of execution for project proponents where clearance/NOC applications have. **▶ More On P10**

Dry Weather Conditions To Continue

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Kashmir continued to reel under cold weather conditions with the minimum temperature dropping in most parts of the Valley, officials said on Wednesday. The meteorological department has predicted dry but slightly cold weather for the next few days, they said.

Srinagar recorded a low of minus 1.6 degrees Celsius, down from the previous night's 1.2 degrees Celsius, the officials said. Qazigund recorded a minimum of minus 3.8 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's low of minus 4.3 degrees. **▶ More On P10**

Traffic Allowed On Highway

Fresh traffic from Jammu to Srinagar was on Wednesday allowed to ply on 270-km-long national highway, which connects Kashmir valley with the rest of the country, after clearing stranded vehicles till late last evening. However, only stranded trucks and. **▶ More On P10**

Ex-Govt Officer Booked For Swindling Rs 25L

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Police on Wednesday booked a former Finance department official for being allegedly involved in misappropriating pension funds to the tune of over Rs 25 lakh, an official said.

The case against ex-head cashier of Reasi Treasury Thakur Dass was registered following a written communication from Deputy Director (Central), Accounts and

Treasuries, Finance department, Mohammad Iqbal Ganaie, a spokesperson of the Crime Branch, Jammu, said.

The complainant alleged Dass, who was entrusted with the payment of pensions to the rightful claimants and have domain over the government exchequer, deliberately and fraudulently credited Rs 24,85,340 into an account of his daughter-in-law, Madhu Rani, and also transferred Rs 31,775 into his personal account. **▶ More On P10**

Inside Kashmir's Cyberspace—Where Scams Are Fuelling New Combat

Zaid Bin Shabir

When a battery of counterinsurgents arrived to pursue "brigands" sitting behind screens this chilling winter, it was the departure from the usual combat where 'secret house' gets blown and nemesis retrieved dead from the smouldering rubble.

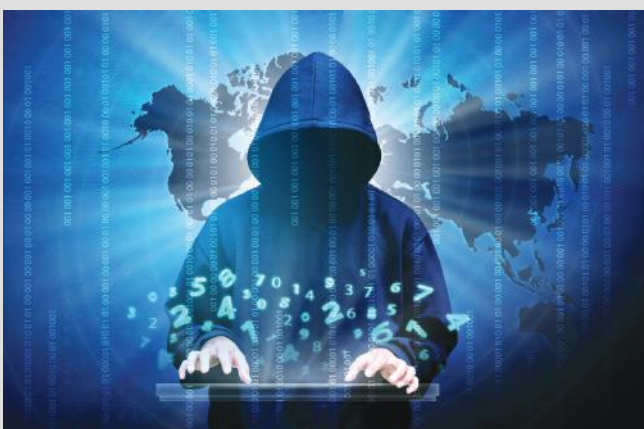
In that frigid day of January 2021, the raids were conducted at the three different places in Srinagar. The offensive came in the backdrop of multiple scams rocking the valley.

At Srinagar's Natipora area, a pack of plainclothes police first

appear knocking at the door of a new relay station. It was followed by a storm-trooping by masked cops in camouflage and bullet-proof vests.

The sudden entry silenced the buzzing ambiance inside. The policemen warned everyone to stay at their occupied places but the fear of being arrested had coerced many office workers to try to hide inside other rooms; few others tried to dump the electronic gadgets.

The masked men took hold of everyone, even the catering assistants and janitor of the office. The busted people were immediately put inside the back of police vehicles, their



devices rested with few cops who had seized them inside clean zipper storage bags.

The arrested people remained oblivious to all the troubles that were coming

their way when their own devices would turn up evidence against them.

After everyone was intricately questioned about their involvement in the growing scam menace in Kashmir, the innocents were allowed to leave without being charged of any crime but around 23 people who had an "involvement in duping victims" were immediately arrested.

Among the 23 people arrested, the main operators of the group were still missing and when the police approached them, they had already succeeded in getting an interim bail from the High Court. The

same legal approach was undertaken by the Legal team of the already arrested people from the raid. All of the accused were let out within just a week of their arrest.

The cybercrime has now submitted the data carved out from the pen drives, hard disk and mobile phones that were confiscated from the accused. "We've enough proof to assist our claim that the arrested people have a full hand involvement in scamming people," Tahir Ashraf, the cyber police chief, told Kashmir Observer.

The online scam has apparently taken a quantum jump,

with the Cyber Police Station receiving more than 300 complaints from various people since its establishment in November 2019.

The major complaints are about misuse of social media which includes creation of fake accounts that are later used for cyber bullying, duping people, child-pornography and online harassment.

One of the victims of this cybercrime was Mehran, a young graduate student from Srinagar's Bemina.

Mehran had returned to Kashmir in March 2020 when the sudden outbreak of the pandemic had. **▶ More On P2**



To place an advertisement
CALL +91-194 2502327
Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)
 No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

**BAZAR
OBSERVER**
Thursday|11-02-2021

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار یا گام یا اجلاس چاہیہ احمہ صاحب
 درخواست منجانب:۔ ہم احمہ میر سلام رسول میر سان سڈوہ تحصیل و ضلع انت ناگ بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ ایش ارادہ 167/294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سال صدر نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بازہ میں پیش کیا ہے حسب رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ تقصیل افراد تکبہ بذیل درج ہے:-

نام صاحب کیرہ مودل بیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
دبم احمہ میر و لد عام رسول میر	32 سال	نیکول بیر PDD	Pay Slip
غلام رسول میر ولد بختی میر	70 سال	رینا ملازم	پیشن بک
سارہ تکبیر زید غلام رسول میر	60 سال	گھر بی کام	

اسکے علاوہ اور کوئی فرد تکبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے سال کا تکبہ چھپنے پندرو سالوں سے وہ بازہ میں رہا نہیں ہے اور سال کی تکبہ کی سالانہ آمدنی حد مقررہ سے کم ہے اس حالے سے اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوکرہ سرٹیفکٹ اجا کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض دفتر بازہ میں پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر الصدر نائب تحصیلدار یا گام

mja

از عدالت ایگزیکٹو ججز میٹ دبی جاول (نائب تحصیلدار انت ناگ) یا اجلاس زیر اہمٹ صاحب۔
 درخواست منجانب:- چاہیہ احمہ دہمت و لد عبدالرشید بٹ سالہ تین چارہ انت ناگ بغرض اجرائی تاریخ پیدائش سرٹیفکٹ بنام عائشہ چاہیہ دختر چاہیہ احمہ بٹ۔

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سال/سالہ مذکورہ بالا لائے عدالت ہا میں ایک درخواست طلبی بنان پیش کیا ہے سال کے دفتر کا تاریخ پیدائش 04/06/2018 ہے اس شخص میں سرٹیفکٹ پیدائش نکالنے کا خواہ ہے لہذا سرٹیفکٹ مذکورہ کا جواز کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں پیش کرے بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

ایگزیکٹو ججز میٹ دبی جاول

mja

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کا گام
 درخواست منجانب:۔ ہم احمہ میر سلام رسول میر سان سڈوہ تحصیل و ضلع انت ناگ بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ ایش ارادہ 167/294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سال صدر نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بازہ میں پیش کیا ہے حسب رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ تقصیل افراد تکبہ بذیل درج ہے:-

نام صاحب کیرہ مودل بیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
دبم احمہ میر و لد عام رسول میر	32 سال	نیکول بیر PDD	Pay Slip
غلام رسول میر ولد بختی میر	70 سال	رینا ملازم	پیشن بک
سارہ تکبیر زید غلام رسول میر	60 سال	گھر بی کام	

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تحریر الصدر نائب تحصیلدار یا گام

mja

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I have lost the Fitness of my vehicle Bearing Redg No JK05D 3523 somewhere Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the RTO Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice after that no objection shall be entertained.
 Ab Hameed Kanwaloo
 S/o Habibullah Kanwaloo
 R/o Shangergund Sopore
 AMS


PUBLIC NOTICE
 I have lost my Driving licence bearing DL no: JK1320150036957. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the RTO Pulwama within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Syed Rlyz Ahamd Bukhari
 S/O Syed Gh Nabi Bukhari
 R/O Mamlabal Bagdnder Pampore
 FYI

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I want to change the name on electricity bill bearing consumer ID No: 0201040005944 from Gh Rasool Nath S/o Sonallah Nath R/o Zewan Srinagar To Sarla Handoo R/o Zewan Srinagar if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the A.E. PDD Sub Division Khanmoh Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Sarla Handoo
 R/o Zewan Srinagar
 FYI

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I have lost my 9th pass discharge certificate somewhere. Now I want to apply for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Principal Hanfia High School Chandhara Pampore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Mohd Ashraf Ganie
 S/o Nazir Ahmad Ganie
 R/o Chandhara Pampore
 FYI

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I have applied for the issuance of Pesticides license for my business unit under the name and style "Towheed And Abrar Pesticides Sindoo Shirmal Shopian" if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Plant Protection Officer Lal Mandi Srinagar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Wani Aamir Iqbal
 S/O Mohd Iqbal Wani
 R/O Niloora Pulwama
 T_AS

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I have lost RC of my bike bearing Regd No: JK05F 1812 somewhere. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the RTO Sopore within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Mohammad Rafi Mir S/o Mohammad Akbar Mir
 R/o Adipora Sopore
 AMS

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education
 Branch Office, Magam
 NOTICE
 The candidate whose photograph is given is claiming to have lost his/her marks card/s with the following particulars issued by the J&K State Board Of School Education:-

 Mohd Ibrahim Malik S/o Mohd Ishaq Malik R/o Goom Ahmad Pora
Details Of Marks Certificate Lost
 High Secondary Examination Part-II (12th class)
 Roll No 261289 year and Session Annual (2012)

The said candidate has applied for issuance of duplicate marks certificate/s in this office. Before the same is processed and issued to the candidate, any body having any objection in this regard may file the same in the Board Branch Office Magam within Seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, Besides the original marks card be treated as cancelled.
 Sd/- Asstt. Secretary,
 Br. Office, Magam
 BMG

Muslim Educational Trust J&K Sopore
 The managing committee of muslim educational trust public high secondary school sopore has been constituted. Comprising the below mentioned members. If anybody has any query he/she may file the same in the office of the Director School Education Kashmir Srinagar within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

So	Name	Parentage/ W/o	Residence	Qualif	occupa- tion	Designa- tion
1	Haji Gh Hassan Bacha	Haji Noor-ud-Din Bacha	Alamdard Colony Sopore	b.e	Business	Chairman
2	Mr Mohammad Akbar Dar	Late Ab. Rahim Dar	Drangbal Baramulla	B.Sc Honours of the M.A B.Ed	Principal of the School	Member Secretary
3	Mr Mohd Mirak Shah	Gh Moham- mad Shah	Taipper	M.A B. ED	Govt.Rtd.	Member
4	Mr. Altaf Hus- sain Hakim	Hakeem Gh Hassan	New Light Colony Sopore	B.Sc	Teacher of the school	Member Teacher
5	Mr Mohammad Ashraf Ganie	Late Gh. Mohammad Ganie	Bagli-I-Islam B.Lib	B.Lib	Private Employee	Member
6	Mr. Nazir Ahmad Lone	Late Gh. Ah- mad Lone	Zaloor Sopore	12th	Business	Member Parent
						Chairman

gms Muslim Educational Trust Sopore

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار یا گام یا اجلاس چاہیہ احمہ صاحب
 درخواست منجانب:- آپرہاد دختر اشتقاق احمہ میر سان سڈوہ تحصیل و ضلع انت ناگ بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ ایش ارادہ 167/294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سال صدر نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ انٹر یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بازہ میں پیش کیا ہے حسب رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ تقصیل افراد تکبہ بذیل درج ہے:-

نام صاحب کیرہ مودل بیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
آپرہاد دختر اشتقاق احمہ میر	16 سال	رینا تعلیم	
اشتقاق احمہ میر و لد عام رسول میر	38 سال	ڈرائیور	10000
روزی جان و لد اشتقاق احمہ میر	33 سال	گھر بی کام	
ضابطہ جان دختر	12 سال	رینا تعلیم	
اخلاص احمد پیر	10 سال		
حافظہ احمد پیر	06 سال		

اسکے علاوہ اور کوئی فرد تکبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے سال کا تکبہ چھپنے پندرو سالوں سے وہ بازہ میں رہا نہیں ہے اور سال کی تکبہ کی سالانہ آمدنی=10000 ہے اس حالے سے اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوکرہ سرٹیفکٹ اجا کرنے میں کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض دفتر بازہ میں پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

تحریر الصدر نائب تحصیلدار یا گام

mja

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست محمد شفیع میلو ولد غلام احمد عرفان احمہ شفیع لد و تکبیل احمہ ولد دختر سر بانو سکتہ چندوسہ

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 15000 روپے تک ہے۔

محمد شفیع میلو	مزدوری	50 سال
رفیقہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	46
عرفان میلو	مزدوری	25
شفیع احمہ میلو	زیر تعلیم	23
تکبیل احمہ میلو	زیر تعلیم	21
سرت بانو	زیر تعلیم	15
سانو بیگم	گھر بی کام	23
آبرو عرفان	شیر خواہ	02

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

aii

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست عہد مجید گوہر کھانا ولد غلام احمد گوہر کھانا سکتہ چندوسہ

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 10008 روپے تک ہے۔

عہد مجید گوہر کھانا	مزدوری	37 سال
شہید بیگم زہید عہد مجید	گھر بی کام	35
ذاتیہ دختر	زیر تعلیم	
سیر احمد پیر	زیر تعلیم	
ابرار پیر	زیر تعلیم	

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

ajj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست بشیر احمد گوہر کھانا ولد غلام احمد گوہر کھانا سکتہ چندوسہ

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 17000 روپے تک ہے۔

بشیر احمد گوہر کھانا	مزدوری	50 سال
نسیم بیگم زہید بشیر احمد	گھر بی کام	46
اشتقاق احمد پیر	مزدوری	25
شاہد دختر	گھر بی کام	22
ارشاد احمد پیر	زیر تعلیم	18

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

aii

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست غلام احمد گوہر کھانا ولد سائین گوہر کھانا سکتہ چندوسہ

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 23562 روپے تک ہے۔

غلام احمد گوہر کھانا	رینا ملازم	69 سال
حمیدہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	55
رونی	زیر تعلیم	24
مہنازہ	ناخوان	23
پاسیمہ	زیر تعلیم	22
انتیاز احمد	زیر تعلیم	13

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

aii

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست جہانگیر رسول میر ولد غلام رسول سکتہ سلطان چوہ کڈی

بمراہد عطا کی RBA تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم سلطان چوہ کڈی کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 13000 روپے تک ہے۔

غلام رسول میر	مزدوری	48 سال
رفیقہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	46
جہانگیر رسول	زیر تعلیم	25
دش احمد	زیر تعلیم	22
شہباز بانو	زیر تعلیم	20
سنبیل رسول	زیر تعلیم	16

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

ajj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست راج محمد گوہر کاس و جہانگیر احمد و مشتاق احمد و اشتقاق احمد پیران

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سال کے سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی سالانہ آمدنی مبلغ 12000 روپے تک ہے۔

راج محمد گوہر کاس	مزدوری	60 سال
بوہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	50
فریدہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	50
جہانگیر احمد	زیر تعلیم	15
مشتاق احمد	زیر تعلیم	10
اشتقاق احمد	زیر تعلیم	07

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

aii

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار ترچگام یا اجلاس سجاد احمد بیٹ
 عنوان: درخواست از جانب عاشق حسین تھار ولد سلطان تھار

سالک منضم بائیں برادر اصول پیدائش سرٹیفکٹ بائیں تھار پسرمان احمد تھار ولد عاشق حسین تھار سالک حاضی حصول تاریخ پیدائش

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سالک میں پیش دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے۔ اس سال سے میں تحت ضابطہ لیس ایچ او تھار پیدائش ترچگام سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سالک کی پیدائش متعلقہ تھار میں اندر ان نہیں ہے۔ چنانچہ پیدائش متعلقہ سند کیا گیا اور پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی عیاں ہے کہ سالک موجب عام کا سکتہ دار ہے مطابق اسکول سند سالک سرائیان کی پیدائش بذیل ہے۔

نمبردار	نام ماحال	پیم پیدائش مطابق اسکول سند	سکتہ
ا۔	مان احمد تھار ولد عاشق	13-01-2020 مطابق میڈل حایں کارڈ	

سالک سرائیان مندرجہ بالا پیدائش سرٹیفکٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہیں اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار ترچگام

fnt

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار ترچگام یا اجلاس سجاد احمد بیٹ
 عنوان: درخواست منجانب (ا) شاہد احمد بیڑا (ب) جعفر عزیز بیڑا ولدیت عزیز ارمان بیڑا

بیڑا زادہ سالک منضم ترچگام تحصیل ترچگام

سائیلر سالک میں کل ماہوار آمدنی 20000 روپے تک ہے

تحصیل ترچگام بغرض حصول پٹواری سیکنگ سرٹیفکٹ (PSP)

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کی نسبت ایک مجلس پٹواری حلقہ سے موصول ہوئی مطابق رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سالک سرائیان نے Member advisory board for development of pahari speaking people) ایک سرٹیفکٹ اس نسبت حاصل کی ہے کہ سالک سرائیان پہاڑی بولنے والے طبقے سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں جس کی تفصیل بذیل ہیں۔

ا۔	شاہد احمد	ولد عزیز ارمان	بیڑا
ب۔ <th>جعفر عزیز</th> <th>ولد عزیز ارمان</th> <th>بیڑا</th>	جعفر عزیز	ولد عزیز ارمان	بیڑا

مورخہ 08-02-2021 حاصل کی ہوئی ہیں۔ جس کے مطابق سالک سالک پہاڑی زبان بولنے والے طبقے سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں اور پہاڑی سیکنگ سرٹیفکٹ حاصل کرنے کا کامیاب خواہاں ہے۔

زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ کی اجرائی کے نسبت اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار ترچگام

fnt

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست صغیر احمد گوہر چچی ولد اختر حسین سکتہ دارہ فرستواری

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سالک سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 18000 روپے تک ہے۔

اختر حسین گوہر چچی	مزدوری	54 سال
زینبہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	48
بشیر احمد	زیر تعلیم	18
افروزہ بانو	زیر تعلیم	16
صغیر احمد گوہر چچی	زیر تعلیم	14
شاہد احمد	زیر تعلیم	12
زابد احمد	زیر تعلیم	10

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

ajj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست صغیر احمد گوہر چچی ولد اختر حسین سکتہ دارہ فرستواری

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سالک سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی مہانت آمدنی مبلغ 18000 روپے تک ہے۔

اختر حسین گوہر چچی	مزدوری	54 سال
زینبہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	48
بشیر احمد	زیر تعلیم	18
افروزہ بانو	زیر تعلیم	16
صغیر احمد گوہر چچی	زیر تعلیم	14
شاہد احمد	زیر تعلیم	12
زابد احمد	زیر تعلیم	10

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

ajj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ
 عنوان: منضمون درخواست محمد اشرف گوہر کھانا ولد تکب عالم گوہر کھانا سکتہ چندوسہ

بمراہد عطا کی ST تحت SRO294

استہار بمبراد آگاہی بر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول مطلوبہ نقلاات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے عیاں ہوتا ہے کہ سالک سالک منضم چندوسہ کا سکتہ دار ہے کہ سکتہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے کہ سکتہ کی سالانہ آمدنی مبلغ 12000 روپے تک ہے۔

محمد اشرف گوہر کھانا	مزدوری	40 سال
روہینہ بیگم	گھر بی کام	35
محمد اشرف گوہر کھانا	زیر تعلیم	15
تکبیل احمد	زیر تعلیم	13
زینبہ بانو	زیر تعلیم	10
امران گوہر کھانا	زیر تعلیم	08

اسکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتایا گیا ہے سرٹیفکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہی کے اندر پیش کریں۔ معیار گزرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار چندوسہ

ajj

اطلاع عام

میں غلام محمد لون ولد محمد اکبر لون رستم اہد کانی کا ایک ٹکے دتا ہوں کہ اگر سالک کا پسر پسر احمد لون ولد غلام محمد لون سالک رستم اہد کانی کے پسر قانونی کام لوٹ پاپا گیا یا کسی افراد کے ساتھ عذر احمد لون کا کوئی لین دین ہو تو اس صورت میں عذر احمد لون خود ذمہ دار ہوگا۔ اس میں سالک یا سالک کے کسی بھی افراد پر کوئی ذمہ داری نہیں ہوگی۔ عذر احمد لون ادارہ گردی کرتا ہے۔ سالک نے بہت سمجھا لیکن وہ باز نہ آیا اس لئے اب سالک و افراد سالک کوئی بھی ذمہ داری کا کھار نہ بن سکے اس لئے ہم عذر احمد لون کی ادارہ گردی کے ذمہ دار نہیں ہو گے۔ بلکہ عذر احمد لون خود ذمہ دار ہوں گے۔ اگر سالک نے پسر کے کسی فرد سے کوئی نقدی لین دین ہو تو اس صورت میں بھی عذر احمد لون ہی از خود ذمہ دار ہوگا۔

ajj

Muzaffar Shah Hits Out At Farooq Abdullah

Says Allegations Of Horse Trading In 1984 Elections Are Baseless

SRINAGAR: Senior Vice President, Awami National Conference, Muzaffer Shah Wednesday hit out at National Conference President Farooq Abdullah over allegations of horse trading in 1984 elections.

"There was no discussion of horse trading in 1984 as Dr Farooq Abdullah in Iqbal Park said that the whole cabinet of Sheikh Abdullah was faulty. Despite that Dr Farooq brought them back to join the National Conference. If these people were faulty, where they not faulty at the time of rejoining," Shah asked at a press conference here.

He said after their rejoining, Dr Farooq appointed them as



KO File Phot

ministers.

"Their rejoining in the Na-

tional Conference was only

because Ghulam Mohammad Shah didn't oblige Rajiv Gandhi to take his two ministers in his

cabinet. GM Shah told him that the coalition is a disaster for Jammu and Kashmir. PDP-BJP coalition also proved disaster wherein Jammu and Kashmir lost its special status," Shah said. "A spokesperson of the National Conference is still a child who won't be able to write the spelling of the party but is issuing statements."

He however said at this juncture political parties should not forget to fight for the restoration of rights for the people of Jammu and Kashmir.

"This is a prior responsibility for PAGD led by Dr Farooq Abdullah. We have to fight for that. I hope that the People's

Alliance for Gupkar Declaration under his leadership will fight for restoration of Article 370 and 35A," he said.

Shah however praised the speech of Farooq Abdullah in the parliament.

Farooq Abdullah in his recent Rajya Sabha speech claimed that money power was used to purchase his party members and he was de-thrown in 1984.

Dramatic dismissal as CM in Jammu and Kashmir in 1984 had eroded democratic set up.

GM Shah with the support of over a dozen National Conference members assumed charge of the erstwhile state back in 1984.

THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF HORSE TRADING IN 1984 AS DR FAROOQ ABDULLAH IN IQBAL PARK SAID that the whole cabinet of Sheikh Abdullah was faulty. Despite that Dr Farooq brought them back to join the National Conference. If these people were faulty, where they not faulty at the time of rejoining,"

Regulate Working Of Drug Stores, Ensure Closure Of Illegal Ones: Admin Directs Officials

Srinagar: Authorities have taken a serious note that scores of medical shops were operating illegally in Kashmir and have directed concerned officials to ensure their closure.

Sources said that the administration has taken a serious note that scores of medical shops were operating illegally in Kashmir. Some of the medical shops are being run by unqualified people.

"Most of medical shops in far-flung areas are without registration. Government has directed concerned officials to ensure that no drug store is allowed to operate without following rules," they said. There is mushroom growth of illegal medical shops in Kashmir.

An official at the office of Drug and Food Control Organisation said there are complaints that several drugs available in drug stores are being misused in Kash-

mir.

"There are some drugs which can't be given without the doctors' prescription letter. But still some drug stores are selling these drugs," the official said.

The official said that authorities have directed concerned officials to regulate the working of drug stores. "There are some drug addicts who don't consume heroin and opium but take drugs from drug stores and are equally dangerous," the official said.

Sources said in several areas of Anantnag and Kulgam, like Kamad, Chchripora, Gundjafar, Lalan, Sadoora, Larkipora, Dialgam, Bona Dialgam, Brienty, Achabal, Shangus, Kokernag, Villoo, Hiller Kokernag, Saagam and Pahalgam areas, even the working government employees including teachers are running chemist shops where they are regarded as self-styled doctors.

As per rules, a chemist should possess a diploma in pharmacy and can run a medical shop after getting a proper license.

"However, most of the medical shops running in Anantnag town and other rural areas here do not operate as per the norms. At some places, dental assistants are running dental shops illegally," an official of Drug and Food Control Organisation, said.

"Every pharmacist must keep a record of medicines he sells against each prescription. Also a proper ledger and record needs to be maintained on the storage and sale of sedative drugs like codeine which is also being sold in black market by the peddlers," the official said.

"The unlicensed pharmacies have also been found in selling such sedative drugs openly on desired rates," the official said. (KINS)

Khan To Hear Grievances At Srinagar On Feb 12



SRINAGAR: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, will convene a public hearing at Grievance Cell, Church Lane, Srinagar on February 12 (Friday) from 10:30 am onwards.

The public deputations and individuals, who want to bring their grievances and demands into the notice of Government, can meet the Advisor at the said venue.

It is further informed that

the deputations, delegations, individuals or other people who want to meet the Advisor have to seek a prior appointment from his office on following phone numbers 7006223781, 9419000800.

All such people who will be visiting the venue are requested to follow all health care guidelines and protocols and the deputations should not exceed more than three members in view of the corona pandemic.

Vaccines Should Be Tweaked To Tackle Covid-19 Variants: DAK

SRINAGAR: With the emergence of new Covid-19 variants, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Wednesday said Covid-19 vaccines should be tweaked to tackle new mutated versions of the novel coronavirus.

"We need to modify the existing Covid-19 vaccines to deal with new variants," said DAK President and influenza expert Dr Nisar ul Hassan.

"Currently, three Covid-19 variants – South African variant, Brazilian variant and UK variant are circulating in the human populations which appear to spread more swiftly than the original strain," he said. "Some of these variants have been found to evade the effectiveness of the existing vaccines that have been developed against the original strain of the novel virus."

"A study from University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg has showed that Oxford vaccine had significantly reduced efficacy against the South African variant," DAK President said.

"An inability to protect against variant strains may severely limit the strategic benefit of vaccines containing only the original strain."

"In order to have long term efficacy against Covid-19, it may be necessary for vaccines to include multiple variants of the novel virus," he said adding "this strategy is routinely applied against influenza and all formulations in recent years have included three to four variant forms."

"Vaccines containing only one variant may induce little or no protection against variant strains that are already circulating among highly mobile human populations."

"Only those vaccines which are able to provide protection against multiple variants of the virus can bring the Covid-19 pandemic to an end," Dr Nisar said.

"Vaccine manufacturers need to update their existing shots to address the ongoing genetic evolution of Covid-19."

"Some vaccine developers have started to redesign their vaccines so that they could better target the variant forms of Covid-19 that are currently circulating in the human population," he said.

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کھاگ

درخواست امتیازاجہ خان ولد عبدالرحمان خان ساکن رات پورہ

برآمد وصول کیا اور ایمر لکھی صفحہ 37/ 294/ SRO

آشہارہ برادر آگاہی برخاص دعام

معاہدہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدور میں سامان کے کاغذات پتر پڑاں زیر درانی ہے بر سے پورٹ پڑاں ملحقہ دیان ملحق

مصدقہ دیگر دستاویزات چٹائی کردہ سے پایا جاتا ہے کہ سامان اور اس کا والد پندرہ سال سے وہ پڑاں رہا پٹ پڑا

ہے اور کسی بھی ترک کوٹ نہیں کی ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ اجرائی کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوئی مذہب امتراض ہو تو وہ پانچواں یا امتراض ساتھ یہاں مندرجہ پڑاں چٹل کرے معیار کرنے بعد کوئی بھی مذہب امتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا

نائب تحصیلدار

mgj

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کھاگ

درخواست روف احمد قلی ولد عبدالرحمان قلی ساکن ملہ پورہ

برآمد وصول کیا اور ایمر لکھی صفحہ 37/ 294/ SRO

آشہارہ برادر آگاہی برخاص دعام

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نائب تحصیلدار

mgj

حکومت جموں و کشمیر

محکمہ ہینڈیکرافٹس و ہینڈلوم کشمیر

اطلاع برائے دستکاراں ضلع گاندربل

محکمہ ہینڈیکرافٹس ضلع گاندربل میں ایک جانکاری و تربیتی کیمپ کا انعقاد کرنے جارہا ہے اس سلسلے میں ضلع گاندربل سے وابستہ دستکاروں کو اس ایک روزہ جانکاری و تربیتی کیمپ میں شرکت کرنے کی دعوت دی جاتی ہیں۔ محکمہ کے اسسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر ہینڈیکرافٹس کی جانب سے مندرجہ ذیل پروگرام کے تحت مختلف اسکیموں کے بارے میں جانکاری فراہم کی جائیگی تاکہ دستکار متذکرہ اسکیموں سے استفادہ حاصل کر سکیں۔

جگہ کا نام: اگورمنٹ ہاتر ہائر سکینڈری سکول واکورا

وقت: 11.00 am

تاریخ: 13.02.2021

اسسٹنٹ ڈائریکٹر ہینڈیکرافٹس

محکمہ ہینڈیکرافٹس

DIPK-12806/20

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Principal Sheep & Wool Workers Training Class Nowshera Srinagar

Phone No.0194-2420447

DASTI QUOTATION

Quotation No:3

Dasti quotations are invited from registered medicalsuppliers for supply of Alcohol based hand sanitizers (100 ML) and 3ply face masks which are to be provided to the Departmental Paravetswho have to attend a training program under ASCAD to be conductedby this office during the financial year 2020-21. The rate per Alcoholbased hand sanitizer (100 ML) and 3 Ply face Mask respectively to bequoted should be inclusive of all taxes and charges, if any. Thequotations along with sample of these items should reach to the officeof the undersigned by or before 13th of February, 2021 upto 1PM andthe quotations shall be opened on same day at 2.00 PM by theconstituted committee.

The successful bidder is bound to supply these items within03(three) days from the date of issuance of supply order. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all thequotations without assigning any reasons thereof.

PRINCIPAL
Sheep & Wool Workers Training Class
Nowshera Srinagar

No: Date: DIPK-12798/20

DIAL-EMMA



- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1922 - US intervention army leaves Honduras
- 1943 - US General Eisenhower selected to command the allied armies in Europe; British General Montgomery not best pleased.
- 1944 - German troops reconquer Apriaia, Italy
- 1945 - 1st gas turbine propeller-driven airplane flight tested, Downey, CA.
- 1945 - Yalta agreement signed by FDR, Churchill & Stalin
- 1946 - World War II: Operation Deadlight ends after scuttling 116 of 156 captured U-boats.
- 1953 - USSR breaks diplomatic relations with Israel
- 1956 - British diplomats Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean deny working as spies for Soviet Russia after reappearing in the Soviet Union after going missing 5 years earlier
- 1964 - Greek & Turks begin fighting in Limassol, Cyprus
- 1964 - Taiwan drops diplomatic relations with France
- 1968 - Israeli-Jordan border fight
- 1970 - Japan becomes 4th nation to put a satellite (Osumi) in orbit.
- 1971 - US, UK, USSR, others sign Seabed Treaty outlawing nuclear weapons
- 1973 - 1st one-day international for Pakistan & NZ
- 1974 - Titan-Centaur rocket test launch fails.
- 1974 - Henry Kissinger unveils Nixon Administration's seven-point "Project Independence" plan to make the U.S. energy independent
- 1974 - Libya nationalizes three US oil companies that had not agreed to 51 percent nationalization in September
- 1975 - Margaret Thatcher defeats Edward Heath for leadership of the British Conservative Party
- 1978 - China lifts a ban on Aristotle, Shakespeare, & Dickens
- 1979 - Iran's premier Bakhtiar resigns, Ayatollah Khomeini seizes power
- 1984 - 10th space shuttle mission (41-B)- Challenger 4-returns to Earth
- 1985 - King Hussein of Jordan & PLO leader Arafat sign accord
- 1990 - Nelson Mandela released after 27 years imprisonment in South Africa.
- 1991 - UNPO, Unrepresented Nations & People Org forms in Hague Neth.
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-60 (Discovery 18), lands
- 1995 - Space shuttle STS-63 (Discovery 19), lands
- 2008 - In East Timor, assassination attempts were made on Xanana Gusmao and Jose Ramos-Horta. Both failed.
- 2011 - Egyptian Revolution culminates in the resignation of Hosni Mubarak and the transfer of power to the Supreme Military Council after 18 days of protests.
- 2012 - Israeli Air Force conducts four air strikes in Gaza Strip
- 2013 - 18 coal miners are killed in an explosion in the Komi region, Russia
- 2013 - Pope Benedict XVI announces his resignation from February 28, the first pope to resign since 1415
- 2014 - 11 people are killed after a grenade was tossed into a movie theatre in Peshawar, Pakistan
- 2014 - 77 people are killed after a military transport plane crashes in Algeria
- 2014 - Peace talks resume in Geneva as leaders attempt to bring an end to the civil war in Syria
- 2016 - Discover of gravitational waves (through collision of two black holes) announced by physicists from the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (Ligo)
- 2016 - Riot between rival drug cartels at a prison in Monterrey, Mexico, leaves 52 dead

From KO Archives

India Needs Small Dose Of Dictatorship: Farooq

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI - Chief Minis-ter Farooq Abdullah today said his government has accepted the extension of cease-fire by another month with great difficulty in the face of militants continuing to kill innocent civilians.

Admitting that the borders were silent, Abdullah, who was a key-note speaker at a panel discussion on experiment with democracy organised by the International Press Institute (IPI) world Congress, said foreign, groups of Osama Bin Laden and Lashkar-e-Taiba were continuing with their explosions of IEDs and lobbing of grenades.

Taking a dig at Pakistan's desire for annexation of Kashmir, Abdullah wondered that what Islamabad could do for Kashmiri Muslims after it failed to accept Muslims from erstwhile East Pakistan (now Bangladesh).

Sounding a word of caution, the chief minister said the growing religious intolerance in the country is not a happy sign for the country's democracy and the need of the hour was to fight the growing fundamental-ist elements from both—Hindu and Muslim communities.

Abdullah said that a small dose of dictatorship was needed to govern a huge population like that of India.

Responding to Abdullah's suggestion on dictatorship, he said it is better to have more discipline than dictatorship.

The panel discussion was chaired by N. Ram, editor the Hindu. Other panelists included Vinod Mehta and Mark Tully.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 11 February, 2001)

Plane Catches Fire After Houthis Attack Saudi Airport With Drones



The Saudi Arabia-led Arab coalition has said the Houthi rebels it is battling in Yemen have attacked the Abha airport in Asir. As a result of the attack, a civilian plane caught on fire.

Calling the attempt to target a civilian airport a “war crime”, the coalition spokesperson Turki Al-Malki said, “We are taking the necessary measures to protect civilians from the threats of the Houthis.”

The fire was later extinguished. The announcement comes after Saudi state TV claimed the coalition had intercepted and destroyed two armed drones launched by the group towards Saudi Arabia.

Abha is located just over 100km from Yemen.

The Iran-backed Houthis claimed responsibility for the attack soon afterward, with military spokesman Yehia Sareai saying the group used four bomb-laden drones to target Abha airport.

“This targeting comes in response to the continued aerial bombardment and the brutal siege on our country,” Sareai said, noting that the Houthis consider the airport a military not civilian target.

At least two Airbus A320s flown by the Saudia, the kingdom's flag carrier, were on the ground at Abha on Wednesday afternoon, according to the flight-tracking website FlightRadar24.com. Another Airbus A320 on the ground there belonged to low-cost carrier Fly-ADeal. Both airlines did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

In September 2019, the Houthis claimed to have been behind a drone attack on the Saudi Aramco oil processing facilities at Abqaiq and Khurais—located well over 700km from Yemen. Saudi officials in turn accused Iran of support the attack, saying it originated from the north and east of the area, and that it was of Iranian make.

Those attacks caused Saudi oil production to fall by half and destabilised global oil markets.

The latest attack comes less than a week after US President Joe Biden announced he was withdrawing US support for the Saudi coalition, which is accused of sparking one of the world's worst humanitarian crises in Yemen, a largely-impo- verished nation.

With inputs from AP

Iran May Pursue Nuclear Weapon, Intelligence Minister Warns West

Agencies

TEHRAN: Iran's intelligence minister has warned the West that his country could push for a nuclear weapon if crippling international sanctions on Tehran remain in place, state television reported Tuesday.

The remarks by Mahmoud Alavi mark a rare occasion that a government official says Iran could reverse its course on the nuclear programme. Tehran has long insisted that the programme is for peaceful purposes only.

A 1990s fatwa, or religious edict, by the country's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei states that nuclear weapons are forbidden.

“Our nuclear programme is peaceful and the fatwa by the supreme leader has forbidden nuclear weapons, but if they push Iran in that direction, then it wouldn't be Iran's fault but those who pushed it,” Alavi was quoted as saying.

“If a cat is cornered, it may show a kind of behaviour that a free cat would not,” he said and added that Iran has no plans to move toward a nuclear weapon under current circumstances.

The 81-year-old Khamenei, who has the final say on all matters of state in Iran, on Sunday urged the United States to lift all sanctions if it wants Iran to live up to commitments under its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers. However, President Joe Biden has said the US won't be making the first move.

Following the killing last December of an Iranian scientist credited with spearheading the country's disbanded military nuclear programme, Iran's



parliament has approved a law to block international nuclear inspectors later this month - a serious violation of the accord.

Alavi, the intelligence minister, was also quoted as saying that a member of the Iranian armed forces “facilitated” the killing of the scientist, which Iran has blamed on Israel.

The minister did not expand on what he meant - and it was not clear if the soldier had carried out the explosion that killed the scientist, Mohsen Fakhri- zadeh. Israel, which has been sus- pected of killing Iranian nuclear scientists over the last decade, has repeatedly declined to com- ment on the attack.

This was the first time that Iran acknowledged a member of its armed forces may have acted as an accomplice in the killing of Fakhri-zadeh, who headed Iran's so-called AMAD program, which Israel and the West have alleged was a military operation looking at the feasibility of building a nuclear weapon.

The International Atomic Energy Agency - the UN's nuclear watchdog - says that “structured programme” ended in 2003. US intelligence

agencies concurred with that assessment in a 2007 report.

However, Israel insists Iran still maintains the ambition of developing nuclear weapons, pointing to Tehran's ballistic missile programme and re- search into other technologies.

In December Iran's Presi- dent Hassan Rouhani vowed to avenge Fakhri-zadeh's killing, saying his country will decide time or venue of any retali- atory action.

In response to former Presi- dent Donald Trump's so-called “maximum pressure” cam- paign against Iran, the country began to gradually violate its atomic commitments under the nuclear deal, and threat- ened further provocations in a bid to increase its leverage and get Biden to prioritise a return to the deal as he moves to dis- mantle Trump's legacy.

As part of those steps, Iran has begun enriching uranium closer to weapons-grade lev- els and said it would experi- ment with uranium metals, a key component of a nuclear warhead. Iran insists that all breaches of the pact are easily reversible.

Iran Celebrates Different Revolution Anniversary Under COVID-19



Agencies

TEHRAN, IRAN – For the first time in decades, the large square around Tehran's iconic Azadi (Freedom) Tower was filled with cars and motor- cycles, and not densely packed marchers, during a celebration of the 1979 revolution that birthed the Islamic Republic.

Thousands of state-organised and private vehicles descended on pre-determined routes in the capital and across Iran on Wednesday during the 42nd annual celebration, which this year was compromised by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To observe health protocols in a country that has suffered more than 58,000 deaths and is wary of a resurgence of coro-

navirus cases in the run-up to year-end holidays in late March, people were ordered not to go out for celebrations on foot.

Instead, revellers were in- structed to decorate their cars so they would look good in aerial shots, and express their excitement by flashing their lights and turning on their windshield wipers.

Tehran's Azadi Tower, the main destination of all march- es in the capital during revolu- tion celebrations, was slated to see aerial military manoeuvres and parachuters descending. Revolutionary poems were read out over speakers.

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) displayed three types of locally made bal- listic missiles in the path of

marchers in Tehran. An Indig- enous aerial defence system that in June 2019 shot down an Amer- ican drone was also displayed.

Common anti-US and Israel messaging was visible this year as well in slogans and banners.

Naval vessels conducted a symbolic procession in Iran's southern waters.

US-backed shah toppled

A week before the revolu- tion anniversary, people were encouraged to regis- ter on a designated website and choose posters, texts and songs to share on social media.

All state television channels are airing revolution-related material, including live reports, interviews and documentaries accompanied by revolutionary and patriotic music.

A major theme of program- ming on state television is about how Iran's revolution – that toppled the US-backed shah – has survived despite ef- forts and rhetoric by powers in the west and the east.

Iran is still under a harsh “maximum pressure” campaign of economic sanctions that were initially imposed by for- mer President Donald Trump in 2018 after he unilaterally aban- doned Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers.

Pak SC Orders Immediate Rebuilding Of Vandalised Hindu Temple



Agencies

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Supreme Court has ordered the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa govern- ment to immediately start re- building a century-old Hindu temple that was vandalised by a mob in the province, and submit a timeline for its completion.

The attack on the temple in Ter- ri village in Khyber Pakhtunkh- wa's Karak district by members of radical Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam party (Fazal ur Rehman group) in December drew strong con- demnation from human rights activists and the minority Hindu community leaders, prompting the apex court to order its recon- struction last month.

On Monday, a three-judge apex court bench, headed by Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed, heard the suo motu case regard- ing the burning of the temple, The Express Tribune reported.

During the proceedings, Jus- tice Gulzar said, “Inform us if any recovery or arrest has been made on the temple issue in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa?” In Janu- ary, the apex court had ordered the provincial government to recover the money for the con- struction of the temple from those who had burnt it.

Evacuee Trust Property Board lawyer Ikram Chaudhry ap- prised the bench that no recov- ery has been made so far on the temple issue, the paper said.

“The government had ap- proved Rs 30.41 million for the reconstruction of the temple,” Chaudhry informed the bench.

Justice Ijazul Ahsan said that the court had ordered to recov- er the money from those who burnt the temple so that they could learn a lesson.

“Evacuee Trust Property Board chairman should be summoned and a detailed report containing

all the progress made so far be submitted in court,” Justice Gul- zar said.

The Evacuee Trust Property Board is a statutory board that manages religious properties and shrines of Hindus and Sikhs who had migrated to India fol- lowing the partition.

Ramesh Kumar, head of the Hindu Council and a member of the National Assembly, said that the Chief Minister Mahmood Khan had said that the Karak area was sensitive and that the reconstruction of the temple in Karak should be done by the Hindu community.

“The KP government will later reimburse the cost of building the temple.” The KP additional advocate general said that ac- cording to the law, tender should be issued for the reconstruction of the temple.

Justice Gulzar directed au- thorities to ensure that the Prahladpuri temple in Multan is prepared for the Holi festival falling on March 28.

The chief justice directed the Evacuee Trust Property Board chairman, Punjab IG and chief secretary to ensure security at the Multan shrine.

The bench summoned the Evacuee Trust Property Board chairman on the next hearing and adjourned the suo motu case till next Monday.

Hindus form the biggest mi- nority community in Pakistan.

According to official esti- mates, 75 lakh Hindus live in Pakistan. However, according to the community, over 90 lakh Hindus are living in the country.

The majority of Pakistan's Hindu population is settled in Sindh province where they share culture, traditions and language with Muslim residents. They of- ten complain of harassment by the extremists.

China Spacecraft Enters Mars Orbit, 2Nd In 2 Days After UAE

BEIJING: China says its Tianwen-1 spacecraft has entered or- bit around Mars on a mission to land a rover and collect data on underground water and possible signs of ancient life.

The arrival of the orbiter-rover combo in orbit on Wednesday evening Beijing time makes it the second spacecraft in two days to reach the red planet. An orbiter from the United Arab Emirates led the way on Tuesday.

Next week, the US will try to land its Perseverance rover on the Martian surface. Only the US has successfully touched down on Mars—eight times beginning with two Viking missions. A lander and rover are in operation today.

All three Mars missions



launched last July.

The Chinese mission is its most ambitious yet. If all goes as planned, the rover would sepa- rate from the spacecraft in a few months and attempt to touch down. — AP

NEWS MAKERS

Britain's Ex-Governor-General Of India Figures In Trump Impeachment Trial

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON: Prosecutors seeking to impeach Donald Trump for a his- toric second time on Tuesday invoked the trial of Warren Hastings, the first British Governor-General of India, by the House of Lords in the 18th cen- tury after he had left office, to rebut the former US president's stand that the trial by the Senate was unconsti- tutional as he was no longer in power.

The US Senate on Tuesday con- firmed the constitutionality of Trump's impeachment trial by 56-44 votes following presentation from both sides -- House impeachment managers and lawyers representing the former president -- paving the way for the historic impeachment trial of the 45th President of the United States who left office on January 20.

Trump, 74, is accused of incit- ing the January 6 Capitol Hill riots, threatening democracy in the coun-



try. The incident left five people dead, including a police official.

From Wednesday onwards, each of the two sides -- the House impeach- ment managers and Trump lawyers -- would have up to 16 hours to pres- ent their case before the 100-mem- ber Senate for them to vote on the impeachment of Trump days later.

Both the Republicans and the

Democrats have 50 members each. To impeach Trump, the Senate needs to vote the House impeachment mo- tion by 67 votes.

Impeachment Manager Jamie Raskin, who is also a Democratic member of the US House of Representatives, while defending the constitutionality of the trial said, “our case is based on cold, hard facts. It's all about the facts. President Trump has sent his lawyers here today to try to stop the Senate from hearing the facts of this case. They want to call the trial over before any evidence is even introduced.”

“The first point comes from Eng- lish history. And it would have been immediately obvious to anyone fa- miliar with that history that former officials could be held accountable for their abuses while in office,” ac- cording to the transcript of Raskin's speech in the Senate.

“It was the impeachment of War- ren Hastings, the former Governor-

General of the British colony of Ben- gal, and a corrupt guy,” he said.

Raskin said that the framers of the US constitution knew all about it, and they strongly supported the impeachment.

“It played a key role in their adoption of the high crimes and misdemeanours standard. Even though everyone there surely knew that Hastings had left of- fice two years before his impeachment trial began, not a single framer, not one raised a concern when Virginia and George Mason held up the Hastings impeachment as a model for us in the writing of our Constitution,” he said.

Hastings was the first Governor- Generals of Bengal from 1772-1774 and the first de facto Governor-Gen- eral of India from 1774-1785.

His impeachment proceedings were initiated in 1786 after he went back to England for alleged misman- agement, mistreatment of natives, and personal corruption while in In- dia. The trial began in 1788.

Police In Europe Bust Gang Hijacking Celeb Phones, Arrest 10

LONDON: Police have arrested 10 people in the UK, Belgium and Malta for allegedly hijacking mobile phones belonging to US celebrities including internet influencers, sports stars and musicians to steal personal information and millions in cryptocurrency, authorities said.



The European Union police agency Europol said Wednesday that the gang is believed to have stolen more than \$100 million in cryptocurrencies by using so-called SIM swap attacks.

These attacks involve deactivating a victim's mobile phone SIM card, either by tricking the phone company or using a corrupt insider, so that the number can be transferred to another card under the gang's control. The arrests were the result of a joint investigation by UK, US, Canadian, Belgian and Maltese police, Europol said. Europol didn't specify the nationalities of those caught in the sweep, but the UK's National Crime Agency said a day earlier, that eight men were arrested in England and Scotland. Two others were arrested previously in Belgium and Malta, Europol said.

Neither agency identified the celebrity victims. Investigators found that after accessing victims' phone numbers, they were able to take control of apps or accounts by requesting password reset codes sent via SMS. Then they were able to steal money, cryptocurrencies and personal information, including contacts synced online, as well as hack into and post from social media accounts, Europol said.

Europol has warned that SIM swapping is a growing threat carried out by fraudsters. — AP

PS To LG Reviews Functioning Of Forest Department



JAMMU: Principal Secretary to Lieutenant Governor, Nitishwar Kumar today reviewed the functioning of the Forest Department at Civil Secretariat here.

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Principal Chief Conservator Forests & HoFF, J&K, Dr Mohit Gera briefing in detail, the roles and functions of the Forest department and contribution of forests to J&K's GDP.

The Principal Secretary took a detailed assessment of traditional as well as modern ways in which forest department provides services to the people dependent on forest resources, including Protection of Forests & Forest Land, Scientific management of forests, Afforestation and allied activities for ecological restoration, meeting local requirements of timber, firewood, fodder and other forest produce, Wildlife conservation in forest areas outside Protected Area Network, Enforcement of various laws (Protection & Regulation), Management with active involvement of people, Conservation & sustainable utilization of Biodiversity and Managing with involvement of forest dwelling scheduled Tribes & other Traditional Forest Dwellers.

The Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers to develop and promote more services for tourists like Forest Rest Houses, eateries, and other amenities to generate revenue and promote the beautiful forests of J&K.

Reviewing the proposal for Soil and Water conservation

works in Kandi areas of Jammu region involving Panchayats, the Principal Secretary directed the concerned officers to take the Deputy Commissioner's of the concerned districts onboard and hold planning and discussion for the development of Kandi area under MGNREGA and similar other rural development schemes.

The chair was also informed about the Target & Achievements under CAPEX Budget 2020-21, besides Monitoring & Evaluation of Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority (CAMPA) works, Green J&K Drive 2020-21, and Digital Services being provided to the people by the department.

Commissioner/Secretary, Department of Forest, Ecology, and Environment, Sarita Chauhan briefed the Principal Secretary about the training and awareness programs held on implementation of Forest Rights Act 2006 with constitution of Sub Division and District level committees and implementation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002.

Chairman J&K Pollution Control Board, Suresh Chug, Assistant PCCF Sarvesh Rai; Director Water and Soil Conservation, Dr PK Singh; Director Ecology, Environment & Remote Sensing, Dr Neelu Gera, Chief Wildlife Warden J&K, Suresh Kumar Gupta; Director, Forest Protection Force, J&K, Asif Mehmood, MD J&K Forest Development Corporation, Vasu Yadav, besides other HoDs attended the meeting.

ACB J&K Attaches Properties Of Deputy Secretary Rank Officer

JAMMU: Anti Corruption Bureau attached the properties worth lakhs of rupees belonging to KAS officer Noor Alam of village Gargal, Ward No. 8, Tehsil Akhnour, District Jammu on Wednesday.

Presently living near Mecca Masjid, Bathindi, Jammu Alam is posted as Deputy Secretary in the ARI & Training Dept Govt. of UT of J&K.

A verification was conducted pertaining to the allegations that Noor Alam had during the service period amassed/acquired huge properties both movable/immovable worth crores of rupees in his own name and in the name of his family members which were disproportionate to his known & lawful sources of income. During the course of said verification it surfaced that the suspect had accumulated various assets which included both movable and immovable assets worth crores of rupees in his name and in the name of his family members and relatives.

As per details, it also surfaced during the course of enquiry that the suspect has made huge investments in purchase of a flat and land in Jammu. Accordingly on the basis of findings of the verification a case FIR No.21/2019



us 5(1)(e) r/w 5(2) of the PC Act Svt. 2006 was registered at P/s Anti Corruption Bureau Jammu against Noor Alam, KAS and the investigation was started.

During the course of investigations, it was found that the accused public servant Noor Alam was initially appointed as VLW in the year 1992. He later on rose to the position of Deputy Secretary, ARI & Training Department, Govt. of J&K. During this period the accused has accumulated huge assets movable/ immovable by investing proceeds of his ill-gotten money in such properties. The accumulation was raised by accused Noor Alam either in his own name or in the name of his family members by abuse of his official

position. Pursuant to the registration of the case searches were conducted at his residence during which incriminating documents relating to huge purchase of property/flats/ investment in policies and bank balance were found. Accordingly proceedings under section 8-B of JK PC Act were initiated against the accused person during which properties worth lakhs were attached. It is pertinent to mention here that there is another case FIR no. 08/2018 registered against Alam and others for abuse of official position and misappropriation of public funds which is also under investigation with ACB.

Further investigation in both the cases is in progress.

New Labour Laws To Be Implemented In J&K Soon

New Laws To Empower Formal, Informal Workers; Improve Ease Of Doing Business

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Commissioner Secretary, Labour & Employment Department, Saurabh Bhagat today chaired a meeting to finalize the Jammu & Kashmir Rules for Labour Codes at Civil Secretariat here.

Speaking during the meeting, the Commissioner Secretary said that the codes have been drafted in a manner which will help in overall upliftment of the workforce in entire Jammu and Kashmir.

Saurabh Bhagat further maintained that with the implementation of these codes, labour sector in the region would come at par with the rest of the country and will increase the wages among the workforce. He added that this will also improve ease of doing business in J&K.

The Commissioner Secretary said that the codes would devolve more powers to imple-



menting agencies to penalise private institutions and other job providers who underpay their workers and employees. The new codes also mandate gratuity even if a worker has been employed for one day only.

On the occasion, Saurabh Bhagat hailed that Jammu & Kashmir is first to formulate and notify these draft rules than rest of the country, adding that J&K has been given the powers to draft its own version of the national policy.

Pertinently, the Central Govern-

ment has combined 29 existing labour laws and reorganised them into four codes; Code on Wages, 2019; Industrial Relations Code, 2020; Social Security Code, 2020 and Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.

Numerous highlights of these codes include fixation of a nationwide minimum wage by the Centre, bonus calculation and payment, payment of gratuity on pro rata basis, prohibition of lay-offs and social security for formal and informal workers.

DC Ang Inspects Yatra Transit Camps Reviews Progress Of Work On Navyug Tunnel

ANANTNAG: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Anantnag, Anshul Garg today visited Yatra Transit Camps at FCI Godown Mir Bazaar and Walnut Factory Qazigund to take stock of their preparedness for ensuring Amarnath Ji Yatra-2021.

At Mir Bazaar Transit Camp, the DC was informed that the camp has a capacity for 1500 beds. He directed

the concerned to workout feasibility to increase the capacity this year.

Garg also directed for provision of proper food, accommodation, mobile toilets in requisite numbers and parking facilities for the Yatries. To ensure proper drainage of water at the camp, he asked the concerned R&B officers to install a proper drainage system.

At Walnut Factory Qazigund, similar directions were passed to the concerned to ensure that all facilities are in place for a smooth Amarnath Ji Yatra.

Later, the DC visited Ujjer Qazigund and reviewed the progress of work on Qazigund - Banihal Navyug tunnel. He directed the concerned to expedite the pace of work on the said tunnel.

Hurriyat Rubbishes Apology Report



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A day after a local news channel claimed that three separatist leaders tendered their apology over "anti-national activities" before the top political leaders in New Delhi, All Parties Hurriyat Conference (APHC) led by incarcerated Mirwaiz Umar Farooq on Wednesday accused agencies of spreading "false rumours".

In a statement issued to the media here, a Hurriyat spokesperson cautioned people to be wary of mischief mongers and agencies who are spreading false rumours through some media outlets that some Mirwaiz led Hurriyat faction leaders have reached out to New Delhi seeking an apology.

"APHC reiterated its stand re-

garding the peaceful and just political resolution of the Kashmir dispute through dialogue as per the aspirations of its people, and said it stands firm on its stand," the Hurriyat spokesperson said.

He further said that the amalgam's chairman continues to be "illegally and arbitrarily" detained at home for the past one and a half years by authorities and his basic human rights stand suspended for advocating people's aspirations.

On Tuesday, a local news channel ran a story on its prime time programme claiming that three APHC leaders have reached out to the central government seeking apologies for their past activities. The separatist leaders, the report claimed, had also presented a proposal before the Centre for fighting assembly polls in J&K.

DDC Election: Chairperson, VC Elected At Ganderbal, Pulwama



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The chairperson and the vice chairperson of the District Development Council (DDC) Budgam and Kupwara were elected today in a meeting of the elected DDC members convened under the chairmanship of the respective District Election Officers (District Development Commissioners).

Meanwhile, the respective DPEOs congratulated the DDC Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and welcomed them as important functionaries in the plan formulation and socio-economic development of the district. At Ganderbal: Nuzhat Ishfaq was elected as Chairperson and Bilal Ahmad Sheikh was elected as Vice-Chairperson of DDC Ganderbal during the election in which all the fourteen (14) elected DDC members participated.

While speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Ganderbal, Shafat Iqbal expressed hope that with the establishment of three tier Panchayat Raj Institution, the developmental process at grassroots level will get further boost adding that Government has empowered Panchayats through devolution of powers and funds.

Later, the DC administered oath to both the newly elected chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Among others the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioner Ganderbal, Dy DEO, Dy CEO Ganderbal and other concerned.

At Pulwama: Syed Bari Andrabi and Mukhtiar Ahmad Bandh were declared winners for Chairperson and Vice-chairperson positions respectively during the elections held here.

The District Panchayat Election Officer (DPEO) Dr. Raghav Langer said that 13 elected members participated in the election. He said that the whole process of the election to the chairperson and vice-chairperson positions of the DDC Pulwama was conducted smoothly.

Later, the Deputy Commissioner also administered an oath of office to the newly elected Chairperson and Vice Chairperson in a brief ceremony.

Speaking on the occasion, the DPEO said that with the functioning of the three-tier Panchayati Raj system, the pace of development in rural areas will now gain new momentum and it will act as a watershed in the realm of grassroots level development.

Drug Licenses Of 9 Chemist Shops Suspended, 6 Diagnostic Centres Sealed

Observer News Service

BARAMULLA: Deputy Commissioner Baramulla Muhammad Aijaz Asad today ordered a special inspection drive during which chemist shops and diagnostic centres were inspected in terms of compliance to various legalities, norms and regulations.

The inspection was conducted by the concerned SDMs whereas in Baramulla and Sopore, it was conducted by General Manager DIC Baramulla and ADC Sopore respectively.

On the occasion, 153 chemist shops and several diagnostic centres were inspected, comprising 16 in Tangmarg, 21 in Uri, 40 in Sopore, 38 in Pattan, 08 in Kreeri and 30 in Baramulla. During the inspection, 09 chemists were found involved in the violation of requisite medical norms and regulations and their operation was subsequently seized by the visiting magistrates. The drug licenses of these 9 pharmacy shops were suspended thereof.

Moreover, operations in 6 diagnostic centres were also seized for violation of requisite regulations. Those include 02 (Helpline Digital Diagnostic Centre Kunzer and New Scien-



tific Clinical Laboratory Kunzer) in Tangmarg, 03 (Lone Diagnostic Centre Uri, Mansoor Laboratory Uri and Biocare Laboratory Uri) in Uri and 01 (New Alnoor Diagnostic Centre Pattan) in Pattan.

Meanwhile, the DC said that during inspections, special attention is being given to check whether an actual pharmacist is present or not and whether the sale of prescribed drugs is being carried out in the absence of a registered pharmacist and also attention is given regarding the validity of the licenses.

He further said that continuous monitoring would be carried out in future as well and if any unauthorised shop/drug is detected, then action would be initiated as per law.

NEWS MAKERS

Monkotia Resigns From Panthers Party

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir National Panthers Party (JKNPP), its president and former legislator Balwant Singh Mankotia on Wednesday announced his resignation from the basic membership of the party.

Mankotia, a two-time former MLA from Udhampur constituency, was on February 6 re-elected as party president, a post which he has held for the past over one decade.

"With a heavy heart, I announce my resignation from all posts and responsibilities in the party and also from the basic membership of the party," Mankotia said in a video message on his Facebook page.

The JKNPP leader said "unavoidable circumstances" forced him to take this decision in haste and without consulting colleagues and workers, suggesting he is resigning because of a power tussle within the extended family.

"Had I not resigned, there was a possibility of the family matter becoming public. I appeal to JKNPP founder and patron Bhim Singh that Harsh Dev Singh (JKNPP chairman) is capable and has interest. He should be given full responsibility of the party," he said.

Quality Evaluation Laboratory Of IIKSTC Gets NABTCL Accreditation

SRINAGAR: The Quality Evaluation Laboratory (QEL) at India International Kashmir Saffron Trading Centre (IIKSTC) Dussoo Pampore has been accorded Accreditation by National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABTCL).

Speaking about the achievement, Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal said the accreditation has been achieved only after persistent efforts put by the team of IIKSTC. He said the accreditation will go a long way in promoting the Saffron trade as the buyers will get assurance regarding the quality of produce.

Regarding the NABTCL accreditation, Chowdhary said it is a procedure by which an authoritative body gives formal recognition of technical competence for special tests/ measurement based on third party assessment and following all international standards.



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K O V I E W

India and Biden

It took a while for the new US president Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi to have their telephonic interaction but the talks went along expected lines. The readouts shared by both the State Department and the MEA refer to two issues which figured prominently in the talks; climate change and a free and open Indo-Pacific. And both are significant in the light of the policies of the Biden's predecessor Donald Trump, who had unilaterally withdrawn from Paris Climate accord saying it was unfair to the US. But rejoining the climate accord was among the first decisions taken by Biden. The new US president has further shown his commitment to measures against climate change by appointing no less than former Secretary of State John Kerry as the US climate envoy.

And as far as Quad, Biden's policy is, more or less, in line with that of Trump. The cornerstone of Trump's foreign policy, resting on a tough approach towards China, stays. The US has proposed to hold the first meeting of the leaders of the Quad—India, US, Japan and Australia— to confront and contain China's rise.

This goes to the favour of India that is currently battling China's incursions at four points along the Line of Actual Control. India will need US help to stand up to China. And the new US administration has made it clear that it stands firmly behind India in its ongoing confrontation with the communist giant. The State Department spokesperson Ned Price in his recent statement expressed concern about "Beijing's pattern of ongoing attempts to intimidate its neighbours". When asked about the new administration's position on China's growing aggressiveness towards India, Price said that the US is monitoring the situation along the Line of Actual Control.

But the one thing where New Delhi is chary of the new US administration is on human rights. The previous US administration had all but given up the US concern for the human rights around the world, taking at best a partial view of the issue. But the Biden administration has made it clear that it will not let go of human rights in its foreign policy pursuits. It will also be interesting to see whether the US will play any role in improving the India-Pakistan ties. The relations between the neighbours have plunged to their new low following revocation of Article 370 that granted J&K its semi-autonomous status under India's constitution. The two countries need some serious prodding by the world's super power to re-engage and sort out their differences. However, things will be clear in the weeks and months ahead. Key to the new US-India relationship will also be whether Modi-US are able to hit it off just like Modi-Trump had done.

OTHER OPINION

On Disasters

The natural disaster in Uttarakhand and the ongoing rescue operation provide an opportunity to assess where India stands on disaster management. If one compares the current response to the Kedarnath tragedy (2013) — while keeping aside the difference in altitude and the scale of the challenge — the system has improved in terms of response time, equipment availability, professional manpower training and information flow. In 2013, it took the State several days to mount a search-and-rescue operation, losing precious time. In the Chamoli case, the response has been swift and the political leaders have been forthcoming with on-the-ground information.

Yet, flaws are evident. The response remains reactive because of inadequate planning and absence of precautions. Hydropower projects are often built in ecologically fragile areas, ignoring scientific evidence. The situation becomes more challenging because there are no early warning systems; there is lack of seamless flow of information between those at the frontline (the police or communities) and the government/scientists to report and assess gaps; and there is an absence of disaster-related training for the population. For example, did the workers undergo mock drills on what to do if a disaster strikes, and how to survive in such biting cold? This is even more critical for migrant labourers who have no knowledge of the local environment and modes of survival. Rescue operations in India remain human-intensive, but technology has moved forward and, therefore, constant upgradation is required. These issues need to be addressed since, in a disaster, time is of the essence and the focus has to be on saving every life.

Hindustan Times

Switzerland's Burqa Referendum
An Insult to Women's Rights and Dignity

Rabina Khan

“Muslim women do not need fashion tips and restrictions from lawmakers and the public. They need the world to know that they have the right to choose and have an equitable place in society. This year's International Women's Day theme is #ChoosetoChallenge. The challenge for countries that impose bans on Muslim women is: How are these bans really helping to forge a truly gender-equal world?”



On March 7, Switzerland will hold a referendum to decide whether to ban full facial coverings such as burqas and niqabs. Polls show that more than 60 percent of Swiss voters favor the burqa ban. Although the Swiss cantons of St. Gallen and Ticino already have a ban on full face coverings following regional votes, the Swiss government has recommended voters reject the federal proposal, saying a nationwide constitutional ban would “undermine the sovereignty of the cantons, damage tourism and be unhelpful for certain groups of women.”

Those “certain groups of women” are Muslim women.

It is ironic that the vote will take place on the eve of International Women's Day on March 8, which strives for a gender-equal world. Removing a Muslim woman's right to wear a face veil is not equality.

Why should a Muslim woman who chooses to cover her face because of her faith not be allowed to do so? People of different faiths adhere to different dress codes, yet it is Muslim women who bear the brunt of this policing around the world.

Switzerland is far from the first country to propose laws limiting Muslim women's choice of attire: France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Latvia, Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Republic of the Congo, Chad, Gabon and Sri Lanka all have laws prohibiting the wearing of religious face coverings. These bans are called a “security measure,” even though women's role throughout history in political violence is not linked to the clothing they wore.

Although other countries have typically imposed the ban through legislative votes, Switzerland has approached the question through a public referendum. It is bad enough for politicians to bow to bigotry and introduce repressive laws on women's dress, but there is something uniquely sinister about the notion of politicians whipping up popular outrage against an oppressed minority among the voting public.

So, what is the petitioners' motive for wanting a burqa ban? The group behind the proposal — the

Egerkinger Komitee — includes members of the right-wing Swiss People's Party who instigated a ban on minarets in 2009, sparking the belief that this is motivated by religious bias. Supporters of the ban on minarets felt they were alien to Swiss traditions and values.

Switzerland is becoming more diverse; 5 percent of the population is Muslim. A survey conducted in the country in 2018 showed that mistrust of Islam was three times more prevalent than negative views of Muslims. If niqab-wearing women are being judged more negatively because of a perceived association to the extremist side of Islam, this is a false stereotype that we have to break down.

If the ban on burqas and niqabs comes into force, what message

will this send to the world about Switzerland? A beautiful country that relies heavily on tourism needs to attract foreign visitors, not deter them — particularly given the dire effects of the pandemic on the country's tourism industry.

As a recent article in the Conversation highlights, face-covering bans are especially hypocritical in this moment because “we are all niqabis now.” If we can become accustomed to communicating with each other while all parties are wearing face masks, then surely we can adapt to communicating with one woman wearing a niqab. And as Maria Iqbal, a niqab-wearing Muslim woman, wrote in Flare, niqabs and burqas do not have to inhibit communication because “our eyes play a big role in projecting happiness, and can even show more genuine joy than smiles.”

There are certain situations where it is necessary for a woman

to remove her face covering, such as situations involving security, a courtroom or an emergency medical situation. But the legal normalization through laws banning Muslim women's clothing paves the way for them to be discriminated against or harassed for following their faith. That is fundamentally wrong.

This problem extends well beyond Switzerland and the countries that have banned face coverings. As I describe in my forthcoming book, “My Hear is Pink Under This Veil,” while running in a mayoral election in East London's Tower Hamlets in 2015, a White man asked me what color my hair was under my veil. I said it was pink. Throughout my journey from my childhood in Kent in the 1970s — where my family was the only family of color on our street

It is ironic that the vote will take place on the eve of International Women's Day on March 8, which strives for a gender-equal world. Removing a Muslim woman's right to wear a face veil is not equality.

— to my life today in London as a hijab-wearing Muslim politician, campaigner and writer, I have endured discrimination and worked to overturn stereotypes.

Muslim women do not need fashion tips and restrictions from lawmakers and the public. They need the world to know that they have the right to choose and have an equitable place in society.

This year's International Women's Day theme is #ChoosetoChallenge. The challenge for countries that impose bans on Muslim women is: How are these bans really helping to forge a truly gender-equal world? I choose to challenge those who undermine Muslim women and attempt to write off our contributions, and I choose to challenge the structural inequalities that hold us back.

As a Muslim woman, I challenge those who try to break us.

Washington Post

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Islamophobia on Social Media

This refers to the article “Indian Muslims: Dilemmas and Panacea -Part 2” published in this newspaper on 9 February 2021 in which the author has proposed to counter the fake news and the misrepresentations about Muslim community on social media platforms by making social media teams in different states that would be headed by

a central team. It is absurd that the author proposes such a solution and calls them “panacea”, given that it is the duty of the government as well as the social media platforms to counter fake news and prevent individuals and communities from being exposed to misrepresentations. Social media companies have successfully banned anti-Semitic and Holocaust-denial content from their platforms. Why should not the same yardstick be applied to Islamophobic posts and hate speech against Indian Muslims? Why should not these policy measures be extended to hate Islamophobic posts?

If the state does not fulfil its duty towards its citizens by protecting them against hate speech and vilification, it cannot expect them to prove their pa-

triotism by “trying to be seen as part of the county's mainstream” because if they are burdened with these all these duties that the government should be doing, they will certainly lag in contributing towards the development of the nation.

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Will the COVID-19 vaccine work as well in patients with obesity?

Cate Varney

Although patients with obesity can produce adequate antibodies, multiple studies show they have a lower level of those B and T cells following an infection with the H1N1 influenza. This can alter the typical immune response, leaving the body one step behind after the virus invades.

When researchers began to develop what they hoped would be an effective COVID-19 vaccine, they already knew that H1N1 influenza – a novel virus, like COVID-19 – more severely affected patients with overweight or obesity. Patients with a body mass index of 30 or above had a higher risk of hospitalization and death from H1N1.

This is not the first time such a link has been found. A 2017 study from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill discovered the flu shot was less effective in patients who had excess weight or obesity. This study included only 1,022 participants, but other small studies show similar results.

Flash forward to today, when the COVID-19 vaccine has been created, tested on more than 40,000 patients and is now being distributed across the nation. The data is promising; the two authorized vaccines offer more than 90% protection from the virus.

But doctors and researchers are mindful of the H1N1 and UNC findings. As a physician who specializes in obesity medicine, I'm one of them. Now all of us want to know this: Will the COVID-19 vaccines be equally effective in patients who have excess weight or obesity? Initial data shows this to be the case, but additional data will need to be collected after many more patients are vaccinated.

What the research says

The answer to this question is crucial. Adult patients who have excess weight or obesity are among the most impacted by COVID-19, and they make up more than 70% of the U.S. population. Indeed, as I read through the Pfizer vaccine trial data, I saw that very familiar group: 70% of the Pfizer COVID-19 trial participants, like the U.S. demographic, had overweight or obesity. A collective cheer from obesity specialists could be heard around the world for creating a group that best represented our current U.S. population.

COVID-19 has been devastating here in the U.S. for those with overweight and obesity, particularly younger patients. Initially, doctors thought younger patients as a whole had less risk of severe complications due to their age. But for people younger than 50 who have obesity, the obesity negated the protective effect of age.

The COVID-19 vaccine is promising because it activates B and T immune cells, critical for long-term protection against viruses. B cell activity and levels have been shown to be lower in both mice and human subjects that have obesity following infections.

These immune cells can quickly produce new antibodies even if antibody levels fall over time and there are few left from previous vaccinations. Antibodies block the virus from getting into a cell and infecting it, but B and T cells destroy the vi-



rus-infected cells and prevent further replication of the virus and spread to other cells. But this may not be true for people with obesity. Researchers believe that obesity negatively impacts the function of the immune system.

Although patients with obesity can produce adequate antibodies, multiple studies show they have a lower level of those B and T cells following an infection with the H1N1 influenza. This can alter the typical immune response, leaving the body one step behind after the virus invades. An important question is whether this altered immune response is also present after a COVID-19 infection. And because of this, we want to know whether the vaccine will be as effective in patients with obesity for as long as other patients who do not suffer from this disease.

Vaccine still a must

Even with this concern, patients with overweight or obesity should still get the COVID-19 vaccine. Even for those patients with obesity who receive the flu vaccine but still get the flu, there's almost a 40% reduction in hospitalization and 82% reduction in ICU admissions.

In short, the data released from Pfizer and the FDA show the vaccine is not only effective in participants as a whole, but in particular, patients with obesity.

It is encouraging that Pfizer wanted to show the vaccine was just as effective in those who have excess weight or obesity. Researchers are recognizing these patients are more at risk and

now design studies to reflect that.

Behaviors that will help

Two things might encourage people with excess weight or obesity to exercise and improve their dietary habits: Previous studies show a positive association between regular exercise before receiving a vaccine and your response to the vaccine, producing up to four times as more antibodies after being exposed to a virus or bacteria. This means that antibodies are higher in those who exercised prior to vaccine administration versus those who did not engage in exercise. Also, it seems the type and amount of your gut bacteria may impact the vaccine response. Foods containing prebiotics and probiotics may assist with this and other disease prevention and treatment. Prebiotics can be found in barley and garlic, while yogurt, sauerkraut and some cheeses contain probiotics.

More data is needed before we know precisely how patients with excess weight and obesity respond to vaccines when compared to the rest of the population. But that data is coming quickly. Even just one year from now, we will look back and be amazed at all we have learned about COVID-19. From that research will come the knowledge we need to create a better way to deliver health care to all of us.

By arrangements with
The Conversation

That blue steel wardrobe of yore

I laugh at myself as days of my school run through my mind

Sana Altaf

Furniture is what makes our homes complete. They not only add aesthetically to our surroundings, but also hold a special place in our lives with time. Like that recliner where you love to sip coffee on a rainy day or that sofa where whole family cuddles to watch favourite TV shows.

The house where I lived before moving abroad have been no different. But amid all the usual pieces of furniture like bed sets, sofas and closets, one tall steel wardrobe always held a special place in my home.

In the ancestral house where I was born and spent my early childhood days, that wardrobe sat in a corner few meters from the bedroom door. It was blue painted with silver handle and key hole. It had multiple keys which I never knew how they worked. Even as it stood out somewhat awkward from the overall wooden theme of the room, it always got special treatment.

Its speciality came mostly from the contents it stored. Besides the important documents, it took care of our family camera, our collection of photographs and expensive clothes. A small locker inside it was used for jewellery and money.

As children, my sister and I would never be allowed to open it. Its keys were always placed secretly. It opened only at the time of need or for cleaning. We would leave no chance to try and sift through its contents whenever mother cleaned it.

What fascinated us most were mother's colourful dresses which we rarely had chance to touch. We would move around draping her scarves and shawls before quickly being asked to wind up. There were some packets and boxes



which we weren't allowed to touch.

When we moved homes, twice, the wardrobe moved with us. It always stood a mismatch to its surroundings. But its worth at my home stood unchanged. It was given the safest place in the house considering the valuables it contained.

With passing time, new things were added to its shelves and sometimes it would fall short of space. But we never let it go. Mother would adjust things

As children, my sister and I would never be allowed to open it. Its keys were always placed secretly. It opened only at the time of need or for cleaning. We would leave no chance to try and sift through its contents whenever mother cleaned it.

here and there to make it fit for all.

The wardrobe, which as per my parents is over 40 years old, still stands in my parents' bedroom. Even now a complete mismatch. Its paint has started peeling, its door screeching louder. There have been many additions and deduction to its stuff. But what I loved most from its contents are my school report cards and certificates.

Every time I go back home, I always

open that wardrobe with the same curiosity and care. Our old family camera still hangs on its peg inside. There are bags containing our collection of photographs. The expensive clothes still occupy its main shelf. The locker serves the same purpose as before.

But what attracts me most now is that one plastic bag that holds my journey right from my nursery days. The pink, green, and yellow colour cards with name of school printed are like a window to my childhood. Over the years mother took every care to preserve them for us to look back at our precious days.

I sit down with the packet and carefully open the report cards. I read through my marks and grades I scored from the early days in school. My top score in history shows my interest in the past stories and culture that I still hold. I always hated physics; I tell myself glancing through my marks.

The certificates awarded for performance in sports, science quiz or arts gives a strange sense of accomplishments. My trophies and souvenirs I got in school still stand safely on the top shelf of the same wardrobe.

The most interesting are the comments written by teachers on the report cards that always read the same, "very talkative girl."

I laugh at myself as days of my school run through my mind. I gather all the report cards and carefully put them in the bag and back into the wardrobe. I close it and with the sharp screech of its door comes mother's voice from downstairs warning, "did you put everything you touched properly. Don't mess or lose anything. Hand me the keys when done."

...
Gulf News

Drinking more coffee associated with decreased heart failure risk

Agencies

Coffee lovers now have a strong reason to rejoice. The dietary information from three large, well-known heart disease studies suggests drinking one or more cups of caffeinated coffee may reduce heart failure risk, according to novel research.

The new research was published today in *Circulation: Heart Failure*, an American Heart Association journal.

Coronary artery disease, heart failure, and stroke are among the top causes of death from heart disease in the U.S. "While smoking, age, and high blood pressure are among the most well-known heart disease risk factors, unidentified risk factors for heart disease remain," according to David P. Kao, M.D., senior author of the

study, assistant professor of cardiology and medical director at the Colorado Center for Personalized Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine in Aurora, Colorado.

"The risks and benefits of drinking coffee have been topics of ongoing scientific interest due to the popularity and frequency of consumption worldwide," said Linda Van Horn, Ph.D., R.D., professor and Chief of the Department of Preventive Medicine's Nutrition Division at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, and member of the American Heart Association's Nutrition Committee.

"Studies reporting associations with outcomes remain relatively limited due to inconsistencies in diet assessment and analytical methodologies, as well as inherent problems with self-reported dietary intake."

Kao and colleagues used machine learning through the American Heart Association's Precision Medicine Platform to examine data from the original cohort of the Framingham Heart Study and referenced it against data from both the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study and the Cardiovascular Health Study to help confirm their findings. Each study included at least 10 years of follow-up, and, collectively, the studies provided information on more than 21,000 U.S. adult participants.

To analyze the outcomes of drinking caffeinated coffee, researchers categorized consumption as 0 cups per day, 1 cup per day, 2 cups per day, and 3 cups per day. Across the three studies, coffee consumption was self-reported, and no standard unit of the measure was available.

The analysis revealed:

In all three studies, people who reported drinking one or more cups of caffeinated coffee had an associated decreased long-term heart failure risk.

In the Framingham Heart and the Cardiovascular Health studies, the risk of heart failure over the course of decades decreased by 5-to-12% per cup per day of coffee, compared with no coffee consumption.

In the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities Study, the risk of heart failure did not change between 0 to 1 cup per day of coffee; however, it was about 30% lower in people who drank at least 2 cups a day.

Drinking decaffeinated coffee appeared to have an opposite effect on heart failure risk - significantly increasing the risk of heart failure in the Framingham Heart Study. In the Cardiovascular Health

Study however; there was no increase or decrease in risk of heart failure associated with drinking decaffeinated coffee. When the researchers examined this further, they found caffeine consumption from any source appeared to be associated with decreased heart failure risk, and caffeine was at least part of the reason for the apparent benefit from drinking more coffee.

"The association between caffeine and heart failure risk reduction was surprising. Coffee and caffeine are often considered by the general population to be 'bad' for the heart because people associate them with palpitations, high blood pressure, etc. The consistent relationship between increasing caffeine consumption and decreasing heart failure risk turns that assumption on its head," Kao said.

Scientists develop platform to advance medicine research for cancer

Agencies

A new study published in *Genome Biology* features a new personalised platform developed by the Cleveland Clinic researchers that will help to accelerate advanced research on genomic medicine and genome-informed drug therapies for cancer mutations.

Known as My Personal Mutanome (MPM), the platform features an interactive database that provides insight into the role of disease-associated mutations in cancer and prioritises mutations that may be responsive to drug therapies.

"Although advances in sequencing technology have bestowed a wealth of cancer genomic data, the capabilities to bridge the translational gap between large-scale genomic studies and clinical decision making were lacking," said Feixiong Cheng, Ph.D., assistant staff in Cleveland Clinic's Genomic Medicine Institute, and the study's lead author.

"MPM is a powerful tool that will aid in the identification of novel functional mutations/genes, drug targets and biomarkers for cancer, thus accelerating the progress towards cancer precision medicine," added Dr Cheng.

Using clinical data, the researchers integrated nearly 500,000 mutations from over 10,800 tumor exomes (the protein-coding part of the genome) across 33 cancer types to develop the comprehensive cancer mutation database. They then systematically mapped the mutations to over 94,500 protein-protein interactions (PPIs) and over 311,000 functional protein sites (where proteins physically bind with one another) and incorporated patient survival and drug response data.

The platform analyses the relationships between genetic mutations, proteins, PPIs, protein functional sites and drugs to help users easily search for clinically actionable mutations. The MPM database features three interactive

visualisation tools that provide two- and three- dimensional views of disease-associated mutations and their associated survival and drug responses.

The results from another study published in *Nature Genetics*, a collaboration between Cleveland Clinic and several other institutions, motivated the team to develop the platform.

Previous studies have linked disease pathogenesis and progression to mutations/variations that disrupt the human interactome, the complex network of proteins, and PPIs that influence cellular function. Mutations can disrupt the net-

work by changing the normal function of a protein (nodeltic effect) or by altering PPIs (edgetic effect).

Notably, in the *Nature Genetics* study, led by Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School, the researchers found that disease-associated mutations were highly enriched where PPIs occurred. They also demonstrated PPI-altering mutations to be significantly correlated with drug sensitivity or resistance as well as poor survival rate in cancer patients.

Collectively, MPM enables a better understanding of mutations at the human interactome network level, which may lead to new in-



MPM is a powerful tool that will aid in the identification of novel functional mutations/genes, drug targets and biomarkers for cancer, thus accelerating the progress towards cancer precision medicine

sights in cancer genomics and treatments and ultimately help realise the goal of personalised care for cancer. The team will update MPM annually to provide researchers and physicians the most complete data available.

"Our *Nature Genetics* study also demonstrates the effects of mutations/variations in other diseases," said Dr Cheng.

Dr Cheng concluded, "As a next step, we are developing new artificial intelligence algorithms to translate these genomic medicine findings into human genome-informed drug target identification and precision medicine drug discovery for other complex diseases, including heart disease and Alzheimer's disease."

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER P.W.D (R&B) DIVISION QAZIGUND.

CORRIGENDUM TO THIS OFFICE NIT

SL.NO 103/EEQ/2020-21/E-TENDING/7432-46

DATED:28-01-2021

Subject:- 1) Upgradation /strengthening of shoulders/berm to Nowpora Shangran road by way of khak bajree filling (Balance work) Adv.Cost 0.58/= (Item No-01)

2) Construction of Cement Concrete Drain at various spots on Omoh Verinag Jawhar Tunnel Road. Adv.Cost 9.40/= (Item No.06)

The tenders invited vide this office NIT SL.NO 103/EEQ/2020-21/E-TENDING/7432-46 DATED:28-01-2021 for item No.01 and Item No.06 under the head of account C&T are hereby cancelled.

All other terms and conditions shall remain same as laid down in the above said NIT.

DIPK-12802/20

No: 7797-99
Dated; 09-02-2021

Executive Engineer
PWD(R&B) Division Qazigund.

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Rural Development Department Kashmir

Subject:- Engagement of Ombudsperson under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-2005 (MGNREGA).

NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

The general public of District Srinagar and Budgam is hereby informed that Mtr. Rashida Akhter has been engaged as Ombudsperson for District Srinagar/Budgam by the Department of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act-2005 (MGNREGA) vide Government order No. 11-RD&PR of 2021 dated 12-01-2021.

Accordingly, the general public can approach her office at Srinagar and Budgam directly or through e-mail or telephonically in connection with following issues:-

- General complaints / grievances from MGNREGA workers.
- Issues related to delayed payment of wages/ non-payment of wages.
- Un-employment allowance.
- Complaints regarding illegal gratification, bribery or mis- appropriation of funds.

The relevant contact details of the officer are given as under:-

District Srinagar	District Budgam
Office address:- Office of the Project Officer Wage Employment (ACD) Srinagar, RDD Complex Lalmandi Srinagar.	Office address:- Office of the Project Officer Wage Employment (ACD) Budgam, RDD Complex Budgam.
Contact details:- email-rashidaganai2016@gmail.com Mobile No. 9419028986	Contact details:- email- rashidaganai2016@gmail.com Mobile No. 9419028986

No :- DRDK/Estt/ s.and t/2018 dated: 09-02-2021
DIPK-12805/20

Sd/- BDO (HQ)
Rural Development Department Kashmir

Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Office of the Principal Sheep & Wool Workers Training Class Nowshera Srinagar

Phone No.0194-2420447

DASTI QUOTATION

Quotation No:3

Dasti quotations are invited from registered medicalsuppliers for supply of Alcohol based hand sanitizers (100 ML) and 3ply face masks which are to be provided to the Departmental Paravetswho have to attend a training program under ASCAD to be conductedby this office during the financial year 2020-21. The rate per Alcoholbased hand sanitizer (100 ML) and 3 Ply face Mask respectively to bequoted should be inclusive of all taxes and charges, if any. Thequotations along with sample of these items should reach to the officeof the undersigned by or before 13th of February, 2021 upto 1PM andthe quotations shall be opened on same day at 2.00 PM by theconstituted committee.

The successful bidder is bound to supply these items within03(three) days from the date of issuance of supply order.

The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all thequotations without assigning any reasons thereof.

PRINCIPAL
Sheep & Wool Workers Training Class
Nowshera Srinagar

DIPK-12797/20
No:

Date:

ازنیا بت ماگام با اجلاس جناب نائب تحصیلدار صاحب ماگام عنوان مضمون درخواست عبدالرشید لون ولد عبدالغنی لون و برکت رشید و ہارون رشید پیران و فرصت رشید ذہبکت رشید دختران عبدالرشید لون ساکنہ سوڈل ہمداد عطائی بیک واڈ ایریا سرٹیفکٹ تحت SRO 167 اشیار ہمداد آگائی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندر چہ عنوانالصدر میں سائل سے درخواست ہمداد ہمداد عطائی بیک واڈ ایریا سرٹیفکٹ تحت SRO /294 دی ہوئی ہے۔ جو کہ دفتر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اور اجز کرنی مطلب ہے کنید کی تفصیل

عبدالرشید لون ولد عبدالغنی لون عمر 43 سال پیشہ - زمیندار پو شہ بیگم زوجہ عبدالرشید لون عمر 39 سال پیشہ گھریلو کام برکت رشید پسر عمر 19 سال زیر تعلیم فرصت رشید دختر عمر 17 سال زیر تعلیم ہارون رشید پسر عمر 15 سال زیر تعلیم ذہبکت رشید دختر عمر 13 سال زیر تعلیم

اس کے علاوہ کنید کی ماہانہ آمدنی 15000 روپیہ تک ہے کنید ساکنان 6 افراد پر مشتمل ہے لہذا مطلوبہ سرٹیفکٹ اجز کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر و اعتراض ہو تو وہ اندر ایک ہفتہ دقت ہذا میں پیش کریں - بعد گزرنے معیار کوئی عذر قابل قبول ن ہوگا۔

sul

ازعدالت انگریزیکٹیو مجسٹریٹ دہچا دل (نائب تحصیلدار است ناگ) با اجلاس زیر امدهج صاحب - درخواست منجاب :- زیر امدها ولدو غنیل شاو سا کنڈا الیوگ دو کام است ناگ بغرض اجرائی تاریخ پیدائش سر تفلیف نام ہند فیض زوہلد زیر امدها شاد - اشتہار ہمداد آگائی ہر خاص و عام -

معاملہ مندر چہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل / ساکنہ مذکورہ بالا نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست طلبی بیان پیش کیا ہے سائل کے بہر کا تاریخ پیدائش 25/04/2012 ہے اس ضمن میں سر تفلیف پیدائش نکلنے کا خواہ ہے لہذا سر تفلیف مذکورہ کو اجازت دے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی بھی عذریا اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں پیش کرے بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

انگریزیکٹیو مجسٹریٹ دہچا دل mja

ازعدالت انگریزیکٹیو مجسٹریٹ دہچا دل (نائب تحصیلدار است ناگ) با اجلاس زیر امدهج صاحب - درخواست منجاب :- زیر امدها ولدو غنیل شاو سا کنڈا الیوگ دو کام است ناگ بغرض اجرائی تاریخ پیدائش سر تفلیف نام زائدہ بنت کبیر - اشتہار ہمداد آگائی ہر خاص و عام -

معاملہ مندر چہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل / ساکنہ مذکورہ بالا نے عدالت ہذا میں ایک درخواست طلبی بیان پیش کیا ہے سائل کے دفتر کا تاریخ پیدائش 05/06/2018 ہے اس ضمن میں سر تفلیف پیدائش نکلنے کا خواہ ہے لہذا سر تفلیف مذکورہ کو اجازت دے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی بھی عذریا اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر دوران دفتری اوقات میں پیش کرے بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

انگریزیکٹیو مجسٹریٹ دہچا دل mja

Citizens Should Not Book Holidays At Home, Abroad Amid Covid: UK Minister



Agencies

LONDON: British people should not book a holiday domestically or abroad until more is known about the success of Britain's COVID-19 vaccination programme, transport minister Grant Shapps said on Wednesday.

Under new border restrictions, people arriving from countries where coronavirus variants are spreading will have to pay for 10 days of quarantine in hotels. Anyone who breaks the rules could face a heavy fine or a 10-year jail term.

Addressing the "shrinking chance" that anyone was considering booking a holiday, Shapps said it would be the wrong thing to do as going on holiday is illegal under current restrictions, he said.

"Until you know the route out of lockdown, which we can't know until we have more data, more information on vaccines, please don't go ahead and book holidays for something which, at this stage, is illegal to actually go and do, whether it's here or abroad," he told BBC Radio.

Britain has given a first CO-

VID-19 vaccine dose to 12.6 million people but the government has said more information is required about the impact on transmission of the virus or new variants before it can lift the latest lockdown.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is due on February 22 to announce a plan for easing the lockdown.

Shapps said it was too soon to know what that would mean for the summer holiday period.

TUI Group, the world's biggest holiday company, has said it needs a summer recovery to relieve pressure on its finances and is banking on vaccinated Britons going abroad in the peak months. It has said it has taken 2.8 million bookings, with 1.5 million from Britain.

Shapps said between 16,000 and 20,000 people were arriving in Britain each day, including hauliers.

After the hotel quarantine requirement comes into force on Monday, Shapps expects a decrease of arrivals from countries such as South Africa and Brazil where new variants have been detected.



1.7 Lakh People In India Lost Jobs Every Hour Last April, While The Rich Got Richer: Report

Agencies

While the wealth of nation's top 100 billionaires increased by Rs 12.97 lakh crore since March 2020, about 1.7 lakh people lost their jobs every hour in April 2020 alone.

Oxfam India's CEO Amitabh Behar says, "To contextualise the inequity in what is the biggest economic crisis in the history of independent India, the wealth of the nation's top 100 billionaires went up by Rs 12,97,822 crores since March 2020, while in April alone over 170,000 people lost their jobs every hour. Just this increase in wealth could sustain the NREGA wages (National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) for 10 years!"

Behar says that over 40-50 million seasonal migrants working in construction sites, factory manufacturing units and services activities were left to fend for themselves during the 2020 lockdown.

"While affluent Indians stranded abroad were flown back and quarantined in hotels, it was only at the end of May 2020, that buses and Shramik special trains were arranged for the relocation of migrant workers," he said.

The India edition of Oxfam's newly released report 'The Inequality Virus,' elucidates how

amid spiralling unemployment, dire food insecurity, distress migration as well as reverse migration, the super-rich elite continued to amass wealth while billions struggled to make ends meet.

The findings in "Inequality Virus" reports say that the pandemic has hit India's informal workers the most. Out of a total 122 million who lost their jobs, 75 percent, which accounts for 92 million jobs, were lost in the informal sector.

During the mass exodus on foot, over 300 informal workers died from starvation, suicides, exhaustion, road and rail accidents, police brutality and denial of timely medical care.

According to a Stranded Workers Action Network's report in April, 2020, 50 percent of the respondents had no rations left even for a single day; while 96 percent had not received rations, 70 percent had not received cooked food from the government; and 78 percent of the respondents had less than INR 300 left.

The National Human Rights Commission recorded over 2582 cases of human rights violation as early as in the month of April 2020.

As per the findings, the relief packages for the informal sector and migrant workers were also

minuscule. Additional expenditure of the government in the first relief package announced was only 0.5 percent of the GDP and the total additional public spending promised by all the relief measures announced by the end of May 2020 amounted to only around 1 percent of the GDP.

The report found that the brunt of job loss was experienced by the female workforce and 17 million women lost their jobs just in April 2020.

Unemployment for women rose by 15 percent from a pre-lockdown level of 18 percent and could result in a loss to India's GDP of about 8 percent or \$ 218 billion. Women who were employed before the lockdown are also 23.5 percentage points less likely to be re-employed compared to men in the post-lockdown phase.

A study reports that despite having a hold of 77 million tonnes of food grain, more than three times the buffer stock requirement before the lockdown, only 2.2 million tonnes of this had been distributed to states. Eventually, public stocks increased to more than 100 million tonnes by the beginning of June 2020, which meant that some of the stock effectively rotted in the storage facilities.

LG Hands Over Cheque Of Rs 250 Cr To J&K Bank

3.41 Lakh Small & Big Business Units Availed Benefits Of Interest Subvention, Says The LG

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha today handed over a cheque of Rs 250 crore to Jammu and Kashmir Bank as second installment of 5% Interest Subvention under Economic Package, as a relief for the business sector in J&K.

While interacting with the media persons on the occasion, the Lt Governor observed that around 3.41 lakh small and big businessmen and business establishments have availed of the benefits of the Interest Subvention.

We will continue to release the Interest Subvention part as and when we receive the request, the Lt Governor added.

Highlighting the initiatives taken by the government for bringing reforms in the economic sector in J&K, the Lt Governor said that an amount to the tune of Rs 264 crore has been

disbursed as financial assistance to 16,800 youth identified to become entrepreneurs under the Back to Village and My Town My Pride programmes, and termed the initiative as Bank's home delivery of services to the aspiring entrepreneurs.

Replying to the queries of the media persons, the Lt Governor observed that investors from across the globe are eyeing J&K as their preferred investment destination.

With a ready land bank and plethora of opportunities waiting for them, the investors will find J&K as a promising and lucrative destination for their investments. The Rs 28,400 cr New Industrial Development Scheme, will certainly boost the morale of entrepreneurs and investors, he said.

In the Healthcare sector, the Lt Governor said that all efforts would be made to bring the big players in the sector to the UT.

High Fiscal Deficit To Pose Challenge In Lowering Debt To GDP Ratio: Rating Agency



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Fitch Ratings on Wednesday said that the country's high fiscal deficit would pose a challenge in lowering the debt to GDP ratio, which is expected to rise above 90 per cent in the next five years. It said India entered the pandemic with little fiscal headroom from a rating perspective. Its general government debt/GDP ratio stood at 72 per cent in 2019, against a median of 42 per cent for "BBB" rated peers. Fitch said the budget points to a loosening of fiscal policy to support the country's ongoing economic recovery from the pandemic and will consequently lead to a rise in public debt.

The debt/GDP trajectory is core to our sovereign rating assessment, meaning higher deficits and a slower consolidation path will make India's medium-term growth outlook take on a more critical role in our analysis, Fitch Ratings said in a statement. It now expects public debt/GDP to rise above 90 per cent of GDP over the next five years, based on the revised budget targets. However, recent reforms and policy measures, including those announced in the budget, could also influence the rating agency's growth expectations and its debt trajectory forecasts.

Fitch estimated India to clock an 11 per cent growth in the fiscal beginning April and then grow at 6.5 per cent a year through to 2025-26 fiscal. The

agency had in June last year revised India's "BBB-" rating outlook to negative from stable based on its assumptions of the likely impact of pandemic on public finance. "The budget's deficit projections for the fiscal years ending March 2022 (FY22) to FY26 are about 1pp (percentage point) a year above our previous estimates between, which could make it more challenging to put debt/GDP on a downward trajectory," Fitch said.

India has exceeded its fiscal deficit target of 3.5 per cent in the current fiscal by a wide margin due to higher spendings to stimulate the economy amid the pandemic. The fiscal deficit - the excess of government expenditure over its revenues - has been pegged at 9.5 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in the current fiscal ending March 31, as per the revised estimate. For the 2021-22 fiscal, beginning April 1, the deficit has been put at 6.8 per cent of the GDP, which will be further lowered to 4.5 per cent by 2025-26 fiscal ending March 31, 2026.

Fitch said the budget, presented in Parliament on February 1, has the potential to lift growth prospects. Higher expenditure will support the near-term recovery and increased infrastructure spending could boost sustainable medium-term growth rates. Labour market and agricultural reforms that were legislated in September 2020 could also lift medium-term growth.

Airfare Cap Likely To Be Discontinued As Services Reach Pre-Covid Level: Centre

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: Emphasising that capping of airfares was an "extraordinary measure", Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Wednesday said the price bands are expected to be done away with once flight services reach pre-COVID-19 levels.

Replying to questions in the Rajya Sabha, the minister said the civil aviation sector was completely closed down on March 23, 2020, and was reopened on May 25 in a slow and calibrated manner by putting in place SOPs, provisions for seamless contactless travel and a large number of other measures.

"Our effort...is always to open up a little ahead of the actual and potential traffic," the civil aviation minister said.

On why are flights not operating up to 80 per cent capacity, the civil aviation minister said that is a decision taken on commercial basis by air carriers.

"We are now confronted with an interesting situation. On the one hand, some of the carriers want us to open full capacity, 100 per cent, whereas others would like to go slow," he said, and added the decision to raise beyond 80 per cent capacity will depend on the behaviour of the virus and "our sense" of comfort that air travel has all the SOPs.

Mr Puri further said the floor and the ceiling price on airfares

was an extraordinary measure which was necessitated by an extraordinary situation.

It was designed to ensure that airlines, in a situation of limited availability, did not charge exorbitant price, he said.

"It is not our intention—it also cannot be in an open, de-regulated market situation—to have the fare bands made a permanent feature. So, it is our expectation that when flights open up to pre-COVID levels in this summer schedule, we would not have the need for a price band," the minister said.

He also informed the House that when the flights were opened up in May, there were only 30,000 passengers. However, the figures for Monday are about 2,87,000 passengers.

"So, the demand is rising and once there is economic and commercial viability, the airlines will not need any encouragement from us to restart the flights," he added.

Mr Puri said the government, in an extraordinary situation, can prescribe a price band as in the case of present COVID-19 situation.

But once it opens up, the government can encourage airlines to either not sell tickets at a rock bottom price or charge exorbitant prices.

He also said the government does not determine the prices sought by the air carrier as it is a deregulated sector.

International Air Traffic Fell By 90.5% In March-December 2020: Centre

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: International passenger traffic fell by 90.56 per cent to 18.55 lakh in March-December period of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic as compared to the corresponding period of 2019, Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Singh Puri said today.

Moreover, domestic passenger traffic fell to 3.77 crore in March-December period of 2020 from 11.99 crore in the corresponding period of 2019, the minister said.

Scheduled international passenger traffic continues to remain suspended in India since March 23, 2020, due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, special international flights have been operating since July 2020 under air bubble arrangements formed with various countries.

"Revenues of major Indian scheduled carriers fell from



46,711 crore during April-September 2019 to about 11,810 crore during April-September 2020. Their full time and contractual employment which was 74,887 as on 31 March 2020 fell to 67,906 as on 30 September 2020," Mr Puri told Rajya Sabha in a written reply to a question.

"Domestic passenger traffic fell from 11,99,45,632 during March-December 2019 to 3,77,79,592

during March-December 2020, while international passenger traffic fell from 1,96,64,179 to 18,55,033," he added.

Domestic passenger traffic was suspended in India from March 25, 2020 to May 24, 2020, due to the coronavirus-triggered lockdown. Currently, the Indian carriers are permitted to operate not more than 80 per cent of their pre-COVID domestic flights.

NEWS MAKERS

Handicraft Directors Call On Development Commissioner Handicrafts, Handlooms

NEW DELHI: A delegation of officers of J&K Government on Wednesday called on Development Commissioner Handicrafts, Shant-manu and Development Commissioner Handlooms, Sanjay Rastogi at Ministry of Textiles here. Mahmood Shah, Director Handicrafts and Handlooms Kashmir and Vikas Gupta, Director Handicrafts and Handlooms Jammu who met the Development Commissioner exchanged thoughts on collaborating and garnering support from them besides other technical assistance. The delegation also submitted a proposal to conduct a special event for promoting artisans and their handicrafts from Jammu and Kashmir at Dilli Haat.

During the meeting with Development Commissioner Handlooms, the officers discussed development of handloom clusters in Jammu and Kashmir alongwith capacity building and training for artisans. They also discussed marketing initiatives that can be taken up for promotion of handlooms from Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, the visiting delegation had interacted with various agencies and officers at the Centre for calibrating promotion of handlooms and handicrafts from Jammu and Kashmir, creating outreach to a wider set of audience and markets across India. The delegation also interacted with the senior officers of Export Promotion Council of India and Invest India. R K Verma, ED EPCH, while interacting with the visiting officers apprised them about the working of EPCH and assured support in marketing of products, training of artisans along with designing for JK products. He also briefed them about the role of EPCH in promoting the Products at International fairs markets.

The visiting officers also met Vice President, Invest India, Dushyant Thakor and discussed One District one Product initiative of Ministry of Commerce GOI with him. The Vice President assured them of providing support in doing capacity building workshops for augmenting the department with new skills and acquiring best talent.

Honda Launches New Grazia Sports Edition In Srinagar

Tajali Khwaja

SRINAGAR: Arise Honda Hyderpora Bypass Srinagar and branch Hawal opposite Islamia College launched the New Grazia Sports edition on Wednesday.

Unveiling was done by Chief Guests DySP Azhar, Tariq Ahmad, SHO Sadar Police Station and Inspector Owais Ahmad.

Managing Directors of Arise Honda Sajjad Ahmad Beigh, Omar Beigh and Sales Manager Sohail Bhat were present to grace the occasion. In the event the cus-



tomers were informed about the features of the vehicles such as Double Lid External Fuel Fill, Engine Start/Stop

Switch, LED DC Headlamp, Bigger Front Wheel with Telescopic Suspension, Silent Start with ACG, 10% More

Mileage, Front Disc Brake all New Sporty Graphics in Dual Tone Colour.

Sports edition is available in two colours with Ex Show-room price of Rs: 84,130/-. Grazia Sports is readily available at the dealership.

Further now anyone can book the vehicle from the comfort of home without stepping out. The customer needs to login at www.arisehonda.com and book any Honda vehicle and get the delivery at their doorstep, according to Sales Head Sohail. Buyers can book by calling us on 9596420922, he said.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

No Civilian Was

Home G Kishan Reddy told the Rajya Sabha when asked whether civilians, including a journalist, were privy to knowledge about the abrogation of Article 370 prior to the information being shared with Parliament on August 5, 2019.

Meanwhile, responding to a separate query by parliamentarians Vivek K. Tankha and Dr. Amee Yajnik regarding the resumption of high speed 4G internet services in Jammu and Kashmir, Reddy said: "Considering the overall security scenario and in the interest of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the Government of Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir issues orders from time to time regulating telecom/internet services in the Jammu and Kashmir in terms of the applicable rules and the principles laid down and directions contained in the relevant judgments of the Supreme Court of India."

He said the 4G internet services were restored in district of Ganderbal and Udhampur since 16.08.2020.

"Restrictions on mobile data service in all the remaining Districts of Jammu and Kashmir have been revoked by the Government of Jammu & Kashmir vide its order dated 05.02.2021," he added.

Man Shot Dead

seized, he said. A search operation is in progress, the official said.

A police official identified the intruder as Sarfraz Mir (56), a resident of Kundibarjala Kamalkote in Uri.

Mir had crossed the LoC in 1990 and then returned in 1992. He surrendered (before security forces) in 1995 and then went back to Pakistan in 2005, the official said.

Also, an identity card issued by authorities of Muzaffarabad area in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir has been recovered by the Army, the police official said.

CS Reviews

Department, IGP, Jammu, IG BSF, besides representatives from Narcotics Control Bureau, and Intelligence Bureau among others participated in the meeting.

According to the official spokesperson, the meeting was informed that as per earlier directions the vulnerability maps of sensitive areas based on various susceptibility parameters have been generated to guide the deployment of security-related machinery and personnel, and fill security gaps.

He said that the Chief Secretary asked the concerned to periodically review these vulnerabilities and accordingly update the plan of action to ensure fool-proof security.

"The Chief Secretary directed the Home Department to finalize the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Border Protection Grid and evolve proper response mechanism for cases of security breach; in consultation with BSF, Police, and IB," he added.

He further said that the SLSC also reviewed the prevailing situation on the international border, potential threats, various security mechanisms in place, land acquisition issues, and progress of institutional mechanism set up under the DGP.

US Favors Continued

The restriction on mobile internet services across the Union Territory, except Ganderbal and Udhampur districts, were till February 6.

The internet was completely shut in the erstwhile state on August 5, 2019 when the government announced abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution and also its bifurcation into two union territories -- Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Later, 2G services were restored on January 25 last year and 4G services on mobile devices in Ganderbal in Kashmir division and Udhampur in Jammu region was re-started in August last year.

This was done after the Centre had informed the Supreme Court that a special committee looking into the matter was considering allowing the facility on a trial basis in two of the 20 districts of the Union Territory.

The high-speed internet was restricted to only post-paid subscribers while pre-paid customers could enjoy the benefit of the services only after completing the verification process.

The apex court is also hearing a plea by an NGO seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against the Union Home Secretary and the Chief Secretary of JK for their alleged "wilful disobedience" in complying with the court's May 11 order which had directed for constituting a committee that would go into the possibilities of restoring high-speed internet in the union territory. (With PTI Inputs)

Govt Forms District

not been received or are under process.

The ten-member committee is headed by the respective Deputy Commissioner and its members include Additional Deputy Commissioner (Convener), Assistant Commissioner (Revenue), Divisional Forest Officer, Executive Engineer, Irrigation and Flood Control Department, Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Department, District Mineral Officer, District Officer Pollution Control Board, Assistant Director Fisheries and Wildlife Warden.

The committee has been tasked to issue necessary clearance on behalf of all concerned agencies within 30 days which may extend to 45 days in exceptional circumstances for reasons to be recorded in writing.

Its terms of reference also include placing the matter before the concerned Divisional Commissioner in case of any delay for resolution, reads an order.

"The Additional Deputy Commissioner

shall be the Nodal Officer for receiving Clearance/NOC applications at a single point," it said, adding, "The Committee shall be serviced by Directorate of Geology and Mining J&K, which shall clearly indicate the nature of clearance /information to be sought from each stakeholder department."

Dry Weather

Celsius, they said. Pahalgam tourist resort in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 4.0 degrees Celsius -- down from minus 2.2 degrees Celsius the previous night.

The minimum temperature at the Gulmarg skiing resort, in north Kashmir's Baramulla district, settled at minus 4.0 degrees Celsius -- down half-a-degree from the previous night, the officials said.

Kupwara town, in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 1.8 degrees Celsius, while Kokernag, in the south, minus 3.5 degrees Celsius.

The MeT office has said the weather is expected to remain mainly dry for the week ahead.

Traffic Allowed

load carriers -- carrying essential commodities and other items -- will be allowed to move towards Kashmir on the highway.

"Hundreds of vehicles left Jammu for Kashmir on Wednesday morning as fresh traffic was allowed to ply on the national highway after clearing the vehicles, which were stranded on the road for several hours on Tuesday due to landslides, till late last evening," a traffic police official said.

He said traffic on the highway was suspended on Tuesday afternoon due to fresh landslides at Marog in Ramban district. However, he said the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has already pressed into service sophisticated machines and cleared the landslides. "The vehicles, stranded at various places on the national highway, were cleared till late last evening," he added.

Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) will have to cross Nagrota (Jammu) between 0600 hrs and 1100 hrs on Wednesday. "The LMVs will have to cross Jakheni (Udhampur) between 0700 hrs and 1200 hrs," he said, adding that no vehicles will be allowed before and after cut off timing.

He said only stranded Heavy Motor Vehicles (HMs) in Udhampur will be allowed to move towards Kashmir.

Security forces have been advised not to ply against traffic plan in view of traffic congestion on the highway and narrowness of bailey bridge at Kela morh, where main concrete bridge was damaged after a retaining wall collapsed on January 10 evening. The bailey bridge was installed by Border Roads Organisation (BRO) after National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) said it will take time to repair the damage. "Working on the retaining wall was going on, but it was not immediately clear when the work will be completed," he added.

Frequent closure of the highway since its expansion has been a major cause of concern for the people living in Kashmir valley, where suspension of traffic results in increase in the rates of essential commodities by many folds.

The historic 86-km-long Mughal road, connecting Poonch and Rajouri in Jammu region with Shopian in south Kashmir and Anantnag-Samphan-Kishtwar road remained closed since last week of December last year due to accumulation of snow and slippery conditions. "The national highway, the only road linking Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh with Kashmir, has been closed since January 1 for winter months," he said. (Agencies)

HC Seeks Report

court said and listed the petition on March 30.

Last year, the high court had directed that the facts regarding paucity of funds needed to be to be seriously looked into at the highest level. "Let a copy of this order and the report filed by JKPCB be placed before the Chief Secretary of J&K who shall immediately look into the matter," the court had ordered.

The order had followed perusal of a status report filed by Mohammad Ramzan Malla, Deputy General Manager of the JKPCB, submitting that bridges which are under construction by the JKPCB are either funded by the World Bank or by the Government of J&K. However, in most of the bridges, he said, the paucity of funds is causing delay in the completion of the execution. He said that JKPCB was is executing agency only and the Budget component in respect of all the bridges under execution with the JKPCB Ltd., dominion is with project Authorities like PWD and those funded by the World Bank. However, he said that it was apt to mention that those bridges funded by the World Bank, execution is going smoothly and funds are released from time to time.

"In most of the bridges including Akhal and Tengchatri Bridge, the paucity of funds is causing delay in the completion of the execution and the JKPCB Ltd is unable to complete the bridges on time although for no fault of its own," he had said, adding, "Besides, JKPCB Ltd. Corporation is without any budgetary support of the Government and has to earn the administrative overheads and salary / wages out of the profit component of the projects under execution."

The court was hearing a Public Interest Litigation filed by Samaj Sudhar committee of Tangchatri Kangan in 2011 through advocate Arshad Andrabi, seeking construction of bridges over Sindh Nallah at Tangchatri Akhal Kangan.

The non-release of funds by the Finance Department to JKPCB for construction of these bridges has caused a delay in

completing these projects. (GNS) **RTI Movement**

the last 15 years. "The IAY scheme applicable until 2015 there used to be huge corruption and not even 50 % of houses were constructed on the ground especially in districts of Kishtwar, Doda, Budgam, and Kupwara. The corruption has not ended which makes poor and genuine people suffer. In the last 4 years, the money under PMAY Rural has not been disbursed by Govt and people are waiting eagerly," Muzaffar said.

Divulging further details, Muzaffar said that he has been using RTI to get the beneficiary lists of IAY in past and from 2010 onwards he has exposed several illegal beneficiaries in many blocks of Budgam districts.

"In one case a Sarpanch had provided this money to his 27 close relatives, some money was recovered as well after our intervention. After many years Govt has failed to ensure transparency under this scheme. We appeal Lt Governor to get the matter probed through CBI from 2005 till date as majority of the structures shown to have been constructed do not exist on the ground," he said.

Muzaffar further said that poor and homeless continue to suffer and many live either in tin sheds or are forced to live in rented rooms.

"Under PMAY Urban or Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) scheme as well the money has not reached to the real beneficiaries as officials of Urban local bodies have embezzled the money in many towns. We want CBI probe to be initiated soon" he added

Ladakh Stand-Off

the process of pulling back their armoured units like tanks and armoured personnel carriers.

The people mentioned above said specific steps like the withdrawal of armoured elements from the friction points were discussed threadbare at the ninth round of high-level military talks on January 24 that lasted for around 16 hours.

The office of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, meanwhile, tweeted that he will make a statement in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday on the situation in eastern Ladakh.

"Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh will make a statement in Rajya Sabha tomorrow regarding 'Present Situation in Eastern Ladakh'," it said.

Authoritative sources in the Indian defence and military establishment did not refute the Chinese defence ministry's statement on the developments in the northern and southern banks of Pangong lake, an area that witnessed major face-offs since the row erupted on May 5.

People familiar with the situation in eastern Ladakh said both sides are in the process of pulling back their armoured units in line with steps agreed upon for overall disengagement in the last round of military talks, adding a clear picture will emerge soon.

"The Chinese and Indian frontline troops at the southern and northern bank of the Pangong Tso Lake start synchronised and organised disengagement from February 10," spokesperson for the Chinese Ministry of National Defence Senior Colonel Wu Qian said in a brief statement in Beijing. The statement did not provide details.

"This move is in accordance with the consensus reached by both sides at the 9th round of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting," it said.

Separately, a Chinese foreign ministry spokesman said the frontline troops of the Chinese and Indian militaries began to conduct simultaneous and planned disengagement in the Pangong Lake area on Wednesday as per consensus reached at a meeting of the foreign ministers of the two countries in Moscow in September and the ninth round of Corps commander-level talks.

"We hope the Indian side will work with China to meet each other halfway, strictly implement the consensus reached between the two sides and ensure the smooth implementation of the disengagement process," Wang Wenbin said in a statement.

"This move is in accordance with the consensus reached by both sides at the 9th round of China-India Corps Commander Level Meeting," the official added.

A source in the Indian military and defence establishment said there has been some "forward movements" but at the same time added that India will only go by what is happening on the ground.

Both sides rushed a large number of battle tanks, armoured vehicles and heavy equipment to the treacherous and high-altitude areas of the region after tension escalated following a deadly clash in the Galwan Valley in June last.

Twenty Indian soldiers were killed in the fierce hand-to-hand combat on June 15 in Galwan Valley, an incident that marked the most serious military conflicts between the two sides in decades.

China is yet to disclose the number of its soldiers killed and injured in the clash though it officially admitted to have suffered casualties. According to an American intelligence report, the number of casualties on the Chinese side was 35.

At their ninth round of military talks, the Indian and Chinese armies agreed to push for an "early disengagement" of troops and resolved to continue "effective efforts" to stabilise and control the situation in eastern Ladakh.

"The two sides agreed to continue their effective efforts in ensuring the restraint of the frontline troops, stabilise and control the situation along the Line of Actual

Control in the Western Sector of the China-India border, and jointly maintain peace and tranquillity," said a joint statement after the talks.

India has all along been maintaining that the disengagement process has to start simultaneously at all friction points and no selective approach was acceptable to it.

India was specifically insisting on withdrawal of the troops of the Chinese People's Liberation Army(PLA) from Finger 4 to Finger 8 on the north bank of Pangong Lake. The mountain spurs in the area are referred to as Fingers.

On its part, the Chinese side was insisting on withdrawal of Indian troops from several strategic peaks on the southern bank of the lake.

Around five months back, Indian troops occupied a number of strategic heights in the Mukhpari, Rechin La and Magar hill areas around the southern bank of the Pangong lake after the Chinese military attempted to intimidate them in the area.

Close to 100,000 Indian and Chinese troops are deployed in eastern Ladakh amid continuing diplomatic and military talks to find an amicable solution to the standoff.

Last month, Army chief Gen MM Naravane said that Indian troops will hold their ground as long as it takes to achieve the "national goals and objectives".

In December last, India and China held another round of diplomatic talks on the border row under the framework of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on India-China border affairs.

Following the sixth round of military talks, the two sides had announced a slew of decisions including not to send more troops to the frontline, refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground and avoid taking any actions that may further complicate matters.

This round was held with a specific agenda of exploring ways to implement a five-point agreement reached between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi at a meeting in Moscow on September 10 on the sidelines of a Shanghai Cooperation Organisation(SCO) conclave.

The pact included measures like quick disengagement of troops, avoiding action that could escalate tensions, adherence to all agreements and protocols on border management and steps to restore peace along the LAC.

Ex-Govt Officer

by misusing his official position, he said. "The omission and commission on the part of Dass prima facie constitute an offence punishable under relevant sections of law. Accordingly, a formal criminal case was registered for in-depth investigation," the spokesperson added.

J&K Logs 45

disease was reported from the Kashmir valley in the last 24 hours, taking the death toll in the Union Territory due to the pandemic to 1,945.

Inside Kashmir's

forced him to travel back to his homeland from Punjab. After being confined to his house--in fear of contracting the virus--for about 12 months, he had decided to book a cheap ticket to Jammu, where his cousin was already waiting for him.

As hours passed without any luck, Mehran became hopeless.

As the young graduate was about to call his cousin to inform him about his failed bid, an unknown number rang his phone.

The person on the call introduced himself as a "sales agent" from the On-Travel look--an online platform to book cheap tickets. He had informed Mehran about the availability of a low-cost ticket from Srinagar to Jammu and had asked him to pay an online amount of Rs 3100 to book the last available ticket, which Mehran paid later in the evening.

"Since then, I've neither received my ticket nor a confirmation mail or a call from them," he says. "I tried to call them numerous times, but all in vain."

Before ordering raids on the relay-stations, Tahir Ashraf got a call from one of his "special sources" in a late afternoon of January 2021.

Appointed to locate the place of operation, from where victims were duped, the source was calling to inform his superior about the success.

He had tracked down the relay-stations--located in Rangreth, Natipora and Karfalli Mohalla in HabbaKadal--from where the scam callers were operating.

Tahir let himself believe, the mystery of these mobile numbers--an investigation that was quietly being worked upon--might finally come to an end. The investigation had consumed cyber cops for about a fortnight.

In the first week of January, cyber cops had solved the case of an ailing Bandipora patient who was duped for about Rs11 lakh by a cold call scammer, the so called Stock-Market Trader, who used to dupe victims in the name of hefty returns and crediting direct money into their account.

"With that case, Cyber Police Kashmir has saved around Rs 1 crore of gullible people which they have lost in various financial frauds," Tahir said.

After getting the initial lead about the "scam centers" from his "special source", Tahir assigned his secret police to dig more into the matter before committing an official investigation team.

On the same day of January, a young man working in a call centre stood oblivious about Tahir's research and his zip-past action through a cluster of technical data, mobile numbers and the hunch of information.

The on-call man had asked his customer to give him online access to their desktop, so that he was able to solve the malware that had infected the customer's computer. The scammer basically intended to invoke a malware into the customer's computer, so that he would solve the dysfunctions caused in the system, created from the malware and charge an amount that the customer was coerced to pay.

But, the young customer's active consciousness saved him from being another name in the victims list.

Once the pattern was established, the counterinsurgents were sent to hunt the erring techies.

"The only aim of these scammers is to fraudulently make money and dupe people without caring for the consequences of these illegal activities," Tahir said.

"The doors to these scammers become open once the victim faces a minor lapse in managing the digital platform," the officer added. "And that later on, becomes a pathway for these scammers to loot the victims of their hard earned money or damage one's reputation."

10 Teachers

Portal fresh as well renewal 2020-21 till date after many reminders through Zonal Education Officers, ZRP's, CRP's and what-sApp groups to verify them, reads an order.

They have failed to their legitimate duties are hereby suspended with immediate effect till further orders and Zonal Education Officers are directed to depute them to the office of undersigned on 11/02/2021 for clarification and verification of the pending students on National Scholarship, the order further added.

The teachers who were suspended include Mushtaq Hussain Beigh, Reyaz Ahmad Hurra, Manzoori Ahmad, Bilal Ahmad, Ghulam Rasool Chopan, Mehraj-ud-din Nissa, Rayaz Ahmad Wagay, Manzoor Ahmad Mir, ASHA Paveen and Faroz Ahmad Khan--(KNO)

CASO Carried

all entry and exit points. However, no contact was established with the militants so far, the report added.

Sopore Says

a traffic jam and pedestrians remain under the threat of getting hit.

Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) Sopore, Pervaiz Sajad Ganai said that the order for the ban on plying of Tonga's has been issued to decongest the town and an alternate route map was given to Tonga owners.

He said that Tonga has been plying within municipal limits and that it was leading to frequent traffic snarls. "These Tongas were not only the reasons for traffic jams but the horse buns lead to dirt and people's movement never remained risk-free," he said.

The ADC said that apart from the Tonga ban, "we have also shifted vendors to other places to ensure there is no traffic jam."

"We have given Tonga's alternate routes but not the same where it often leads to traffic jams forcing people to suffer," he said.

Sopore, a major trading hub in North Kashmir was famous for its Tongas. While horse carts have ceased to exist elsewhere in the valley they remained a major mode of transport in the apple town.

Panthers Party

party headquarters, the spokesman said. Prominent among others who joined the party included Madan Lal Sharma, Rajinder Khajuria, S Sujan Singh, S Gagandeep Singh, Gourav Bhagat, S Arjun Singh, S Sukhmeet Singh, S Gurcharan Singh, Sandeep Charak, Subham Charak, S Manmeet Singh and S Jasbir Singh, he said. (PTI)

J&K Cong

"unprecedented and unjustified" hike, the participants chanted slogans against the BJP government and demanded immediate rollback of the prices.

Bhalla lashed out at the Centre over the rise in petrol and diesel prices and claimed that the excise duty on diesel has been hiked by 820 per cent and petrol by 258 per cent in the last six years.

"Where has the government spent Rs 20 lakh crore that it collected by multiple hikes in excise duty on both petrol and diesel," he asked.

The Congress leader also targeted the government for steep hike in the prices of LPG cylinders and accused it of "looting" poor people by raising the fuel prices.

"The incessant hike in fuel prices is an additional burden on the common people who are at the limit of their woes owing to the Covid-19 induced lockdown for months," Bhalla said.

He said the poor and the middle class have been severely hit by the recent hikes.

J&K Pradesh Congress Committee Chief spokesman Ravinder Sharma said the BJP's claim of providing 'pro-people' governance stands exposed as the Central government has allegedly failed miserably to address the issues affecting the general public.

"The common man is going through the worst sufferings under the current dispensation which has sold its soul to a few businessmen, ignoring the agonies of the countrymen," he alleged.

He said the country is presently going through a "state of crisis".

"The graph of the inflation is on a constant rise, the fuel prices have touched the sky, and tens of lakhs of the farmers across the country are protesting for the last two and a half months for repeal of three farm laws aiming at snatching their right over their own lands.

"The victims of these three issues are the common men, the countrymen who are the true sons of the soil," Sharma said. (PTI)

IND VS ENG 2ND TEST

Shahbaz Nadeem Certain To Be Dropped With Axar Patel Likely Replacement



Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Indian playing XI during the upcoming second Test in Chennai will at least have one change with Jharkhand left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem set to be dropped after a disappointing performance in the series opener against England.

While Nadeem's replacement will be decided by Friday, one can expect allrounder Axar Patel, who is now match-fit, to replace him. India were outplayed in the first Test that ended on Tuesday.

"Axar had a minor knee niggle and has already started batting at the nets. He is expected to start bowling during the next couple of days.

"He was always first choice to play the opening Test but it will depend on skipper Virat Kohli, head coach Ravi Shastri and bowling coach Bharath Arun," a senior BCCI source told PTI on Wednesday.

Indian captain Virat Kohli didn't hide his disappointment when it came to Nadeem's performance during the post-match presentation where he said that Nadeem and Sundar couldn't keep up the pressure that was created by Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma and Ravichandran Ashwin.

Nadeem had four wickets in all but gave away 233 runs in 59 overs across two innings with an economy rate of close to 4 runs per over. And if that wasn't enough, as a slow bowler, a total of nine no balls at the Test match level is considered to be criminal.

Nadeem himself admitted that he has had some issues with the timing of his jump at the crease and he needs to sort that out in the nets.

Washington bowled 26 overs for 98 runs in the first innings and got a solitary over in the second innings.

However, Washington, who was impressed with

the bat in the first innings, is likely to retain his place in the playing XI.

Ashwin hurt by Archer short ball but is okay

A piece of welcome news for India fans will be Ravichandran Ashwin is doing fine and although he sustained a painful blow from a Jofra Archer short ball during the Indian second innings and needed immediate attention from the physio Nitin Patel.

India's best bowling performer in Chennai wasn't required to go for any precautionary scans which will certainly be a relief for Kohli as he expects a friendlier pitch during the next Test starting from Saturday.

New Chepauk Strip May Offer Some Turn From Day 1:

After one of the flattest decks on offer during the first Test in Chennai, the task will be cut out for Tamil Nadu Cricket Association's rookie curator V Ramesh Kumar and BCCI head of pitches and grounds committee head Taposh Chatterjee, to provide a track that doesn't make toss so crucial.

While currently there was grass cover on one of the adjacent strips, which could be used for the second match, it is a given that there will be a fair share of turn.

It will be interesting to see unlike the first Test when there was a liberal sprinkling of water and a fair share of rolling, whether Ramesh and Chatterjee stop watering the track during the next three days.

If a dry pitch is baked adequately in the sunshine, there could always be a case of pitch breaking early.

There is always this school of thought in Indian cricket circles as to why questions are raised about tracks that offer turn from the first day whereas in places like Christchurch in New Zealand, the 22-yard strip couldn't be identified from the outfield.

Ditto for Basin Reserve in Wellington where the ball was jaggling around from the first hour.

DC Baramulla, Director Tourism Review Khelo-India Winter Games' Arrangements At Gulmarg

Agencies

GULMARG: Deputy Commissioner, Baramulla Mr. Mohammad Aijaz Asad and Director Tourism Kashmir Dr G N Itoo, today chaired a meeting of concerned officers here to take stock of various arrangements put in place for holding winter games under Khelo-India sports initiative.

The meeting was attended by SSP Baramulla, Abdul Qayoom, CEO GDA, Inamul Haq Siddiqui, Secretary J&K Sports Council, Nuzhat Gul, President, Winter Sports Association, President, Hoteliers Club among other concerned functionaries.

On the occasion, the DC took a comprehensive review of various aspects pertaining to the event wherein he directed various authorities for adopting a coordinated approach for making the event a grand success. He emphasized making all necessary arrangements including health necessities, accommodation, lodging and other facilities, well in advance and in a hassle free manner.

Director, Tourism, Kashmir



gave a detailed briefing about various arrangements made by the Tourism Department and said that there is a need to harness the potential endowed in the tourism sector during the sporting event. He said that tourism plays a key role in our

economy adding that various avenues are being explored to maximize the desired output in this sector.

The meeting held a threadbare discussion on the facilities, accommodation and other logistic arrangements for the coming event.

BPL Cricket Championship To Begin Soon As 1020 Players Register For Auction

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The bidding of players for Burzahama Premier League (BPL) season-4 was held here on Wednesday in which about 1020 players participated through online and offline auction, including the players from adjoining states of Rajasthan, Punjab and Haryana.

Syed Hanief Balikh, Add. Deputy Commissioner, Srinagar was the chief guest on the occasion.

Syed Hanief, while speaking on the occasion, lauded the efforts of the BPL Organizing Committee, especially Mr Muzaffer Dar, Chairman, BPL for conducting such sports events in Srinagar district and hoped for keeping it up in future with same passion.

Urging upon the budding players, who were present on the occasion, to play their part in forming a civilized society, he said that a good society can form a good nation. Lamenting on the alarming situation aroused due to drugs being used by youth, the ADC said that the role of youth becomes more important in checking this menace.

He said sports teaches us the leadership quality and asked par-



ticipants to inculcate the manners of oneness and unity among themselves. Advising participants to learn the good manners and respect elders, especially the parents, he said this will go a long way in shaping a good society.

Syed Hanief said that Government has already taken several initiatives for promotion of sports activities in the district Srinagar by way of creating related infrastruc-

ture and assured every possible help to the organizers from the Govt for the promotion of sports activities in Srinagar district.

Muzaffer Dar, Chairman BPL informed that the championship is likely to commence from May this year and all arrangements have been made for making the event a success. DDJ, PR Kashmir, M. Aslam Khan, Peer Bilal and Dr G M Rather Social Activists were among others present on the occasion.

'Joe Root Can Break All Of England's Batting Records,' Says Nasser Hussain

Press Trust of India

LONDON: Former England captain Nasser Hussain feels incumbent Joe Root is "arguably" the country's best ever player of spin and can break all the Test batting records accumulated by the nation's batsmen.

Root struck 218 in England's first innings on a spin-friendly pitch to lead his side to a 227-run win over India in the first Test in Chennai on Tuesday.

"Root sure is one of England's greats. He will probably end up breaking all records, he will probably go past Sir Alastair Cook's 161 Test matches and probably tally of runs as well," Hussain wrote in his column for 'Sky Sports'.

"He is in great nick, only 30 years old, and if you did a list of all-time England batting greats -- the ones I have seen anyway -- you'd

Hussain felt that England have improved a lot on the road having won six away matches on the trot.

"If you asked Joe Root or Chris Silverwood right now whether they are the best side in the world they would say no. But they have been the best side they can be. Six away from home in a row, if you go back to South Africa last winter.

"They are starting to answer the right questions about how to improve away from home," said Hussain who played 96 Tests between 1990 and 2004.

James Anderson inspired England with his mid morning magic spell on the fifth day on Tuesday but Hussain said the veteran fast bowler can be rested and Stuart Broad brought in for the second Test. Hussain also applauded the rotation policy of the England and Wales Cricket Board.



have to have Root with Cook, Graham Gooch and Kevin Pietersen.

"I would say he is arguably England's best-ever player of spin, the way he sweeps spin away is outstanding to watch."

The 52-year-old Hussain said the massive win against India in their own den was a "perfect performance" and will go down as one of the great England Test wins.

"People were writing England off, saying this series could be 4-0 to India. No one really gave this side much of a chance. India had won in Australia, Virat Kohli was back and India is a very difficult place to go and win in Test match cricket.

"So, this win for England has to be right up there, especially away from home. They put in the perfect performance. From ball one to the final delivery, it was outstanding."

"Anderson is 38 so Stuart Broad could come in for him as it is going to be a very similar pitch to the first Test and England might want to keep Anderson fresh for the third Test.

"That is a day-night game in Ahmedabad (third Test) and Anderson under lights could be a real handful. Broad is a pretty good replacement, I have to say!"

The former captain also defended Root for his decision not to enforce the follow on after taking a massive first innings lead against India.

"... there is always a 45-minute gap between what pundits, spectators, people off the field think the captain should be doing and what actually happens.

"If you are not going to enforce the follow on, then you want to rest your bowlers. Root wanted to make sure they were fresh to go again."



VIRAT KOHLI Down To 5th As Chennai Double Centurion Joe Root Climbs To 3rd In ICC Test Rankings

run in the sub-continent saw him accumulate 684 runs in three Tests, two of which were in Sri Lanka.

Ahead of Kohli for the first time since November 2017, Root is now 36 points behind top-ranked Kane Williamson and trails Steve Smith by only eight points. With Marnus Labuschagne also in the mix, competition for the top five slots is intense with all of them above 850 rating points.

For India, Rishabh Pant's knock of 91 in the first innings has helped him become the first full-time wicketkeeper from his country to reach 700 rating points as he retained the 13th position among batsmen.

Opener Shubman Gill progressed seven places to 40th position while all-rounder Washington Sundar is 81st after moving up two slots. Left-arm spinner Shahbaz Nadeem too has gained two places to reach 85th position among bowlers.

Opener Dom Sibley is another England batsman to gain in the latest rankings update, his knocks of 87 and 16 helping him rise 11 places to 35th, while their players also made the way up in the bowling rankings presently led by Australia fast bowler Pat Cummins.

Formerly top-ranked James An-

derson is up to third from sixth and only four points behind compatriot Stuart Broad, a fellow-member of the 500-wicket club. Anderson is at his highest ranking since the start of the ICC World Test Championship while spinners Jack Leach and Dominic Bess are both at career-best rating points, moving up to 37th and 41st positions, respectively.

West Indies batsman Kyle Mayers, whose scores of 40 and 210 not out helped script an epic win in the first Test against Bangladesh in Chittagong, has entered the rankings in 70th position with 448 rating points.

It is the best by a West Indian batsman on debut and the second-best ever on debut after RE Foster, who was on 449 rating points back in 1903 after scoring 287 on debut for England against Australia in Sydney.

Others to gain for the West Indies include captain Kraigg Brathwaite (up eight places to 53rd) among batsmen and the spin pair of Jomel Warrican (up 14 places to 62nd) and Rahkeem Cornwall (up six places to 65th).

For Bangladesh, captain Mominul Haque's 10th Test century has lifted him eight places to 33rd. All-rounder Shakib Al Hasan has gained four slots to reach 30th position among batsmen while off-spinner Mehidy Hasan has progressed from 28th to 24th position.

Pakistan completing a 2-0 sweep over South Africa is followed with good news from the rankings perspective as well, especially with regard to fast bowling.

Player of the series Mohammad Rizwan has attained a career-best 16th place after scores of 26 and 115 helped him make a leap of 19 places in the list.

Quarantine Rules In Olympics-Host Japan Explained

Agencies

TOKYO: What's it like travelling to Japan, six months ahead of the Olympics?

Almost impossible, unless you're a Japanese national or a foreigner with resident status.

A state of emergency for a large part of the country means that even those special cases who are allowed in have to take multiple coronavirus tests and stay holed up in quarantine.

And what could the entry process be like for thousands of Olympic athletes scheduled to show up ahead of the July games?

Plans now call for the athletes to be tested 72 hours before they leave home; then again when they arrive, and then frequently when they are closed off in a "bubble" in the Athletes' Village alongside Tokyo Bay.

Here's a look at the strict entry protocols for the current handful of travellers coming into Japan, and what could happen with athletes during the Olympic Games.

Q: What happens on the plane?

A: Before getting off, passengers need to fill in a "Kenko Card" (Health Card) that declares what countries they've been in during the past 14 days and where they will be self-isolating for the next 14 days in Japan.

Q: Do I have to quarantine in Japan?

A: Yes.

Because of the emergence in Japan of new coronavirus variants, all people travelling from Level 3 countries and regions the U.K., South Africa, Ireland and parts of Brazil have to quarantine at a location designated by the government, usually a hotel near the airport, for at least the first three days.

Those who test negative for the virus on their third day can then leave, but they have to remain in self-isolation elsewhere for 11 more days to complete the quarantine.

Q: How do you get out of the airport and into the country?

A: You will take another COVID-19 test at the airport terminal in Japan. The results come in a few hours, and, once cleared, an airport quarantine officer will take you through the immigration process.

For those coming from Level 3 areas, there's a free shuttle bus to the place where you will



quarantine for the next three days. Everyone else can head to their self-isolation locations on their own, but cannot use public transport.

Q: Where will I have to stay and do I have to pay for it?

A: You learn the location of your quarantine while waiting for the test results. It is usually a hotel relatively close to the airport where you land. The cost, including meals and transport, is covered by the Japanese government.

Q: How's life in quarantine?

A: You get food delivered to your door three times a day. Some hotels have laundry service and delivery can be arranged as well. Alcohol consumption is prohibited.

Every morning you must report your temperature via a smartphone. You can only open your door to collect your lunch boxes and test kits.

On the third day of your stay, you take a coronavirus test that's similar to the airport test. If you test negative, you can head to your next designated location some go home, others to a private hotel to complete your self-isolation. Again, you can't use any forms of public transportation.

Q: What happens after your release?

A: A staff worker will check if you have installed a COVID-19 Contact-Confirming Application designated by the government on an online messenger application to report your health condition. You must allow your location to be accessible on your smartphone.

Those without a smartphone will have a daily call for the rest of the self-isolation period instead.

In case of a violation, your name and nationality will be announced publicly, and, if you're a foreign resident, you may lose your residence status and be deported.

Q: Will athletes need to go through this same process ahead of the Olympics?

A: The International Olympic Committee and local Tokyo organizers are publishing so-called Playbooks to spell out the rules for entry into Japan for 15,400 Olympic and Paralympic athletes from 205 nations and territories.

One caveat: Plans change quickly. The Playbooks will be updated in April and June. As of now, athletes will be asked to "take measures" 14 days before travelling. This means taking temperatures, wearing a mask and practising social distancing.

They will be tested 72 hours before leaving home and must test negative to fly. They will be tested again upon arrival in Japan and must test negative. They will then be whisked off to the Athletes' Village in a sterilized vehicle.

The village will serve as their home base "bubble." Frequent testing is expected there too perhaps every four days. Practice facilities and venues will also serve as bubbles. Athletes will be kept away from the media and fans and will conduct most interviews online.

All athletes are being asked to arrive only five days before their first competition and leave two days after. They are being told there will be no tourism and little social contact even in the Athletes' Village.

These will be an Olympics like no other.

Uttarakhand Glacier Burst: Not Much Progress In Rescue Operation, Says DGP



Press Trust of India

CHAMOLI (UTTARAKHAND): There is not much progress in the ongoing rescue operation following the glacier burst in Uttarakhand, said Uttarakhand Director General of Police (DGP), Ashok Kumar on Wednesday.

Out of 32 bodies that have been recovered -- 8 have been identified while 24 are still unknown. The rescue teams have also recovered two Uttarakhand Police personnel bodies. "Not much progress in the rescue operation. We have recovered 32 bodies, 8 identified, 24 unknown. The rescue team also recovered 2 Uttarakhand Police personnel bodies. Cannot confirm the exact number for missing and dead people but it is between 192 and 204," Kumar said.

Speaking about the challenges being faced by the rescue team, Aparna Kumar, DIG Sector HQ, ITBP, Chamoli said: "The challenge we are facing is that debris and slush are coming out from the tunnel. Machines to continue to work inside the tunnel. We need to progress carefully as water with high pressure might come from inside the tunnel." Meanwhile, Piyush Rautela, Disaster Mitigation and Management Centre, Uttarakhand has

said that the rescue teams continue to remove the debris to find those stuck inside the tunnel.

"We just know that tunnel is 2.5 km long and 30-35 workers inside got stuck. SDRF, police, ITBP, Army and Navy divers removing debris to find those stuck inside the tunnel," said Rautela.

"As we are unable to connect with 12-13 villages after the bridge was washed off. So, we are making necessary arrangements like ration, water, electricity for them. Soon, we will also set-up a temporary bridge," he added.

A team of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and other agencies continue to conduct rescue operation inside Tapovan tunnel, Uttarakhand on the third day today.

A meeting of all agencies including senior officials of ITBP, NDRF, Army and local administration has been called today to decide further course of action.

A glacial broke in the Tapovan-Renli area of Chamoli District of Uttarakhand on Sunday, which led to massive flooding in Dhauriganga and Alaknanda rivers and damaged houses and the nearby Rishiganga power project.

French Government Seeks To Set Age For Sexual Consent At 15

France's government wants to set the age of sexual consent at 15 and make it easier to punish long-ago child sexual abuse, amid growing public pressure and a wave of online testimonies about rape and other sexual violence by parents and authority figures.

Calling such treatment of children "intolerable," the justice ministry said in a statement that "the government is determined to act quickly to implement the changes that our society expects."

"An act of sexual penetration by an adult on a minor under 15 will be considered a rape," Justice Minister Eric Dupond-Moretti said Tuesday on France-2 television. Consent would no longer be able to be cited to diminish the charges, but exceptions would be made for teenagers having consensual sex, he said.

The change would still need to be enshrined in law, but the announcement is a major step after years of efforts to toughen French protection for children victims of rape and sexual violence.

A push to set France's first age of consent three years ago in the wake of the global #MeToo movement failed amid legal complications. But the effort has gained new momentum since accusations emerged last month of incestuous sexual abuse involving a prominent French political expert, Olivier Duhamel.

That unleashed an online

#MeTooIncest movement in France that led to hundreds of similar testimonies.

The Justice Ministry says it is in discussions with victims' groups about toughening punishment of incest and extending or abolishing the statute of limitations on child sexual abuse, which has prevented prosecution in several high-profile cases in France in recent years.

It also says it wants "to ensure that victims of the same perpetrator do not receive different legal treatment," which could broaden the scope to prosecute people accused of abuse of multiple people over decades.

In the Duhamel case, the Paris prosecutor opened an investigation into alleged "rapes and sexual abuses by a person exercising authority" over a child following public accusations made in a book by his stepdaughter that he abused her twin brother in the 1980s, when the siblings were 13-years-old.

Duhamel said he was "the target of personal attacks" and stepped down from his many professional positions, including as a respected TV commentator and head of the National Foundation of Political Sciences. The foundation manages the prestigious Sciences Po University in Paris, whose director Frederic Mion resigned this week amid the fallout from the accusations. — AP

Slower Covid Spread In Asia? A Protein May Be Key, Say Indian Scientists

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: Deficiency of a lung-protecting protein in the Caucasian population may have made Europe and North America more susceptible to the spread of a coronavirus variant as compared to Asia, suggests a study by Indian scientists which also reveals how mutant forms of the virus may find new ways to infect people.

The study, published in the journal Infection, Genetics and Evolution, assessed the global spread of the coronavirus variant with the D614G mutation, which is the predominant lineage infecting North America and European populations.

This variant spread so rapidly that in just 10 weeks between February and March 2020 over 64.11 per cent of globally infected individuals were identified to carry the mutant virus starting from only 1.95 per cent in January.

However, the researchers, including those from the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (NIBMG) in Kalyani, West Bengal, said this subtype took a significantly longer time to reach a 50 per cent relative frequency in East Asia -- 5.5 months -- compared to the 2.15 months it took in Europe, and the 2.83 months it took in North-America.

According to the scientists, a deficiency of the protein Alpha-anti-trypsin (AAT) across the populations of Europe and North-America is one of the main factors that explain the rapid spread of this variant in the two continents compared to its transmission in Asia.

"For the coronavirus to enter cells, its spike protein binds with the ACE2 receptor in human cells, and the human enzyme TMPRSS2 cleaves at the junction of two subunits S1 and S2 of the protein, enabling the virus to fuse with the cell," said study corresponding author Nidhan K Biswas from NIBMG.

"But due to the D614G mutation in the spike protein, the virus gained an additional cleavage site which enables it to fuse better

with cells," Biswas told PTL.

In lineages of the coronavirus carrying the D614G mutation, the 614th molecule of the virus spike protein -- aspartic acid -- denoted by D is replaced by the molecule glycine, noted as G.

"Instead of one cleavage site, the mutated virus has two such sites, and it can take dual advantage of this and enter cells more easily," Biswas explained.

Based on the current study, he said this site in the virus is cleaved by the host protein neutrophil elastase which is normally involved in clearing up bacterial infections in the lungs.

The levels of the elastase molecules in the body are naturally kept in check by AAT whose main function is to protect the lungs from

inflammation and tissue damage, the study noted.

"The issue is that if we have high neutrophil elastase then it also creates more damage to the lung cells. So there is a balance mechanism via the AAT enzyme that already exists by nature in everyone's lungs," Biswas explained.

According to the study, AAT deficiency is highly prevalent in European and North-American populations, but much less in East Asia. Specifically, Biswas said AAT deficiency in the general population is very high in Italy and Spain.

He explained that the lack of this protein makes it much easier for the neutrophil elastase molecule to act on the virus spike sub-

units, resulting in a significantly faster spread of this mutant.

"The issue is that individuals with AAT deficiencies have high neutrophil levels and if they are infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus with the D614G mutation, their cells can quickly take the virus up and into the whole system," the NIGMB scientist explained.

The researchers believe this finding, along with other social factors may explain the differential geographical/ethnic spread of 614G.

While the findings offer clues about the transmission of the virus variant, Biswas cautioned against any interpretations of the study on disease severity and mortality caused by the strain. He said the research also provides some clues on the spread of oth-



"If Voted To Power, Congress Will Scrap Farm Laws": Priyanka Gandhi Vadra In UP Rally



LUCKNOW: Attacking the Centre over the new farm laws, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday told a rally in western Uttar Pradesh that if voted to power her party would scrap them.

At a "kisan panchayat" organised by the party in Saharanpur, the Congress general secretary accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other BJP leaders of "insulting" farmers who are protesting against the laws.

"The three laws are demonic. If voted to power, the Congress will scrap these laws," she said.

She said the party's fight will continue till the laws are scrapped.

The rally is the first in a series of such farmers' meetings planned by the Congress in western Uttar Pradesh, a year before the assembly elections in the state where the opposition party is struggling to revive itself. The Congress leader was presented with a pair of ploughs at the meeting.

"These three laws were drafted in such a way that government 'mandis' will eventually close down, the farmers will not get the MSP (minimum support price) and there will be hoarding," she said.

"In other words, the farmers' voice will become weak and the voice of billionaires will grow stronger," she said.

Earlier, she tweeted in Hindi, "To listen to the farmers' 'dil ki baat', understand them, share my feelings with them and support their struggle, I will be in Saharanpur today. The BJP government will have to withdraw the black farm laws."

When asked to comment on the Congress event, UP minister

Anand Swarup Shukla said a "drama" is being enacted in the name of farmers.

He claimed that "gangs" opposing the government have gone international, and referred to tweets on the farmers' protest by foreign celebrities.

He asked Congress leaders to "oppose Prime Minister Narendra Modi, but not the country".

Law Minister Brijesh Pathak said the BJP government was committed to help farmers and termed Priyanka Gandhi's tour an "eye-wash". "Some leaders just want to be in the limelight," he added.

The Congress general secretary visited the Shakumbhari temple in Saharanpur and offered prayers for farmers, the UP Congress said in a tweet.

She also visited Raipur Khanqah Dargah, the party said.

UP Congress chief Ajay Kumar Lallu and senior party leader P L Punia attended the "panchayat".

Opposition parties including the Congress are supporting farmers camping on the borders of Delhi for weeks, demanding the repeal of the agri-marketing laws enacted last September.

Most of the protesters are from Punjab and Haryana, but there is sizeable number from western Uttar Pradesh with Bharatiya Kisan Union leader Rakesh Tikait assuming a lead role in the agitation.

Recently, Rashtriya Lok Dal leader Jayant Chaudhary also addressed farmers' mahapanchayats in western UP.

Farmer unions say the laws will weaken the MSP system. But the government says they offer more options to farmers to sell their crops, and will help raise their incomes.

“ THESE THREE LAWS WERE DRAFTED in such a way that government "mandis" will eventually close down, the farmers will not get the MSP (minimum support price) and there will be hoarding.”

5,922 Arrested In Terror Cases Between 2016 And 2019: Govt Tells Rajya Sabha

NEW DELHI: As many as 5,922 people were arrested in different parts of the country between 2016 and 2019 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the government informed Parliament on Wednesday.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy



said according to the latest data of the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the total number of people arrested under the UAPA in 2019 was 1,948. A total of 5,922 people were arrested under the anti-terror law between 2016 and 2019, while 132 people were acquitted during the said period, the minister added.

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Chairman.