



P3 NEWS

RS 500 CRORE TO BE SPENT ON REPLACING BARBED WIRES; WOODEN POLES IN JAMMU

The government today decided to replace all the wooden poles and barbed wire in Jammu...

P5 THINK

GOOD RIDDANCE TONGAS!

The recent significant decision taken by the Sopore administration regarding the banning of tongas from plying on the streets of Sopore town can be termed as a better-late-than-never decision. The decision...



P7 NEWS

DISENGAGEMENT PROCESS GOING ON IN PANGONG TSO AREAS AS PER PLAN: SOURCES

The Chinese and Indian armies continued with the disengagement process in the....



To hide feelings when you are near crying is the secret of dignity.
— Dejan Stojanovic

NEWS DIGEST

J&K Logs 58 More Covid-19 Cases

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported on Tuesday 58 new cases of coronavirus, including 20 travellers thus taking the total number of people infected by the virus in the Union Territory to 125463. While 47 fresh cases of Covid-19 were detected in Kashmir Valley, the remaining 11 were confirmed by officials from Jammu division. [More On P6](#)

Extortionist Held In Pulwama: Police

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested an alleged extortionist from south Kashmir's Pulwama district and recovered a toy pistol and live cartridges for self-loading rifles (SLRs). Rafeeq Ahmad Sheikh of Dalwachi village of Khag area of Budgam district was arrested by police when he was trying to extort money from another person along the highway near Barsoo village in [More On P6](#)

CRPF Constable Dies Of Heart Attack

SRINAGAR: A Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) man on Tuesday died after suffering a heart attack in Sopore town of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Constable Mukesh Kumar Yadav, suffered a massive heart attack on Tuesday while he was performing his duty at CRPF Battalion headquarters in Wadura area of Sopore, officials said. A resident of Udaipur in Rajasthan, Yadav was [More On P6](#)

Youth Found Dead In Qazigund

SRINAGAR: A youth from Ramban district of Jammu and Kashmir on Tuesday was found dead in Qazigund area of south Kashmir's Kulgam district. 30-year-old Hashimdin Chichey, son of Shishu Chichey, a resident of Ramban was found dead by some locals on Tuesday morning and they accordingly informed the police, an official said. He said that a police team reached the spot and recovered the body. [More On P6](#)

Death Toll In Uri Fire Reaches 3

URI: Two days after her son died, a woman succumbed to serious burn injuries she had suffered in the fire incident here on February 7 this year, taking the death toll to three, officials said on Tuesday. In all, five persons, including three members of a family, had suffered injuries in the fire incident at Sultandaki area of Uri. The injured persons included Sajid Ahmad, Abdul Rasheed Khan, Roshni Begum, [More On P6](#)

Militants Trigger IED Blast In Bijbehara

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Suspected militants triggered off a low intensity improvised explosive device (IED) in Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Tuesday, officials said. However, they said there was no loss of life or injury reported in the explosion which took place at Pahalpora area of the Bijbehara. A senior police officer said that the small sized IED was placed inside a tipper. "So far there are no details about any loss of life or injury in the incident," he said. The area, he said, has been cordoned off and further investigations have been taken up.

Foreign Envoys Visiting Srinagar Today To 'Assess Ground Situation'



Foreign Envoys take a boat ride on Dal Lake in Srinagar
KO File Photo: Abid Bhat

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Envoys from Europe and Africa will visit Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday to assess the development work and the security situation in the union territory, especially after recently concluded District Development Council elections, officials said

on Tuesday.

They said during their two-day visit, the envoys would receive first-hand information on the development work undertaken by the administration after abrogation of the special status of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir on August 5, 2019. Showcasing the efforts of the [More On P6](#)



MeT Forecast Rainfall In J&K From On Feb 22

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The weather department on Tuesday predicted scattered rainfall in Jammu and Kashmir on February 22, even as the minimum temperature dropped at most places in Kashmir while the day temperature settled several notches above the normal for this time of the season.

According to a meteorological department official, the weather is largely expected to remain dry in the plains of Jammu and Kashmir this week but there's a possibility of scattered rainfall on February 22.

Meanwhile, Srinagar recorded a low of minus 0.9 degrees Celsius last night, down from minus 0.3 degrees Celsius the night before, they said. The city recorded [More On P6](#)

'I Am Scared': Shivering Hands At Bandipora

Auqib Javed

CHEWA, BANDIPORA: Amid long faces and a reigning silence, a 9-year-old girl in red scarf and green outfit sat wondering about a sudden shift in her life.

Her tiny, shivering hands apparently revealed her freakish state of mind.

"Be ches khotchan (I am scared)," she told her uncle and hugged him tight.

On Tuesday, former chief minister of J&K, Mehbooba



Representation Picture

Mufti took to micro blogging site twitter and wrote, "Locals in Bandipora have alleged that 3

army men tried to abduct & molest a 9 year old girl. Her family is now being [More On P6](#)

J&K's Conversion To Union Territory

MPs Panel Seeks Details Of Investment Proposals From Centre

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A parliamentary panel has asked the Centre to submit the details of investment proposals received for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir since its creation.

In its report tabled in the Parliament earlier this month, the department-related parliamentary standing committee on Ministry of Home Affairs has asked the Centre to apprise it about details of the projects undertaken/ proposed for creating necessary

social and physical infrastructure for attracting new industries and entrepreneurs in Jammu and Kashmir.

"The committee also desires to know about the details of investment proposals received for the UT of J&K since its creation," reads the report.

J&K was downgraded into a UT from October 31, 2019 after Parliament enacted Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019.

The Committee has reiterated its recommendation of setting up a planning board and investment [More On P6](#)



Omar Slams BJP's 'Double Standards'

MP Akbar Lone' Son Slapped With UAPA, Arrested

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: National Conference leader Hilal Lone has been arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for allegedly delivering a "hate speech" at a rally during last year's district

development council elections in Bandipora, a senior police official said on Tuesday.

Lone, the son of NC's Member of Parliament Mohammad Akbar Lone, was arrested on Monday from the MLA hostel here where he

was being held captive since December last year, the official said.

He was booked under various sections of the UAPA in an FIR registered at a police station in Hajin in north Kashmir's Bandipora district. [More On P6](#)

The BJP has a completely different standard when it comes to hate speech from its leaders, National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah alleged on Tuesday. Abdullah's remark came after his party colleague Hilal Lone was arrested under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) for allegedly delivering a "hate speech" at a rally during last year's district development council elections in Jammu and Kashmir's Bandipora. "The BJP has a completely [More On P6](#)

Pvt Schools Alliance To Operate Buses

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: An Alliance of private schools on Tuesday rubbished media reports that the transportation facility will not be provided to the students on the reopening of educational institutions in March next month.

In a brief meeting with Deputy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr Shahid Iqbal Chowdhary who is currently holding charge of Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, the members of Private School Association strongly condemned the statement issued [More On P6](#)

HC Hopes Govt Adheres To Laws For Disabled Persons

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir high court has closed a Public Interest Litigation, hoping that the governments in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh as also centre shall ensure adherence to the laws made in favour of disabled persons and for ensuring implementation of the scheme," said a bench of Justices Ali Mohammad

Magrey and Vinod Chatterji Koul. "We leave it open to the petitioner to approach this Court as and when non-adherence is noticed by the petitioner, but that should be by submitting details of non-adherence," the court said, adding, "In view of above, the instant PIL is closed." The court's direction followed after B. A. Dar, Sr. AAG, submitted that [More On P6](#)



An artist displays her work on the inaugural day of fine arts exhibition at Srinagar's TRC on Tuesday.
KO Photo, Abid Bhat

Study Sheds Light On Solutions For Overeating

Agencies

Science is a step closer to a new response to obesity, thanks in part to a study conducted by a team at The University of Texas at El Paso. The 10-member team led by Brandon Warren, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacodynamics at the University of Florida, made discoveries about a specific area of the brain tied to recollection and the desire to seek and consume food. It could lead to a way to inhibit the desire to overeat. Iniguez, who directs UTEP's Iniguez Behavioral Neuroscience Lab and helped design novel experimental techniques for the research, said that people tend to overeat when exposed to cues or environments that remind them of treats, which is one reason why people opt for dessert even after a filling meal. The study showed that neurons in a specific part of the brain control the link between the cue (seeing



the dessert) and the action (ordering the dessert). Iniguez and team found that animal subjects consumed fewer treats when they regulated that region of the animal's brain. The techniques and the data eventually could help overcome some issues linked to obesity such as stroke, Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, high levels of bad chole-

sterol, and coronary heart disease. "This is a big discovery because we now have experimental tools that allow us to turn off neurons while the subjects engage in a specific behavior," Iniguez said. "This research shows that a specific part of the prefrontal cortex of the brain is important for the initial stages of learning to seek food."

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ELECTRIC DIVISION (KPDCL) GANDERBAL

Phone/Fax no: 0194-2416236 E-mail: edgbl123@gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER ID
e-NIT no: 30 of 2020-21 dated 12/02/2021

For and on Behalf of Managing Director KPDC Kashmir, Tenders are hereby invited from resourceful/reputed Class A Electrical Contractors Registered with competent Authority / PDD/PDC for following work for the following job:-

Name of the work	Est. cost (in Lacs)	CDR Amount (In Lakhs)	Cost of tender document (DD)	Time of completion	Position of funds
Creation of 100KVA Sub Station along with HT/LT Network at Taqwa eclave Al-Farooq Colony 90 ft Road Ahmed Nagar under Capex Budget 2020-21.	2.77	0.06	Rs 1000/-	10 Days	Authorized

The tender document consisting of terms & conditions, Bill of Quantities and other details can be seen/downloaded from official web site of JKPD or <http://jktenders.gov.in> as per following schedule:

S#	Description	Date	Time
1.	Publish/uploading of e NIT Date	13-02-21	18.00 hrs
2.	Documents Download/Sale start date	15-02-21	10.00 hrs
3.	Clarification Date Start	15-02-21	10.00 hrs
4.	Clarifications Date End	16-02-21	16.00 hrs
5.	Bid submission Start date	16-02-21	17.00 hrs
6.	Bid submission end date	04-03-21	15.00 hrs
7.	Opening date for E-tender	08-03-21	15.00 hrs
8.	Venue of opening e bids	Office of the Executive Engineer ED Ganderbal	

DIPK-NB-5659/20
No: EDG/9025-31 /TS
Date: 12-02-2021

Executive Engineer ED Ganderbal

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION QAZIGUND. NOTICE INVITING TENDER

NIT NO 110 OF R&B/Qazigund/2020-21 /E-TENDERING.7960-75 DATED:13-02-2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Union Territory, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (In Rupees)	Time of completion	M.H of Account	Class of Contractor
1.	Repairing of Bathroom at R&B (Divisional) office at Qazigund.	2.00/=	200/=	12 Days	MH4059-NFB	DEE Class State Sector Only
2.	Restoration of road surface by way of WBM Gr-2nd, RBM and Providing/Laying of RCC pipes on Mehmodabad Qazigund road.	6.60/=	300/=	15 Days	MH:5475 (Potholes)	CEE & DEE Class Only
3.	Restoration of road surface by way of Providing and Laying of WBM Gr-2nd in patches on Polia Sadiwara Link road.	9.46/=	600/=	15 Days	MH:5475 (Potholes)	CEE & DEE Class Only
4.	Restoration of road surface by way of WBM Gr-2nd, RBM and Providing/ Laying of RCC pipes on Check to Bonangan road. (inclcd. Cost of RCC pipes)	15.63/=	800/=	20 Days	MH:5475 (Potholes)	BEE & CEE Class only.
5.	Restoration of road surface by way of WBM Gr-2nd and RBM on Verinag Feeder road.	24.00/=	800/=	20 Days	MH:5475 (Potholes)	BEE & CEE Class only
6.	Construction of Shopping Complex at Devsar Kulgam.	137.28/=	2600/=	90 Days	Self Finance	AAY Class Scheme(SFS) only

Position of AAA: Accorded; Position of funds: Available

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	13-02-2021
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 18-02-2021 To 05-03-2021 (11:00 AM To 04:00 PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 18-02-2021 To 05-03-2021 (11:00 AM To 04:00 PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 05-03-2021 (04:00 PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	06-03-2021 (11:00 PM)

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Qazigund (tender inviting authority) (name of work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan/Receipt (Refer order No.DM.A/24 (2017)-651 Dated: 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Qazigund Crediting to MH-0059-PW (Revenue). (Tender receiving authority).
- All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the circular of Finance Department No.A/Misc(2018)-III-895// Dated:22-12-2020 vide Chief Engineer PWD(R&B) Department Kashmir's endorsement No.CE/RBK/WS/23581-613 Dated: 30-12-2020 (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below)
- The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 Days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
- The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Qazigund (tender receiving authority).
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids
- Instructions to Bidders regarding e-tendering process.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved Vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the technical bid.

Er.Reyaz Ahmad Parray
Executive Engineer
PWD(R&B) Division Qazigund

No. 7960-75 DATED: 13-02-2021

DIPK-13080/20

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Dr.Ghulam Mohammad Malik S/o: Sh Mohammad Kazim Malik R/o: Kanchatipora Beerwah Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04F-6008 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Beerwah.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2561
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Irfan Ul Hassan S/o: Ghulam Hassan Magray R/o: Batapora Kanihama Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-3291 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Magam.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2573
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Mohamamd Ashraf Dar S/o: Mohammad Abdullah Dar R/o: Rathsun Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-5927 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S HDFC Bank B/U Magm.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2563
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Zahoor Ahmad Bhat S/o: Ghulam Hassan Bhat R/o: Hanjura Chadoora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04D-4604 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Kanir.



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2562
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Manzoor Ahmad Rather S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Rather R/o: Ompora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04B-4203 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Ellaqui Dehati Bank B/U Ompora Budgam..



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2566
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Mehmooda D / o : Sonaulah Mir R/o: Ompora Budgam (Transferor) of Alto K-10. Vehicle bearing registration number



JK04E - 6264. Chasis number 461113 Engine no. 125659 Model 2018. in favour of Shri.. Farhan Majeed S/o. Abdul Majeed Dar R/o Peth Makhama Magam Budgam (Tranferer) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank Ltd B/U Ompora is also required
Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer.
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2577-78
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying to rthe issuance of pesticides license for my business unit under name and style "S.K. Pesticides Haripora 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.
Shahid Shafi S/o Mohd Shafi Wani
R/O Husangpora Nagbal Shopian

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Bashir Ahmad Dar S/o: Mohammad Ibrahim Dar R/o: Waterwani Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C-5414 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Nasrullahpora Budgam..



Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper .
No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.2574
Dated 16/02/2021
mcb Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Have lost my wallet containing Aadhar Card, Election, Driving License while travelling from Dangerpora to Shadipora . If anybody has found may contact on 9906461004 . Otherwise I have 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 concerned offices within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Ghulam Mohd Kawa
S/o Lal Mohd Kawa
R/o Sarai Dangerpora Sumbal

x

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for the issuance of Fertilizer license for my business unit under name and style " Malik Fertilizers Dangam Shopian " . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agriculture Officer Shopian within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
Roomi Amin
S/o Mohd Amin Malik
R/o Dangam Shopian

ast

Office Of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Arshid Maqbool SO/o Haji Mohd Maqbool R/o Gulbhal Colony Hyderpora Srinagar (Transferor) of LMV Car bearing registration number JK01Q-9332 . Chasis number 07028800 Engine no. 0151967 Model 2011 in favour of Shri. Syfyam Azam S/o Mohd Azam R/O 502 Indra Nagar Srinagar (Transferee).
Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the proposed transfer of ownership shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office RTO Srinagar within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

NO: RTOK/ 6589
Dated:16-02-2021
fko

Sd/ Assistant Regional
Transport officer Kashmir

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
عنوان: مخمون درخواست
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری د ارشد احمد گور کٹاری پران جس الدین سائیکل چندوس
برابر مطابق ST 294
بشمار برادر آگاہی بر خاص د عام
معاوضہ مخمون العدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر پڑا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت بخاری حلقہ سے رپارٹ
بجملہ مخمون تقوالات ریکارڈ طلب کے گئے جس سے مہاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل سائیکل معین چندوس کا سائیکل دار
ہے۔ کہیں بڑیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری
مزدوری 72 سال
گھنٹہ کام 60
مصرہ بیکم
انکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہیں تلاوا گیا ہے
برٹھٹیک زیر بحث ادا کرتے میں اگر کسی شخص یا
افس کو کوئی عذر یا امتیاز ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا امتیاز ساتھ ہیام کے اندر چیل کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی
عذر یا امتیاز قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔
نائب تحصیلدار چندوس

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
عنوان: مخمون درخواست
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری د ارشد احمد گور کٹاری پران جس الدین سائیکل چندوس
برابر مطابق ST 294
بشمار برادر آگاہی بر خاص د عام
معاوضہ مخمون العدر میں درخواست سائل دفتر پڑا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس نسبت بخاری حلقہ سے رپارٹ
بجملہ مخمون تقوالات طلب کے گئے جس سے مہاں ہوتا ہے کہ سائل سائیکل معین چندوس کا سائیکل دار
ہے۔ کہیں بڑیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری
مزدوری 54 سال
گھنٹہ کام 48
مصرہ بیکم
نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری
مزدوری 22 سال
گھنٹہ کام 20
مصرہ بیکم
نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار چندوس
مظہر احمد گور کٹاری
مزدوری 18 سال
گھنٹہ کام 16
مصرہ بیکم
انکے علاوہ کوئی بھی افراد کہیں تلاوا گیا ہے
برٹھٹیک زیر بحث ادا کرتے میں اگر کسی شخص یا
افس کو کوئی عذر یا امتیاز ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا امتیاز ساتھ ہیام کے اندر چیل کریں۔ میعاد گزرنے کے بعد کوئی
عذر یا امتیاز قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔
نائب تحصیلدار چندوس

اطلاع عام
مظہر مبشر حسین بٹ ولد عبدالرشید بٹ سائل کا نڈ حلقہ نمبر پلیٹ
1005/UEED آج سے 22 سال قبل مسی غلام محمد تیلی ولد
اسد اللہ تیلی کے پاس خریدا ہے جس کے پاس مظہر کا پورہ
دستاویز ہے چند روز قبل اخبار میں کسی نے اطلاع دی ہے
کہ یہ نمبر پلیٹ گم ہوا ہے۔ مظہر بذریعہ اخبار یہ اطلاع
دینا چاہتا ہے کہ یہ خبر غلط اور بے بنیاد ہے۔ جبکہ مظہر حکمہ
LWDA میں پوری کاروائی مظہر کے نام پر چل رہی ہے۔
مظہر کو نئے سروس میں بطور کانڈنات نام درج ہو سے
7889314020

pyd

KEA Submits Fact Finding Report

Deadlock Over Mutton Prices Likely To End

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The impasse between the administration and mutton dealers over the prices in Kashmir Valley is likely to end as the trade body Kashmir Economic Alliance's 'fact-finding' committee covering meat prices in outside markets has submitted its report to the authorities.

Led by Farooq Ahmed Dar, Convener of the Committee and Co-Chairman of Kashmir Economic Alliance, the members of the Committee on Monday submitted the report to the Director, Department of Civil Supply, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution and Divisional Administration.

Bi-lingual 18 page report, compiled in Urdu and English features the prices of meat in Delhi, Rajasthan, Ambala and Amritsar markets.

Sources said that the fact finding Committee in its report has



File Pic

said that meat retail dealers procure Grade (A) meat for Rs 518 per kg and it is up to the government to add some profit to this amount for these retailers.

Although the price includes the profits of the wholesalers and commission agents of Delhi, the profits of the butchers are not included in the report. The

report said that members have followed proper criteria before fixing the rate of the meat.

The report states that Rajasthan's Sekar Mandi has the best live cattle available, with a very good breed, while Amritsar has sheep and goats of lower quality.

According to the report, on an average meat from Rajasthan

Mandi to Kashmir reaches at Rs. 541 per kg, while the average price of meat from Delhi Mandi to the Valley reaches at Rs. 527. The price of meat from Ambala to the Valley is estimated at Rs. 516. The average price of meat from Amritsar to Kashmir has been fixed at Rs 490.

Taking into account the prices of meat in all the four markets, the Fact Finding Committee has presented a break-up of the price of meat at Rs 518.5 per kg. It has been mentioned that the same committee members in outside mandis participated in fake bids to find out the real facts, met market traders, discussed with mutton union officials of Delhi, Ambala, Rajasthan and Amritsar.

The fact-finding committee in its report also made recommendations and suggestions to the authorities, including regulating the meat industry, raising issues with the concerned States to pre-

vent illegal tax collection outside and mutton dealers have been urged to adopt procedures in the interest of consumers.

Administration, pertinently, has fixed the retail price of mutton in the Valley at 480 per kg and the wholesale price at 450, after which there was a tussle over these rates.

Authorities cracked down on butchers not adhering to the government prices lists. Following the intervention of the Kashmir Economic Alliance, the Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution Department, on the instructions of the divisional administration dispatched a team to ascertain prices outside Mandis besides a team from the Kashmir Economic Alliance, including Traders and Journalists that visited the four mandis from December 20 to 28. These mandis include Ghazipur Delhi, Sikar Rajasthan, Ambala and Amritsar.

Rs 500 Crore To Be Spent On Replacing Barbed Wires; Wooden Poles In Jammu

JAMMU: The government today decided to replace all the wooden poles and barbed wire in Jammu division. It has kept aside a sum of Rs 500 crore for the same. These revelations were made today in the meeting chaired by Principal Secretary, PDD, Rohit Kansal here to review summer preparedness of the department to ensure reliable power supply to Jammu division during summer months.

The Principal Secretary enunciated that safety and welfare of ground level workers is paramount. He said that each human life is valuable and needs to be safeguarded at every cost. He directed to enhance substantially the personal and systematic safety by the department so that happening of accidents are avoided to a larger extent.

The meeting was attended by Managing Directors of JKPTCL, JPDC, Director Finance, PDD; Secretary (Technical), PDD; Spl Secretary, PDD; Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers, Executive Engineers of all the allied corporations of Jammu division.

The Principal Secretary said that to extend the welfare and well being of its workers Power Development Department (PDD) would insure each of its field worker including DRWs, PDL and TDL persons for life and any possible injuries.

The Principal Secretary asked the officers of JPDC to ensure that all the transformers wanting repairs should be kept available before the onset of summer months. He exhorted upon them to replace damaged transformers within 24 hours in urban areas and up to 48 hours in rural areas.

He urged them to augment the capacity of their workshops to cater to the needs of daily and additional damages received by the department during the season. He asked them to make best use of time available with them so that the department is prepared to deliver on expected lines during summer.

Kansal further directed the officers to strengthen their grievance redressal mechanism so that people are able to reach higher officers on a real time basis. He advised them to increase their reach

on social media like twitter etc so that the necessary complaints reach them directly. He asked the officers to provide meritorious solutions to the public instead of passing the buck. He directed for taking proper note of grievances and directions from LG office so that they are solved and implemented well in time.

Kansal asked them to make necessary procurement of material and labour during these months so that department is readily braced to face the challenge. He asked them to create an ecosystem of efficiency so that every due action follows a systematic path by default.

The Principal Secretary asked the Transmission company to gear up their efforts to deliver the projects well on time. He asked the executing agencies to complete the Grid Stations at Kathua and Samba at the end of March, 2021. He further asked them to complete the transmission works being created for the Jammu-Udhampur-Baramulla railway line expeditiously as per the desire of the Prime Minister to see it getting completed soon.

2 Day Fine Arts Exhibition At TRC Thrown Open



KO Photo Abid Bhat

SRINAGAR:The Chief Executive Officer, Srinagar Smart City, Limited, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Chowdhary who is holding the additional charge of Divisional Commissioner, Kashmir Tuesday inaugurated two day long Fine Arts Exhibition here at TRC today.

The exhibition is being organized by Srinagar Smart City Limited in collaboration with Department of Tourism, Kashmir.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Shahid said that the initiative is aimed to revive the rich heritage of the region, besides providing a platform to young and budding artists of the Valley to showcase their talent. He lauded the efforts of the Department of Tourism for the support and said a platform like this was needed to bring young artists under one umbrella and boost their morale.

Dr. Shahid also appealed to the locals and tourists to visit the Exhibition to encourage budding talent by appreciating the uniqueness in each artist's work and aesthetics of the art. He said the artworks displayed here are quite innovative and beautiful where every artist has portrayed a unique way of expression.

On the occasion, Director, Tourism, Kashmir, Dr. G. N Ittoo said the Department of Tourism has taken various steps for budding artists in recent past and has been providing them the requisite platform to display their talent. He said in coming days also these young artists would be involved to display their art in coming festivals and events.

Director SKICC & MD, Golf Development Authority, Javid Bakshi, Sub Divisional Magistrate, Srinagar, Harvinder Singh, other officers of Department of Tourism and Srinagar Smart City Limited besides artists and visitors were present on the occasion.

Later, Dr. Shahid distributed mementos and cash prizes among the artists as a token of appreciation.

On the first day, the exhibition witnessed a huge turnout and artists thanked the authorities of Srinagar Smart City Limited and the Department of Tourism for boosting their confidence.

The exhibition is open for all on February, 16 and 17.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the registration of Tour and Travel agency under name and style "Rising Trackers". If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office to the Director Tourism Kashmir within a period of seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Ilyass Balti
S/o Gh Mohd Balti

R/o Kullarn Sonamarg District Ganderbal

از خدمات ایگزیکٹو جسٹس ریٹائرمنٹ کے لیے درخواست

درخواست منجانب: منظور احمد الائی ولد غلام احمد الائی ساکنہ جموں میٹھا مقام ضلع ناگ بغرض حصول وارث

مرقلیت نام باہر عباس دختر محمد عباس ناتر سے۔

اشتمار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول حلقی فیض پیش کیا ہے

سائل کے خنز کا تاریخ پیدائش 30/03/2016ء ہے جس میں مرقلیت پیدا ہوئی تھی لکے کا خواہ ہے لہذا اس

ملکیت مذکورہ کا چراہ کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندر اندر درود فرستی

اوقات میں پیش کرے بصورت دیگر کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

ایگزیکٹو جسٹس ریٹائرمنٹ کے لیے درخواست

درخواست منجانب: منظور احمد الائی ولد غلام احمد الائی ساکنہ جموں میٹھا مقام ضلع ناگ بغرض حصول وارث

مرقلیت نام باہر عباس دختر محمد عباس ناتر سے۔

اشتمار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول وارث کا نیز مرقلیت پیش کیا ہے

رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سے ساکن کا پتہ جسٹس ریٹائرمنٹ کے لیے درخواست بغرض حصول وارث کا تاریخ پیدائش 02/01/2021ء کو تھوٹ ہو چکا

ہے اور موتی کے وارثان بڑیل ہیں۔

نام صاحب کنبہ معہ ولدیت

منصور احمد الائی ولد غلام احمد الائی

شعبہ منتر زمیندار

شعبہ منتر زمیندار

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

از خدمات ایگزیکٹو جسٹس ریٹائرمنٹ کے لیے درخواست

درخواست منجانب: منظور احمد الائی ولد غلام احمد الائی ساکنہ جموں میٹھا مقام ضلع ناگ بغرض حصول وارث

مرقلیت نام باہر عباس دختر محمد عباس ناتر سے۔

اشتمار برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول وارث کا نیز مرقلیت پیش کیا ہے

رپورٹ پٹواری حلقہ سے ساکن کا پتہ جسٹس ریٹائرمنٹ کے لیے درخواست بغرض حصول وارث کا تاریخ پیدائش 02/01/2021ء کو تھوٹ ہو چکا

ہے اور موتی کے وارثان بڑیل ہیں۔

نام صاحب کنبہ معہ ولدیت

منصور احمد الائی ولد غلام احمد الائی

شعبہ منتر زمیندار

شعبہ منتر زمیندار

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

توصیف احمد پسر۔۔۔

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1370 - Battle at Rudau: Germany beats Lithuania
- 1461 - Wars of the Roses: Second Battle of St Albans - Lancastrian army defeats Yorkists and recaptures King Henry VI
- 1500 - Battle of Hemmingstedt - German peasant army repels ducal army of Schleswig and Holstein
- 1670 - France & Bavaria sign military assistance treaty
- 1814 - Battle of Mormant: French Imperial army defeat Russian
- Austrian forces (War of the Sixth Coalition).
- 1837 - Charles Lyell makes his presidential address to the Geographical
- Society, London and announces that Richard Owen has concluded from
- Darwin's fossils that extinct species were related to current species in
- the same locality.
- 1854 - Britain recognises independence of Orange Free State (South Africa).
- 1936 - The world's first superhero, The Phantom, a cartoon strip by Lee
- Falk, makes his first appearance in comics.
- 1959 - 1st weather satellite launched, Vanguard 2, 9.8 kg
- 1965 - US Ranger 8 launched, will transmit 7,137 lunar pictures
- 1966 - French satellite Diapason D-1A launch into Earth orbit
- 1967 - Kosmos 140 (Soyuz Test) launches into Earth orbit
- 1969 - Golda Meir sworn in as the first female Prime Minister of Israel
- 1974 - 49 die in stampede for seats at soccer match, Cairo, Egypt
- 2008 - Kosovo declares independence from Serbia.
- 2012 - Approximately 70 ancient Olympic artifacts are stolen from the
- Archaeological Museum of Greece
- 2013 - 37 people are killed and 130 are injured in a series of Baghdad
- car bombings.

From KO Archives

‘JEHAD’ TO END IF INDIA WITHDRAWS FROM KASHMIR: LASHKAR

Agencies

NEW DELHI - Hafiz Mohammad Saeed, the chief of Lashkar-e-Taiba, has said the "jihad" against India over the Kashmir issue would end only if Indian security forces were withdrawn, from the state.

Until then, Saeed said, his organization would continue to target Indian leaders including Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Home Minister Lai Krishna Advani, and carry out more strikes like the De-cember 24 attack on an Indian Army camp in the Red Fort here.

If Vajpayee seriously wants to solve the Kashmir dispute, then he should order the with-drawal of India's 800,000 security forces from Kashmir. Then we can stop our jihad, Saeed told "Aai Tak" an television news channel, in an interview Tuesday evening.

The interview, conducted somewhere in Pakistan, is probably the first by Saeed to an In-dian news organization. Saeed heads the Markaz Ad-Da'awa Wal Irshad, the ideological par-ent of the Lashkar which has its headquarters at Muridke near Lahore in Pakistan.

Saeed said he would person-ally ensure that the Lashkar 'and other groups engaged in the violent movement in Jammu and Kashmir would end their jihad if India with-drew its forces from Kashmir. The Lashkar leader rejected India's unilateral cease-fire cur-rently in force in Jammu and Kashmir, saying the principal reason for his stand was the "total distrust" of India's promises. The cease-fire, which began November 28, has been extended twice and is scheduled to end February 26.

"We have suffered one cease-fire earlier. In 1948, when we started our jihad for Kashmir's independence, a cease-fire was called and we participated in it by stopping the jihad. But India has only increased the strength of its security forces in the 40 years since then," Saeed said.

Saeed said it was not possi-ble to talk of ending the jihad when such a large contingent of Indian security forces was sta-tioned in Jammu and Kashmir. He alleged the Indian forces were responsible for terrorizing the Kashmiri people while be-coming an instrument of their oppression.

Significantly, Saeed claimed the Lashkar was re-ceiving arms from Indian sol-diers who were smuggling weapons to the militant group on the sly. He claimed that the Lashkar had no links with Afghanistan's Taliban regime.

The Lashkar ideologue did not find fault with the "political approach" adopted by the All Party Hurriyat Conference (APHC) to deal with the Kashmir problem.

"They want to solve the dispute politically while we want to do it by jihad. But our goal is one and that is the independence of Kashmir. It makes no difference that our methods are different," Saeed said.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 17 February, 2001)

K O V I E W

Let more Gulmargs bloom

After more than three years, tourists have from all across the country have begun to wend their way back to Kashmir. This winter has witnessed a good number of tourists visiting the Valley, something that has come as a boon for the Valley's battered economy. The statistics about tourist arrivals paint a happy picture of the tourist sector. According to tourism department data, this year, in January alone, a total of 46383 tourists visited Gulmarg. As against this, 98,757 tourists visited Gulmarg for the entire last year. This is a welcome change. For almost 17 months, the tourism sector in J&K lay decimated. The siege following revocation of Article 370 on August 5, 2019 and later the Covid-19 lockdown made Kashmir out of bounds for the holiday makers. Thousands of people associated with the sector lost their jobs as the health resorts and the hotels were deserted.

Following Covid-19 lockdown, the J&K administration released a stimulus package of Rs.5.67 crores for tourism sector. The benefit of Rs.1000 per month was later extended for a period of six months and an amount of Rs 618.70 Lakh has recently been approved for the tourism stakeholders. But the growing tourist arrivals since have buoyed up the sector. According to tourist department figures, the hotels in Gulmarg are occupied until March. Similarly, the tourist spots like Pahalgam are seeing the rush. But it is Gulmarg which is the go to place. This is because Gulmarg has received most of the publicity. Adding to Gulmarg's appeal is that it is also the skiing destination. But the excessive focus on Gulmarg is drawing tourists away from other equally scenic places, some of them like Aharbal, Yusmarg, Tosamaidan, Gurez, historic old city in Srinagar have only recently found a prominent place on the tourist map of Kashmir. These places need development of tourist infrastructure and also a wider publicity for people to visit.

Going forward, the tourism department has to work hard to ensure that more people from across the country are persuaded to visit Kashmir. The visits by the tour operators and also the Bollywood producers has played their due role in bringing tourists back. But it is also true that the spike in tourist visits to Kashmir is in some part the result of the ongoing ban on international travel due to Covid-19 pandemic. And once the world recovers from the pandemic and in the international travel is restored, Kashmir will be in direct competition with the international tourist destinations. So, the tourism department has to prepare for this turn of events. Even when international travel is restored, there will be enough tourists in the country who will be happy to come to Kashmir provided Kashmir is sold as one of India's most sought after tourist destination through coordinated promotional activities.

O T H E R O P I N I O N

Death trap: On Labour reforms

Thousands of workers in Tamil Nadu's famed fireworks industry remain trapped in unsafe conditions despite an unending series of accidents that keeps drawing attention to their plight. In the latest accident at a fireworks unit in Virudhunagar, at last count, 20 lives have perished, while 28 workers are in hospital. Such tragedies, caused predominantly by gross violation of norms governing the hazardous industry and human error in handling explosive substances, have occurred with some regularity now. In 11 months, 25 lives were lost in major blazes in three other fireworks factories in Virudhunagar (9), Cuddalore (9), and Madurai (7). Most victims were women. While the dead end up in statistical records, on the ground there is only short-term action: registration of cases, arrests, identification of causes, token inspections, issuance of warnings and safety advisories. The causes are well documented. Unlicensed units that have mushroomed in and outside Sivakasi mostly escape scrutiny till explosions occur. A greater concern is the illegal sub-leasing of contracts for manufacturing crackers by licensed units. Preliminary investigation into the current tragedy has also revealed sub-leasing of works to several persons. The very nature of work in a hazardous industry makes sub-leasing a byword for safety compromise. It leads to conversion of every shed in a manufacturing unit into a 'factory' in itself with inflammable chemicals stored all over. Consequently, the limit on workers to be deployed is violated resulting in crowding in each shed. Supervision of the quantum of chemicals to be mixed or stored — a key task to avoid friction — becomes a casualty.

Untrained workers and the piece-rate system, which induces people to race to produce more units per day, have also caused accidents. Eyewitness accounts suggest that in the latest accident, a worker, possibly fatigued, had hurriedly emptied semi-finished crackers triggering an explosion. While the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation offers training for workers, shortage of labour has prompted the industry to hire new recruits with limited skills. The industry continues to be labour-intensive, although a decade ago Parliament was informed that automation of the hazardous manufacturing process would be undertaken. Periodic inspections at factories, sustained crackdown and stringent penal action against violators are non-negotiable. For this, Central and State governments must provide the needed manpower for enforcement agencies as the industry has grown manifold. A sustained political push for labour reforms and technological innovations within the industry is also essential. After all, there can be no joy during any celebrations using fireworks if those making it lead a life of dangerous uncertainty.

The Hindu

The Russian Affair

The recent demonstrations in Russia might have raised the West's hope to see an end to the Russian oligarchy, but it may turn out to be a wishful dream

ASAD MIRZA

Over the last two weeks, many Russian cities including Moscow and St. Petersburg witnessed a second wave of public demonstrations in support of opposition figure Alexei Navalny.

However, the demonstrations were mostly against Kremlin's policies and less in Navalny's support. In most cities, demonstrators expressed frustration with Russia's coronavirus-related lockdown measures, anti-Putin sentiments and government's actions against other anti-establishment political activists.

Putin-Navalny Fight

Russian opposition leader, politician, lawyer, and anti-corruption activist, Alexei Anatolievich Navalny came to international prominence by organising anti-government demonstrations and running for office to advocate reforms against corruption in Russia, President Vladimir Putin and his government.

Navalny's video of Putin's alleged palace on Russia's Black Sea coast has now been viewed more than 111m times. His detention and court appearance prompted the biggest street protests in Russia since 2011-12, with demonstrations in 180 towns and cities across Russia.

Navalny has also antagonised the Kremlin by calling on the west to impose personal sanctions on 35 individuals linked to Vladimir Putin. They include oligarchs, the judge who remanded Navalny in custody last month, and senior government figures.

Navalny poses a serious threat to the country's political elite. They don't seem to know how to handle him. If Navalny is kept in prison or released, his movement will be strengthened, and it has the potential to fuse to broader public dissent over Russia's long-term economic performance and government ineffectiveness.

Besides pro-Navalny support, other factors fuelling public anger are falling living standards, pandemic-related troubles, diminished political freedom, and Putin's decision to effectively remain in power beyond 2024. Many Russian observers are of the view that these demonstrations represent a new stage in Russian public dissent.

Emil Avdaliani, a professor at the Tbilisi State University in his recent paper for BESA Centre on the continuing demonstrations opines that the first indicator that these rallies are different is their sheer size. Totalling nearly 100,000 people, they were the largest nationwide displays of dissent in recent years. The detention of 3,700 people greatly exceeds the detentions that occurred during the wave of anti-Kremlin protests that rocked Russia in 2011 and 2012.

Moreover, these protests have spread countrywide. According to latest reports Russians in nearly 100 cities across the country took to the streets. Avdaliani opines that historically, Putin enjoyed the advantage of Russia's geography, which precluded the spread of public dissent. Much has changed, however, as modern technologies have enabled the coordination of simultaneous protests across Russia's vast territory.

The manner in which Putin and his cliques have handled the issue has catapulted Navalny into a celebrity.



Alexander Zemlianichenko/AP

At present, Russia is experiencing what it experienced in the 1990s and the early 2000s - a struggle for a more effective government, more accountability, transparency over public spending, and most of all, the ability to change the government through elections, and Putin's gambit to remain in power indefinitely has added fuel to the public dissent, in which the Navalny episode has acted as a catalyst.

Currently, Navalny is Russia's second most prominent face and voice abroad after Putin, and has become a politician with global reach.

Initially, for nearly a decade, the Russian authorities treated Alexei Navalny like a minor political headache. The county's political elite addresses him in an imperious manner by not referring to him by his name, but then the decision to assassinate him catapulted him to the status of a national figure. Not long ago, many Russians had any idea who Alexei Navalny was, but he is now famous enough to pose a direct threat to the leadership.

At present, Russia is experiencing what it experienced in the 1990s and the early 2000s - a struggle for a more effective government, more accountability, transparency over public spending, and most of all, the ability to change the government through elections, and Putin's gambit to remain in power indefinitely has added fuel to the public dissent, in which the Navalny episode has acted as a catalyst.

EU's Response

Meanwhile, the internal affairs of Russia had an after effect on the manner in which the European Union functions. So far, the UK and EU have already introduced targeted sanctions over the poisoning of Navalny, and the EU is considering additional measures over his jailing and the subsequent crackdown.

The Guardian reported that the Russian foreign minister, Sergey Lavrov, has said that his country was prepared to break off relations with the bloc if there were any new sanctions.

But the inner EU wrangling may

perhaps take a toll on the organisation's ability to handle international issues, as a unified response to the Russian affair has been missing, as the EU member states can't agree on how to handle Putin.

More European sanctions on Russia may be announced soon, but not even the humiliation of the EU's foreign policy chief Joseph Borrell's recent visit to Moscow looks likely to sharpen the bloc's woefully divided policy towards the Kremlin, analysts say.

EU unity on Russia can't be expected any time soon. Despite mounting concern at Moscow's behaviour in many capitals, there is widespread disagreement over how to respond, with national strategic and economic interests far from aligned.

Germany, which played a major role in EU sanctions against Russia after the annexation of Crimea in 2014, is resisting calls to back out of the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project, preferring targeted sanctions against wealthy Kremlin supporters.

Meanwhile, Emmanuel Macron of France still favours dialogue and a strategic 'reset' in EU-Russia relations, while Poland and the Baltic states want far tougher action.

Judy Dempsey of the think-tank Carnegie Europe opines that Moscow prefers dealing separately with each member state, instead of EU as a bloc, and on the other hand most EU states don't know what they clearly want from Russia.

According to Dempsey, like his predecessors, Borrell's visit was bound to fall short because the bloc lacks a genuinely European strategy. Until

now, national interests in Europe have prevented that from happening and it's hard to see that changing.

Nicu Popescu of the European council on foreign relations argues that European attempts to reset relations with Russia were doomed to failure because they are "predicated on the idea of mutual concessions". Instead, a more muscular approach might yield better results, he added.

Meanwhile, Russia issued an international arrest warrant for Leonid Volkov, one of Navalny's senior allies, who is currently based in Lithuania.

However, European nations' hope that dissent may generate a liberal movement to replace Putin may not be fulfilled. Though some degree of a liberal mood might be present amongst the demonstrators, they are clearly not either pro-West or pro-democracy. Instead of the young crowd, the demonstrators have included middle-aged, middle-class Russians. These people are frustrated with the government's economic performance and corruption and the end result may not be what Europe wants - an end to the Putin era.

Views expressed are author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer

Asad Mirza is a political commentator based in New Delhi. He was also associated with BBC Urdu Service and Khaleej Times of Dubai. He writes on Muslims, educational, international affairs, interfaith and current affairs. Email: asad.mirza.nd@gmail.com



OBSERVER
MAIL

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

MAIL YOUR LETTERS

P.O. Box # 337, GP, Srinagar-190 001
email: editpage.ko@gmail.com

Use Of Emergency Light

I would like to express my view on the use of emergency lights on the vehicles of hospital ambulances and police officers through the medium of your esteemed daily news. Hope the space will be provided to me on humanitarian ground.

The red and blue flashing LED or rotating emergency light on the ambulances or government official vehicles have much significance and importance. Generally the red color indicates an emergency as it can be seen on the ambulances while the reason for using blue lights is to alert about the presence of police and law enforcement agencies. Sometimes the combination of both lights can be seen on the police vehicles which simultaneously explicit

the emergency and presence of police. Nowadays, it has been observed, in India in general and Jammu Kashmir, in particular that the emergency lights are being used on private vehicles. These lights are being fixed either in front of the radiator grill somewhere on the bumper or on the dashboard inside the cabin of the vehicles. As I studied even law and Motor Vehicles Amendments Rules where I read almost all the relevant sections where I found no such provision which allows this activity on private vehicles either by officials or by non official persons. It is also I wanted to express here that the emergency lights cannot be used by the official persons on their private vehicles belonged to law enforcement agencies or public ad-

ministrative offices. In this respect and connection I have even contacted some police officers who acknowledged that there is no such law that allowed using emergency lights on their private vehicles but they defend themselves giving the reason that some police stations have fewer official vehicles than required therefore they use the emergency lights on their self owned vehicles. Firstly, it is a well established principle and also enunciated by the Constitution of India that no one is above law and everyone is equal before the law according to Art.14 of the Constitution of India. Hence, by giving any reason without indulging oneself in the debate that whether the given reason is true or not is in a position to boldly say that

this activity is illegal. Secondly, it is near to impossible for a common person to identify which private vehicle having an eye catching flashing emergency lights is of a law enforcement agency or any private person. Last but not least, the emergency lights should be used to serve the purpose of their creation but not for pomp and show and fun. Therefore I would like to urge the Govt of India, Department Of Home, Director General of Police and Police Commissioners to pay heed to this illegal activity and take necessary steps to stop this prohibited activity.

Mool Raj
moolraj52@gmail.com

Good Riddance Tongas!

MALIK JAVAID

Tonga has become cynosure in cramped and crowded streets of Sopore, meandering around narrow alleys of Sopore regularly. But one must remember, the law of nature, the only permanent thing in this world is change and one can't resist change.

The recent significant decision taken by the Sopore administration regarding the banning of tongas from plying on the streets of Sopore town can be termed as a better-late-than-never decision. The decision has come at a time when the administration seems to have geared up to clear the grown up mess in the form of ever increasing encroachers like cart vendors, vegetable hawkers and now archaic horse driven carriages (Tongas) from municipal areas in order to give new makeover to the apple town — often abandoned and neglected by the past regimes due to reasons better known to people at the helm of affairs.

Sopore is often affiliated with the cliché of 3R's, Ropaye (money) Rub (slush) and Reade (horse cart). Without bragging about the first two R's, I'm here to debate the relevance of horse carts (tongas and Raedhas) in contemporary times. Why the ban on tongas needs to be applauded instead of opposed by denizens of Sopore is the premise of my argument.

Being someone who has studied and worked in Sopore for some time, I have developed a good rapport with some saner voices from Sopore and I often tend to discuss the issues, which are ailing the social set-up of Sopore with them. The recent ban on tongas came like a bolt from blue for many. In response to this ban, many of my all weather friends erupted like active volcano to vent their anger on social media platforms against this ban, terming it as cultural assault on chequered history of Sopore, which could directly lead to snatching of source of livelihood to 200 families, give or take 10, who are currently running their households on it.

With due respect to cultural sentiments of my Sopore friends, I will try to play the role of devil's advocate here, I will be opposing arguments of my friends on genuine grounds in support of this ban just for the sake of further productive argument on this ban. Personally, I am surprised by the erratic behaviour of many folks, the same people who used to cry foul for being neglected by erstwhile governments are today trying to be a hurdle in paving the way for future development of Sopore by opposing this ban more out of emotions than out of rational con-



While driving in Sopore, I dared to ask a tonga wallah about his wrong parking on the road, his response was beyond my expectations. Instead of listening and acting on my gentle request, he pounced upon me with a barrage of cuss words and didn't even spare my vehicle and called it a, "Loana Gaeed"

viction. If we think sensibly, it is not only the tonga wallas who have been at the receiving end of this administrative order but many cart retailers and vegetable vendors, who have been illegally occupying roads for decades. They have now been forced to vacate illegal encroachment of roads to facilitate the smooth movement of traffic on congested roads.

No doubt, Tonga is more than a horse cart for soporains as it has become a part of their cultural folklore and many well-off families still prefer to travel short distance destinations by tongas in the times when we are seeing the boom of modern fuel cars. Tonga has become cynosure in cramped and crowded streets of Sopore, meandering around narrow alleys of Sopore regularly. But one must remember, the law of nature, the only permanent thing in this world is change and one can't resist change.

Next, one can't deny the fact that everything loses its shine and sheen with time, the same thing has happened with these horse driven carriages. They can't keep pace with modern vehicles driven on fuel, who are outpacing this traditional ride in being

more time effective and comfortable for travel purposes. In the west, they are planning to replace conventional vehicles being run on petrol and diesel with eco-friendly electrical vehicles, but we are doing cart before the horse here by trying to justify the relevance of tongas in the 21st century. So, tongas are not battling with administration for survival, in reality they are fighting with changed time for survival.

Now coming to the cultural aspect. How is it cultural assault if cons of tongas outweigh its pros? Ask any pedestrians walking on streets or person driving his/her vehicle in Sopore, how much inconvenience tongas cause in smooth flow of traffic, reply will be on these lines: they don't follow any traffic rules, stopping in the middle of the road is normal for them and with no permanent parking space (adaa) available for them these tongas can be seen parked at random places on road. Just a few months back, while driving in Sopore, I dared to ask a tonga wallah about his wrong parking on road, his response was beyond my expectations. Instead of listening and acting on my gentle request, he pounced upon me with a barrage of cuss words and irony

is that he didn't spare my vehicle too by calling it a "Loana Gaeed"/ (Car bought on finance).

Yet another issue is the foul-smelling excreta of horses found on roads and pavements, it's simply unacceptable in these times when we are already fighting with deadly COVID19, we can't afford to be victims of communicable disease as poor hygiene is considered precursor for these diseases. Regarding rehabilitation of these cart drivers, authorities already have plans in mind. They will be provided alternate sources of employment in the form of auto rickshaws, that will simply add value to their income and status. So, for the larger good of Sopore town we have to swallow this bitter pill of ban. I am sure this step of administration will prove to be a game changer for development of Sopore.

*Views expressed in the article are author's own and do not necessarily represent the editorial stance of Kashmir Observer
The author can be reached at malikjavid86@gmail.com*

Too Much Information: The COVID Work Revolution Has Increased Digital Overload

OLGA KOKSHAGINA

Are too many online meetings and notifications getting you down?

Online communication tools – from email to virtual chat and video-conferencing – have transformed the way we work. In many respects they've made life easier. Without them we could not have made the shift to remote working during the COVID pandemic.

But are we now overly connected?

I and my colleagues have interviewed 120 experts from around the world to get a handle on the effects of 2020's working-from-home revolution.

What they told us suggests the desire to compensate for the lack of physical interaction is compounding digital overload – the phenomenon that technology researchers Larry Rosen and Alexandra Samuel described in the Harvard Business Review way back in 2015 as perhaps "the defining problem of today's workplace".

As Rosen, a pioneer in the "psychology of technology", explains in *The Distracted Mind: Ancient Brains in a High-Tech World*, his 2016 book co-written with neuroscientist Adam Gazzaley, our brains have not evolved for media multitasking.

So many technological innovations have enhanced our lives in countless ways, but they also threaten to overwhelm our brain's goal-directed functioning with interference. This interference has a detrimental impact on our cognition and behaviours in daily activities. It impacts every level of our thinking, from our perceptions, decision making, communication, emotional regulation, and our memories.

This interference is increasing as we embrace ever more tools that facilitate virtual communication and collaboration, always "on" and in touch through a barrage of messages and notifications.

Using nine tools a day

Our research is part of a global project on the future of work and education involving 14 university, corporate and non-profit partner organisations.

We interviewed managers in the private sector (from start-ups to corpora-



So many technological innovations have enhanced our lives in countless ways, but they also threaten to overwhelm our brain's goal-directed functioning with interference. This interference has a detrimental impact on our cognition and behaviours in daily activities.

tions), the public sector and academia. We talked to each for an hour about how their work environments had been affected by the pandemic, and how they imagine the future.

Almost all agreed digital overload had increased due to too many digital tools, too much information and too many hours spent in online conferencing.

On average, they reported using nine collaboration and communication tools every day. If that seems excessive, count how many you use. More than likely you have software for writing, email, instant message, calendars, file sharing, confer-

encing, work organisation and password management. That's nine just there.

More online fatigue

Our respondents also reported increased fatigue from being online all the time, and from being expected to send and respond to messages. As one of interviewee put it, the old problem of lack of information has been overtaken by how to keep up with all the information we are expected to take in and provide.

Online meetings were cited as particularly exhausting. This concurs with research showing the demands of con-

stantly observing ourselves as performers leads to "Zoom fatigue".

3 tips to manage digital overload

You may not have much influence over the number of tools you use. But you can control how you use them. The key is to reduce "goal interference" – anything that interrupts or distracts you from the task in front of you.

Here are three simple principles to manage the load.

1. Switch between tasks less often

Research shows the idea of multitasking is a myth. Maybe we can cope

with two things at time, such listening to music while working. But for any task requiring focus we have to make a cognitive switch. Studies show the more we switch, the worse we get at focusing on what's relevant to the task before us. Make fewer switches to maximise your ability to filter out interference from thoughts about other tasks.

2. Schedule set times for regular tasks

Behavioural experiments show those who check emails just a few times a day report lower stress than those who constantly check throughout the day. Make the effort to do related tasks in set times blocks (say 30 minutes). Give yourself the opportunity to really concentrate. Switch off unnecessary notifications and other distractions.

3. Limit unnecessary communication

Sharing information is important – knowledge is power, after all. But too much information becomes just another distraction. As another adage goes, data isn't information, information isn't knowledge, knowledge isn't understanding, and understanding isn't wisdom. Information in the digital age is a bit like food. Tens of thousands of years of scarcity has conditioned us to crave it. But abundance means we have to consciously check ourselves from consuming too much.

Changing work culture

These three tips are far from a complete solution, of course. As our interviewees underlined, addressing the problem of digital overload at work requires radical reflection on the temptations of technology – including thinking yet more technology will solve the problem.

There have been many lessons to learn from 2020.

From our unplanned leap into a work future long predicted would come from digital technology, we have the opportunity to understand the pain points. We've had a technological revolution in workplace communication and collaboration. Now must come a cultural revolution.

*By arrangements with
The Conversation*

Orientation Programme To Conduct Census Of Migratory birds held at Hokersar

SRINAGAR: The Wetlands Division of Jammu and Kashmir Wildlife Protection Department today organised an orientation programme to inculcate the census techniques amongst the participants at Camping Ground, Hokersar, here.

The orientation programme was conducted ahead of the census of Migratory Birds and other endemic birds nesting in the Valley Wetlands on 17th, February, 2021.

The aim of the programme is to identify the current status of Valley Wetlands viz. Hokersar, Mirgund, Narkara, Hygam, BadiNambal, Shallahugh, Anchar, Dal Lake, Wular Lake, Chatlum, Kranchoo, Manibugh, Freshkrori Wetlands which harbour sizeable number of migratory birds and to check the population fluctuation of migratory species in the Valley Wetlands during Winter migration.

The participants from Kashmir University, Central University, S.K.U.A-ST-K, Wildlife Conservation Fund, Kashmir Bird Watchers Club, Wildlife SOS, Wildlife Research & Conservation Foundation, Volunteers and freelancers are taking part in the said census.

The Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Division Kashmir, Ifshan Deewan stated that coordinated effort by the Department of Wildlife Protection to conduct the Annual Water bird Census (AWC) this year shall go a long way in establishing the numbers of various water bird species particularly the migratory Waterfowl that visit the wetlands of the Valley during Winter months.

This annual practice conducted by the Wildlife Protection Department shall help in creating a sound data base of the wintering Waterfowl population in the Valley Wetlands, she added.

Apni Party Constitutes Youth Wing

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party on Tuesday constituted its Youth Wing for Jammu and Kashmir with seven nominations in the first phase.

These appointments were proposed by the respective provincial bodies and were announced after being approved by the party chief Syed Altaf Bukhari.

Junaid Azim Mattu, Apni Party leader and Mayor SMC has been appointed as the President of Apni Party Youth Wing for J&K. Mir Tajamul Ishfaq and Raqeeq Ahmad Khan have been appointed as the Vice Presidents of JKAP Youth Wing.

Muzaffar Hussain Reshi and Abhay Bakaya have been appointed as the General Secretaries of JKAP Youth Wing for Kashmir and Jammu provinces, respectively.

Khalid Rathore has been appointed as Provincial President (Kashmir) and similarly Gourav Kapoor has been appointed as Provincial President (Jammu) of JKAP Youth Wing.



CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Foreign Envoys

BJP led Central government for ensuring democracy at grass-roots level, the newly-elected members of the DDC would be meeting besides holding a meeting with a few prominent citizens and administrative secretaries.

Strengthening of democratic institutions at the grass-roots level would be significantly highlighted, the officials said, adding that during a presentation the envoys would be shown how pan-chayats have been empowered by giving them financial powers.

On the second day, the ambassadors would visit Jammu where they would be meeting Lt Gov Manoj Sinha besides some of the DDC members and eprentatives of some social organisations, they said.

This is an another diplomatic exercise being undertaken by the government to counter the propaganda that is being orchestrated by Pakistan at international foras, the officials said.

The envoys would be briefed about the security situation by senior officers involved with the law-and-order situation in the Kashmir valley, especially attempts of Pakistan to push militants into India through the Line of Control and also about the frequent ceasefire violations, they said.

Last year, envoys from 17 nations including the US had visited Jammu and Kashmir. The team also comprised ambassadors from Vietnam, South Korea, Brazil, Uzbekistan, Niger, Nigeria, Morocco, Guyana, Argentina, Philippines, Norway, Maldives, Fiji, Togo, Bangladesh and Peru.

Three months after the Centre withdrew the special status of Jammu and Kashmir by revoking Article 370 of the Constitution and bifurcated it into two union territories, a delegation of 23 EU MPs was taken on a two-day visit to assess the situation in the Union Territory by the International Institute for Non-Aligned Studies, a Delhi-based think tank.

MeT Forecasts Rainfall

a maximum temperature of 16.6 degrees Celsius, 6.7 notches above normal, according to the officials.

Qazigund recorded a minimum temperature of minus 2.5 degrees Celsius, up from the previous night's minus 2.8 degrees Celsius.

The maximum temperature in the town was 16.1 degrees Celsius -- 6.7 notches above normal.

Tourist resort Pahalgam in south Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 4.2 degrees Celsius. The day temperature settled at 13.2 degrees Celsius, also 6.7 notches above normal.

The minimum temperature in north Kashmir's Kupwara was minus 2.8 degrees Celsius, while it was minus 0.6 degrees Celsius in Kokernag in the south.

The day temperature in Kupwara was 19.3 degrees Celsius, 10.6 notches above normal. Kokernag recorded a high of 13.9 degrees Celsius, 6 notches above normal.

The minimum temperature in the famous ski resort of Gulmarg settled at minus 4 degrees Celsius last night a notch down from the previous night, the officials said.

Gulmarg recorded a maximum temperature of 7 degrees Celsius -- 6.2 notches above normal. (With PTI inputs)

Police Cracks Down

of various moveable and immovable assets of individuals or associations to restrict the militant activities in Jammu and Kashmir, a police spokesperson said Tuesday. Police, state forces and investigation agencies, he said, are fighting the challenges of the militancy at various fronts.

"While the number of militants belonging to different outfits is neutralized in the sustained anti-militancy operations, the handlers are using motor vehicles and the proceeds of militants for furthering their evil designs," the police spokesperson said.

He further said that following the due procedures of the law, police has in last couple of years or so accorded sanction for seizure and attachments of four wheelers, motorcycles, cash, land houses and shops through different orders to ensure that the militant activities are under check.

"The permission for seizure has been granted under section 25 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967," he said.

He said that under this Act 61 vehicles, including 2 trucks, 1 tipper, 4 Alto cars, 2 Hyundai Creta, 1 Maruti Echo, 1 Baleno, 4 Santro, 1 Asta, 2 Wagon R, 1 Mahindra Quanta, 1 Auto, 2 Maruti Swift, 18 motorbikes, 5 Scooty, 2 load carrier, 3 Alto K10, 1 Maruti 800, 1 Load carrier, 2 Tavera, 1 Ambulance, 1 Tata Tiago, 1 Ford Figo, 2 Echo ambulance, 1- 120, and 1 Dutsun have been seized.

"These include the Creta Car belonging to Sofi Fahmeeda, associate of Asiya Andrabi. Cash of rupees 370000, cheque worth Rs 50,000 has been also seized.

Besides immovable property which has been seized includes five houses including the house of Mehmooda Begum mother-in-law of Assiya Andrabi of banned Dukhtran Milat, six shops belonging to Nazir Ahmad Wani of Pulwama in case FIR number 39/2020 under section 18, 19, 39 ULA (P) Act and 01 Kanal, 06 marlas of land," the police spokesperson said.

Pertinently, Asiya and her aide Sofi Fehmeeda are currently in Jail on charges of 'anti-national activities'.

In 2021 so far, he said, the PHQ has accorded

sanction for seizure of eleven vehicles which include six four wheelers and five two wheelers.

"Section 25 Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967 provides for the more effective prevention of certain unlawful activities of individuals and associations, and for dealing with militant activities, and for matters connected therewith," he added.

Govt Shifts Many

part of PHE sub-division of Lalnagar to the Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC).

The transfer to the SMC is also for operation and maintenance of water supply schemes and related infrastructure along with posts of permanent officers and funds, according to the order.

Likewise, 140 water supply schemes along with allied infrastructure have been also transferred to JMC and SMC for their operation and maintenance, besides transfer of 3,222 kilometers of distribution networks of various schemes falling within the jurisdiction of 19 municipal councils along with regular staff, and casual workers and daily-rated workers to the ULBs, it said.

The Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) to which the function and functionalities are transferred would be supplied bulk water supply by the Jal Shakti department at the rate fixed by water resources regulatory authority and the Jal Shakti department, the order said.

It said that the Jal Shakti department would open a separate budget head for transfer of capex and opex funds to the ULBs.

Besides the funds for engaging casual labourers, daily rated workers and other such employees would be transferred to the corporations who will then engage them as necessary, the order said, adding all revenues raised from water bills or fees would accrue to the municipal corporations.

Our Demand Is

resolved by talking to Pakistan and the people of J&K," Mufti said.

The PDP chief was speaking to reporters after the party's convention in north Kashmir's Kupwara district.

Mufti said and people were being arrested first and then their crime was being proven.

"There is a saying that show me a person, I will show you the crime, which means that first they arrest a person, then they prove the crime. Many of our leaders are in custody and they have been shown no orders and there is nothing against them.

"There is jungle raj here right now, the jungle raj is happening across the country also now, but it is more so in J&K," she said.

On the arrest of National Conference (NC) leader Hilal Lone, the former chief minister of the erstwhile state said the BJP government was "inflicting cruelty" on the people of Kashmir as well as the people in other parts of the country.

"Wherever they think there is some resistance, someone is raising his voice against their cruelty and tyranny, see they have arrested a 21-year-old girl, what they have done with the farmers Some of the cruelty and tyranny that they have done in Kashmir is being witnessed in other parts of the country.

"Our farmer brothers and young girls are also now seeing what cruelty the BJP government is inflicting upon the people of Kashmir," she said

Asked about the future of the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), an alliance of several mainstream parties seeking the return of the special status of the erstwhile state, Mufti said the people want the alliance to continue.

"The Gupkar alliance talks about the aspirations of the people of J&K. The people of J&K want the alliance to continue and this alliance will be there till the people of J&K want it to be," she said.

Mufti also demanded immediate release of all political prisoners and youths, including former MLA Sheikh Abdul Rashid who is under detention since August 5, 2019 when the Centre abrogated Article 370.

Pvt Schools Alliance

by certain individuals stating that the school buses will not ply when the educational institutions reopen on March1st, 2021, a spokesperson said.

In the meeting, he said, it was also informed that the association had published a press release in newspapers in which it had reiterated their resolve to make all possible efforts to get students back to schools which includes making school buses operational on all routes from March.

"However a request was put forth urging the government to have a candid look and resolve the issue of pending bus fee since August 2019 amicably in order to ensure smooth running of school buses," he added.

MP Akbar Lone

The official said the case relates to a speech he made during the public rally while campaigning in the DDC polls in Hajin.

On December 25 last year, he was detained in Bandipora's Sumbal area and then shifted to the MLA hostel here.

Omar Slams

different standard when it comes to hate speech from its own leaders. They can call for hands to be cut off, people to be murdered and it's fine. Hilal Lone makes a speech and anti-terror laws are used to book him," Abdullah tweeted.

Referring to Lone's arrest, PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said there would not be enough room in the prisons of the country if the BJP's ministers, lawmakers and members of its "IT Cell" were brought to book for inciting communal passions against minorities.

"GOI (Government of India) continues to shamelessly book Kashmiri mainstream leaders under UAPA for 'hate speech'. The truth is that there won't be enough room in Indian prisons if their own ministers, lawmakers and noxious IT Cell were brought to book for inciting communal passions against minorities," she said in a tweet.

Lone, the son of National Conference's Member of Parliament Mohammad Akbar Lone, was arrested on Monday from the MLA hostel here where he was being held captive since December last year, a senior police official said on Tuesday. He was booked under various sections of the UAPA in an FIR registered at a police station in Hajin in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

MPs Panel Seeks

promotion agency in J&K in a stipulated time to formulate investment plans and coordinate with the industries from various sectors and countries to increase investment in J&K.

In its earlier report, the committee emphasized the need for proper physical and social infrastructures like land, capital, storage, roads, railways, air connectivity communication, power, skilled, workforce to attract new industries and entrepreneurs into J&K.

"The committee also recommends setting up a Planning Board and investment promotion agency in J&K in a stipulated time to formulate investment plans and coordinate with the industries from various sectors and countries to increase investment in J&K. The MHA should also hold periodic meetings with the Planning Board for guidance and addressing the issues with the concerned Ministries of the Government of India," read the recommendations made by the panel in its report last year.

The 31-member panel is headed by Anand Sharma of Congress. It comprises of 10 Rajya Sabha members and 21 Lok Sabha members.

Drabu Joins

received all requisite approvals, including security clearance.

Air Works is India's largest MRO provider. Its board has five members, including two independent directors.

Apart from Drabu, it has Lt Gen (Retired) K J Singh as another independent director.

Apart from facilities in Hosur and Kochi, Air Works has a facility approved by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in Mumbai for smaller aircraft (general aviation aircraft).

HC Hopes Govt

the department of Social Welfare, Jammu and Kashmir, Government has extended all the facilities to the disabled persons in the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh. He said that on the application of the Central Laws due adherence is made to all the benefits out of such legislations. Sheikh Feroz, Dy. AG, also reiterated the stand taken by the social welfare department. T. M. Shamsi, ASGI, submitted that the Government of India has fully supported Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh in implementing the schemes in favour of the disabled persons, as a component of

achieving the object of social justice. He further submitted that monitoring of these schemes and spending of funding is an exclusive responsibility of the local Administrations. (GNS)

'I Am Scared'

pressurized to withdraw the FIR. It's a complete travesty of justice & an impartial probe must be set up immediately so that they are given the harshest punishment."

At Chewa, the minor's father told Kashmir Observer that on February 10, 2021, his daughter was on the way home from her tuition centre when some unidentified persons pulled their car in front of her.

"She was offered Rs 520 by one of the men," he said. "And when she refused the money, one of them came out of the car and grabbed her arm in a bid to abduct her."

Luckily, he said, one of his friends was around—who got alerted by his daughter's cries, and rushed to the spot along with other locals.

"They caught the three people and checked their identity cards," the distraught father continued.

"They turned out to be the Army men. We didn't take law in our hands and informed the police immediately."

After the incident, the 'daily-wage' father of the minor said, the Army from a local camp came to his home and "harassed" his family.

"This is strange that I am facing this sort of treatment when I am the same person who rescued the soldiers when an Army chopper crashed in this area a few years ago," he said.

"The police should investigate the case thoroughly and take action against the accused."

Senior Superintendent of Police, Bandipora, Rahul Malik, told Kashmir Observer that an FIR has been registered and three persons have been detained in the case.

The officer, however, didn't reveal the FIR number and identity of the trio "due to the sensitivity of the case".

But according to a local news gathering agency, FIR No. 15/2021 under sections 341, 363, 511 IPC has been filed in the case last week at Police Station Sumbal, following the family's complaint.

"The accused army soldiers have been identified as sub-inspector Harbachan Singh, Naik Amit Tahkor, and Hawaldar Manzoor Ahmad. All the three are under police detention," the

report said.

However, the incident is already giving sleepless nights to the minor's family. And due to trauma, they even fear to talk about it.

"Everybody is talking about us," the grandfather of the minor told Kashmir Observer.

"We don't know what will happen, but we are glad that our child is safe."

Even as police has filed case against the soldiers, army is yet to clear their stand on the incident.

J&K Logs 58 More

officials said Tuesday.

"Moreover, 46 more patients have recovered and discharged from various hospitals including 07 from Jammu Division and 39 from Kashmir Division," they added.

Extortionist Held

Awantipora, a police spokesperson said.

He said that a toy pistol, a knife and four cartridges of self loading rifle (SLR) were recovered from his possession.

"Any connection of the arrested person with militants for possessing 4 rounds of SLR is being investigated. Case FIR No. 23/2020 U/S 307,392,511 IPC 7/25, 28 Arms Act has been registered in Police Station Awantipora," he added.

CRPF Constable

immediately taken to a local hospital where doctors declared him brought dead.

Meanwhile, the officials said that after completion of legal-medico formalities, the body of the deceased will be sent to his native place for final rites.

Youth Found

"The deceased was working at a Dhaba in Damjan locality of Qazigund."

The official said that the body was taken to hospital and proceedings under section 174 CrPc have been initiated in this regard—(KNO)

Death Toll

Wahid Ahmad and Mafad Ahmad. Sajid Ahmad died earlier while Wahid Ahmad succumbed to injuries at a Srinagar hospital on February 14, officials told local news agency GNS. His mother Roshni Begum lost for the life today while her husband Abdul Rasheed Khan is still under treatment at the hospital, they added.

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

Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar): 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu) Website: www.jkbopee.gov.in E-mail: coejakbopee@gmail.com/helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com

Subject: Conduct of second (physical) up-gradation/ allotment round of counselling for BAMS/BUMS/BPT Courses -2020 of eligible candidates.

Reference: i). Notification No.065-BOPEE of 2020 dated 24.12.2020. ii).Ministry of AYUSH Order F. No.14011/2/2021-EP-1 dated 15-01-2021. iii).Notification No.009-BOPEE of 2021 dated 18.01.2021 iv).Notification No.014-BOPEE of 2021 dated 29.01.2021. v).Notice No.015-BOPEE of 2021 dated 30.01.2021. vi).Ministry of Ayush LOP No.L-14014/239/2020-EP-1 dated 09.02.2021. vii).Notification No.021-BOPEE of 2021 dated 11.02.2021 viii).Notice No.021-BOPEE of 2021 dated 12.02.2021.

Notification No. 024 –BOPEE of 2021 Dated: 15.02.2021.

In continuation to Notice No.021-BOPEE of 2021 dated 12.02.2021 the schedule for conduct of the second (physical) up-gradation/ allotment round of counselling for admission to BAMS/BUMS/BPT Courses -2020 of eligible is notified as under:-

Date	Rank	Remarks.
18-02-2021	01 to 5079	All reserved category candidates including STL/STK/CDP/IKPM/SP.
19-02-2021	01 to 2000	Open Merit candidates.
20-02-2021	2001 to 5079	Open Merit candidates.

Note:-

1. The reserved category seat(s), if any, remaining unfilled on 18.02.2021 due to non-availability of eligible candidates shall be converted into open merit and filled-up on 19-02-2021 and 20-02-2021 along with seats, if any, received by the Board as shortfall. However, the reserved category candidate, if any, who wish to participate in the counselling on 19.02.2021 and 20-02-2021 as an open merit can do so strictly on the basis of merit-cum-preference.

2. The candidates who have been allotted BUMS / BPT seats during first round of counselling shall also be eligible to compete against BAMS seats.

3. The candidates who have already registered themselves and have been allotted UT Rank, but failed to participate in the online counselling shall also be eligible to do so after deposition of requisite counselling fee of Rs.1500/- through credit card/ debit card through POS machine available at BOPEE Office, Srinagar/ Jammu before signing the attendance/ registration.

4. The seats of BAMS in Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research (JIAR), Jammu shall also be filled during this round of counselling including Management and P&B seats.

5. The seat matrix shall be uploaded on official website of the Board in due course of time.

6. The other terms and conditions shall remain the same as notified by the Board vide e. Information Brochure / Notifications/ Notices issued from time to time on the subject.

E&OE.

DIPK-NB-5677/20

No: BOPEE/Exam-35/2020

Dr. Sunil Gupta) Controller of Examinations J&K BOPEE

Dated: 15-02-2021.

Office of the Principal
Al Noor Public School Brath Kalan Zainagar

As important meeting was held in the school on 18-01-2021. The meeting was preised by worthy principal of the school in which management of the school has been constituted. Any person having any objection regarding the new managing committee may his/ her objection in the office of Directorate of Education within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

S. No	Name	Parantage	Design	Residence
01	Mr. Mohd Akbar Mir	Mr. Mohd Akram Mir	Chairman	Brath Kalan
02	Shahbaz Ah Mir	Ab. Rashid Mir	Principal	-DO-
03	Mohd Muqbool Mir	Haji Gh Rasool Mir	Member	-DO-
04	Mohd Ashraf Mir	Ab Gaffar Mir	Member	-DO-
05	Miss Sumera Ji	W/o Ashiq Ahmad	Teacher	Seloo Sopore

Fee Structure of Al Noor Public School

Class	Fee	Class	Fee
8th	500	7TH	500
6TH	400	5TH	400
4TH	350	3RD	400
2ND	300	1ST	300
UKG	200	LKG	300
Nursery	300		

Sd/-
Principal Al Noor Public School
Brath Kalan Zainagar

ams

Toolkit Case: DCW Sends Notice To Delhi Police, Seeks Detailed Report On Disha Ravi's Arrest

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Delhi Commission for Women has sent a notice to the Delhi Police on the arrest of 21-year-old climate activist Disha Ravi in the 'toolkit' case and sought a report on issues like why she was not provided a lawyer of her choice when produced before a court in Delhi.

Taking cognisance of media reports, the panel in a statement, issued on Tuesday, also said Ravi was produced before a court in Delhi without a lawyer of her choice being present there.

The activist was arrested from Bengaluru on Saturday by the Delhi Police for allegedly creating and sharing a protest toolkit backing the farmers' agitation against the Centre's new agri laws.

Ravi, along with Mumbai lawyer Nikita Jacob and Pune engineer Shantanu Muluk, created the toolkit and shared it with others to tarnish India's image, the Delhi Police had said on Monday.

Police claimed that she had sent the toolkit to teen climate activist Greta Thunberg through Telegram app, and also "coaxed her to act on it". Non-bailable warrants have been issued against Jacob and Muluk, who

are absconding.

Citing media reports and claims by activists, the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW) said Ravi was arrested and taken to Delhi from Bengaluru by police and her whereabouts were not disclosed, not even to her parents.

It has also been alleged that police did not present her at a court in Bengaluru for transit remand, before bringing her to Delhi, it said.

However, Delhi Police Commissioner S.N. Shrivastava on Tuesday said Ravi was arrested in accordance with the law which "doesn't differentiate between a 22-year-old or a 50-year-old".

The DCW has asked the Delhi Police to provide a copy of the FIR registered in the matter, reasons for allegedly not producing Ravi before a local court for transit remand, for allegedly not providing a lawyer of her choice when she was produced before the court here, and a detailed action taken report, the statement said.

The commission has asked police to provide the information by Friday, it added.

Shrivastava has also said Ravi has been sent to five-day police custody and the matter was being probed.



Iraqi Armed Group Vows More Attacks On 'American Occupation'



Agencies

A volley of rockets targeting an US airbase in Iraq's Kurdistan region killed a foreign civilian contractor and wounded nine others including Americans in the worst attack in a year on the US-led military coalition.

The rockets were launched late on Monday from an area south of the main city Erbil near the border with Kirkuk province and also fell on some residential areas close to the airport, officials said on condition of anonymity.

The barrage was the first time in nearly two months that Western military or diplomatic installations were targeted in Iraq after a string of similar incidents last year.

The rare attack on Erbil was claimed by a little known Shia

group calling itself Awliyaa al-Dam, or Guardians of Blood.

About a dozen such groups have cropped up in the past year claiming rocket attacks, but US and Iraqi security officials say they are front groups for prominent pro-Iran factions including Kataib Hezbollah and Asaib Ahl al-Haq.

"The American occupation will not be safe from our strikes in any inch of the homeland, even in Kurdistan, where we promise we will carry out other qualitative operations," the Awliyaa al-Dam said, according to the SITE Intelligence Group, an NGO that tracks online activity of armed organisations.

The United States reacted angrily to the base assault outside the international airport in Erbil, capital of Iraq's semi-autonomous Kurdistan region.

"We are outraged by today's rocket attack," Secretary of State Anthony Blinken said in a statement, vowing to "hold accountable those responsible".

"Initial reports indicate that the attacks killed one civilian contractor and injured several members of the Coalition, including one American service member and several American contractors," he said.



(File) An Indian Army truck crosses Chang la pass near Pangong Lake in Ladakh region | AP

Disengagement Process Going On In Pangong Tso Areas As Per Plan: Sources

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

The Chinese and Indian armies continued with the disengagement process in the North and South banks of Pangong lake in eastern Ladakh as per plan and the entire pullback exercise is expected to take another six-seven days, sources in the defence and security establishment said on Monday.

The sources said the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) has already removed several bunkers, temporary posts and other structures in the northern bank areas while gradually thinning down their troops in the region.

They said field commanders of both the sides are meeting almost on a daily basis to take forward the disengagement process which was finalised last week following nine rounds of high-level military talks.

It will take at least a week for the disengagement process to be completed in the North and South banks of Pangong Tso, they said, adding both

sides are carrying out verification of withdrawal of troops and equipment.

After nine months of stand-off, the two armies reached an agreement on disengagement in the North and South banks of Pangong lake that mandates both sides to cease forward deployment of troops in a "phased, coordinated and verifiable" manner.

The disengagement began on Wednesday last.

On Thursday, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh made a detailed statement in Parliament on the disengagement pact.

According to the agreement, China has to pull back its troops to east of Finger 8 areas in the northern bank while the Indian personnel will be based at their permanent base at Dhan Singh Thapa Post near Finger 3 in the region. Similar action will take place on the southern bank of the lake as well, Singh had said.

Last year, the Chinese military built several bunkers and other structures in the areas between Finger 4 and 8 and had blocked

all Indian patrols beyond Finger 4, triggering strong reaction from the Indian Army.

In the nine rounds of military talks, India was specifically insisting on withdrawal of Chinese troops from Finger 4 to Finger 8 on the North bank of Pangong Lake.

The mountain spurs in the area are referred to as Fingers.

The sources said following completion of the disengagement process, the two sides will hold talks on the de-escalation exercise.

Defence minister Singh had told Parliament that it was agreed to convene the next meeting of senior commanders of both sides within 48 hours of completion of the disengagement in the Pangong lake area so as to resolve all other remaining issues.

On Friday, the defence ministry said other outstanding "problems" including in Depsang, Hot Springs and Gogra will be taken up at the upcoming talks between military commanders of the two countries.

Saudi's Asks Firms To Move To Riyadh, Challenges Dubai

Agencies

Saudi Arabia's finance minister says Riyadh and Dubai "will have healthy competition" after announcing that foreign companies that want to participate in Saudi government investment opportunities need to move their headquarters to the kingdom by 2024.

Mohammed al-Jadaan told Reuters news agency by telephone on Monday that the two cities "will continue to complement each other" while stressing that "Dubai has its own competitive advantage".

However, the finance minister added that international companies "will have to make a choice" and establish their regional headquarters in the kingdom or be excluded from government contracts.

Dubbed "Project HQ", the move is aimed at pushing foreign firms to open a permanent, in-country presence that would help create local jobs.



Foreign businesses have for years used the neighbouring United Arab Emirates (UAE), and particularly the emirate of Dubai, as a springboard for their regional operations, including for Saudi Arabia.

There was no immediate response from the UAE to the decision by Saudi Arabia.

Saudi agencies, institutions and funds owned by the government will all potentially cease awarding contracts to foreign companies, effective January 1, 2024, Saudi government news agency SPA announced.

The foreign companies will, however, remain free to work with the private sector, al-Jadaan added.

"If a company refused to move their headquarters to Saudi Arabia it is absolutely their right and they will continue to have the freedom to work with the private sector in Saudi Arabia," al-Jadaan told Reuters.

Delhi Court Issues Summons To Kanhaiya, 9 Others In JNU Sedition Case

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

A court in Delhi has taken cognisance of a charge-sheet filed by the Delhi Police against former Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union (JNUSU) president Kanhaiya Kumar and nine others in a 2016 sedition case and summoned them on March 15.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate (CMM) Pankaj Sharma on Monday took cognisance of the final report almost a year after the Delhi Police received requisite sanctions to prosecute the accused in the case, court sources said.

Kumar and others, including former JNU students Umar Khalid and Anirban Bhattacharya, were accused of raising anti-India slogans.

ing Communist Party of India (CPI) leader D Raja's daughter Aprajita, Shehla Rashid (then vice-JNUSU president), Rama Naga, Ashutosh Kumar and Banojyotsna Lahiri, all former students of JNU, have been named in column 12 of the charge-sheet due to insufficient evidence against them.

The accused have been charged with offences under sections 124A (sedition), 323 (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt), 471 (using as genuine a forged document or electronic record), 143 (punishment for being a member of an unlawful assembly), 149 (being a member of an unlawful assembly), 147 (punishment for rioting) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).



The other seven accused in the case are Kashmiri students Aqib Hussain, Mujeeb Hussain, Muneeb Hussain, Umar Gul, Rayeea Rasol, Bashir Bhat and Basharat. Some of them were then studying in JNU, Aligarh Muslim University and Jamia Millia Islamia. As many as 36 others, includ-

A case was registered on February 11, 2016, under sections 124A and 120B of the IPC against unidentified people at the Vasant Kunj (North) Police Station, following complaints from Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Maheish Giri and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the student wing of the RSS.

2002 Godhra Train Burning Case: Prime Accused Held After 19 Years

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Almost 19 years after a mob torched a coach of Sabarmati Express at Godhra station in Panchmahal district of Gujarat which caused the death of 59 'karsevaks', police has nabbed key accused, Rafiq Hussain Bhatuk, from Godhra town, an officer said on Monday. Bhatuk (51) was part of the "core group" of the accused persons involved in the entire conspiracy. He has been on the run for the last 19 years, said Panchmahal Superintendent of Police Leena Patil. Based on a specific tip-off, a team of Godhra police raided a house in Signal Falia area located near the railway station on Sunday night and picked up Bhatuk, Patil told PTL.

"Bhatuk was part of the core group of the accused who had hatched the entire conspiracy, incited mob and even arranged petrol to torch the train compartment. He fled to Delhi immediately after his name cropped up during investigation. He was facing murder and rioting charges among others," Patil said. A total of 59 'karsevaks' were killed in the Godhra train burning incident on February 27, 2002, triggering the worst communal riots in the history of Gujarat.

The SP said Bhatuk used to work as a labourer at Godhra railway station. "He was involved in pelting stones on the compartment and pouring petrol inside



before it was set on fire by other accused," she added. An FIR on torching of the coach allegedly by a mob from Signal Falia area located near the railway station had been registered with the Godhra Railway Police, said Patil.

"After fleeing Godhra following the incident, Bhatuk spent most of his time in Delhi where he worked on railway stations and also at construction sites as a labourer. He also sold household items on a handcart," the SP said. As part of his strategy to evade arrest, Bhatuk shifted his family from Sultan Falia, where he used to live before the Godhra incident, to Signal Falia recently, said Patil.

"We recently learnt that he had changed his house and visited his family in the past too. However, we couldn't catch him as he used to leave after a day or two. This time, our teams managed to catch him. We will hand him over to Godhra railway police for further investigation," said Patil.

She said at least three accused-Salim Ibrahim Badam aka Salim Panwala, Shaukat Charkha and Abdulmajid Yousef Mitha--still remain at large in this case.

NEWS MAKERS

Mamata Banerjee Launches Scheme To Provide Meal At Rs 5 To Poor People

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Ahead of the assembly elections in the state, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, on Monday, virtually launched the 'Maa' scheme under which her government would provide a meal at a nominal cost of Rs 5 mainly to poor people.

They will get a platter of rice, dal, a vegetable and egg curry for Rs 5.

"The government will bear a subsidy of Rs 15 (per plate) while people will get it at Rs 5," Banerjee said.

Self-help groups will operate the kitchens from 1pm to 3pm every day and such kitchens will be set up everywhere in the state gradually, the chief minister said.

"I will go and taste it one day," Banerjee said.

People will get the meal on a first-come-first-serve basis.



"This is a unique idea. We had announced this scheme in the budget and managed to launch it within eight days," she said thanking officials of various departments for making it possible within such a short time.

The state government has allotted Rs 1,00 crore for the scheme, said Banerjee who is also the Trinamool Congress supremo.

"It started on an experimental basis and there may be initial hiccups," Banerjee said.

■ THIS IS A UNIQUE idea. We had announced this scheme in the budget and managed to launch it within eight days," she said thanking officials of various departments for making it possible within such a short time.

On the first day, Maa kitchens started functioning at a few places in Kolkata and districts such as Malda, Dakshin Dinajpur, Paschim Medinipur and Howrah.

The ruling Trinamool Congress had in September last year launched a similar initiative named 'Didir Ran-naghar' in the state to provide meals at Rs 5 to migrant workers who lost their jobs during the lockdown.

The assembly election is due in the state in April- May.

Britain's Prince Harry, Meghan Markle To Break Silence In Oprah Interview After Royal Split

Agencies

LONDON: Prince Harry and his American wife Meghan will break their silence in their first interview since they quit Britain's royal family when they sit down with Oprah Winfrey next month.

Harry and Meghan, who announced they are expecting their second child on Sunday, shocked senior royals last year by announcing plans to step back from their royal roles.

CBS said the interview will be broadcast on March 7.

"Winfrey will speak with Meghan, The Duchess of Sussex, in a wide-ranging interview, covering everything from stepping into life as a Royal, marriage, motherhood, philanthropic work to how she is handling life under



intense public pressure," CBS said in a statement.

"Later, the two are joined by Prince Harry as they speak about their move to the United States and their future hopes and dreams for their expanding family."

Harry and Meghan married in a glittering ceremony in 2018 that captured the world's attention but later gave up their official royal roles following disagreements with other family members and in the face of huge media attention.

The couple moved to Southern California with their infant son Archie last year and have signed a multiyear production deal with Netflix Inc, a major step in their plan to make a living for themselves outside the royal family.

Their relationship with the British press swiftly soured and the couple have launched legal cases against several newspapers.

Last week, Meghan won a privacy claim against Associated Newspapers after its Mail on Sunday paper had printed extracts of a letter she wrote to her father in August 2018.

Winfrey, one of America's richest and most influential women, in 2011 ended her top-rated daily television talk show, where she interviewed presidents and celebrities.

'India Showed Grit To Win,' Says Virat After Rejecting Criticism Over Pitch



IF YOU LOOKED AT OUR SECOND INNINGS, we got 300 as well. It wasn't unfair if the toss went either way. Both teams should be in the game from the first session onwards, whether it is on spinning to seaming tracks, and that exactly was the case in this game."

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: India skipper Virat Kohli on Tuesday rejected criticism of the spin-friendly Chepauk pitch, asserting that his side showed the requisite grit and determination to conquer England on it in the second Test with the toss not being a matter of concern at all.

India on Tuesday beat England by 317 runs on a dust bowl, which was heavily criticised by former English players such as Michael Vaughan.

"We didn't panic out there looking at the turn and bounce, we showed grit, got into the game and scored 600 runs in the game. We know our bowlers would do the job for us if we put up these runs," Kohli said in the post-match presentation.

Former England players such as Kevin Pietersen had mocked the pitch for the turn it offered from day one, calling it a "brave" track for a Test match and that fortunes could have swung the other way had India lost the toss and batted second.

Kohli said it wouldn't have mattered.

"If you looked at our second innings, we got 300 as well. It wasn't unfair if the toss went either way. Both teams should be in the game from the first session onwards, whether it is on spinning to seaming tracks, and that exactly was the case in this game," he said.

The India captain said playing before fans was a big factor in their massive victory as the home players were egged on by the cheering crowd. The first game was played behind closed door due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions, which were subsequently eased.

Under Kohli, India now have won 21 Tests at home, bringing him at par with the his charismatic predecessor Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

India Spinners Demolish England To Win 2nd Test And Level Series 1-1

Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: Axar Patel and Ravichandran Ashwin predictably completed the annihilation of clueless England batsmen, emphatically bringing India back in contention for the World Test Championship final with a series-leveling 317-run victory in the second Test in Chennai on Tuesday. Debutant Patel made full use of favourable conditions to bag 5 for 60 in 21 overs while Ashwin finished with a match-haul of eight wickets, not to forget his classy hundred with the bat.

They demolished England for a paltry 164 on the fourth day in pursuit of an impossible target of 482, giving India their biggest win over the tourists in terms of runs.

India have now risen to second in the WTC standings and need to at least win one more and draw another in the four-match series to make the cut for the final in June.

After a crushing 227-run defeat in the first Test, Virat Kohli couldn't have imagined a better

and we have to learn from this and find a way to score runs," said Kohli's opposite number Joe Root.

The Indian team currently is so strong that it could afford to rest its best pacer Jasprit Bumrah, miss out its premier all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja but yet make a telling statement, nullifying any advantage that England team might have possessed.

Opener Rohit should come in for special mention considering the

Coming round the wicket, Ashwin got one to turn away as Stokes, with a forward defensive prod, tried to keep the ball down.

But all he managed was an inside edge onto the pads and Kohli, who had placed himself at wide second slip, gleefully caught the loopy gift.

Root, as he waged a lonely battle, got a reprieve when his reverse sweep off Kuldeep Yadav, while batting on 32, was dropped by Mohammed Siraj stationed at



comeback going into the crucial Day/Night Test in Ahmedabad in just over a week's time.

"The conditions were challenging for both sides, but we showed more application with the bat. We didn't panic out there looking at the turn and bounce, we showed grit, got into the game and scored 600 runs in the game," an ecstatic Kohli said in the post-match presentation.

While critics, mostly from the English side, had panned the pitch but two hundreds and three fifties by the home team batsmen showed that it was all about understanding of conditions and brilliant application from the likes of Rohit Sharma, Ashwin, Kohli, Rishabh Pant and debutant Patel.

From the visitors' own ranks, No.9 Moeen Ali went on a six-hitting spree in his 18-ball 43 to show the ones above him in the order, how it is done on a dust bowl.

"Credit to India, they outplayed us in all three departments. It has been an education for us, you could come up with conditions like these

start that India needed after first Test disaster. Rohit set the tone and then it was a Test match that Ashwin will remember forever.

Young Rishabh Pant, whose glove-work at times invites unnecessary scrutiny, pulled off a lovely stumping to get rid of Dan Lawrence (26 off 53 balls) off Ashwin.

Ashwin flighted one to entice Lawrence out of the crease and the ball turned and travelled between the batsman's legs.

Pant was unsighted for the better part as he moved down the leg and maintaining his balance, collected it to effect a smart stumping that would make even Wridhiman Saha and all his ardent fans very happy.

Ben Stokes (8 off 51 balls) has been famous pulling off Houdini acts but on Tuesday, no such magic was in store against two top-quality slow bowling operators.

Stokes, for close to an hour, scratched around for eight runs as both Axar and Ashwin kept a tight leash on him.

India Jump To 2nd Spot In WTC Rankings After Big Win Over England



Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The resounding 317-run win over England in the second Test in Chennai on Tuesday propelled India to second in the World Test Championship standings issued by the ICC.

After the series-leveling win at Chepauk, India have 69.7 percentage of points (PCT) and 460 aggregate points, behind New Zealand who have already qualified for the WTC final to be held at the Lord's June.

New Zealand have 70.0 PCT and 420 points.

India, who had lost the first

Test by 227 runs at the same venue, need to win one more and at least draw another to make it to the WTC final.

They were fourth on the table before Tuesday's result.

Virat Kohli's men are currently playing in their sixth series of the WTC cycle, having won 10 matches, lost four and drawn one.

Australia are at the third spot with 69.2 PCT and 332 points while England are fourth with 67.0 PCT and 442 points.

The third Test—a day/night affair—begins in Ahmedabad on February 24.

England Announce Squad For Ahmedabad Pink Ball Test Against India



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: England on Tuesday brought in wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow and pacer Mark Wood to their squad for the day/night Test against India, starting February 24 in Ahmedabad.

England lost the second Test in Chennai on Tuesday by 317 runs as India drew level in the four-match series.

The selectors also decided to send spin all-rounder Moeen Ali, who played in the second game, back to England as part of their rotation policy to manage workload of the players.

Bairstow was given rest after the two-Test series against Sri Lanka, where he had scores of 47, 35 not out, 28 and 29.

Wood was also given a break after the series in the island nation where he went wicket-less in the first Test and took three wickets in the second.

"Moeen Ali will return to England for a break while Jonny Bairstow and Mark Wood join the squad having been rested for the first two Tests," the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said in a statement.

England squad for Third Test:

Joe Root (C), James Anderson, Jofra Archer, Jonny Bairstow, Dominic Bess, Stuart Broad, Rory Burns, Zak Crawley, Ben Foakes, Dan Lawrence, Jack Leach, Ollie Pope, Dom Sibley, Ben Stokes, Olly Stone, Chris Woakes, Mark Wood.

Naomi Osaka Advances To Australian Open Semis After Beating Hsieh

Press Trust of India

MELBOURNE: Naomi Osaka on Tuesday advanced to a potential semifinal showdown against Serena Williams at the Australian Open. Osaka earned her 19th victory in a row by overpowering Hsieh Su-wei 6-2, 6-2, and will next meet the winner of the quarterfinal match Tuesday night between Williams and No. 2-seeded Simona Halep.

"Normally I never look at my draw," Osaka said. "But everyone has told me about my draw here, so I kind of had no choice but to know who my next opponent is. It's definitely going to be really fun."

Seeded third, Osaka reached 122 mph (196 kph) on her serve against Hsieh. She hit seven aces, lost only two points on her first serve and was never broken. Osaka also played excellent defense, such as in the final game, when she raced forward to chase down a drop shot, flicking a backhand cross-court for a winner. At 35, Hsieh was the oldest woman to make her Grand Slam quarterfinal debut in the professional era. But Osaka wasn't fazed by Hsieh's flat, deceptive two-handed strokes from both sides, pounding forehand winners into both corners. Osaka's winning streak includes a U.S. Open title in September for her third Grand Slam championship. The streak also includes her fourth-round win last week, when she saved two match points and swept the final four games to overtake Garbine Muguruza.

"It makes me a bit more calm, knowing that my back was severely against the wall," Osaka said.

Osaka is 4-0 in Grand Slam quarterfinals, including a victory en route to the Australian Open title in 2019. Two quarterfinal matches were on the men's schedule: eight-time champion Novak Djokovic against Alexander Zverev, and Grigor Dimitrov versus 114th-ranked qualifier Aslan Karatsev.



Kevin Pietersen Congratulates India For Beating 'England B Team', Slams ECB



Press Trust of India

CHENNAI: With a brief but cheeky congratulatory message, former England captain Kevin Pietersen on Tuesday teased the Indian team for comprehensively beating what he called "England B" in the second Test.

India roared back into the four-match series with a crushing 317-run victory in little over three days to restore parity after the reverse in the opener.

"Badhai ho India, England B Ko harane ke liye (Congratulations India, for beating England B)," Pietersen wrote on his Twitter handle shortly after the home team's win.

The former star batsman then again lashed out at the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) for the strange move to continue its rotation policy even for such a massive series against one of the world's toughest teams.

"You don't pick your best team in the hardest place to WIN a Test match, you actually cannot even show emotion to it," Pietersen wrote.

He also expressed his surprise at the England team management's decision to send back experienced spin bowling all-rounder Moeen Ali after the second

match, in which he picked up eight wickets (four in each innings).

"We played in 2005 on terrestrial TV and BEAT Aus (Australia). It changed the game of cricket in this country. Cricket goes back to terrestrial TV for this HUGE series and England don't pick their best team for it."

"Moeen Ali now going home after ONE Test. Wow," Pietersen wondered.

Having lost the first Test by 227 runs, India inflicted on the visitors, an embarrassing defeat in the second match to not just come back into the series in style but also put themselves in contention for a place in the inaugural World Test Champion final against New Zealand at Lord's in June.

As part of the rotation policy introduced by the ECB to keep all their players in peak physical condition in the year of the T20 World Cup, England rested veteran pacer James Anderson for the second Test, despite losing Jofra Archer to elbow injury just before the game.

India were done in by Anderson's reverse swing on the fifth day of the first Test. Among other big players, England also sent back Jos Buttler after the win in the series opener while resting off-spinner Dom Bess for the second game.

Uttarakhand CM Orders Probe Into Wasim Jaffer Coaching Resignation Controversy

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has ordered a probe into the controversy surrounding the resignation of Wasim Jaffer as the head coach of the state's senior men's cricket team. The probe was ordered after a delegation of Cricket Association of Uttarakhand (CAU) met the chief minister, an official at Rawat's office said.

A controversy had erupted after Jaffer resigned as the head coach of the state's senior men's cricket team on February 8 over charges of religious bias in the selection of players.

Jaffer, in his statement, made it clear that some of the under-serving players were given a nod without his consultation, while CAU brushed aside the allegations, citing the coach had 'issues'.

If all this was not enough, now CAU is also looking into the possible bio-bubble breach. All this, though un-called for, has taken an ugly turn. Jaffer -- who is the most prolific run-scorer in India's domestic cricket history -- his integrity is in question now.

He rightly said, "It is very disheartening and it is very sad, to be honest, I have worked with so much intensity and I was fully committed being the coach of Ut-



tarakhand. I always wanted to push the deserving candidates. It seemed like that I was fighting for every little thing. There was so much interference of the selectors, sometimes non-deserving players are being pushed.

"The secretary Mahim Verma has a lot of interference, whenever you talk to him, he says to talk to him. There were many road-blocks and he never responded to me. Towards the end, they selected the team for Vijay Hazare Trophy and I was not kept in the loop. They changed the captain, 11 players were changed, if things have to go down like this, then how can one work? I am not saying that I will select the team, but if you do not take my recommendation then what is the point of me being there."

Virat Kohli Lauds 'Superb Character and Fighting Spirit on Display' After Second Test

"I told him if you have me here just give me some freedom. I have played my cricket very fairly so I will never let any unexpected thing happen and I will not let any deserving cricketer miss the chance. I had conveyed everything to them but unfortunately, things did not happen like that. It is very very sad if I need to sit there and talk about the communal angle."