



P3 NEWS
FAROOQ ABDULLAH ADVOCATES DIALOGUE WITH PAKISTAN TO END VIOLENCE IN J&K

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday advocated dialogue with Pakistan to end terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, saying friendship....

P7 THINK
THE LEGACY OF MALCOLM X

It's a cold Thursday afternoon in New York City. A tall Black man, in a black jacket, black track pants and black sneakers enters the Malcolm Shabazz Mosque on 116th Street in Harlem. He looks around before approaching the older man...



P11 SPORTS

'A TEST BATSMAN MUST BE ABLE TO HANDLE ALL KINDS OF CONDITIONS,' FEELS BEN STOKES

Brushing aside the incessant talk around spin-friendly pitches in India, big-hitting England all-rounder...



Widom Quote!

The soul is healed by being with children.
— Fyodor Dostoevsky

NEWS DIGEST

IED Defused In Srinagar Outskirts

SRINAGAR: An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) was defused in Nowgam area of the Srinagar city outskirts on Monday, police said. CRPF personnel, patrolling the Srinagar-Baramulla highway, found an IED by the roadside, a police official said. He said the traffic along the arterial road had to be stopped. Later the bomb disposal squad defused the IED and **More On P10**

Cardiac Arrest Kills Doctor In Anantnag

SRINAGAR: A doctor died on Monday after suffering a massive cardiac arrest in south Kashmir's Anantnag district. Dr Ashiq Hussain from Srinagar's Lal Bazar locality suffered a massive cardiac arrest at his clinic in Anantnag town on Monday afternoon, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Anantnag, Mukhtar Ahmad Shah said. Ashiq, he said, was immediately **More On P10**

Fake Job Racket Busted, 5 Held: Police

SRINAGAR: Police claimed to have busted a fake job racket by arresting five people, including two constables of the railway protection force (RPF), officials said Monday. Ashiq Hussain Naik of Kulgam, Ajaz Ahmad Lone of Sopore, Abdul Rashid Wani of Budgam and Hafizullah Lone and Ather-ul-Islam, both residents of Lolab were arrested by police with fake and forged appointment orders in **More On P10**

Youth Held In Petrol Pump Loot Case

SRINAGAR: Police have reportedly arrested a youth in connection with the robbery incident at a fuel station in central Kashmir's Budgam district last week. A 27-year-old mechanic from Bemina has been rounded up by police in its probe into the loot of Rs 4 lakh cash from a petrol pump in Nadiagam area of Budgam few days ago, news agency KNT reported Monday. Quoting **More On P10**

BSF Director General Visits Border Posts

JAISALMER: Border Security Force Director General Rakesh Asthana on Sunday visited forward posts along the India-Pakistan border here and inaugurated a government housing complex for the families of BSF personnel of the 119th Corps under the Regional Headquarters. Asthana, who started his three-day visit to Jaisalmer on Sunday, paid tributes to martyrs at the **More On P10**

5 Day Wet Spell In Kashmir From Today

Flight Operations, Highway Traffic Likely To Be Affected On Feb 26

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The meteorological department on Monday predicted five day wet spells in Jammu and Kashmir from Tuesday, while issuing a yellow warning for isolated heavy rain and snowfall on February 26 that could disrupt flight operations and make road conditions on the highways slippery.

According to a meteorological department official, scattered to wide-spread rain and snow is most likely in Jammu and Kashmir during Tuesday to ending February under the influence of two Western Disturbances.

"This system is most likely to affect North Kashmir, extreme western Ladakh during next 2 days, central, south Kashmir, Pirpanjal and

Jammu region from 25th onwards," he said.

He further said that heavy rain and snow are expected at some places during February 25-26th and its probable impacts include slippery road conditions on Banihal-Ramban, Zojila, Mughal road etc and May cause disruption of flights on 26th," the official added.

Meanwhile, the temperatures increased above sub-zero level across Kashmir Valley with Srinagar recording a low of 5.8 degree Celsius against 1.4 degree Celsius on the previous night, the official said.

The temperature was 4.9 degrees above the normal for this time of the year in Srinagar, the official said. Qazigund recorded a low of 3.0 degree Celsius against 0.0 degree Celsius on the previous night. **More On P10**



'Crackdown' Makes Comeback In City Centre

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: In a reminiscence of 90s era, Special Operations Group (SOG) of police and CRPF on Monday carried out a crackdown in Lal Chowk area of this capital city and subjected the people to frisking and identification checks.

SOG personnel assisted by paramilitary CRPF cordoned off a stretch from court road to Hari Singh High Street here and carried out a surprise crackdown, reports said. The commuters and pedestrians, the report said were made to stay in a queue and subjected to frisking and identification checks.

The videos and photographs of HSHS and Amira Kadal frisking went viral on social media. Most of the netizens said that the crackdown was reminiscent of 1990's when people would be lined up only to be frisked and questioned and **More On P10**

LG To J&K Politicians

'Want Early Assembly Polls Cooperate With Delimitation Panel'

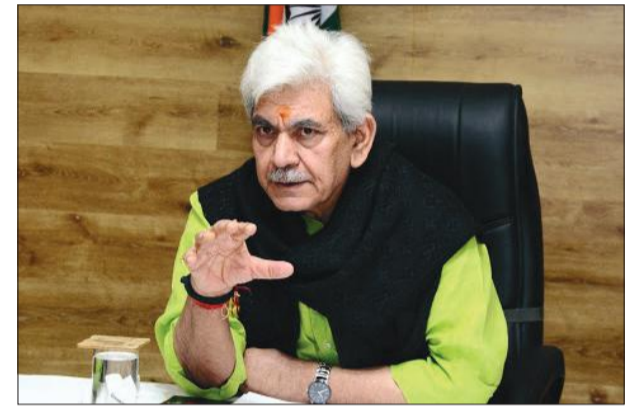
Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday said political parties should cooperate in the completion of the delimitation exercise if they want early elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

"Those who want early assembly elections in J-K are requested to help and cooperate with the delimitation commission, instead of making excuses," Sinha told reporters.

He was asked about the demand raised by the PDP and the NC for holding early assembly polls.

The Delimitation Commission met on Thursday to seek suggestions from the associate members



on the process of delimitation of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Associate members are lawmakers from their respective states who assist the delimitation panel in

redrawing parliamentary and assembly constituencies.

However, National Conference's Farooq Abdullah, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi skipped the meeting. **More On P10**

Mehbooba Strikes A Defiant Note

'Let IGP Kashmir Do His Duty, I Will Do Mine'



Agencies

SRINAGAR: Days after Inspector General of Police (IGP) Kashmir,

Vijay Kumar warned mainstream leaders for instigating masses with fake news and rumours, the Peoples **More On P10**

Retains PDP Presidency For 3 Years

The former chief minister of Jammu and Kashmir Mehbooba Mufti was on Monday re-elected as the president of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP). Mehbooba was unanimously re-elected as party president for the period of three years, said a party spokesperson. He said that her **More On P10**

"I WANT TO SEE THE END TO SUFFERINGS OF PEOPLE that include denial of body of a slain son to his father. I won't allow Kashmir to become a ring of war for India and Pakistan and instead Kashmir should become a bridge of peace between the two nations. Dialogue is the best way to resolve issues."

Bird Flu Case Detected In A'nag

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A case of H5N8 (Avian influenza) also known as bird flu has been reported from Dooru area in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Officials said that the samples of dead crows taken ten days earlier in Arbal area of Dooru have come out positive. They said soon after the confirmation of the case, a rapid response team has been deployed in the area.

Officials said that SOPs are to be adopted fully by the rapid response team besides that demarcation of the infected and surveillance zone along with disinfection of the area is also being done. **More On P10**

Schools To Reopen In 'Staggered Manner' Next Month

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The government on Monday ordered reopening of all schools in Kashmir Valley in a staggered manner from next month.

The government said that the schools will only reopen on March-01 for the students' of 9th to 12th standard and the students of elementary classes

will reopen for physical academic activities from March-08.

"In continuation of government order, it is hereby ordered that all government educational institutions including recognized private schools shall physically open in a staggered manner for academic activities wherein schools of Kashmir division and winter

zone of Jammu division for Class 9th to 12th will function from March-01-2021," reads the order issued by the administrative secretary to the government, B K Singh.

It further reads that in case of elementary classes' upto class 8th, teachers shall attend the schools from March-01-2021 for preparation **More On P10**

KU's Leh, Kargil Satellite Campus Shifted To Ladakh UT

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha has formally transferred the satellite campus of University of Kashmir located at Leh and Kargil to the Union Territory of Ladakh on "as is where is basis" along with staff. In an order, commissioner secretary to the government, Manoj Kumar Dwivedi (IAS), said that the Lt. Governor has transferred Leh and Kargil satellite campus' of University of Kashmir to Ladakh UT. **More On P10**

'We Have Lost Everything': Grieving Grandfather At Aishmuqam

Augib Javeed

LOGRIPORA, AISHMUQAM; In a room full of mourners, septuagenarian

Mohammad Abdullah Ahanger sits numb with grief.

His frozen face makes grievous believe that he's shattered by his cop grandson, Sohail Ahmad Ahanger's killing.

Ahanger Jr. along with his colleague Mohammad Yousuf was killed in a militant attack at Bhagat Barzulla area of Srinagar on February 19.

CCTV footage of the killing went viral on social media sites, and drew raging reactions.

"Kam'bar phutum (I'm shattered)," Abdullah, a retired government teacher, told Kashmir Observer.

The slain cop is survived by his young widow, two orphans, his aged 'half-widow' mother, and his yet-to-be-named conflict-torn parentage of Kashmir, his grandfather.

Amid cries and shrieks, Sohail's innocent twin—Sehal (4) and Usman (2)—are still wondering about their Janu, their father's routine calls.

"Since those calls have forever stopped now, they're enquiring about their father," the grieving grandfather said.

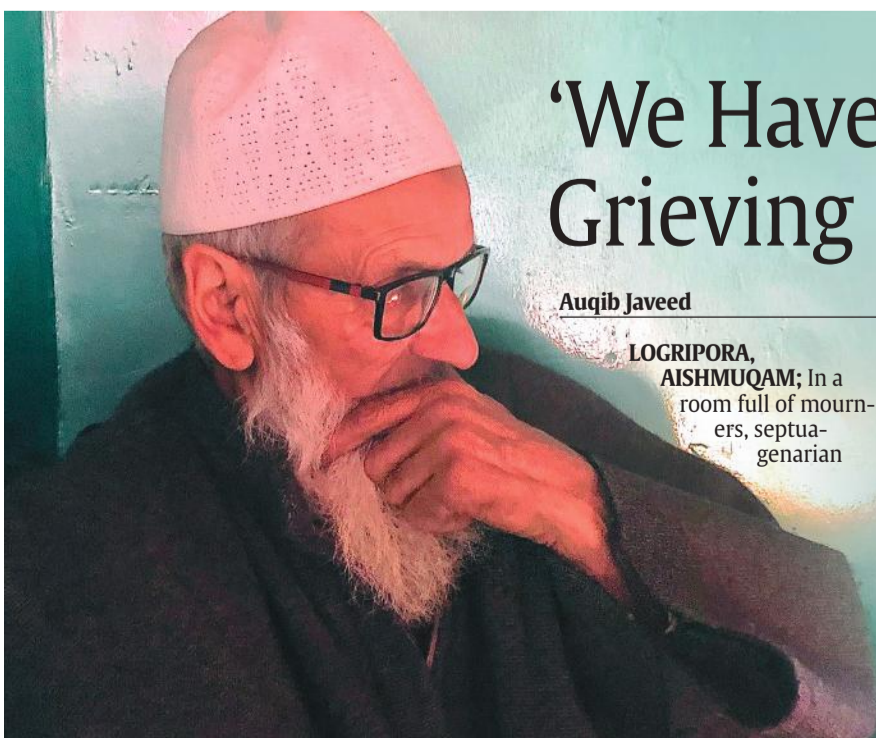
"We haven't told them anything. And what're we supposed to tell them! Should I tell them that this is

what was written in their fate?"

To express solidarities, the villagers arrive in twos and threes at the Ahanger home, nestled 70 kilometers from Srinagar.

This is the second strife tragedy that has struck the family in last thirty years.

Sohail was 7-months old when his father, Mushtaq Ahmad Ahanger, a flour mill clerk, disappeared during nineties. Like many other Kashmiris, his whereabouts are still unknown. **More On P10**



Study examines effect of consumers picking their own price

Agencies

Researchers from California Polytechnic State University and the University of Oregon during a recent study examined the potential benefits for firms and consumers of pick-your-price (PYP) over pay-what-you-want (PWYW) and fixed pricing strategies. The study, forthcoming in the Journal of Marketing, is titled "The Control-Effort Trade-Off in Participative Pricing: How Easing Pricing Decisions Enhances Purchase Outcomes" and is authored by Cindy Wang, Joshua Beck, and Hong Yuan. Over the past few decades, marketers have experimented with pricing strategies that delegate some or all of the price determination to consumers. Their goal is to engage consumers, boost sales, enhance brand loyalty, and contribute to a sellers' overall competitive position. However, in recent years many firms, including Priceline.com, Panera Bread, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, have abandoned their once-famous use of participative pricing and reverted to fixed prices. The research team pins down and theorizes a tension that consumers experience when they evaluate a purchase that involves participative pricing. On one hand, consumers are attracted to the economically advantageous pricing terms (i.e., pay anything, including \$0) that permit them to maximize their utility. On the other hand, consumers must decide the final price, which takes effort. Building on this control-effort proposition, the researchers predict an overall negative effect of a pay-what-you-want (PWYW) pricing strategy because of the high effort involved in deciding the final price. They also predict an overall positive effect of a novel pick your price (PYP) strat-



egy, which allows consumers to choose a price from a set of options. PWYW and PYP both enhance feelings of pricing control, but PYP does not increase pricing effort since consumers find it relatively easy to make constrained choices. The study investigates the effects of PWYW and PYP with five studies in a variety of contexts (e.g., retail food, health services, financial services, entertainment, and household products). Some primary results from a field study that involves actual purchases and profit outlines establish the strong performance of PYP relative to fixed prices and PWYW. Findings from lab experiments further validate that compared to a fixed price, PWYW decreases purchase intentions because of the high pricing effort, even though it confers full pricing control.

However, because PYP provides a sense of pricing control but not pricing effort, it consequently increases purchase intentions. These effects hold regardless of the price level (high vs. low). Additionally, shopping motives (to save money or time) influence the effects of PWYW and PYP on purchase intentions. As Wang explains, "When consumers are motivated to save money, the advantages of pricing control are amplified and the costs of pricing effort are minimized; thus, both PWYW and PYP increase purchase intentions relative to a fixed price. Alternatively, when consumers are motivated to save time, the disadvantages of pricing effort are enhanced and the advantages of pricing control are attenuated. Hence, under such conditions, PWYW performs worse than fixed price and PYP and fixed price's performance are

comparable." Also, single (vs. multiple) purchase decisions serve as a crucial factor, such that the positive effect of PYP on purchase choice attenuates over multiple purchase decisions because they require a great deal of effort. Lastly, in a parallel investigation in donation contexts, both PWYW and PYP perform significantly better than a fixed price strategy. By adopting a consumer perspective on participative pricing, this study explains why PWYW might decrease purchases and specifies when PWYW and PYP will be more or less effective. Beck says that "Managers can selectively implement PWYW and PYP to enhance their pricing performance. Adopting PWYW strategies requires careful consideration, and even if marketing research were to indicate that consumers favour higher pricing control, the execution might fail due to consumers' reluctance to expend effort to determine their own prices. Alternatively, firms might benefit more generally from adopting PYP strategies." Consumers' willingness to exert pricing effort also varies across shopping contexts. For example, the research suggests PWYW is more effective when consumers are motivated to save money, such as during the holiday season. Yet PWYW likely is less effective for busy consumers just seeking to get their holiday shopping done quickly.

For online stores that emphasize monetary savings, both PYP and PWYW could be more effective than conventional fixed prices. Contexts that involve donations are another scenario for which participative pricing, especially PWYW, promises benefits; consumers already expect to expend effort for the benefit of others.

از نیابت ماگام با اجلاس جناب نائب تحصیلدار صاحب ماگام
 عنوان: ممنوع در خواست افطار انجم و صبریا صادق پٹران مرصادی پر مرمر صادق
 سائیکس موٹیج جیہ آہ پھلادی
 براد عطا کی یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ تحت SRO294
اشتہار براد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان العدر میں سائیکس نے ایک درخواست براد یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ چیل کی ہے۔ جو کہ فخر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اور ایذا کرنے مطلب ہے کہ پڑیل افتراد پر مشتمل ہے
 محمد صادق لون ولد سلام محمد لون بریانی ہڈانہر 61 سال
 محمد و نیکم زبیر محمد صادق کمریہ کام 58
 سیاحت صادق اختر کمریہ کام 28
 نورث اختر ملازم 26
 افطار انجم اختر زبیر تعلیم 23
 صبرینا اختر زبیر تعلیم 21
 عاتق صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 20
 عمر صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 18
 اسکے علاوہ کئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتلا گیا ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں
 شخص یا اہلیس کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم کے اندر چیل کریں۔ معاذ
 کرے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار ماگام na kg

از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کھانابال
 درخواست علامہ نذر اختر نذر امیر سائیکس موٹیج پر
 براد وصول یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ SRO 294/ 375
اشتہار براد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان العدر میں سائیکس نے ایک درخواست براد یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ چیل کی ہے۔ جو کہ فخر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اور ایذا کرنے مطلب ہے کہ پڑیل افتراد پر مشتمل ہے
 محمد صادق لون ولد سلام محمد لون بریانی ہڈانہر 61 سال
 محمد و نیکم زبیر محمد صادق کمریہ کام 58
 سیاحت صادق اختر کمریہ کام 28
 نورث اختر ملازم 26
 افطار انجم اختر زبیر تعلیم 23
 صبرینا اختر زبیر تعلیم 21
 عاتق صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 20
 عمر صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 18
 اسکے علاوہ کئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتلا گیا ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں
 شخص یا اہلیس کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم کے اندر چیل کریں۔ معاذ
 کرے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار ماگام na kg

از نیابت سوپورہ
 عنوان: ممنوع در خواست اثیر احمد جوہلی ولد سلام احمد جوہلی سائیکس موٹیج پر
 سائیکس موٹیج جیہ آہ پھلادی
 براد عطا کی یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ تحت SRO294
اشتہار براد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام
 معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان العدر میں سائیکس نے ایک درخواست براد یکبارہ امرا سرٹیفیکٹ چیل کی ہے۔ جو کہ فخر ہذا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اور ایذا کرنے مطلب ہے کہ پڑیل افتراد پر مشتمل ہے
 محمد صادق لون ولد سلام محمد لون بریانی ہڈانہر 61 سال
 محمد و نیکم زبیر محمد صادق کمریہ کام 58
 سیاحت صادق اختر کمریہ کام 28
 نورث اختر ملازم 26
 افطار انجم اختر زبیر تعلیم 23
 صبرینا اختر زبیر تعلیم 21
 عاتق صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 20
 عمر صادق پیر زبیر تعلیم 18
 اسکے علاوہ کئی بھی افراد کہ نہیں بتلا گیا ہے۔ سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث ادا کرنے میں
 شخص یا اہلیس کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہم کے اندر چیل کریں۔ معاذ
 کرے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہو گا۔
 نائب تحصیلدار سوپورہ am

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
J&K SERVICES SELECTION BOARD
 Hema Complex, Sector No. 3 ChanniHimmat, Jammu
 (www.jkssb.nic.in)
PUBLIC NOTICE
 The JKSSB is in receipt of several complaints from candidates, who are going to appear in OMR Based Objective Type Written examinations conducted by the Board for the posts of for the post of Class IV post on 27th, 28th of February and 1st of March 2021 from 12.00 noon to 2.00 p.m. across the UT of J&K, that some people have been calling/ mailing them and demanding bribe (monetary consideration) in lieu of providing question papers and their selection in the written test. It has been alleged that said people are claiming to be representatives of the JKSSB.
 As such, the Board advises all the candidates/applicants not to fall into the trap of such fraudsters/ unscrupulous elements. The Board further clarifies that no employee of JKSSB has any access to the confidential activities of the examination process. The Board also urges candidates to bring any such more incidents along with documentary proof to its notice immediately, for taking further necessary action in the matter. Issued in public interest.
 Controller of Examinations
 J&K Services Selection Board,
 Jammu.
 No.SSB/Class IV/2021/1670-84
 Dated :-21-02-2021
 DIPP-13583/20

Public Notice
 I want to transfer my pesticides license from Shah Pesticides Keller Shopian To Shah Pesticides Mashwara 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 Sriangar within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Gh Rasool Shah S/o Ab Rahim Shah
 R/O Mashwara Shopian ast

PUBLIC NOTICE
 I Want To Change The Name Of My Guest House From New Jigar Guest House to Grand Jigar Guest House Situated At Old Gagribal Road Boulevard Dalgate. If any body having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Director Tourism Sriangar within a period of seven days from the day of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.
 Sonu Sharma
 01942500774 | 9797449215 PYD

Public Notice
 I am applying for the issuance of Fertilizer License for my business unit. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Chief Agricultural Officer Shopian within a period of seven days.
 Lateef Ahmad Teli
 S/o Ab Hameed Teli
 R/o Chakoora Shopian ast

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education, BRANCH OFFICE SOPORE
 The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars
 Name Saqib Ahmad Khan
 Fathers Name Amjad Ahmad Khan
 Mother's Name Hafeeza Begum
 Roll No 3210241
 Session / YEAR Annual Regular 2019
 Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the same before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.
 Sd/ Assistant Secretary
 Branch Office Sopore
 AMS

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PHE DIVISION KUPWARA
 NOTICE INVITING TENDER
 Fresh E- Tendering NIT No:33 /PHE/Kup/2020-21.
 For & on behalf of Lt Governor J&K Union Territory E-Tenders (In Single Cover System) are invited on item rate basis from approved eligible contractors registered with J&K UT Govt PWD, Railways & other State/Central Govt. for following work indicated against it.

| S.No | Name of works | Est Cost (Rs. In lacs) | Cost of T/Doc | Time of Completion in days | Class of Cont | Major Head | Tender Call |
|------|---|------------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Construction of RCC Chamber at Head Site, providing/Laying/Fitting of supply mains, Distribution system at Aloosa, Babapora,Shaloor Panzgam etc for WSS Babapora Machilpora | 63.75 | 1400/- | 20 working days | AAY | NRDWP | 2 nd |

Position of funds: Available
 Documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications can be had from the departmental website https://jktenders.gov.in as per schedule of dates below.

| Sl. | Date of publishing/Uploading of Tender Notice | 20-02-2021 |
|-----|---|-----------------------------|
| 01. | Date of publishing/Uploading of Tender Notice | 20-02-2021 |
| 02. | Start of downloading | 20-02-2021 |
| 03. | Bid Submission start date. | 20-02-2021 |
| 04. | Bid Submission end date. | 26-02-2021(Upto 16:00Hours) |
| 05. | Date & time of opening Bids (Online) | 27-02-2021 (10.00AM) |

Note :-The Bidders are advised to read all conditions laid down in the NIT carefully before uploaded softcopy any short fall found in the soft copy the tender shall be rejected.
 Note: As per Circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir CivilSector Finance department vide No.OM No.A/24(2017)-651 dtd.07-06-2018 which reads as under:-
 a) Furnishing of Hard Copies of bids immediately after submission of e-tenders is dispensed with. The same should be obtained only from the Bidder who's declared 1st/lowest (L-1) after opening of financial bids.
 b) The Cost of tenders should be collected by introducing E-challan/ or simply uploading a copy of necessary Treasury Challan/ Receipt. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/ in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Jal Shakti Kupwara tender inviting authority).
 1. All Bidders has to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money deposit (EMD) as per the circular of Finance Department (Bid Security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
 2. The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR within 02 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
 Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of E-Challan cum Treasury Minor Head :0215- water supply & sanitation in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Kupwara (tender inviting authority) and Earnest money /Bid security in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to Executive Engineer PHE Division Kupwara (Tender receiving authority)
 Bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria specification. 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 rates given above.
 Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of demand draft in favour of Executive Engineer PHE Division Kupwara and Earnest money /Bid security in shape from any nationalized Bank pledged to Executive Engineer PHE Division Kupwara (tender receiving authority)
 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 email address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same web site in the office of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Kupwara. (Tender receiving authority)
 The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids. The earnest money shall be forfeited if:
 Any bidder/tenderer withdraw his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
 Failure of successful bidder to furnish the required performances security within the specified time limit.
 Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.
 Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.
 No:PHEDK/3915-25
 Dt: 20/ 2/2021
 DIPP-13606/20
 sd/-
 Executive Engineer
 PHE Division
 Kupwara

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL
 NIT NO 125 OF R&B/Khanabal/2020-21 /E-TENDERING/10300-10 DATED 19-02 -2021
 For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, Union Territory of J&K e-tenders are invited on %age basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

| S. No | Name of Work | Estimated Cost(Rs in Lacs) | Cost of T/Doc.(in Rs) | Time of completion | Major Head of Account | Class of Contractor |
|-------|---|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. | Supply and laying of furnishing items to Principal District Session Judge Residential Quarter at Mehandi Kadal Anantnag | 1.43 | 200 | 05 Days | 2059 - M&R | DEE Class Only |

Position of AAA = Accorded
 Position of funds = AVAILABLE
 1. The NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, 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 | 19-02-2021 |
| 2 | Period of Downloading of bidder documents | From 20-02-2021 (09:00AM) To 24-02-2021 (05:00PM) |
| 3 | Bid submission Start Date | From 20-02-2021 (09:00AM) To 24-02-2021 (05:00PM) |
| 4 | Bid Submission End Date | To 24-02-2021 (05:00PM) |
| 6 | Date and time of opening of bid (online) | 25-02-2021 (11:00 AM) |

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal
 2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 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 PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving Authority).
 3. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
 4. The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.
 5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal
 6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid
 7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
 a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
 b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
 c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
 d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
 e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
 f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.
 (Er Qazi Javeed Amin)
 Executive Engineer,
 R&B Division Khanabal
 DIPP-13587/20



BACK ON THE RAILS: Train services resumed after 11 months in Kashmir on Monday after being derailed by the pandemic. KO Photo Abid Bhat

MMU Grieved Over Demise Of Moulvi Kirmani

SRINAGAR- Jammu & Kashmir Mutaahida Majlis-e-Ulema has expressed deep grief and sorrow over the demise of renowned Islamic scholar and Imam and Khateeb of Jamia Masjid Handwara Moulvi Manzoor Ahmad Kirmani, who lost his life in a tragic road accident, the other day.



In a statement, the Majlis-e-Ulema while paying rich tributes to Moulana Kirmani for his religious, social and milli services in Handwara and Kupwara said the deceased's family is highly respected in the area. Whenever the MMU president Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir Mirwaiz Umar Farooq used to visit the Handwara and Kupwara, the deceased would play a pivotal role in making the programmes successful, the statement said, adding that Moulana Kirmani was

a pious person and a man of noble character.

On the sad demise of Moulana Manzoor Kirmani, the MMU on behalf of its members especially its incarcerated Patron Mirwaiz-e-Kashmir expressed heartfelt condolence and solidarity with the bereaved family especially with his brother Mufti Nizamuddin Nadwi. It prayed for the highest place in Jannah for the departed soul and forbearance to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss.

National SARAS Mela From March 23 At Srinagar

SRINAGAR: Mission Director, Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM), Rubina Kousar on Monday said that the JKRLM is going to organise first National Sale of Articles and Rural Artisan Society (SARAS) Mela, for five days from March 23th, 2021 at Kashmir Haat, Exhibi-

tion Ground, here. MD, JKRLM said the SARAS Mela is the largest rural exhibition in the country offering ethnic food and artistry by small and medium enterprises of SHGs. She said JKRLM is holding this event for the first time in Srinagar. She said that the department

is fully prepared for holding this impressive event besides all the required arrangements have been put in place for the success of the 5 days National Mela. Moreover, it was informed that 138 participants from 23 states are expected to participate in the Mela to promote and sell their products.

DAK Condoles Demise Of Dr Ashiq

SRINAGAR- Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Monday condoled the sad demise of Dr Ashiq Hussain who died of sudden cardiac arrest in his clinic in Anantnag.

President DAK, Dr Suhail Naik paid rich tributes to the deceased and expressed deep condolence with the bereaved family. DAK members prayed for eternal peace to the departed soul and expressed heartfelt sympathies to the bereaved family.

Shocked over the sudden death, Dr Naik said it is a great loss to the medical fraternity and his death has resulted in a great void in the field of medicine.

Dr Ashiq, a resident of Lal Bazar, Srinagar suffered a massive cardiac arrest at his clinic in Anantnag town. Though he was shifted to district hospital Anantnag where he was declared dead on arrival. The deceased doctor was working as Medical Officer at SDH Shangus, Anantnag.

Daily Wagers Again Hit Streets, Demand Regularization

SRINAGAR: Daily wagers and contractual from different government offices, including Public Health Engineering (PHE) again staged a dharna in Srinagar demanding their regularization. Holding placards which reads 'regularize the services of daily wagers and contractual', 'We will fight till regularization of 61000 daily wagers', 'donot spoil

future of daily wagers and contractual'. The agitators alleged that despite repeated assurance their services were not regularized. Majority of us have completed more than ten years of service as daily wagers and contractual still our services are not being regularized. They said a number of daily wagers have died without getting justice.

NOTICE

I have lost my degree certificate of Masters in Business Administration (MBA) under registration number BGSBU/09/616-MBA (session 2009), bearing Roll No: 29-MBA-09. I intend to apply for a duplicate. Objections, if any, should be filed before the office of Controller Examination, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) Rajouri, within a week from the publication of this notice.

Gazala Nasir
D/O Nasir Ali Mir
R/O Narwara, Iddgah, Srinagar
Jammu and Kashmir

از نیات ماگام با اجلاس جناب نائب تحصیلدار صاحب ماگام

معاون مندرجہ ذیل امور میں سالانہ ایک درخواست برآمد کیلئے ایسا سرٹیفیکیشن پیش کیا ہے جو کہ فوری طور پر منظور کیا جائے اور اس کے لئے درخواست دہندہ کو مطلع کیا گیا ہے۔

اشتہار برآمد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاون مندرجہ ذیل امور میں درخواستیں درکار ہیں جن سے اس سلسلے میں ہدایتی مکتوب جاری کیا گیا ہے۔

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| 60 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 58 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 25 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 21 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 18 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 16 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |

اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کو جس سے سال کے کسی ایک ماہوار آمدنی 8000 ہے سرٹیفیکیشن اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا گھرانے کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام کے اندر پیش کریں۔ عذر گزارنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار
sult-r

از نیات نائب تحصیلدار ماگام

معاون مندرجہ ذیل امور میں درخواستیں درکار ہیں جن سے اس سلسلے میں ہدایتی مکتوب جاری کیا گیا ہے۔

اشتہار برآمد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاون مندرجہ ذیل امور میں درخواستیں درکار ہیں جن سے اس سلسلے میں ہدایتی مکتوب جاری کیا گیا ہے۔

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| 55 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 50 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 22 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 20 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 17 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 15 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |
| 11 سال | ریٹائرمنٹ |

اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کو جس سے سال کے کسی ایک ماہوار آمدنی 8000 ہے سرٹیفیکیشن اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص یا گھرانے کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ اپنا عذر یا اعتراض ساتھ ہیام کے اندر پیش کریں۔ عذر گزارنے کے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار
sult

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT.

Office of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Division Chadoora.

Gist of Notice Inviting e-Tenders
e-NIT NO:-02/JJM/NABL of 02/2021 (2020-2021)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of J&K, Executive Engineer Nodal Officer JJM/NABL of PHE Division Chadoora invites tenders by e-tendering mode in single cover system from Contractors/Firms of approved/registered with J&K UT PWD/MES/Railways for the works detailed below.

| S. No | Name of Work | Estimated cost | Earnest money | Cost of document | Time of completion | Head of Account | Class of Contractor |
|-------|--|----------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--|
| 01 | Providing/fixing of Working table and Electric Backup and other allied items for 10 District Labs viz Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam, Bandipora, Ganderbal, Kulgam, Kupwara, Pulwama, Shopian and Chadoora (JJM/NABL) | Rs.1.16Cr | Rs.232000.00 | Rs.8000.00 | 15 Days | JJM/NABL | AAY (Civil/Mechanical/Electrical contractor with GST Registration) |

Position of funds:- Available

The bidding document can be downloaded from the website jktenders.gov.in where in all the terms and conditions are highlighted in details.

Important Dates.
Date of Publishing: 19-02-2021
Date of downloading the bidding documents: 19-02-2021 to 27-02-2021 upto 2:00 P.M
Date of submission of bid online: 19-02-2021 to 27-02-2021 upto 3:00 P.M
Date of opening: 27-02-2021 upto 4:00 P.M

General terms and conditions:-

- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website jktenders.gov.in from: 19/02/2021 to 27/02/2021 up to 1500 hrs. The Bids will be opened on 27/02/2021 1600 hours. Online documents can be seen and downloaded from the website.
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- Technical bids of bidder shall be opened online in the office of the Executive Engineer, PHE Division Chadoora.
- Bid document contains qualifying criteria for bidder, specification, conditions and other details.
- The rates should be strictly quoted as per the unit advertised in the rate list.
- The contractors shall inspect & examine the site, and shall satisfy himself about the location of the site, its approaches and nature of the ground and sub soil before uploading the bids/submission of tender.
- The work should be executed under the proper guidelines/SOPs issued by the Govt. in view of the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Documental proof having successfully executed the similar nature of work as per the requirement.
- The experience certificate shall in the form of allotment order whereunder it must be mentioned in the nature of job undertaken.
- Completion/performance certificate issued by the competent authority not less than the rank of the Executive Engineer.
- If the contractor fails to complete the work within the stipulated time period, the penalty of RS.0.01% of the allotted cost of work shall be imposed upon the Contractor recurring on daily basis. In addition to penalty prescribed in agreement form 25/26 double.
- During the execution of work, department reserves the right to vary the quantity provided in the contract.
- Tender drawings furnished with the tender document shall not be deemed as working drawings. These may vary from the actual working drawing.
- The contractors shall carry out the various mandatory tests as per specification (e.g. the crushing strength of concrete, cube tests, gradation test for aggregate, slump test etc) as directed by Engineer in-charge. All testing charges/expenses etc shall be borne by the contractor.
- The concrete mix shall be designed as per revised BIS (IS; 10262 of 2009) and concreting shall be strictly done as per the mix design by the contractor.

No:-PHEDC/6914-6934
Dated:- 19-02-2021
DIPK-13578/20

"Executive Engineer"
Jal Shakti (PHE) Division Chadoora.
(Nodal Officer JJM/NABL)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, R&B DIVISION SOPORE.

GIST OF TENDER NOTICE NO; 253 OF 2020-2021
Issued vide endorsement No;- 15285-15305 dated;- 22.02.2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of J&K, the Executive Engineer, R&B Division Sopore hereby invites sealed tenders affixed with Re 2/- Revenue stamps from the approved Government Contractors for the works/ works below mentioned works.

The tenders should be addressed to the Executive Engineer, (R&B) Sopore which should reach in his office on or before 03.03.2021 upto 2 P.M. The tender documents of the work/ works covering with terms and conditions of the contract can be had from the office of the Executive Engineer, R&B Division Sopore after production of valid enlistment card by the contractor on any working day during office hours upto 01.03.2021 on cash payment. No Tender form, shall be accepted. These will be opened on the same date or any other subsequent date convenient to the Executive Engineer, (R&B) Sopore, in presence of the contractors who may like to be present there. In case the last date of receipt of tenders happens to be a holiday/ Hartial/ Curfew the same shall be received on next working day. The payment for the work shall be made as and when funds for the same are available. One time used CDR shall not be accepted. The terms and conditions can be seen in the tender notice available in the Divisional office.

| S.No | Name of work | Adv. cost | Class of contract | Cost of tender document | Time for completion |
|------|--|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | M/H 4059 State-sector | | | | |
| 1 | Upgradation of various roads in Sopore constituency Hyder Colony Link) by way of providing and laying of WBM grade Ist and WBM grade 2 nd and laying of RCC spun pipes. | 0.86 | DEE | 200/- | 10 days |

Note:-

- All Bidders have to submit Bid security Declaration form instead of Earnest money as per circular of Finance Department (Bid Security declaration form is as per Annexure "A" below.
- The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 02 days before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work/DLP.

For and on behalf of the,
Lt. Governor of J&K ,

No: 15306-07
Date: 22.02.2021

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Sopore.

DIPK-13662/20

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS
SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311 ✈️

RAILWAYS

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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1883 - American Anti-Vivisection Society organized (Philadelphia)
- 1886 - Aluminum manufacturing process developed
- 1886 - "The Times" of London publishes world's 1st classified ad
- 1903 - The US and Cuba sign an agreement by which Cuba releases Guantanamo and Bahia Hondo to the US for naval stations.
- 1903 - The Sultan agrees to an Austro-Russian plan to reform the government of Macedonia in yet another effort to stifle the rising disorder among the rival Bulgarian.
- 1904 - United States exercises control of the Panama Canal Zone for \$10 million.
- 1904 Having occupied Korea, Japan signs a treaty with Korea under which it becomes a Japanese protectorate in return for Japanese protection from other powers
- 1919 - Fascist Party forms in Italy by Benito Mussolini
- 1940 - Russian troops conquer Lasi Island
- 1943 - German troops pull back through Kasserine-pass Tunisia
- 1944 - Forced deportation of the Chechen and Ingush people to Central Asia.
- 1954 - 1st mass inoculation against polio with Salk vaccine (Pittsburgh)
- 1958 - USSR performs nuclear test at Novaya Zemlya USSR.
- 1967 - US troops begin largest offensive of Vietnam War.
- 1983 - The United States Environmental Protection Agency announces its intent to buy out and evacuate the dioxin-contaminated community of Times Beach, Missouri.
- 1987 - Supernova 1987A in LMC 1st seen; 1st naked-eye supernova since 1604.
- 1991 - US insists Iraq publicly announce it is leaving Kuwait by 12 PM EST.
- 1997 - Scientists in Scotland announce they have cloned an adult mammal, producing a lamb named "Dolly"
- 1998 - Osama bin Laden publishes a fatwa declaring jihad against all Jews and Crusaders.
- 2007 - Japan launches its fourth spy satellite, stepping up its ability to monitor potential threats such as North Korea.
- 2012 - A series of bomb attacks across 12 Iraqi cities kills 60 and injures 200.
- 2013 - 51 people are killed and 62 are injured in conflict between rival tribes in Darfur, Sudan.

PRAYERS

FAJR 5: 45
ZUHR 12: 44
ASR 4: 42
MAGRIB 6: 24
ISHA 7: 44

RAJAB-UL-MURAJJAB
1442

From KO Archives

APHC CHAIRMAN ESCAPES BID ON LIFE

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR - The chairman of the Hurriyat Conference, Prof Abdul Ghani Bhat and about 10 of his colleagues had providential escape at Tarzoo today when residents spotted a grenade tied to the footboard of their vehicle just as the APHC delegation was about to drive off from the village.

Prof Bhat had addressed a public gathering outside the local mosque, and he and the rest of the delegation, which among others included Qazi Manzoor, Gbulam Nabi Zaki, Syed Iftikher Hus-sain Jalali, Mukhtar Ahmad Naqshbandi, Iftikhar Geelani, Sheikh Abdul Hameed, had boarded their Tata Sumo at about 3:30 p m when someone from the surrounding crowd shouted in alarm. There is a grenade tied to the vehicle! Get down, "the crowd shouted," Prof Bhat told Kashmir Observer.

The grenade, found tied to the rod that serves as the foot-board of the Sumo (JKOIB 7032) was detached by our of Prof Bhat's personal security guards.

"The grenade pin had been pulled half-way out of the socket; the bumpy ride and the vehicle's vibrations would have done the rest", Prof Bhat said. Whether or not it would have killed us, but the grenade would certainly have exploded once we were on our way".

In all probability the grenade had been planted on the vehicle at the spot when it had been left parked in Taarzo, Prof Bhat said.

The grenade was handed over to police guard on duty at the local branch of the JK Bank, as, according to Prof Bhat, there were no policemen around in the vicinity.

We didn't encounter a single policeman, even when the public raised an outcry against the attempt", he said. In fact, it was from the local bank that the SHO Sopore was informed.

It is a wild and tendentious assertion on part of the police to claim that they recovered the grenade. There were absolutely no policemen around".

The attack was probably in honour of the three-month extension of the cease-fire. Evidently, a big morsel was required". Apart from Bhat, nearly 10 of his colleagues had boarded the Sumo when the alarm was raised.

He said he would not like to apportion blame, but that he found the police statement shocking.

The Hurriyat chairman said Taarzo had not been on their itinerary for the day The Hurriyat group had set out for Bulgaam and Amarpora to meet the next kin of firing victims and it was at Amarpora that the delegation, on an impulse, decided to visit Taarzo.

It was prayer time when they had arrived at Taarzo."Infact, I led the prayers at the local mosque, and later, at public insistence, addressed a gathering in the adjoining grounds," he said.

KASHMIR OBSERVER, 23 February (, 2001)

Pak-American Gets 12-Year In Jail For Illegal Funding To US Politicians



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON/ISLAMABAD: A Pakistani-American venture capitalist has been sentenced to 12 years in prison and fined USD 1.75 million for falsifying records to hide his work as an unregistered foreign agent while lobbying high-level US officials. Imaad Shah Zuberi, 50, a California resident, was sentenced by US District Judge Virginia A Phillips, who also ordered him to pay USD 15,705,080 in restitution and a criminal fine of USD 1.75 million, the US Department of Justice (DoJ) said in a statement.

"Zuberi turned acting as an unregistered foreign agent into a business enterprise. He used foreign money to fund illegal campaign contributions that bought him political influence, and used that influence to lobby US officials for policy changes on behalf of numerous foreign principals," said Assistant Attorney General for National Security John C Demers.

"He not only concealed his lucrative agreements with those foreign principals but also made false statements about them in a Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) filing," he said.

After learning he was under investigation, Zuberi doubled down on his criminal conduct, obstructing justice by creating false records, destroying evidence, and

attempting to purchase witnesses' silence, Demers said.

In November 2019, Zuberi pleaded guilty to a three-count information charging him with violating the FARA by making false statements on a FARA filing, tax evasion, and making illegal campaign contributions. In June 2020, he pleaded guilty in a separate case to one count of obstruction of justice, Pakistani newspaper "The News" reported on Sunday.

"Zuberi flouted federal laws that restrict foreign influences upon our government and prohibit injecting foreign money into our political campaigns. He enriched himself by defrauding his clients and evading the payment of taxes," said Acting US Attorney Tracy L Wilkison for the Central District of California.

"As Mr Zuberi's greed and wealth increased, his elaborate influence-peddling scheme collapsed. By lending a veneer of credibility through name dropping and flashing photos with high-level government officials, Zuberi was able to con foreign donors," said Assistant Director in Charge Kristi K Johnson of the FBI's Los Angeles Field Office.

"Now that he's been sentenced, he will be held accountable by the United States government which he so recklessly misrepresented," Johnson said.

Zuberi was sentenced for falsifying records to conceal his work as a foreign agent while lobbying high-level US government officials, evading the payment of millions of dollars in taxes, making illegal campaign contributions, and obstructing a federal investigation into the source of donations to a presidential inauguration committee, the DoJ statement said on Thursday.

Americans May Still Need Masks In 2022 To Fight Covid, Top US Expert Says

Washington: Americans may still need to wear masks in 2022 even as the country relaxes other restrictions to combat COVID-19, Dr Anthony Fauci, US top infectious disease expert, said.

While daily infection rates are coming down dramatically, thousands of Americans still die every day from the virus, and less than 15% of the US population has been vaccinated against it.

US President Joe Biden is trying to accelerate the campaign to vaccinate most American adults as local governments clamor for more doses to prevent the highly contagious illness that has claimed nearly 500,000 lives in the United States.

Fauci, Biden's top medical adviser, told CNN that the approaching deaths tally was "a terribly historic milestone in the history of this country."

Asked if Americans should expect to still be wearing masks into next year, Fauci said: "I think it is possible that that's the case," adding that it depended on the level of the virus in communities and potential virus variants.

"Obviously, I think we are going to have a significant degree of normality beyond the terrible burden that all of us have been through over the last year," Fauci said.

In an interview on NBC's "Meet the Press", Fauci said it



was too soon to pinpoint when the United States might reach herd immunity.

"We want to get that baseline really, really, really low before we start thinking that we're out of the woods."

He told "Fox News Sunday" that whether people in the United States will later need a booster shot depends on the path the South African variant takes.

While the currently available vaccines appear protective against the UK variant that has appeared across the country, they are less protective against the South African one, which so far is not dominant, he said.

"If in fact this becomes more dominant, we may have to get a version of the vaccine that is directed specifically against the South African isolate," Fauci told Fox, saying studies were already underway. **Reuters**

Pakistani Female Aid Workers Shot Dead By Assailants

Agencies

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN - At least four female development workers have been killed in a targeted attack in the north-western Pakistani district of North Waziristan, police say, the latest attack in an escalation of violence in an area that was once the headquarters of the Pakistani Taliban.

The attack took place at 9:30am (04:30 GMT) on Monday near the village of Ippi, a few kilometres east of the town of Mir Ali, senior police official Shafiqullah Gandapur told Al Jazeera by telephone.

The workers' vehicle was fired upon by unidentified assailants who then fled the scene, he said. The driver of the vehicle was wounded and is being treated at a local hospital.

"This is a militancy-stricken district, the threat is here everywhere," said Gandapur, when asked if there was a specific threat against development workers in the area.

"And in tribal culture, women roaming freely, it is considered not acceptable."

Violence declined

North Waziristan was once the headquarters of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP, also known as the Pakistani Taliban), an umbrella organisation of armed groups formed in 2007 to attempt to overthrow



the Pakistani government and establish a form of governance in line with their strict interpretation of religion.

Under the TTP, women's freedom of movement was severely curtailed in areas under their influence, and most development activities by non-governmental organisations were banned.

In 2014, after a series of military operations, the Pakistani military launched a fresh push against the TTP in North Waziristan, succeeding in displacing the group's leadership into eastern Afghanistan and degrading its operational capacity on Pakistani soil.

Since then, violence has dropped significantly, although sporadic attacks by the TTP continue to target civilians

and security forces alike.

Since last year, there has been a sharp uptick in targeted attacks in North Waziristan, as internally displaced people (IDPs) returned to their homes after years away.

The attacks killed more than 58 people, including tribal leaders, security forces personnel and others last year, according to a tally derived from local media reports.

On Friday, a soldier and two people identified as "terrorists" were killed in an exchange of fire in North Waziristan district, according to a military statement.

Police official Gandapur said the area's police force had launched a "search and strike" operation following Monday's attack, and had cordoned off the area.

UN Nuclear Chief Says, "Temporary Solution" Found Ahead Of Iran Deadline

Agencies

VIENNA, AUSTRIA: UN nuclear watchdog chief Rafael Grossi said Sunday he had negotiated a "temporary solution" after two days of talks with Iranian officials to allow the agency to continue its inspections work in the country and allow breathing space for diplomatic negotiations on the Iranian nuclear issue.

However, he admitted that even under the new three-month arrangement, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) would not have the same level of access once a law comes into force on Tuesday limiting some inspections.

Grossi's visit to Iran came amid stepped-up efforts between US President Joe Biden's administration, European powers and Iran to salvage the 2015 nuclear deal that has been on the brink of collapse since Donald Trump withdrew from it and went on to impose sanctions on Iran.

Iran's conservative-dominated parliament passed the law in December demanding the country suspend some inspections if the US failed to lift sanctions by this Sunday.

Iran had notified the UN body that if the sanctions weren't lifted it would suspend "voluntary transparency measures" -- notably inspection visits to non-nuclear sites, including military sites suspected of nuclear-related activity.

Grossi said that under the new "temporary technical un-



derstanding... there is less access, let's face it".

"But still we were able to retain the necessary degree of monitoring and verification work," he added.

"What we agreed is something that is viable -- it is useful to bridge this gap that we are having now," Grossi told reporters after landing back in Vienna.

Iran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, before meeting Grossi, signalled that the Islamic republic wanted to avoid an "impasse" over inspections, but also warned it could step further away from its commitments if Washington does not lift the sanctions.

- Remedial measures -

Grossi said his hope in going to Tehran was "to stabilise a situation which was very unstable".

"I think this technical understanding does it so that other political discussions at other levels can take place, and most importantly we can avoid a situation in which we would have been, in practical terms, flying blind," he added.

Iran's deputy foreign minister Abbas Araghchi said late

Saturday the "IAEA's inspection capability will be reduced by about 20-30 percent after the implementation of the parliament's law".

Grossi declined to give his own estimate of how much the IAEA's inspection capability would be reduced but said that the number of inspectors in the country would not be reduced and that the agency would still be able to carry out snap inspections.

"We are not violating the JCPOA, we are implementing remedial measures foreseen in the JCPOA itself," Zarif insisted, referring to the nuclear deal, known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

"Once everybody implements their part and their obligations, then there will be talks, and those talks will not be about changing or adding to the agreement."

- 'Still in partial phase' -

Biden has committed to rejoin talks on Tehran's nuclear programme, in a shift away from Trump's policy of "maximum pressure" towards the Islamic republic.

Tehran has repeatedly said it is ready to return to its nuclear commitments, on the condition Washington makes the first move by lifting the sanctions that have heaped economic pain on Iran.

Zarif said that, from Iran's point of view, "nothing has changed", as the Biden administration had so far followed the same Iran policy as his predecessor.

"Mother, Get Up": Video Of Bloodied Kids After Kabul Blast Sparks Outrage

Agencies

KABUL: A gruesome video of a Kabul blast site Sunday, showing bloodied children standing over an unconscious woman, quickly went viral and sparked fresh outrage in an already war-weary Afghanistan.

At least two people were killed and five others wounded in the explosion, which appeared to target security forces in the Afghan capital, said Kabul police spokesman Ferdaws Faramarz. The video, taken in the immediate aftermath, showed bodies bloodied and blackened lying on the asphalt, while two small children can be seen crying over an unconscious woman.

The two children -- one of them covered in blood -- can be heard screaming. At one point, one says, "Mother, get up!"

The man filming the video can be heard telling the children to "calm down" as the woman is carried away.

Reaction to the video was immediate, with social media users in Afghanistan expressing horror over the images. The hashtag "Mother get up!" in the Dari language quickly started trending.

"Unbearable to watch this mother & her children like this," wrote one Twitter user, Ejaz Malikzada.

"How could those who commit this justifies their action to their own souls while you see kids crying for their injured mother? This needs to STOP," said Fawzia Koofi, a member of the government's peace team



negotiating with the Taliban.

The Kabul police spokesman later confirmed the two children had been treated for light injuries while the woman in the video was seriously wounded.

No group claimed responsibility for the attack, but Afghan security forces are regularly targeted by the Taliban.

The Taliban denied any involvement.

Kabul, along with urban areas across Afghanistan, have been rocked by frequent explosions on an almost daily basis amid the fraught peace talks between the government and the Taliban.

The surge in violence has led US President Joe Biden's administration to launch a review of a deal signed between Washington and the Taliban last year.

That agreement paved the way for the withdrawal of all US troops in the coming months and kickstarted the peace talks between the Kabul government and the insurgents.

Biden is reviewing whether to stick to a looming May 1 deadline to withdraw the remaining 2,500 US troops or risk a bloody backlash from the insurgents by staying.

Boeing Recommends Airlines Suspend Use Of Some 777s After United Incident



Boeing Co said it recommended suspending the use of 777 jets with the same type of engine that shed debris over Denver at the weekend after U.S. regulators announced extra inspections and Japan suspended their use while considering further action.

The moves involving Pratt & Whitney PW4000 engines came after a United Airlines 777 landed safely in Denver on Saturday local time after its right engine failed.

United said the next day it would voluntarily and temporarily remove its 24 active planes, hours before Boeing's announcement.

Boeing said 69 of the planes were in service and 59 were in storage, at a time when airlines have grounded planes due to a plunge in demand associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The manufacturer recommended airlines suspend operations until U.S. regulators identified the appropriate inspection protocol.

The 777-200s and 777-300s affected are older and less fuel efficient than newer models and most operators are phasing them out of their fleets.

Images posted by police in Broomfield, Colorado showed

significant plane debris on the ground, including an engine cowling from the 26-year-old plane scattered outside a home.

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) said its initial examination of the plane indicated most of the damage was confined to the right engine, with only minor damage to the airplane.

It said the inlet and casing separated from the engine and two fan blades were fractured, while the remainder of the fan blades exhibited damage.

Japan's transport ministry ordered Japan Airlines Co Ltd (JAL) and ANA Holdings Inc to suspend the use of 777s with PW4000 engines while it considered whether to take additional measures.

The ministry said that on Dec. 4, 2020, a JAL flight from Naha Airport to Tokyo returned to Naha due to a malfunction in the left engine.

Japan Transport Safety Board said on Dec. 28 that it had found two of the left engine's fan blades were damaged, one from a fatigue fracture. The investigation is ongoing.

United is the only U.S. operator of the planes, according to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The other airlines using them are in Japan and South Korea, the U.S. agency said.

"We reviewed all available safety data," the FAA said in a statement. "Based on the initial information, we concluded that the inspection interval should be stepped up for the hollow fan blades that are unique to this model of engine, used solely on Boeing 777 airplanes." **Reuters**

NEWS MAKERS

Agencies

London: Prince Harry and his American wife Meghan have permanently quit royal duties, Buckingham Palace said Friday, just over a year after they rocked the British monarchy by announcing plans to "step back" from their roles.

Queen Elizabeth II ordered the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, as they are formally known, to relinquish their honorary titles and patronages following the confirmation that they would not be returning as working royals.

The couple relocated to the United States last year, in a move dubbed "Megxit" by the British press, and have since embarked on several commercial ventures there including lucrative tieups with the streaming platforms Netflix and Spotify.

At an emergency January 2020 summit with the queen, Harry's father Prince Charles and brother Prince

Harry And Meghan Permanently Quit British Royal Life

William, Harry agreed they would stop using their "Royal Highness" titles and the "Sussex Royal" brand.

But the senior family members pledged to review the situation a year on -- with the move now made permanent, days after Harry and Meghan announced on Valentine's Day they are expecting their second child.

"The Duke and Duchess of Sussex have confirmed to Her Majesty The Queen that they will not be returning as working members of The Royal Family," Buckingham Palace announced.

"The Queen has written confirming that in stepping away from the work of The Royal Family it is not possible to continue with the responsibilities and duties that come with a life of public service."

It noted their honorary appointments and patronages would be



redistributed among the remaining working royals.

- 'Service is universal' -

However, it appears the pair will retain their official titles of Duke and Duchess of Sussex, and Harry remains sixth in line to the throne, with

no change in the line of succession.

"While all are saddened by their decision, the Duke and Duchess remain much loved members of the family," the palace statement added.

The decision means Harry, 36, who served as a soldier in Afghani-

stan and is passionate about veterans' welfare, must relinquish several honorary military titles related to the Royal Marines, air force and navy.

Earlier this month he formally settled a libel claim against the publisher of The Mail On Sunday and MailOnline website over reports he had snubbed soldiers since stepping back from royal life.

A spokesperson for the couple said Friday they had shown that they "remain committed to their duty and service to the UK and around the world".

The statement noted they had offered their continued support to the organisations they had represented "regardless of official role".

"We can all live a life of service. Service is universal," it added.

- 'Intimate' interview -
The couple's move to the US fol-

lowed reports Meghan was deeply unhappy with life inside the centuries-old royal institution and increasing complaints from the couple about media intrusion.

But its sudden nature jolted the monarchy and reportedly caused acrimony with Harry's brother William, who is second in line to the throne.

Harry and Meghan have launched several legal cases against UK news outlets alleging invasion of privacy, with one lawsuit ending this month with a victory against Associated Newspapers.

The couple are poised to give an "intimate" interview about their lives with US chat show host Oprah Winfrey.

- 'Championed our work' -
Aside from his military titles, Harry also held Commonwealth appointments and some other patronages, including with the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and Rugby

Football League. "The RFU has greatly valued his contribution to promoting and supporting the game," the organisation said on Twitter.

Harry will remain as patron of the Invictus Games Foundation, the organisation for disabled military veterans confirmed.

Meanwhile Meghan was also handed honorary roles after she wed Harry in a fairytales ceremony at Windsor Castle in May 2018, including becoming a patron of the National Theatre.

The acclaimed theatre group also thanked her for the support offered during her briefier than expected tenure and said the process of appointing a new patron had begun.

Jennie Bond, a former royal correspondent for the BBC, said the loss of titles would be a blow to the couple. "This is going to upset Harry, obviously, particularly the military (losses)," she told the broadcaster.

1st, 3rd Semester Students Seek Resumption Of Offline Classes

SRINAGAR: Students of 1st and 3rd semester students of Kashmir University have asked for offline classes saying their studies were getting badly affected.

Kashmir University has partially resumed classes from February 15 for 4th semester students.

However, for rest of the students, the varsity is yet to resume offline classes.

One of students of Geology Department said 4th semester students have completed 80 percent syllabus and their offline classes have also been started.

"But 1st and 3rd semester students are yet to resume offline classes. Our session started in July 2019. After few weeks, the university remained shut for months after the abrogation of Article 370. We attended offline classes for a month in February-March 2020 then COVID-19 lockdown began. Since then we have not attended offline classes," the student said.

The student said they did not learn much while attending online classes. "If we continue to attend online classes, then what is the difference between district mode students and us," the student asked.

Another student of the Botany Department said their career was suffering. "Many of us could not afford electronic gadgets necessary for online classes. Also, lab and other practical work are not possible online. Research work could not be done with proper access to the university library," the student said. "If cine-

mas are open, political parties hold rallies then why are they deprived from education? It seems university administration deliberately wants to keep students out of the varsity."

One of the senior professors said continuing online classes could be disastrous for students. "We are not able to polish skills of students. The varsity students are mature enough how to keep social distancing. If schools are open where students won't understand much about COVID-19 protocols then why are university students deprived of education. In a coaching centre, 200 students are in one room but here in varsity we have maximum 50 students in a room. So there is not much threat spread of the virus unlike in schools and coaching centres," the professor said.

The students have sought Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's-who is also chancellor of the varsity-intervention so that offline classes are started at the earliest.

Dean of Academics Affairs Kashmir University Professor Shabir Ahmad Bhat said offline classes are going for 4th semester students from February 15 as per the UGC Guidelines. "In some departments, final year students have already gone out and we have used their faculty for other students. We are yet to take a call over resumption of offline classes for 3rd semester students. I have convened a meeting tomorrow where decisions about resuming of offline classes and holding of examinations will be discussed," Bhat said.

Labour Commissioner Interacts With Representatives Of Trade Unions On Labour Codes

SRINAGAR: Labour Commissioner, J&K, Abdul Rashid War today held an interaction with the Presidents and representatives of various Trade Unions regarding finalisation of Labour Codes.

The Labour Commissioner during the interaction discussed various aspects of Labour Codes with the visiting representatives and sought their suggestions as well as grievances.

A.R War informed the stakeholders that the Government of India has introduced four Labour codes aiming to streamline and simplify the country's existing codes by overlapping 44 labour laws.

The Labour Commissioner further informed them that on central governments pattern, the J&K government has drafted four Labour Codes; Jammu and Kashmir Code on Wages, Rules, 2021, Jammu and Kashmir Code on Industrial Relations Rules, 2021, Jammu and Kashmir Code Social Security Rules, 2021 and Jammu and Kashmir Occupational Safety, Health and Working

Conditions Rules, 2021, which are under draft and will be finalized after taking their suggestions as well as other things into consideration.

He highlighted that these codes will ensure growth of Industrial and commercial activities by ensuring harmonious relationship between employer and workers providing statutory cover to the workmen through preventive, conciliatory, adjudicatory, punitive action and promoting welfare activities to alleviate the suffering of the working class.

Later, the Labour Commissioner also met various deputations of workers and employees who raised several issues related to employees welfare. He took immediate notice of certain grievances and passed on spot directions for their redressal.

Meanwhile, a similar meeting was held in Jammu Division with the representatives of various Trade Unions of Jammu Division by Deputy Labour Commissioner Jammu for necessary suggestions regarding Labour codes.

BJP Govt Failed To Check Fast Rise Fuel Prices- Sadhotra

JAMMU- BJP Govt in the Centre and in Jammu & Kashmir has utterly failed to check frequent rise in petrol, diesel and cooking gas prices which has led to fast rise in prices of essential commodities alleged Mr. Ajay Kumar Sadhotra Former Minister & Senior National Conference leader on Monday. Sadhotra was addressing a public meeting at Bakshi-De Kothe Makwal. He said it is unfortunate that the BJP Govt is insensitive to the issue of fast rise in prices of petrol-diesel & gas and other day to day essentials. Because after an increase in petrol-diesel rates, freight is increased resulting in increase of prices of all the household items. The kitchen budget of the common man has gone up and the common man is facing hardships. On the other hand Covid-19 has also rendered many youth jobless and unemployment problems has also reached the highest peak. Common man is feeling betrayed as he is facing too many problems even to run his kitchen & his day to day life has become miserable. The National Conference Leader said BJP has promised in 2014 with the people of the Country to check & reduce the prices if it comes to power. Now after coming to power since 2014 BJP Govt utterly failed to check fast rise in prices and BJP also failed to fulfil its tall promises as usual.

Farooq Abdullah Advocates Dialogue With Pakistan To End Violence In J&K

SRINAGAR: National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Sunday advocated dialogue with Pakistan to end terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, saying friendship holds the key to development in the region.

"Terrorism is still prevalent [in Jammu and Kashmir] contrary to their [BJP's] claim that we have finished it. If we want to finish it, we have to talk with our neighbour," Abdullah said.

Talking to reporters during a visit to a market here, the former chief minister of the erstwhile state remembered former prime minister A.B. Vajpayee's words can change your friends but not your neighbours and said either we grow friendship and prosper or continue the enmity, then there will be no prosperity. He was responding to a question about the terrorist attack on police in Bhagat locality of



Srinagar on February 19, which left two policemen dead.

"This is the reality of the day. I appeal to the government to adopt the same approach as they had with China over the standoff in Ladakh and start withdrawal of its troops. The same is needed here to pull out J&K from this [terrorism]," he said. Abdullah said the world has

shrunk and the country like the rest of the world is fighting coronavirus. "We have to solve this issue as well."

Asked whether he is hopeful of success of the ongoing Indo-China talks, the NC leader said the issue is big because "this line is not defined and so there are differences between the two powerful countries".

JK Reports 58 New Positive Cases, 123236 Recovered So Far

JAMMU: The Government on Monday informed that 58 new positive cases of novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), 11 from Jammu division and 47 from Kashmir division, have been reported today, thus taking the total number of positive cases in Jammu and Kashmir to 125925.

Moreover, 44 more COVID-19 patients have recovered and discharged from various hospitals including 01 from Jammu Division and 43 from Kashmir Division.

According to the daily Media Bulletin on novel Coronavirus (Covid-19), out of 125925 positive cases, 725 are Active Positive, 123236 have recovered and 1954 have died; 725 in Jammu division and 1229 in Kashmir division.

The Bulletin further said that out of 5038661 test results available, 4912736 samples have been tested as negative till 22th February, 2021. Till date 1268616 persons have been enlisted for observation which included 34056 persons in home quarantine including facilities operated by government, 735 in isolation and 108884 in home surveillance. Besides, 1122987 persons have completed their surveillance period.

Providing district-wise breakup, the Bulletin said that Srinagar has 26794 positive cases (including 17 cases reported today) with 322 Active Positive, 26011 recovered (including 23 cases recovered today), 461 deaths; Baramulla has 8208 positive cases (including 15 cases reported today) with 54 Active Positive, 7979 recovered (including 05 cases recovered today), 175 deaths; Budgam reported 7863 positive cases (including 05 cases reported today) with 46 active positive cases, 7698 recovered (including 03 cases recovered today), 119 deaths; Pulwama has 5837 positive cases (including 02 cases reported today) with 39 Active Positive, 5709 recovered (including 06 cases recovered today) and 89 deaths; Kupwara has 5673 positive cas-



es (including 01 cases reported today), 03 Active Positive, 5574 recoveries, 96 deaths; Anantnag district has 4990 positive cases (including 05 cases reported today) with 37 Active Positive, 4867 recovered (including 03 cases recovered today), 86 deaths; Bandipora has 4709 positive cases with 15 Active Positive and 4632 recoveries (including 01 cases recovered today), 62 deaths; Ganderbal has 4664 positive cases with 21 Active Positive, 4596 recoveries (including 02 cases recovered today) and 47 deaths; Kulgam has 2719 positive cases (including 01 cases reported today) with 13 Active Positive, 2652 recoveries and 54 deaths while as Shopian has 2599 positive cases (including 01 cases reported today) with 19 active positive cases, 2540 recoveries and 40 deaths.

Similarly, Jammu has 25169 positive cases (including 09 cases reported today) with 108 active positive cases, 24688 recoveries, 373 deaths; Udhampur has 4259 positive cases with 26 active positive cases, 4176 recoveries and 57 deaths; Rajouri has 3876 positive cases with 05 active positive, 3816 recoveries (including 01 cases recovered today) and 55 deaths; Doda has 3436 positive cases with 01 Active positive, 3371 recovered and 64 deaths; Kathua has 3256 positive cases with 0 active positive cases, 3203 recovered and 53 deaths; Kishtwar has 2735 positive cases (including 02 cases reported today) with 02 Active Positive, 2711 recoveries and 22 deaths; Samba has

2837 positive cases with 07 active positive cases, 2790 recoveries and 40 deaths; Poonch has 2520 positive cases with 17 active positive, 2479 recoveries and 24 deaths; Ramban has 2135 positive cases with 00 active positive cases, 2114 recoveries and 21 deaths while Reasi has 1646 positive with 00 active positive cases, 1630 recoveries and 16 deaths.

According to the bulletin, among the total 125925 positive cases in J&K, 12446 have been reported as travelers while 113779 as others.

The Bulletin said that the breakup represents districts from which the patients have been traced or are ordinarily residing.

The bulletin added that there are 1091 COVID dedicated beds, 962 Isolation beds with 957 vacant beds and 129 ICU beds where 124 beds are vacant in Jammu division while there are 1570 COVID dedicated beds, 1484 Isolation beds where 1426 beds are vacant and 86 ICU beds where 75 are vacant beds in Kashmir division. There are a total of 2661 COVID dedicated beds, 2446 Isolation beds with 2383 beds vacant and 215 ICU beds with 199 vacant beds in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The Central Government is continuously monitoring the evolving situation of Covid-19 in the Union Territory and is providing all necessary support towards effective containment of the spread of Covid-19 and better clinical management of positive cases.

The government has also started free tele-consultation general OPD services by Specialists/MBBS Doctors for the residents of J&K under National Tele-consultation Service. People can avail these services from Home by registering online on web portal https://es-anjeevaniopd.in/. The services are available on Monday to Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. People can also download and install the Sanjevani OPD app from google play store.

Doctor, 5 'Associates' Arrested For Terminating Minor's Pregnancy

SRINAGAR: Police in Ganderbal have arrested a doctor and his associates for conducting illegal termination of pregnancy of a minor girl.

A police spokesperson in a statement said that in a prompt action, on a report from Victim Liaisoning Officer, deputed with a minor rape victim in a previous case FIR No.14/2021 U/S 376 IPC that the said girl (name with held) has been subjected to compulsive delivery of baby by some unknown doctor and that the infant may have been killed during such illegal procedure. Ganderbal Police filed a fresh case FIR No.24 of 2021 U/S 326, 312 IPC at Police Station Ganderbal and initiated investigation into the case.

"SSP Ganderbal, Khalil Ahmad Poswal-JKPS constituted a team under the supervision of DySP Head Quarters Ganderbal Dr Abdul Majid-JKPS including SHO Ganderbal to nab the accused. The victim

girl revealed that her family members took her to accused Doctor's clinic in Sopore where she was subjected to illegal termination of pregnancy. The accused doctor was subsequently arrested and identified as Dr. Ghulam Nabi Bhat son of Mohammad Sultan Bhat resident of New Colony Sopore," the statement reads.

"Further leads into this gruesome crime also led to the arrest of five other persons assisting the doctor namely Altaf Khan son of Mehboob Khan, Ulfat wife of Altaf Khan, Haseena Begum wife of Abdul Gani Khan all residents of Dedrambagh Ganderbal, Bashir Ahmad Kumar son of Ali Mohd Kumar resident of Baghi Mehtab and Mst Afroza wife of Ghaznafar Ali Hajam resident of Alamgari Bazar for providing logistic and technical assistance in carrying out illegal procedure. Investigation in the case is going on and more arrests are expected," it reads.

DC Bla inaugurates Kashmiri Script Workshop

BARAMULLA: In commemoration of International Mother Language Day, observed across the world on 21st of February, Abbee Markaz Kamraz, Baramulla today organized a unique Kashmiri Script workshop here, during which a special writing competition was held.

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Baramulla, Mohammad Aijaz Asad inaugurated the workshop.

At the outset of the workshop, President AMK Mohammad Amin Bhat gave a brief account of various cultural activities that are being carried out by the organization.

The DC, in his address complimented the concerned stakeholders of AMK for organizing the unique workshop and hailed the efforts of the organization for playing a key role in organizing the literary activities in the district.

He said that mother language is the core aspect of our composite culture and called its preservation and promotion akin to the preservation of culture and ethnicity of a particular area.

While terming mother language as a suitable medium for expressing ideas in a better way, DC said that language acts as a bonding factor in maintaining harmony between communities and provides a perfect solution to the complexities that have developed due to technological influx.

Citing the example of famous poet Mehjoor, DC said that Kashmiri language is a rich language with dynamic cultural ethos as it gave birth to the famous Saints, Sufis, poets among other eminent personalities. He deliberated upon the governing body of AMK to explore possibilities for establishing a multipurpose hall where diverse activities are organized.

Meanwhile, a brief training session was conducted during which the officers were acquainted with how they can understand the applications that may be submitted in their officers by the applicants.

Later, a book titled 'Kashir Rasmul Khatich Zaan' authored by Zahoor Higami was released at the event.

GDC Bla Signs MoU With CIIT, Bla

BARAMULLA: The Postgraduate Department of Computer Applications, Government Degree College, Baramulla on Saturday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Centre for Invention, Innovation, Incubation, and Training (CIIT), Baramulla at GDC, here.

The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Lone, Principal, GDC, Baramulla and Dr. Shafiq Ara, Principal, Government Polytechnic College, Baramulla.

The MOU was signed with an aim to encourage knowledge sharing for up-skilling students of the college pursuing undergraduate and post-graduate programmes.

Besides, with a vision of collaboration to promote professional development, transfer of skills and knowledge in new technology areas conforming

to Industry 4.0, for their better employability.

The signatories of the MoU agreed to share necessary infrastructure like machines, tools, materials and human resources for conducting such skill based training. Activities undertaken as part of the MoU may include seminars, workshops, training courses, mentoring, and exchange programmes, as well as professional leadership development.

Meanwhile, CIIT and Tata Technologies shall provide/honor students with certificates who successfully complete the course/internship.

The other dignitaries present on the occasion included, Prof. A. M. Chalkoo, Associate Professor of Botany and Coordinator, IQAC and Prof. Arshad Ahmad Yatoo, Head, Postgraduate Department of Computer Applications of the college.

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K O V I E W

Talks needed

Dr Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, both former Chief Ministers of J&K, have advocated dialogue with Pakistan to end violence in Kashmir, saying the friendship between the neighbours holds key to the development in the region. Abdullah said the militancy in Kashmir was continuing contrary to the claim by the BJP that the normalcy had been restored in the former state. Similarly Mufti called for India-Pakistan talks to resolve Kashmir saying neither war nor gun are the solution. She also asked the centre to engage the people of Jammu and Kashmir in dialogue process.

However, it is unlikely that there will be a dialogue between India and Pakistan in near to medium term. Instead, there are more chances that the relations between the two will worsen going forward. The reason for this is the ongoing situation in Kashmir, which, if recent killings of police men is anything to go by, is not changing for the better. The two countries have also been engaging in intermittent skirmishes along the Line of Control. The killings of soldiers and civilians as a result has become an addictive bloody ritual. This gives a cathartic vent to a long entrenched pathological animosity, which is now pursued for its own sake. And there's no way it can be addressed unless the two countries arrive at a fundamental understanding that addresses the core issues at the root of their lingering estrangement. But that prospect appears now farther off than ever before.

More so, after the revocation of Article 370 in August 2019 that has further drifted the neighbours apart. Pakistan sees India's withdrawal of Kashmir's special status enshrined in Article 370 as a dilution of what it sees as the disputed status of the region. But New Delhi sees the changes to the constitutional position of J&K as its internal matter. Two positions look all but irreconcilable. But for a durable peace in the region, the two countries have to find a way to get along. This requires statesmanship on both sides. And this will only be possible if there's willingness on the part of the neighbors to resolve their issues. But if nothing is done, the situation looks set to go further downhill from hereon. That is, if the leadership of the two countries doesn't step back and seek to put their relationship back on rails.

Given the prevailing situation, it will also be interesting to see whether the new US administration will play any role in improving the India-Pakistan ties. The two countries need some serious prodding by the world's only super power to re-engage and sort out their differences. Things, however, will be clear in the weeks and months ahead.

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

Keep a watchful eye

After the smooth completion of the disengagement of forces in the north and south banks of Pangong Lake in Eastern Ladakh, India and China have begun discussions on the next phase of disengagement. The disengagement took nine days, and by agreement, was monitored and verified at each step. There should be relief on both sides that it was incident free. After troops and equipment began to be withdrawn from their eyeball-to-eyeball positions last week, China acknowledged losing five soldiers during last July's disengagement process at Galwan, in which 20 Indian soldiers including the unit commander were killed. An official statement of the 10th round of military commanders — held on Saturday as scheduled, 48 hours after the completion of the first phase — is awaited, but reportedly the Indian side's focus was to push for a Chinese withdrawal from other friction points, namely patrolling points in Depsang and at Gogra and Hot Springs. Reportedly, the Special Representatives of the two sides — National Security Adviser A K Doval and Foreign Minister Wang Yi — will also meet soon.

Questions persist about why India had to give up occupation of the heights on Kailash Range on the south bank of the lake, on the Indian side of the claim line, in exchange for China's withdrawal from an area into which it had ingressed last year on the north bank. In an interview to this newspaper, Lt Gen Y K Joshi said that the occupation of the Kailash Range heights was not an "advantage in perpetuity", and that vacating them was necessary as both sides had to return to status quo ante. That begs the question to which there is as yet no convincing answer: What advantage does India have to negotiate a Chinese withdrawal from the remaining friction points?

China's aggression last April in that region was unexpected. Why the PLA decided to push into Indian territory at that precise time last year during the COVID-19 crisis, and why it has agreed to pull back now, when the harshest part of the Ladakh winter is already over, are the other mysteries of this stand-off. Common sense says India and China should be able to move on repairing their bilateral relations on the basis of the disengagement process. But it may not be that easy, considering that the PLA so easily abandoned a full decade of diplomatic slog on "peace and tranquility" agreements, taking the two sides to the "brink of war" as Gen Joshi revealed, and pushing trust levels back by decades. India cannot afford to let down its guard.

The Indian Express



EJAZ AYOUB

This is the second piece in a Four-part series that outlines the processes of change in J&K Economy since 1996-97

If there is one thing that economic policy makers have been consistent in, it's in their ineffectiveness of forecasting correctly. By virtue of its nature, all policies have to be formulated based on a set of futuristic assumptions. The success or failure of such plans, therefore, depends to a great extent on the synchronous unfolding of realities with the predictions envisaged by the policy makers. As a matter of fact, not all economic policies achieve their stated objectives perfectly and sometimes the quantum of failure is so large that policy changes like those adopted by Russia in the form of New Economic Policy in 1922 or by India in the form of liberalization in 1991, become a necessity. Reforms of this scale are rare. Most of the time, however, Government often tries short term monetary and fiscal tactics to keep the engines running. Whenever you see Government bullying consumers, households and businesses with tactical moves like aggressive taxes, duties and expenditure cuts, you know that the Government's economic policy is showing signs of failure. Despite this persistent inability to forecast accurately, testing the effectiveness of previous economic policies, with the benefit of hindsight, does remain an interesting and value adding field of study.

Besides other supplementary policies, the two central levers of the Government's economic strategy comprise of the Annual Fiscal Policy and the more frequently announced - The Monetary Policy. Unlike the latter, which is the sole domain of the Central Government (through banking regulator) and majorly regulates the flow and cost of money in the system, Fiscal policy is much more significant strategically in determining the economic progress of the country. Fiscal policy in India works through a two tier architecture comprising an annual Union Government Budget and more customized region specific tax and expenditure policies formulated by the respective State Governments in the form of state budgets.

Continuing with the endeavour of outlining the changes in J&K Economy since 1996-97, this column shall analyse the effectiveness of GoJK's fiscal policies in improving the region's economic output and income levels. Although there are hundreds of variables in a typical state budget which can be analysed, however, in order to keep things simple and somewhat relevant to what directly affects a common man, we shall highlight only a few of them.

Tracking movement of variables like state's own tax collections, debt levels & asset creation through state's contribution towards developmental expenditure and pitching these numbers against the growth in income or rate of GDP shall throw some interesting insights.

In this analysis, the time frame has been classified into 4 segments of six years. It has been aligned with the changes in political representatives holding the highest Government offices because economic policies like tax structure and spending priorities tend to change every time a new dispensation takes over.

Growth in State Government's Own Tax collections (nominal values):

From Rs. 289.27 crore in financial year (FY) 1996-97 to Rs. 10387.28 crore in FY 2019-20 J&K's own tax collections have come a long way. Growing at an average rate of 17.19%, the pattern of movement has been anything but smooth. From a high annual growth of 32.30% in FY 1999-2000 to a nose diving slump of -7.21% in 2019-20, the tax collections have been highly volatile.

Inheriting a very low tax base and a highly informal economy of the 90's, the elected Government led by the then Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah registered an average growth of 24.46% from FY 1996-97 to FY 2001-02. Then, during the Peoples Democratic Party-Congress coalition Government. i.e. between 2002-03 and 2007-08, the tax base continued to grow but the average rate of growth slowed down substantially to 17.14%. This slow down is despite the period being comparatively peaceful than other time frames. This can be attributed to relaxed taxes and other sops complementing the larger picture of confidence building measures on the political front during this regime. Tax collections in the third segment, i.e. between 2008-09 and 2013-14, again registered acceleration at an average growth of 20.52%. A part of this growth can be attributed to high inflation during this period which at an average was around 10.06% compared to 7.01%, 4.72% and 5.37% inflation in the first, second and fourth time frames respectively. However, the tax base did see improvements in terms of tax effort and tax buoyancy during this period.

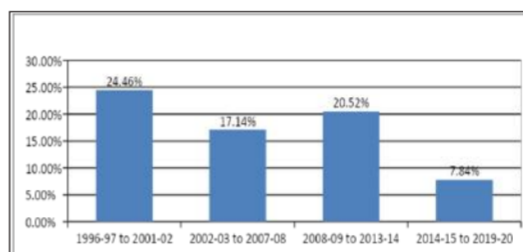
The smallest and the ugliest tower in the graph i.e. the period between 2014-15 and 2019-20 is the worst performing among the time frames with an average growth rate in state's own tax collections nose diving to a mere 7.84%. To put things into perspective, the average inflation during this period was 5.37%. This shows that the tax base in real terms has barely moved 247 basis points. This period saw volatile political disruptions and the state witnessed 2 chief ministers, 2 Governors and 2 lieutenant Governors in

Economy Central

State Finances

J&K Economy from the rear view-Part II

a span of only 6 years. The phase was marred with mammoth systemic shocks. Besides the dent in the state's own tax collections on account of surrendering indirect taxes to the GST council, the period witnessed demonetization, bloody political unrest of 2016, down gradation & bifurcation of state into UTs and a lethal pandemic. Business, trade, tourism, consumer spending and investment, everything got bulldozed and consequently tax collections dried up. This was a perfect cocktail for an economic emergency leaving state exchequer gasping for new sources of income. The distress was also reflected in the direct tax collections from J&K (comprising income tax and corporate tax). It registered a contraction of over 10% during this period depicting job losses, income contraction and stressed businesses. This is why GoJK can be seen running from pillar to post to create new tax routes like introduction of the property tax and inflating VAT on the petroleum products.

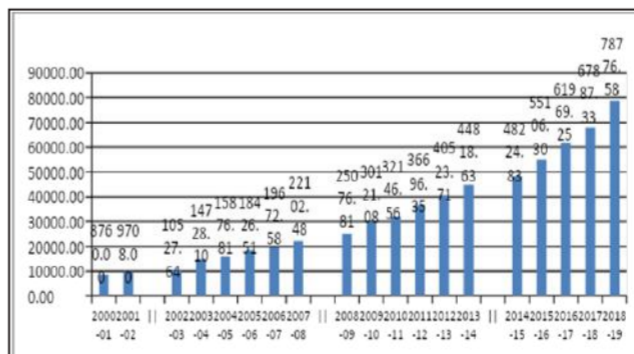


In terms of its tax payments, people of J&K are therefore paying proportionally better than economically most vibrant states of India. This is despite J&K falling in the bottom 20 percentile states in terms of the per capita income

Is J&K sufficiently taxed when compared to other states? This can be gauged by comparing J&K's own tax collections with the size of its GDP. In case of J&K, the ratio is about 6.2% (2014-15 to 2019-20) which is better than 13 Indian states including Gujarat (5.6%), Bihar (5.7%), Delhi (5.1%), West Bengal (5.2%), Himachal Pradesh (5.1%) and other north eastern states for the same phase. In terms of its tax payments, people of J&K are therefore paying proportionally better than economically most vibrant states of India. This is despite J&K falling in the bottom 20 percentile states in terms of the per capita income.

Growth in Government Debt:

Every time the expenditure side exceeds the revenue side in the budget, the budget has to deal with a fiscal deficit. Having a fiscal deficit within the prescribed norms is quite normal. To fund this gap, the Government normally relies on borrowing. There are a number of routes through which a Government can borrow, for example, by issuing bonds in the markets through the Reserve Bank of India, by borrowing from the Central Government, or from Provident fund accounts, pension funds, small savings etc. This leads to creation of a debt obligation over a period of time. If the speed with which the debt grows exceeds the state's revenue growth, the state gets trapped in a vicious circle of repayments and interest servicing. Pertinently, GoJK has one of the highest debt to GSDP ratios (around 50%) in India. It is almost double than the national average. To make things worse, the compensation on account of GST, which states were supposed to receive from the centre too, has been delayed and in some quarters totally denied. This is resulting in GoJK raising even more debt. It is therefore expected that the coming budget will surely have a much larger debt to GSDP ratio compared to the previous year. This creates a costly and recurring leakage in the form of interest servicing and loan repayments. On an average, more than 42% of the revenue receipts in GoJK's annual budget are consumed in debt servicing. All India average for all the states combined is only 23%. This is how costly J&K's debt is getting and how this leads to shrinking elbow room for the already starved developmental expenditure.

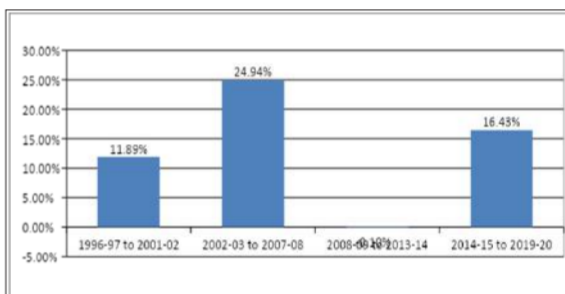


From total outstanding liabilities of Rs. 8760 crore in FY 2000-01 to Rs. 78,766 crore in FY 2018-19, J&K's debt has grown at an average annual growth of 13.20%, doubling every 5.45 years in the last two decades (The first four years of data from 1996-97 till 1999-00 is not available). In the last two years of the first time frame, the debt grew at a rate of 10.82%. Then during Congress-PDP rule i.e. from FY 2002-03 to 2007-08, the debt grew much rapidly and accelerated to 15.22%. In the third time frame led by Omar Abdullah's coalition Govt, it slowed down to 12.58%

and in the last period i.e. from 2014-15 to 2018-19, the growth in outstanding liabilities kept on hovering around 12%. As the level of debt has gone sharply up on account of dried up tax revenues, GST compensation and Covid related lockdown, this 12% number is surely going to take a negative hit once the debt for FY 2019-20 is fed into the equation.

Developmental Expenditure trend:

Since J&K's own tax collection to GSDP ratio is better than 13 other states (almost at par with the national average) and the amount of debt too is way ahead when compared to other states, it shall be interesting to see whether these costly resources have culminated into development & creation of public assets. To understand this, analysing the state's expenditure trend on development will be quite enlightening. A developmental expenditure helps in increasing the production and productivity of a state's economy. It involves both revenue expenditure and capital outlay and consists of: (i) social services, which includes expenditure on education, health, water supply and sanitation, housing, urban development, and welfare of backward communities, and (ii) economic services, which includes expenditure on agriculture and allied activities, rural development, irrigation, energy, and transportation infrastructure.



The development expenditure has moved at an average annual growth of 13.29% in the last 24 years which is almost in line with the growth of rate in debt. In terms of time frames, the period between 2002-03 and 2007-08 i.e. The PDP-Congress coalition Government led by Late Mufti Sayad and Ghulam Nabi Azad witnessed the highest average annual growth of almost 25% in the developmental allocation. Pertinently, the period also witnessed the highest rate of borrowing by the state Government. Contrastingly, the six years period following this spur, that is till 2013-14, developmental expenditure maintained a timid status quo, registering a negative average growth of -0.10%. In the last period i.e. 2014-15 to 2019-20, the developmental expenditure expanded with an average growth of 16.43%. During this period, compared to other states of India which have a developmental budget to total budget average ratio of 63%, GoJK spent only 53% of its total budget on developmental activities. It's the 4th worst developmental expenditure ratio in the entire country.

The last 24 years have witnessed a steady growth in taxes, with J&K's tax to GSDP ratio beating some of the economically best Indian states. The state/UT has also seen bulging levels of debt, with one of the worst debt to GSDP ratio in the country. However, it seems that both the resource streams have not culminated into enhancement of the region's social and economic infrastructure, as is being reflected in the ranking of worst development expenditure to total budget ratio. Neither has there been an equally proportionate growth in the UT's economic output or per capita income. The findings are only pointing towards inefficient fiscal management and miserably failing economic policies. The fourth time frame in particular i.e. the period from FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20 has been the least performing in the last 24 years. A cacophony of political, fiscal and administrative disruptions collapsed the system on all fronts leaving the essential segments of the economy beyond repair. Revenue leakages on the other hand on account of the bloated salary & pension bill, loan repayments & debt servicing and power purchases continue to make sure that the people continue to face new taxes. State continues to bury itself under more debt and compromise while the much needed developmental front continues to throttle growth and individual income.

*Data has been taken from the Reserve Bank of India website, various economic surveys and state

The findings are only pointing towards inefficient fiscal management and miserably failing economic policies. The fourth time frame in particular i.e. the period from FY 2014-15 to FY 2019-20 has been the least performing in the last 24 years

budgets. In case of conflicting data points, RBI's data has been given preference

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

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The Legacy of Malcolm X

AZAD ESSA | MIDDLE EAST EYE

It's a cold Thursday afternoon in New York City. A tall Black man, in a black jacket, black track pants and black sneakers enters the Malcolm Shabazz Mosque on 116th Street in Harlem. He looks around before approaching the older man hunched over the reception desk.

"Is this the Malcolm X Masjid, brother ... can I make salah, here?" he asks softly, removing the black hoodie from over his head.

"You sure can, just sign the register," the man behind the counter says, pointing at a handwritten directory and then at the narrow passage adjacent to him. "Go that way. Are you from out of town?"

"I am from South Carolina," the young man says.

"My name is Malcolm," he says with a smile, before disappearing to perform the late afternoon prayers.

'We couldn't see him, but we could hear him'

Sister Aisha al-Adawiya still remembers the first time she heard Malcolm X speak.

"I don't think I have the words to describe the atmosphere. It wasn't a religious setting as much as a political awakening. People were hearing - often for the first time, about their history and who they were before enslavement. It was like a shot of pride just running like an electric current through the people.

"I was in my early twenties. The auditorium was packed. We were patted down. There were so many people in one room. We couldn't even see him, but we could hear him speak ... it was simply mesmerising."

The 74-year-old says people walked out of his lectures feeling empowered to make a difference in their life right then and there. She said she was personally taken by his social critique and his allusion to the struggles of others around the world.

"This was the early sixties. Everybody would come. People were struggling in life. So many drugs. So many problems. They were transformed overnight. It was incredible to be in his presence," al-Adawiya, a long-time community organiser and scholarship officer at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, says.

Malcolm X, also known as el-Hajj el-Malik Shabazz, was born as Malcolm Little in 1925. After losing his father in 1931 and being placed in foster care due to the illness of his mother, Malcolm entered a world of crime and was imprisoned for robbery in 1946.

In prison, he was introduced to the Nation of Islam (NOI), a radical Black Muslim movement and became influenced by the teachings of its leader Elijah Muhammad.

The Nation preached separatism and economic self-sufficiency for the Black community. Malcolm embraced the group's ideology, and spent his time in prison studying English, Latin, and the dictionary prodigiously. He also joined the debating team where he thrived.

When he was subsequently released, he met with Muhammad, who was so impressed with Malcolm's oratory brilliance that he made him a minister and national spokesperson for the group.

Malcolm quickly became known as a fiery speaker with an ability to stand tall and call out white supremacy at a time when the wider movement for Black civil rights was still fighting for traction.

Within a few years, he had helped to put the Nation on the map, with the organisation opening up temples all across the country and drawing thousands to join their ranks. Malcolm pushed the "separatist" agenda of the Nation as well as spouting its belief that "the white man is the devil".

After 12 years, he broke with the Nation of Islam in 1964, over a series of differences concerning the direction of the group and his role within it. He was also shocked and disillusioned by Elijah Muhammad's infidelity.

"He was a staunch nationalist and anti-integrationist, but after the Hajj, you can see his approach was more about systems and it was internationalised," Richard Benson, an associate professor at the Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, told Middle East Eye.

His departure from the Nation heralded in a new era of Malcolm. He had embarked on the Hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca, in April 1964 and the experience proved to be transformative.

In a letter sent from Mecca, Malcolm wrote: "There were tens of thousands of pilgrims, from all over the world. They were of all colours, from blue-eyed blondes to black-skinned Africans. But we were all participating in the same ritual, displaying a spirit of unity and brotherhood that my experiences in America had led me to believe never could exist between the white and the non-white.

"You may be shocked by these words coming from me. But on this pilgrimage, what I have seen, and experienced, has forced me to rearrange much of my thought patterns previously held, and to toss aside some of my previous conclusions."

His call for Black empowerment veered into larger, wider critiques of American imperialism and capitalism.

He was also open to alliances. In speeches in Accra, Ghana, on 13 May 1964 and later at Oxford University on 3 December 1964, he articulated his belief in the need for a radical transformation of the world's economy, and why he believed that violence was justified to thwart oppression.

"I don't believe in any form of unjustified extremism. But I believe that when a man is exercising extremism, a human being is exercising extremism in defence of liberty for human beings, it's no vice. And when one is moderate in the pursuit of justice for human beings, I say he is a sinner," Malcolm said during the debate at Oxford.

"People think that his willingness to make alliances meant that he was succumbing to ["integration"] but he just meant that he wouldn't hold blanket prejudice on all people of European descent ... he wanted to dismantle systems of oppression," says Benson, the author of a book on Malcolm X's influence on student movements in the 60s and 70s.

Alden Young, director of the Africana Institute at Drexel University in Philadelphia, said the idea that Malcolm was moving towards a facile notion of "integration" is false. "If he was moving towards Martin Luther King Jr., it's because they were both merging against imperialism.

"I think he believed that it would be through closer connections between African Americans and Africans abroad that you would see economic development."

Malcolm travelled to Kenya, Egypt, Tanganyika (now Tanzania), Uganda, Guinea and even to Palestine (Gaza) where he met with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

And given that these words were spoken during a time when so many African nations were also staring at the dawn of their own political independence, his words not only resonated with Black America. They reverberated across the oceans, too.

"We knew we were in the presence of something special. And if we missed his lectures, we were reading his 'Muhammed speaks' [a publication of the Nation] which he pretty much wrote on his kitchen table. It was all like a classroom," al-Adawiya says.

In the early 70s, al-Adawiya can't remember the precise date, she converted to Islam. "As I got more in-



involved, things just started changing for me. I changed my diet. My dresses started getting longer. I started covering my hair. I stopped smoking cigarettes and drinking wine, and then I took the Shahada (the Testimony)."

"And when I was asked why I became Muslim, I found myself saying: 'Well, I am just following Malcolm.'"

'Islam in America as we know it wouldn't exist without Malcolm'

"It bothers me when Malcolm X is not properly honoured," says Palestinian-American Imam Omar Suleiman.

The 33-year-old Suleiman, based in Dallas, known for his civil rights activism, says a lot of Muslims like to prove how deep-rooted Islam is in America by pointing out that many slaves who had come to America had been Muslim.

"But they forget that Islam in America as we know it, wouldn't exist if it wasn't for Malcolm.

"Malcolm was the biggest reason for the growth of the Nation of Islam and the biggest reason for the continuation of Islam in the African-American community ... [The legendary boxer Muhammad] Ali said he probably wouldn't have been Muslim if it hadn't been for Malcolm," says Suleiman, who also teaches "Islam and the American Civil Rights Movement" at the Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Following the death of the leader of the Nation of Islam, Elijah Muhammad, in 1975, his son Imam Warith Deen Muhammad followed Malcolm's lead and integrated the Nation into mainstream Sunni Islam, taking most of Nation's followers with him. Though the Nation still exists today, it is little more than a fringe group, with no theological legitimacy within orthodox Islam.

The Malcolm Shabazz mosque in Harlem, built in 1946 by the Nation, was initially known as Temple No. 7 and later Mosque no. 7. This is where Malcolm X spent much of his preaching as a Minister of the Nation.

It was bombed in 1965, following Malcolm's assassination, and the Nation moved it to another part of town and Mosque 7 was rebuilt. In 1976, Imam Warith Deen Muhammad decided to honour Malcolm by renaming it the Malcolm Shabazz Mosque.

Almost 50 percent of Black Muslims are said to

“If you want to celebrate Malcolm, you need to bear his burden. And that means amplifying the causes that were sacred to him. You know his wife Betty asked: When will Muslims claim Malcolm? He was a believer”

have converted during the course of their life. It is estimated that there are around 3.5 million Muslims in America today, making up 1.1 percent of the population. Muslims are diverse with no one race group dominating the faith. One in four Muslims in America today are African American, with Arabs and Asians and whites making up the rest.

Atiya Husain, an assistant professor at University of Richmond, whose research explores how the figure of Muslims in the post-9/11 era reinforces ideas of blackness and whiteness, said there was no doubt that Malcolm had played a leading role in persuading people to convert.

"Most of the people I interviewed - whether white or Black - said they converted after they had read his autobiography. Second on the list was the Quran. But mostly the autobiography," Husain told MEE.

Likewise, Edward E Curtis IV, a professor of religious studies at Indiana University, in Indianapolis, said that Malcolm's work and the memories of him had become a key factor in the association of Islam with Black freedom in the United States.

"He has been as important and if not more important than any other figure [but] it is always dangerous to attribute one person's conversion to the charisma and authority of a single individual as opposed to a complex social, political, and cultural context," Curtis said.

Curtis added that while Malcolm X had been deeply embraced by Muslim Americans from a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds, they sometimes forget the fact that he was a Black radical freedom fighter until the day he died.

"To some Muslim Americans, he is seen only as the man who embraced racial harmony on the Hajj, and that's his legacy," Curtis said.

The reluctance to claim Malcolm in his full identity as a Black radical pushing for Black people's liberation left Malcolm disappointed with the larger Muslim world in the sixties.

"Malcolm argued that non-Black Muslims should fight for liberation of Black Muslims because the Quran is pro-human... and stand up for justice no matter who it's for. This was Malcolm's contention with the Muslim world," said Suleiman.

In 2017, a survey conducted by the Institute of Social Policy and Understanding found that 66 percent of Muslims support the Black Lives Matter movement.

But Suleiman said he was unsure if Muslims fully understand what that support actually entails.

Over the past year, he has been conducting a country-wide seminar-series called "Malcolm X after Mecca". The seminar typically focuses on the last year of Malcolm's life, documenting his transformation as a father and husband, a Muslim, and Black leader, whose legacy continues to grow, despite attempts to quash it.

Every seminar has drawn sell-out crowds, most of whom are of South Asian or Arab descent.

"When I chose this subject and decided to teach it on this particular platform, I did that knowing that I would get to speak to a majority non-Black Muslim crowd and connect them to someone that they owe a great deal to.

"I make a point in my class that it is not enough to connect with the great Black Muslim pioneers who have passed on. One needs to connect with the community as it exists today, particularly the community of Imam Warith Deen Muhammad [because] Muslims need to forge meaningful relationships," said Suleiman.

"If you want to celebrate Malcolm, you need to bear his burden. And that means amplifying the causes that were sacred to him. You know his wife Betty asked: When will Muslims claim Malcolm? He was a believer."

Ballroom for rent

Malcolm X was 39 years old when he was assassinated. His murder took place just as he began to address a group of people at the Audubon Ballroom in the Washington Heights neighbourhood of New York City. Three men, linked to the Nation of Islam, opened fire on him, in front of a crowd of hundreds who gathered to hear him speak. His wife Betty, pregnant with twins at the time, and their four daughters were also in attendance.

"Malcolm was said to have been standing to the right of the podium," Ruby, the elderly woman, who now looks after the building, which today is known as the Malcolm X and Dr. Betty Shabazz Memorial and Educational Center.

"He was carried down these stairs, and you see

where the toilets are now? There was an exit there, and they took him to the hospital," Ruby, who doesn't offer a last name, says.

Malcolm X was pronounced dead 15 minutes later.

The cultural centre, home to the final moments of Malcolm X's life, is analogous to the proud, loud and vibrant personality of the man. The centre is like a mausoleum without a burial chamber. It is quiet. Even the bold, colourful mural in the ballroom cannot cut through the gloomy silence. The multimedia screens in which stories are meant to come to life are not working.

Ruby, herself new to the centre and short of information, says she is curious to see the information on the screens herself. The statue of the Malcolm standing tall and vehemently on the staircase is coarse with dust.

The large plastic banners that spout bite-sized historical insights into Malcolm X are frail and tearing at the edges. Here, his legacy is silenced.

"If you want to host an event here, you can call this number, they are looking to rent the ballroom out," Ruby says as I head out.

'Treated like a pariah'

Randi Gill-Sadler cannot recall having an in-depth conversation about Malcolm X outside of her home.

The 31-year-old assistant professor at the Department of English at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania, says as a teenager, most of whatever she learned about the man, happened at home. If he was mentioned at school, it was always as a foil to someone else.

"Even at high school, Malcolm was treated like a pariah. He was someone who was just mentioned in the overall coverage when it came to civil rights movement. But certainly not a leading figure," says Gill-Sadler, whose doctoral dissertation focused on representations of American imperialism and Black women in US and Caribbean literature.

"I think civil rights history at school level is almost set up to disregard Malcolm."

"Either his strategies were too radical. Or his approach to race was too abrasive. I think for me, the [Spike Lee] film gave me an alternate way to see this person and not as the opposite to Martin Luther King Jr."

Sister Aisha al-Adawiya, from the Schomburg Cen-

ter, says those who want to continue Malcolm's teachings and advance his legacy are forever battling with "the system" and its attempt to whitewash his memory.

"The more radical elements, even when it comes to Martin Luther King Jr., are often left out," she says.

"And yes, you can walk outside and you talk to a kid and ask them who Malcolm was, and they may not know. It can be shocking."

But Malcolm's legacy has always been difficult to quantify.

"It's not clear how popular he was after he was ostracised by the Nation and at the time of death," said Alden Young, the economic historian from Philadelphia.

"Malcolm has a weird legacy, in the US. He had a revival in the 90s with the film and the rise of hip hop. And many claim him today but I am not sure how many of us are actually reading him or have listened to what was actually said."

Malcolm has his fair share of critics as well, especially among Black feminist historians, with Gill-Sadler pointing out that his views on homosexuality would be considered homophobic today.

"I don't think people have dealt [enough] with gender politics around Malcolm. I think they assume that it was an area in which he was limited."

Malcolm's views and his relationship with women evolved as his political understanding evolved, too.

One of issues that led to his break with the Nation was the sexual exploitation of women by its leader Elijah Muhammad. And this break came at a heavy cost; it cost him his relationship with other members of the Nation who he held in high regard, including Muhammad Ali. It also led to further antagonism with the Nation.

Gill-Sadler said this level of personal sacrifice has resonance with today's #MeToo movement.

"I think it's important to bring this back into the discussion as to who Malcolm was and what he actually stood for," she said.

Malcolm has also been criticised for creating a distinction between 'house Negroes' and 'field Negroes' in which he valorises slaves working in the field and taunts those who worked in the house. "He [the house Negro] loved the master more than the master loved himself," he said.

"And the house Negro always looked out for his master. When the field Negroes got too much out of line, he held them back in check. He put 'em back on the plantation. The house Negro could afford to do that because he lived better than the field Negro.

Black feminist historians contend that the analogy doesn't hold up.

"It obscures the kind of violence and sexual violence enslaved people who worked in the house - which were usually Black women - would have experienced as a result of their proximity to their 'master'," Gill-Sadler says.

"But what Malcolm was really trying to point to - and it's important to talk about it today - was the way in which the US government and white supremacy will incorporate selected Black people to further its agenda."

"We have had Black people occupy some of the highest political positions - but we see racism on the rise. I won't use his analogy - but his point was prophetic in some ways."

'White supremacy is global'

Atiya Husain, an assistant professor at the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at University of Richmond, says teaching "The life and times of Malcolm X" has been more rewarding and fruitful than anything she could have imagined.

Given the dimensions of Malcolm's life, his philosophies, his appeal to so many different groups - be it Black radicals, Muslims, leftists, anti-imperialists, Black conservatives, amongst others - Husain was concerned that she would have to string together a course that would deal with "everything".

"Malcolm was involved somehow, however briefly, in just about every major event that happened during his lifetime. He had some relationship to everything I wanted to teach - colonialism, race, capitalism, religion, social movements, gender, sexuality - and his life and legacy brings all these things together in ways that we need to explore more today," said the 32-year-old.

Husain is one of many young scholars and academics who are bringing Malcolm into the classroom more than ever before. She says that most of the 23 students in her class are persons of colour - unusual for a university that is predominantly white.

"Black students can relate with what he is talking about - it does not need to be explained. They feel it," she said.

"I am hoping that students get a better sense of mid-20th century movements, a better understanding of religion. One of the bigger ambitions is to get them to see race as a global phenomenon - that white supremacy is global."

There have also been an increase in annual events in NYC marking the life of Malcolm. Both the Schomburg and The People's Forum will host seminars this week marking the death of the icon.

In mid-2018, the Schomburg acquired important manuscripts related to Malcolm's autobiography, including an unpublished chapter from the book. These sources, the Schomburg says, will provide researchers with new insight into the man and his thinking.

"There is a still lot of work to do. But Malcolm lives. He is more powerful now, in death, than he was walking among us."

'Malcolm was ahead of his time'

The young man in the black jacket, black track pants and black sneakers, returns from his late-afternoon prayers. We walk outside the Malcolm Shabazz Mosque and settle on a space on the sidewalk between the entrance of the mosque and a barbershop. His full name is Malcolm Bey.

"My parents named me after Malcolm X. I must have been around seven-years-old when I watched [Spike Lee's] movie "Malcolm X" and understood where it had come from.

"I just remember thinking for someone to come from the hells and bowels of North America and then be one of the most powerful men in the world - it inspired me - to be something more than what people thought of the average African American," says Bey, who now works in New York City on blockchain currency.

He says reading Malcolm X in his teens made him understand that he alone was the "master and slave of my destiny."

"It's not the sixties no more, conditions for Black people haven't changed. It's just the packaging of racism has changed... you have the United Nations some blocks away but [look at the] conditions here, or uptown in the Bronx - some people don't even have hot water."

"They living here in subhuman conditions in New York City, bro. And it's not just Black people. It's Latinos also. Anyone who is not white ... Malcolm was ahead of his time."

"That's why I came by to this mosque. His spirit is here," the 32-year-old says.

Study reveals real-time dialogue with a dreaming person is possible

Agencies

Can anyone perceive questions and provide answers in the midst of a vivid dream? It is possible, say researchers. The findings indicate that it is possible for people while dreaming to follow instructions, do simple math, answer yes-or-no questions, or tell the difference between different sensory stimuli.

"We found that individuals in REM sleep can interact with an experimenter and engage in real-time communication," said researcher Ken Paller from the Northwestern University in the US. According to the researcher, dreamers are capable of comprehending questions, engaging in working-memory operations and producing answers. "Most people might predict that this would not be possible—that people would either wake up

when asked a question or fail to answer, and certainly not comprehending a question without misconstruing it," Paller said. For the study, published in the journal Current Biology, the researchers evaluated 36 people who aimed to have a lucid dream, in which a person is aware they're dreaming. The team said that people in dreams could respond using eye movements or by contracting facial muscles.

The researchers refer to it as "interactive dreaming." The researchers said that future studies of dreaming could use these same methods to assess cognitive abilities during dreams versus wake. Outside of the laboratory, the methods could be used to help people in various ways, such as solving problems during sleep or offering nightmare sufferers novel ways to cope, the team noted.



Psychotherapy boosts positive effects in panic disorder patients

Agencies

Psychotherapy appears to be beneficial in the longer run for people suffering from panic disorder, a new study suggests. The findings, published in the journal Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics, indicated that 70 per cent of the patients clearly improved and 45 per cent were remitted two years after treatment. Psychotherapy is a general term for treating mental health problems by talking with a psychiatrist, psychologist or other mental health providers. "Many people adapt to their panic disorder by various restrictions in

their daily living," said researcher Thomas Nilsson from Lund University in Sweden. "Treatment is crucial as the disorder often leads to a downward spiral in which the margin for everyday life activities becomes increasingly narrow," Nilsson added. For the study, the team included 221 participants and studied not only the short and long-term effects of therapy but also how treatment outcome was affected by offering the patients to choose their treatment. The options were two forms of therapy, specifically designed to treat panic disorder—a psychodynamic psychotherapy (PDT) and a cognitive behavioural therapy

(CBT). One half of the patients were allowed to choose their form of therapy and the other half were randomly assigned to one or the other. The researchers' hypothesis was that the patients offered a choice between two validated treatments would benefit from receiving their chosen form of therapy. In previous research this has been the case, and psychologists generally take patient preferences into account in treatment decisions. Therefore, the researchers were surprised by the result—patients who had chosen PDT tended to have better outcomes than those who were randomly assigned to the same treatment.

3D biopsies to better understand brain tumours

Agencies

Researchers have obtained a highly accurate recreation of human glioblastoma's features using a novel 3D microscopy analysis. The study, published in the journal Acta Neuropathologica Communications, provides new information to help with the diagnose, by finding therapeutical targets and designing immunotherapeutic strategies. This new analysis of 3D images and quantitative data "will help to appreciate from within how the tumour is built in its full dimensionality, and to identify where different cell types are located," explained researcher George Paul Cribaro from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. "It provides more complete information than the usual 2D analyses performed for neuropathological diagnosis," Cribaro added. With this new approach, the research team showed the alterations in tumour blood vessels, and that these vascular wall abnormalities do not hinder the entrance of lymphocytes T (potential defence against tumoral cells), which is relevant for



the design and use of immunotherapies targeting malignant cells. Moreover, the images allow the tumour to be differentiated into two areas, the tumour tissue properly speaking, and the stroma, which gives support to the tumour, in which there are different immunological microenvironments, the team said. The work provides a set of resource images that will facilitate the understanding of the complexity of this tumour, showing some aspects to be considered when designing new therapeutic approaches.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR, OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PDA PAHALGAM

E-MAIL, ceopdahalgalam@gmail.com FAX NO- 01936-243049, 243125

FRESH OPEN AUCTION NOTICE NO.CEO/PDA/ 03 of 2020-21 dated 19/02/2021

Subject:- Out Sourcing of Parks, parking places and Guest Houses of Pahalgam Development Authority Pahalgam. For and on behalf of the Pahalgam Development Authority, Pahalgam, applications are invited from the interest persons for out sourcing of following Parks, parking places and Guest houses falling under the jurisdiction of Pahalgam Development Authority for a period of three years. The open auction shall be conducted in presence of Provincial Level out sourcing committee under the chairmanship of Director Tourism Kashmir on 11/03/2021 at 12.00 Noon at Tourist Reception Center Srinagar. The asset wise details to be out sourced on the terms and conditions are given detailed as under:-

| S.No | Name of the asset | Minimum Reserve bid for 3 Years (Rs in lacs) | CDR, (EMD) | Cost of bid document. |
|------|--|---|-------------|-----------------------|
| A | Parking places / Guest Houses | | | |
| 01 | Parking place near Petrol Pump at Pahalgam | 10.00 | Rs 30000/= | Rs 500/= |
| 02 | Parking place near Nunwan base camp | 4.00 | Rs 12000/= | Rs 200/= |
| 03 | Guest House and Chowkidar hut at beatab valley | 9.00 | Rs 27000/= | Rs 500/= |
| 04 | Guest house , Camping site and parking place at Aru and huts at Lidder watt. | 7.00 | Rs 21000/= | Rs 200/= |
| B | Parks / Picnic spots | | | |
| 05 | Aabshar park including Island at Batkote | 4.50 | Rs 13500/= | Rs 200/= |
| 06 | Theme park near PDC Guest House at Pahalgam including parking and River front spot. | 2.00 | Rs 6000/= | Rs 200/= |
| 07 | Baisaran picnic spot at Pahalgam | 45.00 | Rs 135000/= | Rs 500/= |
| 08 | Tentage site at Sarshar park in Km 9 th of Pahalgam Aru road (Space for 10 tents only) | 9.00 | Rs 27000/= | Rs 500/= |

Terms and conditions:-

- The bid documents containing General terms and conditions can be obtained on all working days from the office of the Chief Executive Officer, PDA, Pahalgam w.e.f 02/03/2021 to 08-03-2021, during office hours. The bid documents shall be issued on production of following documents:-
 - CDR as per details given above duly pledged to Accounts Officer, PDA, drawn from any recognized bank.
 - Cost of bid documents (Non refundable / Non adjustable) in the shape of E- Challan or Treasury Challan /receipt for particular item to be deposited into Major Head 1452- Tourism, Minor Head -800 -other Receipts and Sub head 8193 Tourism.
- The successful bidders has to deposit the offered bid amount as per following schedule. However, in case the allottee fails to deposit the payment as per schedule the possession shall be evicted and deposited sum of the allottee shall be forfeited.

| Year | % age of total offered bid amount to be deposited | Payment schedule |
|----------------------|---|---|
| Starting year | 30% | 1 st installment @ 50 % before taking possession of the asset and 2 nd installment @ 50% in the month of August 2021. |
| 2 nd year | 40% | 1 st installment @ 50 % March 2022 and 2 nd installment @ 50% in the month of August 2022. |
| 3 rd year | 30% | 1 st installment @ 50 % March 2023 and 2 nd installment @ 50% in the month of August 2023. |
- Conditional, Ambiguous bids shall not be entertained at all.
- The applications of defaulters for participation in the auction process shall not be entertained.
- Minors cannot participate in the open auction process.
- Offers below than Rs 5,000/= shall not be entertained. As such, bidders are requested to offer their rates accordingly in the open auction and no offer below than reserve bids shall be accepted.
- The allottee shall be responsible for any kind of damage to the property due to mishap, theft etc. during the period of contract.
- The allottee shall be bound to make the payment to the PDA as per above mentioned payment schedule and the Authority shall not be responsible for any kind of loss to the revenue sustained by the allottee due to hartals, blockade of roads or any natural disaster beyond the control of Pahalgam dev. Authority.
- The allottee is bound to carry out the Sanitation, cleanliness, maintenance, watch and ward at his own.
- The allottee has to pay all applicable taxes, electricity charges, water charges to the concerned Departments at his own as per meter reading/ bills.
- The open auction shall be conducted on Scheduled date and time, however, in case of any unavoidable circumstances the auction shall be conducted on any next convenient date and time.
- The facilities shall be handed over to the successful bidder on the similar conditions as it is and no additional facility shall be provided by the Department. The successful bidders will arrange all necessary facilities at his own to run his business as per J&K Tourist Trade Act. As such, bidders are requested to inspect the assets during office hours well before the date of open auction.
- The successful bidder shall not mortgage or sub-let the out sourced assets to any 3rd party.
- The allottee shall be bound to run the asset as per instructions of CEO, PDA from time to time. In case of non compliance the contract is liable for rejection.
- The allottee shall not run any contraband /illegal activity in the premises and he shall be responsible for behavior of his staff engaged by him.
- The allottee will be allowed to charge the parking, entry fee as per following schedule which shall remain valid for a period of three years.

| S.No | Item | Amount |
|------|--------------------------------|--|
| 01 | Entry fee Adults | Rs 20/per head |
| 02 | Entry fee (Childrens) | Rs 10/= per head |
| 03 | Parking fee (heavy vehicle) | Rs 100/= per day |
| 04 | Parking fee (medium vehicle) | Rs 30/= per day |
| 05 | Parking fee (light vehicle) | Rs 20/=per day |
| 06 | Entry fee Baisaran picnic spot | Rs 30/ per adult and Rs 15/= per. children |
| 07 | Tentage site Sarshar park | As per approved tariff of Tourism J&K TDC. |

The successful bidder will draw an agreement with the Authority, within 15 days from the date of issue of this allotment order. The Chairman out sourcing committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers without assigning any reason thereof and in case of any dispute between PDA and the party (s) the decision of the Chairman shall be final and binding upon all.

NO. CEO/PDA/CS/ _____ Dated _____
DIPK-NB-5820/20

Chief Executive Officer,
Pahalgam Dev. Authority,
Pahalgam.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, ELECTRIC DIVISION- IV Khanyar, SRINAGAR.

Email: emre.ediv@gmail.com Tel No. 0194-2477608 Fax No.0194-2470276

E-TENDER ABBREVIATED NOTICE e-NIT No. 44/EDIV, dt: 20.02.2021

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir , Executive Engineer, Electric Division-IV Srinagar invites online e-bids from registered A-Class Contractors/firms/ suppliers/ Notice for Supply of 5kVA Online UPS complete, LIPI Line Matrix Printer 6605 within the jurisdiction of EDIV Khanyar as under:

| S.No | Particulars | Estimated cost |
|------|---|----------------|
| 1 | Supply of 5kVA Online UPS complete, LIPI Line Matrix Printer 6605 within the jurisdiction of EDIV Khanyar | 4.50 lacs |

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

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| i) | Date and Time of downloading/ Sale (Start) of Tender Document | 23.02.2021 ; 11:00 Hrs |
| ii) | Date & Time of Download/ Sale (End) of Tender Document | 06.03.2021 ; 16:00 Hrs |
| iii) | Date & Time of Bidding Queries/Clarifications | 23.02.2021 ; 11.00 Hrs to 23.02.2021 ; 16:00 Hrs |
| iv) | Date & Time of Bid Uploading (Start/End) | 23.02.2021 ; 16.10 Hrs to 06.03.2021 ; 16:00 Hrs |
| v) | Submission of Hard Copy (end) Date & Time | Shall be communicated letter |
| vi) | Commercial/Technical Bid Opening Date & Time | 08.03.2021 at 14:00 Hrs |
| vii) | Financial Bid Opening | Shall be declared later on for the technically qualified bidders |
| viii) | Venue of Commercial/ Technical Bid Opening | Soft Copy Electronically and Hard Copy in the office of Executive Engineer, Electric Division IV, Srinagar |
| ix) | Cost of e-Bid document | Rs.500.00 (Rupees Five Hundred Only) (Non-refundable) |
| x) | Amount of Earnest Money Deposit | Rs 9000 (Rupees Nine Thousand Only) |

Executive Engineer
Electric Division IV, Srinagar

DIPK-NB-5834/20

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

JAI SHAKTI DEPARTMENT

Office of the Executive Engineer, PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar
Tele fax 0194-2473956 E-mail, ID : xenphemrd@gmail.com

E-NIT

NIT No: PHE/MRD/E-NIT -51 of 02/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt Governor of U T of J&K, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors/workshop holders registered for similar nature of works with J&K Govt., CPWD, Railway and other State/Central Government Organizations for the following work:-

| Sr. | Nature of Work | Name of the Water Supply Scheme | Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs) | Cost of Tender Doc. (In rupees, as Try Challan) | Time of Completion of the tender work | Position of funds as on date |
|-----|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| A | Replacement of standby pumping unit (BER) by way of Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of Submersible pumping unit alongwith allied works | Well No.12 | 0.80 | 50/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |
| B | Electrical works for replacement of damaged 10sqmm 3 core flat copper Submersible cable | Well No.13 | 0.45 | 50/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |
| C | Replacement of standby pumping unit (BER) by way of Providing, installation, testing and commissioning of Submersible pumping unit along with allied works | Well No.13 | 1.30 | 100/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |
| D | Electrical works for replacement of damaged 10sqmm 3 core flat copper Submersible cable | Well No.13 | 0.45 | 50/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |
| E | Repairs to the delivery line by way of replacement of damaged control valves | Khushipora | 0.39 | 50/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |
| F | Mechanical works for providing/fitting of manual chain pulley | HMT Water Bank | 0.30 | 50/= | 5 days | M&E Non Plan |

The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, drawings, and 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:

| | | |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 01 | Publish Date | 22-02-2021 (05.00 P.M.) |
| 02 | Period of downloading of bidding documents | 22-02-2021 (05.00 P.M.) |
| 03 | Bid Submission Start Date | 22-02-2021 (05.00 P.M.) |
| 04 | Bid Submission End Date | 27-02-2021 (05.00 P.M.) |
| 05 | Date and time of opening of bids (online) | 01-03-2021 (01.00 P.M.) |

Note: - The tender document fee shall be deposited by the intending bidders in the Treasury favoring Ex. Engineer PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar, against this NIT, under major head MH-0215 which shall be clearly mentioned in the Treasury challan/receipt & same be uploaded with the technical bid. The CDR should be placed to Executive Engineer PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar. Original CDR @3% of bid value and Treasury Receipt have to be submitted by the lowest bidder prior to the placement of allotment order. All other details can be had from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in

No: -PHE/MRD /TS/e-tendering/2591-93

DT: -22-02-2021

DIPK-13631/20

Executive Engineer
PHE Mechanical Rural Division
Srinagar

Jalan Kalrock Consortium Expects To Restart Jet Airways In 4-6 Months After NCLT Nod



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Jalan Kalrock Consortium, the winning bidder for Jet Airways, expects to restart operations of the defunct airline in four to six months after receiving approval from the NCLT for its resolution plan.

Jet Airways, the once-storied full-service carrier was grounded in early 2019 and subsequently is undergoing proceedings under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).

Against the backdrop of the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) likely to take a final call on the resolution plan for the airline, the winning consortium's lead member Murari Lal Jalan told PTI that "everything is on track" as far as the revival efforts for the carrier are concerned.

Stressing that he is very positive about the Indian aviation sector, which is recovering from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, Jalan said that initially Jet Airways will resume flying with around 25 aircraft.

"After NCLT decision, we will be able to start the airline within four to six months. I am very positive about Indian aviation and the future is bright," Jalan said during a telephonic interaction.

"We are very hopeful that it (NCLT nod) will come," he said, adding that a delay of one or two months here and there would not make a difference for such a big thing as reviving the airline.

In October last year, the consortium comprising UK-headquartered Kalrock Capital and Jalan, a UAE-based entrepreneur, emerged as the winning bidder

for Jet Airways, which has not flown since April 17, 2019.

According to Jalan, the airline is likely to resume services with roughly 25 planes as per the revival plan submitted to the Committee of Creditors (CoC), within this year.

The fleet is expected to be a mix of narrow-body and wide-body planes.

"We will start with passenger services. All options, either it is cargo, or international (services) or anything, are open," Jalan said.

The CoC-led by State Bank of India (SBI) has approved the resolution plan and under the IBC, the clearance of NCLT is required before implementing the plan.

Noting that for resuming overseas services, a lot of things need to be worked out, Jalan made it clear that while there will be hundreds of things, including getting a lot of permissions, the consortium's "interest is to come (bring Jet Airways) to the sky".

"Everything is on track. In the future also, it (things) could be delayed but we are very much on track," Jalan said.

Justifying the consortium's decision to relaunch Jet Airways at a time when the aviation industry globally is in financial distress, he said the pandemic is the "best" time to foray into the airline business as there is a cost advantage.

"This is the best time for anybody to enter the airline business since because of the pandemic, everything (such as) prices of inputs are down. On output, when we start, things will be in a normal situation," he pointed out.

Sounding optimistic, Jalan said that in the four to six months, domestic air travel will be absolutely normal.

"We have already reached a 70 percent level. So, our income is going to be in the normal situation and all our expenses, including buying aircraft, will be on the lower side," he noted.

LIC Launches New Plan- LIC's BIMA JYOTI

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Life Insurance Corporation of India has introduced LIC's Bima Jyoti a Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Savings Plan which offers an attractive combination of protection and savings. This plan provides guaranteed lump sum payment at maturity and financial support to the family in case of the unfortunate death of the policyholder during policy term. It can be purchased Offline through agent /other intermediaries as well as Online directly through website www.licindia.in

Guaranteed Additions at the rate of Rs. 50 per thousand Basic Sum Assured will be added to the policy at the end of each policy year.

On death during the policy term after the date of commencement of risk, "Sum Assured on Death" and Accrued Guaranteed Additions as per policy conditions is payable. On Life Assured surviving the

stipulated Date of Maturity provided the policy is in-force, "Sum Assured on Maturity" along with Guaranteed Additions, shall be payable. The plan also provides an option to receive death/maturity benefits in instalments subject to certain conditions

The Minimum Basic Sum Assured is Rs 1,00,000/- with no upper limit. The Policy can be taken for a term of 15 to 20 years with premium paying term calculated as Policy term minus 5 years. The minimum age at entry is 90 days completed and maximum age at entry is 60 yrs.

Premiums can be paid regularly at yearly, half-yearly, quarterly or monthly intervals (monthly premiums through NACH only) or through salary deductions. Loan facilities are also available to meet liquidity needs.

In the current scenario of rapidly declining interest rates, the guaranteed additions offered along with risk cover is an attractive feature in LIC's BIMA JYOTI.

Agri Sector To Get More Budget Share In Future: LG

'Revolutionary Changes Are Taking Place In Horticulture Sector In J&K; Promotion Of Local Produce & Taking It To Global Market Is One Of The Key Focus Areas Of J&K Govt'

Observer News Service

JAMMU: Agriculture sector will get more share of Jammu and Kashmir's budget component in future. A unique Sustainable Agriculture Plan has been developed in J&K, which currently caters to all developmental needs without compromising future potential.

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha made these remarks during the Horti-Expo 2021 here at Police Auditorium, Gulshan ground.

Speaking on the occasion, the Lt Governor observed that revolutionary changes are taking place in the agriculture and horticulture sectors in J&K.

He said that the promotion of local produce and taking it to the global market is one of the key focus areas of J&K Government and the Government is making continuous efforts to increase the resources and market linkages to further strengthen the horticulture sector.

While addressing the farmers, the Lt Governor said that the UT Government would continue striving hard to provide the best and advanced technologies to the farmers. Welfare of the farmer community and increasing their income manifold is the priority of the Government, he added.

"I assure farmers that Mandis are very much here to stay. In fact, they are getting strengthened and modernized. People should not spread false information and mislead the farmers", said the Lt Governor.

The Lt Governor said that the government is also setting up Farmers Producers Organizations in all the 20 districts of Jammu and Kashmir in the next three months to strengthen business activities related to agriculture and horticulture.

For the convenience of the farmers, free thresher is being provided in every panchayat of the UT. Road Tax on Tractors up to 3000 CC capacity has also been exempted and no tax will be paid on power tillers, he added.

Underscoring the interventions being made by the Government for progress and growth of agriculture and horticulture sectors, the Lt Governor observed that in the last few years, under the able guidance of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and because of the hard work of our farmers, agricultural scientists, and the policies



adopted by the Horticulture Department, J&K is getting distinct recognition in the world scenario.

Central Government and UT Administration are constantly making efforts and taking decisions so that not only Farmers' produce sees huge growth and gets three times the price, but can also receive greater handling and end to end solutions, the Lt Governor observed.

For making J&K pioneer and self-reliant in food-safety, the Lt Governor asked the Agriculture Department to develop new state-of-the-art scientific research programs and take these programs from lab to farm under mission mode.

Reiterating Government's commitment for exploring all the possibilities for giving a further push to the development of priority sectors like agriculture and horticulture, the Lt Governor recalled the recently held NITI Aayog meeting in which he had requested the Hon'ble Prime Minister to provide the facility of dry port and international flights to Jammu and Kashmir so that products, including those related to agriculture and horticulture could be exported directly.

The Lt Governor has also requested the NITI Aayog that instead of spreading the resources, the central government could consider specific product-based funding programs as our National Saffron Mission was successful because of its focus on one product.

He observed that experiments like Saffron Mission can also be used for other crops such as apples, walnuts, almonds, etc., which can cover the entire value chain of inputs, farms, processing, packing, and storage. This will also reduce dependence on

full-range Hygiene, Engineering support and specialized services such as Building Engineering Operations & Critical Environment and O&M services. We also provide sustainable solutions to protect the workplace environment that delivers quality and efficiency without compromising on health and safety."

"A homegrown conglomerate comprising three market leaders, Tenon FM, Peregrine Guarding and Soteria, the Tenon group has a strong foothold in private security and facility management, the statement added.

ASSURE FARMERS THAT MANDIS ARE VERY MUCH HERE TO STAY. In fact, they are getting strengthened and modernized. People should not spread false information and mislead the farmers", said the Lt Governor.

Haryana Company Bags J&K Bank Contract, Deploys 1100 Employees

SRINAGAR: Tenon- India's leading Integrated Security & Facility Management Service Provider has secured a contract for facility management with Jammu & Kashmir Bank across the Kashmir region.

The company says it has been already operating the security services in the region of Srinagar and other parts of Kashmir.

"Tenon has deployed more than 1100 highly trained housekeeping & FM staff in Srinagar and other parts of Kashmir, who are known for their professional & tech oriented integrated facility man-

agement solutions," the company said in a statement.

Quoting Major Manjit Rajain, Group Chairman, Tenon Group of company said, "We are delighted to welcome J&K Bank on board for our set of facility management services. FM entails multiple disciplines to ensure a smooth and efficient functioning of the work facility and its environment by the comprehensive integration of human resource, systems and technology. We are well equipped to provide housekeeping services and gamut of

Over 90% Of Tech Industry Continues To Work From Home: Azim Premji

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Lt Governor Azim Premji on Sunday said more than 90 per cent of the workforce in the country's technology industry continue to work from home, and lauded the hybrid model of work.

"Within the first few weeks of the (COVID-19-induced) lockdown, over 90 per cent of the technology industry was working from home and even today over 90 per cent of people continue to work from home," he said.

Addressing an interactive session hosted by the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Premji said the IT industry and the government have appreciated the value of a permanent hybrid model where people would work partly from office and home even after the end of the pandemic. Stating that the hybrid model would have huge comparative advantage, Premji said it would drive inclusive growth, better participation from all parts of the country and greater number of women who would have flexibility to work from home.

"Technology is becoming the lifeline for us as individuals and also businesses," he said.

If there was any doubt, 2020 showed how fundamental technology has become, playing an important role in ensuring that the government's social schemes and assistance programmes reached the mass population. Availability of digital infrastructure in tier-2 cities has helped greatly many businesses to thrive, Premji said. He emphasised the need for people to engage in some acts of philanthropy and charity.

"The culture of philanthropy is as basic to India as India itself. Charity and philanthropy has always been a



part of India's culture and tradition", he added. "The pandemic, though unfortunate, has taught us many things," Premji said adding that some people now work remotely, some have been pushed to the situation of unemployment and some others have witnessed devastation of loss of near and dear ones.

Hailing the development of a COVID-19 vaccine in record time, Premji said deploying and administering the vaccine in large proportion was the key requirement today. He suggested the government involve the private sector to supplement its effort of vaccinating people.

"There is a possibility that we can get the Serum Institute to supply vaccines at about Rs 300 a shot and hospitals and private nursing homes can administer this at a cost of Rs 100 per shot. So with a Rs 400 a shot, it is possible to do mass vaccination of the population," Premji said. According to him, if the government engages the private sector, it can rest assured that the country can achieve a coverage of 500 million people within 60 days.

Premji stepped down as Wipro chairman and managing director in 2019 and handed over the company's reins to his son Rishad. The septuagenarian currently holds the position of Wipro founder-chairman and non-executive director.

Advisor Baseer Reviews Tourism Projects Of Jammu Division

JAMMU: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, today convened a meeting to review ongoing projects of the Tourism department.

Advisor said that LG has called for major upgrade of existing infrastructure of Jammu Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation and the same needs to be done at the earliest to cater to the increasing number of tourist influx.

Advisor had a detailed assessment of the robust development plan worth Rs 198 crore for Mansar which has been submitted to Government of India, to be funded under Swadesh Darshan Scheme. Besides, some of the works have already been sanctioned under Capex budget which included development of view points along Sidhra-Mansar and Samba-Mansar routes, construction of gender-based toilets, procuring boats, life jackets and installation of high power illumination etc. A detailed list of all JKTDC properties was also submitted to him.

Advisor Baseer Khan said that Basohli region has huge potential of becoming the finest tourist centre in future and therefore needs special attention. He asked the officers to explore the possibility of adventure sports, hiking, camping and mountain biking in the Mansar area. "The LG government is accordingly focused on development of various religious and tourist attractions of Jammu region like Shiv Khori, Uttar Behni and Purnamandir for their inclusion in the larger tourism circuit of the region", he maintained.

Advisor suggested that regular exhibitions showcasing local handicrafts, handloom, cuisine and culture be organised at tourist sites to attract tourist footfall. Administrative Secretary, Tourism and Culture, Sarmad Hafeez, informed the Advisor that the Jammu Ropeway Project at Baghe-Bahu is operating successfully and its second phase is to be made functional after some technical analysis. Besides, weekly cultural activities are being organised at the site to attract tourists, he added. He further informed that the department is planning new cable car projects at Pahalgam, Shiv Khori and Gulmarg. Sarmad Hafeez informed that recently held Patnitop Festival had been a grand success and two additional tourism festivals are being planned in Jammu division, as per the directions of LG.

Meanwhile, issues pertaining to traffic movement from Jammu to Patnitop were also raised during the meeting.

Sarmad Hafeez also informed the Advisor that a Kashmiri Pandit Food Festival is being planned by the tourism department to be organized around the Mahashivratri Festival, which would provide people a chance to relish traditional cuisines of Kashmir. He also shared details regarding the upcoming Jammu Mahotsav.

Advisor directed the Administrative Secretary to plan tourism festivals at Mansar Baderwah and other sites in Jammu region. He directed that the Gulmarg, Pahalgam and Patnitop Clubs be made functional at the earliest and regular activities be organised therein for tourists.

NEWS MAKERS

DDC Launches Kanishawl Portal

BUDGAM: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Budgam Shahbaz A Mirza today e-launched the web site, www.Kanishawl.com during an impressive function organized here at CFC Kanihama.

Speaking on the occasion, the DDC said that in view of the present trend of e-shopping of various brands through online portals, the launching of shopping portal for this unique item 'Kanishawl' was viewed as one of the best platform to give wide publicity to it, besides facilitating its global sale to the interested customers.

The DDC said that through this portal any Kani Shawl weaver can upload its products for online sale, however prior to uploading the product, the concerned weaver is required to get himself registered with the office of AD Handloom. The Handloom dept. apart from providing registration shall ensure genuineness of the product.

Later, DDC convened a meeting of District Officers at CFC Kanihama to take on spot assessment of the progress made on various issues relating to development of Kanihama as a craft village.

The DDC during the meeting was informed that the development work including beautification and face lifting of CFC center located at Magam, Gulmarg road is in full swing.

It was given out that the centre shall reflect as a tourist interest destination site, and any one visiting here apart from craft related interest shall also be provided with requisite information about regional heritage particularly about Kanishawl.

The DDC was assured that remaining work on CFC will be completed before the end of March, 2021 on a fast track basis as all concerned are putting their efforts together in ensuring completion of target well in time.

The DDC during the visit was accompanied by District and sectoral officers, besides the e-launch among others was also witnessed by a large number of Kani Shawl weavers and other local citizens.

Bandipora Capex Budget For Current Financial Year

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Monday reviewed the progress of works under District Capex Budget in Education, Health and R&B Department with an aim to expedite the pace of work.

The meeting discussed threadbare the execution of works and the status of works besides discussing various bottlenecks that hinder the progress of works.

The DC directed the concerned to expedite the pace of works to ensure cent percent utilization of funds released by March this year and also directed to achieve the physical target in toto.

It was given out that 25 works under R&B, six works of the Education Department and six works of the Health Department are being executed at an aggregate cost of Rs 85 crores including work on an auditorium at NM Higher Secondary Kaloosa and four sub-centres.

The DC directed to expedite works to complete the target and urged the officers to work in convergence mode with the Rural Development Department for consolidation of funds so that jobs created under MGN-REGA are utilized in ongoing developmental works.

Dr Owais directed Tehsildar Bandipora to settle the realignment dispute of Turkpora road and also asked CMO to depute a team of JKMSL to procure machinery loaded on Capex before March.

Mega Artisan Awareness Camp Held At Baramulla

BARAMULLA: The District Handicrafts office, Baramulla today organized a one day Artisan awareness camp cum Registration mela at Dak Banglow Sopore, here. On the occasion, the Artisans were apprised about various welfare schemes launched by the Department of Handicrafts & Handloom for overall benefit of artisan fraternity. The Assistant Director Handicrafts, Baramulla briefed about the various activities being carried out by the department to cater to the problem of unemployment.

The officer informed that presently 1400 trainees are undergoing training in traditional crafts in 57 training centres throughout the district. 4362 Artisans have been registered by the office during the current financial year in different crafts. Under the newly launched Credit Card Scheme for Artisans and Weavers, 200 cases have been sponsored to various financial institutions of the district for financial assistance. The aim/objective behind the scheme is to make the artisan fraternity self-reliant and save them from the clutches of middlemanship.

The Assistant Director Handicrafts also briefed about the creation/development of clusters that will enhance the foothold and will boost infrastructure for artisans and weaver community. He said they will be provided market support for their products through E-commerce Websites like Flipkart. Provision of raw material bank at Pattan was also talked about; this will provide the artisans cheap and accessible raw material at their door steps. LDM J&K Bank Baramulla while speaking on the occasion clarified the due process of approval of the Artisan Credit Card scheme and also addressed the grievances raised by the Artisans. He assured that all the hindrances in the approval process will be addressed.

NORTHEAST DELHI RIOTS

A Year On, Kin Of Many Victims Remain Oblivious About Status Of Probe

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: A year on, scars of the communal violence that convulsed northeast Delhi last February continue to haunt the kin of victims, many of whom say they remain unaware of the status of police investigations relating to their cases.

The police, however, say they are taking forward over 750 cases registered in connection with the conflagration.

The riots had erupted in northeast Delhi on February 24 last year after clashes between citizenship law supporters and protesters spiralled, leaving at least 53 people dead, around 200 injured and also led to extensive destruction of property, including houses, shops, schools as well as religious places.

As northeast Delhi became the epicentre of violence, clashes also broke out at Jaffrabad, Maujpur, Chandbagh, Khureji Khos, Bhajanpura, Dayalpur, Gokalpuri and other areas.

Nizamuddin, whose younger brother Jamaluddin was killed by a mob in Shiv Vihar, says he has no idea about what is

happening in his case.

"They killed my brother near our home in Shiv Vihar. Officials of Delhi Police's Crime Branch call us regarding the investigation, but I have no idea what is happening in the case," Nizamuddin said.

He said he also got injured during the attack and had to be treated with metal plates in his broken hands.

Twenty-year old Salim, a scrap collector, is caught up with the police work related to his elder brother Jameel's killing during the riots and is also taking care of his parents.

"In Jameel's case, police call us to Daryaganj for identification. Apart from this, we have no idea what is happening in our case. After his death, our financial condition has also become very bad," he said.

Trying to control her trembling voice, his mother Noor Jahan says she misses her son everyday.

Jameel (26), who used to work as a labourer, went missing when he had gone out to buy milk. Later, the family got a call from GTB hospital, which said

his body was kept there.

Living in Uttarakhand's Paudi Gadhwal, Devender Negi whose brother Dabar Negi's body was disfigured and burnt in Shiv Vihar, is concerned about the poor financial condition of his family.

"The Crime Branch of Delhi Police had called me once but due to the poor financial condition of my family, I could not reach Delhi. Since then, no one has called me or communicated with me. We have less hope in connection with the case as nothing has happened in one year," Negi said.

Negi said he is worried about the poor health of his parents and was looking for an odd job.

Another victim of the riots was IB staffer Ankur Sharma whose body was fished out from a drain close to his house in Chandbagh area.

His brother Ankur Singh said the family has shifted to Ghaziabad now.

"Six months back, we shifted to Ghaziabad as we missed Ankit a lot in that house," he said.

He felt investigation into his brother's murder was progressing "slowly" but expressed faith

in the judiciary.

"The government has announced that they will name a road in my brother's name at our village in UP's Muzaffarnagar. They will also install a statue of my brother and a gate with his name inscribed in it. The work of road has started," Ankur stated.

He recalled his brother as a frank man having both Hindus and Muslims as friends.

Among those who lost their lives also include a 42-year-old Delhi Police head constable Ratan Lal. He sustained injury during stone pelting at Gokalpuri and succumbed to injuries.

The then Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP), Shahdara, Amit Sharma and then ACP (Gokalpuri) Anuj Kumar were also severely injured while trying to quell the protests.

Delhi Police Commissioner S N Shrivastava last week said 755 FIRs were registered in connection with the riots and his force ensured a "free and fair" investigation.

"You are aware of the riots which led to 53 deaths and 581 injuries. Riots reached its peak

on February 24 and 25 last year. We made it a point that no one had a grievance that their complaint was not acknowledged," he said.

Delhi Police formed three SITs in its Crime Branch to probe 62 important cases, including 53 cases of murder and rioting.

A separate case was registered to unearth the conspiracy behind the riots, which was investigated by the Special Cell of the Delhi Police while the remaining 692 cases were investigated by northeast district police, police officers said.

"To ensure a free and fair investigation, technology was extensively used and the evidences which are based on science and technology cannot be refuted," the Delhi Police chief had said.

According to the police, overall, 1,818 people have been arrested so far in 400 cases in connection with the riots. They said 324 charge sheets have been filed by Delhi Police by the end of 2020, out of which the trial court has taken cognizance 250 cases.

Of the 1,754 accused arrested, 1,553 have been charge sheeted already, they said.

Jamia Students Stage Protest; Demand Reopening Of Campus, Resumption Of Physical Classes



Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: A group of Jamia Millia Islamia students staged a protest outside the campus here on Monday demanding the reopening of the university which has been closed since last year in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The varsity administration, however, maintained that a decision in this regard will be taken by the Executive Council (EC) after consultations with all stakeholders. The students raised slogans demanding that the varsity should proceed with phase-wise reopening like the Delhi University and the Jawaharlal Nehru University.

A larger group of students had staged a protest last week questioning the university's decision to keep the campus shut when other educational institutions were reopening with COVID-19 protocols. A senior Delhi Police

official said a group of around 20 students gathered outside the JMI campus demanding reopening of the varsity.

"They wanted the university administration to resume classes, canteen and library. They staged a protest and left after a while. Nobody was detained," he said.

According to the university spokesperson, "Views of all stakeholders, including students and parents, will be taken into consideration before a decision on reopening the campus is taken by the EC, the highest decision making body of the varsity".

"A large number of students and parents already wrote to the university administration, saying online teaching should continue as the environment is still not conducive for offline classes considering the COVID-19 cases and discovery of the South African and Brazilian mutant strains of coronavirus in the country" he said.

Toolkit case: Police grills Nikita and Shantanu, gets one-day custody of Disha Ravi to confront her with duo

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: The Delhi Police was on Monday granted a day's custody of 21-year-old climate activist Disha Ravi by a court in the toolkit case after it said that she has to be confronted with the two other suspects — Nikita Jacob and Shantanu Mukul — who were questioned by the cyber cell here.

Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Pankaj Sharma sent Ravi for custodial interrogation even as a sessions court is likely to give its order on Tuesday on Ravi's bail plea.

Ravi, who was produced before the court on expiry of her three-day judicial remand, through her lawyer opposed the plea of the investigators, saying those she had to be confronted with are on bail, but the prosecution said that Jacob and Mukul can be arrested if needed.

Police sought five days of custodial interrogation contending that during her interrogation, Ravi shifted the entire blame on Jacob and Mukul who cannot be

arrested because they are currently on transit bail".

They need to be confronted with Ravi. Nikita was served with a notice to join the probe but she did not join the interrogation.

It is a case which has transnational ramifications, with the involvement of those who have expressed their disaffection for this country, the prosecution told the court.

The probe agency said that they may arrest Jacob and Mukul as well in the future if there is a requirement.

There was the involvement of all three accused. We have to confront all three. We only have seven days more to seek custodial interrogation, the prosecution told the court referring to the provisions of the law in the FIR that mandate custodial interrogation only up to 15 days post-arrest.

Lawyer Nikita Jacob and Mukul, an engineer, were on Monday questioned at the Delhi Police's Cyber cell office in Dwarka, a senior police



officer said.

The Delhi Police, probing the "toolkit Google doc" backing the farmers' agitation that was shared by climate activist Greta Thunberg, had arrested Bengaluru-based activist Disha Ravi on February 13 while Jacob and Mukul were granted pre-arrest bail by the Bombay High Court.

Police had alleged that the toolkit was part of global

conspiracy to create unrest and trigger violence in India in the garb of the farmers' protest against the agri laws.

Both Jacob and Mukul were served notice to join the probe, the officer said.

Police were, however, tight-lipped on other queries related to questioning, including the duration.

The Delhi High Court had on Friday directed the police

not to leak any probe details and asked media houses not to broadcast any such material, following a plea by Ravi.

Ravi's counsel on Monday opposed the police plea for remand, saying why did the police wait till February 22 to call the other two suspects, when Ravi had been arrested on February 13.

The counsel also said that she can be confronted with the two

even in judicial custody.

What was I (Ravi) doing for the last five days in custody? They did not take me to my hometown for the probe. They have a valid requirement to confront, but that may be met while I am in judicial custody. Two accused are already on bail, the lawyer said.

The defence counsel also informed the court that a sessions court, a superior court than that of a magistrate's, has reserved its order on Ravi's bail plea for Tuesday.

I have moved a bail application, order on which is reserved for tomorrow. Right now seeking police custody means over-reaching the sessions court, that has reserved order on bail, the defence said.

The public prosecutor opposed the submission, saying, "It's wrong to say we are trying to influence sessions court. This is strange to say that just because sessions court has reserved order, this court should not hear the remand plea."

We have our right to seek (police custody), they have

their right," the lawyer said.

We are not saying Disha was not a part of Zoom meeting, we are probing if she was. We did not seek police custody after five days because we did not need it then. We are seeking now because there is a requirement, police said.

The police further questioned as to why the accused is treating police custody as punishment and that it was just for the purpose of investigation.

The defence, however, said that even law favours police custody.

Regarding summoning the co-accused late, police said, "We had sent the summons to Jacob on February 12, but she did not join and evaded."

On Friday, Ravi was sent to three days' judicial custody after police had said her custodial interrogation was not required for the time being.

The agency had said that it would seek her further interrogation once Jacob and Mukul join the interrogation on February 22.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

5 Day Wet

The mercury settled at 1.2 degree Celsius at Pahalgam against minus 1.8 degree Celsius on the earlier night in the world-famous tourist resort while Kokernag, also in south Kashmir, recorded a low of 4.0 degree Celsius against 1.5 degree Celsius on the previous night, he said.

The minimum temperature settled at 4.0 degree Celsius in Kupwara against 0.2 degree Celsius on the previous night while Gulmarg, the world-famous skiing resort, recorded a low of 0.6 degree Celsius against minus 0.5 degree Celsius on the earlier night, he said.

'Crackdown' Makes

paraded before the informers

"Large number of people was frisked. All the people present in Amira Kadal, Hari Singh High Street, including the ones who were in private and public vehicles were frisked and their identity cards were checked before allowing them to move forward," said an eyewitness according to news agency KNT.

He said the surprise crackdown also caused disruption in the smooth flow of traffic in and around Lal Chowk. Due to the crackdown, he said, the traffic was diverted via Budshah bridge.

Pertinently, the government forces have stepped up vigil in Srinagar city after the killing of two policemen last week by militants.

On Saturday last, Inspector General of Police Kashmir Zone Vijay Kumar (IPS) chaired a high level security review meeting following spurt in militant attacks in the summer capital.

"Focus of the meeting was recent attacks by (militants) in the Srinagar City and the security measures to counter such attacks," a police spokesman had said in a statement issued here.

IGP had also highlighted in the meeting the importance of round the clock checkpoints/nakas at strategic locations, surprise (flash) naka, surprise limited CASO in crowded places, placing cut-off points on exit routes immediately after such incident and dominating from high reaches, use of drones to check the movement of elements inimical to peace. (With agency inputs)

'Want Early

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti had said the Centre was "railroading" delimitation in Jammu and Kashmir with a "tearing hurry" that raised serious apprehensions about the

motives of the exercise.

Asked as to when the polls could be held in J-K, the Lieutenant Governor said the Election Commission will decide on it once the delimitation exercise is completed.

"There are constitutional institutions in India. The decision is taken by the Election Commission. Let the work related to delimitation get completed, the Commission will definitely conduct elections," he said.

On some politicians "boycotting" the proceedings of the Delimitation Commission, the LG said they must understand that if they want early polls, the delimitation process has to be first completed.

The LG said that "the prime minister has assured the entire nation (on holding polls) and you have seen reports in newspapers that the Delimitation Commission has begun its work".

Jammu and Kashmir is a Union Territory with provisions for a legislature. At present, it is under central rule.

Replying to queries on NC and PDP leaders calling for dialogue between India and Pakistan, the LG said India is capable of solving its problems.

"I don't want to react to someone's statement. The Ministry of External Affairs assesses this. India is capable of solving its own problems," Sinha said.

He also condemned the recent attacks on policemen by militants and said that militancy won't be allowed to grow at any cost.

'Let IGP Kashmir

Democracy Party (PDP) President Mehbooba Mufti Monday on Monday said that the top cop must do his duty and she'll do her own.

"Let IGP Kashmir do his duty. I will do my job the way I am doing. If police wants to arrest me for what I am doing, so be it," Mehbooba told reporters at her Gupkar residence after being re-elected as the PDP chief.

Interestingly, in his recent presser, IGP Kashmir Vijay Kumar without naming any politician had stated that some political leaders were instigating people by spreading false rumours. He had stated that police won't hesitate in preparing a dossier and if needed, action would also be taken against such politicians.

The PDP chief said that she continue to strive hard to take forward her father late Mufti Muhammad Sayed's mission and vision.

"I want to see the end to sufferings of people that include denial of body of a slain son to

his father. I won't allow Kashmir to become a ring of war for India and Pakistan and instead Kashmir should become a bridge of peace between the two nations. Dialogue is the best way to resolve issues," she said.

"I don't Understand Hindi, Please ask me question in Urdu," Mehbooba said when asked about her future strategy by a reporter in Hindi, one of the official languages incorporated by the centre recently.

"I think the workers have once again given me responsibility and I'm alive to it given the fact that we are in a different situation.

The situation is difficult and there are many challenges before the state," she said after the reported asked the question in Urdu.

Retains PDP

name was proposed by senior party leaders including Gulam Nabi Lone Hanjura and Khurshid Aalam.

Party's Electoral College in Jammu had earlier unanimously elected Mufti as the president.

Mehbooba has been the party president since 2016, after succeeding her father Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, who passed away in January 2016.

MPs To Present

be held at SKICC Srinagar on 15 March, this year. The list of recipients of awards is also being finalized by a panel of experts," said sources.

They informed that the event is being organized under the banner of South Asia Peace Movement—(Agencies)

Bird Flu Case

They added that officials have been directed to survey and sample the poultry both at the backyard and commercial poultry farms.

Avian influenza was found at various places in J&K among migratory birds and crows, however, cases of avian influenza among domestic birds were found only in Udhampur so far—(Agencies)

Schools To

and students shall physically attend classes' w e f from March-08-2021.

"Notified Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) guidelines shall remain unaltered and shall be followed in letter and spirit," the government said.

KU's Leh, Gargil

he wanted to come home to be with me," Abdullah's said.

"I insisted him not to come but he didn't listen and said at least I can visit home frequently while being in the valley."

After his return to Kashmir, Sohail was posted in Barzulla Police Station.

He was killed on the second day of his posting.

"In Sohail's killing," Abdullah lamented, "we have lost everything."

IED Defused

traffic was restored from both sides.

Cardiac Arrest

shifted to the district hospital Anantnag where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

A local news agency KNT reported that the doctor died two days after taking Covid-19 shot vide batch number 41202012 called 'Covishield' on February 19.

Fake Job Racket

Agriculture Department on the basis of a specific information, a police spokesperson said Monday.

During the course of investigation, he said, it came to fore that a gang was operating from Srinagar, Budgam and Baramulla in which two constables of Railway Protection Force (RPF) Budgam were running a fake job racket and duping people after collecting hefty amounts.

"During the course of investigation of the case five persons have been arrested and three fake orders have been seized so far from the possession of accused persons. Investigation of the case is going on, further arrests and recoveries are expected," the police spokesperson said.

He said that a case under FIR NO 17/2021 u/s 420,467,468,471/IPC has been registered in this regard.

Youth Held

sources, the report said that the youth is being questioned about the robbery and the cops have got some important leads in the case.

Pertinently, unknown gunman had barged into the counter of the 'Mir Filling station' Nadigam on Thursday last and decamped with the cash.

BSF Director

Vijay Stambh and offered prayers at the Tanot Mata temple, an official statement said.

'A Test Batsman Must Be Able To Handle All Kinds Of Conditions,' Feels Ben Stokes

Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Brushing aside the incessant talk around spin-friendly pitches in India, big-hitting England all-rounder Ben Stokes has said that Test players should be proficient in handling all kinds of conditions.

Ahead of the day/night Test here starting Wednesday, Stokes wondered how the newly-refurbished Motera strip would behave but at the same time, stressed that top-flight cricketers should be able to deal with what-

one and draw another to make it, England will have to triumph in both the remaining games. Stokes said nobody has the slightest clue how the track would behave.

"Generally around the world whenever these pink ball games are played there is always a period when the ball starts doing a bit under lights and it brings the seamers right into the game," Stokes wrote.

"For us out here that will be massive. And at a brand new ground that looks pretty impressive no-one will know just how it



ever they are faced with.

"The thing about being a Test batsman is that you need to be able to handle all types of conditions. India is one of the places where it is a lot tougher for overseas batsmen to come and be successful, but then so too is England," he wrote in a column for the 'Daily Mirror'.

"And that is part of the game, the challenges and why we love it," he said.

The turning tracks in India became a talking point during the ongoing series when some former England players such as Michael Vaughan asked whether such strips were ideal for Test cricket.

The series is tied at 1-1 after India's brilliant 317-run triumph in the second Test in Chennai. Stokes' bowling quota of just two overs in that game raised a few eyebrows but he said it was about.

"Don't read too much into the fact that I didn't bowl a huge amount in the second game, I'm sure if it was a green seamer I would have bowled a lot more overs.

"I think there may be more reason for me to bowl under lights in the next game if it will help the team."

A lot is at stake for both India and England in the four-match series as the World Test Championship final spot is still up for grabs. While India need to win

will react.

"We've got a good spin department, but hopefully with conditions that suit, we've certainly got a seam department to back them up strongly."

Stokes said the Test triumph of the English team that toured in 2012 has been an inspiration for the current side.

"There aren't too many teams who come away from India with a series win.

The lads from 2012 are rightly proud of their achievement and the rest of us want to join Rooty, Jonny, Jimmy and Broady in achieving it for ourselves, and what a chance we've got," the 29-year-old said.

The outcome of the first two Tests was pretty much decided by the team batting first and posting a massive total. If it was England in first Test, India did the same in the second. Stokes acknowledged the "scoreboard pressure".

"Scoreboard pressure in Test cricket is probably at its most prominent in the sub-continent, and plays a massive part in trying to win the game.

"The good thing is we know what it takes to win out here, so it is about putting that into practice once more, learning what we can from the second Test and delivering this week," he wrote.



Unbeaten Real Kashmir Face High-Flying Aizawl City In I-League Today

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: Unbeaten Real Kashmir FC will face a litmus test in high-flying Aizawl FC when they lock horns in an I-League match here on Tuesday.

Both sides will look to consolidate their position in the top four. Real Kashmir saved their unbeaten run from ending after Dipanda Dicka cancelled out Punjab FC's lead in what was a top-of-the-table clash, eventually playing out a 1-1 draw.

The draw, however, pushed the Snow Leopards down into third place with 14 points from eight games. Head coach David Robertson now will be hoping for three points against Aizawl, which could take them further up in the table.

Speaking at the virtual pre-match press conference, Robertson said, "We came from a goal down against Punjab. This showed a lot of character as we did against NERO-CA. Spirits are high within the team.

"Aizawl are a very good team, we saw them against Mohammedan. They are quick, enthusiastic, and difficult to play against. We got to be at our absolute best to beat them," the Scottish manager spoke about his opponents.

When quizzed about the life in bio-bubble and the mood among the team members, RKFC forward Danish Farooq said, "Obviously, it is hard to be in the bio-bubble. The only places we go to are training and matches.

"Regardless, we are trying our best to stay positive, and after the

run of results we have had, the atmosphere in the team is very good."

Meanwhile, Aizawl produced a dominant attacking display and returned to winning ways against Mohammedan SC.

Yan Law's side sits fifth in the standings with 12 points after eight games. However, the former champions will need to pick full points against Real Kashmir points if they hope to reduce the four-point gap between them and league leaders Churchill Brothers.

Chief coach Yan Law said, "Last game was more than three points for us. It is a big positive to see your team, full of a young bunch of boys, dominate an opposition like Mohammedan SC. If we continue sticking together, I think we'll get positive results."

All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation Holds Expedition To Mt. Mahadev

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A 7 member team of All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation on Sunday successfully scaled Srinagar's Highest Peak, Mount Mahadev (3966m) in what the Foundation says is 2021's first summit to the famed peak.

The team was led by Senior member of All Jammu Kashmir Mountaineering Foundation, Mr. Abid Kharadi. The team members included Faizan Shafi, Basharat Mustafa, Mohammad Omer, Aijaz, Bilal and Samullah.

"The trek was organised to provide an opportunity to new members of the Foundation who belong to different districts of Kashmir Valley," a statement from the All JK Mountaineering Foundation reads.

"On Saturday our team started the trek from Scholar School in Dara, Harwan at around 4:30pm. Following the snowy trails we reached Lidwas at 10:30pm. The team camped at Lidwas, which is a base camp for Mt



Mahadev. The night trekking made the event more adventurous. From base camp, the trekking team started their hike towards the summit again at 6:30 am. The snowy conditions made it very difficult but the climbers didn't give up and successfully scaled the peak at around 10:30 am."

Mahadev or Mahadev peak is a mountain peak in the vicinity of Dachigam National Park in Srinagar. It lies behind the famous Zabarwan mountains near Dal Lake. Although the mountain can be climbed

from many routes, the main route to this Mountain peak is from Dachigam, in Harwan. The majestic Tarsar & Marsar lakes lie on the eastern side of this Mountain. Mount Mahadev is visible from almost all parts of Srinagar and also from the saffron town of Pampore. "Snow-trekking to Kashmir's different mountains is becoming increasingly popular. Srinagar has a massive potential for adventure tourism as well. People visiting Kashmir must take part in snow-trekking to get the best out of their trip," the Foundation said.

Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Team Lose To Saurashtra By 3 Wickets In Vijay Hazare Opener

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir cricket team on Sunday lost their opening match of the Vijay Hazare Trophy Elite Group by 3 wickets to an inspired Saurashtra team at the Jadavpur University Campus 2nd Ground, in Kolkata.

Batting first, the Jammu and Kashmir team scored a competent total of 279 for the loss of 9 wickets. Vivrant Sharma (66), Shubam Khajuria (68) and Abid Mushtaq (50) all scored half centuries. For Saurashtra, Chetan Sakariya and DA Jadeja picked up 3 wickets each.

While K Makvana took 2 wickets. In response, the Saurashtra batsmen started off in a wobbly fashion, being reduced to 17/3 at one stage. But crucial partnerships helped rescue the match for the Saurashtra Cricket team.

Vishwaraj Jadeja (48) and Arpit Vasavada (66) helped their team initially but it was Chirag Jani (93 not out) and Dharmendrasinh Jadeja (40) who pulled the Saurashtra team to 283/7 and over the victory line, with 5 balls to spare.

For Jammu and Kashmir, Ram Dayal, Mujtaba Yousuf And Vivrant Sharma took 2 wickets each.

Kohli's Men Get Used To The Swinging Pink Ball In Training

Press Trust of India

AHMEDABAD: Captain Virat Kohli led a vigorous training session as the Indian team on Monday looked to get used to the swinging pink ball ahead of the Day/Night Test against England starting Wednesday.

Kohli, vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane, Rohit Sharma and Rishabh Pant batted in the nets as the likes of Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj ran in

and tested themselves under the blazing sun. Pace spearhead Bumrah is bracing for a comeback after missing the second match.

Ishant Sharma, who is standing on the cusp of playing in his 100th Test, was also seen in action. Shubman Gill also had a hit at the nets, with the Punjab batsman again getting ready to pair up with Rohit at the top of the order in the upcoming match.

Air India Dismisses Bhaker's Harassment Allegations, Says It Has CCTV Footage To Prove

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: State-owned Air India has denied allegation of "harassment" of Tokyo Olympic prospect Manu Bhaker by two of the airline's staff at Delhi airport.

In a statement on Sunday, the flag carrier claimed that "legitimate" documents were asked for from Bhaker when she was boarding its flight along with her mother for Bhopal from Delhi on February 19, contrary to the allegations made by her against the airline. The 19-year-old Commonwealth Games and Youth Olympics gold medalist pistol shooter had sought action against two employees of the airline, for alleged "harassment" and "insulting" her.

She had alleged that she had to go through the "ordeal" despite carrying all valid documents and clearance from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for travelling with her weapons and ammunition. Stating that as a responsible airline, it always "adheres" to the rules and regulations governing operations, it said that "in this case also, Air India was only following the protocol regarding such a sensitive activity like the carriage of arms on board."

"Our employee Manoj Gupta was at the counter throughout and had, at no point, communicated directly with Bhaker. This is also corroborated by the CCTV footage. Hence, the allegation of misbehaviour by him simply does not arise," Air India said in the statement.

The CCTV footage also nullifies the passenger's allegation of bribes being asked for and snatching of mobile phone, it said. According to Air India, during check-in at the Delhi airport counter, Bhaker told its check-in employees that she was carrying an Air Pistol and a 0.22-bore gun.

"She was advised by our counter personnel to get the documents, mandatory to carry arms and ammunition, verified by Air India security officials," said the statement.

After verification of documents shown by Bhaker, the security officials informed her that the document required for exemption of payment of handling charge for carriage of arms, as per laid down norms, is not there. And, they said fixed charges for the carriage of arms would have to be paid, the airline clarified in the statement. It was explained to Bhaker that the document for exemption shown by her was not "valid" as it was signed only by the assistant secretary of the National Rifle Association. As per rules, details of which are available on the Air India website, signature of only the secretary or president of a bonafide association is recognised for waiver of the charges, Air India said.

WE'VE GOT A GOOD SPIN department, but hopefully with conditions that suit, we've certainly got a seam department to back them up strongly."

Conway Powers New Zealand To T20 Victory Over Australia

Agencies

CHRISTCHURCH: Devon Conway made 99 not out from 59 balls to lead New Zealand to a 53-run win over Australia on Monday in the first of five T20 internationals.

The South African-born Conway improved on his previous high score of 65 in T20 internationals, coming to the crease when New Zealand was 11-2 and leaving unbeaten when it was 184-5 after winning the toss and batting first.

Australia was all out for 131 in reply. Conway came to the last over of New Zealand's innings 87 not out, took a single, hit a four and a six and was 98 facing the last ball of the innings but could only manage a single to be left just short of a maiden century.

New Zealand struggled early against Australia pacemen Daniel Sams, Jhye Richardson and Kane Richardson before Conway led a concerted rival.

Sams dismissed New Zealand opener Martin Guptill with the third ball of the innings, then removed captain Kane Williamson (12) while Jhye Richardson bowled Tim Seifert (1) to leave the hosts 19-3.

Conway rebuilt the innings in partnerships of 74 for the fourth wicket with Glenn Phillips (30), 47 for the fifth with Jimmy Neesham (26), and 44 with Mitchell Santner (7).

"The wicket was a bit sticky at first but it got better and better as time went on and there were some good partnerships near the end there,"



said Conway. "The key was just trying to stay positive throughout."

"When I'm positive that's when I'm at my best. It was a matter of not trying to think too far ahead, just try to build good partnerships at the end," he said.

Australia also was in trouble early, losing captain Aaron Finch in the first over and Josh Philippe, on debut, in the next over to be 8-2. Both fell to catches by Conway. The New Zealand new ball pair of Tim Southee and Trent Boult were able to swing the ball under the floodlights at Hagley Oval — something the Australian bowlers couldn't do — and also captured the wicket of Matthew Wade to leave Australia 16-3.

When Neesham dismissed Glenn Maxwell (1), Australia were 19-4 and in deep trouble.

Mitch Marsh, batting up the order at No. 4, and Marcus Stoinis

mounted a small revival, lifting the tourists to 56-5.

New Zealand leg-spinner Ish Sodhi then made a major contribution, removing Marsh (45), Stoinis (8), Ashton Agar (23) and Sams to finish with 4-28. Agar and Sams fell within two balls to catches taken by Kyle Jamieson behind square.

The Australian team has just emerged from two weeks in managed isolation, though they have recently been able to train at the Lincoln cricket facility in Christchurch.

The Australian team was named in the expectation top players such as David Warner and Mitchell Starc would be on a Test tour to South Africa but that tour was canceled because of the pandemic.

"It seems like it's been a long time since we've played," Finch said. "We didn't play our best tonight and New Zealand played well."

Why Djokovic Is Right To Focus On Federer, Nadal And More Grand Slam Titles

Agencies

MELBOURNE: It didn't take long for Novak Djokovic to make his intentions clear: All that matters to him from here on out is catching Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal in the Grand Slam standings.

Forget about winning other, run-of-the-mill tournaments or playing enough to retain the No. 1 ranking. There is one, primary goal for the 33-year-old from Serbia. He wants to keep adding to his 18 major championships he reached that number with No. 9 at the Australian Open on Sunday until he no longer trails Federer and Nadal, who share the men's record of 20.

"They've made history already. They made a tremendous mark in our sport, Djokovic said.

"Whether I think about winning more Slams and breaking records? Of course, I do. And most of my attention and my energy from this day forward, until I retire from tennis, is going to be directed (at) majors, trying to win more major trophies."

Which is perfectly fine. There is no need for pretense.

And there is absolutely no requirement that he show up to compete more often than he really wants or in places other than where he really wants.

If all that matters to Djokovic from a tennis standpoint is accumulating Slams, and playing less frequently will also protect his body he had surgery on his right el-



bow three years ago; his 2021 Australian Open nearly was derailed by what he said was a torn abdominal muscle that is his prerogative.

It isn't much different from what Federer himself or 23-time major champion Serena Williams, for that matter, have done for years.

"I think 99.9% of players kids that get a racket in their hands start dreaming about what they want to achieve. It's a Grand Slam, winning a major," Djokovic explained after his commanding performance in a 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Daniil Medvedev in the final at Melbourne Park.

"I mean, I don't feel like I'm old or tired or anything like that, he said. But I know that biologically and realistically, things are different than they were 10 years ago for me."

Connected to that: His latest triumph at the Australian Open

came with the additional bonus of assuring a stay atop the ATP rankings until at least March 8.

That is when he will reach 311 weeks at No. 1 for his career, one more than Federer's total, another aim Djokovic made clear mattered to him.

"When you are going for No. 1 rankings, you kind of have to be playing the entire season, and you have to be playing well; you have to play all the tournaments. My goals will adapt and will shift a little bit, which means that I will have to adjust, also, my calendar," Djokovic said.

"Not have to, but I will have an opportunity to do that, which, as a father and a husband, I'm really looking forward to."

One part of the calculus is that no one knows, of course, whether Federer, who hasn't played in more than a year after two knee

operations and turns 40 in August, or Nadal, 34, will win more majors or how many more.

It bears repeating that until Federer, Nadal and Djokovic came along, no man had won more than Pete Sampras' 14 Grand Slam titles. Here we are, less than 20 years after Sampras retired, and he's been surpassed by a trio of men, and by a lot of majors.

"We are talking about some Cyborgs of tennis, in a good way," Medvedev said, referring to the longevity and unprecedented success of the guys known as the Big Three. "They're just unbelievable."

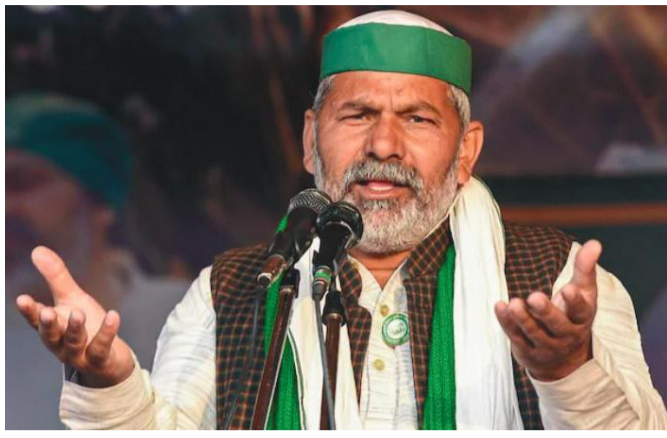
Djokovic's coach, 2001 Wimbledon champion Goran Ivanisevic, predicted Nadal will claim "one more, maybe two championships at the French Open, where he collected a 13th last October.

That is the only instance of a man owning more singles titles from one major than Djokovic's haul in Australia. Federer's high is eight at Wimbledon.

All have career Grand Slams. "Roger and Rafa inspire me. That's something that I've said before. I'll say it again. I mean, I think as long as they go, I'll go," Djokovic said.

"In a way, it's like a race (of) who plays tennis more, I guess, and who wins more. It's a competition between us in all areas. But I think that's the very reason why we are who we are, because we do drive each other, we motivate each other, we push each other to the limit.

"When Crowds Gather, Governments Get Changed", Says Farmer Leader



Press Trust of India

SONIPAT: Farmer leader Rakesh Tikait took a dig at Union Minister Narendra Singh Tomar's remark that a mere gathering of crowd does not lead to revocation of laws, saying when people gather governments get changed.

The Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) leader, who has held a series of "kisan mahapanchayats" in Haryana this month, also warned that the government could find it difficult to stay in power if the new agri-marketing laws are not repealed.

The farmers' protest against the laws will continue till the time the Centre accepts their demands of repealing the legislations, Mr Tikait said while addressing a "mahapanchayat" at Kharkhoda in Haryana's Sonapat district.

On Sunday, Union agriculture minister Tomar in Gwalior said the Centre was ready to talk to the farmers protesting against the new laws, and that mere gathering of crowd does not lead to revocation of legislations.

He had urged the agitating farm unions to tell the government which provisions in these new laws they find anti-farmer.

Hitting back at Mr Tomar for his remark, Mr Tikait said: "The minister says that mere gathering of crowd does not lead to revocation of legislations. They have lost their mind. When crowds gather governments get changed."

Farmers, mostly from Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, have been protesting at Delhi's borders since November 28 last year demanding rollback of the laws.

"They (the government) should know if farmers can destroy their own produce, then you are nothing before them," Mr Tikait said.

"There are many questions, it is not only the farm laws, but the electricity (amendment) bill, the seed bill... what kind of laws do they want to bring?" he asked and slammed the government for rise in prices of diesel and petrol.

Mr Tikait said that this agitation is not just of farmers, but also of

the poor, daily wagers and other sections. "These laws will destroy the poor. This is not just one law, many more laws like these will come," he said.

Referring to the farmer leaders spearheading the agitation, the BKU leader also reiterated that the government will have to talk to the same committee of 40 members.

The government has held 11 rounds of negotiation with protesting unions and these have remained inconclusive with regard to rollback of the laws. The agitation against the laws at Delhi's borders with Haryana and Uttar Pradesh is being led by the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha, which is an umbrella body of 40 farmer unions.

Mr Tikait said this stir will go on and farmers will work in their fields simultaneously.

Demanding a law on minimum support price (MSP) for farmers, he said, "When a law on MSP will be framed, farmers will be protected. This stir is about that, this is about rights of farmers."

Mr Tikait had recently said farmers will not return home till the farm laws are repealed and had added that farmers should be ready to sacrifice their standing crop for it.

The unions are protesting against the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2020, the Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Act, 2020 and the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 2020.

The three farm laws, enacted in September last year, have been projected by the government as major reforms in the agriculture sector that will remove middlemen and allow farmers to sell anywhere in the country.

However, the protesting farmers have expressed apprehension that the new laws would pave the way for eliminating the safety cushion of MSP and do away with the mandis, leaving them at the mercy of big corporates. The Centre has repeatedly asserted that these mechanisms will remain.

WHEN A LAW ON MSP will be framed, farmers will be protected. This stir is about that, this is about rights of farmers."

UP Budget Proposes At Least ₹ 640 Crore To Develop, Beautify Ayodhya



LUCKNOW: The Uttar Pradesh budget tabled in the state assembly on Monday has proposed a sum of at least ₹ 640 crore for the development and beautification of Ayodhya.

The budgetary provisions for fiscal 2021-22 include a sum of ₹ 300 crore for the construction of an approach road to Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple, Ayodhya Dham.

The budget has also proposed a sum of ₹ 140 crore for the all-round growth of the city, including the development of Suryakund there.

Another sum of ₹ 100 crore has been provided for the development and beautification of other tourism facilities in Ayodhya.

The budget has also made a provision of ₹ 101 crore for the development of the Ayodhya airport, to be named Maryada Purshotam Shriram Airport.

To attract tourists elsewhere in the state, the budget provides ₹100 crore and ₹ 200 crore respectively for the development and beautification of tourism facilities

in Varanasi and Chitrakoot.

A provision of ₹ 200 crore has also been made for the Chief Minister Tourism Fiscal Scheme.

All developmental projects in the state will be executed in accordance with the mythological significance of various cities, an official spokesman said.

The budget has also provided a sum of ₹ 15 crore for the year-long commemoration of the Chauri-Chaura incident centenary.

The budget has also proposed ₹ 8 crore and ₹ 4 crore respectively for the construction of a tribal museum in Lucknow and a freedom fighters' gallery in Shahjahanpur.

In its budget, the state government has also decided to confer "Uttar Pradesh Gaurav Samman" on eminent writers and artists who have not been given any other award by the state.

Under this scheme, a maximum of five people will be honoured and given a sum of ₹ 11 lakh each every year.

Mukesh Ambani's \$3.4 Billion Deal With Future Stalled By Supreme Court

Agenceis

Supreme Court stopped regulatory approval for the Future Group's \$3.4 billion asset sale to Reliance Industries Ltd., delaying the deal in a boost for Amazon.com Inc., which wants to scuttle the transaction in its bid to dominate the country's retail sector.

Agreeing with the American e-commerce giant's petition, the top court on Monday overturned a lower court's ruling and said the company tribunal can continue hearing the case but must not give a final nod till further orders. The court also sought written statements from Future Retail Ltd. and said it will hear the case after five weeks. Future's stocks and bonds fell.

The latest verdict restores the legal advantage for Jeff Bezos-founded Amazon that secured an interim stay on the deal from a Singapore arbitration tribunal in October. It accused the Future Group of violating a partnership contract when it agreed to sell assets to billionaire Mukesh Ambani's conglomerate last year. The Monday order, however, endangers Future Retail, which is struggling to pay debt and has warned of insolvency.



Future Retail's stock fell as much as 10% and its dollar bond maturing in 2025 dropped 3.8 cents on the dollar after the court order Monday, Bloomberg-computed prices show. Reliance Industries also slipped as much as 2.8%. Representatives for Amazon India, Future and Reliance Industries didn't immediately respond to requests for comment.

Future Retail can move the Singapore arbitration tribunal to lift the interim stay the emergency arbitrator had imposed, that has formed the basis of Supreme Court's order.

The cash strapped Indian retailer, which says it would collapse should the deal with Reliance fail, is caught between two of the world's richest men as they

compete for dominance in India's estimated \$1 trillion consumer retail market. The legal dispute over Future has turned into a fierce legal wrangle across courtrooms in two countries. Amazon is unwilling to cede any competitive advantage to Reliance in the only billion-people-plus market left in the world after the American firm lost out to local rivals in China.

The case is also keenly watched by investors as it sets a precedent on the validity of emergency decisions by foreign arbitrators in India. The verdict comes at a time when Amazon is increasing its footprint in the country. The U.S. firm announced this month that it was setting up manufacturing operations in the South Asian country.

IMA 'Shocked' Over Patanjali's Claim On Coronil; Demands Explanation From Harsh Vardhan

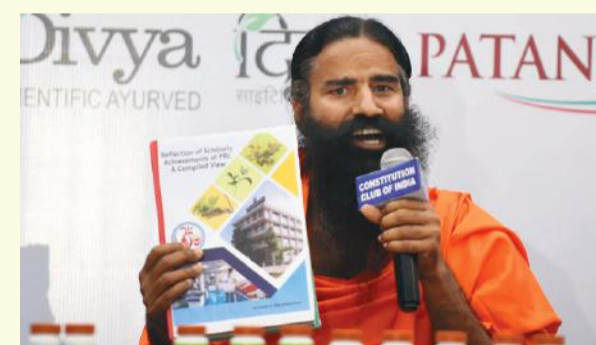
Press Trust of India

The IMA, on Monday, expressed shock over the "blatant lie of WHO certification" for Patanjali's Coronil tablet, which the company claims is an evidence-based medicine to fight COVID-19, and demanded an explanation from Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan in whose presence the medicine was launched.

This comes in the wake of global health body, WHO, clarifying that it has not reviewed or certified the effectiveness of any traditional medicine for the treatment of COVID-19.

Yoga guru Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurved had, on February 19, said the Coronil tablet had received certification from the Ayush Ministry as a medicine supporting COVID-19 treatment as per the World Health Organisation's certification scheme.

However, Patanjali's managing director Acharya Balkrishna later made a clarification about the certification through a tweet saying, "We want to clarify to avoid confusion that our WHO GMP compliant COPP certificate to Coronil is issued by DCGL, Government of India. It is clear that WHO do not approve or disapprove any drugs. WHO works for building a better, healthier future for people all over the world (sic)."



In a statement issued on Monday, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) said, "Being Health Minister of the country, how justified is it to release such falsely fabricated unscientific product to people of the whole country...can you clarify the time frame, time line for the so-called clinical trial of this said anti-corona product?"

"The country needs an explanation from the minister. The Indian Medical Association will also write to National Medical Commission for seeking suo moto explanation for his blatant disrespect to the code of conduct of Medical Council of India, the IMA said.

"Indian Medical Association is shocked to note the blatant lie of WHO certification..." it said.

Haridwar-based Patanjali Ayurved had also released what it claimed was research work supporting Coronil's efficacy in COVID-19 treatment.

The announcement regarding the Ayush certification for Coronil and release of a research paper calling it the "first evidence-based medicine for COVID-19 by Patanjali" was done at an event here attended by Vardhan.

In a statement, Patanjali had said, "Coronil has received the Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (COPP) from the Ayush section of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation as per the WHO certification scheme."

However, WHO South-East Asia in a tweet said: "@WHO has not reviewed or certified the effectiveness of any traditional medicine for the treatment #COVID19."

Patanjali had introduced Ayurveda-based Coronil on June 23 last year, when the pandemic was at its peak. It had to face severe criticism as it lacked scientific evidence regarding its efficacy.

Republic Day Violence: Man Who Climbed Red Fort Tomb Arrested

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: A 29-year-old man who allegedly climbed one of the tombs of the Red Fort during the violence in Delhi on Republic day has been arrested, police said on Monday.

Jaspreet Singh is one of the associates of Maninder Singh, who was arrested last Tuesday for allegedly swinging swords with the intent of "motivating" and "energising" the protesters at the historic monument.

Jaspreet Singh, a resident of Swaroop Nagar in northwest Delhi, was arrested by a Crime Branch team on Saturday.

ficer said. "In one of the pictures, he is also seen in offensive gesture holding steel tensile installed at Red Fort."

According to police, Maninder Singh, 30, had "motivated" six people of the neighbourhood who had accompanied the tractor parade that headed from the Singhu border towards Mukarba Chowk.

Jaspreet Singh is one of the associates and was identified from the pictures and videos in which he was purportedly standing behind Maninder Singh, police said.

Maninder Singh, who works as a car AC mechanic, was arrested from in Pitampura in northwest Delhi last



Thousands of protesters had clashed with the police during the tractor parade called by farmer unions on January 26 demanding repeal of the Centre's contentious farm laws. Many of the protesters reached the Red Fort driving tractors and entered the monument, and some of them even hoisted religious flags on its domes and a flagstaff at the ramparts.

"Jaspreet Singh is the person who was standing behind accused Maninder Singh and also climbed up one of the tombs located on both the sides of rampart at Red Fort," an of-

week, police had said. According to the police, Maninder Singh was seen in a video swinging two swords at Red Fort "with the intent of motivating or radicalising and energising violent anti-national elements indulging in brutal assault and attacking police persons on duty".

Maninder Singh was "radicalised" by seeing "provoking" Facebook posts of various groups, police had said, adding he would frequently visit the Singhu border and was "highly motivated" by speeches made by leaders there.

UNNAO CASE

FIR Against Barkha Dutt's 'Mojo Story', 7 Twitter Handles For Spreading 'Fake News'

Agenceis

An FIR has been lodged against eight Twitter handles for allegedly propagating fake news in connection with the death of two girls here last week, police said on Monday.

The Twitter handles include news portal 'Mojo Story', led by senior journalist Barkha Dutt who termed the FIR a case of brazen "harassment and bullying".

The case was registered at the Sadar Kotwali police station area in Unnao on Sunday against seven more Twitter accounts: Janjagran Live, Aazad Samaj Party spokesperson Suraj Kumar Boudh, Nilim Dutta, Vijay Ambedkar, Abhay Kumar Azad, Rahul Diwakar, Nawab Satpal Tanwar.

The FIR has been lodged for propagating "fake and misleading news" regarding the incident, Assistant Superintendent of Police Vinod Kumar Pandey said on Monday.

Reacting to the FIR, Ms. Dutt said, "We've followed journalistic principles by reporting all sides of

an evolving story. To use IPC sections that are punishable with prison is pure intimidation. I am very ready to fight it and face it in court." The 'Mojo Story' editor alleged that the Unnao Police had refused to even give a copy of the FIR without which one cannot appeal for judicial intervention.

"Brazen Harassment and bullying," she said. "Even more suspicious is how Unnao Police has clubbed us with a bunch of politicians." Three girls, aged 16, 15 and 14, had left home to bring fodder for cattle on Wednesday night. They were found lying in an agriculture field when they did not return home.

Local residents had rushed them to a hospital where two of them were declared brought dead. The third girl is presently undergoing treatment at a hospital in Kanpur, police said.

The last rites of the deceased girls were performed on Friday morning amid tight security arrangements.

The Unnao Police has held two people in this connection, accusing them of murder over one-sided love.

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