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P3 CITY

SHOP GUTTED, TWO OTHERS DAMAGED IN **OVERNIGHT MÁISUMA BLAZE**

A shop was completely gutted while two others were partially damaged on Monday evening in a massive fire that broke out in Madina Chowk of Maisuma in Srinagar city...



India has for the first time opened channels of communication with Afghan Taliban factions, including one of its leaders Mullah Baradar, media reports have said. This is happening against the backdrop of the ongoing drawdown of...



P5 STATE

A DOZEN COMPANIES TO **PARTICIPATE IN KUPWARA JOB FAIR**

The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Imam Din Tuesday convened a meeting of concerned officers, to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth..



From Freeze Frame, Kashmir Talks Enter Suspense Mode

Auqib Javeed

utting through the fog of the dominant fringe discourse, a senior leader of Kashmir's grand old political party National Conference says New Delhi is once again seeking an audience of its "tested

and dusted" assets in the valley. The reported reliance on the "dynasts" makes many believe that the much-touted "northern alliance" might've to just settle with second fiddle now.

What used to be mere

feelers and signals till a month ago has now started shaping up as the quiet talks." the leader says. "But let me tell you, the political dialogue is still work in progress."

The indications of the possible return of the political trope in Kashmir valley came when Dr. Farooq Abdullah-led Peoples' Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) regrouped in the 'Fairview' residence of Mehbooba Mufti on June 9 this year.

The seven-party group formed last year for the



in the backdrop of the raging

restoration of Article 370 met rumours. But the minutes of

talking about the vaccination process apart from the coronation of comrade Mohammad Yousuf Tarigami as the new spokesperson of the alliance.

His son Omar Abdullah's presence in New Delhi at the same time fuelled loose talks about "some business" in Kashmir.

"If reports of political outreach are true then we must understand that New Delhi didn't find it an easy go in J&K," Prof. Noor Baba, a political sci-

"At the same time there are pressures on the Government of India internationally."

The talks came in the wake of

a US Congressional hearing in which Dean Thompson, Acting Assistant of State for South and Central Asia said that the US is encouraging New Delhi to take electoral steps in Kashmir.

However, Prof. Baba said, it'll be interesting to see on whose terms the negotiation will be, and who's going to take a stand. "Right now," he said, "it'll

be difficult to presume what'll

happen. But one thing is clear, New Delhi is under a lot of pressure viz a viz J&K.'

It's in the backdrop of this 'pressure" that many see the possible melting of political ice in Kashmir. And talks being one of the foregone conclusions of this renewed political engagement have already become the talk of the town itself.

"We're not averse to talks," Tarigami said. "We do believe that all issues can only be solved through dialogue.'

However, some • More On P10

Dr. Parul M Sharma

If there was one law which

every single person across

states:it"s

#MaskUpIndia

was required to be reinforced

in India till pandemic lasts.for

PROPER MASK in public space

The governance & police will

have to ensure adherence

but firstly leaders have to

set an example themselves

Dr. Davood Habib

Orthopedic Surgeon

We should not lower the guard,

delta strain is very infectious,

behavior, v vl save ourselves In

sha Allah, and also our economy.

Dr. Muzaffar Maqbool

If v follow covid appropriate

We are reaching the stage of end

of second wave of Covid-19. We

need to learn from our mistakes

wave, costing many lives. Delta

that we did at the end of 1st

Quote!

Make each day your masterpiece. — John Wooden

NEWS DIGEST

Encounter Breaks Out In Srinagar Outskirts

SRINAGAR: Two militants are trapped in an ongoing encounter with government forces in Naugam area of the city outskirts, police said Tuesday. The encounter, according to the police, broke out in Wagoora area of Naugam in the city outskirts on Tuesday night when the joint team of police and CRPF laid a siege around the area and More On P10

Drone Recovered In Akhnoor: Police

JAMMU: A drone found in Garota area of Akhnoor sector of Jammu has been confirmed to be that of paramilitary, officials said on Tuesday. The drone was found abandoned in the Garota area in the city outskirts, they said. Immediately police seized the object and started investigations including the possibility it might have come from across the border. SDPO Akhnoor Varun Jandyal said that after investigations it transpired that the drone belonged to the paramilitary. The device was later handed over to the concerned, he added. (GNS)

Landslide Hits Rajouri Highway

JAMMU: A vital surface link connecting Rajouri district with Mughal road was on Tuesday blocked due to landslides at DKG Thannamandi. officials said.

They said vehicular movement on the Rajouri-Thanamandi-Surankote road, one of the vital surface links connecting Rajouri district to Mughal road, has been suspended. District Traffic Incharge Mughal Road confirmed the blocking of the road. Another official said that efforts are ongoing to restore the road. (GNS)

Minor Girl Injured After Hit By Cab

HANDWARA: A 10-year-old girl was critically injured after hit by a passenger cab here in Maratgam area on Tuesday afternoon. Reports said that the girl identified as one Hadia Jan daughter of Mohammad Akbar War was hit by a Tata Sumo bearing registration number JK-01H 5246. resulting in her critical injuries in the

Ladakh Reports 50 Cases, One Death

LEH: Ladakh's COVID-19 caseload climbed to 19.611 on Tuesday with 50 fresh cases while the death toll increased to 198 as one more person succumbed to the disease, officials said on Tuesday. Of the fresh cases, 36 were reported from Leh and 14 from Kargil, they said. The officials said the number of active cases stands at 572 -- 446 in Leh and 126 in Kargil. So far, 143 people have succumbed to COVID-19 in Leh and 55 in Kargil. As many as 3,652 samples were taken for testing in Ladakh the previous day, the officials said. A total of 135 • More On P10

Education Institutions To Remain Shut Till June 30



Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday extended closure of the educational institutions for in-person and on campus teaching till June 30.

Colleges, "All Schools, Universities, Technical Education / Skill Development Institutes and Coaching Centers shall remain closed

for in-person / on campus teaching (till June 30)." reads an order by the State Executive Committee on the basis of the current assessment of the COVID situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

The teaching staff shall also be required to conduct online classes from their homes only,

"The Universities and eges shall A More On

J&K Logs 715 Cases. 10 More Deaths

Firdaus Ali

ammu and Kashmir reported on Tuesday 715 fresh cases of novel coronavirus while 10 more people succumbed to the virus across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours. While 497 cases were • More On P10

Virtual Hearing In All Courts Extended

Agencies

he High Court on Tuesday extended by June 30 the virtual hearing of the cases in both Srinagar and Jammu wings as well as in the District and Subordinate Courts and Tribunals in Jammu & Kashmir

Pfizer, AstraZeneca • **Protect Against**

he Delta variant of coronavirus, first identified in India, doubles the risk of hospitalisation compared with the Alpha variant first found in the UK, but Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccines provide good protection against the strain, says a study **Delta Variant: Study** published in The Lancet journal. Researchers at Public Health Scotland • More On P10

Man Jailed For 'No Expectations From Outsiders' Remark

Police Say He Is In Preventive Custody For Being A 'Threat To Peace'

Press Trust Of India

GANDERBAL: A political activist has been jailed after he told an advisor of the Lt governor that he has hopes from a Kashmiri official like him rather than bureaucrats from outside, remarks which offended the Ganderbal deputy commissioner who is an IAS officer from Uttar Pradesh.

After being arrested under Section 153 (promoting enmity between different groups) the Indian Penal Code, Sajad Sofi (50), a resident of Wani Mohalla in Safapora of Ganderbal district,

was granted bail by a court. However, he was kept under preventive detention for allegedly being a "threat to peace". Sofi made the remarks at a

"Janta Darbar" of LG advisor Baseer Khan at Mansbal on June 10. Speaking about the prob-

lems faced by the people of his area, Sofi told Khan that he can understand the issues better as compared to officers from outside the union territory because he is a local, according to the police report.

He said, "I can have expectations from you because you are a Kashmiri and you can understand us.

More On P10

everal mainstream parties on Tuesday slammed the Jammu and Kashmir administration for detaining a man over his remarks that he has more expectations from local officials rather than

Mainstream Parties Hit Out At Govt

those from outside. It's unacceptable that a person should be jailed for expressing a "totally harmless" opinion, National Conference vice president Omar Abdullah said Tuesday. • More On P10

Haj Committee Of India Cancels All Haj Applications

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: The Haj Committee of India on Tuesday announced that all the applications for the pilgrimage this year stand cancelled as Saudi Arabia has stated that only a limited number of people residing in the Kingdom will be allowed to perform Haj due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a circular, the committee said that the Ministry of Haj and Umrah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has issued a statement informing that due to coronavirus pandemic conditions it has decided to allow

citizens and residents inside the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia only to attend Haj this year in limited numbers and international Haj has been cancelled.

"Hence it has been decided by the Haj Committee of India that all the applications for Hai-2021 stands cancelled." the circular signed by Haj Committee of India's Chief Executive Officer Magsood Ahmed Khan read.

Last year also the ernment had decided that Muslims from India will not travel to Saudi Arabia for Haj 2020 after the Kingdom conveyed that • More On P10

Man-Eater Leopardess Captured After 11 Days Hunt

Zaid Bin Shabir

ardess, the joint team of wildlife department local hunters on Tuesday trapped the beast inside the premises of Deputy Commissioner's office in Budgam town of central Kashmir.

"Luckily we managed to capture the big-cat because

the people living nearby were getting worried as they could

neither take their cattle out

for grazing nor carry out their

daily activities," said Manzoor

the

leonardess.

Ahmed, one of the

local hunters that

helped to neutral-

ise and capture

On June 3, the fe-

male leopard weigh-

man-eater

SRINAGAR: Eleven days after a four-year-old girl was mauled to death by a man-eater leop-

ing 80 kilograms took away the four-year-old girl Ada Yasir Mir from her kitchen garden when she was playing with her brother and grandfather. • More On P10

SSB Advertised **18000 Posts In Six Months: Govt**

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: As part of the accelerated recruitment drive, the Jammu & Kashmir Services Selection Board (JKSSB) has advertised over 18,000 posts during the last six months, of which examination was conducted for approximately 12,000 vacancies existing across various departments, a senior official said Tuesday.

Reviewing the progress of the accelerated recruitments, Commissioner Secretary Administration General (GAD), Department Manoi Kumar Dwivedi said Tuesday that the GAD has taken a slew of reform • More On P10

variant is highly transmissible and spreading rapidly across the globe. Please don't say NO TO VACCINATION AND WEAR MASKS.

New Era Of Development: LG

Observer News Service

J&K Witnessing

SRINAGAR: Jammu Kashmir is witnessing a new era of development and prosperity as the Union Territory government is taking several reformative measures for socio-economic development and empowerment of the people, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Tuesday.

The LG made these remarks during his interaction with B.L Verma, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) from Uttar Pradesh at Raj Bhavan here on Tuesday, an official spokesperson said.

Verma, he said, shared with the LG his views about the present development scenario of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and also discussed wide ranging issues of public importance.

He further said that the LG observed that Jammu and Kashmir is witnessing a new era of development and prosperity.

"The UT Government is taking several reformative measures for socio-economic development and empowerment of the people of J&K," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

Twin Orphaned Bear Cubs Given Shelter Near India-Pak Border

Agencies

PAKISTAN: Years of hostilities and an electric fence along a de facto border between nucleararmed neighbours India and Pakistan have taken a toll not just on humans. Wildlife has also been badly afflicted in one of the world's most militarized regions.

The latest victims of the decades-old conflict are two orphaned Asiatic bear cubs found on the Pakistan side of the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir. Sharda and Narda were discovered last year by villagers at an altitude of 14,000



feet (4,270 m), alone, and unable to open their eyes, said

Muhammad Ashraf, an official with the • More On P10

India, China; Pakistan In **Nuke Race: Study**

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: China, Pakistan and India have 350, 165 and 156 nuclear warheads respectively as of January this year and the three countries appear to be expanding their nuclear arsenals, a study by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has said.

It also said as per its assessment. Russia and the US together possess over 90 percent of the estimated 13,080 global nuclear weapons. China, Pakistan and India

had 320, 160 and 150 nuclear warheads respectively as of January last year, the SIPRI's study said on Monday.

There are nine • More On P10

Ex- PLA Colonel Moots Buffer Zone Idea Along LAC

retired senior Chinese military official has proposed that China and India should implement the existing confidence building measures and follow up by taking the "boldest step" of establishing "buffer zones" • More On P10



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

KASHMIR OBSERVER Wednesday 16-06-2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of general public that I Sameer Ahmad Lone S/O Mohd Yousuf Lone R/O Opzan Bijbehara Anantnag I have applied for Fertilizer License. If anybody having any kind of objection in this regard He/ she may object his objection in Chief Agriculture Officer Anantnag, within Seven days from the date of issuance of this notice. After that no objection will entertained. Sameer Ahmad Lone

S/O Mohd Yousuf Lone

R/O Opzan Bijbehara Anantnag

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of general public that I Sameer Ahmad Lone S/O Mohd Yousuf Lone R/O Opzan Bijbehara Anantnag I have applied for Pesticides License. If anybody having any kind of objection in this regard He/ She may object his objection in Plant Protection Officer, Lalmandi Srinagar, within Seven days from the date of issuance of this notice. After that no objection will entertained.

Sameer Ahmad Lone S/O Mohd Yousuf Lone

R/O Opzan Bijbehara Anantnag

mja

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will

AB MAJEED AKHOON

R/O KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

mja

be entertained.

S/O ALI MOHD AKHOON

PUBLIC NOTICE

i am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. GH RASOOL AKHOON

S/O GH MOHD R/O FRASTHAR TILGAM

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. GH MOHI UD DIN MIR S/O GH QADIR MIR

R/O DOLIPORA KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

R/O DOLIPORA KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. GH MOHI UD DIN MIR S/O MOHD SUBHAN MIR

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. GH RASOOL WANI S/O AB AHAD WANI

R/O WARIPORA BALA KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

i am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that objection will be entertained.

AB RASHID WANI S/O AB GUFOOR WANI R/O WARIPORA BALA KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I am applying for D Class Contractor registration card if anybody have any objection in this regard He/She may contact concerned authorities within seven days from the publication of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. MOHD ASSADULLAH WANI S/O HABIBULLAH WANI

R/O KREERI BLOCK WAGOORA

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri: Mohammad Umar Ganai S/o: Mohammad Shaban Ganai R/o: Khansahib Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-1093 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Finance B/U Bemina

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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.726 Dated 15-06-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer MCB **Budgam Kashmir**

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri: Abdul Rasheed Bhat S/o: Mohammad Sultan Bhat R/o: Hafroo Batapora Chadoora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-2380 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S HDFC Bank ltd B/U Karan Nagar.

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

No. ARTO/BUDGAM.711 Dated 15-06-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer **Budgam Kashmir**

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri: Mohammad Maqbool Kumar S/o: Ali Mohammad Kumar R/o: Kharipora Dabipora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-5504 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J & K Bank ltd B/U Hyder Pora Now therefore it is notified for the information of the general public that objections if any to the

proposed cancellation of hire purchase Agreement shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/BUDGAM.719

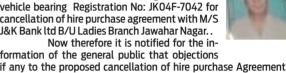
Dated 15-06-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri: Feroz Ahmad Dar S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Dar R/o: Chadoora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04F-7042 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank ltd B/U Ladies Branch Jawahar Nagar. .



shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 12 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper. No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.706

Dated 15-06-2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

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

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

Subject: Submission of online Application Forms for admission to 12th based Paramedical courses-2021; Extension in time thereof.

Reference: (i) Notification No. 052-BOPEE of 2021 dated 10.04,2021 (ii) Notice No. 045-BOPEE of 2021 dated 05.05.2021

(iii) Notice No. 051-BOPEE of 2021 dated 28.05.2021

(iv) Notice No. 053-BOPEE of 2021 dated 11.06.2021 (iii) JKPMC-19/118/6663 dated 14.06.2021 from J&K Paramedical Council, Jammu

Notification No. 067-BOPEE of 2021 Dated 15.06.2021

Consequent upon receipt of a communication dated 14.06.2021 from J&K Paramedical Council and in continuation to Notification No. 052-BOPEE of 2021 dated 10.04.2021 read with Notice No. 045-BOPEE of 2021 dated 05.05.2021 issued by the J&K BOPEE, it is hereby notified for general information of the interested, desirous and eligible candidate(s) who had not earlier submitted their online application forms for admission to 12th based Paramedical Courses-2021 due to prevailing Covid-19 situation or some other reason can now submit their online application forms from 17th of June, 2021 to 22nd of June, 2021 (midnight) and deposit the fee of Rs. 1000/upto 22.06.2021 (midnight). The eligibility and other terms and conditions shall remain the same as mentioned in the Notification No. 052-BOPEE of 2021 dated 10.04.2021.

The candidates who had earlier registered themselves, but had not deposited the registration fee need not apply afresh, but shall have to deposit the requisite fee upto 22.06.2021 through online mode only failing which their application form shall be rejected without further notice.

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

No. BOPEE/Exam-10/2021 Dated: 15-06-2021

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS DEPARTMENT OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT SRINAGAR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

(E-NIT NO:- 010F2021-22 DATED:- 14.06.2021)

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, E-Tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractor registered with J&K UT /Central Govt. Organization for the following works:

	•	_		_	
S.	Name of work	Adv. Cost	Class of Con-	Cost of	Time of
No		(Rs. In lacs.)	tractor	Tender Docu-	Comple-
				ment	tion
1.	Construction of DRSM Check dams at Paithpora	0.989	DEE	Rs: 200/=	10 days
	Chattergul Kangan				
2.	Providing and Laying of crate wire structures at	0.975	DEE	Rs: 200/=	10 days
	Paithpora Chattergul Kangan				
3.	Construction of DRSM Check dams at Faikpatri	0.989	DEE	Rs: 200/=	10 days
	Chattergual Kangan				
4.	Providing and Laying of crate wire structures at	0.878	DEE	Rs: 200/=	10 days
	Faikpatri Chattergual Kangan				

The e-NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, bills of quantities, (B.O.Q) set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website https://jktenders.gov.in

Position of funds: Budgeted

Position of AA/TS: Accorded.

No: DSCO/Sgr-Gbl/153-57

Receiving/Opening Authority: Tender Opening Committee

DIPK-2992/21

14-06-2021
15-06-2021 from09:00 AM
15-06-2021 from 09:00AM
05-07-2021 up to 06:00 PM
06-07-2021 at11:00 AM

Assistant Conservator of Forests District Srinagar

Dated:14-06-2021

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B SPECIAL SUB DIVISION, URI **NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

FOR NABARD WORKS

NIT No. 12 of 2021-22/ SSDU/ 864-70,

DATED: 14/06/2021. Executive Engineer PW (R&B) Special Sub Division, Uri on behalf of Governor of J&K State, invites percentage rate bids in electronic tendering system for the following works including their maintenance for five years from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

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

S. No		Tendered Co (Rs in lacs.)			document (Ps in	Earnest Money (Bid Security)	Time of completion	Call	Time and Date of opening of tenders online (Technical	Class of
NO		Construc- tion Part		Total cost of work	lacs.)	(Rs in lacs.)			D:4\	contractor
	Upgradation of Hundi Nowshera Shaldajan Road by way of Earth Work Cutting/ filling, Providing & laying of GSB, Providing & laying of WBM Gradell, 75mm thick Wet Mix, 50mm thick Macadam, 25mm thick Semidense, Construction of R/ wall at required spots, Construction of Cement Concrete Drain at required spots and Laying of RCC Pipes at required spots.		RS. 26.80	RS. 294.81		Bid security decl.	03 Years]st	5-07-2021 At 1:00 A.M	"A" Class in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD/ Railways and other state Governments.

М.Н Ассо	ount: NABARD Position of AAA: A	ccorded Position of funds: Available
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	14/06/2021
2	Period of downloading of bidding documents	16/06/2021 from 10.00 AM.
3	Bid submission Start Date	19/06/2021 from 10.00 AM.
4	Bid Submission End Date	03/07/2021 upto 4.00 PM.
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	05/07/2021 at 11.00 AM in the office of Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle, Baramulla/ Kupwara

Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challanin favour of Executive Engineer R&B Special Sub Division, Uri (tende inviting authority) and Bid security Declaration as per format given in SBD. The EMD has to be submitted by the lowest bidder L1 (3% of quoted cost) within the period as

The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.iktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail mes sage on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Superintending Engineer, PWD (R&B) Circle, Baramulla. Kupwara (tender receiving authority).

The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical bids The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:a. Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov into acquaint bid submission process. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital

certificate from any approved Vendor. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form

6.4. 6.5. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with the bid

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

Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons

Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Special Sub Division, Uri and Bid Security Declara tion must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The original Treasury Challan (cost of tender document), CDR/FDR/BG (earnest money/bid security) and relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of contract.

Non attendance of pre-bid meeting will not be cause of disqualification of the bidder

All documents relating to the bid shall be in the English Language.

14.4.

15.6.

Bidders should quote in percentage below/the percentage above or at par at the bottom of the BOO Percentage Template for the Work 10. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manual Price escalation and Taxes:-. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing

Bidders are advised to use "My Documents" area in their user on R&B e-Tendering portal to store such documents as are required. For the NABARD project, the NABARD guidelinesshall be strictly follo Instructions to Bidder (ITB)

a. Copies of original documents defining constitution/legal status, place of registration and principal place of Business with Cell No. and Correspondence address

Valid GSTIN No. & PAN No. d. Scanned Copy of GSTIN Registration and latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST-3B of the preceding Month to the issued of NIT

information and documents along with qualification criteria / qualification information with their bids:-

Bidder must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents and tender documents fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid. However, in case

All bidders shall mandatorily upload Verification Certificate from Concerned Chief Engineer/Superintending Engineer of Enlistment registration card. Non sub-The bidder at his own responsibility and risk should visit and examine the site of work and its surroundings before submission of bid

of any clarification the bidders shall have to produce original documents in support of soft copies if need arises. 15.1 The date of start of the work shall be reckoned within one week from the date of issuance of Contract allotment. Penalty for delay in completion:-in case of $delay\ in\ completion\ of\ work\ beyond\ stipulated\ period\ of\ completion, penalty\ up to\ maximum\ of\ 10\%\ of\ the\ contract\ shall\ be\ imposed.$

15.2. Time extension:-Suitable time extension shall be granted in case of increase in scope of work and in the event of delay beyond control of contractor to be 15.3. Advance Payments:-No mobilization advance/equipment advance shall be paid unless otherwise specified in the SBD.

15.4. 15.5. Secured Advance:-No secured advance is admissible unless otherwise specified. Schedule of Payment:-The payment schedule shall be fixed after award of contract in favour of successful bidder, on the basis of availability of funds and value

The tender receiving authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof 16. Restoration of work:- On completion of contract the contractor shall be responsible to remove all un-used material and restore all work in its original position at his own cost Traffic regulations:-The contractor is bound to adhere to traffic regulations as is applicable from time to time and ensure arrangements of smooth regulation of traffic during execution of work.

Amendment of bidding document: Before the deadline for submission of bids the employer may modify the bidding documents by issuing Addendum

Ärbitration:- The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with the arbitration procedure stated in the J&K conciliation and Arbitration Act No:-xxxv of 1997

issued vide SRO No:-403 vide Notification of J&K Govt., "Law Department" 11th December-1997 No. SSDU/ 2021/ 864-70,

Executive Engineer Dated: 14/06/2021. DIPK-2955/21 R&B Special Sub Division, Uri

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Sd/=

PMJAY-Sehat Scheme

DC Srinagar For Prompt Issuance **Of SEHAT Cards To Beneficiaries**

'294205 Golden Cards Issued In Srinagar'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammed Aijaz Asad Tuesday chaired a meeting of Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana - SEHAT Scheme (AB-PMJAY-SEHAT) to review the progress of registration of beneficiaries and generation of Golden Cards in Srinagar district

Chief Executive Officer, Ayushman Bharat Dr Sagar Doifode was also present in the meeting.

The meeting discussed in detail the modalities for speeding their respective areas. up the registration for SEHAT scheme and directions were passed on to all the concered



The DC was informed that 334822 individuals have been

issued to beneficiaries.

The DC stressed upon the officers for prompt issuance of SEregistered with Ayushman HAT cards under the scheme to to increase registration of ben- Bharat in the district and so far all registered beneficiaries and SEHAT scheme so that all eligieficiaries under the scheme in 294205 Golden Cards have been undertaking registration pro- ble persons are benefitted.

cess of all left outs on BIS Portal. He also directed the concerned authorities to start Information Education and Communication (IEC) activities on mission mode by roping in other concerned departments for creating mass awareness in the district for speeding up registration process.

The DC further directed the officers to organise Golden Card Registration MELAs in all Medical Zones in the district to ensure cent percent population is covered under the scheme. He also stressed that timely submission of claims and reply to queries should be done for ease of beneficiaries.

He called for coordinated efforts in expanding the ambit of

Highlighting the benefits of the scheme, the DC said that AB PM-JAY SEHAT Scheme is one of the most ambitious schemes launched by Prime Minister on 26th December 2020 and it aims to provide Universal Health Insurance Coverage of Rs. 5.00 lakh per family on a floater basis in convergence with central government's Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY).

The CEO Ayushman Bharat also spoke on the occasion and said every possible step will be taken to increase the Registrations to cover all eligible persons under the scheme. He also said that training programs for Arogya Mitirs will be conducted for their capacity building so that they can perform better.



THE DC FURTHER DIRECTED THE OFFICERS TO ORGANISE GOLDEN CARD REGISTRATION MELAS IN ALL Medical Zones in the district to ensure cent percent population is covered under the scheme. He also stressed that timely submission of claims and reply

KU Organises Webinar On Food Safety In Disasters

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The University of Kashmir on Tuesday organised a webinar on 'Food Safety in Disasters'. Prof Talat, VC KU emphasised the hered to," Prof Talat said.

importance of delivery of safe food and water to populations affected during disasters.

food in a disaster can complicate the in place adequate and safe food storrescue and relief operation," he said.

He called for community-level awareness on safe handling of foods safe even after delivery as the heat-

Hurriyat (M) Pays Tributes To

Observer News Service what he believed in with-

ference led by Mirwaiz partial and factual based

tributes to journalist and holding journalistic eth-

former Editor-in-Chief of ics. He was a well wisher

daily Rising Kashmir Dr of his people who wanted

Syed Shujaat Bukhari on to see an end to people's

his 3rd death anniversary. suffering and believed this

(M) said that late Shujaat resolution of the Kashmir

Bukhari was a journalist of conflict in keeping with

great courage who through the people's will," it said

out fear or favour.

"His journalism was im-

on principles while up-

was possible by peaceful

Iournalist Shujaat Bukhari

important public health concern dur- fected in disasters which can result ing disasters where the affected populations are at the risk of contracting food-borne diseases if necessary food safety measures aren't strictly ad-

Major General M K Bindal, Executive Director NIDM stressed on the importance of preparedness for "Any lapse in ensuring the safety of disasters with emphasis on putting age systems in times of disasters. He said that foods can be rendered un-

in growth of spoilage and pathogenic microbes on foods.

Head Department of Food Science and Technology University of Kashmir, Prof Farooq Masoodi, underscored the aims and objectives of the webinar, which, he said, was attended by around 200 participants from different parts of the country.

The webinar was also addressed by Prof Anil Gupta from NIDM, Prof Shetty from Pondicherry University and Prof Abdul Majid Ganai from Governduring disasters. "Food safety is a very ing and refrigeration services get afment Medical College Baramulla.

Public Notice

My DOB has Wrongly mentioned in school record As 11/8/2008 instead of 11/3/2008 now its changing if any body have any objection may contact to Principal hill grand secondary school handwara, with in seven days af-

Name:- Mir inam ut haq S70:- Ab Jabar Mir. R/D:- sharhama lach

Public Notice

The DOB of my daughter Namely Sadaf Jan has been wrongly mentioned in school records as 01-10-2007 while her correct DOB is 01-06-200B which needs immediate correction, if any body having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Army Goodwill School budket handware within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

F/O Sadaf Jan

Shop Gutted, Two Others Damaged In Overnight Maisuma Blaze

his writings penned down in a statement.

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Hurriyat Con-

Umar Faroog Tuesday paid

n a statement. Hurrivat

SRINAGAR: A shop was completely gutted while two others were partially damaged on Monday evening in a massive fire that broke out in Madina Chowk of Maisuma in Srinagar city.

Witnesses said that a second-storey of a building the help of fire tenders, consisting stock of MK Associates also suffered dam- was completely gutted and age in the blaze.

in Medina Chowk area of dent. (Agencies)

Maisuma, owned by Ashiq Ahmad Beigh.

The fire engulfed two more shops M K Associates owned by Nazir Ahmed of Bagampora and Khaleej Electrics owned by Firdous Ahmed of Sonwar.

Although the fire was brought under control with Hamdan Electronics shop stock damaged adding that They said that fire broke two other shops suffered out in Hamdan Electronics partial damage in the inci-

ICPS Organises Webinar On Eradication Of 'Child Labour'

SRINAGAR: Integrated Child Protection Services presence within their re-(ICPS), Social Welfare Department Tuesday organised webinar on "Act Now: tion," she asserted. End Child Labour" to mark observance of World Day erating awareness regardagainst Child labour being celebrated across the globe.

Speakers in the webinar expressed concern about the also assured her full support increase in number of Child la- to this noble cause. bourers in tough times of global pandemic and measures to Shabnam Shah Kamili, eradicate this menace of child labour from the society.

Secretary, Social Welfare, sided over the event, spoke about the measures needed be dealt actively by the child evil from the society.

protection staff by adopting a proactive approach. "The staff should have an active spective districts for children in need of care and protec-

Nanda stressed upon gening role of child protection services and their contact details in public domain. She

Mission Director ICPS, stressed upon the role of Child Protection Services in reaching out to children in Sheetal Nanda, who pre- need of care and protection. She threw light on the theme "Act now: End child labour" to end child labour in the so- and elaborately explained ciety. She said that cases re- the importance of total eradilated to child labour should cation of this biggest social

ter that no objection will be entertained.

Khursheed Ahamd War



از نیابت چندوسه مضمون کاغذات درخواست شوک احدثی ولدگزاراحد فتی ساکه شیر پورو موگارن بمراره طالبی و پینهٔ نسانشیط متوفی گزاراحد فتی موگارن بمراره طالبی

اشتها ربمراد آگاهی هر خاص و عام

« عالمه متدویه عنوان احد دش درخواست سائل دفتر عنداش زیرکاروائی ہے سائک سکا والدفكز اراحد على مورى 190-02-14 كوفوت ہو چكاہے اس سلسلے على بيواري علقہ ہے رچورٹ بشمولہ دیکا وہ طلب کیا تھیا ہے جس ہے عیان ہے کہ ساک موضع شیر وره كوكاران على ربائل بديراور تمهيدين افراد پر فتل بر سال كي جاندا حدثًا ين الْمُرْسَات يَمِ عَيْنَ مُرِين جِهِ معيادُ لذرك فَي اعتزاض وغير بأنول نه وكار

Mayor SMC Takes Stock Of Developmental Works In Saraibala

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Srinagar Municipal Corporation (SMC) Mayor Junaid Azim Mattu Tuesday visited Saraibala and other adjoining areas of Srinagar district and took stock of the situation regarding the pace of the work under the smart city plan. During the visit, Mattu checked the

pace of the different developmental works and interacted with the local representatives and other social workers and received first-hand information about the issues facing people.

Locals while interacting with the Mayor, put forth various issues and demands before the Mayor who assured early redressal of the issues and

NOTICE

I want to correct My Name and Father's name for My Re-issue. of passport with old Passport bearing No: K1427314 From SYED SHAHIR YAR S/o SYED SHABIR HUSSAIN to SYED SHAHRIYAR SHABIR S/o MR SYED SHABIR as per records of School matriculation certificate if anyone has objection may contact regional Passport office within the period of one week from publishing of this notice after that no objection will be entertained. Syed Shahriyar Shabir

S/0 Mr Syed Shabir Hassanabad Rainawari

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTAN REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BARAMULLA

NOTICE

Whereas, an application for Re-Registration/Transfer of Dwnership has been received from Mr. ZUBAIR DAYDOD S/O DAYDOD AHMAD LONE Resident of QAZIPORA TANGMARG in respect of Car I-20 Bearing Regn. No. HR26CK8243 Chassis No. MALBM-51RLEM035840 Engine No. D4FCEM225771 Model 2014-i20 in favor of ZUBAIR DAVOOD (Transferee). Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general

public that representation / objection, if any in connection with proposed Re-Registration/Transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper KASHMIR OBSERVOR to the address of undersigned. No, representation/objection shall be considered unless it is

made in writen and shall be submitted within the aforesaid pe-

No. 370 Dated: 11-05-2021

sd/-**Authorized Signatory** Asst. Regional Transport Officer

The Jammu and Kashmir State Board Of School Education New Campus Bemina Srinagar

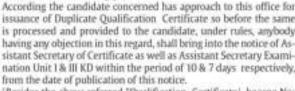


Notice for General Public

The applicant/ candidate whose photograph is published in this notice and claiming to have lost her qualification certificate/s as per below mentioned details:-

ROLL NO: 3125577 Class; S.S.E (10TH Class) Year and Session: 2015- Bi-Annual Regd: N13441670112 Name: Sufoora Mushtaq Father's Name: Mushtaq Ahamd Hajam Mother's: Hafeeza Begum

Date of Birth: 07-05-2000 Residenc:- Latishot Tujajr Sharief



(Besides the above referred "Qualification Certificate/ bearing No: 15BIKAM-9002818" be treated as "CANCELLED")

No: F(Cer is-I-DOC)B/KD/17 Dated 12-06-2021 Assistant Secretary LC R Certificates, KD.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost my wallet bearing Driving License. Aadhar Card, Elec-tion Card and ATM Card in Magam Handwara. If anybody has found please contact. 7889731165. Otherwise I have to apply for the duplicate of the documents .If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the concerned offices within a period of 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entained.

Amir Mohi-U-Din Malik S/O Ghulam Mohi-u-din Malik R/o Dadipora Handwara A/P Magam Handwara

SULT

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 BIJBHERA: 01932-228243

 PAMPORE: 01933-294132 • PATTAN: 01954-293507 · OAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

Sgrr-Jammu highway - (Closed)

Mughal Road - (Open) · Srinagar-Leh- (Open)

This Day in History

- 1487 Battle of Stoke, Nottinghamshire: Henry VII beats John de la Pole & Lord Lovell
- 1745 British fleet occupies Cape Breton on St
- 1746- Battle at Piacenza: Austria & Sardinia beat
- Spanish and French army 1779 - Spain declares war on Great Britain in support of the US, and the siege of Gibraltar begins
- 1815 Battle at Ligny: French army under Napoleon beats Prussia
- 1815 Battle at Quatre-Bras: allies strike French 1832 - Battle of Kellogg's Grove, Illinois 1891 - John Abbott becomes Canada's third prime minister
- 1898 China's emperor De Zong (Guang Xu) receives Kang Youwei 1903 - Roald Amundsen commences the first
- east-west navigation of the Northwest Passage by leaving Oslo, Norway 1903 - Reichstag elections with gains for the Social
- **Democratic Party of Germany** 1907 - Tsar Nicolas II of Russia dissolves the Second Duma (parliament) and issues an edict that will increase
- representation of propertied classes while reducing that of peasants, workers and national minorities 1930 - Sovnarkom establishes decree time in the USSR
- 1931 Austrian government of Ender falls 1932 - Germany forbids SA/SS-gang fights
- 1940 Communist government installed in Lithuania
- 1957 French offensive in Algeria

ZIQADAT -UL-**HARAAM**

1442

HIJRI

PRAYERS

FAJR 3:34

ZUHR 12:31 **ASR**

5:31 **MAGRIB**

7:46 **ISHA** 9:28

From KO Archives

We Want United States Of Kashmir

Mirwaiz Led Hurriyat Pleads For 'Free Hand'

KARACHI - Hurriyat Conference led by Mirwaiz Uar Farooq has pro-pounded a new concept for resolving the Kashmir issue - one of the 'United States of Kashmir' in which people would be able to move freely. "We desire to be citizens of the United States of Kashmir and

we desire India and Paki¬stan to give a free hand to the Kashmiri leadership to come up with new proposals." be said adding (he Hurriyat Conference has decided to take the initiative. The Hurriyat's viewpoint was forcefully presented here by its chairman Mirwaiz Omar Faroog at a symposium, at-tended

by all the Kashmiri lead-ers currently on a historic visit to Pakistan, reported Dawn on Saturday. The 'Symposium on Kash-mir looking towards the future was organized by the publish-ers of the Dawn Group of new -papers in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan, the Pakistan Peace Coalition and the Islamabad Council for World Affairs. A second symposium on the theme

will be held in Islamabad on Sunday. "We desire lo ho citizens of the United States of Kashmir and we desire India and Pakistan to give a free hand to the Kashmiri leadership 10 come up with new proposals." said the Mirwaiz, adding that the APHC had de-cided to lake the initiative

"I don't want to take the bus 20 years down the line. I want to New Delhi, Islamabad or Tashkent, he said clearly hinting at the future status of Kashmir 'We want to move beyond the traditional line." he said, adding that "conversion of the LoC into a permanent border or the

status quo was not accept-able. Apart from these two, we are ready to explore other op-tions. Decisions should not be imposed from New Delhi or Islamabad " He was of the view that since India was not ready for tripartite negotiations; a way out could be triangular talks - be-

tween Kashmiris and Pakistan, be-tween Kashmiris and India and between Pakistan and India. Expressing concern over the failure of the United Nations, the OIC and the international community in addressing the

Kashmir issue and mitigating the agony of the people of Kashmir, the Mirwaiz declared "We should forget about the international community and

the people of Kashmir should choose their own course". He said that the APHC supported peace process and added that the "people of Kashmir were never in favour of violent

course, the situation was imposed on us.' Despite supporting the peace process, the Mirwaiz said he couldn't see any light at the end of (he tunnel for the time being, and added that their being in Pakistan did not mean that

there was a complete unanimity of views on the issue. He called upon all segments' of the Kashmiris to "come on board",

Yasin Malik said that people who had started the revolution declared in 1994 a unilateral ceasefire. But nobody understood the significance of the peace overture. Many Kashmiris were Kill 1 in the process.

Malik said it was not for New Delhi or Islamabad to represent the people of Kashmir or to decide who was their leader and stressed that the Kashmiris should be included lit the dialogue process as equal partners. He expressed readiness to demonstrate flexibility. He underlined (lie importance of media's role in pushing the peace process forward and securing for (lie Kashmiri people their just rights.

Prof Abdul Ghani Bhatt dilated on the sacrifices of the Kashmiri people over the years and stressed that resolution of the Kashmir issue was essential for durable peace.

He said that sensitivities of India and Pakistan had to be taken into consideration in resolving the issue, but added that neither India nor Pakistan could move ahead unless they took the Kashmiris into confidence and engaged them as equal partners in the dialogue process.

(Kashmir Observer, 16 June, 2005)

4 Shot Dead In "Targeted Attacks" On Afghanistan **Polio Vaccinators**



Agence France-Presse

JALALABAD: At least four people were killed Tuesday in a string of targeted attacks on polio workers in eastern Afghanistan, officials said, the second assault on vaccinators in the area in less than three months.

The polio workers were gunned down in three different locations over two hours, in a "co-ordinated attack", Nangarhar police spokesman Farid Khan said.

"This is the work of the Taliban, targeting health workers to deprive people of polio vaccines," he said.

Health ministry spokesman Osman Taheri confirmed the attacks. The Taliban denied responsibility.

Polio has been eradicated across the world apart from Afghanistan and neighbouring Pakistan, where distrust of vaccines and eradication campaigns is rife.

Officials said two vaccinators were killed and one wounded in Tuesday's attacks in Khogyani district, while two were killed in Surkhrod.

In the other attack, three vaccinators were wounded in the provincial capital, Jalalabad.

The vaccination drive in the province had now been halted, another health official told AFP.

"These were all targeted attacks ment for the perpetrators." against polio vaccinators, and for now we have stopped all polio vaccination drives in Nangarhar province," the official said, asking not to be named.

Tuesday's attacks come less than three months after gunmen shot dead three women polio vaccina-

tors in Jalalabad.

The country has faced a devastating wave of targeted attacks on politicians, activists and journalists which the Afghan government and United States have blamed on the Taliban.

They routinely deny responsibility. Last week 10 people working for the HALO Trust mine-clearing organisation were shot dead in northern Afghanistan.

The government said the Taliban were behind the attack, but the UKbased charity said the local militants actually stepped in to help.

The Taliban, and religious leaders, often tell communities that vaccines are a Western conspiracy aimed at sterilising Muslim children, and they also suspect immunisation drives are used to spy on terrorist activities. Officials say the Taliban do not

allow door-to-door campaigns in areas they control. "We have reached a situation

where systematically employees of demining, doctor, nurse, vaccinator, human rights defender and anyone seeking to save our lives and our children are killed," said Shaharzad Akbar, the head of Afghanistan's Independent Human Rights Commission.

"There is neither an effective prevention mechanism nor a punish-

The Taliban have made huge gains across Afghanistan, as the United States prepare to pull out the last of its troops from the country by September after 20 years of war -- even as peace talks between the Afghan government and Taliban have stalled

Delhi Defies Social Distancing Norms, Doctors Say Brace For Covid-19 'Explosion'



Agencies

'n India's capital, Delhi, thousands of commuters crowded into underground train stations and shopping malls on Tuesday, prompting some doctors to warn it could lead to a resurgence in Covid-19 infections.

Major Indian cities have begun lifting strict lockdowns as the nationwide tally of new infections has dropped to its lowest level in more than two months.

But disease experts and doctors have cautioned that a race towards resuming business as usual would compromise vaccination efforts as only about five per cent of all 950 million eligible adults have been inoculated.

Doctors say Delhi's nearcomplete reopening is concerning. The city's authorities have said they would reimpose strict curbs if cases rise. Thousands died in the capi-

all but vanished and families cent seating. Suburban rail pleaded on social media over scarce hospital beds.

People paid 20 times the usual price to secure ambulances and hearses, many died in parking lots, and morgues ran out of space.

"Delhi's top #mall saw a footfall of 19,000 people last weekend - as soon as it reopened. Have we gone totally mad?" Ambrish Mithal of Max HealthCare in New Delhi said on Twitter. "Wait for Covid-19 to explode again and blame the government, hospitals, country.'

In the early hours of Tues-Delhi's underground rail network put out alerts on Twitter about peak traffic and longer waits, responding to angry commuters angry about long queues.

After a strict five-week lockdown in Delhi, authorities have fully reopened tal in May, as oxygen supplies restaurants to have 50 per tally to 377,031, data showed.

networks can run at 50pc capacity, and offices have been partially reopened.

Vaccinations have slowed, however; the city government said inoculation centres for people ages 18-44 would start shutting down on Tuesday, as doses were scarce.

Delhi ought to have unlocked far more scientifically. We are inviting trouble!" Arvinder Singh Soin, a surgeon and leading liver transplant specialist, said on Twitter.

Nationwide, India reported 60,471 new Covid-19 infections over the past 24 hours, the lowest number since March 31, data from the health ministry showed.

The South Asian country's total Covid-19 caseload now stands at 29.57 million, the second highest globally behind the United States.

India added 2,726 deaths shops and malls, and allowed overnight, taking the overall

DELHI'S TOP #MALL SAW A FOOTFALL OF 19,000 PEOPLE last weekend — as soon as it reopened. Have we gone totally mad?" Ambrish Mithal of

Max HealthCare in New Delhi said on Twitter. "Wait for Covid-19 to explode again and blame the government, hospitals, country."

Saudi's Execute Boy For **Taking Part In Protests**



DUBAI: Saudi Arabia executed a young man on Tuesday who was convicted on charges stemming from his participation in an anti-government rebellion by minority Shiites.

A leading rights group said his trial, however, was "deeply flawed." It was unclear whether Mustafa bin Hashim bin Isa al-Darwish. 26. was executed for crimes com-

Amnesty International. detained in 2015 for alleged participation in riots between 2011 and 2012. The official charge sheet does not specify the dates

his alleged crimes took place, meaning he could have been 17 at the time, or just turned 18. The government maintains he

was convicted and executed for crimes committed above the age of 19, though no specific dates for his alleged crimes have been given.

Last year, the kingdom halted its practice of executing people for crimes committed as a minor.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement he was executed after being found guilty of participating in the formation of an armed terrorist cell to monitor and target to kill police officers, attempting to kill police officers, shooting at police patrols and making Molo-

tov cocktails to target police. Other charges included participating in armed rebellion against the ruler and provoking chaos and sectarian strife. The crimes allegedly transpired in Dammam in the Eastern Province, where most Saudi oil is concentrated and home to a significant indigenous Shiite population.

At the height of Arab Spring uprisings across the region, the kingdom experienced unrest dom has carried out 20 execuamong Saudi Shiite youth who tions so far this year compared took to the Eastern Province"s to 14 throughout all of 2020. The impoverished streets. They demanded jobs, better opportunities and an end to discrim- ended executions for non-violent ination by the kingdom"s ultra- drug-related crimes. (AP)

conservative state-backed Sunni institutions and clerics.

Saudi security forces backed by armored vehicles set up checkpoints and suppressed the protests, rounding up an unknown number of protesters. The government later razed homes belonging to Shiite residents of the restive city of al-Awamiya in 2017 in an area that was several hunlred years old. Officials said the al-Mosawara district had become a hideout for local militants, and promised to develop the area.

Over the years, numerous executions of Shiites involved in violent protests have been carried out.

In 2019, Saudi Arabia executed 37 citizens, of which 34 were identified as Shiites, in a mass execution for alleged terrorismrelated crimes.

In 2016, the kingdom executed 47 people in one day also for terrorism-related crimes. mitted as a minor, according to Among those executed was prominent Shiite cleric Nimr The rights group said he was al-Nimr, whose death sparked protests from Pakistan to Iran and the ransacking of the Saudi Embassy in Tehran. Saudi-Iran ties have not recovered and the embassy remains shuttered.

The kingdom has in the past implicitly accused Iran of being behind armed Shiites in Saudi Arabia, saying they are acting "under instructions from abroad.'

Amnesty International said al-Darwish, who was arrested when he was 20, was placed in solitary confinement, held incommunicado for six months and denied access to a lawyer until the beginning of his trial two years later by the Specialized Criminal Court in Riyadh, established to try terrorism cases.

The Supreme Court upheld al-Darwish"s death sentence. Amnesty International said his case was then referred to the Presidency of State Security, which is overseen directly by the royal court and over which Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman wields immense power. The Saudi monarch, King Salman, ratifies executions, most of which are carried out by beheading.

According to an Associated Press tally based on Interior Ministry announcements, the kingsharp drop in executions last year was largely due to changes that

AstraZeneca's Antibody Cocktail Fails to Prevent Covid: Study

Agencies

AstraZeneca Plc's antibody cocktail was only 33% effective toms in people who had been exposed to the virus, failing a study that was key to the drugmaker's pandemic push.

The trial of 1,121 adult volunteers looked at whether who are at risk of severe disthe long-acting antibody combination could protect people who had recently been in contact with the SARS-CoV-2 virus in places like care homes. The company said it's running other studies of the medicine that could help clarify the findings.

The outcome is a blow to Astra for a drug that was hoped to be a bright spot in the company's pandemic efforts following the mixed success of its vaccine with the University of Oxford. Other drugmakers such as GlaxoSmithKline Plc have had some success in getting similar therapies through clinical tests and approved for people



ease or can't get vaccinated.

"There is still a significant need for prevention and treatment options for certain populations, including those unable to be vaccinated or those who may have an inadequate response to vaccination," said Myron Levin, the study's lead researcher and a professor of medicine at the

University of Colorado. The Astra medicine attracted interest even before it could prove its efficacy. The US has ordered up to 700,000 doses of the medicine for delivery in 2021, while the UK was already reconsidering an pants had a negative antibody earlier order for one million. Astra shares were little prior infection.

changed in London trading, Some Promise

The study, conducted in the unteers who got the cocktail developed symptomatic CO-VID-19 following exposure to the disease, compared with 17 cases in the placebo group, according to a statement Tuesday. Twice as many participants got the antibody, but the difference between the two groups wasn't considered statistically significant.

Further analysis showed the drug had some impact in preventing disease for those who weren't infected at the time of dosing.

Volunteers who became infected up to a week after taking the drug were 51% less likely to develop symptoms, the company said. That climbed to 92% if the patient didn't record infection until more than a week after the injection. All particitest when dosed to exclude

Israeli Nationalists To March In East Jerusalem, Palestinians Plan 'Day Of Rage'



₹ar-right Israeli groups will **◄** march in and around East Jerusalem's Old City today (Tuesday) in a flag-waving procession that risks igniting tensions with Palestinians in the contested city and rekindling fighting between Israel and Gaza.

Assailing the march as a "provocation", Palestinian factions have called for a "Day of Rage" in Gaza and the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Gaza's Islamist rulers Hamas have warned of renewed hostilities if it goes ahead.

"We warn of the dangerous repercussions that may result from the occupying power's intention to allow extremist Israeli settlers to carry out the Flag March in occupied Jerusalem tomorrow," Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammad Shtayyeh said on Twitter.

An original march was re-routed to avoid the Old City's Muslim Quarter on May 10 when tensions in Jerusalem set off 11 days of deadly violence.

Israeli rightists accused their government of caving into Hamas by changing its route. They rescheduled the procession after a Gaza truce took hold.

Today's march poses an immediate challenge for new Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett, who took office on Sunday and brought veteran leader Benjamin Netanyahu's record-long rule to an end.

Bennett's internal security minister approved the march on Monday.

A route change or cancellation of the procession could expose regards the entire city as its capital.

accusations from Netanyahu, now in the opposition, and his rightwing allies of giving Hamas veto power over events in Jerusalem.

"The time has come for Israel to threaten Hamas and not for Hamas to threaten Israel," prominent far-right lawmaker Itamar Ben-Gvir said on Twitter.

An official route for the march is yet to be announced. Israeli media reported that police will allow participants to congregate outside the Old City's Damascus Gate but will not let them cross through it to the Muslim Quarter, which has an overwhelmingly Palestinian population.

Tensions are sure to be high whether or not the route is changed. Palestinian protests were planned for today evening across the Gaza Strip, and Hamas and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas's Fatah faction have called on Palestinians to flock to the Old City to counter the march.

The Israeli military has made preparations for a possible escalation in Gaza over the march. Israeli media reported, and the US Embassy in Jerusalem prohibited its employees and their families from entering the Old City on Tuesday.

Palestinians want East Jerusalem, which includes the Old City, to be the capital of a state they seek to establish in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Israel, which annexed East Jerusalem in a move that has not won international recognition after capturing the area in a 1967 war,

Pak's Sindh Govt To Block SIM Cards Of Those Not Vaccinated Against Covid-19



KARACHI: Taking a cue from Pakistan's Punjab province, the Sindh government on Tuesday announced that it would block the mobile SIM cards of those who refuse to take the Covid-19 vaccines, according to a media report on Tuesday.

Sindh Minister for Information Syed Nasir Hussain Shah announced the decision after the inauguration of a vaccination centre here in provincial capital, according to a news report in Geo TV. He said mobile phone SIMs of

those who do not get vaccinated will be blocked soon. The move comes days after

the Punjab provincial government took a similar step.

tional Command and Operation body on the pandemic, will continue its mass vaccination campaign under a three-pronged strategy- voluntary, obligatory and incentivised vaccination, the report said.

Meanwhile, Pakistan on Tuesday reported less than 1,000 cases in a day for the first time since February 15. A total of 838 people tested

positive for the disease during the period, taking the total number of cases in the country to 943,027. The positivity ratio in the country stands at 2.39 per cent. The total number of fatalities

in the country reached 21,782 after 59 more people succumbed to the disease during the period. A total of 1,576 people recov-

ered from the virus in the last 24 hours. The national tally of recoveries stands at 880,316. Currently, Pakistan has 40,929

active coronavirus cases, the report said. PTI

NEWS MAKERS

Masks Off, Gowns On: Wuhan Sheds **Covid For Mass Graduation**

Agence France-Presse

BEIJING: A huge red banner welcomed more than 11,000 students in Wuhan for a massive graduation ceremony over a year after the city was battered by the first global outbreak of Covid-19.

Students in navy gowns and mortarboards sat in crowded rows, without social distancing or face masks, beneath the sign that read: "Welcoming the graduates of 2020 back home. We wish you all a great future."

2019 in Wuhan, capital of central

China's Hubei province, sending

the city of 11 million into one of

the world's strictest lockdowns.

Restrictions were not eased



until April when the city started to re-open after 76 days closed off, although schools remained shut for longer.

The city held limited graduation ceremonies last year, with Wuhan University hosting a Covid-19 first emerged in late mostly-online event in June last year, with the students and teachers who did attend all in masks.

More than 2,200 students at Sunday's ceremony were graduates who could not attend

their graduation last year due to tight virus restrictions.

China has since largely contained the outbreak while keeping precautions high, including tight border controls, quarantines, mandatory online "health codes" and varying restrictions on domestic travel.

There were 20 new cases on Tuesday, including 18 imported from overseas and two in a local outbreak in southern Guangdong province.

There have been 4,636 deaths officially reported, the majority in Wuhan.

Quoting a line of ancient Chinese poetry, the banner offered students advice for the future: "The ocean is boundless for

Veteran Reporter Christiane Amanpour **Has Cancer Surgery**

Agencies

LONDON: Veteran war correspondent Christiane Amanpour on Monday announced that she has recently undergone "major surgery" for ovarian cancer, and faced months of chemotherapy treatment.

"Like millions of women around the world, I've been diagnosed with ovarian cancer," the CNN Chief International Anchor announced on

Twitter. "I've had successful major surgery to remove it and am now undergoing several

months of chemotherapy for the very best long term prognosis," the 63-year-old iournalist added.

British-born Amanpour previously hosted ABC's "This Week". She first became known to

the CNN audience internationally for her coverage of the 1991 Gulf War that followed

Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. She has interviewed many of the world's leaders and newsmakers over the past two decades and reported from hotspots such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, Rwanda and the Balkans.

Family Accuses Son-In-Law Of Murdering Their Daughter, **Police 'Investigating Case'**

BANDIPORA: A family from stomach wash. Gund Jahangeer village of Hajin area in North Kashmir's Bandi-Press Enclave Srinagar alleging that their daughter was killed by her husband.

of her in-laws at Gund Jahangir,

Tosha Begum mother of the deceased, said, "Our daughter was married to Muhamamd Shafi Sheikh of Gund Jahangir. They had three children. She it was a natural death," adding that a few days ago, the son of deceased daughter while clean- driver Mushtaq Ahmed." ing the room found an 'Out Health Centre Sumbal belonging to the deceased which reconsumed insecticide and doc- vestigation. (Agencies)

Observer News Service tors had advised her husband to refer her to Srinagar hospital for

Mother of the deceased alleged that instead of referring pora Tuesday staged a protest at her to Srinagar hospital her husband took her home where she

"I want to know why my Talking to media persons, they daughter consumed poison and demanded exhumation and why she was not referred to Sripost-mortem of their daughter nagar hospital. Who gave her who allegedly died in the house poison and why didn't the doctors at CHC Sumbal inform the police? Why the driver (friend) of Muhammad Shafi who ferried my daughter from home to hospital remain silent."

A police official at Bandipora said, "We have taken cognisance died recently and we believed of the complaint and are acting on it. We have arrested her husband Muhammad Shafi and

The official said that the po-Patient Card' of Community lice have written a letter to Deputy Commissioner Bandipora seeking permission for exhumavealed that the deceased had tion of the body to carry the in-

Five Covid Care Centres Established In Anantnag

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: In compliance to centres instructions from the Govt, District Administration Anantnag the people to led by Deputy Commissioner, share Dr. Piyush Singla, has estab- light moments lished 05 (five) bedded Covid when they get Care Centres in different Panchayat Halqas of the district.

Speaking on the purpose of these centres, the DC said the from Panchayat concept is a novel one to mitigate Covid in rural areas by strengthening Community Triaging besides creating basic rubeen equipped with Covid kits ral healthcare infrastructure for containing oximeters, non-conbenefit of the people in these areas. He appealed covid positive medicines, masks and other fapersons with no or mild symptoms having dearth of space at their homes to utilise these centres for isolation and basic treatment.

being utilised for Covid testing and vaccination purposes and are also serving as convenient sites for Health, Revenue and RDD teams/officials for generat- tion available at their doorsteps ing awareness regarding Covid along with provisions of testing Appropriate Behaviour among and mass awareness sessions at the masses at their doorsteps these centres.

across the district. The calm rural ambience of these provides 🔏 opportunity some tested or vaccinated there.

Operating Ghars, schools and other public buildings, these centres have

cilities. The Block Medical Officer Mattan, Dr. Saleem Beg said that basic medical essentials have been made available at the The COVID Care Centres are centre adding these centres will

tact thermometers, sanitizers,

help people in different ways. Meanwhile, people hailed this move from the authorities for making benefits of vaccina-

...DOCTOR SPEAKS

'Follow All Precautions. Take Six Minute Walk Test'

Observer News Service

JAMMU: A large number of Covid patients remain asymptomatic and recover without observing any significant ailment or symptoms of the infection. All individuals are therefore expected to be skeptic about every other individual including oneself, as carrier of Covid-19 virus, just as a precautionary measure. Still, if ever in doubt, the doctors suggest taking the Six Minute Walk Test, a rudimentary exercise to judge if one needs medical help or not.

The Head of Medicine at Government Medical College & Hos- to 'teach social distancing to pital Jammu, Dr Vijay Kundal explains the test as, "In the test, the subject walks for six minutes, and if his oxygen saturation level falls, either by three percent or below 94, it is time to consult a doctor. Such patients must lie in prone position to restore oxygen saturation quickly".

is made to lie facing down, with immediately isolate themselves arms bent comfortably at the elbow and positioned forward.

Dr Kundal also reminds that the popular saying 'prevention any comorbidity are also able is better than cure' also applies to recover easily in most of the to Covid infection and that there is no better way to implement it in our lives than by adopting below 94 percent, the patient, Covid appropriate behaviour. The behaviour, he explains, includes wearing mask, frequent hand sanitisation and keeping distance while in public.



others around'. Timely vaccination is another defence against the virus, he says.

To those who have tested positive or are simply under Covid hysteria, the doctor says, 'there is no need to panic as most of the Covid cases fall under mild category who recover easily. Such people display symptoms like In prone-position, the patient cough and cold'. They should and eat healthy food, he advises.

Elaborating further, Dr Kundal says that Covid patients without cases. 'In any case', he reminds, 'if one's oxygen saturation level falls whether comorbid or not, should immediately consult a doctor'.

If somehow, all doctors advice, Covid symptoms persist even after four to five days, one The doctor attests the govern- must immediately seek medical ment's instructions: going out help. 'Please do not delay hospionly if necessary, self hygiene, talisation! Many of Covid deaths wearing mask and avoiding are due to delay in reporting by crowd, and also requests people the patients', informs Dr Kundal.

says that Covid patients without any comorbidity are also able to recover easily in most of the cases. 'In any case', he reminds, 'if one's oxygen saturation level falls below 94 percent, the patient, whether comorbid or not, should

ELABORATING FURTHER, DR KUNDAL

immediately consult a doctor'.



A WOMAN IN NORTH KASHMIR'S BANDIPORA walks along the banks of a river, carrying firewood on her head Tuesday afternoon. KO Photo Abid Bhat

COVID-19...

Positivity Rate Declines, Recovery Rate Touches 93.5 Percent In Budgam: DC

opment Commissioner (DDC) Budgam, Shahbaz Ahmed Mirza Tuesday said that the Covid-19 Positivity rate has witnessed a massive decline in the district besides the recovery rate is also improving each passing day.

The DDC said this while briefing the media about the Covid situation in the district.

Divulging the details, the DDC said that from 1st of April, 2021, as many as 13,662 positive cases were reported in the district till date, out of these 12,685 have recovered and now there are only 999 active Positive cases.

He said the recovery rate of Covid Positive cases has reached 93.55 percent, and the positivity rate has come down gradually. Keeping the status of last week in view, the positivity rate remained stagnant in between 4 to 4.3 percent, now since the last 2 days it has gone down more and presently it is at 2.3 percent, he added.

The DC said that the situation has improved enormously with regard to all parameters as since the last 3 days there is no report of any death due to the pandemic.

He said so far since the second half of March, 79 people have died due to the pandemic in the district. He also said that there are 120 containment zones all across the district at present and the report of positive cases from containment zones has also gone down, and stands at 23.2 percent.

The DC said that the



Situation Improving In Pulwama: DC

Observer News Service

The Deputy Commission- efforts are being intensified er (DC) Pulwama, Baseer to achieve cent percent inul Haq Choudary Tuesday said that the Covid-19 situation is gradually improv-ing in the district adding that people need to follow all SOPs strictly to keep Covid at bay. Choudhry informed that the

discharge and recovery rates have shown significant improvement and positivity rate has also witnessed downward slide during this period. Regarding vaccination, DC said that Block Rajpora has all the developmental ac-

achieved 100 percent target tivities shall be carried out in of priority groups, Pulwama strict adherence to SOPs.

astically going for vaccination, and hope that we will achieve

nation drive is going on satis- population of the age group of factorily, people are enthusi- 45 and above has been covered

90 percent, Tral 85 percent

and Pampore 72 percent and

oculation of priority groups

being carried out to achieve

the targets besides average

3000 to 4000 tests are being

done daily, Choudhry added.

stakeholders and the general

public to adhere to Covid Ap-

propriate Behaviour (CAB)

during unlock to prevent any

spike in infections. He said

The DC impressed upon all

Door to door vaccination is

in these 03 blocks as well.

Positivity Rate Decreases To 2.5 Percent In Bandipora: DC

about 79 percent

BANDIPORA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Bandipora, Dr Owais Ahmad Tuesday said that the active cases have drastically decreased in the district this month. He said the positive rate from the past two weeks is about 2.5 percent in the district. Dr Owais said 2.42 lakh tests have been conducted so far with 1500 to 2000 tests being conducted on a daily basis.

He said the number of total active positive cases has also decreased to 332 out of which only 49 patients are in hospi-



on oxygen support systems. Dr Owais said the recovery rate ment to fight the pandemic. has increased to 95.2 percent with 8578 recoveries so far and 98 deaths since last year.

While giving details on Vaccination, the DC said 88 per- strictions does not mean that cent of the 45 plus age group pandemic is over and appealed has been covered so far giving 102859 doses.

tal isolation and 17 of these are the general public and all other resurgence of pandemic.

stakeholders to continue following Covid Appropriate Behavior (CAB) strictly despite the district being declared as a yellow zone. He said restrictions shall be in place as and when needed and appealed to the public to continue to cooperate with the govern-

Regarding easing of Corona restrictions in the district, Dr Owais said that though restrictions are eased but easing of Covid repeople to follow the COVID appropriate behaviour strictly as The DC reiterated his appeal to they followed earlier to avoid the

Every Household In J&K To Get Tapped Drinking Water By Sep 2022

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta Tuesday chaired a meeting to review the progress achieved under the cen-Mission' in Jammu and Kashmir.

It was informed that the Department has provided new functional household tap connections to 2,15,511 households during 2020-21; and 9,000 households during the first quarter of 2021-22. The Department has also covered 92% schools and 93% anganwadi centres under the scheme.

It was mentioned that under Phase I, universal tap water covdistricts of Srinagar and Gan-Reasi and Samba districts.

It was also informed that to the exercise. fast track execution of the projects, the Department has appointed 'Project Development and Management Consultant' (PDMC), one each for Kashmir and Jammu province, which will supervise project execution, of water for evolving testing contract & project management and bill verification.

The Chief Secretary directed the Department to provide all schools and anganwadi centres assessment in consultation with with functional water connections within one month, besides completing the phase II & III of Jal Jeevan Mission by 30th September 2022. He further asked the Department to initiate the process of tendering for works under subsequent phases to ensure adherence to project timelines.

directed that School Sanitation

Programme be initiated in consultation with School Education Department. Reviewing the quality standards of water being provided under the Mission, the Chief Secretary asked the trally sponsored scheme 'Jal Jeevan Department to test the water quality on 15 parameters identified by the Bureau of Indian Standards, within 15 days at both water source and filtration plant. He asked the Department to evolve a water quality management mechanism to regularly monitor water quality at various stages of distribution.

The Jal Shakti Department informed that Paani Samittees which have been constituted in all Panchayats have successerage has been achieved in the fully prepared respective Village Action Plans (VAPs). The Chief derbal, whereas works are at Secretary requested J&K WRRA various stages of completion in to technically examine 100 such VPAs for asserting the quality of

The Chief Secretary asked the J&K Water Resources Regulatory Authority to undertake a holistic study into various types of water bodies in Jammu and Kashmir and quality & discharge guidelines to be adopted by the Jal Shakti Department.

The Jal Shakti Department was asked to conduct 3rd party **I&K WRRA and PDMCs for deter**mining tap water quality in the newly established network of functional tap connections under the Jal Jeevan Mission.

The Chief Secretary also directed the Department to ensure that the 20 district water quality laboratories meet the NABL stan-Further, the Chief Secretary dards and their accreditation is obtained at the earliest.

Webinar On 'Stress Management' Held At IUST

Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Alamdar Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology (AMCNMT), a constituent college of Islamic University of Science and Technology conducted one day webinar on "Stress Management and also highlighted the coping among Youth in view of Co-

vid-19" on Monday.
Principal AMCNMT, Prof. Dr. Mehmooda Regu who was the organizing chairperson of the and teachers to regularly moniduring pandemic like COVID'19, posed by the participants.

so that the stress triggers are reduced to some extent paving way for a healthy lifestyle of youth.

Eminent Clinical Psychologist, Wasim Kakroo who was the expert speaker highlighted psychological impact of pandemic of COVID'19 among youth strategies and stress management techniques to tackle with this profound stress.

The webinar was attended by the faculty and students of the event, impressed upon family said college and other departments of IUST. The webinar was tor the stress factors affecting followed by a live question anthe health, behavior, thoughts swer session during which the and feelings of youth especially expert answered the questions

J&K Bank Commissions ATM At Aaripanthan

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank has com- and other officials of the bank. missioned an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) to public near EBU (Easy Business Unit) at Aaripan-

Commissioner Budgam Shahbaz cation despite COVID. Ahmad Mirza inaugurated the

besides valuable customers, senior citizens, local businessmen

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza hailed the commissioning of than, Beerwah in Budgam district. ATM as people-friendly initia-While following the COVID-19 tive and appreciated the bank protocols, District Development for serving the public with dedi-

Zonal Head reiterated the bank's On-Site ATM facility at Aaripan- commitment to provide hassle than in presence of Zonal Head free and state-of-the-art banking Kashmir Central (II) Tabassum services and facilities to its grow-Nazir, Cluster Head Budgam ing number of customers across Azad Ahmad Bhat, and LDM the UT. She urged the participants Budgam Mian Farhat Manzoor to make best use of these facilities.

SKUAST Starts Courses On Forest Ecosystem, **Forest Policy & Governance**

Observer News Service

Faculty of Forestry, SKUAST-Kashmir Tuesday inaugurated one month long capsule courses on Forest ecosystem services and Forest Policy & Governance in collaboration with Vytautas Magnus University (VMU) Lithuania, Baltic, Europe as a part of MOU signed by the two academic and research programmes. The courses sponsored by IDP-NAHEP was designed for B. Sc 4th year students of Faculty of Forestry by Division of Silviculture & Agroforestry and Career Counselling cell of the

SKUAST-K & SKUAST-J in his words patron of this programme assured of wisdom praised Prof. N. A. Ganie, taking up such programmes with Director (P & M) and Dean, Faculty of SKUAST-K in days to come. She con-Forestry, Prof. T. H. Masoodi for initi- gratulated course coordinator, Dr.

Sharma gave a detailed account of emphasized upon the organizers that various forest types of the country in general and those from our region in particular. He emphasised that post COVID-19 situation, the gross environmental product (GEP) has become focal point instead of gross domestic product (GDP) at the global level. He also stressed to strengthened the universities with main focus on ex- relationship between two universichange of scientific staff, dual degree ties for other academic and research programmes and collaboration in programs for our mutual benefit and sharing of other resources and information. Prof. Sharma congratulated satisfaction the way Faculty of Forestry is progressing.
Prof. Astrida Miceikene, Chancellor

Magnus University, VMU, Lithuania Prof. J. P Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Baltic Europe and guest of honor and programmes in the University. Prof. signing of MoU with SKUAST-K. She

forest ecosystem services from the these programmes will boost the moral of the students and will be exposed to international academic standards. Prof. Nazir Ahmad Ganaie, Direc-

tor (P & M) and principal investigator, NAHEP impressed upon the need of such programmes for the students for their better future and entrepreneurship. Dr. Nazir threw light on the ecosystem services and need for developing a common methodology for their quantification. He also congratulated Dean, FOF and the entire faculty for signing MoU with Magthe entire team and expressed his nus University and taking up the two elective courses.

Prof. Vilma Bijeikiene, Prorector from Magnus, Lithuania spoke about the introduction of these courses at global level.

Dr. Ekaterina Makrickiene, International coordinator Magnus University briefed the audience about the course curriculum and the lectures to be ating and conducting such important Ekaterina Makrickiene for initiating delivered with respect to these two

A Dozen Companies To Participate In Kupwara Job Fair

Observer News Service

KUPWARA: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Imam Din Tuesday convened a meeting of concerned officers, to review the arrangements being put in place for smooth conduct of Job Fair (Rozgar Mela) under SANKALP in Aspirational district Kupwara.

It was informed in the meeting that the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (J&K Govt) has transferred funds of Rs. 2.50 Lakh for conducting Job fairs/ Rozgar melas under SANKALP in the district.

The DC was informed that 10 to 15 companies shall be ordered to participate in the Rozgar Mela. The meeting discussed various other points to make the programme successful. These points include proposal for counselling of candidates and refreshment thereof, to and fro transport facilities for candidates, advertising and printing of Posters and Banners/ mass media advertising and invitation of Companies and arrangements for them. Refreshment to Passed out trainees and staff and other persons invited for Mela was also discussed, besides other arrangements.

OBSERVER 1

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KO VIEW

A year after Galwan clash

n eyeball to eyeball confrontation between the two countries has lingered ever since the forces of the two countries clashed at Galwan Valley on June-15-16 last year leading to the death of 20 Indian soldiers. The clash was one of the worst in 45 years and it nearly brought the two countries to the brink of war. Ever since eleven rounds of military talks for the disengagement process have taken place and this has so far led to withdrawal of Chinese and Indian troops on the southern and northern shores of Pangong Tso, albeit not to a complete status quo ante.

The neighbours still have three friction points at Depsang, Gogra and Hot Springs to sort out. And it can be hoped that a sustained engagement at the military and diplomatic level will lead to a mutually acceptable solution in these areas too. It will, however, be interesting to see if the status quo ante will be restored. And should that happen it will not only make LAC normal again but also further boost the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's image at home.

The LOC-ization of the LAC that was expected to happen as a result of the year-long stand-off seems unlikely to play out. There are huge geo-political stakes for both the countries that can't be ignored. A lingering state of confrontation between the two will not be in the interest of either. More so for India which would not want a 3800 km border with China become an extension of LOC with Pakistan. India has to do a tough balancing act between its thickening relationship with the US and that with the China. Truth is China's rise on the global stage has become a reality.

For the world, China's emergence as a global power is a fraught prospect with far reaching implications for the way international business is conducted. More so, when China brings to the table an alternative system: a communist capitalism versus west's capitalist capitalism. What makes this global shift imminent is that Beijing is already rewriting the rules of the game and with each passing day advancing to seize what it sees as the Chinese century.

A pragmatic way out to resolve the lingering standoff is through negotiations, even if it takes time. As we enter second year of the stalemate, it will be in the interest of both the countries to reach an understanding that also holds on the ground. But this can only happen if Beijing approaches the dialogue seriously.

OTHER OPINON

Galwan: One year later

une 15 marks a year of the Galwan clash, the bloodiest encounter between India and China at the border in over four decades. 20 Indian armed forces personnel, and an unknown number of People's Liberation Army (PLA) personnel were killed as India bravely sought to repel Chinese encroachment. China had already breached all border-related understandings between the two countries when it crossed the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in May. But with Galwan, the entire framework of maintenance of peace and tranquility at the border was shattered. The understanding that India and China would proceed to deepen other elements of their bilateral relationship, and agree to disagree on the border, broke down comprehensively. There was renewed nationalist consciousness on the question of Chinese aggression, with the Indian street and the Indian State realising that it was time to confront the question of China's designs

Galwan introduced strategic clarity in India. To be sure, China is a close neighbour. India wants friendly relations, not a conflict. There remains room for deep developmental cooperation, equitable economic exchange, even political cooperation. And New Delhi's establishment is acutely conscious of the power asymmetry that exists between the two countries and has no desire to be a frontline State in a new geopolitical battle. But Galwan showed harmony cannot come at the cost of territorial integrity and sovereignty. India attempted a mix of four measures — economic restrictions on Chinese companies; international opinion-building and diplomatic mobilisation about China's actions, including giving momentum to Quad; acquiring a military edge by occupying the Kailash heights (in August 2020); and constant bilateral negotiations with Beijing across the military and diplomatic domain — to drive home the message that restoring status quo ante was essential. This strategy partially succeeded when China agreed to pull back in the Pangong Tso area, and there was both a degree of de-escalation and demobilisation.

Hindustan Times



Confined to clubhouse

As Digvijay Singh episode reveals, the diffidence to even talk of reviewing the repeal of Article 370, let alone do something about it, applies to all political parties across the country

RIYAZ WANI

As of now, the importance of the Gupkar declaration is only in giving the establishment parties an agenda point that makes their politics relevant to the transformed situation. They have something to go to people with, something to fight for. Nothing more, nothing less

was instructional to see the Congress get defensive after its senior leader Digvijay Singh said during a Clubhouse chat that the party will relook at the revocation of Article 370 if it came to power. The BJP latched on to the statement to direct some public outrage away from it following the backlash it got during the catastrophic fallout of the second Covid-19 wave that killed thousands of people. And considering that the Congress has chosen not to defend Singh, and left him to fend for himself, the BJP has scored an effortless perception win - in a sense, once again establishing itself as a party that echoes the public sentiment in India on Kashmir.

Needless to say, Kashmir, Muslims, and Pakistan are the three issues around which much of India's electoral politics is played out now. And here the BJP has no political competition as its adversarial stance in regard to each of them resonates most with the people, not least because the secular parties are too scared to press an alternative point of view.

And this reality is unlikely to change anytime soon. The BJP could take a harder nationalistic line to try and appease a large section of the population angry with the ruling party over the total breakdown of governance during the second wave. Kashmir, being one of the most polarizing issues in the country, could come in handy for it.

In that sense, Singh's statement on Article 370 was a Godsent opportunity for the beleaguered party. And Congress was left with little option but to accept defeat. Even Singh, who is usually more forthright in defending secular values, backtracked calling the BJP leadership "anpadh (illiterate)", for not understanding the difference between "shall" and "consider". And by which he meant that Congress will only 'consider' relooking at the revocation of Article 370, something that doesn't necessarily oblige the party to actually do so.

This diffidence to even talk of

reviewing repeal of Article 370, let alone do something about it, applies to all political parties across the country, creating a structural reality that is inherently aligned against the Kashmir Valley. And people in the Valley are deeply conscious of this fact. The new situation has created a deep sense of disempowerment in Kashmir, something that Farooq Abdullah in an interview with Karan Thapar last year, described as "a feeling of slavery".

Does this reality leave any scope or space for a peaceful struggle for rights and empowerment in the Valley? On the face of it, it doesn't, Gupkar alliance, notwithstanding. The truth is should a demand for the restoration of autonomy become a part of the political agenda of the Kashmiri parties either separately or collectively, this would hardly bother New Delhi. In the existing situa-

thus seems set to take its project to remake Kashmir in its own image to its logical conclusion.

This reality neither affords space to local politics nor lends it any power to force the centre to modify its existing approach to Kashmir. As of now, the importance of the Gupkar declaration is only in giving the establishment parties an agenda point that makes their politics relevant to the transformed situation. They have something to go to people with, something to fight for. Nothing more, nothing less.

But should they seek to press their demand, they will be up against the new national consensus on Kashmir that sees the integration of the former state into India as a fait accompli. It is also difficult to predict when the Supreme Court would decide the petitions seeking reversal of Article 370 and what its verdict would be.

This reality neither affords space to local politics nor lends it any power to force the centre to modify its existing approach to Kashmir. As of now, the importance of the Gupkar declaration is only in giving the establishment parties an agenda point that makes their politics relevant to the transformed situation

tion, these parties will hardly be in a position to take this demand to the streets. And even if they did and held a peaceful rally or a protest, so what? The Valley has little political clout at the national level to force any ruling party at New Delhi to change its mind, let alone

Also as for the revocation of Article 370, there is now a broad consensus across the political spectrum in the country, Congress included. Congress may have once been a party to Gupkar declaration, but at the national level, the party is only against the manner in which Article 370 was read down, not the act of doing so. For the BJP, on the other hand, acting tough with Kashmir wins it more popular support. And in the remaining three years of its power, the party

This makes the demand for the restoration of Article 370 just like the one for autonomy, self-rule, and now forgotten Achievable Nationhood. Much will also depend on the evolving geopolitics of the region and how India's equations with China and Pakistan will shape up, and also whether Afghanistan will pass again into the hands of Taliban. It still remains to be seen how these developments will impact Kashmir. As of now, an observer in Kashmir has no option but to stay with his fingers crossed.

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

The author is the Political Editor at Kashmir Observer



OBSERVER

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

► MAIL YOUR LETTERS

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

Convince, Don't Coerce

ealthcare workers are doing a commendable job trying to reach people far and beyond to get them vaccinated. We've seen them braving odds and reaching out to people in far flung areas and trying to get them vaccinated. Images from paddy fields, meadows and mountains with healthcare workers with the vaccines

is indeed a promising and appreciable event.

However, in the bid to reach more people and get them vaccinated, some breaches to privacy have occured. We've seen many videos circulate online where frontline workers are getting into fights with people who are refusing to get vaccinated. While it is appreciable that they're risking their

lives and straining every nerve to get people vaccinated, they also have to realise that some may still not be

In such cases, one has to let it be in hopes that such people will soon get the necessary information and encouragement to get vaccinated. Coercing someone into getting vaccinated is not good. Filming them in their

privacy and shaming them publicly for their choice to not get vaccinated is severely problematic.

We must all get together to ensure that we use all tools at hand to convince people to get vaccinated but threats and coercion is no way to do

Tania Saeed Tanias@rediffmail

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Delta Plus: From Severity of Strain to Transmission

Wednesday | 16-06-2021

Though there is no indication yet of the severity of the disease due to the new variant, Delta plus is resistant to the monoclonal antibody cocktail treatment for COVID-19 recently authorised in India. The cocktail of Casirivimab and Imdevimab recently received emergencyuse authorization in the country from the Central Drugs Standard **Control Organisation**

he highly transmissible Delta variant of SARS-CoV-2 has mutated further to form the 'Delta plus' or 'AY.1 variant. The new Delta plus variant has been formed due to a mutation in the Delta or B.1.617.2 variant, first identified in India and one of the drivers of the deadly second wave. According to Public Health England, 63 genomes of Delta (B.1.617.2) with the new K417N mutation have been identified so far on the global science initiative GISAID. In its latest report on coronavirus variants, updated till last Friday, the health agency said Delta plus was present in six genomes from India as of June 7.

Here's deconstructing the latest variant and its effects for you:

What we know so far

One of the emerging variants is B.1.617.2.1 also known as AY.1 characterized by the acquisition of K417N mutation, Vinod Scaria, clinician and scientist at Delhi's CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB), tweeted on Sunday. The mutation, he said, is in the spike protein of SARS-COV-2, which helps the virus enter and infect the human cells. The variant frequency for K417N is not much in India at this point in time. The sequences are mostly from Europe, Asia and America, Scaria wrote on Twitter. The earliest sequence of this genome was found in Europe in late March this year.

How does it react to medication?

Though there is no indication yet of the severity of the disease due to the new variant, Delta plus is resistant to the monoclonal antibody cocktail treatment for COVID-19 recently authorised in India. The cocktail of Casirivimab and Imdevimab recently received emergencyuse authorization in the country from the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation. Drug majors Roche India and Ciplas have priced the antibody cocktail at a steep Rs 59,750 per dose.

Similar to antibodies which are proteins that the body naturally produces to defend itself against the disease, monoclonal antibodies are artificially created in a lab and tailor-made to fight the disease they treat. Casirivimab and Imdevimab are monoclonal antibodies that are specifically directed against the spike protein of SARS-CoV-2, and designed to block the virus' at-



tachment and entry into human cells.

Scaria also indicated the mutation may be associated with the ability to escape the immune response against the virus. Allaying fears, immunologist Vineeta Bal noted that while there may be some setback in the use of commercial antibody cocktail due to the new variant, resistance to the therapy is not an indication of higher virulence or severity of a disease.

How transmissible is the new variant?

How transmissible this new variant is will be a crucial factor to determine its rapid spread or otherwise, Bal, guest faculty at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Pune, said. She also noted that the quality and quantity of neutralising antibodies, responsible for defending cells from pathogens, generated in the individual infected with the new variant is unlikely to be affected because of the mutation.

Thus in individuals catching infection with the new variant, it may not be a matter worth

worrying, she added. Pulmonologist and medical researcher Anurag Agrawal concurred. There is no cause of concern due to the new variant in India as of now, Agrawal, the director of CSIR-IGIB, told PTI.

Current status

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL), is studying Covid samples from Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, to investigate if there are any traces of the Delta-plus variant. Earlier reports had confirmed six cases that tested positive for the Delta plus variant. As of now Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri are reporting a higher positivity rate and an increasing weekly growth rate of 13.06 and 9.03%, respectively, from June 7-13. These districts also account for the top two districts with the highest percentage of active Covid-19 cases

Yahoo News

Don't let next virus catch us off guard

With more dangerous and contagious variants continuing to emerge, we do not have the luxury of delaying work toward a new international system for pandemic preparedness.

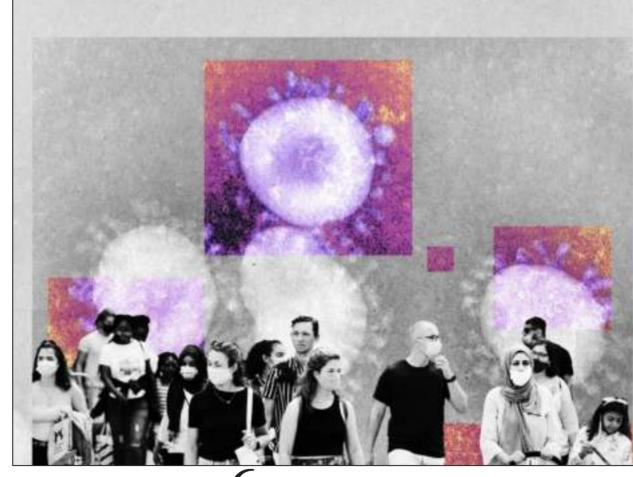
Kevin Rudd

s more developed countries begin to feel as though they have made it to the other side of the Covid-19 crisis, two striking realities are coming into view. First, one can clearly see just how vulnerable many developing countries still are to rapidly escalating outbreaks of the type we are witnessing in India. The results of failing to distribute the most effective vaccines equitably and strategically are being laid bare.

Second, with more dangerous and contagious variants continuing to emerge, we do not have the luxury of delaying work toward a new international system for pandemic preparedness and response. We must start that project immediately. And fortunately, the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPR), chaired by former New Zealand prime minister Helen Clark and former Liberian president Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, has just published a blueprint for how

The question now is whether governments are ready not just to listen but to act. The answer will determine whether we can prevent future epidemics from becoming global catastrophes. I know from my own government's experience during the 2009 swine flu (H1N1) pandemic that it is crucial to confront these crises with immediate, far-reaching, and coordinated action. Thanks to eight months of work by the IPPR, policymakers now have a comprehensive set of recommendations for transforming how we manage pan-

Chief among the panel's proposals is a call for pandemic preparedness and response to be elevated to the highest level of political leadership through a new Global Health Threats Council, which should be based at the United Nations headquarters in New York. The panel has also proposed an International Financing Facility for Pandemic Preparedness and Response to help share the burden in future global



health crises. Either through direct contributions or a kind of assessed contribution, this mechanism would fund both ongoing preparedness and rapidresponse measures in low- and middleincome countries.

The IPPR has offered the kind of emphatic, dispassionate, and actionable guidance that governments need in this case — have demanded through the World Health Organisation. Four years ago, the Independent Commission on Multilateralism (ICM, which I chaired) tried to raise the alarm about the growing threat of pandemics in its report Global Pandemics and

The Covid-19 crisis has borne out an uncomfortable truth that is emphasised in the IPPR's report: namely, that many of the national and global institutions established to deal with global pandemics are not fit for purpose, or have not been properly activated. From the moment in late 2019 and early 2020 when the existing International Health Regulations failed, the Covid-19 outbreak became a global

Global Public Health. We were aghast at the poor state of the global health architecture at a time when cross-border health crises were becoming more frequent and posing unprecedented risks. Those risks have since materialised in the form of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In addition to issuing a clear warning, the commission's report made a series of bold recommendations to strengthen the multilateral system in the face of potential global health crises. Its proposals for clearer rules for verification and early-warning mechanisms have now been echoed in the IP-PR's recommendations, as has its call

for a more empowered independent WHO secretariat. We are still waiting for progress on all of these fronts.

We cannot afford to let the IPPR's report fall on the same deaf ears. And yet, that is exactly what seems to be happening. The 74th World Health Assembly just voted to spend six months studying the panel's report before even considering taking any action. Such delays are simply unacceptable.

The Covid-19 crisis has borne out an uncomfortable truth that is emphasised in the IPPR's report: namely, that many of the national and global institutions established to deal with global pandemics are not fit for purpose, or have not been properly activated. From the moment in late 2019 and early 2020 when the existing International Health Regulations failed, the Covid-19 outbreak became a global catastrophe. And since then, our national and global economic responses have been too slow, tepid, and uncoordinated — a failure that the post-2008 G20 architecture was supposed to prevent.

The current crisis could still become much worse before it gets any better. We are already witnessing a breakdown of global supply chains, which will lead to terrible economic, political, and public-health outcomes. We need to get back on track now so that we can fight not only future pandemics but also this one.

The IPPR's report could not be timelier. The G7 summit in Cornwall on June 11-13 is an opportunity to concentrate our efforts with backing from the highest political levels. Covid-19 has been costly for all of us. The ICM's 2017 report anticipated that we would be here one day and identified the solutions we would need to implement. Let us use the IPPR's findings to enact meaningful reforms and show real leadership, so that this pandemic will be the last one to catch us off guard.

Project Syndicate

'Cellphone use while driving tied to other risky road behaviours in young adults'

Agencies

arents, take note! A new study found that 18 to 24-year-olds who use cell phones while driving are more likely to engage in other risky driving behaviours associated with "acting-without-thinking," a form of impulsivity.

The findings of the study were published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. The study was led by researchers from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) and the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center.

The results suggest the importance of developing new strategies to prevent risky driving in young adults, especially those with impulsive personalities.

Cell phone use while driving has been linked to increased crash and near-crash risk. Despite bans on handheld cell phone use while driving in many states, crash reduction results are inconsistent.

One explanation may be that those who use cell phones while driving are more likely to engage in other intentionally risky behaviours. Instead of solely addressing the use of cell phones while driving, the authors suggest training young

drivers to avoid all risky behaviours associated with impulsivity and sensation seeking.

"This study found that frequent cell phone use while driving was only one indicator of a more general pattern of risky driving practices associated with prior crashes in young drivers," said lead study author Elizabeth Walshe, PhD, a research scientist at the Center for



Injury Research and Prevention (CIRP) at CHOP and co-leader of CHOP's Neuroscience of Driving research program.

"Assessment traits, such as impulsivity and sensation seeking, may be helpful to identify drivers most at risk in order to provide more targeted interventions promoting safe driving,"

This retrospective study recruit-

ed 384 young drivers from across the U.S. to complete an online survey measuring risky driving practices - including cell phone use - as well as history of crashes and impulserelated personality traits. The study found that 44.5 per cent of drivers reported being in at least one crash. and 73 per cent of them reported cel

phone use while driving. Those who used cell phones while driving were also more likely to participate in other risky driving behaviours, including ignoring speed limits, aggressively passing vehicles going in the same direction, and running red lights. The use of cell phones was not uniquely associated with prior crashes but was one of several risky activities related to crashes.

"It may be useful to treat cell phone use while driving as part of a group of risky driving behaviours, such as driving while impaired by alcohol," said study co-author Dan Romer, PhD, research director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania and a senior fellow at CIRP.

"For example, messages to enhance driver safety might focus on a larger range of hazardous practices that place the driver and others at risk rather than citing only one, like cell phone use," concluded Romer.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER HORTICULTURE P&M CONST.DIV.SGR.

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

FRESH e-NIT No.16 of 2021 -22

DATED: 12-06-2021

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor J&K UT, tenders are invited by Executive Engineer, Horticulture (P&M) at Rajbagh by e-tendering mode on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K UT Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments

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		Market at Handwara (Balance portion.)				Plant Holder	
		including cost of Bitumen	lac				

Position of AAA/TS: - Accorded.

Date of Issue of Tender Notice	12-06-2021
Period of downloading of bidding documents	12-06-2021
Bid submission Start Date	12-06-2021
. Bid Submission End Date	18-06-2021 up to 4:00 Pm
Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	19-06-2021 at 11:00 Am

Note: - As per circular issued by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir Civil Secretariat finance department:

Furnishing of hard copies of bids immediately after submission of e tenders is dispensed with the same and should be obtained from the

bidders who is declare first lowest (L1) after opening of financial bids. first lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as performance security in shape of CDR /FDR within (02) two days

before fixation of contract and shall be released after successful completion of work. Deposit Head (HPM)

The Horticulture Planning and Marketing Division does not have sanctioned deposit Head. The Allotted agency should produce FDR @ 10% of running bills which shall be treated as bill deposit and shall be released after DLP is over as per the

procedure. 1) All bidders have to submit bid security declaration form instead of earnest money deposit (EMD) as per the secular of finance department (bid security declaration form is as Annexure A below

2. The Bidding documents 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 www.jktenders.gov.inas per schedule of dates given below

3. Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury challan to be credited into revenue head 0401(nonrefundable) in favour of Executive Engineer HPM (Tender Inviting Authority)

4. 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. 5. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the office of Executive Engineer.

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

7. The earnest money shall be forfeited. If: -

a. Any bidder/ tenderer withdraws his bid/ tender during the period of bid validity or make any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.

b. Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit. Failure of Successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract.

8. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

8.1. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.

jktenders.gov.in acquaint bid submission process. 8.2. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get

digital certificate from any approved Vendor.

8.3. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No bid will be accepted in physical form. 8.4. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.8.5. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents

with the bid.

Note: - Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option. 9. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

10. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury challan in favor of Executive Engineer Horticulture (P&M) Rajbagh, to Executive Engineer Horticulture (P&M) Rajbagh must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. Including scanned copy of WhatsApp contact Number.

11. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ manually. The BOQ downloaded should be used for filling the item rate inclusive of all taxes and it should be saved with the same name as it contains.

12. Price escalation and Taxes: -The unit rates and prices shall be quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees and the rates quoted shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes up to completion of the work, unless otherwise specified. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

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

18. All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form) 19. Rebate/free of cost tender shall be not entertained, the tender shall be out rightly rejected by the tender opening authority.

20. The CDRs in respect of un-successful bidders shall be released only after depositing of Treasury Voucher in original (as cost of tender document) in the office Executive Engineer HPM.

RNA

21. The work shall not exceed beyond the allotted cost.

No. EE/Horti/P&M/2021-22/400-02 DIPK-2907/21 Dated: -12-06-2021

Sd/-**Executive Engineer** Horticulture (P&M) Construction Division Kashmir Srinagar

Public Notice

This is inform to general public that I have applied for pesticides license. In this regard any person having any objection He/She may contact office of the PPO LalMandi Srinagar within the period seven of days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after that.

Name: Owais Abass

S/O: Abass Ahmad Koil

R/O: KulporaKulgam

Public Notice

This is inform to general public that I have applied for pesticides license. In this regard any person having any objection He/She may contact office of the PPO LalMandi Srinagar within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. No objection shall be entertained after that.

Name: Sheikh Ajaz Ahmad S/O:Shamsudin Sheikh

R/O: MandholDevsarKulgam

Office of the Assistant Regional Transport officer Anantnag.

NOTICE



RNA

Whereas joint application has been received by this office from Mr.Mohd Ashraf Dar S/o haji Sanullah Dar R/o Bulbul Nowgam (Party no.1st) as transferor (seller) owner of the vehicle Alto 800 Bearing Regd.No.JK03G 5082 and Gh Nabi ganie S/o Gh Qadir Ganie R/o Bon Devsar Kulgam (Party no 2nd) as transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C and R/P of the above noted vehicle from party no 1st to 2nd.



Before the case is disposed off on its merits any body having any objection

regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within 07 days from the publication of this notice to the office of undersigned.

No any representation /objection shall be entertained after stipulated period

Assistant Regional Transport Officer

Anantnag

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER SUB TRANSMISSION DIVISION-IIND, RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR

Short Term Tender Notice e-NIT No. STD-II / 27 of 2021-22 Dated: 14-06-2021

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C	Spleid Bid Document (End)	24-09-2021:2:30om
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E	e-Bid submizzion (Bno) data and time (submizzion et esender fac. EVC and other supporting courrents in PCFAXUS format)	24-05-2021: 2:90pm
F	On the commercial and exchaigs e-bid opening page and time	25-00-2021: 2:90pm
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Executive Engineer. SubTransmission DivisionAL DIPK-NB-1227/21 Rojbogh, Erinagai.

Dated: P4-06-2021

PUBLIC NOTICE It is inform to general public I intend to convert my PDD consumer connection to my sons name namely Aijaz Ahmad Mir S/o Gh Ahmad Mir R/o Sheikhpora Bon dailgam if any body having any objection He/She May contact PDD office Anantnag within the period of seven days No objection will be entertained after that.

Name:-Gh Ahmad Mir

No:STD40734-735/Tis

S/o: Ab Ahad Mir R/o: sheikhpora bondailgam

RNA



س کےعلاوہ اورکوئی افراد کنبہ موجوز ہیں ہے۔کنبہ کی سالا نہامدنی حدمقررہ سے کم ہے۔لہذا ز پر بحث سرٹفکیٹ اجراءکرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کوکوئی عذر بااعتراض ہوتو وہ سات دن کےاندر اندرا پنااعتراض معہ وجوہات بیش کرے۔میعاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل

نائب تحصليدارر نبير يوره RNA

ازنیابت وند بولگام بااجلاس منظوراحمدخان نائب تحصلیدار مضمون درخواست منجاب بهميره حيسن واولين حسين ولد ادختر محمد حسين فيخ ساكنه ديولگام خصيل كوكرناگ ضلع اننت ناگ معامله مندرجه عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ اریا سرفکایٹ وفر فرامیں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے د پورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے لیسائل کا کنبہ دھ ھذامیں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں ہے رہائش پذیرہے اور سمسی بھی فردنے سکونت یذیزنہاں کی سائلان کا کنبہ بذیل ہے۔

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نائب تحصليدار ونديولگام

اطلاععام

اقم کوفرٹ لایزر رائسن نکالنی مطلوب ہے۔اس حتم میں اگر سی حض کوکوی عتراض ہوتوہ ایک ہفتہ کے اندرا ندر چیف ایگر یکچرافیسرانن ناگ کے دفتر میں پیش کریں بعداً زمیعا دکوی

یک ہفتہ کے اندراندر چیف ایگر یکلچرافیسراننت ناگ کے دفتر میں پیش کریں بعداز میعادکوی

Pujara Has Done More

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Cheteshwar Pujara's

style of batsmanship is integral to

Team India's success and critics

who haven't achieved anything

close to what he has for the coun-

try should just take it a bit easy,

feels former captain and batting

effort in Australia, has often faced

the criticism about not showing

enough intent to keep the score-

Tendulkar, in an interview to

PTI, said this perspective is faulty

and also spoke on a host of is-

sues ahead of India's World Test

Championship final against New

Zealand starting June 18 in South-

what Cheteshwar Pujara has been able to achieve for India. It's not

always going about and main-

taining a strike-rate and in Test

cricket, you need different kind

of planning and different kind of

players to fit into your team," Ten-

hands. Each finger has a differ-

ent role and Pujara is an integral

part of our team. I really like what

Pujara has done for India. Rather

than scrutinising his each innings.

"It's like five fingers in your

dulkar said

"I think we should appreciate

Pujara, despite his lion-hearted

legend Sachin Tendulkar.

Than Those Who Criticise

His Batting, Says Tendulkar



Press Trust of India

SOUTHAMPTON: Kane Williamson will be available to lead New Zealand against India in the World Test Championship final, head coach Gary Stead announced on Tuesday as he unveiled a 15-man squad for the marquee clash starting June 18.

Williamson was forced to miss the second Test against England due to an elbow injury and Tom Latham had led New Zealand to a comfortable eight-wicket win, which had sealed a series triumph for the visitors.

Wicket-keeper BJ Watling, who too had missed the second Test due to a back injury, has also been named in the squad.

"Kane and BJ have certainly benefited from their week of rest and rehabilitation and we expect them to be fit and available for the final," Stead said at a press conference after the team's arrival here for the WTC final starting June 18.

"Playing in a World Cup Final is a really special occasion and I know the guys are looking forward to getting into their work here in Southampton," he added.

Stead said their victory over England notwithstanding, it is going to be a tough challenge facing India.

"India are a world class outfit who possess match winners all through their line-up, so we're under no illusion about how tough they will be to beat," he said.

New Zealand will go into the clash with one specialist spinner in 32-year-old left-arm spinner Ajaz Patel and all-rounder Colin de Grandhomme.

Will Young is their specialist

batting cover, while Tom Blundell is the back-up wicket-keeper.

"We've gone with Ajaz as our specialist spinner after an impressive outing at Edgbaston and we believe he could be a factor at the Ageas Bowl," Stead said.

"Colin's been an integral member of our Test set-up for many years and it was great to see him return at Lord's after a long injury lay-off.

"He's a proven performer at the top level and we back him to do a job with the bat or the ball if called upon."

New Zealand have left out five players from their 20-man squad, including Doug Bracewell, Jacob Duffy, Daryl Mitchell, Rachin Ra-

vindra and Mitchell Santner. "It's not easy to say goodbye to guvs who have given so much to the group. Doug, Jacob and Rachin have been selfless in their attitude

to helping the team and supporting those in the playing XI. "With our squad being reduced, Heinrich and our second physio Vijay Vallabh will return home to New Zealand on June 16, along with Jacob, Rachin and Mitchell. We wish them well and thank

them for their efforts," said Stead. "There's had to be some tough calls with Mitchell and Daryl victims of the fierce competition we currently have for places in the Test side," he added.

New Zealand Squad:

Kane Williamson (C), Tom Blundell, Trent Boult, Devon Conway, Colin de Grandhomme, Matt Henry, Kyle Jamieson, Tom Latham, Henry Nicholls, Ajaz Patel, Tim Southee, Ross Taylor, Neil Wagner BJ Watling and Will Young.

Ishant Sharma Says, Ball Will **Swing Even Without Saliva**



Press Trust of India

SOUTHAMPTON: Senior India speedster Ishant Sharma believes that the ball will swing even without saliva during the World Test Championship final against New Zealand here and somebody from the team will need to maintain it through the match starting June 18.

The 32-year-old, a veteran of 101 Tests, is expected to lead the Indian bowling attack when the team takes on New Zealand in the marquee clash.

"I think the ball will swing even without saliva and somebody needs to take responsibility to maintain the ball," Sharma said on Star Sports show 'Cricket Connected'.

"And if the ball is maintained well in these conditions, then it becomes easier for the bowlers to take wickets in these conditions," he added but did not get into specifics.

Since the outbreak of the CO-VID-19 pandemic last year, the International Cricket Council (ICC) has prohibited bowlers from ap-

Test wickets to his name, adjusting to lengths is important in England. You need to train differently and

plying saliva to the ball. According to Sharma, who has 303

adapt to the change. In India, you get the reverse swing after some time, but in England, the length is fuller because of the swing.

"So, you have to adjust to the lengths. It is not easy to force that and the weather here is cooler so it takes time to acclimatize to the weather," said Sharma.

"And the quarantine makes it difficult...The way you train in the gym and the training on the ground is very different, so you have to adjust to that and it takes time," he added.

Meanwhile, young India opener Shubman Gill said that to survive in England, the batters need to leave the loose balls.

"When I toured England with India A and the Under-19 team, everyone asked me to play a certain num-

ber of balls if I wanted to score runs. "But I feel, your intent to score runs should never go on the back seat and you should look to survive," said the 21-year-old, who

has played seven Tests so far. "When you are looking to score runs, the bowlers get to the back foot and you can put some pressure on the bowler. I think, at times to survive in England you have to leave the loose balls," he added.

SO, YOU HAVE TO ADJUST to the lengths. It is not easy to force that and the weather here is cooler so it takes time to acclimatize to the weather."

India Announce 15-Man Squad For WTC Final Against New Zealand

SOUTHAMPTON: Veteran speedster Umesh Yadav pipped Brisbane Test hero Shardul Thakur as the 15th member of the Indian squad that will take on New Zealand in the World Test Championship final starting here on June 18.

Umesh, along with Mohammed Shami, and Hanuma Vihari all of whom got injured during the Australia tour, were back in the 15 that needed to be announced as per ICC squad protocol.

Apart from Shardul, the notable names to miss out were Mayank Agarwal, and Washington Sundar, who were in the playing XI for the Test match against Australia.

England series hero Axar Pate also missed out. The other big player to have

missed out in the final squad is senior batsman KL Rahul, who was in fact Virat Kohli's opposition captain in the team's intra-squad practice game.

Rahul seemed in good touch during the game but a look at the squad will indicate that all those who were first choice during the start of the Australia tour are back in the mix.

The Indian team management's policy since Kohli took over has been to honour the first choice players in the squad and even if the

Observer News Service

nagar, from June 21.

Government's nod

SRINAGAR: The J&K Football Asso-

ciation (JKFA) is gearing up for the

2021-22 football season by opening

its registration process for football

clubs, starting with District Sri-

District Srinagar unit, the Associa-

tion said that the call for registra-

tion has been taken only after the

mission to conduct outdoor activi-

ties in Sports, all the Football Clubs/

Teams of District Srinagar are in-

formed to complete the Registration

of their teams/Clubs for the year

available in the Office of the Asso-

ciation at Abi Guzar, Srinagar from

11 AM to 5 PM. The registration will

start from Monday the 21st of June

2021 & the last date of the submis-

The Registration forms will be

2021-22," the notification reads.

"Since the Govt. has given per-

In a notification issued by JKFA's



reserves do well, it is understood that they get a chance only when a senior player gets injured.

Hence Umesh got preferred over Shardul, who had a half-century and seven wickets in the series winning Brisbane Test against Australia.

Ravichandran Ashwin is the lone off-spinner and Ravindra Jadeja's return means that there was no place for Axar Patel.

Rahul and Mayank Agarwal are also currently not in the mix and would be considered only once the team management has given

sion of the registration forms is 5th

The notification comes after JK

Sports Council restarted its foot-

ball and cricket coaching acad-

emies after a lengthy period of

pandemic lockdown. The JKFA also

July 2021," it said.

Based Football Clubs From June 21

ma and Shubman Gill

keeper was reason for a look-in.

India: Virat Kohli (captain) Shub-

enough chances to both Rohit Shar-

In case of Wriddhiman Saha, the ICC rule of being able to replace a wicketkeeper with a substitute

man Gill, Rohit Sharma, Cheteshwar Pujara Ajinkya Rahane, Rishabh Pant (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin. Ravindra Jadeja, Md Shami Jasprit Bumrah, Ishant Sharma, Mohammed Siraj, Wriddhiman Saha (wk). Umesh Yadav, Hanuma Vihari.

JKFA To Begin Registration Of Srinagar-

Press Trust of India

BRISTOL: A favourable record in time will spur the Indian womthe seasoned hosts in its first Test here from Wednesday.

After multiple quarantines in India and UK, the Mithali Raj-led squad got little over a week to prepare for its first red ball game since November 2014.

South Africa in Mysuru.

While experienced players like

matches in domestic cricket.

"Guys who are digging deep into his technique and rotation, I don't think those guys have played as much top level cricket as Pujara," the legendary righthander took Pujara's sceptics to the cleaners.

we should be appreciative of what he has done. for India.

Tendulkar feels that people's perspective has changed because of T20 where only one skill -- hitting the ball out of park -- is appreciated.

"They possibly don't understand. In today's age of T20, probably if someone can hit the ball, he is regarded as a good player," he said with a hint of sarcasm.

"(It is) not necessary that person has to be a good Test player. In Test cricket, you need much more than just hitting the ball and trying to play big shots." For those who are concerned about strike rates in Tests, Tendulkar feels that India have a lot of players with attacking instincts.

"For strike-rate, we have players like Rishabh Pant and Ravindra Jadeja. They can always increase the strike rate. But when it comes to tiring the opposition and where you require planning and vision to execute whatever your strategies are, for that you need a Cheteshwar."

Indian Women Return To Test Cricket After 7 Years With Clash Against England

England and "positive mindset" despite inadequate preparation en's cricket team when it takes on engagement in nearly seven years

Mithali was among the seven current players, who were a part of that victorious eleven against

the skipper, her deputy Harmanpreet Kaur, Smriti Mandhana and Jhulan Goswami have not played red ball cricket at all in recent times, it will be an even tougher test for the younger lot who don't get to play first-class

Unlike the men's squad, which

played intra-squad games in Southampton ahead of the WTC final, the women prepared only in the nets which might hurt them in the four-day game.

Harmanpreet has already conceded they got limited time to get ready for the one-off Test but said India go into the game "mentally prepared", having got some valuable advice from men's team vicecaptain Ajinkya Rahane.

There is a good chance that 17-year-old batting sensation Shafali Verma opens in the game alongside Mandhana. She goes into the game with no baggage and could well make a big impact at the top of the order. The experienced trio of Mithali, Harmanpreet and Punam Raut will be expected to do the job in what will be challenging conditions for them also.

It also remains to be seen if veteran pacers Jhulan Goswami and Shikha Pandey would be able to bowl long spells, having not done so for a long time.

Misfiring Spain Held To 0-0 Draw By Sweden At Euro 2020



Agencies

SEVILLE: The chances came and went but neither Spain nor Sweden managed to put any of them in the net.

Spain dominated possession and kept the pressure on the opposing area for most of the match but the Swedes held on for a 0-0 draw Monday at the European Championship.

Sweden managed only a few chances at La Cartuja Stadium, but they were some of the most dangerous ones. Alexander Isak, who plays for

Spanish club Real Sociedad, had a shot from inside the area hit the post after deflecting off Spain defender Marcos Llorente in front of the goal line.

Early in the second half, Marcus Berg was inside the area with the ball coming his way, but he mishit his shot.

Álvaro Morata had Spain's best chance just a few minutes before Isak but his shot missed wide with goalkeeper Robin Olsen the only opponent to beat. "Everyone can make mistakes,

we all make them," Spain mid-

fielder Pedri González said about

Morata, who was booed by part

of the Spanish fans. "He works hard for the team and that always shows on the field."

Morata had already missed some chances and been jeered in Spain's final warm-up match against Portugal, also a 0-0 draw.

Spain pressed until the end on Monday but kept misfiring. Olsen made a 90th-minute save off a header by substitute Gerard Moreno, and he had already stopped another close-range header by Dani Olmo in the first half.

"The way we earned that point today, the entire team, the way the guys ran in the heat, it wasn't just me who earned this point," Olsen said. "It was an incredible team

effort. We didn't play our best game. It's not the most well-deserved point we've ever taken. But we battled. We showed that we wanted it.'

Spain ended with 75% of possession and had 17 total attempts, with five on target. Sweden missed the target on its four attempts.

"We played against a rival that decided to defend and tried to create some danger with long balls, and it actually had the chance the win the match," Spain coach Luis Enrique said.

Maradona Gets A Tribute At Argentina's Copa America Opener

RIO DE JANEIRO: Diego Maradona's life was honoured in a tribute featuring lights and projections onto the pitch before Argentina's Copa America opener against Chile.

revealed that they plan to start

the 2021-22 Season "immediately

after the registration process is

complete". Further stating that,

"All COVID-19 SOP's and Govt.

Guidelines to this effect will be

strictly adhered to.'

No fans were present at the Nilton Santos stadium in Rio de Janeiro for the latest tribute to the Argentine football great, this one organized by South American soccer body CONMEBOL. Maradona died at age 60 last November.

The 3-minute video, which was shared by CONMEBOL's social media channels, had "Live is Life" by Opus as its soundtrack. It's the same song that was on as Maradona famously warmed up with Napoli ahead of a UEFA Cup semifinal against Bayern Munich in 1989.

The tribute video featured a holographic of Maradona doing kick-ups while his shirt changed colors to represent all the teams he played for: Argentinos Juniors, Boca Juniors, Barcelona, Napoli, Sevilla, Newell's Old Boys and Argentina.

It also featured images of some of Maradona's most representative moments; as a kid talking



from Mexico's president in 1986; and his goals against England in that World Cup.

one of the greatest players in history," CONMEBOL said in a statement. After Maradona's death last year, the governing body for South Ameri-

Brazil — where Maradona is also beloved, but Pelé is considered better.

"We are paying our respects to

can soccer described him as "the greatest ever," which caused a stir in

The video tribute to Maradona was expected to take place in Argentina, but the country was dropped as tournament host. Brazil became stepped in as emergency host only two weeks ago despite its alarming COVID-19 figures.

The tribute ends with Maradona's speech during his goodbye to Boca Juniors in 2001 at the La Bombonera stadium.

"May this party never end. May this love you have for me never end," Maradona said then. The projection ends with his year of birth and the infinity symbol.

Argentina drew Chile 1-1 after

Test Series Win Over England Won't Count For Much Against India, Says Trent Boult

Press Trust of India

SOUTHAMPTON: New Zealand's Test-series victory over England would not count for much when they will clash with India in the WTC final, Black Caps pacer Trent Boult said on Tuesday.

The New Zealand team arrived in Southampton on Tuesday for the inaugural World Test Championship final, starting June 18 at the Ageas Bowl.

New Zealand beat hosts England by eight wickets in the second Test to take the series 1-0. Tom Latham led the side in the absence of Kane Williamson, who is now available for the WTC final.

"I don't think it counts for much. Good preparation, and good for evervone to have a hitout and get some time under their belt," said Boult who himself made a return to competitive cricket with match figures of 6-119 in the second Test. Boult had missed the first Test as he joined the squad late in England.

"Just really looking forward to this week, can't wait, and hopefully we can continue on our good form," Bolt added.

The 31-year-old, who has played 73 Test for New Zealand, said he expects a bit of banter between the rival players since they are all familiar with each other due to the Indian Premier League

From Freeze

of these unionists say that the possible dialogue might revolve around Assembly elections and the Delimitation process in the erstwhile state. Among the regional political outfits, NC has already shown its eagerness for the process.

"Yes, the working committee met virtually last week and the matter of participating in the Delimitation process was discussed," NC's Ruhullah Mehdi said. "However, I made it clear that we shouldn't participate in any process that is based on BJP's terms and give legitimacy to the August 5, 2019 decision."

The Delimitation Commission headed by Retired Supreme Court Judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is a panel that was set up last year to redraw the electoral constituencies of Jammu and Kashmir and four north eastern states— Assam, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland.

Interestingly, when the commission on J&K held the first meeting on February 18, 2021,the NC parliamentarians, Dr Farooq Abdullah, Hasnain Masoodi, and Akbar Lone, skipped the meeting.

Already, Mehbooba Mufti's Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) said it's not going to participate in the ongoing delimitation process.

"We're more concerned about New Delhi's new moves about J&K," Najmu Saqib, the party's additional spokesperson, said.

"If they turn back the clock to 5 August, then our party is ready to engage with anyone."

For any talks to happen, the PAGD spokesperson said, New Delhi has to listen to what people of Jammu and Kashmir are saying.

"We won't chalk out our strategy on the whims and wills of New Delhi," Tarigami added. "It needs to take people into confidence."

But if Kashmiri leaders are being engaged on New Delhi's terms and demands, then it's a win-win situation for the Centre, Mehdi said. "The PAGD leaders need to take a stand and anything minus Article 370 shouldn't be discussed."

Education Institutions

be permitted to seek in person attendance of minimal staff, only for research / lab work." However, such staff of educational institutions as are needed by the concerned District Disaster Management Authorities for official duties shall not be exempted from duties, the order added.

J&K Logs 715

confirmed from Kashmir Valley, the remaining 218 were detected from various parts of Jammu division thus taking the total number of people infected by the virus since the outbreak of pandemic last year in J&K to 308726, officials said Tuesday.

Giving district wise details, officials said that Srinagar reported 132, Baramulla 55, Budgam 63, Pulwama 58, Kupwara 65, Anantnag 36, Bandipora 27, Ganderbal 25, Kulgam 31, Shopian 5, Jammu 22, Udhampur 13, Rajouri 49, Doda 31, Kathua 15, Samba 5, Kishtwar 19, Poonch 34, Ramban 16 and Reasi 14 new cases of Covid-19

Moreover, they said, 1830 more patients have recovered—642 from Jammu Division and 1188 from Kashmir.

Giving details of the coronavirus related fatalities, officials said that six among the victims were residents of Jammu division and four from different parts of the Valley. With these deaths, the overall fatality count reached 4205 in the Union Territory.

Also, officials said, one more confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) has been reported today, bringing the cumulative number of confirmed cases to 21.

Virtual Hearing

"Keeping in view the prevailing situation on account of the spread of Covid-19 infection cases in Jammu& Kashmir and Ladakh and also the latest SOPs and Guidelines of the Government in vogue, the High Court order No. 259 of 2021/RG dated 26.04.2021, read with order No. 332 of 2021/RG dated 25.05.2021, is further extended up to 30 June, 2021," Registrar General, Jawad Ahmad, said in an order.

Earlier the Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal by virtue of the orders cited by the Registrar General had directed that filing as well as hearing of cases in both wings High Court as well as in the District and Subordinate Courts and Tribunals shall be conducted through Virtual Mode till May 15 which now has been extended till the end of June.

The Chief Justice had directed that the entry of litigants, public and clerks of the Advocates into the Court premises from the very outer gate shall be strictly prohibited in both wings of the High Court.

"For filing of cases, Registrars Judicial of both wings of the High Court shall create a dedicated email address of their respective filing counters and notify the same to the advocates/litigants by making it available on the website of the High Court."

'Ordinarily Before Notice' matters shall be taken up by each Bench unless urgency in respect of any 'After Notice' matter is shown to the satisfaction of the Bench concerned, the April 26 order reads.

"Physical hearing in respect of any listed matter will be at the discretion of the Bench concerned subject to the satisfaction of the Bench regarding extreme urgency involved in such matter and thereafter such case shall be taken up for physical hearing on the date fixed by the Bench" reads the order, adding, "On account of virtual hearing, entry of lawyers in the High Court premises is not required unless any advocate is permitted for physical hearing in any extremely urgent matter."

In order to decongest the sections/offices/Courts, the Chief Justice had said the officials shall be permitted to function in batches with 50 percent reduction on rotation basis. The roster in this regard, shall be formulated by the Registrar Judicial of the concerned wing."

Regarding District and Subordinate Courts and Tribunals in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, the Chief Justice ordered that

entry of litigants, public and clerks of the Advocates into the Court premises from the very outer gate shall be strictly prohibited.

Pfizer, AstraZeneca

and the University of Edinburgh, UK, found that the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine offered better protection against the Delta variant compared to the Oxford-AstraZeneca preventive, known as Covishield in India.

The analysis covered the period from April 1 to June 6, 2021, for the demographic distribution of cases.

The team analysed 19,543 confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infections over the period of interest, of whom 377 were admitted to hospital for COVID-19 in Scotland.

Around 7,723 community cases and 134 hospitalisations were found to have the Delta variant of coronavirus.

The study found that the Pfizer vaccine offered 92 per cent protection against the Alpha variant and 79 per cent against the Delta strain two weeks after the second dose.

For AstraZeneca's vaccine, there was 60 per cent protection against Delta compared with 73 per cent for Alpha variant, the researchers said.

They also found that two doses of vaccine provide much better protection against the Delta variant compared to a single dose.

"Risk of COVID-19 hospital admission was approximately doubled in those with the Delta variant of concern (VOC) when compared to the Alpha VOC, with risk of admission particularly increased in those with five or more relevant comorbidities, the authors of the study noted.

"Both the Oxford AstraZeneca and Pfizer BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines were effective in reducing the risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection and COVID-19 hospitalisation in people with the Delta VOC," they said.

However, the researchers noted that these effects on infection with the Delta variant appeared to be diminished when compared to those with the Alpha VOC.

The authors of the study warned that the vaccine comparison should be interpreted with caution due to differences in the groups which received each type of vaccine, and also in how quickly immunity is developed with each shot.

Man Jailed

I can grab you by the collar and seek answers. But what expectations can I have from officers who are outsiders?"

This comment did not go down well with Ganderbal Deputy Commissioner Krittika Jyotsna, a 2014 IAS officer and wife of Rahul Pandey, who is posted with the Raj Bhavan as the director of information. Jyotsna and Pandey came to Jammu and Kashmir in February this year on inter-cadre deputation.

The police report said that Jyotsna stood up from her seat and "strongly objected" to Sofi's comments.

Sofi was summoned and booked by the police under Section 153 of the IPC on the same night.

"The circumstances of the incident and from the statements, a crime under 153A of the IPC is made," the police report said.

Sofi was granted bail by a local court here on Saturday, saying "bail is a rule and its rejection is an exception".

"Bail in non-bailable crime cannot be refused without assigning a strong reason although bail is a discretion of the court and discretion of bail cannot be exercised arbitrarily.

"The allegedly committed crime attributed to the applicant does not carry life imprisonment or death penalty debarring this court to exercise discretion of bail in favour of the applicant. As such, this court has a sufficient reason to exercise discretion of bail in favour of the applicant," the court said.

However, even after this, the police did not release Sofi and instead booked him under Section 107 of the IPC which entitles them to keep a person under "preventive custody" for being a "threat to peace"

custody" for being a "threat to peace".

"Sofi is under preventive custody under sections 107 and 151 (of IPC)," Senior Superintendent of Police, Ganderbal, Suhail Munawar said.

He said there were apprehensions of "breach of peace, so he (Sofi) was taken into custody".

custody".

The SSP, however, said the "small-level political worker" had no previous criminal

record. Mainstream Parties

Fifty-year-old Sajad Rashi Sofi of Safapora in Jammu and Kashmir's Ganderbal district was arrested after he told LG advisor Baseer Khan at Mansbal at a 'Janta Darbar' on June 10 that he can understand the issues of people of the area better as compared to officers from outside the union territory because he is a local.

Sofi's remarks did not go down well with Ganderbal Deputy Commissioner Krittika Jyotsna, who is an IAS officer from Uttar Pradesh. According to the police report, she stood up from her seat and "strongly objected" to Sofi's comments.

Sofi was summoned and booked by the police under Section 153 (promoting enmity between different groups) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) on the same night.

In a tweet, Abdullah said, "I haven't come across a worse reason to detain a person & I was detained for encouraging people to vote so that's saying something. It's unacceptable that a person should be jailed for expressing a totally harmless opinion. This is what happens when bureaucratic power is unbridled."

CPI (M) leader Mohamad Yousuf Tarigami also hit out at the government and termed the action as a brazen misuse of power and authority besides amounting to a violation of fundamental rights of a citizen.

"The incident in which a resident from central Kashmir's Ganderbal district was jailed for just saying that he had more expectations from local officers, is unwarranted, uncalled for and a brazen violation of the fundamental rights of people," Tarigami said in a statement.

"If such incidents happen during the reach out programme of the LG administration, it can create a sense of fear among the people instead of solving their grievances. Such an attitude of the officer is highly authoritarian and detrimental to the larger interests of not only people, but to administration itself. It damages and dents the credibility of the institution the officer represents," he added.

He said police did not release Sofi even when the court granted him interim bail as he has been reportedly booked additionally under sections 107 and 151 of the Indian Penal Code.

Tarigami urged Lt Governor Manoj Sinha to intervene in the matter personally and ensure that the man is not only released immediately but action under law is taken against the erring officer for misuse of power and authority.

The Peoples Conference had also criticised Sofi's arrest and sought LG's intervention in the matter.

Haj Committee

pilgrims should not be sent in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

Man-Eater Leopardess

Next morning, the minor's mutilated body was recovered by the locals and officials from a nursery after nightlong searches.

The incident had sparked massive outrage against the Wildlife department's alleged inaction in securing the people from frequent attacks from wild animals. Under fire, the wildlife department started a massive operation to capture or kill the beast.

Besides hiring five specially trained local hunters, the wildlife department also mapped the entire area, placed camera traps and cages and used drones to track and trap the leopardess on large. Even fresh meat smeared with blood was procured in order to bait the beast.

The leopardess, believed to be in the age range of six to ten, is said to have moved from the higher reaches of Budgam towards the Ompora forests over 4 months back and had made a 5-km radius around the nucleus of the Ompora forest, closer to human habitation, its dwelling place.

Afshana Diwan, Wildlife Warden Wetlands told Kashmir Observer on Tuesday that after reconnaissance for days, the experts found that the leopardess was frequently mounting Budgam nursery that lies near to the DC office complex and Ompora nursery where the mauled body of the girl was found.

Acting quickly, she said, infra-red cameras were installed at the possible and strategic routes that the wild animal was frequenting.

"On June 13, there was a breach captured by the infra-red camera. The images of the leopardess caught by the camera in the Ompora and Budgam nurseries gave an indication of its whereabouts," she said.

"The track of the animal was mapped down and bait-cages were placed at several different locations. One of the camera traps near the Budgam nursery captured the leop-

ardess early this morning today," she added. Finally, the hide and seek between the officials of her department and the man-eater

beast, she said, ended this morning.

"It's the same leopardess that had mauled a five year old girl to death. The man-eater is a fully grown female leopard and weighs around 80 kg. The leopard will be shifted to the Dachigam National Park, where it will be treated and kept in for the rest of its life" Afshana said.

As the terror of the man-eater leopardess has finally come to an end, the locals have expressed a sigh of relief.

"My children can finally step out of the house after 11 days of confinement for the fear of being attacked by the beast," Tauseef Hussain, a resident of Ompora housing colony, told Kashmir Observer.

SSB Advertised

measures in the recruitment process which include holding of a common examination for the posts of similar nature having same pay scale and dispensing of interviews for lower non-gazetted posts, an official spokesperson said Tuesday.

As a result, he said, that the Board has initiated the largest ever recruitment drive as part of the Accelerated Recruitments and during the last six months, the Board has advertised over 18,000 posts, of which examination was conducted for approximately 12,000 vacancies existing across various departments.

Dwivedi made these remarks during a meeting of senior officers to review functioning of the board. Chairman JKSSB, Khalid Jahangir, officers of Industries & Commerce Department, General Administration Department, JKSSB and other concerned attended the meeting in person and through virtual mode.

While deliberating on the important issues related to the functioning of the Board, the official spokesperson said that the Commissioner Secretary lauded the efforts of the JKSSB and stressed upon efficiency and transparency in the selection procedures adopted by the Board.

"The Commissioner Secretary took note of the staffing issues in the Board and directed that all the necessary assistance for manpower and other resources shall be provided to the Board to successfully culminate the process of Accelerated Recruitments," he said

He further said that the Chairman of the Board was asked to conclude the ongoing selections on a fast-track basis and ensure that the communication gap with the aspirants is removed and there shall be no ambiguity in the recruitment process.

"Also, instructions were issued for putting in place an e-office in the Board at an earliest. Besides, the issue of land for the new building of SSB in Srinagar was also discussed along with the Industries & Commerce Department," the official spokesperson said.

Twin Orphaned

wildlife and fisheries department in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

"Our guards and volunteers reconnoitred

the area for about two months but did not find any trace of the she-bear on our side of the divide," Ashraf said. The mother bear may have been killed on the Indian side of the border by a landmine or a shell, he said, with her cubs crawling across to be spotted by the villagers.

The duo was nursed with bottled milk for two months, then raised on fruit and veggies and gradually introduced to other foods including wheat and maize. Now they keep busy climbing mulberry and walnut trees on the compound where they are kept, or sometimes onto a tin-roof shelter that houses a hatchery for rainbow trout, drawing a daily audience of both children and adults. A Picturesque War Zone

This compound is just outside the village of Dawarian, some 66 miles (106 km) northeast of Muzaffarabad, the capital of Pakistani-controlled Kashmir. The area's fast-flowing rivers and streams, waterfalls, glacial lakes and forests make it popular with tourists.

Kashmir has been a flashpoint since India and Pakistan gained independence from British rule in 1947, and they have fought two wars over the region. Both countries control parts of Kashmir and claim it in full. Since 2004 there has been a 12-foot high fence cutting through the area to mark the border. India built the fence and says it is meant to keep militants from crossing.

But it has also made it nearly impossible for wildlife to move freely in their natural habitat. "The bear cubs are just one example," said Sardar Javaid Ayub, head of the wildlife and fisheries department on the Pakistan side.

"They were born across the divide and when their mom got killed close to the fence they crossed over through some burrow or eroded portion of land (beneath the fence)." Ashraf recalls that a few years back department staff spotted a dead black bear in a ravine far from the fence.

One leg had apparently been blown off by a landmine and it had fallen into the ravine and died. "This is what ... would be happening with many wild animals but we rarely come to know about it," Ashraf said. (Reuters)

India, China

countries in the world that have nuclear weapons: the US, Russia, the UK, France, China, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea.

"China is in the middle of a significant modernisation and expansion of its nuclear weapon inventory, and India and Pakistan also appear to be expanding their nuclear arsenals," the study said.

It has been more than a year since the military standoff between the armies of India and China erupted in eastern Ladakh on May 5, 2020, during which there were fatalities on both sides for the first time in 45 years.

India and China have made limited progress in achieving disengagement at the Pangong lake area while negotiations for similar steps at other friction points remained deadlocked.

India and Pakistan had on February 25 this year released a joint statement announcing a ceasefire along the Line of Control, following talks between their Directors General of Military Operations.

The SIPRI's study also talked about the fissile raw material stocks that the countries have for their nuclear weapons.

"The raw material for nuclear weapons is fissile material, either highly enriched uranium (HEU) or separated plutonium...India and Israel have produced mainly plutonium, and Pakistan has produced mainly HEU but is increasing its ability to produce plutonium," it said.

China, France, Russia, the UK and the US have produced both HEU and plutonium for use in their nuclear weapons, the study mentioned.

"The governments of India and Pakistan make statements about some of their missile tests but provide no information about the status or size of their (nuclear) arsenals,"

Approximately 2,000 of the total 13,080 global nuclear warheads in the world are "kept in a state of high operational alert", said the study mentioned in the SIPRI Yearbook 2021.

It also said Saudi Arabia, India, Egypt, Australia and China were the five largest importers of major arms in the world between 2016 and 2020.

Saudi Arabia had 11 percent share and India 9.5 percent in the global imports of the major arms in this time period, it added.

Ex- PLA Colonel Moots

in the "most dangerous areas" along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) to prevent the border dispute spilling over into a conflict.

In an article titled China and India should look back to move forward on border impasse in the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post newspaper on Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of the Galwan Valley border clash between Indian and Chinese troops, Senior Colonel (Retd) Zhou Bo of the People's Liberation Army said, the deadly incident was dreadful in that it came closest to breaking a decades-old tacit agreement between the two countries not to use force.

In the first deadly clash in the border area in nearly five decades, 20 Indian soldiers were killed on June 15 last year in the Galwan Valley in fierce hand-to-hand combat with Chinese troops, triggering a large deployment of troops and heavy weaponry by both armies at the friction points in eastern Ladakh.

In February, China officially acknowledged that five Chinese military officers and soldiers were killed in the clashes with the Indian Army though it is widely believed that the death toll was higher.

Significantly Bo, who is a senior fellow at the Centre for International Security and Strategy at Tsinghua University here, chose to publish the article containing his proposals to defuse the tensions in the Hong Kong media instead of China's official media.

A year after the shock of a fatal border clash, tensions remain high with no consensus on how to resolve the issues over an unverified LAC, he noted.

The aftermath is still being felt today. Beijing was given the cold shoulder when it offered to help pandemic-devastated India. Such resentment speaks volumes of the frosty relationship, he pointed out.

To prevent conflict, both sides should dust off previously agreed confidence-building measures and enforce the less-contentious ones, he suggested.

It has been more than a year since the military standoff between China and India erupted in eastern Ladakh on May 5, 2020 during which there were fatalities on both sides. The two sides have made limited progress in achieving disengagement at the Pangong Lake area while negotiations for similar steps at other friction points remained deadlocked.

In his lengthy article, Bo, while addressing the question how to prevent the dispute from spilling over into a conflict, did touch upon India's demand for withdrawal from the remaining areas of eastern Ladakh.

The way forward is to look back. Between 1993 and 2013, China and India reached four agreements on confidence-building measures at governmental and military levels. This is more than any bilateral agreements China has signed with other countries. And they are substantive, too, which is impressive, Bo noted.

The four agreements India and China signed in that period included the 1993 Agreement on the Maintenance of Peace and Tranquility along the LAC and the 1996 Agreement on Confidence-Building Measures in the Military Field along the LAC.

In the agreements, both the countries reaffirm that they shall reduce or limit their respective military forces along the LAC to minimum levels, Bo points out.

If only these measures were being implemented. In fact, both sides are strengthening their military presence in the region. This is no surprise in the wake of a crisis. But when the situation cools down, both countries will have to think about how they can best make the border areas peaceful and tranquil, he noted.

Perhaps the boldest step might be to establish buffer zones in the most dangerous areas along the LAC. Without prejudicing their respective positions on the boundary question, this is the most effective way to disengage and prevent conflict, he said.

Both sides agree they shall not follow or tail patrols of the other side in areas where there is no common understanding of the LAC. Building buffer zones is a step further. And it is possible, too, Bo noted.

From the mountains around Pangong Lake, a de facto buffer zone has already been established after the mutual withdrawal of troops, he pointed out.

Another way is to resume the joint working group and ask the diplomatic and military experts working under it to find the "low-hanging fruits" in the confidence-building agreements, he said.

building agreements, he said. New confidence-building measures could

also be ushered in the said.

While the 11 rounds of Corps Commanderlevel talks helped to de-escalate the situation, such regular meetings of front-line senior military officers should be maintained, he suggested.

Both sides should also consider establish-

ing hotlines for real-time communication,

he said, pointing out that China has mili-

tary hotlines with Russia, the United States, South Korea and Vietnam. India often uses its hotline with Pakistan. There is no reason the two immediate neighbours with territorial disputes should

not have similar instruments, he said.
Since the Line of Actual Control in the border areas is not demarcated, it is not rare for face-offs between Chinese and Indian troops, he said.

The complexity of the China-India border dispute is daunting. Even the length of the border is not necessarily agreed on. China believes it is 2,000-km-long, while India believes it is 3,488-km, he pointed out.

It is ridiculous if, in the 21st century, Beijing and New Delhi are still hijacked by a

dispute that is a colonial remnant, not least because apart from this dispute, they have no outstanding problems with each other, Bo said.

Gone are the days when India said Hindi Chini bhai bhai, Bo noted. "But China and India have every reason not to become foes. The border issue should not be a pe-

rennial curse. The two nuclear neighbours

can ill-afford even a conventional war, Bo

added. Encounter Breaks

started a cordon and search operation (CASO)

(CASO).

"Encounter has started at Wagoora, Naugam area of Srinagar. Two militants trapped. Security forces on job. Further details shall follow," Kashmir police posted on its official Twitter handle.

Minor Girl Injured

The girl was immediately evacuated to District Hospital Handwara for treatment, wherefrom she, as per latest reports, has been referred to SKIMS Soura for advanced treatment.

A medical official at District Hospital Handwara told GNS that the minor girl was brought to the hospital with multiple injuries, adding that given the nature of her injuries she was referred to SKIMS Soura for preferential treatment.

Meanwhile, a police official confirming the incident said that a case under relevant sections has been taken up in this regard. (GNS)

Ladakh Reports

coronavirus patients -- 128 in Leh and seven in Kargil -- were discharged the previous day after recovering from the infection. With this, the number of cured persons has increased to 18,841, which account for over 94 per cent of the total cases, they said. (PTI)

E-Marketing Platforms Will Benefit Of JK **Farmers: Choudhary**



KO NEWS DESK

JAMMU: Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Navin Kumar Choudhary, on Tuesday chaired a meeting with representatives of BSE-e Agricultural Market (BeAM) Limited and Policy Advocacy Research Centre (PARC) Mumbai to discuss operationalization of BSE-e Agricultural Market platform for the country. PARC's project probenefit of farmers engaged in agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry sector of Jammu and Kashmir.

The meeting deliberated upon creating a UT wide vibrant mechanism for enabling market and potential for very direct farmer and buyer interactions and subsequent transactions over a transparent Ramban district was also distechnology enabled electronic cussed in detail. platform supported with adequate backward and forward linkages covering agri horti and dairy produce of the UT. Such a market on 'BeAM is envisaged to lead to "objective quality based trading" and bring in of cash directly into the account ecosystem partners for credit of beneficiary and redefining and market linkages and pro- the value chain to minimize its mote 'electronic warehouse

receipt"(eWR) based trading. as backbone of J&K's econo- which will become available to my, Principal Secretary called the farmers and consumers of upon the officers to work with the UT. He offered to create a dedication and honesty so sustainable agriculture produce that the farmers are made not market mechanism customonly aware but also conver- ized to meet the specific needs sant with how to get benefit of multi- agri/horti commodity

nology enabled options for marketing of their saleable agri commodities.

During the meeting, representatives of PARC Mumbai also shared their blue print for marketing of niche products of the UT like Trout fish and the work done so far for popularizing and marketing of this famed fisheries product of Kashmir all over posal for end to end production, processing, packing, branding and marketing of highly nutrient rich minor Millets of the UT which have high demand in the domestic and international high returns for the marginal farmers of Rajouri, Poonch and

CEO, BeAM, Ramesh Sinha, while giving out presentation, informed the Principal Secretary that access to a regulated and transparent marketplace, direct access to multiple buyers, receipt intermediate costs are some of the major benefits of BeAM plat-Terming agriculture sector form of Bombay Stock Exchange of such innovative and tech- value chains of the UT.

Organic Vegetables Put On Sale At Kulgam

KO NEWS DESK

KULGAM: Keeping in view the importance of organic vegetables and the hazards associated with inorganic vegetables on the Bhat at the mini-secretariat here. health, the Horticulture Planning and Marketing Department in collaboration with the Agriculture Production Department conducted as per the demand at

ganic Vegetables on sale here. This day-long organic vegetables sale event was inaugurated by the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kulgam, Dr.Mohi-Ud-Din

On the occasion, the Area Marketing Officer said that the sale of such Organic Vegetables will be today put various varieties of or- different locations of the district.

'Vegetable Production Has Potential To Create Employment Avenues'

AP&FWD Kashmir starts sale of Vegetable seedlings at Lal Mandi



KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: The Agriculture Production and Farmers Welfare Department Kashmir on Tuesday started the sale of Vegetable seedlings of Knol Khol, Chillies, Tomato, Brinjal and Saag (Khanyari) at Kitchen Garden Lal Mandi. Dr. Waseem Ahmad Shah,

Joint Director Agriculture Farms,

started the sale proceedings and directed the officers to follow the guidelines regarding the Covid-19. He said vegetable production has a potential to create employment avenues for which the department has adopted an approach for providing high quality vegetable seedlings during all the seasons.

Shah said the department is also present during the sale.

committed to reach out to the general public and vegetable growers who could use their spaces and enjoy healthy produce of vegetables in these extraordinary circumstances.

The endeavour of providing quality vegetable seedlings to the growers is to create surplus vegetables, besides fulfilling domestic requirements can also export the remaining quantity to the markets outside the valley, he said.

On the occasion, Seed Production Officer Rohit Gupta highlighted various activities presently being carried out under Seed Production Scheme. He said the targets set by the department regarding providing quality seedlings among the growers and kitchen garden lovers is showing tangible results during the current pandemic.

Among others, Subject Matter Specialist Neelofar Qureshi, Incharge Kitchen Garden Afaaq Beigh were

DDC Shopian Reviews Performance Of Banks

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The District Development Commissioner (DDC) Shopian, Sachin Kumar Vaishya Tuesday reviewed the performance of banks and line departments for the Quarter 4th ended 31st March 2021 of FY 2020-21 in District Level Review-cum-Consultative Committee (DLRC) meeting at Mini Secretariat.

The Lead District Manager, Ghulam Rasool Dar apprised the meeting about the main achievements of the district as of 31st March 2021. He informed the chair that the

growth in deposits as on March 31, 2021 is 17 percent as compared to March 31, 2020 and -1.20 percent decrease as compared to previous quarter ended 31st December 2020. The growth in advances as March 31, 2021 is 19.10 percent as compared to March 31, 2020 and 5.47 percent as compared to the previous quarter ended 31st December 2020.

Priority sector advances have shown an increase of 15.90 percent as compared to March 31, 2020 and 6.36 percent as compared to the last quarter ended 31st December 2020. Non-priority sectors of the District



ended 31st December 2020 CD Ratio of the district is ideal at 108.93 as on March 31 2021, he added.

With regard to the achievements under District Credit Plan 2020-21, it was informed that J&K Bank's achievement remained at 74.17 percent in financial terms and 130.10 percent in physical terms against its targets while as the overall achievement of the Bank vis-à-vis achieved target of the quarter remained at 90.87 percent in Physical terms and 88.67 percent in Financial terms.

The credit portfolio of the district has recorded a growth of Rs. compared to March 31, 2020 and 2.15 1306.02 Crores as on 31.03.2020 to various social security schemes.



While reviewing the performance of Banks, the DDC advised banks that targets in priority sector advances should be achieved at any cost. He emphasised upon them to increase the lending in agriculture, horticulture and also in the allied activities to generate more employment opportunities in the district.

He said, the benefit of government sponsored schemes should reach the deserving and efforts should be made to cover all the educated unemployed youth of the district. He also advised banks to conduct more awareness camps so that more and have shown an increase of 33.23% as 249.42 crores on YoY basis from Rs. more people get benefited under

CUK Holds Lecture On 'Role Of Ethnobotany In Sustainable Uses Öf **Plant Resources'**

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Department of Botany, Central University of Kashmir (CUK) organised an online lecture on "Role of ethnobotany in sustainable uses of plant resources" by Prof. A K Jain, School of Studies in Botany, Jiwaji University.

Chancellor Prof. Prof Mehraj ud Din Mir said that Jammu and Kashmir is famous for its plant diversity and there is a lot of scope for research in various fields of plant sciences. He hoped that the lecture would act as an inspiration for the students and faculty members.

Guest speaker, Prof. A K Jain gave a detailed overview of ethnobotany and stressed on its role in sustainable uses of plant resources. He highlighted the relation of humans with plants and importance of biological and cultural diversity for world sustainability. Prof. Jain stated that this is the old branch of science and has lot of historical importance, adding that plants were used by humans since times immemorial. He said that "all plants on earth have medicinal value and tribal people have a lot of knowledge about ethnobotany." "The indiscriminate collection of plant material lead to their extinction and we have to adopt different strategies used by the tribals sources like sacred grooves, con- in this region of the country.

servation through faith, sacred plants in religion etc." He highlighted the role of ethnobotany in germplasm collection and other related aspects.

Dean School of Life sciences, Prof. Muhammad Yousuf, thanked the speaker for elaborative and thoughtful lecture and Speaking on the occasion, Vice underscored the need of organizing more such lectures for the students and scholars. He highlighted the need of this branch of Science and how it can be useful during the ongoing pandemic.

Prof. Azra N Kamili thanked Prof. Jain for the informative lecture and said that it must have left a deep impression on the minds of students and other participants. She said that more than 200 participants attended the lecture including those from states of Kerala, West Bengal, Sikkim, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh,

Madhya Pradesh etc. In his address, Head Department of Botany, Dr. Abid Hamid Dar emphasized the need to conserve the plant resources by using techniques for the sustainable use of the plants and for utilizing them in the best possible way. He said this geographical region has a lot of potential in exploring the plant sciences and emphasised that over exploitation of plants like Podophyllum hexandrum has led to the situation that its presfor conservation of our plant re- ence has dramatically gone down

J&K Bank Commissions Atm In Beerwah

SRINAGAR: J&K Bank has dedicated an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) to public near EBU (Easy Business Unit) at Aaripanthan, Beerwah in Budgam district.

While following the COVID-19 protocols, District Development Commissioner Budgam Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza inaugurated the On-Site ATM facility at Aaripanthan in presence of Zonal Head Kashmir Central (II) Tabassum Nazir, Cluster Head Budgam Azad Ahmad Bhat, and LDM Budgam Mian Farhat Manzoor besides valuable customers, senior citizens local businessmen and other officials of the bank.

Speaking on the occasion, DDC Shahbaz Ahmad Mirza hailed the commissioning of ATM as peoplefriendly initiative and appreciated the bank for serving the public with dedication despite COVID.

Zonal Head reiterated the bank's commitment to provide hassle free and state-of-the-art banking services and facilities to its growing number of customers across the UT. She urged the participants to make best use of these facilities.

Those present on the occasion also lauded the bank for providing latest banking facilities to the people. It is 97th ATM in the zone and 62nd in Budgam district.

Government Of Jammu and Kashmir Office of the Collector Land Acquisition (Sub-Divisional Magistrate) Lolab Sogam

Subject Acquisition of land for Shrant Doban PMGSY road Tehsil Lalpora District Kupwara. Reference Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Kashmir's Indent No :- PMGSY/NS/1549-50 Dated:-20-05-2019.

NOTIFICATION

In Pursuance of the letter of Indent placed by Chief Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Kashmir's Indent No : CE/ PMGSY/NS/1549-50 Dated:-20-05-2019 the pertinent requisite documents prepared and duly authenticated by Tehsildar Lalpora followed by Subsequent verification/authentication of the documents by Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Kupwara vide No :-PMGSY/KUP/866-67.Dated:-13-02-2021 and in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section (i) of section 11 of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013, and in terms of SO 237 Dated:-23-7-2020 issued by Revenue Department, I Ajaz Ahmad Bhat (KAS) Collector Land Acquisition (Sub Divisional Magistrate Lolab Sogam) hereby notify the land, particulars of which are given below:

District	Tehsil	Village	Khasra No		ARE	Α
				K	M	S 0
Kupwara	Lalpora	Khurhama	316 Min	1	5	0
			323 Min	0	18	0
			322 Min	0	17	4.5
			322/1 Min	0	2	0
			327 Min	0	12	4.5
			328 Min	0	7	4.5
			337 Min	1	7	4.5
			335 Min	0	2	6
			334 Min	7	0	1.5
		Total		12	12	7.5

Any Objection with regard to the acquisition of above said land will be received by the undersigned within (60) days from the publication of this notification in the Govt Gazatte/local newspaper. Ajaz Ahmad Bhat (KAS)

Collector Land Acquisition (Sub Divisional Magistrate)

No:-SDM/LAS/21/38-47 Dated:-11-06-2021

DIPK-2982/21

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

Office Of The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division Srinagar NEAR J&K BANK (Zaldagar)

Telefax No. 0194-2503195 e.mail ld: xenmidsrinagar@gmail.com Gist of Short Term e-NIT No. 06 OF 2021-22, Dated: 15-06-2021

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor of UT of J&K, Executive Engineer, Mechanical Irrigation Division, Srinagar, invites entenders on item rate basis by eltendering mode *for*

S. No.	Particulars of the work	Cost of documents tender fee (in Rs.)	Cost of work "Rs" In Lacs	Exemption Allowed	Periori Periori	Class/ Registration Type
1	2	.5	4	4	5	6
1.	Repairs/rewinding of 425HP capacity, 3 phase, vertical induction motor of pumping unit no. 05 (strip wound) at Lift Irrigation Scheme Lethpora Stage-1st.	100.00	2.50	Уни	10 days	SSI Unit Holders/ Workshop holders (Motor rewinding) having functional units/ workshops and having relevant experience.
2.	Partial repairs/rewinding of 125HP capacity, 3 phase, vertical induction motor of pumping unit no. 04 at Lift Irrigation Scheme Lethpora Stage-II	100.00	0.55	Yes	07 days	SSI Unit Helders/ Workshop holders (Woto rewinding) having functional units/ workshops and having relevant experience.
S.	Providing and fitting of various electrical equipments at LIS Lethpora Stage I,II & III	100,00	0.444	Yes	04 days	Flee final Contractors/ SSI Unit Holders/ Workshop holders/ firms having relevant experience.
1.	Replacement of damaged MI-08 contactors by MNX-225 contactors, Thermal overload coil at US Lethpora Stage-II	100,00	0.723	Yes	04 days	Liestrical Contrastors/ 931 Unit Holders/ Workshop holders/ firms having relevant experience.

The bidding process shall be completed online in two covers viz. Cover "1at' -Tender fee and Bid Security Declaration, fulfillment of prequalification criteria, technical specifications and acceptance to terms and conditions of the tender. Cover '2nd' - Financial Bid in the presented BOO.

The critical dates are as tabulated below:

t .	Publish Date	15 40652021 at 1500 hrs
ii	Document Download/sale start Date	15/06/2021 from 1600 hrs
iii	Clarification start date	N.A.
įv	Bid submission sport date	15:06:2021 from 1500 hrs.
v	Charitication end date	N.A
γi	Bid submission/ Document Download/sate and date	26 /06/2021 upto 1800 hrs

vii Date and time of Bid opening. 28 /06/2021 at 1400 hrs. The bid uploaded on the website up to due date and time will be opened on scheduled date /time. or any other date convenient to the tender opening authority in the office of the Executive Engineer, Machanical Inflation Division, Zaidagar Srinagar,

Posttlan of funds	Available
Position of AAA	Under Submission
Booking at Englatical Sounties	Countries of Ade Bala IC 27 22 and 20 of RC/21 consequently for

No. MIDS/Ts/ 960-65 Dated:-15-06-2021

DIPK-2996/21

Executive Engineer. Mechanical Irrigation Division, Srinagar







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