

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Wednesday 07 July | 26 Zul Qadah | 1442 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 158 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

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P3 CITY

ADMIN ORDERS OPENING OF PARKS IN SRINAGAR WITH A RIDER

Authorities on Tuesday ordered reopening of all paid and unpaid parks in Srinagar on weekdays except Saturdays and Sundays for visitors who are either vaccinated or carrying a

THINK

P6 MARGINALIZED MAINSTREAM

If anything, the meeting with prime minister Narendra Modi has starkly underlined the limits to which the establishment parties can stand up to the centre. Both, the run-up to the meeting and its aftermath have generated a contentious debate in J&K and across India.



P7 STATE

NO DECISION ON OPENING OF SCHOOLS YET: SCHOOL EDU DEPT

Dispelling the rumours about the reopening of schools in Jammu and Kashmir, Secretary School Education Department Bishwajit Kumar Singh Tuesday said that...



Quote!

If you don't like the road you're walking, start paving another one.
— Dolly Parton

NEWS DIGEST

SASB Starts Online Services For Devotees

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Tuesday launched various online services of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board to provide a personal experience to the devotees. "For millions of devotees who are unable to visit the holy cave of Shri Amarnath Ji this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Shrine Board has brought" [More On P10](#)

Ex-Militant Held After 13 Years

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday claimed to have arrested a former militant who was on the run for nearly 13 years in Kishtwar district of Chenab valley. The ex-militant Naeem Ahmed of Tattani Kishtwar was arrested from Shalimar area of Kishtwar by a special team of cops from police station Atholi on the basis of reliable information received through reliable sources, a [More On P10](#)

Police Follower Beaten In Budgam

SRINAGAR: A follower in the Jammu and Kashmir police department was injured after being beaten up by unknown persons in Chadoora area of Central Kashmir's Budgam district, reports said Tuesday. The follower Bashir Ahmad of Chadoora was on way home when some unknown persons stopped him on Monday night [More On P10](#)

Police Files Case Over Fake Tweet

SRINAGAR: Police on Tuesday filed a case against unknown persons for spreading fake news about the veteran separatist leader and former Hurriyat Conference (G) chairman Syed Ali Geelani calling for a shutdown. According to police, a case under relevant sections of ULA(P) was registered in Police station Budgam after a Tweet attributed to the ailing leader claimed that a shutdown call had been given by him. "As per family sources of SAS Geelani, the tweet is fake and issued" [More On P10](#)

Man Injured In Bear Attack

SRINAGAR: A middle-aged man was attacked and injured on Tuesday by a black bear in Bandipora district of north Kashmir. 55-year-old Mohammad Yousuf was outside his house in Kemah village of the district in the wee hours of Tuesday when a bear appeared there and attacked him, reports said. Yousuf's cries caught the attention of his family members and neighbours who rushed out of their homes and chased [More On P10](#)

Police Probe Car Thieves For Militant Links

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Days after two men were arrested from central Delhi in connection with stealing cars here and selling them in Kashmir, police on Tuesday said some suspicious photos found have been found on the phone of one of the accused and they are probing if they had links with any militant groups.

The accused have been identified as Showket Ahmad Malla (25), a resident of Baramulla district in Jammu and Kashmir, and Mohammad Juber (22), a resident of Shamli district in Uttar Pradesh, according to police. Some suspicious photos were found on Malla's phone. However, he is not seen in those

Delimitation Panel Begins Meet With J&K Parties

Agencies

NEW DELHI: On day one of the four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir, the Delimitation Commission on Tuesday started its meeting with the leaders of different political parties of the erstwhile state to gather first hand information and input related to the ongoing process of delimitation, as mandated under the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

The meeting started at 3.30 p.m. with representatives from Bahujan Samaj Party including its leaders Mushtaq Ahmad, Sunia Koul (BDC member), and District Presidents Manzoor Ahmad Thokar and Abdul



KO Photo: Abid Bhat

Rashid Dar. The meeting ended with BSP party leaders at 3.50 p.m.

The Commission's meeting with BJP's Sofi Yusif (Ex-MLC), G.M. Mir, Surinder Ambardar and Altaf Thakur

took place between 3.50 p.m. and 4.10 p.m.

Communist Party of India's G.M. Mirza along with members of state council, Bashir Ahmad and Manzoor [More On P10](#)

Outcome Pre-Planned': PDP Skips Meet

The PDP led by former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday decided to not meet the Delimitation Commission, saying the body lacks "constitutional and legal mandate" and is part of the overall process of political disempowerment of people of [More On P10](#)

Rebel NC Leader Hails PDP

National Conference leader and former MLA Budgam, Aga Ruhullah Mehdi on Tuesday lauded the People's Democratic Party (PDP) on Tuesday for staying away from the proceedings of the Jammu and Kashmir Delimitation Commission, saying "it is never too late to stand for your rights". In a letter to the commission, PDP has said it will not be a part of an exercise, the outcome of [More On P10](#)

NC, Cong Demands Exercise In Free, Fair Manner

Political parties in Kashmir on Tuesday urged the visiting Delimitation Commission to allay apprehensions of the people over the exercise by conducting it in a free, fair and transparent manner. The commission -- led by Justice (ret'd) Ranjana Prakash Desai -- arrived on Tuesday on a four-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir to interact with leaders of political parties and officials to gather "first hand" inputs on the conduct of the mega exercise to carve out new constituencies in the Union Territory. Several parties, including the National Conference (NC), People's Conference (PC), Congress and the CPI(M), submitted separate memoranda to the visiting delegation. The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led by former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti and Awami National Conference (ANC) decided not to be part of the exercise with the PDP saying that there was a perception that the outcome of the process was preplanned. [More On P10](#)

LG Sets Target To Blacktop 8000 Km Roads For R&B Dept



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Tuesday set the target of blacktopping 8000 km of road length to the PW(R&B) Department

in order to strengthen the road network across the Union Territory.

Chairing a high-level meeting to review the functioning of the PW(R&B) Department, wherein he sought the detailed [More On P10](#)

Education Dept Asked To Include 'Real Life Heroes' In Textbooks

With an aim to bring a paradigm shift in the school education ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Tuesday called for constituting Educational Reforms Committee of Teachers at various levels for developing [More On P10](#)

J&K Logs 231 New Cases, 2 Covid Deaths

Observer Monitoring Desk

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir reported 231 new covid-19 cases while two more persons succumbed to the virus in the last 24 hours, officials said on Tuesday.

They said 83 of the fresh cases were reported from Jammu Division and 169 from Kashmir Valley, taking the total count to 317481.

Regarding the fatalities, they said, one death each has been reported from [More On P10](#)

2 Soldiers 'Spying' For ISI Arrested

Press Trust Of India

Punjab: Two Army jawans have been arrested for allegedly spying for Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the Punjab Police said on Tuesday.

The accused have been identified as Sepoy Harpreet Singh (23), who was posted in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag and belongs to 19 Rashtriya Rifles, and Sepoy Gurbhraj Singh (23), who was working as a clerk in Kargil and belongs to 18 Sikh Light Infantry.

Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Dinkar Gupta said both the accused had already shared pictures of over 900 classified documents--pertaining to defence of the country and national security--to a cross-border drug smuggler, Ranvir Singh, over a period of four months between February [More On P10](#)

Kashmir Security Reviewed At Delhi Meet

Union Home Secretary Chairs Meeting



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Union Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla on Tuesday reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir, nearly a fortnight after a drone attack on an air force station in Jammu, officials said.

A team of Jammu and Kashmir Police, led by Director General Dilbag Singh, briefed the home secretary about the prevailing situation in the union territory and the steps taken to strengthen the security. Bhalla took [More On P10](#)

ED To Quiz Mehbooba's Mother In Money Laundering Case

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Hours after the PDP announced its decision to stay away from the proceedings of the Delimitation Commission,

the Enforcement Directorate served a notice on the mother of its president Mehbooba Mufti asking her to appear at the agency's office here on July 14 in [More On P10](#)

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KASHMIR
OBSERVER

Wednesday| 07-07-2021

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Mohammad Maqbool Ahanger S/o: Ali Mohammad Ahanger R/o: Ompora Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C-4346 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J & K Bank Ltd B/U Humhama Budgam.



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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.951
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Shri : Abdul Rasheed Baba S/o: Gh Ahmad Baba R/o: Buchroo Chadoora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV M 800. Vehicle bearing registration number JK04A - 3698.



Chasis number 2556287 Engine no. 3577895 Model 2006. in favour of Shri.. Arshid Ahmad Wani S/o. Gh Rasool Wani R/o Batapora Khanda Budgam. (Tranferee)

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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.958
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Office of TheAssistant Regional Transport Officer KUPWARA

NOTICE



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Zahoor Ahmad S/O H Amidullah Bhat R/O Sirajipora Handwara Distt Kup (Transferor) and Shri Asif Siddiq S/O Mohammad Siddiq Bhat R/O Dahnam Kupwara (Transferee) for transfer of M/cycle carriage route Permit No / KP Covering Vehicle No JK09A- 9394



Now, therefore, it is notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit / vehicle shall be filled in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer, Kupwara.

Within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily News Paper Kashmir Observer.

NO: JK/ARTOK /1938
Dated: 06/07/2021
SULT

Sd/-
Assistant Regional Transport
Office, Kupwara

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE



Where a application for transfer of ownership has been recieved from one. Mrs : Parveena Akhter W/o: Shabir Ahmad Bhat R/o: Budshah Nagar Natipora Budgam (Transferor) of LMV Santro.



Vehicle bearing registration number JK04A - 6622. Chasis number 113774 Engine no. 137473 Model 2007. in favour of Shri.. Tariq Abdullah Akhoon S/o. Attaulah Akhoon R/o Green Veiv Colony Alochi bagh Sgr. (Tranferee) as well as HPA cancellation with M/S J & K Bank B/U Nowgam.

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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.940
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost RC of my vehicle bearing registration No JK03D 2785 now i want to apply its duplicate .If Anybody having any objection in this regard he/ she may file his/her objection office of the ARTO anantnag within the period of 7 days. After That no objection Shall be entertained.

Name:Gh Mohd Shah
S/O : Sonullah Shah
R/O : Ashmuqam Latroo
RNA

PULBIC NOTICE

DISTRICT ANANTNAG SPORTS ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

We the following persons propose to register a non-profitable society under the name and style of 'Anantnag Sports Association of the deaf" with the Registrar of Societies. Jammu and Kashmir, Srinagar under societies Registration Act 1860 A.D)

List of Managing Body

01.	President	Mudasir Nasir
02.	Vice President	Riyaz Ahmad Shah
03.	General Secretary	Peer Mohd Arif
04.	Joint Secretary	Amir Nasir
05.	Treasurer	Peer Rais Ahmad
06.	Executive	Anamullah Rather
07.	Executive	Aquib Gull Ganie

Any objection in this regard may be sent in writing/in person/through authorized Representative to registrar of societies within a period of 21 days from the date of publication of this notice.

RNA

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Ghulam Rasool Ganie S/o: Abdul Samad R/o: Kralnewa Hardu Panzu Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-9892 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin Service B/U Budgam.



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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.942
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Mudassir Ahmad Mir S/o: Hafeez ullah Mir R/o: Arath Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-2982 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Mahindra & Mahindra Fin Ser 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.963
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Abdul Rashid Mugloo S/o: Abdul Wahab Mugloo R/o: Ichgan Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04E-8893 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank B/U Ichgan.



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.936
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas an application has been recieved from one. Shri : Abdul Majid Malik S/o: Ghulam Mohammad Malik R/o: Haji Bagh Budgam owner of vehicle bearing Registration No: JK04C-7423 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S J&K Bank Ltd B/U S.S.I Lal Chowk Srinagar.



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

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM.947
Dated 06/07/2021

Assistant Regional Transport officer
Budgam Kashmir

mcb

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

Office of the Executive Engineer, Construction Division

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

For and on behalf of the University of Kashmir, e-tenders ((In Single cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Civil and Sanitary Contractors registered with Govt. of J&K/ other union territories and CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc in shape of E-Challan (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Time and Date for Submission of E-Tender.	Date & Time of Opening of Bid	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	5	6	7	9	10
11.	Construction of Platform for Installation of Car Washer in the Department of Life Long Learning at Main Campus.	1.35	100/-	45-Days	05-07-2021 To 14-07-2021 (6.00 PM)	15-07-2021 (11.30AM)	"DEE"

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the web site www.kashmiruniversity.net / www.jktenders.gov.in.

Executive Engineer

NIT No: - F (E.Tend) (UCD) KU/19/21
DATED: -05 -07-2021.

DIPK-NB-1595/21

Office of the Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Anantnag

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

E-NIT NO: 19/EE/PMGSY/ANG/DB OF 2021-22 dated 03-07-2021

Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Anantnag on behalf of Governor of J&K (UT) invites Item rate basis for the following works including its maintenance as per PMGSY MORTH guidelines from the eligible and approved contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State Governments.

S. No	Name of Work with Package No. and Name of Division	Tendered Cost including GST (Rs in lacs.)			Cost of document (Rs in lacs.)	Earnest Money (Bid Security) (Rs in lacs.)	Time of completion For Construction Work	Tender Call	Time and Date of opening of tenders online (Technical Bid)	Class of contractor
		Construction Part	Maintenance Part	Total cost of Work						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Providing and laying of Renewal Coat and Maintenance on road from Drawey to Chrech Block Larnoo Package No JK01246, Length 5.58 Kms PMGSY Division Anantnag.	66.59	6.66	73.25	0.08	NA	120 Days	4 th	13-07-2021 At 11:00 A.M	"A" Class in PWD or Equivalent in CPWD/ Railways and other state Governments.

- The Bidding documents can be downloaded from the website <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in> from 05-07-2021 (10:30 AM) to 12-07-2021 up to (4:00 PM).
- The Bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the website <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in> from 06-07-2021 (10:30 AM) to 12-07-2021 up to 4:00 PM. The bids uploaded on the Web Site up to due date and time will be opened online on 13-07-2021 at 11:00 AM in the presence of the bidders who wish to attend. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened on the next working day at the same time and venue.
- The complete bidding process will be on line.
- Cost of Bid Form is Rs. 8000 each (Eight Thousand only) non-refundable only in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Accounts Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at Srinagar.
- The bidders are requested to quote their rates excluding GST. GST @12% shall be added to the contract value by the allotting authority at the time of issue of allotment.
- A Pre-bid meeting will be held on 07-07-2021 at 11:30 AM in the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Anantnag K.P road near Masjid Noor to clarify the issues and to answer questions on any matter that may be raised at that stage as stated in Clause 9 of instruction to bidders of the Bidding documents. The intending Bidders, before attending the Pre-bid meeting, are advised to visit the site of work and acquaint themselves with the site of conditions. It has been made mandatory for all the intending bidders to participate in the pre-bid meeting on the scheduled date and time.
- Availability of Bid Document and mode of submission: The bid document is available online and bid should be submitted online on website www.pmgsytenders.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of bids, the bidder is required to have valid Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities (CA). Aspiring bidders who have not obtained the user ID and password for participating in e-tendering in PMGSY may obtain the same from the website: www.pmgsytenders.gov.in.
- Bids must be accompanied by cost of document and bid security as mentioned in column 6 & 7 of the table in the form as specified in the Bidding Document. Bids must be accompanied by cost of document as mentioned in column 6 of above table and Cost of Bid Form is Rs. 8000 (Eight Thousand only) non-refundable only in the form of Demand Draft in favour of Accounts Officer PMGSY Kashmir payable at Srinagar. The bid security is exempted however bid security declaration form is to be submitted by the bidder as mentioned in SBD.
- The Hard Copy of original instruments in respect of cost of bidding document, bid security declaration form and original copy of affidavits must be delivered in the office of Executive Engineer PMGSY (JKRRDA) Division Anantnag K.P road near Masjid Noor on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid either by Registered Post or by hand failing which the bids shall be declared non-responsive.
- The bidders are advised to upload the required documents/information strictly as per the formats given in Section 3-Qualification Information. The bidder who fails to comply with the said instructions shall be declared as non-responsive.
- The date and time of opening of Financial-Bids shall be notified on Web Site <http://pmgsytendersjk.gov.in>. This is conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The Financial-Bids shall be opened accordingly on line on same Web Site at the Office of Executive Engineer PMGSY Division Anantnag K.P road near Masjid Noor.
- Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.
- The items of each individual work clubbed for e-tendering process shall be restricted to the estimated cost of each item of that individual work.
- The quantities of each item of individual work shall remain intact and shall in no case be clubbed with the corresponding quantities of the individual work (s) for which joint tender shall be issued.
- The tenders shall be issued in the clubbed manner to the extent that minimum requirement for eligibility of A Class contractors is achieved.
- The BOQ shall be prepared for each individual work and shall be followed strictly.
- That No payment is released for work graded Unsatisfactory (U)/SRI till their grading is improved by the concerned agency in term of the relevant provision of the contract. Note:- The intending bidders are advised to study the entire bidding document before preparation and submission of their bids. This includes clause 3 (Eligible Bidders), 4 (Qualification of Bidders) of ITB (Instruction to Bidders), Appendix to ITB, Section 3 (Qualification Information), Contract Data to G.C.C. & Section 7 of Bidding Document.
- No: EE/PMGSY/ANG/DB/e-Tendering/ 1292-1312
Dated: 03-07-2021

DIPK-4132/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PMGSY (JKRRDA)
Division Anantnag

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 Id: xenmidsrinagar@gmail.com

Sub:- Cancellation notice to this office Short Term e-NIT No. 11 (Part-2 & Part-3) OF 2020-21, Dated: 03-07-2021 for below mentioned works:

Part-2 :- SITC of 01 HP mono block horizontal pump (single phase) motor at LIS Kharbagh Waskura.

Part-3:- SITC of DOL Starter at Lift Irrigation Scheme Gadoora-A

Ref:- 1. This office Short Term e-NIT No. 11 (Part-2 & Part-3) OF 2020-21, Dated: 03-07-2021.
2. JK Govt. Official e-Procurement Portal Tender ID's :-
2021_IFC_129432_2 and 2021_IFC_129432_3

CANCELLATION NOTICE

Due to typographical error/s the above referred e-NIT for the subject work/s is hereby cancelled.

No. MIDS/Ts/ 1366-71
Dated:- 05-07-2021

DIPK-4107/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division
Srinagar

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Department Of Health And Medical Education Office Of The Principal Government Medical College Baramulla

CORRIGENDUM

The Corrigendum for the e tender "Procurement Of Drugs, Consumables and Reagents" of GMC Baramulla, issued vide this office Letter No. GMC/BLA/PO/2021/35, dated:- 22-06-2021 and advertised vide Tender ID 2021_HME_128280_1, Dated: 24-06-2021 is as follows.

The items at serial No. (Sl. No.) 29, 39, 40, 45, 47, 51, 52, 60, 77, 82, 87, 90, 91, 96, 106, 107, 110, 116, 125, 130, 141, 143, 146, 148, 152, 162, 163, 173, 174, 175, 176, 180, 196, 197, 202, 215, 225 of the BOQ are hereby deleted.

Also Please read,

Item at Sl. No. 78 in the BOQ as Stimital instead of setmitil, Item at Sl. No. 133 in the BOQ as Cytolog 200mg instead of Cytology 200mg, item at Sl. No. 209 in the BOQ as Surgical Gloves 6.5 instead of Gloves 6.5, item at Sl. No. 210 in the BOQ as Surgical Gloves 7.0 instead of Gloves 7.0, item at Sl. No. 211 in the BOQ as Surgical Gloves 7.5 instead of Gloves 7.5, item at Sl. No. 135 in the BOQ as Inj. Ceftriaxone Sulbectum 1.5g instead of Inj. Ceftriaxone Sulbectum 1.5g, item at Sl. No. 195 in the BOQ as ECG Paper Z fold (210mm x 250mm x 200 sheets) instead of ECG Paper, item at Sl. No. 294 in the BOQ as Methanol (Acetone Free) instead of Methanol (Acetone free) 2.5 litre.

Also,

To calculate the rates for items at serial No. (Sl. No.) 103, 104, 105, 109, 112, 114, 128, 150, 153, 159, 161, 167, 184, 186, of the BOQ, in which more than one size is mentioned, the bidder has to calculate the average rate of all the sizes mentioned in that particular item.

Other terms and conditions shall remain same as already advertised.

No: GMC/BLA/PO/2021/447-53

DIPK-4140/21

Dated: - 03 -07-2021

Sd/-
Dr. (Prof.) Ruby Reshi
Principal
Govt. Medical College Baramulla

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How Packed Are Hill Stations? Take A Look. Be Afraid.



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The government on Tuesday cautioned that people roaming in hill stations and markets without following COVID-19-appropriate behaviours can nullify the gains made in the management of the pandemic so far.

Stressing that the pandemic was not yet over, an official described the images of large numbers of people thronging popular hill stations as "frightening". The government said violations of Covid protocols will lead to further increase in the infections as it stressed on wearing of masks and maintaining of physical distancing.

The second wave of COVID-19 has come down in most states.

However, some states are still in the midst of the second wave and the areas reporting a test positivity rate of over 10 per cent have to impose/reinstate restriction measures, it said.

In a joint press conference on the pandemic situation and

vaccination status, a senior official said as many as 73 districts across 17 states and union territories reported more than 10 per cent Covid positivity rate in the week from June 29 to July 5.

A total of 91 districts in the country reported more than 100 daily new cases in the week ending July 4, he said.

Eighty per cent Covid cases in India were reported from 90 districts across 14 states and union territories, indicating the need for focused attention in these areas, the official said.

With 553 fresh fatalities, India recorded the lowest daily death toll in around 90 days while 34,703 new cases of coronavirus were reported, the lowest in 111 days, the Union Health Ministry said on Tuesday.

With the fresh cases, the total tally of COVID-19 cases climbed to 3,06,19,932, while the death toll climbed to 4,03,281.

The active cases further declined to 4,64,357, the lowest in 101 days, and comprise 1.52 per cent of the total infections.

40% Increase In Cases Of Rape And Harassment Of Women In Delhi

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Cases of rape and harassment of women in the national capital have increased by around 40 per cent in the first five-and-half months this year as compared to the corresponding period last year, while the total number of heinous crimes has gone down marginally, officials said on Tuesday.

According to data shared by them, cases of snatching have increased by 46 per cent in the period between January and June 15 as compared to the same duration last year.

According to the data, a total of 2,315 cases of heinous crime have been reported this time as compared to 2,436 last year.

Cases of murder, riot and kidnapping for ransom have reduced, while instances of dacoity, attempt to murder, robbery and rape have increased, they said.

Between January 1 and June 15, the Delhi Police recorded 2,315 cases of heinous crimes -- seven of dacoity, 196 of murder, 295 of attempt to murder, 942 of robbery, 35 of riot, seven of kidnapping for ransom, and 833 of rape.

In the corresponding period last year, Delhi saw four cases of dacoity, 226 of murder, 236 of attempt to murder, 701 of robbery, 681 of riot eight of kidnapping for ransom, and 580 of rape.

The cases of rape have gone up by about 43 per cent this year, the officials said.

The cases of outraging modesty of women have increased by 39 per cent. This year, 1,022 such cases were registered as compared to 735 during the same period last year, it said.

There is huge margin in the number of cases of riot because the communal clashes had broken out in north-east Delhi on February 24, 2020 after violence between the Citizenship (Amendment) Act supporters and its protesters spiralled out



of control leaving at least 53 people dead and over 700 injured.

The number of non-heinous crime have increased by over eight per cent.

In 2021, a total of 1,20,980 cases of non-heinous crime have been reported, while the number was 1,11,419 in 2020, it said.

There were 1,217 more cases of snatching reported in 2021 as compared to the last year. The data showed that 3,829 cases of snatching were reported in 2021 as compared to 2,612 in last year.

Among the total 1,20,980 cases, the number cases of hurt, burglary, motor vehicle theft and house theft stand at 493, 1,173, 15,667 and 938 respectively.

Senior IPS officer Balaji Srivastava took additional charge as the commissioner of the Delhi Police on Wednesday after the retirement of incumbent S N Shrivastava.

Soon after taking charge as the police commissioner, Srivastava had held an agenda-setting meeting with the top police brass at the police headquarters. He discussed the priority areas and the road map for the Delhi Police in the coming days.

Street domination to curb street crime, direct public interface at the district level for grievance redressal, ensuring women safety, welfare of the personnel and initiating anti-terrorism measures are among the priority areas, police had said.

Srivastava also laid emphasis on the implementation of the Delhi Disaster Management Authority guidelines to ensure Covid-appropriate behaviour among all in letter and spirit, the officials had said.



THE UK GOVERNMENT is expected to lift most COVID-19 restrictions in the country in two weeks [File: Niklas Halle'n/AFP]

'It Isn't Over': WHO Warns Against Easing Covid Curbs Too Soon

Agencies

The World Health Organization (WHO) has warned governments around the world against easing COVID-19 restrictions too soon, saying countries that did so risked paying a heavy price for rushing back to normality.

Speaking at a press briefing on Monday, the UN health agency's top emergency expert Mike Ryan said a new wave of infections could be round the corner and noted that for much of the world, the pandemic was just getting started.

"All of the countries of the Americas, we still have nearly one million cases a week," he said. "And the same in Europe...with half a million cases a week. It's not like this thing has gone away," Ryan added. "It isn't over."

Last week, the WHO's Africa director had warned that "the speed and scale" of the continent's third wave "is like nothing we've seen before". "COVID-19 cases are doubling every three weeks, compared to every four weeks at the start of the second wave," Dr Matshidiso Moeti told a briefing on Thursday.

In Russia, meanwhile, coronavirus deaths hit another daily record on Tuesday, with authorities reporting 737 more fatalities. The daily tally of confirmed infections has more than doubled in the past month, soaring from about 9,000 in early June to more than 23,000 this week.

The warnings come amid renewed concerns over the new coronavirus Delta variant, first detected in India in April. The new strain, which is considered to be the most transmissible variant yet, has now spread to nearly 100

countries worldwide.

Experts say more than 80 percent of a country's population would need to be inoculated in order to contain it -- a challenging target even for nations with advanced vaccination programmes. The variant is now responsible for more than 90 percent of all new infections in the United Kingdom and about 30 percent in the United States.

Lab tests have shown it is more resistant to vaccines compared with other forms of coronavirus. However, there is evidence that available jabs retain important effectiveness against it after two doses.

Back to normality

On the same day the WHO issued its warning, UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that most COVID-19 restrictions in the country will be lifted in two weeks.

"If we can't reopen our society in the next few weeks when we will be helped by the arrival of summer and by school holidays, then we should ask ourselves, when will we be able to return to normal," Johnson told reporters on Monday.

The prime minister acknowledged there will be more infections, but people need to learn to live with the virus.

However, the British Medical Association (BMA) has expressed concerns about removing all coronavirus-related curbs on July 19 given the surge in the Delta variant and a 74 percent increase in infections in the last week alone.

Chaand Nagpaul, BMA chair, told Sunrise Radio on Sunday the government should continue with "sensible targeted coronavirus measures" and act on "data not

dates" when making their decisions in order to protect people's lives.

Germany, meanwhile, has begun easing restrictions, including softer quarantine rules, on travellers from India, Nepal, Portugal, Russia and the UK after the country's public health institute declared these five nations are no longer areas of "variant of concern".

On Tuesday, Foreign Minister Heiko Maas said Germany should lift all remaining coronavirus-linked social and economic curbs as soon as everyone has been offered a vaccine.

About 56.5 percent of people in Germany have received at least one dose and almost 39 percent are fully vaccinated, according to health ministry data.

"When everyone in Germany has received a vaccine offer, there is no longer a legal or political justification for any kind of restriction," Maas told the Sueddeutsche Zeitung. That should occur sometime during August, he said.

In Canada, authorities on Monday began loosening pandemic restrictions on travel to and from the United States, with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau saying that plans to totally reopen the border would be announced in the next few weeks.

"Remember last summer when we thought everything was good, we got relaxed and we arrived in September, October and ended up in huge trouble," said WHO's top adviser Ryan.

"I think that is where we are going again, but with a much more transmissible variant this time around," he added.

Afghan Troops Struggle To Replace Americans At Key Bagram Base

Agence France-Presse

BAGRAM, AFGHANISTAN: After American troops withdrew without notifying them, Afghan soldiers guarding the Bagram Air Base have been left with thousands of Taliban prisoners and a certainty that the enemy will attack.

The sprawling military complex was at one point home to tens of thousands of US and allied soldiers, and one of the most important sites to prosecute the two-decade war in Afghanistan.

But the last of the American soldiers quietly left the base last week, effectively completing their withdrawal from Afghanistan and leaving a massive security vacuum that the Afghan military will struggle to fill.

The new commander of the Bagram base, General Mirasadullah Kohistani, on Monday spoke candidly about the challenges ahead, as reporters were given a tour of the largely deserted base.

"You know, if we compare ourselves with the Americans, it's a big difference," Kohistani said, admitting his forces could not be as "powerful" as the Americans.

"But according to our capabilities... we are trying to do the best and as much as possible secure and serve all the people."

The lack of a clear handover or transition plan appears to have made the task even more challenging. Kohistani said he only knew of the foreign forces' exit after they had left.

"We did not know of their timeline for departure. They did not tell us when they left."

Just 50 kilometres (30 miles) from Kabul, the base is key to the security of the capital while also providing strategic cover to much of the country's rugged north where the Taliban have focused their recent offensives.

Kohistani insists his troops can hold the base from the Taliban, and that he has "quite enough" soldiers.

Though, with roughly 3,000 troops under his command, the figure is a tiny percentage of the number of American and allied forces during its US-led heyday.

For American troops, morale was kept up in the then-buzzing mini-city with swimming pools, cinemas, spas and fast food outlets of Burger King and Pizza Hut.

For Kohistani's men, the entertainment venues are closed, the warehouses are locked and the shuttered dining facilities offer only the stench of rotten food from boxes of expired meal packs.



In a more concrete sign of the Afghan military's ability to fight without American backing, 1,000 troops fighting the Taliban in the country's north fled into neighbouring Tajikistan on Monday.

Taliban 'attack'

At Bagram, Kohistani said he was already receiving reports that the Taliban were making "movements in rural areas" surrounding the area.

One soldier, a private named Rafiullah, offered a clear picture of what he expected would come.

"The enemy are determined and will definitely try to attack here," Rafiullah said as behind him two Afghan military helicopters took off.

"But we will not give them the chance."

If or when the Taliban do mount an offensive to take Bagram, one of their top priorities will undoubtedly be a huge prison that holds up to 5,000 Taliban inmates.

"We haven't come here to sleep. Everybody here is prepared to secure Bagram. Our morale is high," insisted Rafiullah.

Another soldier also defiantly said he was ready to fight the Taliban, but nevertheless signalled a feeling of unease with a lack of firepower and leadership.

"We will not surrender but we need weapons and strong backing from our leaders," he said.

Modern history

If the Taliban do wrest control of Bagram, it will repeat a pattern of modern history reflecting the nation's power struggles.

The airfield was first built by the Americans for its Afghan ally during the Cold War in the 1950s.

The Soviet Union vastly expanded it after the Red Army invaded Afghanistan in 1979.

After their withdrawal, the base was controlled by the Moscow-backed government, and later by the shaky mujahideen administration during the 1990s civil war.

It was reported that at one point the Taliban controlled one end of the three-kilometre (two-mile) runway, and the opposition Northern Alliance the other.

Bagram ultimately fell into the Taliban's hands after they overran large swathes of the country in the mid-1990s.

Stan Swamy's Death: Oppn Leaders Write To Prez For His Intervention



NEW DELHI: Leaders of 10 opposition parties Tuesday wrote to President Ram Nath Kovind seeking his intervention in holding accountable those responsible for "foisting false cases" on tribal rights activist Father Stan Swamy, his continued detention in jail and "inhuman treatment" allegedly meted out to him.

The letter comes a day after Father Stan Swamy died at a Mumbai hospital during treatment.

The signatories include Congress

president Sonia Gandhi, NCP chief Sharad Pawar, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin.

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren (JMM), former prime minister and JDS leader HD Deve Gowda and NC leader Farooq Abdullah, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, D Raja (CPI) and Sitaram Yechury (CPI-M) have also signed the letter.

"We the undersigned leaders of major opposition parties are writing to you in deep anguish expressing our intense grief and outrage at the death of Father Stan Swamy under custody," they said in their letter to the president.

"We are urging your immediate intervention as the President of India to direct your government to act against those responsible for foisting false cases on him, his continued detention in jail and inhuman treatment," they said. **PTI**

NEWS MAKERS

Pending Editions Of JEE-Mains To Be Held From July 20-25 And July 27-Aug 2: Pokhriyal

NEW DELHI: The pending editions of Joint Entrance Examination (JEE)-Mains will be conducted from July 20 to 25 and July 27 to August 2, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' announced on Tuesday.

The results of the two editions, which were postponed in view of the Covid-19 pandemic, are likely to be announced in August.

"The third edition of JEE-Mains will be conducted from July 20-25 while the fourth edition will be held from July 27 to August 2. The exams will be conducted while following all Covid protocols keeping the safety of candidates in mind," Nishank said.



JEE-Mains for admission to engineering colleges is being conducted four times a year from the current academic session to

offer flexibility to students and a chance to improve their scores amidst the second wave of the pandemic in India.

The first phase in February was followed by the second phase in March, while the next phases were scheduled for April and May.

But those were postponed after a spike in the number of cases of coronavirus during the second wave of the pandemic.

The JEE-Advanced exam, which is conducted for admission to the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and the National Institutes of Technology (NITs), was also postponed. The exam was scheduled on July 3. **PTI**

Thief Leaves Apology Letter Behind After Breaking Into Cop's Home In Madhya Pradesh

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

BHIND: While stealing valuables from the home of a policeman in Bhind city of Madhya Pradesh, a thief left behind an apology letter stating that he was committing the act to save a friend's life and will return the stolen money, the police said on Tuesday.

The theft occurred at the home of a policeman, who works in Chhattisgarh, while his family lives in Bhind city, assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Kamlesh Katore of Kotwali police station said.



According to the police, the thief left behind a letter stating, "Sorry friend, it was a compulsion. If I had not done

this, then my friend would have lost his life. Don't worry, as soon as I get the money, I will return it."

The policeman's wife and children had left for a relative's place on June 30, and after returning home on Monday night, they found that the locks of the rooms had been broken and things were lying scattered, the official said.

The thief stole some silver and gold ornaments, he said, adding that it is suspected some acquaintance of the family was involved in the act.

A case has been registered in this regard and further investigation is underway, the official said.

Govt Issues Disposal Permit To Quarry Holders, Allowed To Resume Operations

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Quarry holders of Kashmir on Tuesday had a sigh of relief as they were allowed to resume work after the government issued a disposal permit in their favour.

The government had imposed a blanket ban on quarrying across the Kashmir Valley while quarry holders in different parts of Valley especially from Khrew, Mandakpal, Baitan, Zaintrig, Pantha-Chowk Athwajan were demanding lifting of the ban and had been protesting frequently.

Confirming the grant of per-

mission, President Himalayan Quarry Association Muhammad Maqbool said, "concerned authorities have issued a disposal permit in our favour and from tomorrow we will start our operations."

He however added that quarry holders are only allowed to collect, load and ferry loose material that is still lying near quarrying sites.

The quarry holder, transporters and workers have hailed Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Principal Secretary Geology and Mining Manoj Kumar Devidi for allowing it to resume operations.



PAUPER PACK: Non-local mendicants covering their faces while begging at the main gate of Kashmir's revered Dargah Hazratbal shrine on Tuesday. KO Photo Abid Bhat

Asham Residents Protest Against Water Shortage

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The residents of Asham in north Kashmir's Bandipora district Tuesday protested against the water shortage and blocked Sumbal-Sopore road halting traffic for several hours.

Scores of the residents including women and children were protesting against shortage of water.

The villagers said authorities have never paid heed to their grievances despite the fact that they were apprised about the issue several times. They said that they are forced to consume im-

pure water from river.

"The shortage of water has caused great inconvenience as consuming impure water will lead to the breakout of different ailments," they said.

Sameer Ahmad, one of the protesters, said that in modern times Jal Shakti department and district administration Bandipora has even deprived the people of pure drinking water.

A senior official of Jal Shakti department Sumbal said, "it is a genuine grievance of the people and we will assure that necessary steps are taking to address the issue."

Pattan Village Residents Protest, Demand Clean Drinking Water

Observer News Service

PATTAN: The residents of Hamray village of Pattan in North Kashmir's Baramulla district Tuesday staged a protest against Jal Shakti department for failing to provide potable drinking water to them.

Reports said that the residents blocked highway in Pattan halting the traffic on the busy highway.

The residents said that the Jal Shakti department has failed to provide portable, and safe water to the village.

"The department is putting our lives at risk by supplying contaminated water to us."

Meanwhile, a police official reached the spot and assured the protesting residents that the issue will be taken up with the concerned department for immediate redressal.

Secretary J&KBOCWB Distributes Rs 9.32L



Observer News Service

KUPWARA: Secretary/ Executive Officer, J&K Buildings and Other Construction Welfare Board, Muneer-ul-Islam Tuesday visited Kupwara and reviewed the problems being faced by labour class of the district. He had a meeting with officers of the Labour department.

Islam interacted with various trade union leaders based in Kupwara district. The trade

leaders projected their issues before him.

On the occasion, the Secretary asked the labourers to take benefit under various welfare schemes of the Government envisaged for the socio-economic development of the construction workers.

He distributed cheques worth Rs.9.32 lakh among six beneficiaries under different welfare schemes including Death Assistance and Chronic Disease Assistance.

Post Covid Complications On Rise In Kashmir, Says Doctors Body

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Even as Covid-19 cases are declining, Doctors Association Kashmir (DAK) on Tuesday said hospitals in Kashmir are witnessing a rise in the number of patients with severe post-Covid-19 complications.

"We are getting many Covid patients with severe neurological complications weeks after recovery," said DAK in a statement.

The statement said recovered Covid patients come with Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), an autoimmune disorder of the peripheral nervous system in which the body's immune system attacks the healthy nerve cells.

"Patients with GBS manifest with weakness of all four limbs which in some cases progresses to respiratory muscle involvement needing ventilator support."

"Some patients lack the most classical manifestation of Covid-19 infection that makes it



vital to think of Covid in every GBS patient in the context of the current pandemic," it said.

The statement said, "We are seeing a rise in cases of strokes in patients who have recovered from Covid-19."

In the second wave younger people are particularly affected and we are seeing a delayed presentation of stroke, weeks to months after the patient has recovered. Covid-19 increases the risk of blood clot forming which causes a block in the vessel to the brain that leads to stroke, the statement said.

Patients who have recovered from Covid-19 return to hospitals with cardiac complica-

tions like myocarditis (inflammation of heart muscle) and even heart attacks. Cardiac complications are seen even in those who have no underlying heart disease and have experienced mild Covid-19 illness, the statement said.

"Another serious post-Covid complication that patients are coming with is lung fibrosis, a permanent scarring of the lung. These patients get readmitted with worsening hypoxemia and need long term oxygen therapy," the statement said.

It also mentioned that the number of patients with post-Covid issues could be higher as many with post-Covid symptoms like fatigue, lethargy, headache, body ache and joint pain are not reporting to hospitals.

"With many Covid-19 patients having multiple health issues after recovery, there is a dire need to set up post-Covid clinics at tertiary care hospitals to understand and look at management strategies of post-Covid sequelae."

ANOTHER SERIOUS POST-COVID COMPLICATION THAT patients are coming with is lung fibrosis, a permanent scarring of the lung. These patients get readmitted with worsening hypoxemia and need long term oxygen therapy," the statement said.

No Decision On Opening Of Schools Yet: School Edu Dept

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Dispelling the rumours about the reopening of schools in Jammu and Kashmir, Secretary School Education Department Bishwajit Kumar Singh Tuesday said that the government has not taken any decision yet, about the reopening of schools in the region.

Bishwajit said although the department has proposed to reopen the schools from July 15, tentatively, the final decision will be taken by the government".

He said that the final de-



cision on the reopening of schools will be taken after discussing the pros and cons and after taking the expert opinion on the issue.

He said that the community

classes will continue to run as long as the schools do not reopen. "Community classes have received a great response and they will go on till the final decision is taken."

Three Arrested For Selling Govt Cement In Ganderbal

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: The Jammu and Kashmir Police in Ganderbal Tuesday arrested three persons involved in illegal sale of government cement.

A police spokesperson said that a police party raided two spots at Fraw Haknar & Ganiwan Gund and seized 248 bags of government cement from the possession of three persons.

The trio has been identified as Ishtiyag Ahmad Shah son of Abdul Ahad Shah, Mushtaq Ahmad Shah son of Abdul Ahad Shah both residents of Fraw Gund and Ehsan-ul-Haq son of Abdul Ahad Bhat, a resident of Sumbal Bala Gund.

The spokesperson said that



the cement was meant for Government works only and was labelled as "Not for Retail Sale". The accused persons were arrested and shifted to police station where they remain in custody.

Accordingly, cases vide FIR Nos. 31/2021, 32/2021 and 33/2021 under relevant sections of law have been registered at Police Station Gund and investigations have been initiated.

Tractor Turns Turtle, Kills Boy In Beerwah

Observer News Service

BUDGAM: In a tragic road accident a 10-year-old boy was killed Tuesday afternoon in Wanihama area of central Kashmir's Budgam district.

Eyewitnesses said that a ten year old boy Aqib Ahmad Ga-

naie, son of Ghulam Muhammad, a resident of Mulshula area of Beerwah came under tractor, which turned turtle in Wanihama area leading to his on the spot death.

A senior police official said that a case has been registered to ascertain the cause of accident.

Anti Encroachment Drive Conducted In Kulgam



Observer News Service

KULGAM: Following the directions of Deputy Commissioner Kulgam a joint team of Revenue,

Municipality and police Tuesday swung into action and launched a drive to clear encroachment of footpaths here in the town.

During the drive footpaths were cleared which were encroached by shopkeepers.

Shopkeepers were also asked to desist from this practice of encroaching footpaths.

The District Administration is focused on clearing the footpaths and roads that have been encroached upon by shopkeepers.

Book 'Role Of Teacher Is Vital In Society' Released



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Administrative Secretary Higher Education Department (HED), Sushma Chauhan, Tuesday released a book titled 'ROLE OF TEACHER IS VITAL IN SOCIETY' authored by Late Dr. Satya Pal Vaid at Civil Secretariat here.

Additional Secretary HED, Rakesh Badyal; Deputy Secretary HED, Vikas Dhar Bhagati and son

of the late author, Ajay Vaid were also present on the occasion.

The book highlights the role of teacher as builders of Nation and civilization, character building in youth, as also their contribution to the society. The book also contains articles from various academicians, researchers and bureaucrats. It is a tribute to teachers from a teacher as author himself belonged to teaching faculty.

Legal Traineeship Programme Extended For Another Year

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Union Ministry of Corporate Affairs has extended the legal traineeship program by a year for fresh law graduates and undergraduate law students of Jammu and Kashmir.

A Letter was issued by Haamid Bukhari, AROC and Asstt Official Liquidator (Attached to High Court of J&K) to all the law schools and Universities requesting them to nominate 4-5 law students for the said program. Bukhari in the letter has mentioned the terms and conditions for the said programme.

Islamic Fraternity Organises Awareness Campaign In Pahalgam

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Islamic Fraternity (IF) a Kashmir based Socio-Religious organisation, Tuesday launched a mass campaign for the awareness of COVID protocols besides a Dawah camp at Pahalgam and distributed masks among tourists and locals.

"Islamic Fraternity is already in Pahalgam for the last four

Bukhari said that this is first of its kind program where in, law students of J&K would get an exposure to work with the Government of India's offices at both Jammu and Srinagar and would learn the new aspects like Corporate Law and related compliances.

The development of Corporate Culture in J&K is very important and this should serve as a first step in right direction. Last year too, the legal traineeship program was successfully culminated at the Srinagar office of ROC where in, only Law School from Kashmir University participated.

days and will be there for ten days for a Dawah campaign where they will distribute copies of Holy Quran in different languages among tourists," a statement of IF said.

The aim of organising such programs in the valley is to remove misconceptions and to give the true message of Islam, said Muhammad Aamir, the president of Islamic Fraternity Kashmir.

Kokernag To Be Promoted To Its Befitting Prestige: Hafeez



Observer News Service

KOKERNAG: Secretary, Tourism & Culture, Sarmad Hafeez Tuesday visited picturesque Kokernag and threw open many tourist facilities for the convenience of the visitors.

Interacting with the locals and visitors, Sarmad Hafeez said the Government intends to promote Kokernag to its befitting prestige and historicity for which many initiatives have been planned.

The Tourism Secretary pointed out that as a matter of policy the Department has decided to expose lesser known destinations to tourist visibility. He said destinations like Sonmarg,

Yousmarg, Doodpathri etc. are already being brought in the visibility spectrum of tourists and events in Adventure, recreation and promotional areas shall be held soon at Kokernag also to make it equally attractive for tourists.

Sarmad Hafeez said the Government has also decided that cleanliness and sanitation shall be maintained at all the tourist destinations across Jammu & Kashmir. For this, he said, regular sanitation drives are being held at the tourist destinations besides conducting awareness camps for the locals and stakeholders equally for maintaining the ecology of tourist places for their upkeep.

Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Kashmir

Estates Wing, Main Campus Shalimar – 190 025

Notice Inviting e-Tender

E-NIT NO. (16) Of 2021

Dated: 01.07.2021

For and on behalf of Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST(K), e-tenders in (single-cover system) are invited from approved and eligible Electric contractors whose cards are valid up to 31-12-2022 registered with State PWD, CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Govt. departments for the following work:-

S.No	Name of the work	Estimated Cost (in lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion
1.	Repair /renovation of street lights along with replacement of fan dimmers and switch sockets etc of various hostels at FVSC & AH Shuhama SKUAST-K	01.38	AAY Class	500/-	07 days

- a) Position of AAA: Accorded
b) Position of T.S : Sanctioned
c) Position of funds: Available

1. The Bidding document consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, set of terms and conditions and other details can be downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per following schedule:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	01.07.2021
2.	Date of start of downloading	01.07.2021
3.	Pre-bid meeting date	NA
4.	Bid submission start Date	01.07.2021
5.	Bid submission end date	02.07.2021
7.	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid/ Financial Bids of qualifying bidders (online)	13.07.2021

Further information can be had from the Office of the undersigned

No. Au/Estates/E-NIT(16)/169

Dated: 05 .07 .2021

DIPK-NB-1600/21

5d/-
Executive Engineer
SKUAST-K

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Printed & Published by Sajjad Haider on behalf of the
Kashmir Observer LLP
Published from: # 5- Boulevard, Srinagar-190001
Printed at: KT Press Pvt. Ltd, Rangreth Ind Area, Srinagar.
RNI Registration No: 69503/98
Postal Registration No-L/159/KO/SK/2014-16
Editor-in-Chief : Sajjad Haider
Legal Counsel: Tasaduq Khwaja
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K O V I E W

Pre-empt third wave

India witnessed a single day rise of 34,703 coronavirus infections, on Tuesday which is the lowest in 111 days. The progressively decreasing trend of infections is proof that the devastating second wave is waning and may soon send. The active cases have now further declined to 4,64,357 and the fatalities have reduced to 553, the lowest in 91 days.

That said, the Covid-19 is not over yet. India could still see the much-feared third wave of the pandemic sooner than later. According to a report by the State Bank of India, the third wave may rear its head from the middle of August, following while the country is still fighting the second wave.

But for now we can take heart from the fact that the infections are decreasing. The drop has come amid the easing of the curbs on movement and hence is all the more welcome. But while the second wave is easing, the vaccination is not picking up commensurately leaving India vulnerable to a third wave. India has now increased the gap between two Covishield doses to 12 to 16 weeks from six to eight weeks. The health ministry in its statement on May 13 had said that it had accepted the 12-16 weeks recommendation from the COVID working group of National Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (NTAGI), and from a group of mainly government officials tasked with vaccine administration. This was mainly done to compensate for the shortfall of the vaccines and to inoculate more people with the first dose.

There is a large number of the population above 65 years of age that has not received its second dose. Being in the high-risk and vulnerable group, the gap in their case needs to be urgently reduced. The government should make an exception for them.

At the same time, now that the government has got a grip on the second wave, care needs to be taken to pre-empt the third wave. While loosening the curbs to reopen the economy, the government has to strictly enforce the Standard Operating Procedure in public life. This should be done while simultaneously speeding up the vaccination in the country. This can only happen if more vaccines become available and the gap between the two doses is reduced.

Going forward, the government has to ensure that a Covid-appropriate behaviour is followed. The decreasing trend of the infections is a good news. The government should now build upon it by scaling up the production of vaccines. Much is at stake in India. The economy that was battered last year can't afford one more year of disruption. Already lakhs of people are jobless or have had their incomes truncated. There's no other option but to vaccinate a critical mass of people to get a handle on the pandemic.

O T H E R O P I N O N

On Internet access to schools

The digital divide in India's school education system, reflected by the absence of computers and Internet access on campus, emerges starkly from the Education Ministry's Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+), for the pre-pandemic year of 2019-20. Physical infrastructure has traditionally meant good buildings, playgrounds, libraries and access to water and toilets, but the advent of hybrid learning even ahead of the coronavirus crisis has made essential online access and computers key adjuncts to make the learning process more engaging. During 2020-21, it became painfully evident that most students had to rely on remote learning, but many faced the double jeopardy of not possessing their own computing devices and smartphones at home, and their schools remaining in the dark without such facilities. In remote areas, particularly in the Northeast, many had to travel closer to mobile phone towers to access the Internet on shared phones to get their lessons. The latest data confirm that a mere 22% of schools across the country on average had Internet access, while government institutions fared much worse at 11%. On the second metric of functional computer access, the national average was 37% and for government schools, 28.5%. Beyond the averages, the range of deficits reflects deep asymmetries: 87.84% of Kerala schools and 85.69% in Delhi had an Internet facility, compared to 6.46% in Odisha, 8.5% in Bihar, 10% in West Bengal and 13.62% in Uttar Pradesh.

Students and teachers not being able to use computers and the Internet is acknowledged to be a form of deprivation, especially during the pandemic, just as the inability to attend in-person classes is another. Many scholars see the teaching-learning process as multi-dimensional, helping to inculcate social skills. COVID-19 has, however, compelled all countries to evaluate hybrid education models, with a mix of lessons delivered virtually now and on campus later when the virus threat abates. In such a multi-layered process, bringing computers and the Internet to all schools cannot be delayed any longer. The Centre must explore all options, such as the National Broadband Mission, the BSNL network and other service providers, to connect schools, including all government institutions that are severely deprived; the upcoming 5G standard with the benefit of high wireless bandwidth may also be able to help bridge the gap quickly. Getting computers to schools should also not be difficult because, apart from public funding, communities, corporates and hardware makers can use recycling and donation options. The UDISE+ shows that many schools have fallen through the net, and they need urgent help to get connected.

The Hindu



Marginalized Mainstream

The establishment parties have little space to fight back in the new scheme of things where the dissent has been made inherently infructuous and the resistance redundant

RIVAZ WANI

“The question is whether the establishment politics could make any difference to this state of affairs? It can't. The choice for the mainstream leaders is stark: between being rejected by the centre in favour of the pliable alternatives or falling in line with its expectations

If anything, the meeting with prime minister Narendra Modi has starkly underlined the limits to which the establishment parties can stand up to the centre. Both, the run-up to the meeting and its aftermath have generated a contentious debate in J&K and across India. The argument has gone along the following two axes: one, mainstream leaders, especially the People's Alliance for Gupkar Alliance should have boycotted the meeting to express their opposition, even hurt at the withdrawal of the J&K autonomy and the downgrading of the state into two union territories. Second, the PAGD should have gone and articulated forcefully the case of the restoration of Article 370 that granted J&K autonomy under India's constitution.

The alliance has done neither: they attended the meeting without even a feigned show of reservations. And as for what happened at the meeting, the dominant accent was reportedly on the return of statehood - ironically the demand on which both the centre and the mainstream parties are in agreement. The home minister Amit Shah has, on the floor of the parliament, promised to restore statehood “at an appropriate time.”

But at the meeting, the PM wasn't willing to relent even on this apparent area of agreement. The statehood was the last in the sequence of the steps he set out to return Kashmir to democratic rule. Both the PM and the home minister were, on the contrary, keen on completing the delimitation exercise and holding elections within the union territory framework. As is apparent, the restoration of statehood is going to be a long haul.

The aim is clear: the statehood shall follow once the ideological and strategic objectives behind the withdrawal of Article 370 have been achieved. The delimitation commission is a key to do so: The exercise which is expected to give Jammu more

seats in a future Assembly would create an artificial political parity between the two regions. The redrawing of the constituencies, people in Kashmir apprehend, is geared to turn the demographic majority of the union territory into a political minority, further reducing their power in a future political dispensation.

At the same time, the elections in a union territory would change nothing: the ultimate power will continue to vest with the Lieutenant Governor, who will also be in control of the security, which has a dominant role in the affairs of a long-troubled region. The only redeeming change will be some accommodation of the local faces in the regional governance charged with the delivery of some basic services.

Would statehood follow the elections? This is unlikely to be the logical next step. Such a prospect would depend on two important conditions: If the party or the coalition in power threatens to challenge the revocation of Article 370, or is seen in a position to overturn some of the administrative and legal measures passed over the last two years, statehood is unlikely to be restored. So, a 'good behaviour' on the part of an elected government would be an unspoken pre-condition for returning statehood.

An ideal arrangement from the centre's point of view would be a government dominated by the BJP, whose chances following the delimitation of seats look brighter. Or, at least, a government of the party or parties which have reconciled to the loss of the autonomy as a fait accompli. Even then, the statehood to be granted is unlikely to be full but a truncated one where the real power would still be with the governor. So, in effect, there is little that would change on the ground.

Now, the question is whether the establishment politics could make any difference to this state of affairs? It can't. The choice for

the mainstream leaders is stark: between being rejected by the centre in favour of the pliable alternatives or falling in line with its expectations. They have little space to fight back in the new scheme of things where the dissent has been made inherently infructuous and the resistance redundant. There is little that is happening in terms of resistance in Kashmir that could bring the centre to terms or, at least, persuade it to engage with Kashmiris to dole out concessions.

Had the PAGD refused to meet the PM, the centre would have invented ten other so-called political stakeholders to participate and all of whom would have played along with its stance on the former state.

There's also a chorus among a section of population in Kashmir that the PAGD should threaten to boycott elections in the UT if the exercise is not preceded by the grant of statehood. But the issue is can they? For one, this is what the centre under the circumstances would cherish: this would pave way for the small and the pliant parties to win the seats by default and either make a centre-friendly government themselves or lend their support to a Jammu based party, preferably the BJP. Such a government would be happy to do the centre's bidding on Kashmir.

Out of power, the traditional parties could be confronted with an existential threat of their own. They could suffer engineered desertions and become the target of wrath of the centre which is certain to raise not only the cost of their dissent but also do everything to push them to the margins of the region's political landscape.

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 of Kashmir Observer



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MAIL

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

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Endangered Handicrafts

The respect and desirability that Kashmir has received is because of its beauty as well as the handicrafts produced here. But today, regrettably, this very blooming industry of J&K is on a major setback. This set back to the industry could be attributed to the disturbed situations in the region. The other reasons for this

downfall are low capital, poor infrastructure, absence of market intelligence and also the new generation not willing to contribute to this very important sector. The other reasons may be lack of branding of this art, and this may be due to lack of technology or awareness among people. The Government is trying to bloom this industry, to regain

its place in local as well as international markets. There seems to be no ray of hope left for revival among the people though. An artisan of wood carving and a national awardee in Shahar e Khass (Downtown Srinagar) who has been doing this work from the past 50 years, said, “This art is on the way to its sleep and on the verge of extinction”. He

editpage.ko@gmail.com added, “Unfortunately, there are no more people now left who are willing to continue this art. The same is the case with other handicrafts including carpets, shawls and paper machie”

Ahmad Naqash
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Indian Education System Needs Remodelling

Country's education system needs to be remodelled as per the requirements and aspirations of today's world, instead of taking it back to the old ages



Asad Mirza

In contemporary India, which has seen a sharp rise in caste and religious violence, the curriculum and teaching methods in Indian classrooms clearly have a key role to play in making caste and religious prejudices in society irrelevant and out of time

What is education? Answer to this question is multifaceted. Some say that it is the process of acquiring knowledge, skills, values and habits. Swami Vivekananda rightly said that, "Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in men." Mahatma Gandhi said that, "Education is the basic tool for the development of the consciousness and the reconstitution of society". However, recent moves by our policy and decision makers try to belie this belief, as these moves seem aimed at taking India back to the old ages.

Education is a journey, which gives the art of living, not just the livelihood. It makes us learn how to nurture our life and be more creative. Education makes us understand our conflicts. Thus, education is not merely learning of facts but is to train our mind to think. Education systems must provide opportunities to each and every individual to learn through experience and should help to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.

However, in India the education system has evolved in a completely different manner. Instead of focussing on critical thinking, expressing new ideas and debating and thinking critically on any issue, our students are forced to learn through the rote route.

This concept of education goes back to the British colonialists, who wanted an army of clerks with basic understanding of the language and mathematics, to support their administrative system. However, this concept got roots in India and instead of focussing on developing mental and critical thinking faculties of the students and promoting research, our education system tuned into one where you amass degrees by cramming.

Educational advance in India

Education and the right to education is one of the fundamental rights of our country's citizens. It is compulsory for children aged between 6-14 to have an education. Over the many years, especially after independence, India has managed to increase its literacy rates to nearly 75% by 2021, and some states even boast of 100% literacy rate.

Most important focus in the recent decades has been on enhancing infrastructure, incentivising enrolments in schools by providing benefits such as midday meals etc. The private sector with government support has played a significant role in the expansion of the Indian education system and improving its quality. But it can also be credited with corporatising the education system, thus making education accessible to a privilege few.

In the research domain, India lags behind

many countries. Our universities and colleges lack a multi-disciplinary approach to stimulate enquiry-based research skills. Absence of a proper framework for developing industry linkages with academia to promote research, further limits the faculty and students to work in this area.

We can perceive that most measures are more on paper with no tangible results evident. In 2004, the then UPA government had imposed an Educational Cess of 2% on every transaction in the country. In a three year period this cess generated 32,000 crore rupees. But how this amount was used, nobody knows and if one asks then vague answers are given. In fact if this amount had been used prudently, we would have a well-equipped and well-staffed middle-level school functioning in every village of the country. Similarly, for the last ten years, every taxpayer is bound to pay a 1.5% education cess on his total income tax. Where this money goes, nobody knows.

Tinkering with school syllabus

Last year, in a completely uncalled for move, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) revised its syllabus for students of Classes 9th to 12th in the name of handling the stressful situation of teachers and students in view of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic, and in the name of rationalising the syllabus.

Some of the important chapters that have been deleted include: Federalism, citizenship, nationalism and secularism from class 11th political science subject besides India's foreign relations with neighbouring countries and citizenship, besides Social and New Social Movements chapter in India from class 12th political science paper. Demonetisation from class 12th Business Studies paper. Colonialism and the countryside colonial cities and understanding partition from class 12th History subject have been deleted.

The irrational exclusions smack of a political tone, aimed at keeping a large and young part of the population unaware of these issues. We should not forget that depriving the young generation of its right to increase its knowledge base is not only authoritarian but it might also boomerang. Most of the deleted topics form the foundation of democratic societies and students need to learn about these to enhance their knowledge base.

National Education Policy 2019 and 2020

The national educational policy came into force in 1968 to make education accessible to masses. It was aimed to strengthen national integration through a unified culture of learning. Since then

constant measures have been taken to reform the Indian education system to provide better education services in the country, the latest being the National Education Policy (NEP) 2019 and 2020.

However, if we analyse the NEP 2019 and 2020, the overall intent and decision maker's mindset, in tandem with the moves taken last year, will be clearer.

A critical study of the 484-page NEP 2019 reveals an issue deserving of wider, more heated debate. The words "secular" or "secularism" are not found anywhere in the NEP 2019. Though a clear reference to secular education was vital to be seen as the base for these ambitious reform proposals.

The absence of the word "secular" in the NEP 2019 becomes all the more pronounced when seen in contrast to the earlier policies of mentioning secularism as a core Indian value for the Indian education. The omission of the words "secular" and "secularism" in the NEP 2019 is ominous, along with the frequent affirmation of its aim of inculcating constitutional values in the education system, making it doubly odd.

The NEP 2019 was launched last in its new avatar as NEP 2020, but many of the contentious issues still remain.

In contemporary India, which has seen a sharp rise in caste and religious violence, the curriculum and teaching methods in Indian classrooms clearly have a key role to play in making caste and religious prejudices in society irrelevant and out of time. The challenge is to find fresh and creative ways of making young minds grasp these difficult contemporary social realities.

You have to understand that you can't hide history by giving it a new twist. Even in countries like the UK there are demands to teach medieval history to the school students again. If you feel that by hiding the truth on your controversial decisions you'll be able to fool people or hide your misjudgements then you are wrong, as history will ultimately judge you, whether you like it or not.

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

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

Uncertainty, The Norm

Asha Iyer Kumar

The time we live in now has a new name. Uncertainty.

Ask anyone about their well-being and you will likely receive replies that vary from "so far, so good" and "not bad" to "trying to be positive" and "surviving". Most responses are variations of a cautious sense of optimism, echoing a never-before kind of anxiety and circumspection about life.

Certainty was never a feature of human lives at any point. There has always been a twist here and a turn there, but uncertainty has never been so obvious and brutal as it is now.

We had never acknowledged the fluidity of our existence as intimately as we are doing presently. It is as if all the zest for life has been sucked out of our being by the unfolding plot of the pandemic.

I recently chanced upon a word, Cherophobia, which means fear of happiness. It seems as if we are all becoming cherophobic, slowly and imperceptibly losing our capacity to laugh and celebrate life unrestrained. There is a constant sense of danger lurking in the corner, and we are forever scurrying to take cover from our insecurities.

Where do we now find happiness when tragedy and transience take over our lives? Whence do we derive our peace of mind in these turbulent times?

For a long time, I had lived under the impression that psychologists were beyond negative thoughts until I met someone who grieved the loss of a parent like any normal human being. It was then that it dawned on me that tragedies could affect even the most stolid minds and what helped them tide over

it was knowing how to alter the course of the mind. They probably knew how to tweak thoughts and rein them in. They understood the dynamics of a disturbed mind and employed methods to placate it.

there is no tomorrow. Or is there? One would not know for sure, but what one knows is that we have this day and this moment.

As the mind wandered looking for a place to

I made a pitstop there, amazed at how the present moment had always been there for me, but I had not taken notice of it at all. Always yoked to past or yanked by the future, hauled over regrets and anxieties, how I had not savoured the time that laid itself out in all its glory I front of me

Now, more than any time before, we too have a need to find ways to grapple with this tumultuous streak in our lives.

Just like the psychologist who unabashedly displayed her emotions in front of me, I must confess that I too am susceptible to anxieties, despite the life lessons I frequently serve up. Fear has been the overriding emotion in my heart for a while now, angst has superseded hope, and the way uncertainty has manifested itself around me makes me think

roost at peace, the present moment appeared in front of me asking to be embraced. I made a pitstop there, amazed at how the present moment had always been there for me, but I had not taken notice of it at all. Always yoked to past or yanked by the future, hauled over regrets and anxieties, how I had not savoured the time that laid itself out in all its glory I front of me.

It was always about what had happened and what can happen, never about what is happening

right now. Think about it. Haven't we fretted more about what our children will grow into or how successful they will be in their careers than taking delight in their childhood? Don't we worry more about our retirement years than enjoy the days of employment? Don't we look back on what could have been and sigh more often than reckon what is now and rejoice?

The more I pondered, the more I realised that the antidote to my fear of uncertainty lay in giving the present moment its due. But realisation is one thing, and its execution is another and how I struggled to put my own recommendation into action!

I am mentioning this here only to stress that it is easy to theorise solutions, but to formulate a plan and implement it takes a lot more spiritual strength, and that strength comes from inside us. The best and the worst of us lies within and knowing this alone will help us in these uncertain times.

I shall not claim that I have tidied over my tensions about the future completely; there are occasions when I am ambushed by dismal thoughts, but I can affirm that the present moment now comes to my rescue more often than before.

Carpe diem, carpe diem, I repeat to myself, and when I settle into its essence unconditionally, committing myself to it fully, my fears dissipate, and I am revived all over again.

....
Khaleej Times

Fortifying tea with folate, vitamin B12 could help tackle health issues in women: Study

AGENCIES

A study has found a new way to fortify tea in order to tackle health issues in women with chronic nutritional deficiencies.

The findings of the study published in the online journal 'BMJ Nutrition Prevention and Health' suggested that fortifying tea with folate and vitamin B12 may help counter the high levels of anaemia and neural tube defects associated with these widespread nutritional deficiencies in Indian women.

Most women of childbearing age in India eat a poorly balanced diet, resulting in chronic folate and vitamin B12 deficiencies.

Although many countries have successfully fortified flour with folate nationally to ward off neural tube defects, logistical issues make this strategy difficult to implement in India.

This is because around 70 per cent of the population lives in over 650,000 rural villages, where cereal grain is more often grown, milled, and purchased

locally. And diets vary considerably according to cultural, religious, and ethnic differences and beliefs.

Besides water, tea is the most common beverage drunk in India. It's cheap and is largely grown and processed in the highlands of only 4 states: Assam, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

A single daily cup might therefore provide an ideal vehicle for fortification with these water-soluble vitamins, the study authors thought.

To test this out, they divided 43 young women (average age 20) from Sangli in the state of Maharashtra into three groups.

The women were asked to use teabags laced with therapeutic doses of 1 mg folate plus either 0.1 mg vitamin B12 (group 1; 19 women) or 0.5 mg vitamin B12 (group 2, 19 women), or to use unfortified teabags (group 0, 5 women) in a daily cup of tea for 2 months.

Their serum vitamin and haemoglobin levels were compared at the beginning and end of the study period.

Most women had anaemia with low



to normal serum folate and below-normal serum vitamin B12 levels at the start of the study.

After 2 months, there were significant average increases in serum folate

levels of 8.37 ng/ml and 6.69 ng/ml in groups 1 and 2, respectively, compared with a rise of 1.26 ng/ml among the women in group 0.

Serum vitamin B12 levels rose to

more than 300 pg/ml in more than half of the women in group 1 and in two-thirds of those in group 2. Average haemoglobin levels also rose by 1.45 g/dl in group 1 and by 0.79 g/dl in group 2.

This is a feasibility study, involving small numbers of participants, so larger comparative studies would be needed before any firm conclusions could be drawn, said the study authors.

But they suggested that fortified tea could potentially be used in India in two ways: as a daily therapeutic dose of folate and vitamin B12 for all those with either borderline or low folate/vitamin B12 levels; as a lower (maintenance) dose to ensure the hundreds of millions who subsist on a nutritionally poor diet can still get these two nutrients every day.

The authors concluded, "Tea is an outstanding scalable vehicle for fortification with folate and vitamin B12 in India, and has the potential to help eliminate haematological and neurological complications arising from inadequate dietary consumption or absorption of folate and vitamin B12."

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT CIVIL SECRETARIAT SRINAGAR/JAMMU

Notice Inviting Tender/RFP

Corrigendum – 01

e-NIT NO. CAW- 01 OF 2021.

JAMMU, June 08, 2021.

Subject: RFP for empanelment of Fixed Wing Aircraft Company for hiring the aircraft on requirement basis.

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, proposals are invited from reputed and registered aviation companies having airworthy size multi engine Jet Aircraft with galley services duly certified and endorsed on its Non-Scheduled Operator's Permit (NSOP) from DGCA, Government of India for an initial term of one year w.e.f.15.07.2021 for multi-purpose use of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. The dates have been modified and extended in view poor initial response. The amended tender schedule as specified is given below:

Tender schedule

EVENT	TARGET DATE	
Last date to send in request for clarification on the tender, (through email on jkcivilaviation@gmail.com)	08.07.2021	12.00 Hrs
Pre bid meeting/pre proposal meeting	09.07.2021	15.00 Hrs
Last date and time for submission of Tenders	12.07.2021	13:00 Hrs
Time and date of opening of Technical Bids	13.07.2021	14:00 Hrs
Time and date of opening of Financial Bids (tentative, subjective to decision of the Committee).	15.07.2021	14:00 Hrs

Other details

S.No.	Item	Particulars
(a)	Tender Reference	CAW-01 of 2021
(b)	Tender Fee	Rupees 20,000.00 only, to be submitted Online through Payment Gateway, or Demand draft (to be submitted Physically prior to opening of bid) A/c No.0110010100000281, IFSC – JAKAOMOVING, J&K Bank Moving Secretariat Branch. Tender fee is non-refundable
(c)	Place of Pre-Bid Meeting	Office of Civil Aviation Commissioner, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu/Srinagar
(d)	Address of Communication	Office of Civil Aviation Commissioner, 2/19, Civil Secretariat, J&K, Jammu -180001
(e)	Email Address	jkcivilaviation@gmail.com
(f)	Contact person	Capt. S. Katoch, Commissioner (Technical)
		Tele (O): 01912572714.
(g)	e-Tendering Website	https://jktenders.gov.in

- The tender document along with other Terms and Conditions of the NIT and relevant documents can be downloaded from the Union Territory Website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The tender shall be deposited in electronic format on the Union Territory website <http://jktenders.gov.in>.
- The tenders uploaded on the website up to due date will be opened on 13.07.2021 or any other subsequent date convenient to the Tender/Purchase Committee in the Office Chamber of Commissioner (Technical), Civil Aviation Department, Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir, Civil Secretariat, Room No. 2/19, Jammu.
- The complete bidding process will be online.
- Submission of hard copy is exempted, except DD/CDR.
- Documents required to be notarized for submission may be submitted on the letter head under the signature of the authorized signatory.
- Scanned copies of all necessary documents as per tender documents need to be uploaded as part of the technical bid. These documents, in original, may be asked for submission subsequently, if needed.

- Instructions to bidder regarding e-tendering process: Bidders are advised to get Digital Signature Certificate as per Information Technology Act, 2000. Bidders can get Digital Certificate from approved vendor.
- Bidders have to submit their bids in two bid format i.e. Technical and Financial Bid online in electronic format with Digital Signature. Financial Bid shall be submitted ONLINE only. No financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned document.
- Bidders must upload the scanned copy of all necessary documents, like CDR/PAN/Demand Draft/Online receipt (Tender fee)/Registration certificate duly renewed online as per dates mentioned above.

- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission due to any reason.
- The Tender/Purchase Committee shall reserve the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

- The rates offered should be quoted in figures as well as in words inclusive of all taxes and levies or any other charge.
- The payment shall be released after successful completion of the contract.

- Any erasing/overwriting/mutilation in the tender form will result in outright rejection of the tender.
- Conditional and ambiguous tender will not be entertained.

- The terms and conditions as reflected in tender document, are mandatory and should be read very carefully by the intending tenderers while furnishing their tenders, which shall form a part of this NIT.

(S. Katoch)

Commissioner (Technical)

Civil Aviation Department

JAMMU, July 05, 2021

No. CAW/Estt/Tech/2020-21/1259-69

DIPK-4152/21

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: Merit List of candidates for admission to (10th Based) Paramedical Diploma (FMPHW/MMPHW) Courses-2021: Counselling thereof.

References:

- Notification No. 054-BOPEE of 2021 dated 15-04-2021
- Notice No. 046-BOPEE of 2021 dated 05-05-2021
- Notice No. 050-BOPEE of 2021 dated 25-05-2021
- Notice No. 052-BOPEE of 2021 dated 04-06-2021
- Notification No. 064-BOPEE of 2021 dated 07-06-2021
- Letter No. SC/491-paramedical/1834 dated 30-06-2021.

**Notification No. 069-BOPEE of 2021
Dated 05-07-2021**

In pursuance of Notification No. 064-BOPEE of 2021 dated 07-06-2021 where under the Provisional Merit List (PML) of the candidates, for (10th Based) Paramedical Diploma (FMPHW/MMPHW) Courses-2021 in the Government/Private Paramedical Institutions of the Union Territories of J&K/Ladakh, was issued and made available on the Board's official website www.jkbopee.gov.in for inviting objections, if any, from the applicants upto 15th of June, 2021. The Board has received no objections regarding the Provisional Merit List during the stipulated date/time. However, the result awarded applicants as shown in the PML have submitted their online/offline Marks Cards and as such marks of these applicants have been reflected in the Updated Provisional Merit List as shown in Annexure "A" to this Notification and is available only on the BOPEE website www.jkbopee.gov.in.

As already notified vide Notification No. 064-BOPEE of 2021 dated 07-06-2021 the Board has decided that there shall be no Entrance Test and therefore the Provisional Merit List (PML) issued vide this Notification (hereafter the basis of merit) shall be treated as the Final/Operational PML for Physical Counselling of eligible candidates as per below schedule:

S.NO.	DATE	RANK	DESCRIPTION
1	12-07-2021	001 to 220	All candidates (OM/Category)
2	13-07-2021	221 to 440	All candidates (OM/Category)
3	14-07-2021	441 to 660	All candidates (OM/Category)
4	15-07-2021	661 to 880	All candidates (OM/Category)
5	16-07-2021	881 to 1100	All candidates (OM/Category)
6	17-07-2021	1101 to 1338	All candidates (OM/Category)

PROCEDURE FOR PHYSICAL COUNSELLING:

The following procedure shall be followed:

- The Board shall conduct the physical Counselling for filling up of available seats in all Govt./Private Institutions of UT of J&K and UT of Ladakh as per the schedule given above simultaneously at BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar through Video Conferencing.
- Candidates shall have to report to the BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar physically for registration/attendance & fulfilment of other formalities between 08:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. as per their Rank and date.
- Candidates are advised to bring along their Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority & other relevant Certificates/Documents as applicable to be presented at the time of Counselling. Non-production of same may debar such candidates to appear before Counselling Committee for allotment of a seat.
- The allotment of seats (discipline/institution) shall be made in pursuance of S.O. 127 Dated 20-04-2020 to the eligible candidates in the PML.
- Seats shall be allotted to the candidates as per counselling schedule purely on Merit & Preferences filled by candidates in their Counselling Forms at their own turn.
- A candidate who misses his counselling on a particular (designated) day can be allowed by the Board to participate in the counselling in the next day(s) provided that he/she does not stake a claim on a seat which has been allotted to a candidate seat in merit (to such candidate) on the ground that the candidate could not participate in the physical round of counselling earlier when the seat was available.
- The candidates who do not join the college on allotment of seat after completion of counselling shall not be eligible to participate in the subsequent round of counselling i.e. subsequent rounds.
- The Board reserves the right to modify other changes (or any other change) as may become necessary in view of any technical difficulty or the reasons beyond its control.

Note:

- All the candidates who are reporting for physical counselling at BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar are requested to adhere strictly to Advisory issued by the Government of J&K from time to time for COVID-19.
- Seat matrix shall be updated separately within due course of time before counselling.
- The candidates must remain in touch with the official web site of the Board i.e. www.jkbopee.gov.in to remain informed about the Counselling Process and Daily Based Seat Matrix.
- Any candidate who may not be able to attend counselling physically owing to a valid reason can authorize a person (through Authority Letter- on prescribed format) from his/her family member to participate in the counselling on his/her behalf at BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar on day/date of counselling as per his/her Rank.

The other terms and conditions shall remain the same as notified in the information Brochure and Notifications/Notices issued in this regard from time to time.

E&OE

No. BOPEE/Exam-Exam-11/2021

Dated:05-07-2021.

DIPK-NB-1609/21

(Dr. Sunil Gupta)

Controller of Examinations

J&K BOPEE

از نیابت وندیلگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار

مضمون درخواست منجانب: بسما جان، اقرا جان، آفرین جان، بلال احمدت ولدان عبدالغنی بٹ ساکنہ نالسن برای ضلع انتہا ناگ

بمراو عطا ئی RBA سرٹیفکٹ

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیلگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول ٹیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بذاتیں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنیڈوہڈا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور ساکن کا کنیڈو بذیل ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام افراد کنیڈو	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
01	عبدالغنی بٹ ولد غلام بٹ	55 سال	مزدوری	=/5000
02	حفیظہ زوجہ عبدالغنی بٹ	54 سال	گھریلو کام	
03	بلال احمد بٹ ولد عبدالغنی بٹ	20 سال	زیر تعلیم	
04	بسما جان دختر عبدالغنی بٹ	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	
04	آفرین جان دختر عبدالغنی بٹ	17 سال	زیر تعلیم	
05	اقرا جان دختر عبدالغنی بٹ	15 سال		
06	کوثر جان دختر عبدالغنی بٹ	23 سال	گھریلو کام	
07	ڈولی جان دختر عبدالغنی بٹ	21 سال	گھریلو کام	

اسطور کنیڈو 108 اور پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور کنیڈی سالانہ آمدنی =/67500 روپیہ تک ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معوجہ بات پیش کرے۔ میعاد گزرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار

RNA

از نیابت انتہا ناگ با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ

مضمون درخواست منجانب: راجہ بانو زوجہ مرحوم عہد رشیڈوئی و رفیقہ اختر زوجہ مرحوم عہد رشیڈوئی ساکنہ قاضی باغ انتہا ناگ

بغرض حصول Legal heir /لینگیل ہیئر عرقیت

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر کی نسبت ساکن کے کفایت بغرض حصول legal heir سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بذاتیں زیر کاروائی ہے۔ معاملہ کی نسبت پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی کہ ساکن کی شوہر مسامی عہد رشیڈوئی اور مورخہ 20-07-21 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے متوفی محترمہ کے وارثان جائزہ بذیل ہے

نمبر شمار	نام و ولدیت	رشتہ منہا	پیشہ	عمر
01	راجہ بانو زوجہ مرحوم عہد رشیڈوئی	زوجہ متوفی	گھریلو کام	80 سال
02	رفیقہ اختر زوجہ مرحوم عہد رشیڈوئی	بیٹی متوفی	گھریلو کام	40 سال

اسطور متوفی کے صرف دو ہی وارثان جائزہ موجود ہے اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی وارث جائزہ موجود نہیں ہے متوفی کے وارثان جائزہ لینگیل ہیئر عرقیت حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے۔ لہذا اگر کسی شخص کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ دفتر بذاتیں سات دن کے اندر اندر پیش کریں۔ بعد ازاں عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

از نیابت ساگام با اجلاس نائب تحصیلدار ساگام

مضمون درخواست منجانب: خورشید احمد داس پیر اسد اللہ داس ساکنہ موضع اراگام ضلع انتہا ناگ

بمراو عطا ئی RBA سرٹیفکٹ

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض از نیابت وندیلگام با اجلاس منظور احمد خان نائب تحصیلدار حصول ٹیک وارڈار یا سرٹیفکٹ دفتر بذاتیں پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کنیڈوہڈا میں گزشتہ پندرہ سالوں سے رہائش پذیر ہے اور ساکن کا کنیڈو بذیل ہے۔

نمبر شمار	نام افراد کنیڈو	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
01	اسد اللہ داس ولد عہد اسد داس	58 سال	زیر تدارکی	=/6000
02	سمسا قتیہ زوجہ اسد اللہ	55 سال	گھریلو کام	
03	خورشید احمد داس ولد اسد اللہ	28 سال	زیر تعلیم	
04	شیرازہ دختر خورشید اسد اللہ	25 سال	گھریلو کام	

اسطور کنیڈو 06 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ اور کنیڈی سالانہ آمدنی 870000 روپیہ تک ہے۔ لہذا زیر بحث سرٹیفکٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض معوجہ بات پیش کرے۔ میعاد گزرنے بعد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار

RNA

COVID Outbreak Forces England To Select New Cricket Squad



Agencies

LONDON: England was forced to select a completely new squad on Tuesday for the one-day international series against Pakistan after an outbreak of the coronavirus infected three players and four members of staff.

The initially selected squad went into isolation following the results of tests taken on Monday, a day after the team's last ODI against Sri Lanka in Bristol.

The names of those who tested positive have not been disclosed. The remainder of the group were identified as close contacts.

The three ODIs and three Twenty20s against Pakistan, starting on Thursday with the first ODI in Cardiff, were still going ahead and at the same venues.

England's revised, hastily assembled ODI squad includes nine new caps and will be captained for the first time by Ben Stokes and coached by Chris Silverwood, who had been due to take some time off during the white-ball series but has been pressed back into action.

The initial squad will be back in time to play the T20 series, which starts on July 16.

"We're in unprecedented territory in terms of replacing an entire squad and management team," said Ashley Giles, director of England's men's cricket, "and I'm proud of how everyone has come together in order to get it done".

Most of those who tested positive are without symptoms, the England and Wales Cricket Board said, but some are feeling unwell.

All players in the initial squad received at least one vaccine jab, but not everyone was fully vaccinated.

"We have been mindful that the emergence of the delta variant, along with our move away from the stringent enforcement of bio-secure environments, could increase the chances of an outbreak," ECB chief executive Tom Harrison said.

"We made a strategic choice to try to adapt protocols, in order to support the overall wellbeing of our players and management staff who have spent much of the last 14 months living in very restricted conditions."

The new 18-man squad and staff drafted in will need to submit negative tests and complete "bridging protocols" before joining the squad in Cardiff.

That match will take place in front of a 50% capacity crowd, with the second game at Lord's on Saturday representing cricket's first 100% crowd since the pandemic began. The series then concludes at Edgbaston.

Stokes has been pulled out of Durham's English County Championship match against Warwickshire. He had been left out originally by England in a bid to manage his comeback from a finger operation.

Revised England squad: Ben Stokes (captain), Jake Ball, Danny Briggs, Brydon Carse, Zak Crawley, Ben Duckett, Lewis Gregory, Tom Helm, Will Jacks, Dan Lawrence, Saqib Mahmood, Dawid Malan, Craig Overton, Matt Parkinson, David Payne, Phil Salt, John Simpson, James Vince.

Two Matches Played In 2nd Phase Of Premier UT League 2020-21



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Two matches were played on Tuesday in the ongoing Premier UT League 2020-21 2nd Phase football tournament at Synthetic Turf TRC, Srinagar.

The first match of the day was played between Dar Sports Kupwara and Etihad FC Pulwama. Both teams started on an aggressive note but neither of the teams was able to score in the 1st half. In the 2nd half, the players of Dar Sports Kupwara geared up and scored two goals thanks to Towqeer Ah-

mad. Etihad FC tried hard to score but failed to find the net. The final score was 2 goals to nil in favour of Dar Sports Kupwara.

The 2nd match was played between Shopian FC & Ferrari Lions Ganderbal. The football clubs played quality football and tried to dominate each others half. Both the teams got equal opportunities to score but missed their respective targets. The 1st half ended goalless.

The 2nd half started with impressive passing and ball control as the teams tried to penetrate the

defensive lines of each other but were unable to find the net. It was towards the dying movements of the 2nd half that Danish of Ferrari Lions scored a magnificent goal. Thus Ferrari Lions defeated Shopian FC by a solitary goal.

The Premier UT League 2nd Phase will continue today with two matches scheduled to take place, SWFC Baramulla will take on J&K Bank XI at 2:30 pm while Iqbal FC Qalosa will take on Kashmir Avengers FC at 4:30 pm.

The Tournament is organized by JKSC & JKFA.

Week Long Self-Defense Camp For Girls Inaugurated In Pulwama

Observer News Service

PULWAMA: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Pulwama, Baseer ul Haq Choudary, on Tuesday inaugurated one week long self-defense camp (Boxing, Martial Arts) for girls.

The event was kick-started in presence of Principal GDC and was organized by Department of Physical Education in collaboration with Women Development Cell, at GDC Pampore.

Speaking on the occasion, the



DC said that the camp will provide opportunity for girls to learn self-defense techniques. He said apart from their studies, girls should actively participate in such programmes and such types of co-

curricular activities shall also be conducted across the district.

On the occasion experts highlighted the importance of Martial Arts for maintaining physical and mental fitness as well.

Afghanistan's Star Spinner Rashid Khan Named T20 Captain

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: Star leg-spinner Rashid Khan was appointed captain of Afghanistan's T20 team keeping the ICC T20 World Cup scheduled to be held in UAE from October 17 to November 14 in mind.

Left-handed batsman Najibullah Zadran was appointed as the vice-captain of the team.

"All-rounder Rashid Khan has been appointed the T20I captain of Team Afghanistan. Meanwhile Najibullah Zadran has been appointed the National Team's Vice-captain for the format," Afghanistan Cricket Board said in a statement.

"Rashid, one of the well-known global faces of the game, was selected by senior ACB leadership led by ACB Chairman Farhan Yousefzai, for the role considering his experience, brilliant performance as well as leadership skills with the National team over the years."

Rashid, who is ranked world no 2 among bowlers in T20Is, had earlier declined Afghanistan's T20I captaincy, saying that he believes he is more valuable as a player than as a leader. Rashid plays for Sunrisers Hyderabad in IPL, which is also slated to host remainder of the league in UAE.



"I'm a great believer that a captain is as good as his team. It is Afghanistan that gave me the name RASHID KHAN & it is my duty now to serve my country & my team. Thank you @ACBofficials for the trust & believing in me. It is a dream journey & my fans support will be the key." Rashid Khan said in a Tweet.

In 2019, the 22-year-old was named captain across format in

July but was later replaced by Asghar Afghan in December following Afghanistan's loss to West Indies in a one-off Test and ODI series.

Afghanistan has been clubbed with England, India and South Africa in group B for the T20 World Cup 2021. The remaining two teams will be chosen from the Qualifiers. The 2021 edition of the tournament was recently shifted to UAE from India due to the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic.

England Inspired By Expectations, Denmark By Resilience

Agencies

LONDON: England is shouldering rising expectations. Denmark is powered by resilience and recovery.

And emotions will be high at Wembley Stadium before their European Championship semifinal match even kicks off Wednesday when there will be a moment to remember the tournament's most harrowing incident and the player who won't be playing for Denmark.

The England squad has signed a No. 10 jersey emblazoned with Christian Eriksen's name that will be handed to Denmark captain Simon Kjær by England counterpart Harry Kane.

The England players were on a bus travelling to London from their training base to prepare for their opening game of Euro 2020 on June 12 when Eriksen collapsed on the field while playing against Finland. He had to be resuscitated with a defibrillator.

"We saw it on the screens," said England defender Kieran Trippier, a former teammate of Eriksen's at Tottenham. "I was close with Christian. The most important thing is he is getting better."

Perhaps what is most remarkable is that while Eriksen recovers from his cardiac arrest, Denmark has managed to reach the semi-



nals for the first time since unexpectedly winning the European Championship in 1992.

"These last four weeks have been the emotions of a lifetime," Denmark coach Kasper Hjulmand said. "We've been facing death in a way I never hoped I should."

After losing the opening two games — including the Finland match that resumed that day — the Danes looked on the verge of elimination. But they got used to the formation switch from 4-2-3-1 to 3-4-3 and beat Russia in their final group game to advance before outsting Wales and the Czech Republic to set up the meeting with England.

Kasper Dolberg has scored three goals, Pierre-Emile Højbjerg has been

Sri Lanka Cricketers To Be In Bubble As Soon As They Land Back From England



Press Trust of India

COLOMBO: Sri Lankan cricketers will head straight into a bio-bubble ahead of their limited-overs series against India after landing back from England, where the players they competed against have been quarantined following a COVID-19 outbreak in the team.

India and Sri Lanka are due to square off in an ODI and T20 series starting July 13.

The Sri Lankan team will reach Colombo today itself and enter another bubble after one round of RT PCR test. Even after completion of tour on Sunday, the team had an RT PCR test in UK before boarding the flight," a Sri Lanka Cricket official told PTI.

"Since the India series is starting in a week no one is going home. It's bubble to bubble transfer. However if anyone tests positive, usual protocol of testing and isolation would follow," he added.

This was after three England players and four members of the support staff tested positive for the virus after the last ODI against Sri Lanka in Bristol on Sunday.

The squad has been placed in isolation from that day onwards, the England and Wales Cricket Board said in a statement.

Their six-match limited-overs series against Pakistan is, however, going ahead, as scheduled on Wednesday. Ben Stokes will be leading an altogether new team that will be announced later on Tuesday.

India, England Test Series To Be Played In Front Of Capacity Crowd

Press Trust of India

LONDON: The upcoming Test series between India and England is set to be played in front of capacity crowds after the UK government announced the lifting of all COVID-19 restrictions on gathering of people.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday confirmed that all legal COVID-19 lockdown restrictions, including the mandatory wearing of face masks and limit on crowd at indoor, outdoor and sports events, will come to an end on July 19.

"We will remove all legal limits on the numbers of meeting indoors and outdoors," Johnson was quoted as saying by 'Sky Sports'.

"We will allow all businesses to reopen, including nightclubs. We will lift the limit on number of visitors to care homes and number of people attending concerts, theatres and sports events," he added.

"We will move away from legal restrictions and allow people to make their own informed decisions about how to manage the virus."

The five-Test series between India and England starts at Nottingham on August 4. Currently, the Indian players are on a break and will reassemble on July 14. The World Test Championship final between India and New Zealand was played in front a limited crowd at Southampton last month with the upper attendance limit capped at 4,000.

Tokyo Olympics Shaping Up As TV-Only Event With Few Fans

Agencies

TOKYO: The pandemic-delayed Tokyo Olympics are shaping up as a TV-only event with few spectators — if any — being allowed when they open in just over two weeks.

Japan's Asahi newspaper, citing multiple unidentified government sources, said Tuesday the opening ceremony at the 68,000-seat National Stadium is likely to be limited to only VIP guests. The Olympics open in 17 days.

The newspaper said other large venues are likely to have no spectators. Smaller venues are expected to allow some spectators.

Tokyo organizers and the International Olympic Committee are expected to announce the policy after a meeting likely on Thursday.

Two weeks ago, they announced that venues could be filled up to 50% capacity with a ceiling of 10,000. But surging virus numbers in Tokyo are forcing a rollback.

The IOC earns almost 75% of its income from TV rights, and will still

generate \$3 billion to \$4 billion in income from a television-only event.

Fans from abroad were banned months ago.

Dr. Shigeru Omi, a top government medical adviser, has said the least risky Olympics would be with no spectators. He also said it was "abnormal" to hold the Olympics during a pandemic.

Asahi said the no-spectators policy could apply to events that take place after 9 p.m. and to larger venues where 50% of capacity exceeds 5,000.

VIPs, sponsors and others dignitaries will be allowed to attend the opening ceremony and other venues, but the newspaper said these numbers could also be reduced. The newspaper said this "special category" was about 10,000 people.

Organizing committee chief executive Toshiro Muto said two weeks ago that VIPs would be allowed into venues — over and above any spectator cap — and were classified as "organizers" and not spectators.

"There are many stakeholders of

the IOC and so forth. People related to key clients. And for those people they are regarded as organizers of the games and they are not spectators," Muto said.

Yoshiro Mori, the former president of the organizing committee, in an interview with Japanese television TBS, said he suggested an Olympics without spectators to other politicians in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

"I had said we should develop plans based on no spectators," he said.

Mori, a former prime minister, was forced to step down five months ago as president of the organizing committee, after he was criticized for making "inappropriate" comments about women.

About 11,000 Olympic athletes and 4,400 Paralympians will be entering Tokyo, along with tens of thousands of coaches, administrators, broadcasters, and media.

The decision on spectators could come on the same day, Thursday, that IOC President Thomas Bach arrives in Tokyo. Bach is to self-isolate for three

days in a five-star Tokyo hotel.

The Tokyo organizing committee also announced on Tuesday that it will not allow any roadside viewing of the race walks or marathons in the northern city of Sapporo. The events were moved there two years ago because of worries around Tokyo's hot and humid summers. The decision by Bach and the IOC was vehemently opposed by Tokyo Governor Yuriko Koike.

"It is unfortunate for those who had hoped to watch the world's top athletes up close here in Sapporo and cheer them," Hokkaido Governor Naomichi Suzuki said.

The government is also expected this week to extend quasi-state of emergency measures in Tokyo, which end on Sunday.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government reported 593 new coronavirus cases on Tuesday, the 17th straight day that cases were higher than they were a week earlier. On Saturday, the capital reported 716 new cases, the highest in five weeks.

Brazil Beat Peru 1-0 To Enter Copa America Final

Agencies

RIO DE JANEIRO: Brazil reached the Copa America final after a first-half goal from Lucas Paqueta — his second in two games — gave them a 1-0 win over Peru on Monday.

The host nation will play the winner of Tuesday's other semi-final between Argentina and Colombia in the title decider at the Maracana stadium on Saturday.

Brazil have won the Copa America every time they hosted the tournament and in the early part of Monday's match showed exactly why they are favourites to do so again.

Within the first 20 minutes Peru goalkeeper Pedro Gallese made two point-blank saves in succession from Neymar and Richardson plus another two blocks when Casemiro tried his luck from further out.

With Paqueta, who scored the winner in their 1-0 quarter-final win over Chile, a standout in midfield, Brazil played some intricate, audacious football, replete with flicks, nutmegs



and backheels but it took them 35 minutes to break the deadlock. Neymar beat three men on the left and clipped the ball across goal for Paqueta to volley home from 10 metres.

"It was a very tough game, very hard fought," Paqueta said.

"They are a very strong side but we managed to make it through a

difficult spell."

Neymar was quick to sing his team mate's praises and said there was more to come.

"Paqueta is a great player, he's getting better with each game," he added. "He had a great season with his club and here he is showing that he can be a very important player for Brazil."

Delimitation Panel

Ahmad Daikoo had a meeting with the commission for around 20 minutes till 4.30 pm.

The Commission further met with CPI-M leaders -- Gh. Nabi Malik, Ramesh Kumar Bhat, Ab Rashid Pandit, Mohammad Subhan and Wahid Sultan Dar between 4.30 pm to 4.50 pm.

Six Congress leaders including G.A. Mir (President), Peerzada Mohamad Sayeed, Taj Mohi-u-Din, Bashir Ahmad Magrey, Surinder Singh Channi (General Secretary) and senior leader Vinod Koul met with the commission later.

From the National Conference, Abdul Rahim Rather, Mohammad Shafi, Mian Altfat Ahmad, Nasir Aslam Wani and Sakina Ittoo later met with the commission till 5.30 pm.

National Panthers Party members Syed Masood Andrabi, Manzoor Ahmad Naik, Hakikat Singh Jamwal, Farooq Ahmad Dar and Hakeem Arif Ali will later meet with the commission.

Besides, four members of J&K People's Conference and five members of J&K Apni Party will also subsequently meet with the commission as per the prescribed 20-minute slot for each party.

This is the first visit of the three-member Delimitation Commission headed by Chairperson, Justice (Retd) Ranjana Prakash Desai and its ex-officio members Sushil Chandra (Election Commissioner) and K.K. Sharma (State Election Commissioner, J&K).

All the commission members reached Srinagar in the morning on Tuesday.

In its four-day visit to the erstwhile state till July 9, the commission will also meet public representatives and Union Territory administration officials, including District Election Officers or Deputy Commissioners of 20 districts in order to complete the delimitation process of Assembly seats so that elections can be held in the UT.

The commission will have detailed interaction with deputy commissioners of Kashmir division at Pahalgam and Srinagar on July 7 and those of Jammu division at Kishtwar and Jammu on July 8 and 9.

Since the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD) was not able to take a joint stand on meeting the commission or otherwise, it was decided that since the invitation from the commission was to individual parties, each constituent of PAGD would take its own decision.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) headed by Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday said it has decided not to be a part of the ongoing delimitation process in Jammu and Kashmir.

The Delimitation Commission was constituted in March 2020 and its term was extended by another year in March 2021 in view of the ongoing pandemic.

The commission also has five Associate members nominated by the Lok Sabha Speaker comprising Union Minister Jitendra Singh, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Jugal Kishore Sharma, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference leaders Farooq Abdullah, Mohammad Akbar Lone and Hasnain Masoodi.

NC, Cong Demands

In their representations, the National Conference (NC) and the Congress outlined their concerns and demands related to the exercise, and saying it be carried out only after Jammu and Kashmir is granted statehood again.

The CPI(M) also submitted a memorandum which highlighted the constitutional aspects of delimitation and the legal challenge to the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019.

The commission's visit came days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a meeting with leaders from Jammu and Kashmir and pitched for early conduct of elections after the delimitation exercise is completed.

The National Conference said the delimitation exercise should not have been conducted till the Supreme Court decided on the pleas challenging the constitutional validity of the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act 2019 and other related orders.

It said the hearing in the cases got delayed due to the pandemic and all the petitions are expected to be taken up once the physical hearing commences.

The party said in its memorandum that the implementation of any Act which is under the scrutiny of the court may amount to preempting the judicial verdict.

The party said that under the constitutional scheme, the delimitation of assembly constituencies fell within the powers of the state of J&K and under the second proviso to sec 47 of the Constitution of J&K, it is to be undertaken once the figures of the first census after 2026 are published.

The party said the delimitation exercise would be a credible effort in strengthening democracy only after full statehood is restored to J&K.

"Despite our basic reservations on the issue, the commission has decided to go ahead with the delimitation process. While reiterating our stand and without prejudice to the submissions made above, we request you and other members of the Commission to carry out the delimitation exercise in a free, fair and transparent manner so that the unity and integrity of the state is safeguarded. Population has to be the only norm as has been the practice here in the past in J&K and elsewhere in the country," it said.

Talking to reporters after meeting the commission, NC leader Nasir Wani said the party impressed upon the panel that people have "lost faith" in institutions and it was for the commission to try and restore this confidence. "If they are undertaking the exercise now, will it be repeated when delimitation has to be done across the country after 2026?" he asked.

Congress delegation in its memorandum said the delimitation process will be rendered "nugatory" if held before the

restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir.

"May we at the INC point out that until the restoration of Statehood for J&K, as demanded in the CWC Resolution of 6th August 2019, is completed; the delimitation process commencement will be rendered nugatory," the memorandum reads.

The party said it told the Commission that the initiation of political and democratic dialogue in Jammu & Kashmir must begin with restoration of civil liberties of political parties and people.

The "unlawful detention" of political leaders and their incarceration for long period without any charges is itself an anathema to the founding principles of democracy under our Constitution, it added.

"The aspiration of people of Ladakh to determine their democratic foundations within the four corners of the Indian constitution must be severely respected," the Congress said.

The party also suggested that the draft proposal prepared by the delimitation Commission be circulated among all the political parties for giving suggestions and submitting objections, if any.

"The Congress is duty bound to represent the viewpoints, apprehensions and doubts of the masses in general about certain factors and preconceived notions that may be detrimental to the democratic rights.

"People of Jammu and Kashmir have grave apprehensions of preconceived political prejudice governing the Commission's final recommendations with a view to give unfair and undue advantage to a particular political party and to the exclusion of democratic rights of the people for a just and amicable delimitation process and particularly to put the mainstream political parties in a disadvantageous position on account of innate unfairness," it added.

The CPI(M) said under the present circumstances, the 2011 census should be taken as the guiding frame for the delimitation exercise.

"The neglected sections of the population living in remote areas of the J&K also must be given due representation, the memorandum submitted by Ghulam Nabi Malik read. (PTI)

Outcome Pre-Planned'

Jammu and Kashmir.

In a two-page letter written to Ranjana Desai, a retired supreme court judge heading the panel, general secretary of the party Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura said the PDP has decided to stay away from the delimitation process and not be part of "some exercise, the outcome which is widely believed to be pre-planned and which may further hurt the interests of our people".

The letter started off with highlighting the August 5, 2019 revocation of the special status of the erstwhile state and its bifurcation into two union territories by the Centre.

It said the people of Jammu and Kashmir have been "robbed of their legitimate constitutional and democratic rights" by the abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution "illegally and unconstitutionally".

"...We are of the considered opinion that the Delimitation Commission lacks the constitutional and legal mandate in the first place and its very existence and objectives have left every ordinary resident of J-K with many questions," the letter, which was e-mailed and personally delivered, said.

The three-member commission was to meet political leaders in the union territory beginning Tuesday.

The PDP also claimed that there are apprehensions that the delimitation exercise is part of the overall process of political disempowerment of the people of Jammu and Kashmir that the Centre has embarked upon.

Without naming the BJP, the PDP alleged there are apprehensions that the process is aimed at realising the political vision "of a particular party" in Jammu and Kashmir wherein, like other things, the views and wishes of the people would be considered the least.

"It is a widespread belief that contours and outcome of the exercise are pre-planned and the exercise per say is a mere formality. The very intent is under question," it said.

The PDP said despite "the utter humiliation of the people of J-K, undermining of our constitutional and democratic rights, vilification and incarceration of political leadership and ordinary citizens" did not come in the way when Prime Minister Narendra Modi convened an all-party meeting on June 24.

"We didn't let our hurt come in way of what could have been an initiation of reconciliation process aimed at restoring the rights of people of J-K. Hence, we participated in the meeting," the letter said.

During the meeting, the PDP, which was represented by Mehbooba Mufti, emphasised on the need to reach out to the people of Jammu and Kashmir and suggested specific confidence building measures that could lead to breaking the ice in the process of addressing the "massive trust deficit between New Delhi and J-K".

"We are disappointed to see that after the all-party meeting nothing has moved and no effort has been made to bring ease into the lives of people, giving credence to those, who had in the first instance, called the meeting a mere photo opportunity," the letter said.

The letter said when they wanted some confidence building measures, the Centre "continued with its daily dictates to the people of J-K including the recent amendment and orders including those making every person a suspect (government employees antecedents verification order) and deepening the divide between the two regions of J-K (the order related to Darbar move)". (PTI)

Rebel NC Leader

which "is widely believed to be

pre-planned".

"It is never too late to stand for your rights. Unambiguity is the way forward. Hoping this letter reflects the in-house consensus. The message of the letter is appreciable," Mehdi, who was once the chief spokesman of the National Conference (NC), said in a tweet.

The former minister and an influential Shia leader has fallen out with the NC leadership, including Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah, on how they have gone about handling the post-August 2019 situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

Soon after the mainstream political parties attended the all-party meet convened by Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month, Mehdi went on an offensive against the decision of the Kashmiri leaders.

"Which nation or society satisfies itself with insignificant things when its rights and dignity have been snatched forcefully? I don't know of a nation that accepts and satisfies itself with the new law that it has been pushed to against its will," he tweeted.

The rebel NC leader summed up the all-party meet in one line: "A briefing session for participation in delimitation and elections. Period."

The PDP has decided to stay away from the proceedings of the Delimitation Commission, claiming that the outcome of the exercise is "pre-planned".

In a letter addressed to Justice (ret'd) Ranjana Prakash Desai, who heads the commission, PDP general secretary G N Lone Hanjura has said the party will not be a part of an exercise, the outcome of which "is widely believed to be pre-planned".

"...our party has decided to stay away from this process and not be part of some exercise, the outcome of which is widely believed to be pre-planned and which may further hurt the interests of our people," Hanjura has said in the letter.

However, the other parties have decided to meet with the visiting commission members and have nominated their representatives for the purpose.

The NC has nominated a five-member delegation to meet the commission and put forward its suggestions, a party leader said.

The members of the NC delegation are Abdul Rahim Rather, Nasir Aslam Wani, Mian Altfat, Sakina Ittoo and Muhammad Shafi. (PTI)

Kashmir Security

stock of the situation in Jammu and Kashmir, an official said.

He especially reviewed the measures taken to foil any future attempt of drone attack.

The ongoing counter militancy related operations, radicalisation inside jails in the union territory were other issues which figured in the meeting, the official said.

In what was the first instance of militants deploying drones to strike vital installations, two bombs were dropped at the IAF station in Jammu in the early hours of June 27, causing minor injuries to two airmen.

The explosions took place around 1.40 am within six minutes of each other.

The first blast ripped off the roof of a single-storey building at the technical area of the airport manned by the IAF in Satwari area on the outskirts of the city.

The second one was on the ground.

Officials said the explosive material dropped by the drones might have been manufactured using a cocktail consisting of RDX.

Investigators are yet to determine the flight path of the drones that dropped the bombs as they scanned the CCTV footage, including from cameras installed on the boundary walls of the airport.

However, all the CCTV cameras focused on the roadside, the officials said.

The drones that dropped the explosives were either flown back across the border or to some other destination during the night, they suspect.

The aerial distance from the Jammu airport to the international border is 14 km.

The IAF station located at the Jammu airport continued to remain out of bounds for everyone with probe teams picking up every bit of evidence available on the ground.

ED To Quiz Mehbooba's

connection with a money laundering case.

According to the notice, posted by Mehbooba on her official Twitter account, her mother Gulshan Nazir has been asked to appear before the central probe agency at its office in Srinagar.

The criminal case filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) is linked to the recovery of at least two diaries by the ED after raids on an alleged associate of Mehbooba, a former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister.

The diaries contain details of some purported payments made from the chief minister's discretionary fund in alleged contravention of rules, officials said.

These funds are alleged to have been diverted during the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) rule in the erstwhile state.

A few lakh rupees from these funds are alleged to have been transferred into the accounts of Nazir and some others, and the ED wants to question her about it, the officials said.

Gulshan is the wife of the late Jammu and Kashmir chief minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.

Mehbooba, 62, expressed surprise that the notice was served on her mother on the day her PDP decided not to meet the Delimitation Commission, set up to redraw Assembly constituencies in Jammu and Kashmir.

On the summon, Mehbooba said, "ED sent a summon to my mother to appear in person for unknown charges. In its attempts to intimidate political opponents, GOI (Government of India) doesn't even spare senior citizens. Agencies like NIA (National Investigation Agency) and ED are now its tools to settle scores."

The notice came hours after her party decided not to meet the Delimitation Commission, saying the body lacks

"constitutional and legal mandate" and is part of the overall process of political disempowerment of people of Jammu and Kashmir.

In a two-page letter written to Ranjana Desai, a retired Supreme Court judge heading the panel, general secretary of the party Ghulam Nabi Lone Hanjura said the PDP has decided to stay away from the delimitation process and not be part of "some exercise, the outcome which is widely believed to be pre-planned and which may further hurt the interests of our people".

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LG Sets Target

status of achievements made and the goals set under various components, the LG set the target of 8000 km of road length for the PWD, an official spokesperson said. The meeting, he said, was informed about a quantum leap in terms of achievement made by J&K Government in the road sector with 3167 km of new roads been built under 272 schemes in 2020-21 as compared to previous 5 years' average of 1450 km.

"Reach out to unconnected habitations with road connectivity. Put concerted efforts to strengthen and expand the intra UT road network, especially in rural & remote areas so that the population living in these areas can be extended all basic amenities for leading a quality life," the LG said, as per an official spokesperson.

While seeking the present status of the physical health of the old infrastructure, the LG, he said, directed the concerned officials to implement report of Safety Audit of Bridges in letter & spirit and further instructed them to prioritize work on bridges that needs immediate repairs.

He further said that the LG emphasized on keeping a regular watch on the work progress and passed specific directions for regular on-ground visits of field officers for ensuring quality and constant monitoring of the infrastructure, and submission of the progress report on a regular basis, with special focus on road projects.

"People have high expectations from the Government. It is important to address their developmental needs by taking concerted measures in this direction," the LG said, as per the official spokesperson.

He said Sinha also suggested the officials to explore all possibilities to lay down a comprehensive mechanism to bring uniformity in tendering, quality control, inspection, and monitoring process.

"The Lt Governor also issued clear-cut directions for completion of projects hanging in for long. While reviewing the achievements being registered during the last six years, the Lt Governor complimented the efforts put in by the concerned officers for completing 3167 kms of new road length in 2020-21, which is more than double as compared to the length covered in previous 5 years," the official spokesperson said.

On being informed about the target set by the PW(R&B) Department for covering around 4200 km road under PMGSY & I&I connecting 191 habitations, besides completing 237 languishing projects this year, he said that the LG advised the officials for pooling of resources and opting for convergence mode for better outcome and speedy execution of projects.

Under Pot-hole Free Road programme, this year, the department aims to make 6000 km road length free of pot-holes, the chair was informed.

For maintaining transparency and accountability in the working of the department, the official spokesperson said that the LG asked the concerned functionaries to put the working in public domain so that people can have easy access to all the relevant information. He also called for developing a mechanism for providing right information to the public with the factual position of the projects.

"On enquiring about the Health Infrastructural development being taken place in the UT, the Lt Governor was informed that the department is aiming at completing as many as 74 health infrastructural projects by the end of this year. The officials were also directed for ensuring effective utilization of installed oxygen plants," the official spokesperson said.

"He directed the concerned officials to expedite the pace of work on all projects taken up by the Department under various schemes for their timely completion, besides taking all requisite measures to remove the bottlenecks, if any, to achieve the target within fixed timelines," he added.

The official spokesperson further said that the LG also sought a detailed report of schemes yet to be completed, besides work status of schools and colleges undertaken by JKPC and directed for their completion in a time-bound manner.

During the review meeting, the official spokesperson said that Shailendra Kumar, Principal Secretary to Government, Public Works (R&B) Department informed that PW (R&B) Department is maintaining a massive road length of about 41584 kms, besides 1343 bridges across the UT.

"The Lt Governor was also apprised about the status of Forest Clearances, health infrastructure, installation status of Oxygen Plants in J&K by MED, National

Highways in J&K and, etc," he added.

Education Dept

scientific temper in students, besides providing them with quality education.

The directions in this regard were passed by Sinha while chairing a review meeting of School Education Department here at Civil Secretariat, an official spokesperson said Tuesday. The LG, he said, asked the School Education Department to identify High-Performer Teachers who shall work as a member of this Special Task Force.

"This new initiative will develop a sense of empowerment amongst teachers; making them more responsible and accountable towards their duty, besides improving student's enrolment and performance. The committee shall also aim towards integrating secular and democratic values in teachers as well as students," Sinha said, as per the official spokesperson.

Terming Education as a catalyst for the growth and development of the Nation, the LG, he said, underlined the importance of making new educational reforms so that no one remains deprived of education.

"We are working to bring reformative improvements in the education sector to achieve the bigger goal i.e "Education for All". The government is taking comprehensive measures to bridge the Social and Gender Gaps in School Education, besides ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels to improve J&K's Literacy Rate," the LG said.

According to the official spokesperson, the meeting was informed that J&K topped the country under National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers Holistic Advancement (NISHTHA) programme with 80600 Elementary Teachers Trained through online mode using DIKSHA portal.

Emphasizing on for Capacity Building of teachers, he said that Sinha asked the School Education Department to rationalize Pupil-Teacher ratio, besides conducting regular training of teachers in order to make them acquainted with the know-how of the modern educational tools which will go a long way in improving the quality of education and enhancing learning outcomes.

"The Lt Governor further stressed on giving a dedicated focus on Competency-based learning so that students can develop a better understanding of concepts that can be implemented in real situation," the official spokesperson said, adding "During the meeting, the Lt Governor sought the status of implementation of key features of National Educational Policy-2020."

He further said that the chair directed the department to include digital and financial literacy components in the school education curriculum.

"Take requisite measures to strengthen the Pre-primary education ecosystem in the UT. Incorporate students' feedback to make qualitative improvements in the assessment of the students' feedback system for evaluating the performances of teachers," the official spokesperson quoted the LG as saying.

He said that the LG also directed the School Education Department to ensure that the benefits under Prime Minister's "PM CARES for Children" and J&K Government's "SASCM" scheme, reached every child affected due to Covid pandemic.

As per the official spokesperson, Sinha underscored the significance of sports and other extra-curricular activities for holistic development of students and directed the concerned department to ensure playgrounds and eco-clubs in schools across the UT.

"Work in collaboration with Department of Youth, Services and Sports to engage students in sports activities in various disciplines," the LG said.

Reiterating directions passed previously, he said, the LG asked the School Education Department to include stories of real heroes of J&K in textbooks to make the new generation aware about their life history.

"He passed the necessary directions pertaining to effective implementation of centrally sponsored schemes; ensuring Water, electricity and sanitation facilities, besides attendance in every school," the official spokesperson said.

"The Lt Governor also took stock of the functioning of vocational labs, Centres for seasonal migratory students and Community Schooling in the UT," he added.

Bishwajit Kumar Singh, Administrative Secretary to Government, School Education Department briefed the chair about Category-Wise Schools & Gender-Wise Enrolment; Educational Indicators; Teaching Learning during COVID time; "Aao School Chalein" Enrolment Drive.

J&K Logs 231

Jammu division and Kashmir Valley respectively, taking the fatality count to 4345.

Providing the district-wide details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 63 cases, Baramulla 9, Budgam 14, Pulwama 30, Kupwara 3, Anantnag 6, Bandipora 6, Ganderbal 6, Kulgam 10, Shopian 1, Jammu 15, Udhampur 10, Rajouri 6, Doda 21, Kathua 0, Samba 0, Kishtwar 10, Poonch 10, Ramban 4 and Reasi 7.

Moreover, they said, 421 more COVID-19 patients have recovered in the last 24 hours—169 from Jammu Division and 252 from Kashmir. So far 309554 patients have recovered, leaving active cases at 3582—1578 in Jammu and 2004 in Kashmir.

There was no new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) reported today and thus the cumulative number of confirmed cases remained to 30 in J&K.

Police Probe Car

more than 100 stolen vehicles in Kashmir since 2015.

Malla used to take delivery of the stolen cars from one Juber and one Rinku alias Noor Mohammad, they had said.

2 Soldiers 'Spying'

and May 2021, who had further passed them on to Pakistani Intelligence Officers.

Gupta said the Jalandhar Rural Police, led by Senior Superintendent of Police

(SSP) Naveen Singla, while investigating a Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) case, recovered confidential and secret documents related to the functioning and deployment of the Indian Army from Ranvir Singh, who was arrested with 70 g of heroin on May 24.

He said during interrogation, Ranvir Singh disclosed that he got these documents from Harpreet Singh, who was his friend, as they both belong to the same village.

"Ranvir motivated and lured Harpreet Singh with financial benefits for sharing defence-related classified documents, following which the latter induced his friend Gurbhej Singh into such anti-national spying activities," Gupta alleged.

Since Gurbhej Singh was working as a clerk in 121 Infantry Brigade Headquarters in Kargil, he could get easy access to these classified documents containing both strategic and tactical information relating to the Indian Army, the DGP was quoted as saying in an official statement here.

The DGP said Ranvir Singh further used to send these classified documents to either the Pakistan ISI operatives directly or via one Gopi, who has been identified as the main drug smuggler from Dauke village in Amritsar having links with Pakistan-based drug-smuggling syndicates and ISI officials, who invariably work in tandem with each other.

Following Ranvir Singh's disclosures, the police have also arrested Gopi, who has confessed to having transferred classified documents to Pakistan-based drug smugglers, one of whom has been identified as Kothar, and an alleged Pak ISI operative identified as Sikander in lieu of supply of heroin and financial benefits, the DGP said, adding that all the pictures of the classified documents were transmitted over encrypted apps.

According to preliminary investigations, the DGP said that Harpreet Singh, from Cheecha village in Amritsar, and Gurbhej Singh, a native of Punian village in Punjab's Tarn Taran, got monetary inducements for sharing confidential information.

He said Ranvir Singh gave money to Harpreet Singh, who further used to transfer it to Gurbhej Singh's account.

Harpreet Singh had joined the Army in 2017 while Gurbhej Singh had joined in 2015.

SSP Singla said the Army authorities had handed over both the accused to the Jalandhar Rural Police and further investigations were being carried out to ascertain the involvement of any other accused persons.

SASB Starts Online

Darshan, Hawan, and Prasad facility under the virtual mode. The devotees can book their Pooja, Hawan, and Prasad online, and priests at the holy cave will offer it in the devotee's name. Prasad will be subsequently delivered at doorsteps of the devotees," a spokesman of the board said.

With the launch of new online services of Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board, the devotees of Lord Shiva from across the world can perform online virtual 'pooja' and 'hawan' at the holy cave, the Lt Governor said.

The online 'prasad' booking service was also extended to the devotees through this initiative, he added.

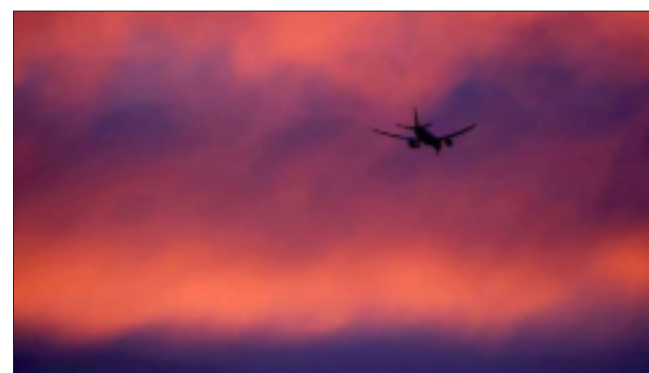
"Shri Amarnathji Shrine Board is extending online services including virtual pooja for devotees in their name, virtual hawan (with darshan) by name and online prasad booking," said Nitishwar Kumar, CEO of the shrine board.

The CEO said online services can be booked through the board's website www.shriamarnathjishrine.com by visiting the 'Book Online Pooja/ Hawan/Prasad' page and also through the board's mobile application from Tuesday onwards, by paying Rs 1,100 for virtual pooja, Rs 1,100 for prasad booking (with 5 gm silver coin of Amarnathji), Rs 2,100 for prasad booking (with 10 gm silver coin of Amarnathji), Rs 5,100 for the special hawan or combination of any of the above.

The virtual pooja or hawan would be carried out by the priest at the holy cave by pronouncing the name and 'gotra' of the devotee along with chanting of 'mantras and shlokas'.

The devotees would be allowed in a virtual online room through Jio meet application

Domestic Air Passenger Traffic Back To Growth Trajectory In June: Report



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Domestic air passenger traffic was back to the growth trajectory in June amid the falling number of COVID-19 cases in the country with around three million passengers flying on local routes in the previous month as against around two million in May, a report said on Tuesday.

Though there is some recovery observed in June, stress on demand continues, driven largely by the second wave of the pandemic, limiting travel to only necessary travel, credit rating agency ICRA said in its report.

On a sequential basis, domestic passenger traffic was up 41-42 per cent in June over May. The domestic passenger volume, however, rose 51 per cent on a year-on-year basis, it stated.

June 2020 was the full month of operations after domestic commercial flights were recommenced on May 25 following a nearly two-month ban amid the nationwide lockdown in late-March last year.

It has now permitted increasing the capacity to 65 per cent with effect from July 5 and which will remain applicable up to July 31.

For June 2021, domestic passenger traffic stood at around 29-30 lakh, implying a sequential growth of around 41-42 per cent as compared with around 19.8 lakh in May 2021, ICRA said in the report.

The airlines' capacity deployment in May, which was reduced to 50 per cent from 80 per cent earlier following a government order, was around 46 per cent higher at around 31,700 departures, than 21,696 departures in June 2020, it stated.

On a sequential basis, the number of departures in June were higher by around 14-15 per cent, as coronavirus infections demonstrated a downward trajectory, ICRA added.

"For June 2021, the average daily departures were at around 1,100, significantly higher than average daily departures of around 700 in June 2020, and higher than around 900 in May 2021, though remains significantly lower than around 2,000 in April 2021," said Kinjal Shah, vice-president and co-group head at ICRA.

She added that the average number of passengers per flight during June 2021 was 94, higher as against an average of 77 passengers per flight in May, the ratings agency noted.

Though there was some recovery observed in June, there

exists continued stress on demand, driven largely by the second wave of the pandemic, limiting travel to only necessary travel, she added.

Shah, however, added that both leisure and business travels have been curtailed due to various state-wide restrictions, despite the decline in infections, she added.

According to ICRA, the government's recent announcement of a scheme providing financial support in the form of working capital/personal loans to around 10,700 recognised regional-level tourist guides is expected to provide the much-needed liquidity support to tourism and travel stakeholders (TTS).

This, in turn, is expected to boost the overall travel and tourism sector, of which aviation remains a key beneficiary, it stated. Under the scheme, TTS will be eligible to get a loan of up to Rs 10 lakh each, while tourist guides can avail loans of up to Rs 1 lakh each.

Additionally, to provide an impetus to the tourism industry, the finance ministry announced a scheme to issue one-month tourist visas free of charge to first five lakh customers. Validity of this is until March 31, 2022, or issuance of five lakh tourist visas, whichever is earlier.

This is a right step towards a demand push for the airlines sector, primarily directed at in-bound international travel. However, the impact of the same is expected to be realised only once scheduled international operations are permitted by the government on a regular basis and the global fear psychosis related to travel to India subsides, ICRA said.

While the scheduled international operations have been suspended further till July 31, 2021, special overseas flight services are being carried out under the Vande Bharat Mission (VBM) for evacuation of Indian citizens from foreign countries, since May last year.

The international passenger traffic (inbound and outbound) for Indian carriers has been around 37 lakh for the period between May 7, 2020, and June 30, 2021, it said.

For June, the international passenger traffic for Indian carriers under the VBM was estimated at around 1.47 lakh, a sequential growth of around 4 per cent, as flights to/from India remained suspended in June by many countries, citing the new variant of COVID-19 and high infection levels.

Adopt 'One Health Approach' For Tackling Transmission Of Diseases From Animals To Humans: Experts

SKUAST-K commemorates World Zoonoses Day



KO NEWS DESK

SRINAGAR: To better prepare for the public health challenges like the COVID19 pandemic, experts on Tuesday stressed adopting the One Health Approach for addressing the transmission of infections from animals to humans as 75% of the emerging diseases in the world are zoonotic in nature.

Human and animal health experts were speaking in a daylong conference held by the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir to commemorate World Zoonoses Day. The function was organised by SKUAST-K's Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry under the World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) for the institutional development of the SKUAST-K. The event was jointly managed by FVSC's Division of Veterinary Microbiology and Division of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Extension.

Assistant Director-General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Dr Ashok Ku-

mar, highlighted the challenge of zoonotic diseases and said more than 75% of the emerging diseases among humans transmit from animals. He discussed the role of the One Health Approach, a WHO concept to address the issue of public health in an integrated manner, for tackling zoonotic diseases.

Vice-Chancellor, SKUAST-K, Prof JP Sharma, who addressed the gathering in virtual mode, highlighted the importance of animal agriculture and associated risks of zoonotic disease. He stressed on capacity building in terms of rapid and accurate disease diagnosis and enhanced quality of veterinary services that are affordable and accessible. Prof MS Khuroo in his presentation discussed the historical perspective about the discovery of Hepatitis -E. The hepatitis-E virus is an emerging global disease that is found almost everywhere in the animal kingdom.

Director Planning and PI NAHEP, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, stressed upon integrating the veterinarians, medical professionals, environmentalists and food technology experts to further

understanding the "One Health Concept". He stressed on capacity building in terms of infrastructure and human resources to take on the challenge of zoonotic diseases and bio-safety issues. Dean FVSC & A.H, Mohammad Tufail Bhanday in his opening remarks exhorted veterinarians & medical professionals to address the problem of Zoonotic diseases.

Prof. Shakil Ahmad Wani talked about the topic "Zoonosis-Role of veterinarians". He highlighted the importance of the future generation to learn from failures in order to frame the success in future. Dr Saleem Kamli discussed the recent COVID19 pandemic and its mitigation strategies. He also discussed the positive side of Covid for bringing all walks of life together. Prof. Sarfaraz Ahmad Wani Director of Research was the guest of honour for the valedictory function. He highlighted the role of the World Zoonosis day" in the present pandemic scenario and the role of veterinarians in controlling emerging and reemerging diseases. The symposium was held under strict Covid SOPs.

Petrol Hovering Near Rs 100 In Delhi After Yet Another Price Hike



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

Petrol price on Monday neared Rs 100-a-litre mark in the national capital after the rate was hiked yet again.

Petrol price was increased by 35 paise per litre while there was no change in diesel rates, according to a price notification from state-owned fuel retailers. In Delhi, the petrol price soared to Rs 99.86 per litre. Diesel rates were unchanged at Rs 89.36.

Petrol price rose to Rs 99.84 a litre in Kolkata. Rates are already above Rs 100 mark in other metros.

Fuel prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as value-added tax (VAT) and freight charges. In Mumbai, petrol is priced at Rs 105.92 a litre and it costs Rs 100.75 in Chennai.

As much as 55 per cent of the retail selling price of petrol in Delhi is made up of taxes (Rs 32.90 a litre excise duty collected by the central government and Rs 22.80 VAT levied by the state government).

Half of the die-

sel price is made up of taxes (Rs 31.80 central excise and Rs 13.04 state VAT).

Petrol has crossed the Rs 100-a-litre mark in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Bihar, Punjab, Ladakh and Sikkim.

Diesel, the most used fuel in the country, is above that level in some places in Rajasthan, Odisha and Madhya Pradesh.

The hike on Monday is the 35th increase in the price of petrol since May 4, when state-owned oil firms ended an 18-day hiatus in rate revision they observed during assembly elections in states like West Bengal.

In 35 hikes, the price of petrol has risen by Rs 9.46 per litre. During this period, diesel rates have soared by Rs 8.63 a litre in 33 instances of a price increase.

Oil companies revise rates of petrol and diesel daily based on the average price of benchmark fuel in the international market in the preceding 15 days, and foreign exchange rates.

PETROL HAS CROSSED THE RS 100-a-litre mark in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Bihar, Punjab, Ladakh and Sikkim.

Saudi Arabia Changes Import Rules From Gulf In Challenge To UAE

Saudi Arabia has amended its rules on imports from other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries to exclude goods made in free zones or using Israeli input from preferential tariff concessions - in a challenge to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as the region's trade and business hub.

Despite being close allies, Saudi Arabia and the neighbouring UAE are competing to attract investors and businesses. Their national interests have also increasingly diverged, such as in their relations with Israel and Turkey.

Furthermore, Saudi Arabia - the biggest importer in the region - is trying to diversify its economy and reduce its dependence on oil, while providing more jobs for its own citizens, a point also covered by the rule changes announced over the weekend. Saudi Arabia will henceforth exclude from the GCC tariff agreement goods made by companies with a workforce made up of less than 25 percent of local people and industrial products with less than 40 percent of added value after their transformation process.

The ministerial decree published on the Saudi official gazette Umm al-Qura said all goods made in free zones in the region will not be considered locally made. Free zones, a major driver of the UAE's economy, are areas in which foreign companies can operate under light regulation, and where foreign investors are allowed to take 100 percent ownership in companies.

GST Revenue In June At 10-Month Low, Slips Below Rs 1 Lakh Crore

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

GST collection slipped below Rs 1 lakh crore in June for the first time in eight months as the second wave of the Covid pandemic and the resultant lockdowns hit businesses and the economy.

At Rs 92,849 crore, the Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection is the lowest in 10 months since August 2020, when it was Rs 86,449 crore, official numbers released Tuesday showed.

The GST collections in June 2021 are primarily for supplies made in May—a month when most states were under different levels of lockdown, reducing business activity.

With significant relaxations in lockdown and business supplies picking up, the collections should see a definite uptick in the coming months, experts said.

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of June 2021 is Rs 92,849 crore, of which Central GST is Rs 16,424 crore, State GST is Rs 20,397, Integrated GST is Rs 49,079 crore (including Rs 25,762



crore collected on import of goods) and Cess is Rs 6,949 crore (including Rs 809 crore collected on import of goods), the finance ministry said.

The mop-up in June 2021 is 2 per cent higher than Rs 90,917 crore collected in June 2020.

GST collection had remained above the Rs 1 lakh crore mark for eight months in a row and was Rs 1.02 lakh crore in May. However, the collection in June 2021 dropped below Rs 1 lakh crore.

"The GST collection for June 2021 is related to the business transactions made during May 2021. During May 2021, most of the states/UTs were under either complete or partial lockdown due to COVID," the ministry added.

It said that e-way bill generation data for the month of June suggests

that uptick in revenue is expected in the coming months.

The e-way bills generated during June 2021 has gone up to 5.5 crore, indicating recovery of trade and business, up from 3.99 crore in May. As many as 5.88 crore e-way bill were generated in April.

"With reduction in caseload and easing of lockdowns, the e-way bills generated during June 2021 are 5.5 crore which indicates recovery of trade and business...it is expected that while the GST revenues have dipped during the month of June, the revenues will see an increase again from July 2021 onwards," the ministry added.

ICRA Chief Economist Aditi Nayar said despite declining to a 10-month low, the June 2021 GST collections provided a positive surprise.

"Overall, the GST collections in Q1 FY2022 are nearly twice as high as Q1 FY2021, highlighting the narrower impact of the state-wise restrictions necessitated by the second wave of Covid-19 in India, as compared to the stringent nationwide lockdown last year.

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ADMISSION NOTICE -2021 (FOR ADMISSION TO UG DEGREE PROGRAMMES)

Online applications are invited from (i) Residents/ Domicile of UT of Jammu & Kashmir/ UT of Ladakh (ii) Residents of Other States and Union Territories (iii) Foreign Nationals and (iv) Non Resident Indian (NRIs) - Non Resident Indian Sponsored (NRI sponsored) candidates for admission to Undergraduate degree programmes in the following disciplines for the Academic Session 2021 through University website: www.skuastkashmir.ac.in

S.No.	Degree Programmes	Eligibility Requirements for residents/ domicile of J & K/ Ladakh UTs	Eligibility Requirements for Residents of Other States and Union Territories/Foreign Nationals/ Non Resident Indian (NRI)-Non Resident Indian Sponsored (NRIs) candidates
01.	Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology and having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology and having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
02.	Bachelor of Fisheries Science	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics and having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent exam from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics and having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
03.	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Agriculture	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics and having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent exam from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics and having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
04.	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Horticulture	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Biology/ Mathematics and having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
05.	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Forestry	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
06.	Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Sericulture	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021
07.	Bachelor of Technology in Agricultural Engineering	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 50% for OM and 40% for reserved category candidates with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021	A candidate seeking admission should have passed 10+2/Higher Secondary Part-II or equivalent examination from a recognized statutory Board/University with English, Physics, Chemistry & Mathematics (PCM) having aggregate marks not less than 60% with minimum age of 17 years and maximum of 28 years as on 31-12-2021

Mode of Selection
For residents/ domicile of J&K/ Ladakh UTs category candidates:
The selection/admission under Open Merit/ Reserved categories and Self Finance category seats, the candidates shall have to appear in the University Entrance Test-2021

For Other States and Union Territories/Foreign Nationals and NRI-NRIs category' candidates:
The selection shall be made on the basis of marks obtained at qualifying examination i.e. to z (Higher Secondary Part-II) or equivalent examination.

Details about University Entrance Test-2021, reservation of seats, fee details, counselling and selection/admission procedure etc. are indicated in the Information Brochure-2021 which shall be available on the University website www.skuastkashmir.ac.in from 03-07-2021. Additional information for candidates applying under the categories of Other States and Union- territories/ Foreign Nationals/ NRI-NRIs is given in Part II of the Information Brochure-2021.

The schedule of main events of UET-2021 is given hereunder for general information of all concerned:-

Commencement of online submission of Application Forms	05-07-2021 (10.00 am)
Last date for online submission of Application Forms	28-07-2021 (11.59 pm)
Date of University Entrance Test:	To be notified separately
Test Centres:	Srinagar/Jammu/Ladakh (to be notified separately)
University Entrance Fee: (non-refundable) to be paid through online mode only (Credit/Debit Card/ Net Banking)	INR 1500/- only

- Candidates are advised to read the instructions given in Information Brochure-2021 carefully before online submission of application form.
- Candidates born before 31-12-1993 and after 01-01-2005 are not eligible to apply
- Change of stream from one programme to other, upgradation from Self Finance to Open Merit /reserved category and refund of fee after cancellation of admission shall be considered as per rules upto closing date of admission (last counselling)

No. Au/Acad/UET-2021/3746-3810
Dated: 02-07-2021

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