

24th year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Tuesday 10 August | 01 Muharram | 1443 Hijri | Vol:24 | Issue: 185 | Pages:12 | Price: ₹3

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P5 STATE

PAMPORE-PULWAMA ROAD UPGRADE PROJECT SHELVED

A tendered road project has been shelved after the government used the funds meant for the project to tackle covid-19 crisis. The up-gradation of 14-kilometers road stretch from

P6

PESTICIDES IN OUR DRINKING WATER?

There is no dearth of water resources in Jammu & Kashmir. We have a good amount of water available for water drinking as well as irrigating our farmlands. Kashmir valley especially has huge glaciers, lakes,



P3 CITY

SKIMS RUNS SHORT OF NECESSARY SUPPLIES

The patient care at the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Sura is suffering badly as the premier institute of the valley has run short



Quote!

When anger rises, think of the consequences

—Confucius

NEWS DIGEST

Soldier Injured In Landmine Blast

SRINAGAR: An army soldier on Monday was injured in a landmine blast in Keran sector of north Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said. The soldier M Singh sustained injuries after accidentally stepping over a landmine in the Keran sector along the Line of Control (LoC), they said. The injured soldier was airlifted to Badambagh Srinagar for specialized treatment. (GNS)

Four Killed In Twin Road Accidents

JAMMU: A mother-son duo was among four persons killed in two road accidents in Kathua and Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir on Monday, officials said. They said the mother-son duo was killed and six persons injured in a head-on collision between a Scorpio vehicle (JK02BM-6060) and an Alto car (JK02BG-1929) near DPS Rajbagh. The deceased have been identified as Kamlesh Devi wife of Parkash Chand and son Darshan (45) of Seer. ● More On P10

Arms Recovered From Militant Hideout

JAMMU: The Border Security Force (BSF) on Monday said a "big terrorist activity" ahead of Independence Day has been averted with the recovery of a huge cache of arms and ammunition from a terrorist hideout in Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir. The recovery which included two AK-47 rifles, a Chinese pistol, four grenades and two mobile phones was made during a ● More On P10

2 JKAS Officers Given Additional Charge

SRINAGAR: Government on Tuesday assigned additional charge to two JKAS officers in the interest of administration. According to an order issued here, Rajinder Singh (JKAS), Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Recovery, Jammu headquartered at Jammu, has been asked to hold the charge of the post of Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Enforcement (Central), Jammu, in addition ● More On P10

Ladakh Reports 7 New Corona Cases

LEH: Seven people tested positive for COVID-19 in Ladakh, while an equal number of patients were cured, taking the overall infection tally in the Union territory to 20,385 and 65 active cases, officials said on Sunday. The UT has registered 207 Covid-related deaths – 149 in Leh and 58 in Kargil – since the outbreak of the pandemic last year. As many as 20,113 patients have recovered till date. ● More On P10

11 Infiltrators Killed At LoC: MoD

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Ministry of Defence Monday informed the parliament that a total of 11 infiltrators were killed while 20 were apprehended besides 33 attempts were reported in the India-Pakistan borders up to June in the ensuing year. The Minister of State (MoS) in the Ministry of Defence Ajay Bhatt was responding to the queries raised in the parliament including the number of infiltration attempts at the international borders and how many of their infiltrators were killed. In a written reply filed to the parliament, the Minister said that a total of 33 infiltration attempts were reported during which 11 ● More On P10

'Nowhere To Run'

Global Warming Nears Limits: UN Report

Devastating UN Report Comes As Record Heatwaves, Wildfires And Floods Hit Countries Around World



Wildfires devastated wide swaths of Turkey and Greece this month

Agencies

BERLIN: Earth's climate is getting so hot that temperatures in about a decade will probably blow past a level of warming that world leaders have sought to prevent, according to a report released Monday that the United Nations calls a "code red for humanity."

"It's just guaranteed that it's going to get worse," said report co-author Linda Meams, a senior climate scientist at the US National Center for Atmospheric Research. "I don't see any area that is safe. Nowhere to run, nowhere to hide." But scientists also eased back a bit on the likelihood of the absolute worst climate catastrophes. ● More On P10

5 Things To Know About The New UN Report

The U.N.-appointed Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published a new report Monday summarizing the latest authoritative scientific information about global warming. Here are five important takeaways.

Blaming Humans

The report says almost all of the warming that has occurred since pre-industrial times was caused by the release of heat-trapping gases such as carbon dioxide and methane. Much of that is the result of humans burning fossil fuels — coal, oil, wood and natural gas. Scientists say that only a fraction of the temperature rise recorded since the 19th century can have come from natural forces.

Paris Goals

Almost all countries have signed up to the 2015 Paris climate accord that aims to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit) — and ideally no more than 1.5 degrees ● More On P10

Glaciers in Himalayan Region On Retreat

Glaciers in the Hindu Kush Himalayan (HKH) region will keep shrinking and the snow cover will retreat to higher altitudes, the latest IPCC report said on Monday. The Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), approved by 195 member countries, warned that extreme precipitation is projected to increase in major mountainous regions with potential cascading consequences of floods, landslides and lake outbursts in all scenarios. ● More On P10

J&K Sees More Covid Recoveries, Less Cases

Firdaus Ali

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir witnesses recovery of nearly 200 coronavirus infected people, while 108 fresh covid-19 cases of virus and one fatality were reported across the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, 196 more coronavirus infected patients have recovered from Jammu and Kashmir during the last 24 hours, leaving the number of active cases at 1311–566 in Jammu and 745 in Kashmir. During the same time, they said, Kashmir reported 65 new cases of Covid-19 while 43 cases were detected from Jammu division.

Giving district-wise details, they said, Srinagar reported 20, Baramulla 17, Budgam 2, Pulwama 1, Kupwara 2, Anantnag ● More On P10

Skill Institutes To Hoist Tricolor, Sing National Anthem

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration on Monday directed the Skill Development Department (SDD) to celebrate August 15 function in all institutes with singing of national anthem and hoisting of tricolor with proper flag code.

According to an official spokesperson, Lieutenant Governor's advisor Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar on Monday chaired a meeting of Skill Development Department (SDD) to review the preparations of the department for celebrating the 75th Independence Day. Bhatnagar, he said, directed the officers to

celebrate the function in all institutes with singing of National Anthem and hoisting of National Flag with proper Flag Code.

"He asked them that the Covid SOPs and protocols should be strictly followed while celebrating this important day across all institutes," the official spokesperson said.

Principal Secretary SDD, Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon; Director SDD, Sudershan Kumar; Secretary, Board of Technical Education, Additional Secretary SDD, Principals of Polytechnic Colleges, Superintendents of ITIs and other concerned officials of the department participated in the ● More On P10

THE ADVISOR, WHILE STRESSING ON CLEANING THE INSTITUTES across J&K beforehand, directed the officers to carry out dedicated cleanliness and sanitation drives across all institutes so that this important festival is celebrated with dignity, decorum and full enthusiasm."

Ban On 8th Muharram Procession To Stay

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Srinagar: The district administration has denied permission for the traditional 8th Muharram procession in Srinagar, days after the Divisional Administration authorised the District Magistrates to take call on whether to allow processions or not.

According to eyewitnesses, officers from police station Shaheed Gunj visited Guru Bazar area on Sunday afternoon and informed the residents that the traditional 8th Muharram procession from Guru Bazar to Dalgate will not be allowed. The alleged U-turn by the administration, they said, came as a shock to the people who were making preparations for taking out the procession after a long spell of 3 decades.

"The police officers said you have to observe ● More On P10

LG Hails PM Modi's Saffron Push

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for making the UT's saffron available at all outlets of NAFED nationwide, and said it will enhance profitability of the spice producers and directly connect the local farmers to the market.

"I express my deepest gratitude to the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji for making J&K's kesar (saffron) available at all outlets of NAFED nationwide which will enhance profitability of the kesar producers of J&K and ● More On P10

BJP Sarpanch, Wife Shot Dead In Anantnag

IGP Says Lashkar Behind Killings, PSO Suspended For Absence



Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Unidentified militants on Monday shot dead a Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Sarpanch and his wife in broad daylight in south Kashmir's Anantnag district.

Around 4:00pm Monday, unidentified pistol-borne militants barged inside the rented accommodation of BJP Sarpanch Ghulam Rasool Dar at Lal Chowk area of Anantnag town and fired

indiscriminately, a police spokesperson said. In the incident, he said, BJP Sarpanch and his Panch wife Jawhara Begum received critical gunshot injuries. The elderly couple were removed to the hospital where doctors declared them brought dead.

A resident of Redwani area of Kulgam, Dar was also district president of the BJP's Kisan Morcha from the south Kashmir district. He had unsuccessfully ● More On P10

LG Assures Prompt Action

Leaders across the political spectrum in Jammu and Kashmir Monday condemned the killing of a BJP sarpanch and his wife in Anantnag, with the saffron party asserting their sacrifices will not be allowed to go waste, while Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said the perpetrators will be brought to justice soon. "I strongly condemn the brutal terrorist attack on the Sarpanch GH Rasool Dar and his wife Jawhara Banoo of Redwani Bala, Kulgam. This is an act of cowardice & perpetrators of violence will ● More On P10

Rahul Gandhi Arrives In Srinagar

Press Trust of India

SRINAGAR: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Monday arrived on a two-day visit to Jammu and Kashmir during which he will inaugurate the party's head office here.

Gandhi was received at the Srinagar airport this evening by senior Congress leaders from Jammu and Kashmir, including Pradesh Congress Committee president Ghulam Ahmad Mir, a Congress leader said.

The Congress MP is scheduled to attend a wedding reception of Mir's son at a hotel here in the evening where the heads of political parties in the UT have also been invited, he said.

Those invited include NC president Farooq Abdullah and PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti.

On Tuesday morning, Gandhi will visit the Kheerbhawani temple in Central Kashmir's Ganderbal district ● More On P10

Part-Time Journalist Goes Missing

Agencies

SRINAGAR: A family from Bijbehara area of south Kashmir's Anantnag district on Monday lodged a missing report with police, stating that their 23-year-old son has been missing since August 6, officials said.

"Today one Abdul Hamid Bhat son of Ghulam Mohammad Bhat of Veeri Bijbehara reported in police station Bijbehara along with written application, mentioning therein that his son namely Rayees Ahmad Bhat aged about 23/24 years, qualification ● More On P10



Kashmir Observer lensman Abid Bhat captures a view of community classes in a picturesque meadow in central Kashmir's Budgam district on Monday .



از دفتر نائب تحصیلدار کریم
مضمون کاغذات درخواست اینجنگ زویدم حرم سجاد احمد میر ساکنہ ریشی پورہ
بر اعدا علی لیکل میسر نقلیت

اشتہار ہمراد آگا ہی ہر خاص و عام

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں درخواست سال دفتر خدا میں زیر کاروائی ہے اس سلسلے میں پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ بشمول ریکارڈ طلب کیا گیا ہے مطابق رپورٹ پٹواری نوٹنگی سرٹیفیکٹ ہمراد احمد میر ولد غلام محمد میر ساکنہ ریشی پورہ جو کہ مورخہ 30-06-2021 کو فوت ہو چکا ہے کتبہ بذیل افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔

نام سربراہ کتبہ	تفصیل افراد کتبہ	پیشہ	عمر
ایمنڈ زویدم متونی	ترکان	45 سال	
مدثر احمد میر پور متونی	گھریلا کام	40 سال	
عابد دفتر متونی	ترکان	22	

اس کے علاوہ کوئی افراد کتبہ نہیں ہے اور سرٹیفیکٹ زیر بحث اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض وغیرہ ہو تو وہ دفتر خدا میں اندر سات یوم پیش کریں بعد معیاد گذر کوئی اعتراض وغیرہ قبول نہ ہوگا۔

AJJ نائب تحصیلدار

از نیات کوکرتاگ باجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ دیر جاول۔
درخواست منجانب: شہید شہادت دختر شوکت ساکنہ دھال تحصیل کوکرتاگ ضلع اینت ناگ

بفرض حصول RBA سرٹیفیکٹ۔

اشتہار ہمراد آگا ہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سالیہ ایک درخواست بفرض حصول RBA سرٹیفیکٹ دفتر خدا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سال بچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے دھال میں مسلسل طور سکنڈ پڈر ہے اور سرٹیفیکٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ سال کا کتبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

۱۔ شوکت احمد ولد محمد جبار شاہ	45 سال	مزدوری	2000/=
۲۔ تسلمہ زوید شوکت احمد شاہ	44 سال	گھریلا کام	
۳۔ سمرنا شوکت دختر شوکت احمد شاہ	21 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۴۔ شایستہ شوکت دختر شوکت احمد شاہ	18 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۵۔ خوشبو شوکت دختر شوکت احمد شاہ	13 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اس طرح سالیہ سالیہ کتبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور حصول RBA سرٹیفیکٹ کا خواہاں ہے قبل از کاروائی ہر خاص و عام بڈر بعد اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو سرٹیفیکٹ خدا اجراء کرنے کے نسبت کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتہر اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنے غرض یا اعتراض وادالت خدا کو دفتر کی اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے بعد کوئی اعتراض غرض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner. Shri : Mohammad Ishaq Bhat S/o: Ibrahim Bhat R/o: Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Abdul Rasheed Mir S/o Ghulam Mohammad Mir R/o Ichigam Budgam as Transferee) for transfer of Vehicle Carriage route permit No.233/CC/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04A -1343.

Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/vehicle shall be filed in writing in the office of the Assistant Regional Transport office ARTO Budgam within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper.

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 3034
Dated 09/08/2021
MCB

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

محرم الحرام کے حوالے سے پیغام

جسوں کشمیر پیروان ولایت کے سربراہ اور صدر نے اپنے ایک مشترکہ بیان میں امت مسلمہ سے اپیل کی ہے کہ وہ محرم الحرام کے مقدس اور متبرک ایام کے دوران آپسی بھائی چارہ کی روایت برقرار رکھ کر عزاداری کے جملوں اور جلموں میں شریک ہو جائیں۔ پیروان کے سربراہ مولانا شامیر فی اور صدر مولانا شامیر صوفی نے محرم الحرام کی آمد پر اپنا ایک مشترکہ بیان جاری کیا ہے جس میں انہوں نے ایام عزاکے دوران کوڈ ایس او پیز پر عمل پیرا ہونے کی پروزوتقین کی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا ہے کہ عزاداری کی مجلسیں انسانوں کے اذہان میں شعور ظلم و آگہی پیدا کرتا ہے ضرورت اس بات کی ہے کہ عزاداران امام عالی مقام ان مجالسوں میں روایت پالنے کے بجائے درس حاصل کرنے کی کوشش کریں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ بڑا ایک تربیت گاہ ہے اس سے اخلاقی و روحانی تربیت حاصل کرنا امام عالی مقام حضرت امام حسین اور آپ کے رفقاء کے تئیں بہترین خراج عقیدت ہے انہوں نے ملت اسلامیہ کشمیر سے اپیل کی کہ وہ ایام متبرک کے دوران آپسی بھائی چارہ کو برقرار رکھنے کے لئے ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ تعاون کریں اور تمام مسلکی و فروعی اختلافات کو بالائے طاق رکھ کر یکساں حسین میں شریک ہو جائیں۔ تنظیم نے ایران کے نو منتخب صدر سید ابراہیم رئیسی کو بھی مبارکباد پیش کرتے ہوئے ان سے توقعات کا اظہار کیا

المشیر: پیروان ولایت جموں و کشمیر

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT REGIONAL TRANSPORT OFFICER BUDGAM KASHMIR

NOTICE

Where as a joint application has been recieved from owner. Shri: Mohd Shafi Shah S/o: Ahmad ul-lah Shah R/o: Zoogo Khairan Budgam as Transferor) & Shri. Showkat Ahmad Dar S/o Bashir Ahmad Dar R/o Jalsheeri Baramullah as Transferee) for transfer of Tipper Carriage route permit No.156/7Gc/ Budgam vehicle No. JK04C -4672 As well as HPA Cancellation with M/S J & K Bank Lt B/u Hardu Panzoo Budgam.

Now it is therefore notified for general information that objections, if any to the proposed transfer of the said route permit/vehicle 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.

Assistant Regional Transport officer Budgam Kashmir

No. ARTO/ BUDGAM. 3020
Dated 07/08/2021
MCB

The Jammu And Kashmir State Board Of School Education, BRANCH OFFICE MAGAM

The candidates whose photograph is published in this notice is claiming to have lost the original marks certificate of 10th under Below mentioned particulars

Name : Bilal Hussain Bhat
Fathers Name : Mohd Ramzan Bhat
R/o Souzeth Gori Pora Narbal Budgam
Details of Marks Certificate lost
Roll No 25655 Session /Year Bi-annual 2003

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks Card. Anybody (if) having any objection may file the some before undersigned with (07) Seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides, the original marks card is teated as cancelled.

Sd/ Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Magam

bmg

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Shabir Ahamd Mir S/O Gh Nabi Mir R/o Gousia Colony Bemina Sgr (Transferor) of Maruti 800 bearing registration No. JK01R-5240 chasis No: 45237 Engine No: 54584 Model 2011 in favour of Mushtaq Ahamd Malla S/O Mohd Yousuf Malla R/o Darsunda Dandus Budgam (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the afore-

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office, Kashmir

said period.
NOJK-RTOK 5454
Dated: 09/08/2021
fko

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER GANDERBAL

(Vice Chairman DISTRICT HEALTH SOCIETY)
(Old District Hospital Complex Duderhama Ganderbal-191201)
Telephone-0194-2416033

Subject: -Operation of Waiting List for the Post of Staff Nurses for DNB advertised under NHM.

Selection List

Whereas this office made an Advertisement issued vide No DRHS/NHM/GBL/20-21/1284-91 dated 10-09-2020 regarding contractual hiring of services of Junior Staff Nurses for which provisional section list was published by this office vide No DRHS/NHM/GBL/20-21/59-56 dated 06/04/2021.

Whereas, the final selection list of Junior Staff Nurses was issued and published in Srinagar times and Kashmir Observer on 09th May, 2021 through joint director information, Srinagar. Where in the candidates were directed to join in the office of the undersigned along with all original documents/ Testimonials within the period of 07 days.

Whereas, the waiting list operated vide this office letter no. DRHS/NHM/GBL/21/430-36 dated 06/07/2021 published through joint director information, Srinagar, wherein staff nurse who was figuring at S.No 01 Mst. Ruby Jan 0/0 Gulzar Ahmad Reshi R/O Girai Ganderbal in the selection list failed to join within the stipulated time period. Hence, the selection of the above staff nurse is hereby deemed cancelled in abnition.

Now therefore, in view of the above details the following Staff Nurses who was figuring in waiting list at S.No 02 under this office communication no. DRHS/NHM/GBL/21/430-36 dated 26/07/2021 is hereby hired under National Health Mission as per the list below on contractual basis.

Selection List			
S.No	Provisional Merit List S.No	Roll No	Name
1	66	1020	Saima Fayaz S/O, D/O, W/O Fayaz Ahmad Wani R/O Wanipora Salpora
Waiting List			
2	67	1052	Waheeda Akhtar S/O, D/O, W/O Gh Nabi Mir R/O Watlar Ganderbal
3	69	1045	Fatima Akhtas/O, D/O, W/O Gh Ahmad Khan R/O Shallabugh Ganderbal
4	70	1022	Sabreena Zahoor S/O, D/O, W/O Zahoor Ah Tantray R/O Checki Duderhama

Terms and Conditions:

- The selected candidate shall report to the office of Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal along with original testimonials which shall be verified as per NHM Guidelines.
- The hiring is purely on contractual basis initially up to 31st march 2022, extendable by one year subject to approval of the post by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India in the SIPP.
- The Contract may be renewed further based on performance of the candidate. In case of unsatisfactory performance, this office on the recommendations of the concerned Medical Superintendent may terminate the hiring.
- Drawal of honorarium shall be subject to verification of date of birth/academic, State subject and other relevant credentials which shall be verified by this office from the concerned institution duly recognized. In case of adverse report regarding authenticity of documents, the engagement shall be cancelled straight away.
- The performance of the appointee should be reviewed after every three months.
- In case the appointee wants to quit the service, he/she shall have to inform the department before one month.
- The selected candidate shall have to work at the place against which he/she has been engaged and shall not be eligible for transfer from the place of posting in any case. Furthermore, the postings shall be made as per the Merit List obtained in recruitment process.
- The selected candidate shall be terminated at any time for non-performance, indiscipline, absenteeism on duty or any other reason without any prior notice.
- The selected candidate shall have to submit an affidavit duly signed by 1st Class Magistrate that he/she shall not claim for any regularization of his/her services in the Department/Government.
- He/she shall not be entitled to any allowances or monetary benefit whatsoever except as admissible under the scheme.
- The hiring shall be governed by other terms and conditions that are not specifically mentioned herein but are made applicable in case of such appointments at any time by the contracting authority.
- He/she shall report in the office of Chief Medical Officer Ganderbal as mentioned along with all original documents/testimonials, for their duties within 07 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the engagement order will be treated as cancelled without any prior notice and consequently the waiting list shall be operated.

DIPK-6226/21

No.-DRHS/NHM/GBL/21/1621-27
Dated: 09-08-2021.

Sd/-
Dr. Deeba Khan
Chief Medical Officer
Ganderbal

Office of the Executive Engineer
Jal Shakti Mechanical Irrigation
Division Anantnag HQ Awantipora

GIST
GIST for E-NIT S.No. 17 No./MIDA of 2021-22

For & on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir e-tenders in single cover system are invited from reputed and experienced Registered Electrical/Mechanical contractors/ Workshop holders /Firms whose registration are valid in terms of standing rules with sufficient experience and financial resources dealing with below mentioned works and other similar works of the same capacity or higher for the following work: -

S. No	Name of work	Estimated Cost	Cost of Tender Documents	Earnest Money	Time for completion	Major Head
1.	Complete Rewinding of 60 Hp 980 RPM 3 Phase Squirrel cage induction motor at LIS Khandaypora	0.43 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
2.	Repairs and topping of T oil to the damaged 250 KVA HT transformer fitted at LIS Chakdihara	0.543 lacs	100/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
3.	Repair/ Replacement of parts to 200 KVA manually operated voltage stabilizer at LIS Patalbagh	0.235 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
4.	Relocation of 10 cusec pumping unit on newly constructed foundation block and allied mechanical works at LIS Hassanwani	1.037 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
5.	Replacement of thimbles to 200 HP capacity 02 No starters at LIS Wurrnahall for new installed 25 cusec pump 200 HP motor and old pump 25 cusec 125 hp motor thimbles of aluminium cables extension of leads to 120 P motor by way of braising process and replacement of regulator to voltage stabiliser at LIS Semthan	0.33 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
6.	Repairs to 150 HP FASD starter for unit 3rd at LIS Tokina	0.379 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
7.	Temporary restoration of 15 cusec end suction pumping unit at LIS Dogdipora Drought New.	0.2805 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
8.	Shifting of 250 nominal dia Rubber armoured pipe from MICO Divisional store to Dogdipora drought New for installation and other allied Mechanical works at Dogdipora drought New	0.231 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
9.	Repairs to 400 mm dia MS Rising Main at LIS Sirhama	0.20 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
10.	Complete repairs of 7 cusec split casing high head horizontal pumping unit at LIS Wassora	0.4469 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
11.	Various mechanical works at LIS Alamgunj.	0.828 lacs	100/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
12.	Repairs replacement to the parts of the 04 cusec horizontal high head pumping unit No 1st at lift irrigation scheme Durpora	0.24 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
13.	Repairs to 3 cusec pumping unit by providing bearings at LIS Brakpora Replacement of conector coil TC 330 to starter of capacity 150 HP and providing of chargeable bulb at LIS Semthan	0.172 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
14.	Repairs to the 75 HP ATS Starters installed at L I S Natipora Repairs to the 125 HP Start Delta Starter at lift irrigation scheme Wurrnahall.	0.40 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R
15.	Various mechanical works at LIS Chakpora and LIS Khandaypora and allied works of MISO Padgampora	0.4175 lacs	50/=	3% of Quoted Rate	07 days	M&R

The works already stands cancelled vide this office no MIDA/ Dated: The NIT consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, bill of quantities (BOQ), terms and conditions of contract can be seen/downloaded from the departmental web site (jktenders.gov.in) as per the dates shown below:-

S. No.	Description	Date			Time
1	Publishing date of NIT	09	08	2021	11:00 AM
2	Download start date	09	08	2021	11:00 AM
3	Bid submission start date	09	08	2021	11:00 AM
4	Bid submission end date	18	08	2021	04:00 PM
5	Bid opening date	20	08	2021	02:00 PM

All the terms and conditions will remain same as laid down in e -Nit & PWD form No.25-double.

No. MIDA/1555-62
Dated:- 09.08.2021

DIPK-6188/21

Executive Engineer,
Mechanical Irrigation Division Anantnag
HQ Awantipora

Government of Jammu & Kashmir UT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B)
PROJECT CIRCLE DIVISION 1ST, SRINAGAR
Opposite Masjid Ibrahim, Hyderpora Srinagar PIN No. 190014
E-mail:- pcd.bypass@gmail.com, pcd.bypass@jk.gov.in Phone-FAX:- 0194-2435218

FRESH TENDER NOTICE-III
FRESH E-NIT No PCD-RnB-26 of 2021-22 Dated:-07/08/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT, Fresh e-tenders (In Single cover system) are invited on **Percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt., CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of Doc.(Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H
1	Supply of various furniture items for Courts at district court Complex Srinagar at Mominabad (Year 2021-2022)	Rs.2.50 Lacs	Rs.200/-	10 Days	SICOP Unit Holder/ "DEE"	2059 M&R
2	Scientific cleaning & sterilization of water storage Tanks at high court complex (2 stages), Srinagar	Rs.1.18 Lacs	Rs.200/-	10 Days	Authorized/ Experienced Tank cleaner	2059 M&R
3	Annual maintenance for public address system for a period of one year at District Court Complex Srinagar at Mominabad	Rs.1.00 Lacs	Rs.200/-	15 Days	Registered Electronic Dealers	2059 M&R
4	Sanitary/Civil repairs of Shah-i-Hamdaan Community Centre at Chhalpan Kocho Zaina Kadal Srinagar.	Rs.0.48 Lacs	Rs.200/-	08 Days	"DEE"	2059 M&R

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

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	07-08-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 07-08-2021 01.00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	07-08-2021 From 03.00 PM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	16-08-2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	17-08-2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Project Circle Division 1 st

Submission of Performance Security (PS) **Within 7 days of receipt of LOA (The bidder has to provide 3% of advertized Cost as Performance Security within 7 days after opening of Financial Bid)**

All bidders shall upload the following information and documents along with qualification criteria /qualification information with their bids: (Photostat/Original should be clearly seen in all respect with Ink Signed and Seal):-

- Valid original Treasury Challan/Receipt (MH.0059) and BID Securing Declaration On Stamp Paper Duly notarized (Format Enclosed with the NIT uploaded)
- Valid Registration Card with Verification Certificate and Valid GSTIN/ PAN Card No.
- "The Latest Self Attested return GST-3/GSTR-3B and Certificate by the bidder to the effect that he has no sales tax liability/arrears"
- Completion certificate of similar nature of work issued by not less than the rank of Ex. Engineer (Only for S.No.2)
- Bidder shall furnish proof of latest returns in GST-3/GSTR-3B, i.e. latest clearance certificate FORM GST - 3B of the preceding Month/Quarter to the issue of NIT. Illustration: - For the NIT issued in Aug-2021, the bidder has to upload the latest clearance certificate FORM GST - 3B of the preceding month i.e. of July-2021/Preceding Quarter (April-June-2021)

No. PCD-1st/NIT/3153-63
Dtd:-07-08-2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Project Circle Division 1st,
Srinagar

DIPK-6223/21

KRA Seeks LG's Intervention Into SMC's 'Ill Timed' Action

Observer News Service

Lack Of awareness on SMC taxes creates chaos; KRA appeals LG Sinha

Srinagar: Reacting sharply to the sealing of shops by Srinagar Municipal Corporation at Regal Chowk, the Kashmir Retailers Association, President, Farhan Kitab Monday said the lack of awareness by SMC and ill timing of the action has created chaos in markets.

In an appeal to the Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, Kitab who is also the core member of the All India Re-

tailers Association said retail sector is facing market slump due to Covid19 pandemic and stormy year ahead due to the apprehension of the third wave, the government should have granted some amnesty/wavier to the shopkeepers who have been suffering since 2019 for one reason or the other.

He said the shopkeepers are neither aware about the taxes nor about the hike adding that it was the responsibility of the SMC to make the stakeholders aware.

"Moreover, the SMC should have taken the shopkeepers onboard before taking any such decision," he added.

Kitab appealed the LG Sinha to personally look into the matter.

Jhelum Reflects Culture And History Of Kashmir: LG



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha Monday visited the iconic Zero Bridge and took on-spot assessment of development and beautification of Jhelum River.

Jhelum river reflects the culture and history of the valley. It is important to ensure scientific execution of work keeping in view the aesthetic value of the river, besides taking the ecology factor into consideration, the Lt Governor told the officials.

Once completed, the proj-

ect will open up new avenues for tourism sector, thus making Srinagar city more vibrant, observed the Lt Governor.

During his visit, the Lt Governor enquired about the mechanism being laid down for the development of upcoming attractions and facilities to be made available to the visitors.

He also took stock of the works being executed under different components of the project including the development of pathways along Jhelum revetment, public utilities, embank-

ment along riverbank, parks, Wi-fi zones and illumination work.

The Lt Governor passed specific directions to the concerned officers for completion of the project within the set timelines without any delay.

On being informed that the project is being executed in convergence of various departments, the Lt Governor directed for maintaining proper inter-departmental coordination, adopting best practices, and applying the learning gained from the experts for getting desired results on ground.

SKIMS Runs Short Of Necessary Supplies

Agencies

Srinagar: The patient care at the Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura is suffering badly as the premier institute of the valley has run short of essential medical supplies.

"The patient care is badly hit because we do not have hassle-free drug supply in place. Also, medical equipment required in the hospital is not being procured as the hands of Directors are tied," said a senior administrative official wishing anonymity.

He said that the whole responsibility of procuring drugs and equipments is on the purchasing committee. "Unfortunately they are doing anything" he regretted.

The Valley's only premier tertiary care hospital, Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Soura, is not even providing the basic medical supplies to the patients like infusion bottles, syringes and other essential equipments for surgery.

"We are forced to buy syringes, catheters and other necessary medical equipments as hospital authorities are not providing any-

thing," said Sameer Ahmad, an attendant of a cancer patient.

He said that more facilities are available in district hospital than in valley's premier institute SKIMS, Soura. Despite repeated attempts, nobody from the hospital administration commented on the issue. It is pertinent to mention that after the extension of Dr A.G Ahanger as Director SKIMS, a purchasing committee was formed to procure the drugs and equipments by limiting the powers of the directors as that of titular head and ironically the committee has failed to keep the things alright.



Div Com Stresses On Upgradation Of Parimpora Bus Yard

Visits RTO office, Parimpora Bus Stand, Transport Nagar

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Pandurang K Pole Monday visited RTO office, Parimpora Bus Stand and Transport Nagar to take stock of facilities and functioning of the transport system.

During the tour, the Div Com was accompanied by the Vice-Chairman, SDA and other senior officers.

At the RTO office, the Div Com stressed on smooth functioning and hassle-free services

are provided to the people. He emphasized on installation and proper functioning of CCTVs. He however took strong note of employees for their unauthorized absence from duties.

The Div Com also took stock of problems faced by the Transport Agencies/ Transport operators and commuters.

On the occasion, the KMDA and Western Bus Service Unions highlighted various issues related to functioning of Bus stand and also operation of various Transport Services from erst-

while Batmaloo Bus stand.

The Div Com stressed that proper sanitation and cleaning of the Bus Terminal be ensured by the SDA. He said that SDA shall revise the rentals after the development of the Bus Terminal for which it has already prepared/ submitted the DPR's.

VC, SDA also apprised the Div Com about the deficiency of land at GBS, Parimpora and requested to transfer at least 25 kanals of SRTC land adjacent to Bus Stand to SDA for construction of a Terminal building.

National Board Of Accreditation Concludes Three Day Visit

Srinagar: Three-day visit of National Board of Accreditation (NBA) expert members concluded with the exit meeting on Monday at National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar.

The institute had applied NBA accreditation for five engineering programs and expert team for accreditation evaluated the status under the Chairmanship Prof. O.G Kakde from Indian Institute of Information Technology, Nagpur (IIITN).

The evaluation was done both virtually and physically at the campus. The five evaluators including Prof. S. V. Dinesh from Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumkur for Civil Engineering, and Prof. P. S. T. Sai's from IIT Madras was the evaluator for the Chemical Engineering program.

Prof. N. M. Singh from VJTI, Mumbai University was evaluator for Electrical Engineering. Prof. Derick Engles from Regional Campus Guru Nanak Dev University for Electronics and Communication Engineering program and Prof. S. Mahdi A Rizvi from Aligarh Muslim University for Mechanical Engineering course.

Prof. Manoj Kumar from Netaji Subhas University of Technology and Prof. Mainuddin from Jamia Milia Islamia were the two visiting experts at the NIT Srinagar.

The exit meeting was presided by Prof. O.G Kakde who was the Chairman of the expert committee said they evaluated all the programs as per NBA norms and also shared his feedback, suggestions for improvement with the administrative staff and faculty members of the Institute.

Prof. Sehgal said NIT Srinagar is among the oldest institutions in



the country. "We are in a position to offer best of the quality engineering programs to our students and have the best alumni network across the globe."

"I would like to assure all the experts that NIT Srinagar will leave no stone unturned to achieve credible space in the society at the national and international level," he said.

Registrar NIT Srinagar, Prof. Kaiser Bukhari said the Institute had applied for accreditation of five en-

gineering programs. We are expecting good results this time so that in terms of quality education, our institution will be recognized among best institutes across the country, he said. During the three days visit the team of experts conducted a video tour of the departments, presentation of HoD(s) of each program separately, Individual meetings

with faculty, discussion, and study of admin-different committees and their working, reviewed laboratories equipment adequacy, conduct of lab sessions, study budget, Accounts, etc. On the second day, the experts reviewed the functioning of the placement office, online visits to respective classes by the experts(s) of each program, visit and study of projects, towards the attainment of Pos, and it was followed by an exit meeting on a concluding day.

LAWDA Seals 2 Structures, Demolishes 5 'Illegal' Constructions

Observer News Service

Srinagar: A Special demolition drive was launched by Lakes and Waterways Development Authority through its Enforcement Wing on Monday under the supervision of Enforcement Officers Abdul Aziz Qadri and Zahid Aziz Samoom in the areas of Saidakadal, Ashaibagh, Rainawari & WFR Kohnakhan Dalgate in which, one Plinth in the area of Ashaibagh, one second storey at Rainawari, two shops in the area of Kalwal Mohalla Rainawari and one third storey in the area of Miskeen Bagh raised illegally were demolished.

"Also legal action warranted under rules were initiated against the violators. The demolition team was accompanied by the Duty Magistrate Javed Ahmad, SDPO Khanyar/Rainawari, S.H.O's Police Station Khanyar & Rainawari, and police protection from PCR Sgr, who were of great help/support during the demolition drive due to which the demolition was successful and desired results were achieved," a LAWDA statement said.

Moreove, one shop at Ashaibagh was sealed and one structure was re-sealed in the area of Miyan Shah saheb Rainawari. During the demolition drive at some places there was minor resistance from the locals of the area, but with the collective support of Police authorities the demolition was conducted in a hassle free manner.

Also legal action warranted under rules were initiated against the violators. The demolition team was accompanied by the Duty Magistrate Javed Ahmad, SDPO Khanyar/Rainawari, S.H.O's Police Station Khanyar & Rainawari, and police protection from PCR Sgr, who were of great help/support during the demolition drive due to which the demolition was successful and desired results were achieved," a LAWDA statement

DIAL-EMMA



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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 610 - In Islam, the traditional date of the Laylat al-Qadr, when Muhammad began to receive the Qur'an
- 1461 - Alfonso del Espina, bishop of Osma urges for an Inquisition in Spain
- 1500 - Portuguese sea captain Diego Diaz is first European to sight Madagascar
- 1664 - Austria and the Ottoman Empire sign the Peace of Vásvár
- 1678 - Netherlands & France sign peace treaty in Nijmegen
- 1774 - 1st Surinam newspaper (1st Wednesday Suriname) begins publishing
- 1776 - American Revolutionary War: word of the United States Declaration of Independence reaches London.
- 1809 - Ecuador declares independence from Spain (National Day)
- 1822 - Antioch Syria, hit by Earthquake; about 20,000 die
- 1913 - 2nd Balkan War ends, Treaty of Bucharest, Bulgaria loses
- 1914 - German battle cruiser Goeben reaches Dardanelles/Turkey joins Germany
- 1914 - German troops reconquer Mulhouse in Elzas
- 1914 - WWI: French fall back at Alsace
- 1916 - Turks annex Persian city Hamadan from Russia
- 1920 - Allies recognize Poland, Czechoslovakia & Romania
- 1920 - Turkish government renounces its claim to Israel, recognizes British mandate
- 1926 - Italian-Spanish peace treaty signed
- 1944 - Battle for Guam ends, US troops recapture Guam from the Japanese
- 1945 - Japan announces willingness to surrender to Allies provided status of Emperor Hirohito remained unchanged
- 1960 - Discoverer 13 launched into orbit; returned 1st object from space
- 1961 - UK applies for membership of the European Common Market
- 1983- 1st World Championships in Athletics: Carl Lewis wins gold in Men's Long Jump
- 1992- Satellite TOPEX/Poseidon launched
- 1992 - Soyuz TM-15 lands
- 1998 - The Royal Proclamation of HRH Prince Al-Muhtadee Billah as the Crown Prince of Brunei.
- 2006 - Scotland Yard disrupts major terrorist plot to destroy aircraft travelling from the United Kingdom to the United States. All toiletries are banned from commercial aircraft.

PRAYERS

FAJR

4:14
ZUHR

12: 37
ASR

5:26
MAGRIB

7:29
ISHA

9:00

From KO Archives

Hizb ends ceasefire, blames India for it

Press Trust Of India

ISLAMABAD: Hizbul Mujahideen withdrew its unilateral cease-fire in Jammu and Kashmir this evening accusing New Delhi of not responding positively to its call for tripartite talks involving Pakistan to settle Kashmir issue and directed its field commanders to resume

Their operation in the state.

"We withdraw the unilateral ceasefire... We direct all the commanders and the Mujahideen to break the cease-fire and go ahead with target-oriented mission" Hizb supreme commander Syed Salah-ud Din said at a press conference here after the expiry of 5:30 P.M. (IST) deadline it had set for India to agree to a three-way dialogue.

"India has failed to respond categorically to our offer of peace and has dilly-dallied in giving peace a chance," the Hizb leader said

India intended to tie the affair in a bilateral dialogue, which is not acceptable, he said, adding Kashmir tangle can be solved only by a just negotiating process involving all three parties—Kashmiris, India and Pakistan, he said.

He said had India agreed to tripartite talks, the other organisations involved in the armed struggle could have been convinced for a comprehensive peace.

There was no immediate response from the Hizb commanders in the Kashmir valley who had initiated talks with a central team to chalk-out modalities of the three-month unilateral cease-fire announced by Abdul Majeed Dar, chief commander of the group on July 24 in Srinagar.

Prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, while agreeing to hold talks with the Hizb leaders in the state, had categorically ruled out any involvement of Pakistan in the parleys till Islamabad stopped cross-border terrorism and created conditions for peace. "We put, our entire credibility of 12 years at stake for our (desire) to facilitating a peaceful resolution to the lingering Kashmir dispute," said Salah-ud-Din, who had endorsed Dar's cease-fire announcement a day later.

This peace offensive has not been reciprocated by India who have demonstrated their traditional intransigence, he said, adding India had failed to respond to our ice-breaking move which could have become productive and meaningful if India had accepted unconditional tripartite talk.

(Kashmir Observer, August 10, 2000)

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Sannah Yaqoob R/O 05 Umar Abad Peerbagh Srinagar want to correct my name from Sana Yaqoob to Sannah Yaqoob, my mother's name from Nargis Noor to Nargis Yaqoob and my father's name from Mohd Yaqoob Rather to Mohammad Yaqoob Rather on my passport. If anyone has any objection may kindly contact the Regional Passport Office Srinagar within a period of one week from the date of publication of this notice after which no objection shall be entertained.

Sannah Yaqoob
D/O Mohammad Yaqoob
Peerbagh, Srinagar

Office of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Kupwara

NOTICE



Whereas, a joint application has been received from Nazir Ahmad Wani S/O Gh Mohi-ud-Din Wani R/O Magam (Transferee) and Mashkoor Ahmad Khan S/o Ab Aziz Khan R/o Magam



(Transferee) for transfer of -- carriage route Permit No / KP Covering Vehicle No JK01- 6048 .

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.

Seller and purchaser identified by the authorized representatives of M/S _____ Namely STW Co

NO: JK/RTOK /---
Dated: 05/08/2021
sul

Sd/-
Assistant Regional Transport
Office, Kupwara

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE



Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Ghulam Nabi Pandow S/O Mohammad Abdullah Pandow R/o Maisuma Sriangar (Transferee) of -- bearing registration No. JK01S-8011 chasis No: 4649 Engine



No: 1103 Model 2011 in favour of Mehvish Shams D/O Shams-ud-din Parry R/O Umar Colony B Lal Bazar Srinagar (Transferee). Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned.

No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

NOJK-RTOK 5318
Dated: 05/08/2021
HB

Sd/-
Regional Transport Office,
Kashmir

Taliban overrun northern Afghan cities of Kunduz, Sar-e Pul, Taloqan

The insurgents have taken dozens of districts and border crossings in recent months

Agencies

KABUL: Taliban fighters overran three provincial capitals including the strategic northeastern city of Kunduz on Sunday, local officials said, as the insurgents intensified pressure on the north and threatened further cities.

The insurgents have taken dozens of districts and border crossings in recent months and put pressure on several provincial capitals, including Herat in the west and Kandahar in the south, as foreign troops withdraw.

The offensive has gathered momentum in recent days after the United States announced it would end its military mission in the country by the end of August.

Taliban fighters seized key government buildings in Kunduz, leaving government forces hanging onto control of the airport and their base, a provincial assembly lawmaker said on Sunday, raising fears it could be the latest to fall to the Taliban.

The city of 270,000, is regarded as a strategic prize as it lies at the gateway to mineral-rich northern provinces and Central Asia.

"Heavy clashes started yesterday afternoon. All government headquarters are in control of the Taliban, only the army base



and the airport is with ANDSF (Afghan security forces) from where they are resisting the Taliban," the lawmaker, Amruddin Wali, said.

A security forces spokesman said on Sunday evening that government forces would launch a large scale operation to retake lost areas of the province as soon as possible.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the group had largely captured the province and were close to the airport.

Taking ground Health officials in Kunduz said that 14 bodies, including those of

women and children, and more than 30 injured people had been taken to hospital.

The Taliban have also taken government buildings in the northern provincial capital of Sar-e Pul, driving officials out of the main city to a nearby military base, Mohammad Noor Rahmani, a provincial council member of Sar-e Pul province, said.

On Friday, they captured their first provincial capital in years when they took control of Zaranj, on the border with Iran in Afghanistan's southern Nimroz province.

In recent days they have esca-

lated attacks on northern provinces, which lie outside their traditional strongholds in the south but where the group has been quickly taking ground, often along the border of Afghanistan's Central Asian neighbours and trading partners Turkmenistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

On Sunday evening, Ashraf Ayni, representative in parliament for Takhar province, said its capital Taloqan had fallen to the Taliban who had freed prisoners and taken control of all government buildings, driving officials to a nearby district.

On Saturday, heavy fighting took place in Sheberghan, the capital of northern Jawzjan province. The Taliban said they had captured the entire province.

Jawzjan provincial council member Shir Mohammad said most of Sheberghan, including provincial government buildings, had fallen to the Taliban. An Afghan security forces spokesman on Saturday had denied the Taliban had taken the city, saying forces were working to defend Sheberghan without causing civilian casualties. On Sunday, he did not immediately respond to request for comment for an update on the situation.

Passports please: Afghans queue up for escape lifeline

Like thousands of his compatriots, Abdel Khalid Nabyar waited outside Afghanistan's main passport office to apply for the precious travel document that would allow him to leave the war-torn nation.

With the Taliban making huge advances in the countryside as foreign forces wind up their withdrawal, many Afghans -- those with the means, at least -- are looking for a way out.

"If the situation worsens, we might have to leave," said Nabyar, 52, who feels particularly vulnerable because he once ran a shop on a NATO military base.

Not everyone will make an immediate exit, but most want the safety net -- knowing they can leave at short notice.

"People want to be prepared in advance in case things go wrong," added Nabyar. Dozens begin lining up at the passport office in Kabul before dawn most days, and by eight in the morning the queue already stretches for a good hundred metres. Applicants slowly shuffle forward, clutching see-through plastic folders containing their documents. Occasionally a police officer is needed to collar queue-jumpers trying their luck.

One official appeared irritated by the interest shown by journal-



ists at the throng.

"Getting a passport is a normal request for any Afghan," she said.

But in recent weeks the numbers applying have been anything but usual.

"We are getting about 10,000 people a day against 2,000 normally," said one police officer.

Khalilullah, a 36-year-old engineer, arrived at 5:00 am with his wife and three children.

"There were already 300 people in line," he told AFP, more than three hours after joining the queue.

Applicants need to have their picture taken, eyes biometrically recorded and fingerprints taken as part of the process, with a thorough security frisk thrown in for good measure.

The face of terror' Zeenat Bahar Nazari had been

waiting for hours when she spoke to AFP.

"When we were children, our families said that the Taliban... killed people, made them disappear," said the 23-year-old computer science student.

"They were violent towards women, did not allow them to be educated and deprived them of their basic rights."

While Nazari is too young to remember the Taliban's first regime, from 1996 to 2001, she knows what they have done since.

"The only thing I know is the Taliban has the face of terror -- fighting, suicide bombings and bloodbaths," she said.

"When you go to school or university you hope for a bright future, but if the Taliban take power that hope for a bright future will disappear."

Saudi Arabia sentences Hamas leader to 15 years in prison

Mohammed Al-Khudari was Hamas representative to kingdom

Agencies



A Saudi criminal court on Sunday sentenced former Hamas representative Mohammed Al-Khudari to 15 years in prison on charges of supporting the Palestinian group, according to his brother. Abdel-Majed Al-Khudari told Anadolu Agency that the court reduced his brother's sentence by half.

His son Hani Al-Khudari was also sentenced to three years in prison, he added.

Khader Mashayekh, the head of a committee tasked with following the affairs of Jordanian detainees in Saudi Arabia, confirmed the jail sentence against Al-Khudari.

Saudi authorities have yet to confirm the verdict. According to Hamas, Saudi authorities have arrested 60 group members and sympathizers, including Al-Khudari.

Riyadh has declined to comment on the issue, only saying that the detainees are enjoying their rights enshrined in law.

There was no comment from Hamas on Sunday's verdict.

In February, Amnesty International said Al-Khudari, 83, had undergone surgery and was being treated for prostate cancer when the Saudi authorities arrested him and his son on April 4, 2019. The London-based rights group called on the Saudi king to ensure that "unfounded charges" against Al-Khudari and his son are dropped and that they are released.

*Writing by Ahmed Asmar in Ankara

Once-in-50-year heat waves now happening every decade: UN climate report

CALIFORNIA, US: Extreme heat waves that previously only struck once every 50 years are now expected to happen once per decade because of global warming, while downpours and droughts have also become more frequent, a UN climate science report said on Monday.

The report found that we are already experiencing those effects of climate change, as the planet has surpassed more than 1 degree Celsius in average warming. Heat waves, droughts and torrential rains are only set to become more frequent and extreme as the earth warms further. It is the first time that the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has quantified the likelihood of these extreme events in a wide variety of scenarios.

The report found that once-in-a-decade heavy rain events are now 1.3 times more likely and 6.7% wetter, compared with the 50 years up to 1900 when major human-driven warming started to occur.

Previously once-in-a-decade droughts could happen every five or six years. Scientists emphasized that these effects of climate change are already here, with events like the heat wave in the US Pacific Northwest killing hundreds in June and Brazil currently experiencing its worst drought in 91 years.

"The heat wave in Canada, fires in California, floods in Germany, floods in China, droughts in central Brazil make it very, very clear that climate extremes are having a very heavy toll," said Paulo Artaxo, a lead author of the report and an environmental physicist and the University of Sao Paulo. (Graphic on warming planet)

The future looks even grimmer,

with more warming meaning more frequent extreme events.

Heat waves show stronger increases in frequency with warming than all other extreme events. Twice in a century heat waves could happen roughly every six years with 1.5

The IPCC has a medium or high-level confidence that many important agricultural regions around the world will see more droughts or extreme rain. That includes parts of Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and Brazil that are major growers of soybeans



degrees Celsius of warming, a level which the report says could be surpassed within two decades.

Should the world become 4 degrees Celsius hotter, as could happen in a high-emissions scenario, those heat waves would happen every one to two years. Carolina Vera, another report author and a physical climate scientist at University of Buenos Aires and Argentina's main agency for science research (CONICET), said there is also an increasing likelihood that multiple extreme weather events could happen at the same time.

For example, extreme heat, drought and high winds - conditions that could feed wildfires - are more likely to happen at the same time.

and other global commodities.

"It is scary, sure, with the risk that fires, heat waves, droughts will affect humans in the form of weather and food insecurity, energy insecurity, water quality and health - mainly in poor regions," said Jose Marengo, a climatologist at the Brazilian Science Ministry's disaster monitoring center. Marengo was not involved in the IPCC report.

For example, regions that are already prone to drought are likely to experience them more frequently, including in the Mediterranean, southern Australia, and western North America, said Friederike Otto, IPCC author and climatologist at University of Oxford.

UK universities to continue online lessons during autumn term

Agencies

London, August 9: Many of the top universities in the UK have refused to return to full face-to-face classes in the autumn, despite government advice that they can lift all Covid-19 restrictions, local media reported. According to The Sunday Times report, 20 of the leading 24 Russell Group universities said a proportion of undergraduate teaching will continue to be held online, which means they will offer blended learning to mix the online and face-to-face teaching for classes, seminars and lectures, reports Xinhua news agency.

Meanwhile, two-thirds of the 65 universities polled by the Times Higher Education magazine confirmed that most lectures would remain online for the coming academic year, but that they planned as much in-person teaching as possible. They said the decisions were driven by the risk of coronavirus spreading in large lecture classrooms, as well as the educational benefits of blended learning.

Most universities said they would require students to wear masks on campuses. Some will also instruct students to socially distance. Students may also need to be double jabbed to attend concerts, discos or other social events.

The decision has dismayed college students who coped with severe disruption last year.

Students in Manchester, Leeds and Liverpool have launched petitions calling for a full return to "normality in terms of teaching"

and demanding fee refunds.

In Manchester, where some of the strictest lockdowns took place, nearly 10,000 have signed.

Claire Marchant, chief executive of the universities admissions service Ucas, said that online teaching might mean that universities could enrol more students.

It was predicted that top universities in Britain have to cope with a 10 per cent surge of applicants with A and A+ grades, compared to 2019, due to the cancellation of college entrance exams in the pandemic. Most Covid-19 restrictions in England have been lifted last month as part of the final step of the British government's roadmap out of the lockdown. — IANS



Nagasaki marks 76th anniversary of atomic bombing



Nagasaki on Monday marked the 76th anniversary of the US atomic bombing of the Japanese city with its mayor urging Japan, the United States and Russia to do more to eliminate nuclear weapons.

In his speech at the Nagasaki Peace Park, Mayor Tomihisa Taue urged Japan's government to take the lead in creating a nuclear-free zone in Northeast Asia rather than staying under the US nuclear umbrella a reference to the US promise to use its own nuclear weapons to defend allies without them.

Taue also singled out the United States and Russia which have the biggest arsenals by far to do more for nuclear disarmament, as he raised concern that nuclear states have backtracked from disarmament efforts and are upgrading and mini-

turising nuclear weapons. "Please look into building a nuclear-weapons-free zone in the Northeast Asia that would create a 'non-nuclear umbrella' instead of a 'nuclear umbrella' and be a step in the direction of a world free of nuclear weapons," Taue said as he urged Japan's government to do more to take action for nuclear disarmament.

At 11:02 a.m., the moment the B-29 bomber dropped a plutonium bomb, Nagasaki survivors and other participants in the ceremony stood in a minute of silence to honour more than 70,000 lives lost.

The August 9, 1945, bombing came three days after the United States made the world's first atomic attack on Hiroshima, killing 140,000. Japan surrendered on August 15, ending World War II.

NEWS MAKER

Raisi names US-sanctioned Mokhber as Iran's vice president

Iran's new President Ebrahim Raisi on Sunday named the chairman of a powerful state-owned foundation sanctioned by the United States as his first vice-president, the president's official website said. Mohammad Mokhber, long rumoured by local media to be top pick for the position, has for years headed the foundation known as Setad, or the Execution of Imam Khomeini's order, in reference to the Islamic republic's founder Ruhollah Khomeini. Mokhber was appointed to the position by the supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in 2007, following a string of official positions at the southwestern province of Khuzestan. The Setad was originally founded in the late 1980s to manage confiscated properties following the 1979 Islamic Revolution. It has since turned into a sprawling conglomerate with stakes in various industries, including health, and its Barekat Foundation produced out Iran's first local Covid-19 vaccine project. The vaccine received emergency approval in June from health authorities in the Middle East's worst-hit country. The Setad and Mokhber were blacklisted by the US Treasury in January. Washington had said that Setad "has a stake in nearly every sector of the Iranian economy, including energy, telecommunications, and financial services."



Raisi, who won a June 18 election marked by record abstention, takes over from moderate Hassan Rouhani. On Thursday, Raisi took the oath of office before parliament, to which he must present a list of ministers within two weeks. A former judiciary chief, Raisi has been criticised by the West for his human rights record and sanctioned by the US since 2019. Raisi also picked Gholamhossein Esmaili, the judiciary's spokesman during his tenure, as his chief of staff. A former prosecutor, Esmaili is under sanctions by the European Union. He was first blacklisted in 2011 as Iran's prisons organisation chief over "serious human rights violations".

Raisi's presidency is due to consolidate power in the hands of conservatives following their 2020 parliamentary election victory, which was marked by the disqualification of thousands of reformist or moderate candidates. Zakani has served in parliament between 2004 and 2016, and won a seat again last year.

A doctor in nuclear medicine, aged 55, he dropped out of the June presidential race in favour of Raisi.

Johnson threatened to demote Rishi Sunak

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson is said to have been furious over a letter being leaked to the media last week, which claimed his Chancellor Rishi Sunak had written to push for easier international COVID-19 travel norms ahead of a planned review.

The reaction followed media reports that the Indian-origin finance minister had written to his boss, calling for a significant easing of the coronavirus travel restrictions, warning that they were damaging the economy.

According to The Sunday Times, which reported on the letter last Sunday, Johnson is said to have been "apoplectic" with anger and even suggested a demotion for Sunak from the powerful Treasury department to take charge of Health.

"The problem was that the first Johnson knew of the letter was when details of it appeared in the media," the report said.

Quoting a senior source from a meeting, it said that Johnson then went on to say in the presence of around a dozen officials that he had been thinking about a change.

"Maybe it's time we looked at Rishi as the next Secretary of State for Health. He could potentially do a very good job there." In an open meeting, after ranting about Rishi, he then suggested the Chancellor could be demoted in the next reshuffle," the source said. The newspaper pointed out that Johnson is known for his "off-the-cuff" remarks, often made in jest.

While Downing Street refused to comment on "private conversations", allies of Sunak insisted he remains focussed on his current brief to revive the COVID-hit UK economy.

"The Chancellor is solely focused on securing the country's economic recovery and continuing to protect and create jobs," ITV News quoted a Treasury Department source as saying.



RNA (تحریر الصدا را یگز کیٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول)

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
Switchboard: (0194) 2106304
Editorial: (0194) 2502327
Email editorial: editor@kashmirobserver.net

K O V I E W

Descent into chaos

The Taliban has captured three more provincial capitals in their latest advance in Afghanistan. The militia has seized five provincial capitals since Friday in a lightning offensive. The latest gains have further strengthened the Taliban's grip on the country. And it appears but a matter of time before the Islamist movement once again captures Kabul. Sensing the grimness of the situation, the US has asked its citizens to leave the war-scarred country.

America which was quick to topple the Taliban regime in Afghanistan in 2001 following the 9/11 attacks now appears helpless as the country descends into chaos. Having lost the war, the US is loath to get bogged down in what has been an unending effort to stabilize the country.

Afghanistan is thus witnessing a back to mid-nineties moment when the Taliban for the first time rose to power after defeating the squabbling mujahideen who, in turn, had driven out Soviet Union. There is a sense of de javu. A Taliban victory would drastically alter the regional geo-politics. It could also make Afghanistan a battleground for the neighbouring countries out to secure their respective security interests.

What is the solution to this dangerous state of affairs? The US will need to re-adjust its Afghanistan policy to make it work. In its current shape, the policy almost entirely neglects the regional geo-politics, prevailing issues and the contending interests of the neighbouring countries which essentially keep the conflict going in the war-torn country. So rather than an Afghanistan-centric policy, US needs a broader regional approach to work for an integrated solution to the conflicts and the competing interests that in turn fuel the war in Kabul. But it hasn't done so. The US president Joe Biden like his predecessor Donald Trump has gone against the objective assessments of the situation and chosen to let the country plunge into a full-blown civil war. This is certain to aggravate not only the conflict in Afghanistan but also the regional rivalries, especially the one between India and Pakistan.

Despite knowing the region well, Biden's approach hardly takes on board the regional complexity, with each neighbouring country looking to protect their respective interests rather than working together for a solution. The only way that this destabilizing situation can effectively be tackled is for the regional powers including India and Pakistan to cooperate and find a comprehensive solution. And for such a solution to materialize it has to first address the core concerns of the neighbouring countries and take care of their interests.

OTHER OPINION

Tokyo 2020: A New Era Begins

India has an Olympic track and field gold. In itself, that is breathtaking. But Tokyo 2020 has been a landmark Games for India in more than one way. Even the medal tally — India's best ever with seven — doesn't do justice to the breakthroughs India's athletes have made, the number of medal contenders India had, and those who opened new routes. So, along with Neeraj Chopra, Mirabai Chanu, Lovlina Borgohain, Ravi Dahiya, PV Sindhu, Bajrang Punia and the men's hockey team — all champions — it is important to remember others. Bhavani Devi, the first fencer from India to compete at the Olympics; Nethra Kumanan, the first Indian woman sailor to qualify for the Games; Aditi Ashok, who, in a star-studded field of the world's best women golfers, missed out on a podium finish by one shot; or the Indian women's hockey squad who made a giant leap that almost took them to a medal.

All these names suggest two heartening trends. One, it symbolises a welcome shift where women are overcoming social obstacles to shine. Two, it highlights the difference that proper training in the right kind of environment makes. India's sport governing bodies have done well to step back from seeking to control every aspect of an athlete's career and allowing them the freedom to choose their coaches and training bases. The federations must now build a wide base for their sport by creating infrastructure, but of the right kind, and giving access to the maximum number of young people possible. Devi almost gave up on fencing because in India, the sport has almost no presence. This is understandable — fencing's cultural roots lie in Europe and it is expensive. But what about running tracks? Astroturfs? Wrestling mats? Punching bags? Javelins?

Hindustan Times



Pesticides in our Drinking Water?

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

There is no dearth of water resources in Jammu & Kashmir. We have a good amount of water available for water drinking as well as irrigating our farmlands. Kashmir valley especially has huge glaciers, lakes, rivers, springs and streams. In spite of such abundant water resources, the majority of people living in towns, villages and cities of J&K are supplied with unsafe drinking water. The raw water supplied to drinking water supply plants is contaminated, not only by solid or liquid waste or human and animal faecal matter, but various types of pesticides and fungicides that are sprayed in apple and vegetable farms, golf courses, gardens and parks also contaminate our drinking water sources.

As already discussed in my weekly video series Inkishaf on Kashmir, the Doodh Ganga river which is the main source of drinking water in Srinagar uptown is no longer milky. This small river, which originates from the Pir Panjal glaciers of the inner Himalayan region, is pristine and clear when it leaves the glacier. But after travelling just 30 km downstream, it gets contaminated not only with liquid waste but with pesticides as well which gets drained into it from nearby apple orchards.

Solid and liquid waste was already a threat to Doodh Ganga. The water supplied from the Doodh Ganga water filtration plant at Kralpora is unfit for drinking, especially in summer months, when the pesticides sprayed in orchards are washed into it by frequent rains.

The polluted water from Doodh Ganga is lifted at Kralpora filtration plant and then supplied to more than half a million population living in Srinagar uptown after sedimentation and chlorination. Will this be enough to make this water fit for drinking, which not only contains liquid waste but poisonous pesticides too? The Pollution Control Committee hasn't even looked into this aspect.

South Kashmir

Tonnes of municipal solid waste are dumped on the Vishaw river banks in Kulgam, a South Kashmir district headquarter, on a daily basis by none other than the municipal committee. This is an open violation of the Municipal Solid Waste Rules of 2016 by a municipal institution itself, which is supposed to enforce them.

In addition to solid waste and sewage from Kulgam town, pesticides also contaminate this river, which is a drinking water source for thousands of families in Kulgam and Anantnag districts in South Kashmir.

From spring (March onwards), large amounts of pesticides are sprayed on apple trees in Kulgam district. These get washed into small rivulets and streams and end up in Vishaw river. If there is rainfall after the pesticide spray, the drinking water sources get more contaminated.

The Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department is not only supplying unhygienic and untreated drinking water to people of Kulgam but also to neighbouring Anantnag and Shopian districts. Experts from the horticulture and agriculture departments have never created any awareness among farmers on management and protection of water bodies from pesticide sprays. The government should create a joint task force of agencies such as the PHE and the horticulture and agriculture departments to impress upon farmers the need to ensure minimum damage to water bodies while spraying chemicals. It would be better for farmers to shift to organic farming.

Water from Dal Lake

The most alarming situation is the use of pesticides in floating vegetable gardens of Dal Lake and surrounding apple orchards. Pesticides are also used in the famous Mughal and tulip gardens and golf courses in the city which then enter Dal Lake.

Dal Lake gets regularly contaminated with pesticides from March to August. This is not only harmful for humans but for aquatic life especially fish which is consumed in large quantities by Kashmiris.

Ironically, water from the Dal Lake is lifted

“The Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department is not only supplying unhygienic and untreated drinking water to people of Kulgam but also to neighbouring Anantnag and Shopian districts. Experts from the horticulture and agriculture departments have never created any awareness among farmers on management and protection of water bodies from pesticide sprays

by the PHE Department around POKHIRIBAL locality and supplied to around two lakh people in several areas of Srinagar's old city.

The Pesticide concentration in drinking water cannot be controlled by obsolete processes like sedimentation or use of bleaching powder, which is normally done by PHE Jal Shakti department to kill the bacteria in water. In fact, bleaching powder itself is harmful if used directly in water, as is done in many places of Kashmir. In many water supply plants chlorine gas is also used to disinfect water, but experts say this is a dangerous method to clean the drinking water.

A report published in the International Journal of Pharma Sciences and Research (Dr Muddasir Bandy and others, December 2012) on contamination of freshwater fish, “Schizothorax Niger”, (Algal Snow trout) with chlorpyrifos from “Dal Lake” basins indicates that chlorpyrifos, an organo-phosphate pesticide, was present in “Schizothorax Niger”.

Role of Pollution Control Committee

The J&K Pollution Control Committee (J&K PCC), has a great role to play in looking into the contamination of drinking water by pesticides. JK PCC can take action against erring farmers who are found violating the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 by draining out chemical fertilisers into drinking water sources.

The water act was introduced to prevent and control water pollution and maintain or restore

“The Department needs to liaison with farmers through horticulture and agriculture departments and seek guidance from the Pollution Control Committee as well. Capacity building programmes should be held for farmers to ensure pesticides used in farms don't contaminate nearby drinking water sources

the wholesomeness of water. It also provides for the establishment of boards for the control of water pollution. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) or Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) in Union Territories are guardians of the water act.

The erstwhile J&K State Pollution Control Board (JK SPCB) hasn't conducted any study to ascertain the impact of pesticides effluents on drinking water sources or other water bodies. The central pollution control board CPCB needs to take notice of it. It also needs to explore whether drainage of pesticides into rivers and lakes of Kashmir is a violation of the Hazardous Waste Management Rules 2016, with all its four amendments from 2016 to 2019.

Right to Healthy Environment

Article 21 of the constitution ensures citizens of India the right to a healthy environment. The provision of the Right to Healthy Environment was not included when the Constitution was drafted and approved by the Constituent Assembly. The topics in the state list on which the state can enact legislation are health, hygiene, agriculture, soil, water, etc. The Union List in-

cludes issues like nuclear energy, oil fields and resources, interstate rivers, etc., for which only Parliament has the power to make laws.

The Preamble to the Constitution makes it clear that socio-economic justice is the basis of our Constitution. The apex court held that the right to life under Article 21 is a fundamental right and includes the rights to free water and free air from pollution for the full enjoyment of life in the case of Subhash Kumar v/s State of Bihar.

Brain Cancer & pesticides

A study by Prof Abdul Rashid Bhat, a neurosurgeon, and others from the Sher e Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences (SKIMS), Srinagar, linked pesticides to brain cancer. The report published in the Indian Journal of Medical and Paediatric Oncology in October 2010 revealed that 389 out of 432 cases of primary malignant brain tumours that were examined by SKIMS during a scientific study in 2010 (excluding metastatic lesions), were those of orchard farm workers.

While 61% of farmers/farm workers were affected after getting directly exposed to various pesticides in apple farms, almost 39 % were indirectly exposed, which includes intake of contaminated drinking water. Most of the affected districts, as per the study, were Anantnag, Baramulla, Budgam and Shopian.

Inputs from health and other experts and studies make it clear that drinking water is not safe in J&K. Governments and scientific institutions need to do many studies on contamination of drinking water sources by pesticides.

Effect on Sperm Count

High pesticide residues in some fruits and vegetables can reduce the quality of men's semen by up to half, according to a 2015 study done in the United States. The five-year study, the first of its type, has significant implications for public health, according to the medical journal Human Reproduction, which says attention is more often focused on women's difficulties in giving birth.

Fruit and vegetables eaten by the men who took part in the Harvard University study were rated as being high, moderate or low for residues, based on US department of agriculture figures. Among those in the “high” category were peppers, spinach, strawberries, apples and pears, while those rated low included peas, beans, grapefruit and onions. The tests took account of whether they were peeled and washed.

The study revealed that men who ate the most “pesticide-heavy” fruit and vegetables had an average total sperm count of 86 million sperm per ejaculate compared to men who ate the least-affected, who produced 171 million sperm per ejaculate. Pertinently Human Repro-

duction is one of the top three journals in the world in the field of reproductive biology, obstetrics and gynaecology.

Conclusion

The PHE Jal Shakti Department is unaware of this alarming situation. They have techniques to kill bacteria in water but what about the treatment of water that contains pesticides? The Department needs to liaison with farmers through horticulture and agriculture departments and seek guidance from the Pollution Control Committee as well. Capacity building programmes should be held for farmers to ensure pesticides used in farms don't contaminate nearby drinking water sources. We need legislation on this issue.

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

The author is an Acumen Fellow. He is Founder & Chairman of J&K RTI Movement and Anant fellow for Climate Action. Feedback: bhatrajamuzaffar@gmail.com

Mobile Phone: Break the Habit

Vijay Garg

“The living proof of how important mobile phones have become today is that they are an important part of the routine of young children, young people, women, men and even the elderly. Without it, people feel incomplete. After school, children start chatting and gaming on their mobile phones, which can be very dangerous for them

Due to the communication revolution in today's modern age, everyone is using mobile phones. Some people use it so much that they spend more than a quarter of the day talking on their cell phones. People are suffering from high blood pressure due to its excessive use. If you want to avoid heart disease, reduce the use of mobile phones. Recent research has shown that excessive use of mobile phones can increase the risk of stroke. Excessive use of mobile phones can increase systolic blood pressure, which in turn increases the risk of heart disease.

Looking at the results of the research, the researcher found that B.C. P. Growing patients are advised to keep a distance from mobile phones. "Patients should stay away from mobile phones at least when their blood pressure is high," he said. In normal life it is often seen that when a person starts talking very loudly while talking to someone on the phone, sometimes he gets so upset after listening to what the person in front of him is saying that he loses his temper. Often people get emotional while talking on the phone or get into fights due to excessive anger. This is the time when people's blood circulation increases due to mobile phones, in which sometimes people have to go to the doctor.

Mobile has become an important



part of the routine of children and the elderly.

The living proof of how important mobile phones have become today is that they are an important part of the routine of young children, young people, women, men and even the elderly. Without it, people feel incomplete. After school, children start chatting and gaming on their mobile phones, which can be very

dangerous for them.

Mobile phones increase stress in everyday life. As a result, large numbers of people are falling prey to diseases. It is common to see that if the phone does not ring for a while or no tune is heard then we unknowingly open the phone and start looking. We open WhatsApp and other social media apps and see again and again that no message has arrived. This in

itself is like a disease.

Excessive and improper use of mobile phones serves as a kind of slow-poison. This is because blood pressure and other ailments gradually build up, and neglect can lead to heart attack, which can be fatal.

The author is a Retired Principal

Apocalyptic Report on Earth's Future

Earth has warmed 1.09 since pre-industrial times and many changes such as sea-level rise and glacier melt are now virtually irreversible, according to the most sobering report yet by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

The report also found escape from human-caused climate change is no longer possible. Climate change is now affecting every continent, region and ocean on Earth, and every facet of the weather.

The long-awaited report is the sixth assessment of its kind since the panel was formed in 1988. It will give world leaders the most timely, accurate information about climate change ahead of a crucial international summit in Glasgow, Scotland in November.

The IPCC is the peak climate science body of the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization. It is the global authority on the state of Earth's climate and how human activities affect it. We are authors of the latest IPCC report and have drawn from the work of thousands of scientists from around the world to produce this new assessment.

Sadly, there is hardly any good news in the 3,900 pages of text released today. But there is still time to avert the worst damage, if humanity chooses to.



It's unequivocal: humans are warming the planet

For the first time, the IPCC states unequivocally — leaving absolutely no room for doubt — humans are responsible for the observed warming of the atmosphere, lands and oceans.

The IPCC finds Earth's global surface temperature warmed 1.09 between 1850-1900 and the last decade. This is 0.29 warmer than in the previous IPCC report in 2013. (It should be noted that 0.1 of the increase is due to data improvements.)

The IPCC recognises the role of natural changes to the Earth's climate. However, it finds 1.07 of the 1.09 warming is due to greenhouse gases associated with human activities. In other words, pretty much all global warming is due to humans.

Global surface temperature has warmed faster since 1970 than in any other 50-year period over at least the last 2,000 years, with the warming also reaching ocean depths below 2,000 metres.

The IPCC says human activities have also affected global precipitation (rain and snow). Since 1950, total global precipitation has increased, but while some regions have become wetter, others have become drier.

The frequency and intensity of heavy precipitation events have increased over most land areas. This is because the warmer atmosphere is able to hold more moisture — about 7% more for each additional degree of temperature — which makes wet seasons and rainfall events wetter.

Higher concentrations of CO₂, growing faster

Present-day global concentrations of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂) are higher and rising faster than at any time in at least the past two million years.

The speed at which atmospheric CO₂ has increased since the industrial revolution (1750) is at least ten times faster than at any other time during the last 800,000 years, and between four and five times faster than during the last 56 million years.

About 85% of CO₂ emissions are from burning fossil fuels. The remaining 15% are generated from land use change, such as deforestation and degradation.

Concentrations of other greenhouse gases are not doing any better. Both methane and nitrous oxide, the second and third biggest contributors to global warming after CO₂, have also increased more quickly.

Methane emissions from human activities largely come from livestock and the fossil fuel industry. Nitrous oxide emissions largely come from the use of nitrogen fertiliser on crops.

Extreme weather on the rise

Hot extremes, heatwaves and heavy rain have also become more frequent and intense across most land regions since 1950, the IPCC confirms.

The report highlights that some recently observed hot extremes, such as the Australian summer of 2012-2013, would have been extremely unlikely without human influence on the climate.

Human influence has also been detected for the first time in compounded extreme events. For example, incidences of heatwaves, droughts and fire weather happening at the same time are now

“The report does not identify any globally significant abrupt change in these regions over this century, based on currently available evidence. However, it projects permafrost areas will release about 66 billion tonnes of CO₂ for each additional degree of warming. These emissions are irreversible during this century under all warming scenarios

more frequent. These compound events have been seen in Australia, Southern Europe, Northern Eurasia, parts of the Americas and African tropical forests.

Oceans: hotter, higher and more acidic

Oceans absorb 91% of the energy from the increased atmospheric greenhouse gases. This has led to ocean warming and more marine heatwaves, particularly over the past 15 years.

Marine heatwaves cause the mass death of marine life, such as from coral bleaching events. They also cause algal

blooms and shifts in the composition of species. Even if the world restricts warming to 1.5-2, as is consistent with the Paris Agreement, marine heatwaves will become four times more frequent by the end of the century.

Melting ice sheets and glaciers, along with the expansion of the ocean as it warms, have led to a global mean sea level increase of 0.2 metres between 1901 and 2018. But, importantly, the speed sea level is rising is accelerating: 1.3 millimetres per year during 1901-1971, 1.9mm per year during 1971-2006, and 3.7mm per year during 2006-2018.

Ocean acidification, caused by the uptake of CO₂, has occurred over all oceans and is reaching depths beyond 2,000m in the Southern Ocean and North Atlantic.

Many changes are already irreversible

The IPCC says if Earth's climate was stabilised soon, some climate change-induced damage could not be reversed within centuries, or even millennia. For example, global warming of 2 this century will lead to average global sea level rise of between two and six metres over 2,000 years, and much more for higher emission scenarios.

Globally, glaciers have been synchronously retreating since 1950 and are projected to continue to melt for decades after the global temperature is stabilised. Meanwhile the acidification of the deep ocean will remain for thousands of years after CO₂ emissions cease.

The report does not identify any possible abrupt changes that would lead to an acceleration of global warming during this century — but does not rule out

such possibilities.

The prospect of permafrost (frozen soils) in Alaska, Canada, and Russia crossing a tipping point has been widely discussed. The concern is that as frozen ground thaws, large amounts of carbon accumulated over thousands of years from dead plants and animals could be released as they decompose.

The report does not identify any globally significant abrupt change in these regions over this century, based on currently available evidence. However, it projects permafrost areas will release about 66 billion tonnes of CO₂ for each additional degree of warming. These emissions are irreversible during this century under all warming scenarios.

How we can stabilise the climate

Earth's surface temperature will continue to increase until at least 2050 under all emissions scenarios considered in the report. The assessment shows Earth could well exceed the 1.5 warming limit by early 2030s.

If we reduce emissions sufficiently, there is only a 50% chance global temperature rise will stay around 1.5 (including a temporary overshoot of up to 0.1). To get Earth back to below 1.5 warming, CO₂ would need to be removed from the atmosphere using negative emissions technologies or nature-based solutions.

Global warming stays below 2 during this century only under scenarios where CO₂ emissions reach net-zero around or after 2050.

The IPCC analysed future climate projections from dozens of climate models, produced by more than 50 modelling centres around the world. It showed global average surface temperature rises between 1-1.8 and 3.3-5.7 this century above pre-industrial levels for the lowest and highest emission scenarios, respectively. The exact increase the world experiences will depend on how much more greenhouse gases are emitted.

The report states, with high certainty, that to stabilise the climate, CO₂ emissions must reach net zero, and other greenhouse gas emissions must decline significantly.

We also know, for a given temperature target, there's a finite amount of carbon we can emit before reaching net zero emissions. To have a 50:50 chance of halting warming at around 1.5, this quantity is about 500 billion tonnes of CO₂.

At current levels of CO₂ emissions this "carbon budget" would be used up within 12 years. Exhausting the budget will take longer if emissions begin to decline.

The IPCC's latest findings are alarming. But no physical or environmental impediments exist to hold warming to well below 2 and limit it to around 1.5 — the globally agreed goals of the Paris Agreement. Humanity, however, must choose to act.

The Conversation

A leader’s effectiveness may depend on emotions expressed: Study

Agencies

A new study has found that the perception of effective leaders may depend on the type of emotions they choose to express, and people use implicit theories of leadership emotions when evaluating a leader's effectiveness.

The findings of the study were published in the 'Journal of Organizational Behavior'.

Women leaders must often battle sexist stereotypes that label them "too emotional" for effective leadership.

The study shows that when they express calm, happy emotions, however, women are perceived as more effective leaders than men. The effect is most pronounced for leaders in top positions in an organization.

The study, conducted by psychology professor Thomas Sy at UC Riverside and management professor Daan van Knippenberg at Drexel University, is the first to examine prototypes for the types of emotions displayed by leaders and concluded that people use implicit theories of leadership emotions when evaluating leader effectiveness.

Cognitive leadership prototypes, known as implicit theories of leadership, have been well-studied. Research consistently finds that effective leaders are seen as

intelligent, dynamic, and charismatic, among other qualities. Men are also thought to be seen as possessing more of these qualities than women.

It is commonly understood that some types of emotional expression can diminish perceptions of leader effectiveness. Sy, an organizational psychologist who studies leadership, wondered if people also have implicit emotional prototypes, or schemas, that influence how they react to leaders.

With van Knippenberg, he designed a series of studies that asked respondents to describe what types of emotions leaders feel and express.

The results revealed six emotional schemas associated with leadership. Three of them – cheer, calm, pride – were associated with effective leadership. The other three – anger, fear, remorse – were associated with ineffective leadership.

"Every role has emotions that must be expressed, including leaders. To be effective, leaders must perform emotional labour," Sy said.

"What was surprising in our research is that women were rated more effective, and this could be explained by implicit theories of leadership emotions," Sy added.

Although men have more leeway for expressing negative emotions, Sy and van Knippenberg found that when women don't express negative emotions they are

seen as more effective than men.

Implicit theories of leadership emotions had the most impact on perceptions of leadership effectiveness for leaders at the highest levels of management.

Moreover, the expression of negative emotions did not undermine the effectiveness of top leaders to the same extent they did for low-ranking leaders. Low-ranking leaders, both men and women, were penalized for expressing anger.

"When we interact with a leader regularly, such as our immediate boss or supervisor, we have enough firsthand information to evaluate their effectiveness," Sy said.

"But we usually have little contact with leaders at the highest levels and less information about them. Therefore we tend to rely on schemas. Schemas are powerful. Even in the absence of data, they shape our behaviour," Sy explained.

Implicit theories of leadership emotions influence perceptions of effectiveness, with positive schemas associated with positive outcomes and negative schemas associated with negative outcomes.

"Past research shows the emotions of a leader affect the performance of followers. The leader's emotions are contagious, spread throughout the team, and affect the effectiveness of the whole group," Sy concluded.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I Have lost my Driving License bearing DL No:JK1820150011008. Now I want to apply its for duplicate if anybody having any objection in this regard He/She may file his her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

NAME:- SHAKIR AHMAD CHOPAN
S/O :- MOHD ANWAR CHOPAN
R/O BANDAL CHANGO DORU ANG. RNA

District Volleyball Association Anantnag

5th August Istsemi final in boys section has played between spartant:Ang and Srigufwara sport beat Srigufwara 3:0,25-21,25-23,25-20 in 2ndsemifinal Ball Bustor beat Harnag club 3:0(25-23)(25-21)(25-18). In girls section final Match was played between Ang A V/S Ang B .Ang A win the match 3:0(25-14)(25-15)(25-17).
Mr Tariq Ahmad Veeri NGO give the prizes to winners and runners up and also give Rs three thousand winners and Rs two thousand to Runners up and also promises to give 40 No of uniforms for Boys Section

District Volley Ball Association Anantnag

Volley ball tournament of District Anantnag Play today on 04-08-2021 at Sports Stadium Anantnag for Boys and Girls .In Boys section 8 teams and in Girls Section 4teams participate .Mr Umar Gull KAS Tehsildar Anantnag was the chief guest in Girls section and in boys section Mr Bashir Ahmad Mir Manager was the Chief Guest .In boys section Ist Match was played between Nowgam club and Srigufwara club. Match won by Srigufwara by 2:1,25:14,16:25,15:13..In girls section Ist Match was played between Ang.A And Bijbehara Ang. A beat Bijbehara 2:0(25-14)(25:16). Boys section 2nd Match ,Ball Buster beat red green 2:0(25-20)(25-22) in third Match ,Spartant Ang. Beat Qazigund 2:0(25-12)(28-26) 4th Match Harnag V/S victor .Harnag beat victor by 2:0(25-18)(25-21). RNA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Have lost my Driving License bearing DL No:JK1820150010425. Now I want to apply its for duplicate if anybody having any objection in this regard He/She may file his her objection in the office of the ARTO Anantnag within the period of seven days after that no objection will be entertained.

Name: AADIL HUSSAIN
MALIK S/O : GHULAM NABI MALIK
R/O :ORIEL KUND KULGAM RNA

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
AWANTIPORA, KASHMIR.
Telle: 01933-247954/247955 Website: www.iust.ac.in

Short Term Tender Notice for Supply of Laboratory Chemicals/ Glassware for the Department of Food Technology

The tender for supply of Laboratory Chemicals/ Glassware for the Department of Food Technology at IUST Campus Awantipora issued vide tender notice No. IUST/Reg_P&S/Tender/21/362 dated: 15-04-2020 is hereby retendered due to the poor response. The tender document can be obtained from the office of Assistant Registrar (Procurement & Stores) or can be downloaded from the University website: www.iust.ac.in against DD of Rs. 500/- (non-refundable) favouring Islamic University of Science and Technology, Awantipora Pulwama (J&K) as cost of the tender document and to be submitted by or before 20-08-2021 (2.00pm). Terms and Conditions apply. The supplier must be authorized dealer/supplier or manufacturer for supply of Chemicals and Glassware as mentioned in the Annexure A and B in the tender document.

No. IUST/Reg_P&S/Tender/21/540
Dated: 09-08-2021

Sd/-
Assistant Registrar (Procurement & Stores)

PUBLIC NOTICE

In my old passport Bearing No :- JG074992 my name and Father's name was mentioned as Peer Ananyat –Ullah S/o Ghulam Rasool Shah .Now in my re- issue of passport I want to up date the same as par my pension book record I,eAnayat –Ullah S/o Peer Ghulam Rasool .Any person having any objection in this regard may please submit in the passport office Srinagar within 7days after that no objection shall be entertained .

Anayat- Ullah S/o Peer Ghulam Rasool
R/o Chirhama Distt Ang.
Cell No :- 9086698223 RNA

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION
NEW CAMPUS BEMINA SGR

ATTENTION PLEASE

The candidate whose photograph is above reports that he/she has lost his /her qualification certificate/s having the following description:-

Name :- MOHD YOUSUF KHAN
FATHERS NAME:- MOHD AFZAL KHAN
MOTHERS NAME:- TAJA BEGUM
ROLL NO :- 2706 CLASS 10TH
YEAR & SESSION:- 1977 Annual (November)
REGISTRATION NO :- 12-BMT-M-77
DATE OF BIRTH :- 27-03-1962
RESIDENCE:- GOPAL PORA KALAN P/O MATTAN ANANTNAG.

Now the candidate has applied for issuance of Duplicate Qualification Certificate/s. Before the case will be processed under rules, if somebody have any kind of objection in this regard he/she shall approach the office of the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publishing of this notice after expiring date no objection shall be entertained.

(Besides ,the above losted “QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATE “, bearing S.No/s 893 is /are be treated as (“ CANCELLED”).
No :- F (CERTS-I-DQC) B/KD/18 sd/-
Dated :- 03-08-2021 ASSISTANT SECRETARY
RNA CERTIFICATES,KD.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUIVE ENGINEER
PWD(R&B) DIVISION KULGAM
NIT Sl. No: 61/2021-22/RnB/Kul/e-tendering/4108-58 dated 04-08-2021

For and on behalf of the **Government of Jammu & Kashmir** tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works:-

S.No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs.)	Time of completion	Major Head of Account	Class of Contractor
1	Upgradation of Hum Road by way of P/L of RBM and WBM Gr- II and RCC pipes	6.13	300	07 days	State Sector	Cee & Dee

Position of AAA = Accreded

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

S. No.	Particulars	Dated
1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice .	06-08-2021
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From 06-08-2021 (10.00 AM) To 14-08-2021 (04:00PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From 06-08-2021 (10.00 AM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To 14-08-2021 (04:00PM)
6	Date and time of opening of bid (online)	14-08-2021 (4:30 PM)

In the office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Kulgam

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kulgam (Major Head 0059-Rev:Misc) (Tender Inviting Authority) (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Kulgam (Tender receiving Authority).

3. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form Instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form Is as per Annexure "A" below).

4. The **lowest** Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of work.

5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Kulgam

6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

7. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.

a. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get "Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)" as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.

c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.

d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.

e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.

f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.

Note:- Scan all the documents on 100 dpi with black and white option.

8. The department will not be responsible for delay in online submission due to any reasons.

9. Scanned copy of cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Kulgam (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Kulgam must be uploaded with the documents of the bid. The Original Treasury Challan (Cost of Tender Document) and other relevant bid documents shall be obtained from the lowest bidder before the fixation of the Contract.

10. Bidders are advised not to make any change in BOD (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOD manually.

11. Price escalation and taxes: The %age quoted by the bidder entirely in Indian Rupees shall be deemed to include price escalation and all taxes upto completion of the work. Deduction on account of taxes shall be made from the bills of the contractor on gross amount of the bill as per the rates prevailing at the time of recovery.

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

13. All other terms and conditions are as same as laid in PWD Form 25.

No: 4159-63
Dtd: 04-08-2021
DIPK-6231/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
(R&B) Division Kulgam

SRINAGAR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

Subject: Cancellation of e-NIT No: 01 of 2021-22 dated: 26/07/2021 for fixation of Annual Rate Contract for supply of POL.

As approved by the Competent Authority, the tenders invited vide e-NIT No: 01 of 2021-22 dated: 26/07/2021 for fixation of Annual Rate Contract for supply of POL, is hereby cancelled due to non response and as per the codal formalities the same shall be floated through fresh tenders.

Sd/
Purchase & Procurement Officer,
Srinagar Municipal Corporation.

No: SMC/PPS/506-516
Dated: 07/08/2021
DIPK-NB-2418/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Mechanical Hospital & Central Heating Division Srinagar
Corrigendum for Extension

Subject: - 1. Design ,Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 500 LPH RO System for Dialysis machines at Govt. GB Pant Hospital, Srinagar.
2. Overhauling of 816 CFM Air Compressor of 1040 LPM oxygen Concentrator Plant of SMHS Hospital, Srinagar.
3. Connecting of PSA based Oxygen Plants with existing MGPS Piping at Govt. 500 Bedded Covid Hospital Khanmoh.

References: 1.This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/82/e-tendering Dated 19.07.2021
2. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/72/e-tendering Dated 10.07.2021
3. This office e- NIT no: MHCHD/TS /2021-22/89/e-tendering Dated 04.08.2021

.....

In view of poor response to above referred e-NIT the above referred e-NIT is hereby retendered, the critical dates of the above referred NITs are as follows:-

S.No	Description	Date and Time
1.	Last date of Bid Submission	13.08.2021 (14:00 hrs)
2.	Date of Bid opening	13.08.2021 (16:00 hrs)

All the other terms and conditions will remain the same.

DIPK-6260/21
MHCHD/TS/3445-48 Dt:- 09.08.2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
MHCH Division
Srinagar.

"Huge potential for tourism" Khan inaugurates TRC in Bandipora

KO NEWS DESK

BANDIPORA: Advisor to Lieutenant Governor, Baseer Ahmad Khan, on Monday inaugurated the Tourist Reception Centre near Wullar Vintage Park Garroora, Bandipora and reviewed infrastructure being developed in the district to boost tourism.

Khan conducted an extensive tour of the district to take stock of various ongoing development works with focus on winter preparedness of PDD, arrangements for 75th Independence Day, Covid mitigation efforts and disaster management.

Advisor also met several public delegations who apprised him of their demands and grievances seeking an early redressal of the same.

Advisor inspected several ongoing development works in the district including roads, receiving stations, rural development works, harvesting tanks, tourist facilities and allied projects.

He directed the officers to establish a well equipped informa-

tion centre for tourists so that TRC can facilitate tourists during their stay in Bandipora. The center shall provide information to tourists regarding trekking, tourism heritage, pilgrimage tourism and places of attraction in Gurez valley besides historical background of these places.

Advisor directed the officers of Tourism and Floriculture departments to come up with Detailed Project Reports regarding construction of view points and landscaping of parks along with fencing along the bank of Wullar lake. He asked them to prepare a comprehensive plan regarding inclusion of water sports activities as tourist attraction at Wullar lake.

Advisor said there is a huge potential of tourism in the district and directed the Directors Tourism and Floriculture to visit Bandipora regarding establishment of parks around Wullar lake and exploring new tourist destinations in the district in consultation with DDC Bandipora.

Advisor also inspected under



construction receiving station at Sumbal and asked the officers to expedite the pace of work on the

project. He set a deadline of 30th September for completion of the project.

Pampore Saffron grower thanks PM Modi for farmers' welfare initiatives

KO NEWS DESK

PAMPORE, AUGUST 09: Abdul Ma-jeed Wani, a Saffron grower from Pampore area of Pulwama district has thanked Prime Minister Narendra Modi for farmers' welfare initiatives and schemes like PM PM-KISAN for helping to increase farmers' income. Wani like other farmers from several States/UTs today interacted, via video-conferencing, with PM Modi during the release of 9th installment of financial benefit under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme. The Prime Minister virtually transferred about Rs 19,500 crore to over 9.75 crore farmers under the Central government's PM-KISAN scheme.

Under the scheme, an annual direct cash transfer of Rs 6,000 is provided to farmers, which is di-

rectly deposited into their registered bank accounts. The amount is paid in three equal four-monthly installments of Rs 2,000 each.

In his speech, PM said that the government has now decided that saffron of Kashmir will be available at 'NAFED' shops across the country and said that the initiative will give a lot of impetus to the cultivation of saffron in Jammu and Kashmir.

Post an interaction with PM, Wani said PM's dream of doubling farmers' income by 2022 has been realized in Kashmir first where Saffron farmers from Pampore are reaping the benefits of government's farmer welfare schemes.

"Earlier, a Saffron grower used to fetch Rs 90 thousand to Rs 1.10 lakh per Kilogram, now the price for the same quantity has gone up to Rs 2.25 lakh, thus doubling farmers income which is the

dream of our honorable PM sahib and here in Kashmir the target of doubling farmers' income has been achieved a year before the target of year 2022," Wani added.

Wani, who is growing Saffron for the past 30 years on his land measuring 40 Kanals, said that Saffron cultivation was dwindling due to little marketing and authentication issues. Calling the government's initiatives like Geographical Indication (GI) tagging and Spice Park at Pampore a game-changer for the Saffron grower of the area, he said the India International Kashmir Saffron Trading Center (IIKSTC) provided an e-auction for the Saffron growers and fetching them double the prices for their crop.

He believed that by establishing the Spice Park, e-auction was done to market Kashmiri Saffron while as GI Tagging provided an authen-

tication certificate to the crop at national and international market where customers buy genuine Saffron instead of fake brands sold in the name of Kashmiri Saffron.

Wani said that the Saffron cultivation faced a hitch but due to the government's timely intervention through National Saffron Mission (NSM), its revival is back on course.

"NSM helped us in two ways: one is that it provided us latest technologies of farming, besides it provided incentives for Saffron cultivation due to which the spice was revived in this area," Wani added.

He also expressed his gratitude to the PM for announcing the availability of Kashmiri Saffron at 'NAFED' shops across the country, saying such initiatives will further provide boost to the world's precious spice with respect to its marketing.

Parliament passes bill to bury ghost of retrospective taxation

Agencies

New Delhi, August 9 : Parliament on Monday cleared a bill to bury the ghost of retrospective taxation which had created "discontent" among foreign investors even as Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman assured the Rajya Sabha that the legislation does not dilute the sovereign right of India to levy taxes. The Rajya Sabha returned The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, after a brief discussion. Opposition parties, Congress, DMK, and TMC had walked out of the House to protest against the listing of the bill in the supplementary business circulated just hours before the House took it up.

The amendment bill, passed by the Lok Sabha last week, will enable the government to withdraw all tax demands made on companies like Cairn Energy and Vodafone using a 2012 legislation on indirect transfer of Indian assets prior to May 28, 2012.

The 2012 legislation, commonly referred to as the retrospective tax law, was enacted after the Supreme Court in January that year rejected

proceedings brought by tax authorities against Vodafone International Holdings BV for its failure to deduct withholding tax from USD 11.1 billion paid to Hutchison Telecommunications in 2007 for buying out its 67 per cent stake in a wholly-owned Cayman Island incorporated subsidiary that indirectly held interests in Vodafone

transfer of shares in a non-Indian company, which derives substantial value from underlying Indian assets, such as Vodafone's transaction with Hutchison in 2007 or the internal reorganisation of the India business that Cairn Energy did in 2006-07 before listing it on local bourses.

Using that law, tax authorities



India Ltd.

The Finance Act 2012, which amended various provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 with retrospective effect, contained provisions intended to tax any gain on

in January 2013 slapped Vodafone with a tax demand of Rs 14,200 crore, including principal tax of Rs 7,990 crore and interest. This was in February 2016 updated to Rs 22,100 crore plus interest.

SC refuses to entertain pleas of Amazon, Flipkart against CCI probe

Agencies

New Delhi, August 9: The Supreme Court Monday refused to entertain pleas of e-commerce firms, Amazon and Flipkart, challenging an order permitting the Competition Commission of India to carry out a preliminary investigation into the alleged violation of the competition law. A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice N V Ramana said that challenging the enquiry is like wanting a notice before the registration of an FIR under the criminal law and asked the e-commerce giants to submit themselves to the probe by the CCI.

"We expect big organisations like Amazon and Flipkart to offer themselves for the inquiry and you do not want that. You have to submit and enquiry has to be permitted," said the bench which also comprised justices Vineet Saran and Surya Kant.

On being told by senior advocate A M Singhvi, appearing for Flipkart, that the time to respond to the CCI was expiring on August 9 itself, the Bench extended the time by four

probe for alleged violations of the competition law.

The high court had said that the e-commerce firms had no need to shy away from an inquiry if they



more weeks which was objected to by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the CCI.

Mehta said that a week should be given to these firms as in COVID times people mostly shop online through these companies.

The Karnataka High Court had on July 23 junked the plea of Amazon-Flipkart against the CCI

were not involved in violations.

"The inquiry cannot be crushed at this stage. If the appellants aren't involved in violations of any provisions of the competition law, they should not feel shy in facing an inquiry by the Competition Commission of India," the bench had observed.

UK High Court grants Nirav Modi permission to appeal on depression, suicide risk grounds

Grounds 3 and 4 relate to Article 3 of the ECHR, or the right to life, liberty and security, and Section 91 of the UK's Criminal Justice Act 2003 related to fitness to plead.

High Court judge in London on Monday granted fugitive diamond merchant Nirav Modi permission to appeal against a magistrates' court order in favour of extradition to India to face charges of fraud and money laundering before the Indian courts on mental health and human rights grounds.

Justice Martin Chamberlain delivered his verdict remotely under COVID-19 rules to conclude that the arguments presented by the 50-year-old diamond merchant's legal team concerning his "severe depression" and "high risk of suicide" were arguable at a substantial hearing.

He also noted that the adequacy of the measures capable of preventing "successful suicide attempts" at Arthur Road Jail in Mumbai, where Nirav Modi is to be detained upon extradition, also fall within the arguable ambit.

"At this stage, the question for me is simply whether the appellant's case on these grounds is reasonably arguable. In my judgment, it is. I will grant permission to appeal on Grounds 3 and 4," Justice Chamberlain's ruling notes.

Grounds 3 and 4 relate to Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR), or the right to life, liberty and security, and Section 91 of the UK's Criminal Justice Act 2003 related to fitness to plead.

The judge noted that the arguments made under both grounds overlap in this case as they both rely principally on the appellant, Nirav Modi's mental ill health.

"I will not restrict the basis on which those grounds can be argued, though it seems to me that there should be a particular focus on whether the judge was wrong to reach the conclusion he did, given the evidence as to the severity of the appellant's [Nirav Modi's] depression, the high risk of suicide and the adequacy of any measures capable of preventing successful suicide attempts in Arthur Road prison," the ruling notes.

Audi launches RS 5 Sportback model in India at Rs 1.04 crore

NEW DELHI: German luxury carmaker Audi on Monday launched its RS5 Sportback model in India at an introductory price of Rs 1.04 crore (ex-showroom). The RS5 Sportback which is powered by a 2.9 litre V6 twin-turbo petrol engine that produces 450 hp of power and is being imported to India as completely-built units, Audi India said in a statement.

Commenting on the launch, Audi India Head Balbir Singh Dhillon said, "The Audi RS 5 is coming to India as a Sportback, for the very first time and will be the perfect choice for customers who want the Audi RS DNA in addition to everyday practicality."

The sporty spearhead of the product line, the RS 5 Sportback is capable of accelerating from 0 to 100 km/h in 3.9 seconds and hits a top speed of 250 km/hr, the company added. Dhillon said Audi has witnessed good traction for all its 'sports models', across India.



از نیابت دیو لگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول۔

درخواست منجانب: منیب ریاض ولد ریاض احمد بخش ساکنہ زیر نیابت دیو لگام
بغرض حصول RBA سر تقیٹ تحت 294 SRO

اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست سر تقیٹ دفتر بذمہ پیش کیا ہے جس کی نوادر پورٹ جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے وہہذ میں سکونت پذیر ہے۔ کوئی تفسیل یوں ہے۔

بمہر شار نامہ ولدیت عمر پیشہ امدانی
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۲۔ حفہ بانو زوجہ ریاض احمد بخش 42 سال گھریلو کام

۳۔ منزہ ریاض دختر ریاض احمد بخش 20 سال زیتعلیم

۴۔ منیب ریاض ولد ریاض احمد بخش 18 سال زیتعلیم

اس طرح سائل اسلایہ کا کنڈہ 06 کنال آراض مومو ہے جبکہ سالانہ آمدنی 90,000 روپیہ تک ہیں کے پاس وہہذ میں 06 کنال آراض مومو ہے جبکہ سالانہ آمدنی 90,000 روپیہ تک ہیں سائل کوئی نہ آمدنی تمام زراعی سے تقریباً 1860000 روپیہ تک ہیں سائل RBA سر تقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد رسات دن کے اندر اندر آ پنا عذر یا اعتراض دفتر بذمہ پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

از نیابت قاضی گنڈ با اجلاس عدل رشید ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول۔

درخواست منجانب: سمیہ جان، شیئر ریس اولاد عدل رشید شیئرساکنہ کیوہ تحصیل قاضی گنڈ ضلع ایشٹ ناگ

بغرض حصول RBA سر تقیٹ۔

اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول RBA سر تقیٹ دفتر بذمہ پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے وہہذ میں مسلسل طور سکونت پذیر ہے اور سر تقیٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

۱۔ عمدہ ولد جمہ شیئ 80 سال عمر سیدہ

۲۔ عدل رشید شیئ ولد جمہ شیئ 55 سال پریکسٹر

۳۔ سمیہ جان دختر عدل رشید شیئ 52 سال گھریلو کام

۴۔ سمیہ جان دختر عدل رشید شیئ 30 سال زیتعلیم

۵۔ شیئ باشم ولد عدل رشید شیئ 28 سال زیتعلیم

۶۔ سرینہ رشید دختر عدل رشید 26 سال زیتعلیم

۷۔ شیئ باقم رشید ولد عدل رشید شیئ 24 سال زیتعلیم

۸۔ شیئ ریس ولد عدل رشید شیئ 22 سال زیتعلیم

RNA

از نیابت دیو لگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول۔

درخواست منجانب: حبیب مقبول ولد محمد مقبول میر ساکنہ دیو لگام
بغرض حصول RBA سر تقیٹ۔

اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول RBA سر تقیٹ دفتر بذمہ پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے وہہذ میں مسلسل طور سکونت پذیر ہے اور سر تقیٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنڈہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

۱۔ محمد مقبول میر ولد غلام نبی 50 سال مزدوری

۲۔ حسینہ اختر زوجہ محمد مقبول 45 سال گھریلو کام

۳۔ حبیب مقبول ولد محمد مقبول 21 سال زیتعلیم

اس طرح سائل اسلایہ کا کنڈہ 03 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور حصول RBA سر تقیٹ کا خواہاں ہے قبل انکار داری ہر خاص و عام کو بدریعا اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو سر تقیٹ حذرا کر کے نہ نسبت کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد رسات دن کے اندر اندر آ پنا عذر یا اعتراض دفتر بذمہ پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

با اجلاس نایب تحصیلدار صاحب وائد دیو لگام

مضمون درخواست منجانب:۔ چغیدہ جان دختر عدل رشید حجام ساکنہ دیو لگام
بمہر اصول OBC سر تقیٹ

اشتبہ برادر آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض OBC سر تقیٹ دفتر بذمہ پیش کیا ہے۔ اس بارے میں عملہ فیلڈ سے رپورٹ طلب کیا گیا۔ جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے مسلسل سکونت پذیر ہے اور سائل کا کنڈہ بذیل ہے

۱۔ عدل رشید ولد غلام احمد حجام

۲۔ نکیلہ زوجہ عدل رشید حجام

۳۔ شاہد احمد ولد عدل رشید حجام

۴۔ دلاور احمد ولد عدل رشید حجام

۵۔ شتیاق احمد ولد عدل رشید حجام

۶۔ چغیدہ ہمن دختر عدل رشید حجام

۷۔ معشوق احمد ولد عدل رشید حجام

۸۔ چاہت جان دختر عدل رشید حجام

۹۔ راجہ جان دختر عدل رشید حجام

اس طور کنڈہ 09 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور سائل کا کنڈہ حجام کی ذات سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں جبکہ سالانہ آمدنی 39531 روپیہ تک ہے لہذا زیر بحث سر تقیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ رسات دن کے اندر اندر آ پنا عذر یا اعتراض دفتر بذمہ پیش کرے۔ میعاد گزرے کے بعد کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

Anti-Muslim slogans at Jantar Mantar: NCM notice to Deputy Commissioner of Delhi police

New Delhi: The National Commission for Minorities on Monday issued a notice to Delhi's deputy commissioner of police over anti-Muslim slogans allegedly raised during a protest at the Jantar Mantar here and asked the official to apprise it of the action taken in the matter.

As directed by NCM Vice-Chairman Atif Rasheed, the panel has taken suo motu cognisance of the news in social media regarding an event organized under "Bharat Jodo Movement" which took place at Jantar Mantar, wherein anti-Muslim slogans were raised, the notice said.

"The same has hurt the sentiments of the Muslim community. You are directed to be present in the commission on 10.8.2021 at 12 noon," it said.

The commission has asked the deputy commissioner of police to furnish information as to what action has been taken against the people who raised such slogans, whether any arrests have been made and, if so, the sections under which the accused have been booked.

The commission also asked the deputy police commissioner to apprise it on whose permission was such

an event organised and what are the measures taken to prevent such incidents in future.

Also, Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind chief Maulana Mahmood Madani has written to Home Minister Amit Shah and the Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana and demanded stern action against the guilty.

Apart from this, a delegation led by Maulana Hakeemuiddin Qasmi, the General Secretary of the Jamiat, called on Jaspal Singh, the Joint Police Commissioner, New Delhi Range and Deepak Yadav, the DCP, at a makeshift

camp at Jantar Mantar and handed over to them the copy of the letter.

It states that the hate-filled video was being circulated and shared by a large number of people on social media platforms. It has hurt the Muslims and peace-loving people across all communities, the letter said.

A video showing anti-Muslim slogans being raised during a protest at Jantar Mantar here is being widely circulated on social media, following which the Delhi Police registered a case in connection with the matter on Monday, officials said.

Hundreds of people had attended the protest organised by Bharat Jodo Aandolan at Jantar Mantar on Sunday.

Shipra Srivastava, the media in-charge of Bharat Jodo Aandolan, said the protest was held under the leadership of advocate and former BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay.

However, she denied any links to those who raised anti-Muslim slogans.

"The protest was held against colonial laws and demanding to abolish 222 British laws. We have seen the video, but have no idea who they are. The police should take strict action

against the persons who raised the slogans," Srivastava said.

Upadhyay too denied any involvement in the anti-Muslim slogan-shouting incident.

"I have submitted a complaint to the Delhi Police to examine the video which went viral. If the video is authentic, then strict action should be taken against the persons who were involved in it," he said.

The video shows a group of people shouting inflammatory slogans and threatening Muslims during the protest at Jantar Mantar.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Global Warming

The authoritative Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, which calls climate change clearly human-caused and "unequivocal," makes more precise and warmer forecasts for the 21st century than it did last time it was issued in 2013.

Each of five scenarios for the future, based on how much carbon emissions are cut, passes the more stringent of two thresholds set in the 2015 Paris climate agreement.

World leaders agreed then to try to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) since the late 19th century because problems mount quickly after that.

The limit is only a few tenths of a degree hotter than now because the world has already warmed nearly 1.1 degrees Celsius (2 degrees Fahrenheit) in the past century and a half.

Under each scenario, the report said, the world will cross the 1.5 degrees Celsius warming mark in the 2030s, earlier than some past predictions. Warming has ramped up in recent years, data shows.

In three scenarios, the world will also likely exceed 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) over pre-industrial times the other, less stringent Paris goal with far worse heat waves, droughts and flood-inducing downpours unless deep reductions in carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions occur in the coming decades, the report said.

"This report tells us that recent changes in the climate are widespread, rapid and intensifying, unprecedented in thousands of years," said IPCC Vice Chair Ko Barrett, senior climate adviser for the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "The changes we experience will increase with further warming." The 3,000-plus-page report from 234 scientists said warming is already accelerating sea level rise, shrinking ice and worsening extremes such as heat waves, droughts, floods and storms.

Tropical cyclones are getting stronger and wetter, while Arctic sea ice is dwindling in the summer and permafrost is thawing. All of these trends will get worse, the report said.

For example, the kind of heat wave that used to happen only once every 50 years now happens once a decade, and if the world warms another degree Celsius (1.8 degrees Fahrenheit), it will happen twice every seven years, the report said.

As the planet warms, places will get hit more not just by extreme weather but by multiple climate disasters that occur simultaneously, the report said.

That's like what's now happening in the Western U.S., where heat waves, drought and wildfires compound the damage, Means said.

Some harm from climate change, dwindling ice sheets, rising sea levels and changes in the oceans as they lose oxygen and become more acidic, are "irreversible for centuries to millennia," the report said.

The world is "locked in" to 15 to 30 centimeters (6 to 12 inches) of sea level rise by mid-century, said report co-author Bob Kopp of Rutgers University.

Nearly all of the warming that has happened on Earth can be blamed on emissions of heat-trapping gases such as carbon dioxide and methane.

At most, natural forces like the sun or simple randomness can explain one- or two-tenths of a degree of warming, the report said.

The report described five different future scenarios based on how much the world reduces carbon emissions.

They are: a future with incredibly large and quick pollution cuts; another with intense pollution cuts but not quite as massive; a scenario with moderate emissions; a fourth scenario where current plans to make small pollution reductions continue; and a fifth possible future involving continued increases in carbon pollution.

In five previous reports, the world was on that final hottest path, often nicknamed "business as usual." But this time, the world is somewhere between the moderate emissions path and the small pollution reductions scenario because of progress to curb climate change, said report co-author Claudia Tebaldi, a scientist at the U.S.

Pacific Northwest National Lab. In a way, the world can stay at the 1.5-degree threshold with extreme and quick emission cuts, but even then, warming would hit 1.5 degrees in a decade, rise a tad and then come back down, said co-author Maisia Rojas Corrada, director of the Center for Climate and Resilience Research in Chile.

While calling the report "a code red for humanity," United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres kept a sliver of hope that world leaders could still somehow prevent 1.5 degrees of warming, which he said is "perilously close." "Anything we can do to limit, to slow down, is going to pay off," Tebaldi said.

"And if we cannot get to 1.5, it's probably going to be painful, but it's better not to give up." In the report's worst-case scenario, the world could be around 3.3 degrees Celsius (5.9 degrees Fahrenheit) hotter than now by the end of the century.

But that scenario looks increasingly unlikely, said report co-author and climate scientist Zeke Hausfather, climate change director of the

Breakthrough Institute.

Both extremes are looking less likely, he said. "We are a lot less likely to get lucky and end up with less warming than we thought. We won't be able to meet Paris Agreement goals without rapid near-term reductions in our emissions," Hausfather said.

"At the same time, the odds of ending up in a much worse place than we expected if we do reduce our emissions are notably lower."

The report said ultra-catastrophic disasters, commonly called "tipping points," like ice sheet collapses and the abrupt slowdown of ocean currents are "low likelihood" but cannot be ruled out.

The much talked-about shutdown of Atlantic ocean currents, which would trigger massive weather shifts, is something that's unlikely to happen in this century, Kopp said.

Glaciers in Himalayan

One of the authors of the report, Krishna Achuta Rao, said in the HKH region, the snow cover has reduced since the early 21st century and glaciers have thinned, retreated and lost mass since the 1970s.

However, he said, the Karakoram glaciers have either slightly gained mass or are in an approximately balanced state.

"Snow-covered areas and snow volumes will decrease during the 21st century, snowline elevations will rise and glacier mass is likely to decline with greater mass loss in higher greenhouse gas emission scenarios. Rising temperatures and precipitation can increase the occurrence of glacial lake outburst floods and landslides over moraine-dammed lakes," Rao said.

According to the report, mountain glaciers will continue to shrink and permafrost to thaw in all regions where they are present.

Moraine-dammed lakes are normally formed near glacier terminus. These lakes can burst due to excessive melting and can cause floods in the valleys. Many such floods have been reported in the Himalayas and other parts of the world.

Another author of the report, Swapna Panickal, who is a scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, said human influence is responsible for the retreat of glaciers since the 20th century and that is not only the case in the two poles, but also for mountain glaciers.

She said reducing emissions now will not stop the retreat of glaciers as it is a slow process.

"Glaciers are also one of the slow responding parts of the climate system, so what we see now is not the retreat to expect from the warming we currently have. So even if we stop emitting right now or admit to stopping global warming at 1.5 degrees Celsius, we will see further retreat of glaciers. That is of course an important climatic impact driver, because it has huge implications for fresh water availability in the region," Panickal said.

According to the report, the freezing level height in mountain areas is projected to rise and will alter snow and ice conditions.

5 Things To Know

Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) — by the year 2100, compared to the late 19th century.

The report's 200-plus authors looked at five scenarios and concluded that all will see the world cross the 1.5-degree threshold in the 2030s — sooner than in previous predictions. Three of those scenarios will also see temperatures rise 2 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial average.

Dire Consequences

The 3,000-plus-page report concludes that ice melt and sea level rise are already accelerating. Wild weather events — from storms to heat waves — are also expected to worsen and become more frequent.

Some Hope

While many of the report's predictions paint a grim picture of humans' impact on the planet and the consequences that will have going forward, the IPCC also found that so-called tipping points, like catastrophic ice sheet collapses and the abrupt slowdown of ocean currents, are "low likelihood," though they cannot be ruled out.

THE IPCC

The panel is composed of independent experts put forward by governments and organizations to provide the best possible scientific consensus on climate change.

Ban On 8th

Muharram the way it's been observed for last 30 years. The cops told us to visit Deputy Commissioner's office to reconfirm this decision," Humayun Ali Khan, a resident told Kashmir Observer.

He further claimed that the policemen said that curfew will be imposed to prevent mourners from carrying out the procession.

On Monday, Khan said a delegation of residents visited DC office to enquire about the ban on procession.

"However, we were told that DC was busy. We were asked to visit the office on Tuesday," he said.

SHO Shaheed Gunj, Sabzar Ahmed Ganaie confirmed to Kashmir Observer that the 8th Muharram procession will not be allowed.

"The government has ordered ban on Muharram procession from Guru Bazar to

Dalgate. This procession is not allowed," he said.

When asked who has ordered the ban, the police officer said it has come from the government.

Pertinently, on Monday last, the administration modified the earlier directions issued regarding the Muharram processions / gatherings stating that appropriate decisions for suitable action will be taken by the District Magistrates in consultation with police, health and other stakeholders.

LG Hails PM

directly connect the local farmers to the market," the L-G said on Twitter.

Addressing a virtual event to release the ninth instalment for the beneficiaries under the PM-KISAN scheme, the prime minister said that for the benefit of saffron growers, the government has decided to sell saffron produced in Jammu and Kashmir through retail stores of cooperative firm NAFED.

BJP Sarpanch,

contested the last year's District Development Council elections.

"Although the deceased was provided a secured accommodation at Snow cap hotel Kulgam and both stayed there for a short period but they had been continuously insisting to stay at their house at Anantnag Town and also submitted an undertaking in this regard," the police spokesperson said.

"On their request they were allowed to stay at said house in Anantnag. He was also provided with one PSO who however was found absent from duty at the time of incident. The said PSO has been placed under suspension," he added.

Police, he said, has registered a case in this regard under relevant sections of law.

ICP Kashmir said that two bike borne "terrorists" of LeT outfit were involved in this "barbaric terror" incident.

"Investigation is in progress and officers continue to work to establish the full circumstances of this terror crime. Area has been cordoned and search in the area is going on," the police spokesperson added.

Pertinently, Dar became the fourth BJP leader to be targeted by the militant this year alone.

While two BJP councilors were killed in a daring attack on the Municipal Council in Sopore area of Baramulla district in March this year, Rakesh Pandita, the BJP councilor from Tral in Pulwama district was shot dead on June 2 this year.

Militants have also targeted civilians, policemen and an off-duty army jawans during the year. While nine civilians have been killed by militants, six police personnel and an army man also lost their lives in similar attacks.

Last year also, militants targeted BJP workers killing at least six of them. (With PTI inputs)

LG Assures Prompt

be brought to justice very soon. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family in this time of grief," the LG said on his official Twitter handle.

Dar was also the district president of the BJP's Kisan Morcha for Kulgam and was presently living in a rented accommodation in Anantnag.

"Once again the coward Pakistani-sponsored terrorists have bled Kashmir by killing our Kisan Morcha leader and his wife. Both of them were active members of the BJP and enthusiastically took part in functions to mark the second anniversary of the revocation of Article 370 on August 5 and raised the tricolour," J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina said.

"They have sacrificed their lives for the nation and we will not allow their sacrifice to go waste."

The BJP's J-K spokesman Altaf Thakur also condemned the killing, terming it "barbaric and cowardly".

National Conference (NC) vice president Omar Abdullah said the deceased joined a long list of mainstream politicians killed for their political beliefs.

"I unequivocally condemn the assassination of Ghulam Rasool Dar & his wife. They join a long list of mainstream politicians killed for their political beliefs. My condolences to his family & colleagues. May Allah grant the departed place in Jannat," he wrote on Twitter.

PDP president Mehbooba Mufti said she felt sorry to hear the news of the killing.

"My condolences to their families & loved ones," she tweeted.

Peoples Conference (PC) chairman Sajad Lone also strongly condemned the killing.

"Yet again a Kashmiri family is a victim of violence. Yet again, more addition to the community of orphans and hapless victims of gun. May the killers rot in hell," he said.

J&K Sees More

2, Bandipora 6, Ganderbal 9, Kulgam 4, Shopian 1, Jammu 11, Udhampur 6, Rajouri 4, Doda 9, Samba 2, Kishtwar 6, Poonch 3, and Reasi 2 new cases of novel coronavirus. No fresh case of Covid-19 was detected from Ramban and Kathua districts.

Also, officials said, the deadly infection claimed life of another person in Jammu thus taking the total number of fatalities since the outbreak of pandemic to 4390—2151 in Jammu division and 2239 in Kashmir.

There was no confirmed case of black fungus reported today. So far 37 black fungus cases have been confirmed in J&K, the officials added. (With GNS inputs)

Skill Institutes

meeting in person and through video conferencing.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG's advisor delved upon the officers to make the arrangements of the celebrations well in advance at all the institutes besides other logistic material required for successful conduct of functions is also made available at all institutes on time.

"The Advisor, while stressing on cleaning the institutes across J&K beforehand, directed the officers to carry out dedicated cleanliness and sanitation drives across all institutes so that this important festival is celebrated with dignity, decorum and full enthusiasm," he said.

While highlighting the role of technical institutes in development of country, he said, Advisor Bhatnagar maintained that such important institutes are useful and effective in skilling our youth which in turn is critically important for the development of our nation.

"He directed the officers that publicity of these technical institutes should be held on this important day besides awareness camps on admissions should also be held during the week so that maximum youth is made aware about these institutions," he added.

The official spokesperson said that the Advisor further stressed upon the officers to carry out rigorous Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities on the courses offered by these institutions so that more people get skilled from these institutes and ample avenues of employability are made available for them.

"Advisor Bhatnagar also asked the officers to finalize all the arrangements for the online essay competition, painting competition, patriotic song competition and others, which are part of 'Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav' activities besides webinars on themes which are socially important and relevant should also be held on this important day," he said.

"Speaking on the occasion, Principal Secretary SDD gave an overview of the preparations of SDD in the meeting. He asked the heads of the institutes to carry out cleanliness drives across all the institutes besides other required preparations should also be made beforehand," he added.

NIA Raids Against

after the socio-political and religious group was banned by the Centre under anti-terror laws.

In February 2019, the Centre banned the Jel for five years under anti-terror laws on grounds that it was "in close touch" with militant outfits and was expected to "escalate secessionist movement" in the erstwhile state.

A notification banning the group under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act was issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs after a high-level meeting on security chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Hundreds of Jel activists were arrested in a major crackdown across Jammu and Kashmir following the ban, which came just months ahead of the abrogation of the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, and its bifurcation into two union territories in August 2019.

The NIA said a case was registered on February 5, 2021 in pursuance of an order from the Ministry of Home Affairs relating to separatist and secessionist activities of Jel, an unlawful association under the UA(P) Act, even after its proscription on February 28, 2019.

It said the members of the organisation have been collecting funds domestically and abroad through donations particularly in the form of Zakat, Mowda and Bait-ul-Mal' purportedly to further charity and other welfare activities but these funds are instead being used for violent and secessionist activities.

"The funds raised by Jel are also being channelised to proscribed organisations such as Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM), Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and others through well organised networks of Jel cadres. Jel has also been motivating impressionable youth of Kashmir and recruiting new members (Rukuns) in J&K to participate in disruptive secessionist activities," an NIA spokesperson said on Sunday.

Rahul Gandhi

and the Dargah Hazratbal on the banks of Dal Lake here to pay his obeisance, the leader said.

At 11:30 AM, the Congress MP will inaugurate the Congress Bhawan at MA Road in the heart of the city here, he said.

"He will also interact with party leaders and workers at the party office," the Congress leader added.

Gandhi will leave for Delhi later on Tuesday.

11 Infiltrators

infiltrators were killed while a total of 20 were arrested at the India-Pakistan borders.

The minister informed that no cases of infiltration were reported at the Indo-china border.

The MoS said that In addition, 11 illegal infiltrators along Indo-Nepal Border have been apprehended in this year (up to 30-06-2021).

"No cases of infiltration have been reported at the Indo-China Border", the Minister said.

The minister also informed that "at the Indo-Myanmar Border, a post-military coup which came into effect from 01.02.2021, 8486 Myanmar nationals/refugees crossed over into India, out of which 5796 were pushed back and 2690 are still in India."

Infiltrators apprehended by the Border Guarding Forces are handed over to the concerned State Police, the Minister said—(KNO)

14% Infants

by the Gol, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare said that they were recording it from a vaccination card for a large majority of nearly 86 percent of children.

"Ninety-five percent of children have received a Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccination, 88 percent have received the recommended three doses of the polio vaccine, 93 percent have received the three recommended doses of DPT or Penta vaccine, and 92 percent have been vaccinated against measles," reads the survey report.

It also states that there was a dropout between the first and third doses of DPT vaccine from 95 to 93 percent and polio vaccine from 94 to 88 percent.

"Between the previous and the latest survey, there was an increase in vaccination coverage for three doses of DPT from 88 to 93 percent and measles from 86 to 92 percent," it reads.

Furthermore, the report states that the coverage for three doses of the polio vaccine also increased, from 84 to 88 percent and overall, there was an encouraging change in the coverage of all basic vaccinations from 75 to 86 percent. "The coverage of the BCG vaccine has declined by one percentage point from the previous to latest survey from 96 to 95 percent."

In addition, 94 percent of children have received at least one dose of Hepatitis-B vaccine, and 91 percent of children have received all three recommended doses of Hepatitis-B vaccine.

It also states that the coverage with all basic vaccinations was higher among girls as compared to boys with 88 percent and 85 percent respectively—(KNO)

Part-Time Journalist

BA is missing, since 6 August 2021," a police official said, as per news agency GNS

As per the missing report, Rayees is working as a "shopkeeper/media person". "Further verification into the matter is going on," the official added.

Four Killed In

The injured include Veena (40), Sonakshi (11), Nimrat (8), Shally (15), Janvi (12), all residents of Seer RS Pura and Manvi (12) of Sanjimore were hospitalized, they said.

Meanwhile at around 1300 hours, one heavy vehicle (HR-38-AA-3671), moving from Jammu to Srinagar, and one Wagon R(JK-09-5295) collided inside the Chenani-Nashri tunnel (300m towards Chenani side), official said, resulting in death of Ghulam Mohammad Ganai son of Abdul Ahad Ganai of Handwara, Kupwara and Gulzar Ahmad Lone of Khansahib, Budgam. One person, Showkat Ahmad Bhat of Yangora Ganderbal was injured and shifted to CHC Chenani, the officials told GNS.

The heavy vehicle (tralla) driver tried to escape but was caught at Nashri check post, they said. (GNS)

Arms Recovered

joint search operation in the forest area at Sangad in Mankote tehsil of Mendhar sector, Deputy Inspector General of BSF, S P S Sandhu said.

Sandhu, who is also the Public Relations Officer of BSF Jammu, said a joint operation was launched along with the Rashtriya Rifles and Special Operations Group of local police in the forest area this morning, which led to the unearthing of the hideout.

The other recoveries made from the hideout included four AK-47 magazines with 257 rounds, a pistol magazine with 68 rounds, a radio set, 13 detonators, 15 fuse detonators of Chinese grenades with levers, two mobile phones, 12 battery mobile chargers and two nine-volt batteries, the DIG said.

He said the BSF averted a big terrorist activity before Independence Day with the unearthing of the hideout.

2 JKAS Officers

his own duties, till further orders. "Shahnaz Akhter (JKAS), Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Appeal-I, Jammu, shall hold the charge of the post of Deputy Commissioner, State Taxes, Appeal-II, Jammu, in addition to her own duties, till further orders," it added.

Ladakh Reports

The officials said over 4,000 people were tested for COVID-19 in the twin districts on Saturday, and six of them tested positive for the infection in Leh and one in Kargil.

After the detection of the new cases, Leh accounted for a total of 16,820 infections, while the tally in Kargil has gone up to 3,565.

Six patients were discharged in Leh and one in Kargil, they said, adding that there are now 53 active cases in Leh and 12 in Kargil.

Iran Tops Muslim World With 7 Medals

How Muslim Countries Performed at the Olympics

R. Elahi

SRINAGAR: As many as 11,300 Olympians from 205 countries took part in the recently concluded Tokyo Olympics 2020 vying for 340 gold, 338 silver and 402 bronze medals in a total of 33 sporting events.

The US remained the highest gold medal winners (39) while China secured second position with 38. The host country, Japan, remained the third winner with 27 gold medals.

Iran became the top scorer among 50 odd Muslim countries at the Olympics ranking 4th in Asia and 27th in the world much ahead of India which remained on 48th position.

The Iranian Olympics team bagged seven medals, including three gold, two silver and two bronze medals.

41-year-old shooter Javad Foroughi won Iran's first medal in the Games by claiming gold in Men's 10-meter Air Pistol event. Making it Iran's first-ever Olympics medal in shooting.

Wrestler Mohammadreza Gerai claimed the second gold for Iran by defeating Ukraine's Parviz Nasibov 9-1 in the Men's Greco-Roman 67 kg final bout.

Sajad Ganjzadeh claimed Iran's final gold medal in Men's Karate kumite competition in the 75 kg+ category. Ganjzadeh was knocked out which led to his opponent, Tareg Hamed, to win the match.

Uzbekistan took the 2nd position amongst the Muslim countries, and 32nd overall, with a tally of 5 medals, including three gold and two bronze. Ulugbek Rashitov claimed gold



in Men's 68 kg Taekwondo competition. Akbar Djuraev won the Men's 109 kg Weightlifting gold and Bakhodir Jalolov won the Boxing gold in Men's super heavyweight event on the last day of the Games.

Turkey took the 3rd position amongst the Muslim nations with a tally of 13 medals which included two golds, two silvers and nine bronze medals. Turkey ranked 35th in the overall rankings. Mete Gazov won the gold medal in Men's Individual Archery while Busenaz Surmeneli took the gold in Women's Welterweight Boxing competition.

Qatar led the Arab world in medals count with 3 medals including two golds and one silver, ranking 41st overall. Taking the 42nd overall position is the small nation of Kosovo which won 2 gold medals at the Games. Egypt won one gold, one silver and four bronze medals, finishing the Olympics in 54th overall position and with a tally of 6 medals.

Saudi Arabia won 1 medal at the Olympics, a heartbreaking silver in Men's 75 kg+ Karate event. Pakistan failed to win any medal at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020.

The next Olympic Games are scheduled to take place in 2024 in Paris, France.

India Achieves Best Ever Olympic Games' Medal Tally

Press Trust of India

TOKYO: India won a record 7 medals at the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 to make it the country's highest ever Olympics medals tally. The medals included 1 Gold, 2 Silver and 4 Bronze medals.

Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra became only the second Indian to win an individual gold in the Olympics.

After romanticising stories about "nearly there" for years, India finally had its first track-and-field medal winner, thanks to Chopra's throw of 87.58m.

Interestingly, Chopra, the son of a farmer from Khandra village near Panipat in Haryana, took to athletics to lose weight. The 23-year-old is also a Subedar with 4 Rajputana Rifles in the Indian Army.

Mirabai Chanu, the pint-sized weightlifter from Manipuri lifted the spirits of the entire nation as she ended a 21-year wait for a medal in weightlifting, clinching a silver medal in the 49kg category to open India's account on the very first day of competitions on July 24.

Wearing gold earrings shaped like the Olympic rings, which were a gift from her mother who sold her own jewellery for them



five years ago, the 26-year-old lifted a total of 202kg (87kg 115kg).

23-year-grappler, Ravi Dahiya, born in the Nahri village of the Sonapat district in Haryana, stormed to the final of the men's 57kg freestyle event without any fuss. Although, he fetched a silver, his immense strength and stamina along with technical prowess impressed one and all.

Born to a farming family, Dahiya is a product of the national capital's Chhatrasal Stadium, which has already given India two Olympic medallists -- Sushil Kumar and Yogeshwar Dutt.

One of the strongest medal contenders heading to the Tokyo Olympics, PV Sindhu delivered once again. This time, the Hyderabad

shuttler snatched a bronze.

India men's hockey team won the Bronze medal to end four decades of pain and disappointment.

The other bronze medallist, in her maiden Olympics, Lovlina Borgohain carved a niche for herself in the history of Indian women's boxing by clinching India's lone boxing medal at the Tokyo Games. The 23-year-old was brought up in Baro Mukhia village of Assam's Golaghat district.

Bajrang Punia won India another Bronze medal. Bajrang has been passionate about wrestling since childhood, as the sport runs in his blood. His father and elder brother, too, were ardent practitioners of the sport.



Chaos, Frenzy As Indian Olympic Contingent Returns Home

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: India's Olympic contingent, including history-making javelin throw gold-medallist Neeraj Chopra, returned to the country on Monday and was received enthusiastically by officials even as a frenzied crowd gathered outside the airport to welcome the heroes of the country's best ever Games campaign.

The athletes were welcomed by a Sports Authority of India delegation headed by its Director General Sandeep Pradhan. Athletics Federation of India

head Adille Sumariwala also accompanied him.

The athletes were garlanded and presented with bouquets on arrival and were applauded by the airport staff as they made their way out to utter chaos due to the huge presence of supporters and media personnel.

The huge gathering meant that social distancing norms went for a toss as people rushed in to catch a glimpse of the stars of the historic performance.

India surpassed their previous best haul of six medals achieved in the 2012 London Games with

one gold, two silver and four bronze medals in Tokyo.

Of the medal winners, Chanu and Sindhu had returned to the country earlier after the completion of their events as COVID-19 protocols required athletes to leave Tokyo within 48 hours of the medal ceremony.

India had sent a 228-strong contingent for the Games, including more than 120 athletes. This was the country's biggest ever presence at the quadrennial showpiece which took place after a delay of one year due to the pandemic.

Team Indian Off To London; Ganguly To Attend Lord's Test

Press Trust of India

LONDON: The Indian contingent on Monday were off to London for the second Test against England at Lord's though replacement players, Suryakumar Yadav and Prithvi Shaw, remained in Nottingham to complete their quarantine.

It is learnt that the entire Indian contingent left for London at around 11 am local time after every member tested negative for RT-PCR. The second Test begins on August 12.

Shaw and Suryakumar, who linked up with the squad in Nottingham on August 3, will only complete their 10-day quarantine on August 13, which means that they can only train from August 14 and will be available for selection from the third Test, starting August 25 at Leeds.

The nine-day gap between second and third Test will certainly give the duo ample chance to train and get match ready in case the team management feels the necessity of playing either of the two.

Ganguly to be present for

second Test at Lord's

With United Kingdom moving Indian travellers from red to amber list from last Sunday (August 8), BCCI president Sourav Ganguly is set to leave for London on Tuesday to watch the second Test at Lord's starting August 12.

The move from red to amber list means that any person who is fully vaccinated as per UK health authorities protocol will not need to serve the mandatory 10-day hard quarantine period which the likes of Shaw and Surya are currently serving, having arrived in a commercial flight from Colombo.

It is also expected that secretary Jay Shah, vice-president Rajiv Shukla, treasurer Arun Dhumal might be in the UK to watch the Indian team play at some point during the series.

"For any of the office bearers, it was very difficult with 10-day hard quarantine in place as everyone's busy schedule goes for a toss.

"Since some of the travel protocols have been relaxed, especially the quarantine, our office bearers if they want can now attend."

Court Road FC Distributes Football Kits And Certificates



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Srinagar based grassroots football club, Court Road FC on Sunday distributed certificates and new football kits and jerseys among its football players at Polo Ground.

Court Road's top tier management of Chairman, Imtiyaz Ahmad Khan, Vice-Chairman, Bilal Ahmad Wani, Gen. Secretary, Gowhar Ahmed Shah were present on the occasion.

Court Road Manager, Khalid

Iqbal, Assistant Manager, Mushtaq Ahmed Dar, Head Coach, Feroz Ahmad and Coach Gulzar Ahmed also joined the event.

The event was also graced by well-known faces of the footballing sphere of Kashmir Valley including legendary footballers, Abdul Majeed Kakroo and Khurshid Ahmed Baba as well as JKFA official and DFA President, Fayaz Ahmed Sofi.

The club's senior team members were also present.

Zone Keegam Wins Inter-Zonal Kabaddi Finals At Shopian

Observer News Service

SHOPIAN: The final match of Inter-Zonal (District Level) Kabaddi Boys U-19 category was on Monday held between Zone Imam Sahib and Zone Keegam at Mini Secretariat Arhama here. The tournament was organised by District Youth Services & Sports (DYS&S) Shopian in collaboration with District Information Centre

Shopian under the supervision of DYSS Officer Shopian, Gurmukh Singh Dutta and District Information Officer Shopian, Showkat Ahmed Khan.

Zone Keegam won the match by 49: 21, while Zone Imam Sahib ended up as runner up. The 3rd position was attained by Zone Vehil. The final ceremony was presided over by the DDC members of the district.

DYSS Kulgam Organise Inter-District U-19 Volleyball Tournament

District Youth Services and Sports (DYS&S) Department Kulgam on Monday organised an inter district U-19 Volleyball tournament for boys at Sports Stadium, Kulgam.

As many as 22 volleyball teams from various Higher Secondary Schools will actively participate in this 3-day Volleyball tournament.

Indian National Football Team's Camp Returns To Kolkata After 15 Years

Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: The national football team's camp will be held in Kolkata after 15 years when initial 23 probables assemble at the 'City of Joy' on August 15 to prepare for next month's international friendlies

The training sessions will start from August 16, the AIFF said in a statement. This will be the first time Blue Tigers' camp will be held in Kolkata as they assembled here for training way back in 2006 ahead of the FIFA World Cup Qualifier against Saudi Arabia.

The camp will be conducted under a secured bio-bubble



adhering to the laid-down health parameters in wake of the current COVID-19 pandemic situation. The contingent will also be undergoing regular testing. National team head coach Igor Stimac has named an initial list of 23 probables, leaving out players from ATK Mohun

Bagan and Bengaluru FC owing to the two club's commitments in the AFC Cup in the Maldives.

Players from both clubs will be joining the squad immediately after finishing their club commitments in the continental tournament.

US Staves Off Close China Challenge At Tokyo Olympics Medal Rush

Press Trust of India

BEIJING: The US has pipped China in the medal rush at the Tokyo Olympics, barely retaining its top slot by staving off a close challenge mounted by Beijing amid their bitter geo-strategic rivalry spilling into the sports arena.

Team USA managed to regain the top slot in one of the closest-run contests of the entire Tokyo games with team China breathing down their necks in a host of events.

China, which had led the medal table for 11 straight days, were pipped at the post by the US when the Chinese athletes failed to win a gold medal on the final

day of the games that began on July 23 and ended on August 8.

The US team finally finished with 39 gold, 41 silver and 33 bronze medals, against China's 38 gold, 32 silver and 18 bronze. Host nation Japan finished third.

"We are thrilled by the performance of Team USA - and couldn't be more proud of the way they carried themselves," said Susanne Lyons, chair of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

"These Games are one for the history books," Lyons was quoted by the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Monday.

The Chinese delegation hailed

the result as the "best achievement in an overseas Olympics", equaling the 2012 London Olympics.

China had an opportunity to add to its gold count on the final day - women's middle-weight boxer Li Qian was beaten in the gold medal bout by Great Britain's Lauren Price - but Beijing will rue falling short in events they were perhaps expected to win.

Despite near-total domination in the diving pool again, China fell short in the synchronised 10-metre platform discipline, the only gold medal they did not take in diving, the report said.

Worse, China's supremacy in

table tennis came under challenge as it could finish with four out of the five golds.

China fielded the largest contingent of 777, which included 431 athletes, comprising of 298 women and 133 men, besides 307 coaches and 39 staff.

It was the largest contingent sent by China for Olympics as it fielded 639 in Beijing 2008 Olympics.

The Tokyo games took place amid fierce rivalry between the US and China, the top two economies of the world, especially over the origin of the coronavirus which had emerged first in Wuhan.

SC Snubs Centre Over Delay In Counselling For NEET-MDS Admissions

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday asked the Centre to apprise it by August 11 when it will conduct counselling for the NEET-MDS admissions for which exams were held on December 16, 2020.

A bench of Justices D Y Chandrachud and M R Shah said that now that the Centre has approved OBC reservation in medical seats when it will conduct the counselling.

Additional Solicitor General K M Nataraj, appearing for the Centre, said that it will need two weeks to work out the modalities and issue a notification in this regard.

"What is this. We have read last week that the Centre has approved the OBC quota. Now again you will take it to October or November. We will not allow this. You please tell us by Wednesday when you are going to conduct the counselling. We are listing the matter as the first item. You apprise us," the bench said.

On July 29, the Centre has approved announced a 27-per cent quota for OBCs and 10 per cent reservation for the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category in the All-India Quota (AIQ) scheme for undergraduate and postgraduate medical and dental courses from the current academic year, 2021-22.

On July 12, the top court had taken strong note of delay in holding the counselling; saying the Centre and others have been "dilly-dallying" for a year now.

It had said that these are qualified BDS students and why has Centre not held the counselling since last year.

The doctors, having Bachelor in Dental Surgery (BDS) degree, had appeared in the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test

(NEET)-MDS conducted on December 16 last year by the National Board of Examination (NBE) for admission to the Master in Dental Surgery (MDS) course.

Besides the Centre and MCC, the bench had earlier also issued the notices to the Dental Council of India and the National Board of Examination (NBE).

The plea, filed through lawyer Tanvi Dubey, said that these doctors are challenging the "unjust and infinite delay" caused by the MCC in announcing the counselling schedule for NEET-MDS, 2021.

The plea also sought a direction to the MCC to conduct a separate counselling for the NEET-MDS 2021. The results for admissions in PG courses for BDS candidates were also declared on the scheduled date, that is on December 31, 2020.

"However, after the declaration of the result, i.e., on 31.12.2020 until today i.e. 23.06.2021, there is no update regarding the counselling. It is most respectfully submitted that umpteen efforts were made by the Petitioners to get in touch with the Respondents in order to get an idea about the schedule of the counselling. However, there has been no update about the date of the commencement of the counselling," the plea said.

It said the dentists, who are also registered with state Dental Council, have obtained provisional or permanent registration and have also undergone compulsory rotatory internship of a year in an approved or recognised dental college.

"That around 30,000 BDS (dental) graduates appeared for the NEET-MDS conducted for admission to over 6,500 seats in the country and till date there has been no update for admissions in PG courses," it said.

Covid-19: India Records 35,499 New Cases, 447 Deaths



Agenceis

With 35,499 more people testing positive for Covid-19, India's infection tally now stands at 3,19,69,954, while the death toll climbed to 4,28,309 with 447 fresh fatalities, according to the Union Health Ministry on Monday.

The number of active cases has declined to 4,02,188 which comprise 1.27 per cent of the total infections, and the national Covid-19 recovery rate has improved to 97.39 per cent, data updated by the ministry at 8 am showed.

A decrease of 4,634 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours, it showed.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 3,11,39,457, while the case fatality rate stands at 1.34

per cent, the data stated.

As many as 13,71,871 COVID-19 tests were conducted in the country on Sunday, taking the total number of such examinations so far to 48,17,67,232.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.59 per cent. It has been less than three per cent for the last 14 days, the ministry said, adding that the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 2.35 per cent.

Cumulatively, 50.86 crore Covid-19 vaccine doses have been administered under the nationwide vaccination drive till Monday morning.

India's Covid-19 infection tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7 last year, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5, 50 lakh on September 16, 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and one

crore on December 19. The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore cases on May 4 and three crore on June 23.

The 447 new fatalities include 151 from Maharashtra and 93 from Kerala.

A total of 4,28,309 deaths have been reported so far in the country, including 1,33,996 from Maharashtra, 36,793 from Karnataka, 34,317 from Tamil Nadu, 25,066 from Delhi, 22,773 from Uttar Pradesh, 18,229 from West Bengal and 17,747 from Kerala.

The Health Ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

Parliament Passes Bill To Set Up Central University In Ladakh



Agenceis

Parliament Monday passed the Central Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2021 which seeks to establish a central university in the Union Territory of Ladakh.

Rajya Sabha passed the bill with a voice vote amid a walkout by Opposition parties including the Congress, TMC and DMK. The bill was cleared by Lok Sabha last week.

Replying to a discussion on the bill, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, "Leh, Ladakh, is a priority area for the prime minister...we are committed to establish a quality institution."

According to the Statement of

Objects and Reasons of the bill, at present there is no central university in Ladakh and therefore, the government has decided to establish a new one there to ensure increase in accessibility and quality of higher education.

It also aims to facilitate and promote avenues of higher education and research for the people of the Union territory. This shall also cater to the regional aspirations for years to come, it said.

According to the statement of objects, the bill seeks to amend the Central Universities Act, 2009, to provide for the establishment of a university named "Sindhu Central University" in Ladakh.

90 Percent People Want Govt To Frame Travel Booking Refund Policy For Pandemic: Survey

Agenceis

According to the survey by online platform LocalCircles, based over 37,000 responses received from citizens across 359 districts, some travel agents (online and offline), airlines as well as hotels did not initiate any refund with people losing the complete booking amount.

As many as 90 per cent of people in a survey carried out to assess issues faced in getting refund for cancelled travel bookings, including of flight tickets, in the wake of COVID-19, want the government to formulate a pandemic-specific cancellation refund policy.

According to the survey by online platform LocalCircles, based over 37,000 responses received from citizens across 359 districts, some travel agents (online and offline), airlines as well as hotels did not initiate any refund with people losing the complete booking amount.

As per the platform, only 12-13

per cent of those who cancelled travel bookings due to the second COVID wave could get timely refunds.

"As many as 95 per cent of citizens believe that the current policies of the airlines, railways or hotels are not in consumer interest and 90 per cent want the government to come up with a travel booking refund policy till the time the COVID pandemic is on," LocalCircles said.

The same could be brought by the respective ministries like Civil Aviation, Tourism and Railways or by the Ministry of Home Affairs under the Disaster Management Act 2005, it said, adding that people have also suggested a 3-option traveller-friendly travel booking cancellation and refund policy.

Based on the survey results, the best-case scenario could be giving people the option of either giving a refund within a week and 20 per cent amount to be deducted as processing charges, or a refund within a month and only 10 per

cent amount to be deducted as processing charges or no refund but a voucher for full amount issued which can be used towards future travel within two years, it said.

This way, travellers have the confidence that their losses will be limited in case they were faced with a cancellation situation due to the pandemic, LocalCircles said.

The platform said it will be submitting the findings of this survey with the key stakeholders in the Central Government so the same can be used as an input in decision-making in regard to formulating a uniform policy for travel booking cancellation refunds during the COVID pandemic.

According to the platform, while some were able to retrieve a partial amount, others were asked to rebook the flights and hotel stays for a later date and only 12-13 per cent of those who cancelled travel bookings due to the second Covid wave could get a refund on time.

Delhi: Anti-Muslim Slogans Raised At Jantar Mantar, FIR filed

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: A video showing anti-Muslim slogans being raised during a protest at Jantar Mantar here is being widely circulated on social media, following which the Delhi Police registered a case in connection with the matter on Monday, officials said.

Hundreds of people had attended the protest organised by Bharat Jodo Aandolan at Jantar Mantar on Sunday.

Shipra Srivastava, media in-charge of Bharat Jodo Aandolan, said the protest was held under the leadership of advocate and former BJP spokesperson Ashwini Upadhyay.

However, she denied any links to those who raised anti-Muslim slogans.

"The protest was held against colonial laws and demanding to abolish 222 British laws. We have seen the video, but have no idea who they are. The police should take strict action against the persons who raised

the slogans," Srivastava said.

Upadhyay too denied any involvement in the anti-Muslim slogan shouting incident.

"I have submitted a complaint to the Delhi Police to examine the video which went viral. If the video is authentic, then strict action should be taken against the persons who were involved in it," he said.

"I have no idea who they are. I have never seen them, never met them and neither called them there. Till the time I was there, they were not seen there. If the video is fake, then a propaganda is being circulated to defame Bharat Jodo Andolan," Upadhyay said.

The video shows a group of people shouting inflammatory slogans and threatening Muslims during the protest at Jantar Mantar.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (New Delhi) Deepak Yadav said, "We have received a video and we are examining it. A case has been registered under relevant sections of the law and an investigation is in progress."

'Go Out Only When Necessary, Inform Security': Delhi Court To Unnao Rape Survivor



Agenceis

NEW DELHI: A Delhi court on Monday directed the Unnao rape survivor, who has been provided security by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), to step out only when necessary until the case is over and inform her personal security officers before going out.

District and Sessions Judge Dharmesh Sharma issued the directions on an application filed by the rape survivor in which she alleged harassment by the personal security officers.

She also told the court that they were curtailing her movements and not allowing her to enjoy her liberties.

Taking note of her submissions, the judge said "inform them [security officers] before going out. They are deputed for your security. You must plan in a way that you don't have to venture out every day. Go out only when necessary. You must take precautions until the case is over."

The court also noted that the survivor and her personal

security officers have agreed to amicably resolve the issue.

The judge added, "For now, the prosecutrix is impressed upon to ensure that whenever she or family members wish to go outside Delhi in connection with any pending case, they would communicate it to CRPF Assistant Commandant so that proper security arrangements and escorts could be made."

"The court further said likewise, in case she or family members wish to meet their counsel for the pending cases, they would make sincere efforts to inform the schedule a day before."

The woman was kidnapped and raped by expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar in 2017 when she was a minor.

On December 20, 2019, Sengar was sentenced to jail for the "remainder of his natural biological life in the rape case."

In 2019, the apex court had directed that the survivor, her mother, and other members of the family be provided security by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Shilpa Shetty, Mom, Booked For Fraud In Lucknow



Agenceis

LUCKNOW: There is more trouble brewing for Shilpa Shetty as she and her mother Sunanda Shetty have been named in an alleged case of fraud in Uttar Pradesh.

A team of Lucknow police is expected to be in Mumbai to question Shilpa and her mother Sunanda in the alleged fraud case in the name of a wellness centre.

Two FIRs have been registered at Hazratganj and Vibhuti Khand police stations in Lucknow and the police has now intensified the investigation in both the cases.

According to police officials, Shilpa Shetty runs a fitness chain named Josis Wellness Centre. The chairman of this company is Shilpa Shetty, while her mother Sunanda is the director.

It is alleged that Shilpa Shetty

and her mother took crores of rupees from two people in the name of opening a branch of the wellness centre, but the promise was not fulfilled.

In this case, Jyotsna Chauhan, resident of Omaze Heights, filed complaint at Vibhuti Khand police station and Rohit Veer Singh at Hazratganj police station for being allegedly cheated.

The Hazratganj police and Vibhuti Khand police have sent notices for questioning to Shilpa Shetty and her mother.

DCP (East) Sanjeev Suman said that the investigation officer in this case will leave for Mumbai on Monday to question actress Shilpa Shetty and her mother Sunanda. He will examine all the points in this matter.

Sanjeev Suman said that the matter is high-profile and hence the police are closely investigating all the points.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Inkishaf

Why Pollution Control Committee Has No Kashmiri Member?

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