24th year OF PUBLICATION

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P6 THINK

GRABBING LAND TO SET UP ILLEGAL GARBAGE DUMP SITES

On 10th April 2021, four village panchayats in Baramulla district adopted a joint resolution by invoking section 5 of the Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) which empowers the Gram Sabha

P7 THINK

THE SAGA OF NEVER-ENDING QUESTIONS

The most popular book when I was growing up was "Tell me why?" It felt great to read the intelligent questions and even better answers, so much so that one felt smarter after reading just one page of the book.

P11 SPORTS

5576 TEAMS REGISTERED, 78064 PLAYERS TO PARTICIPATE IN YSS CUP

Director Youth Services & Sports J&K, Gazanfar Ali on Wednesday chaired the maiden meeting of District Youth Services & Sports (DYSS) Officers of Kashmir...

Widom Quote!

You make mistakes.
Mistakes don't make you.

—Maxwell Maltz

NEWS DIGEST

Shooting Stone Kills BSF Man

SRINAGAR: A Border Security Force (BSF) personal was killed after being hit by a shooting stone along the Mughal Road near Peer Ki Gali, officials said on Wednesday. Constable Nisar Hussein, a ● More On P10

Conservation Architect Calls On LG

SRINAGAR: Noted Conservation Architect, Ms. Abha Narain Lambah on Wednesday called on Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha here at Raj Bhavan. Ms. Lambah who is working with JSW Foundation ● More On P10

Sultan Takes Oath As PcK President

ISLAMABAD: Veteran politician Sultan Mahmood on Wednesday took oath as the new president of Pakistan-controlled Kashmir (PcK). Mahmood became the 28th president of the region after he was elected by the ● More On P10

Cop Dies Of Electric Shock

SRINAGAR: A police Head Constable died on Wednesday after receiving an electric shock in Thanamandi area of Rajouri district. Head Constable Mohammad Arif Khan posted at Police Station received an electric shock while being on duty in the border ● More On P10

Soldier Dies During Patrolling Duty

SRINAGAR: A soldier who was part of a patrolling party died after falling unconscious in the tourist resort of Sonmarg in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, reports said Wednesday. Head Constable Manohar Kunkal was patrolling from Brarimarg to Dumail ● More On P10

CDS Flags Concern Over Taliban Spillover Into India

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat on Wednesday asserted that any possible militant activity flowing out of Taliban-controlled Afghanistan and finding its way into India will be firmly dealt with, and suggested that the Quad nations should boost cooperation in the global war on terrorism.

Gen Rawat said India was anticipating a Taliban takeover of Afghanistan but the timelines of the latest developments have surprised it, noting that the outfit has not changed over the past 20 years

He along with Commander of the US Indo-Pacific Command Admiral John Aquilino was speaking at an interactive session organised by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

In his remarks, Admiral Aquilino referred to challenges that India has been facing, specifically with regard to "sovereignty on the Line of Actual Control" as well as the "foundational security concerns" in the South China Sea region, in a clear reference to China's aggressive behaviour.

The Chief of Defence Staff said India is committed to ensuring a "terrorist-free" environment in the region.

"As far as Afghanistan is concerned, we will make sure that any activity likely to flow out of Afghanistan and then find its way into India will be dealt with in the manner in which we have been dealing with ● More On P10

THERE ARE MANY MORE. THERE IS ECONOMIC COERCION, there is corruption. There are challenges that the Indians, specifically with regard to sovereignty on the Line of Actual Control... There are rules against the people of Hong Kong."

LG Slams Pak For 'Pushing' Kashmiris On Wrong Path

Says Building Prosperous J&K Rests on Shoulders of Youth

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Terming terrorism and violence as a curse for the civilized society, the Union Territory Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said Wednesday that the responsibility of building a great nation, a prosperous Jammu and Kashmir rests on the shoulders of our youth

"While our country is producing CEOs of Microsoft, Google, Adobe etc, on the other hand, the neighbouring country is pushing our youth on the wrong path. I urge those who are misguided by the enemies to move forward with peace, love and mutual trust, and walk together on the path of development," Sinha, as per an official spokesperson said Wednesday.

He made these remarks while addressing the Special Convocation of the University of Kashmir here. The LG, he said, termed terrorism and violence as a curse for the civilized society.

"The responsibility of building a great nation and a prosperous Jammu & Kashmir rests on the shoulders of our youth. Bright young minds are the only force capable of building a peaceful, progressive and prosperous community," Sinha said.

Highlighting the reforms National Education Policy (NEP) is bringing in the education sector, the LG, as per the official spokesperson observed that the new policy allows the students to learn things that matter and are relevant to an ever-changing world.

The LG, he said, maintained that University of Kashmir will play a big role in J&K's knowledge economy and convergence of higher education and skill training, besides fulfilling the aspirations of a prosperous education system and future India.

"Kashmir University has realigned the courses for developing the culture of innovation & entrepreneurship, creating an intellectually stimulating environment, and taking multidisciplinary research to the international arena," the LG said, as per official spokesperson.

"The present education system is ● More On P10

BJP Govt Stifling Voices Of Dissent: Mehbooba

Says J&K Would Not Have Acceded To India If It Was Not A Secular Nation

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: Jammu and Kashmir acceded to the secular India of Mahatma Gandhi, which was founded on brotherhood and communal harmony, but these are now being sought to be finished, PDP President Mehbooba Mufti said on Wednesday.

She also slammed the Centre's decision to monetise its assets across key sectors, saying whatever has been made in the country over the last 70 years is now being "sold off".

"Jammu and Kashmir acceded to the India of Mahatma Gandhi, ● More On P10

J&K Sees 126 New Cases, 103 Recoveries

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: At least 126 more people tested positive for coronavirus in Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, while 103 Covid-19 infected persons recovered in the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to the officials, 100 new cases of coronavirus were reported from Kashmir Valley and the remaining 26 were detected in Jammu division on Wednesday taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak ● More On P10

Imran Ansari Tests Positive For Covid-19

Peoples Conference (PC) General Secretary and the President of Shia Association, Imran Reza Ansari on Wednesday tested positive for coronavirus. The senior PC leader took ● More On P10

Kashmiri Trucker, Helper 'Thrashed' In Pathankot

Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: A Kashmiri truck driver and his helper on Tuesday were beaten up by a group of goons in Pathankot area of Punjab while they were driving down to Jammu.

"Our car broke down in Pathankot on Tuesday evening. While we were changing the punctured tyre of our truck, some unknown persons appeared and started demanding money from us," Mohammad Aabid Bhat, the truck driver, told Kashmir Observer on Wednesday.

A resident of Bijbehara in Anantnag district, Bhat alleged that four to five men came in an auto (Registration Number. PB06AU- 5376) and raised extortion demand.

"They threatened to beat us if we did not pay them money. When we refused, they punched us on our faces and stomach. They also smashed the windows and glasses of the truck," he said.

He said somehow they managed to contact the police, who reached the spot, but till then the alleged attackers had left the spot.

The alleged attack on truck driver and his helper in Punjab comes days after trucker Rayees Ahmad and his conductor Salman Dar, both residents of Khansahib, were allegedly beaten by unknown people in Damtal area of Himachal Pradesh because the truck was scribbled with 'Islam zindabad' on its back side.

Meanwhile, Nasir Khuehami, a student activist, who takes up students and people's issues on a regular basis, tweeted the picture ● More On P10

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180 Days Leave To Woman Employees On Adopting Infant: Govt

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday ordered leave of 180 days in favour of women on valid adoption of a child below one years of age.

As per order in exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article-309 of Constitution of India, the Lieutenant Governor has directed that after rule 41-A of the Jammu and Kashmir Civil Service (Leave) Rules,1979, Rule 41-B be added.

The newly added rule states that subject to the provisions of these rules, a female Government servant, with fewer than two surviving children, on valid adoption of a child below the age of one year may be granted child adoption leave, by an authority competent to grant leave, for a period of 180 days immediately after the date of valid adoption.

"During the period of child adoption leave, she shall be paid leave salary equal to the pay drawn immediately before proceeding on leave," reads the order by Atal Dulloo, Atal Dulloo, Additional Chief Secretary Finance (Financial Commissioner.

Child adoption leave may be combined with leave of any other kind, the order reads.

"In continuation of the 'Child Adoption Leave' the adoptive mothers may ● More On P10

Govt Cautions Officers About Hacking Attacks

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has asked the officials to remain extra cautious and vigilant towards hacking attempts of vital data as e-office has been introduced in the civil secretariat.

"The implementation of e-office in the Civil Secretariat has brought about a great deal of efficiency in the overall working and disposal of Government business in the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir, besides ensuring functionality of the Civil Secretariat both at Jammu as well as in Srinagar," reads a government circular issued by Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, commissioner/ secretary to the government, on Tuesday.

"Notwithstanding these benefits, this online system like any other IT based system is susceptible to online invasions especially hacking. While security of this system is being ● More On P10

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Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Umair Ishrat S/D/W Of Ishrat Hussain Bab R/o Shahidi Chowk M H.S Marg Jammu (Transferor) of Eon bearing registration No. JK01AB. 6697 chasis No: 394503 Engine No: 355614 Model 2015 in favour of Umar Mehraj-u-din Najar S/O Mehraj-u-din Najar R/O Shahhamdan Colony Eidgah Sgr (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 5969 Sd/-
Dated: 24/08/2021 Regional Transport Office,
P-K Kashmir

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Masroof Ahamd Dar S/o Abdul Ahad Dar R/O H.NO 4 Aram wari Rajbagh Sgr (Transferor) of -- bearing registration No. JK01AJ-3845 chasis No: 625361 Engine No: 4504629 Model 2019 in favour of Umar Mehraj-u-din Najar S/O Mehraj-u-din Najar R/O Shahhamdan Colony Eidgah Sgr (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 5969 Sd/-
Dated: 24/08/2021 Regional Transport Office,
P-K Kashmir

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Irshad Ahamd Dar S/D/Son-in-Law of Mohd Shafi Mir R/o Ahamd Nagar Soura Sgr (Transferor) of Maurti bearing registration No. JK01AD-0474 chasis No: 00989399 Engine No: 5751533 Model 2016 in favour of .Zaid Majid Reshi S/o Ab Majid Reshi R/o Iqbalabad Bemina Sgr (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 5950 Sd/-
Dated: 24/08/2021 Regional Transport Office,
P-K Kashmir

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir

NOTICE

Whereas, a joint application has been received from Shri Javid Ahamd War S/o Mohd Yousuf War R/o Maisuma Sgr (Transferor) and Irfan Ahamd Khan S/o Mohd Rafiq R/O Rambagh Balla Sgr (Transferee) for transfer of Taveera carriage route Permit No 5099/MC Covering Vehicle No JK01M- 1493

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 Regional Transport Officer, Kashmir.

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 STW Co Namely Bagh Hussain

NO: JK/RTOK /5962 Sd/-
Dated: 24/08/2018 Regional Transport Office,
P-K Kashmir

ٹھیکدری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے

ہر خاص و عام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ سائل کو ڈی کلاس ٹھیکدری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔اس ضمن میں اگر کسی بھی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض سُپر انٹنڈنٹ انجینئر کے دفتر واقع کھنہ بل اننت ناگ میں پیش کرے۔ بعد از معیاد کوئی عذر قابلِ قبول نہیں کیا جائے گا۔

المشتہر: ریاض احمد ڈار، جاوید احمد ڈار
ولد غلام حسن ڈار، ساکنہ: چھی اننت ناگ

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of D Class Contractor Card . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Herdeh Abura within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Reyaz Ahamd Wani S/O Mohammad Akber Wani R/O Tarhama Tehsil Karhama , District Baramulla , Block Herdeh Aboora

bmg

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag

Whereas an joint application has been received by this office from MrSheezAhamd Itoo S/o Ab Rahman Itoo R/o ChakiBadwaniKurigam Anantnag (Party no ist) as transferor (seller) owner of the vehicle bearing registration No JK03D-9717 (commercial /non-commercial) covering under RP No:- 4944/MC/ANG. and Gh Nabi Rather S/o Abdullah Rather R/o Zanihall Banihall (Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C &R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No.1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with J&K BANK PANZATH

Before the case is disposed off on its merits,anybody having any objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within 7 days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned .No any representation /objection shall be entertained after sitipulated period.

No: 101/8624/Mvd/Ang
Dated : 24-08-2021 Assistant Regional Transport
RNA Officer Anantnag

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag

Whereas an joint application has been received by this office from Mr Gull Mohd Reshi S/o Gh Mohmed Reshi R/o Qazi Mohalla Anantnag owner of the vehicle bearing registration No JK03A-9966 for cancellation of hire purchase agreement with M/S Sudarshan Hire purchase L.T.D Transport Nager Jammu and cancelled and HPA agreement with J&K BANK LAL CHOWK ANG .

Now it is therefore noticed for general information that objection if any to the purposed cancellation/endorsement of Hire Purchase Agreement shall be filled in writing in the Office of ARTO Anantnag within a period of seven days from the publication of his notice.

No: 101/8646/Mvd/Ang
Dated : 25-08-2021 Assistant regional transport
RNA officer anantnag

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag

Whereas an joint applicati on has been received by this offic e from Mr Noor Mohd Magray S/o Ghulam Rasool Magray R/o Khrewan Lassipora Kulgam (Party no ist) as transferor (seller) owner of the vehicle TAVERA bearing registration No JK03B-7514(commercial /non-commercial) covering under RP No:- 2370/MC/RTA/ANG. and Ishfaq Ahmad Sheirgogri S/oAb Rashid Sheirgogri R/o Sransoo Qazigund Anantnag (Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C &R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No.1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with.

Before the case is disposed off on its merits,anybody having any objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within 7 days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned .No any representation /objection shall be entertained after sitipulated period.

No: 101/8639/Mvd/Ang
Dated : 24-08-2021 Assistant regional
transport officer anantnag
RNA

Office of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Budgam

NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Irfan Mirza S/O Zaffar Iqbal Mirza R/o Jawaharpura Nasrbal Budgam (Transferor) of Wagnor bearing registration No. JK04D-1816 chasis No: 23738 Engine No: 00439 Model 2016 in favour of Ashiq Mohi-ud-din Gh Mohi-ud-Din R/O Rather mohall Safapora Ganderbal (Transferee). As well as HPA Cancellation with J&K Bank B/U Narbal Budgam

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.

NO: -ARTO /BUD/ 3161 Sd/-
Dated: 25/08/2021 Regional Transport Office,
P-K Budgam

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Dogs On Prowl Around Hazratbal Shrine

Agencies

Srinagar: Scores of stray dogs are on prowl around Hazratbal shrine causing immense problems to the people attending prayers at the shrine. The local residents alleged that authorities have failed to curb the dog menace in and around the revered Dargah Shrine in Hazratbal of Srinagar. One of the devotees Nihami Ahmad was attacked and injured by street dogs when he left the mosque after Fajr prayers today.

A number of people have been bitten by stray dogs making it a scary place to move around. "The Aquaf should immediately curb this menace as a large number of locals and tourists visit the Shrine," said Umar Ahmad.

In the last five years more than 35,000 cases of dog-biting humans, especially young children, have been reported at Srinagar's Shri Maharaja Hari Singh Hospital (SMHS) alone — dozens have died across Kashmir.

Accounting Solution Platform 'Fingimmicks' Launched In Srinagar

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Secretary Tribal Affairs and CEO Mission Youth Wednesday launched an online app FinGimmicks in an impressive function held at Institute of Hotel Management.

While welcoming the guests, Inam Un Nabi, who is also a key member of team Fun Gimmicks said that our mission is to offer quick, affordable, and robotic professional services to the clients. Inam said that the solution consists of all the important services being offered by CA's AND OTHER's, that clients can choose from. He further said This will ensure the minimal efforts and time given by both parties and also keep the initial service records, documents, information and finalized service records organized in a proper format for easy and secured accessibility.

Director Mahajan Career learning Foundation Prof. Khursheed Ahmad Mahajan said that Businessmen are confronted with accounting like maintenance of accounts for filling different types of returns like GST returns, IT returns, ROC Filing and heap of other problems with regard to legal compliances and preparation of financial statements like income statements and balance sheets. Mahajan said that this software (Fingimmicks) will ease such problems and will help the startups to start their business easily.

President Kashmir Bakers and Confectioners Association Umar Mukhtar extended full support to team Fingimmicks and Mahajan Career Learning Foundation in reaching out to traders.

President All Traders Transporters Joint Coordination Committee Peer Imtiaz Ul Hassan said that FinGimmicks is self explanatory as explained by Prof, Khurshid Mahajan will help the business community and it's traders in solving various matters of business without wasting much time.

President Kashmir Traders and Manufactures Federation Haji Mohammad Sadiq Bakal while appreciating Inam Un Nabi said that It is now the responsibility of trade leaders to advocate and bring this application to the common and small traders as a tool for their business growth and development.

President Kashmir Chamber of Commerce and Industries Sheikh Ashiq also participated in the programme and appreciated the efforts of Mahajan Career Learning Foundation and Inam Un Nabi for their efforts in easing the problems of traders by introducing "Fingimmicks".

2010 Unrest...

Family Alleges Police Not Filing Chargesheet Into Their Son's Killing

Auqib Javeed

Srinagar: The family of one of the teenagers killed in the 2010 civilian unrest on Wednesday demanded submission of a chargesheet against police personnel involved in the killing.

The father and the sister of the deceased teenager staged a peaceful protest in Srinagar's press colony and urged the authorities to file the charge sheet that has been delayed for the last three years.

Umar Qayoom, 17, died at SKIMS hospital in Srinagar after his internal organs were damaged after police allegedly beat him during detention.

According to the hospital records, Qayoom had succumbed to injuries at the hospital due to "respiratory hypertension with severely deranged blood gases, diffuse intrapulmonary haemorrhage and blunt trauma on chest,".

The police refused to file an FIR into the incident and after Court's intervention an FIR (97/2018 under section 302 RPC) was registered registered in the Soura Police station after eight years, through their Council late Babar Qadri.

Qadri, was shot red by militants last year, since then the family is contesting the case without any lawyer.

On 19 August, 2018, the court while pronouncing the order, asked the State that a special investigation team (SIT) should be constituted after registration of FIR against persons responsible for the killing of Qayoom.

Urzeeba, the deceased teenager's sister, while talking to reporters, said that her brother was killed in police custody and was tortured brutally.

"We demand Justice. Since 2018, we are waiting for the police to file a chargesheet in the court of law but till date there is no progress," Urzeeba, told reporters.

While carrying a placard demanding answers to her questions from the Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the "poor" justice system prevailing in the Valley.

"I want to ask our Prime Minister Modi who said in 2019 that there will be Naya Kashmir. I want to ask him, where is Naya Kashmir? Does it take 8 years to file an FIR and 3 years to file a chargesheet in Naya Kashmir? Is this Naya Kashmir?"

The family approached the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM), JK State Human Rights Commission, National Human Rights Commission of India, and JK grievance cell but nothing happened on the ground.

The family says, the court had earlier given 42 days to police to present in the court with those involved in the crime but neither they appeared nor any action was taken later.

It is pertinent to mention here that after the killing of over 120 people during the Summer unrest in the year 2010 the government had constituted the one man commission headed by Justice (retd) ML Koul to probe the killings. The Commission had also recommended registration of cases against police personnel responsible for "custodial" the death of Umar.

> **WE DEMAND JUSTICE.** Since 2018, we are waiting for the police to file a chargesheet in the court of law but till date there is no progress." ....Urzeeba

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- PDD: 0194-2450213
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- SRINAGAR: 0194-2103259
- ANANTNAG: 01932-228243
- BARAMULLA: 0194-102029
- BIJBHERA: 01932-228243
- PAMPORE: 01933-294132
- PATTAN: 01954-293507
- QAZIGUND: 01951-296153

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

HIJRI CALENDAR

17 MUHARRAM 1443

PRAYERS

FAJR 4:30
ZUHR 12: 33
ASR 5:14
MAGRIB 7:09
ISHA 8:33

This Day in History

- 1071 - Battle of Manzikert: Seljuq Turks led by sultan Alp Arslan beat and capture Byzantine Emperor Romanos IV Diogenes
- 1278- Battle of Marchfeld: Rudolf of Habsburg defeats Ottokar II
- 1303- Delhi Sultan Alauddin Khilji captures Chittorgarh, capital of the Guhila Kingdom
- 1346- Battle of Crécy, south of Calais in northern France; Edward III's English longbows defeat Philip VI's army, cannons used for first time in battle
- 1634- Battle at Nordlingen Bavarian: Holy Roman Emperor Ferdinand II and Spanish forces defeat a force of Swedish and German protestants
- 1641- West India Company conquers Sao Paulo de Loanda, Angola
- 1652- Battle of Plymouth: General-at-Sea George Ayscue of the Commonwealth of England attacked a convoy of the Dutch Republic commanded by Vice-Commodore Michiel de Ruyter. Dutch victory
- 1843- American inventor Charles Thurber patents a typewriter
- 1863- Battle of Rocky Gap, West Virginia (White Sulphur Springs): Colonel George S. Patton's Confederate forces defeat Union brigade advance
- 1914- Russian army attacks Austrian army in Galicia
- 1914- Battle of Tannenberg begins (WWI): 8th German army defeats Russian Narev army
- 1938- British leaders & Arabians fight in Palestine
- 1957 - USSR announces successful test of intercontinental ballistic missile InventionMorris Mini-Minor
- 1981 - Space Shuttle vehicle moves to Launch Complex 39A for STS-2 mission
- 1981 Voyager 2 takes photos of Saturn's moon Titan
- 1982 - NASA launches Telesat-F
- 1996 - US President Bill Clinton signs welfare reform into law, representing major shift in welfare policy
- 2002 - Earth Summit 2002 begins in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2004 - Germany wins its first ever Olympic women's field hockey gold medal with a 2-1 win against the Netherlands in Athens
- aa2008 - Russia unilaterally recognizes the independence of the former Georgian breakaway republics Abkhazia and South Ossetia.
- 2012 - 15 year-old New Zealand golfer, Lydia Ko, becomes the youngest LPGA Tour event winner and the first amateur winner since 1969
- 2014 -Democratic Republic of Congo's health ministry informs the WHO of an outbreak of Ebola; later confirmed as a different strain to that affecting west Africa
- 2014 - Israel and Hamas accept another ceasefire
- 2017 - Violent clashes after conviction of spiritual leader Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh kill 31 in Panchkula, 120 admitted to hospital

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER ANANTNAG PWD(R&B) DIVISION KHANABAL

NIT NO 117 OF RNB/KHANABAL/2021-22 /E-TENDERING/8177-87 DATED 23/08/2021

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

S. No	Name of Work	Estimated Cost (Rs in Lacs)	Cost of T/Doc. (in Rs)	Time of Completion	Major Head of Account	Position of AA	Class of Contractor
1	Improving the Rehmat Alam Hospital link by way of providing of 2 No RCC culverts and laying of WBM GII andGIII and edge wall / R Wall , crate wall	20.00	800	60 Days	State Sector	Accorded Vide No. SE/R&B/ Ang-Kul/ AAA/33 OF 2021-22 DATED 06.08.2021	BEE & CEE Class Only

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		23-08-2021	
2	Period of Downloading of bidder documents	From	23-08-2021	(04:00PM)
		To	02-09-2021	(04:30PM)
3	Bid submission Start Date	From	23-08-2021	(04:00PM)
4	Bid Submission End Date	To	02-09-2021	(04:30PM)
5	Date and time of opening of bid (online)		03-09-2021	(10:30AM)
		In the office of Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal		

2. Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender document in shape of Treasury Challan / Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal [Tender Inviting Authority] (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt)(Refer Govt. order No. O.M No. A/24 (2017)-651 Dt 07-06-2018 (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal (Tender receiving Authority).
3. All the Bidders have to submit Bid Security Declaration Form instead of Earnest money as per the Circular of Finance Department (Bid security Declaration Form is as per Annexure "A" below).
4. The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal (Tender receiving authority) within 03 Days before fixation of Contract and shall be released after successful completion of DLP.
5. The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on Web Site www.jktenders.gov.in and conveyed to the bidders automatically through an e-mail message on their e-mail address. The bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online on same Web Site in the Office of Executive Engineer R&B Division Khanabal
6. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of Technical Bid
7. Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.

a. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website www.jktenders.gov.in to acquaint bid submission process.
b. To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get 'Digital Signature Certificate (DSC)' as per Information Technology Act-2000. Bidders can get digital certificate from any approved vendors.
c. The bidders have to submit their bids online in electronic format with digital Signature. No Financial bid will be accepted in physical form.
d. Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned in Para-1.
e. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents with bid.
f. Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copy of all necessary documents including tender document fee in terms of soft copies with technical bid.

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 Khanabal (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer PWD(R&B) Division Khanabal 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 BOQ (Bill of Quantities) contents. In no case they should attempt to create similar BOQ 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.

(Er Qazi Javeed Amin)
Executive Engineer,R&B Division Khanabal

DIPK-7203/21

Govt To Enforce Ban On Sale Of Tobacco Products Near Edu Institutions, Hospitals

SRINAGAR: The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad Wednesday chaired a meeting of District Level Coordination Committee under National Tobacco Control Programme to review the implementation of Cigarette and Other Tobacco Product Act (COPTA) at DC Office here.

During the meeting, the DC laid stress on the need of awareness generation among the masses regarding the harmful effects of using Tobacco products. The meeting also discussed threadbare the measures to be taken to curb the menace of smoking.

The DC asked the members of the Committee to work in close coordination so that Tobacco Control laws are implemented effectively on ground across Srinagar.

He directed for strict enforcement of Tobacco Control Laws particularly near Hospitals and Educational institutions and initiated appropriate 'penal action' against the defaulters under rules. He further said that Tehsil wise Enforcement Squads will be constituted to monitor the unlawful sale of cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (OTPs) in Srinagar and curb the menace.

The DC directed the Chief Education Officer and all College Principals to identify the shops within the 100 yards radius of their respective Educational Institutions indulging in unlawful sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products and submit the details of the same for further legal action against the violators.

He said that instances of violation are being reported from the various quarters which have been viewed seriously by the authorities.

On the occasion, State Coordinator Tobacco Control, J&K, Dr Mohammad Naser, highlighted the ill effects of Tobacco usage and implementation of COTPA-2003 through a Powerpoint presentation.

It is worthwhile to mention that the government has ordered to strictly enforce the provisions of the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003 and Rules. It has also issued instructions from time to time to all the concerned to take penal action against defaulters.

Truck Driver Beaten By Unknown Person Pretending To Be A Policeman

Agencies

Srinagar: A truck driver from Anantnag on Tuesday alleged that he was beaten by some unknown person pretending to be a cop in Batamaloo area of Srinagar last night.

Tariq Ahmad, a truck driver, said that the person also looted a cash amount of Rs 7000 from him when he had parked his truck near court in Batamaloo. He alleged that his truck was parked near court in Batamaloo and he was sleeping inside the truck, when a person came in a black colour Santro bearing registration number JK01S-1413. Tariq said that the person identified himself as a cop from Barzullah Police station and started frisking his vehicle.

"During frisking he took a cash amount of Rs 7000 from my dash board and when I tried to stop him he started to beat me and took the cash away," Tariq alleged.

He said that today morning he went to the police Barzulla station, where he lodged a complaint about the incident. Meanwhile, Tariq appealed to the police and administration to arrest the culprit at an earliest.

"This is not the first incident in this area as many such incidents have taken place here before," he added.

From KO Archives

'Illiterate' Appointed Instead Of Namesake

MUSHTAQ AFTAB

CHADURA (BUDGAM) - Even as numerous scandals of fake appointments have surfaced in various government departments over the recent years, incidence of the wrong doing is far from being stamped out. Some diehards still manage to get a job in one or the other department by manipulating records and documents, and by tapping the 'right' person and the 'tight' timer.

An illiterate villager has got a government job allegedly by impersonation, and got away with it, assurance of the finance minister to get the wrong undone notwithstanding. In the process, the genuine claimant for the appointment continues to be jobless. Reports said Nazir Ahmad Dar r/o Abdul Kabir Dar R/o Badipore, has passed his 12th (TDC) clam examination. But, it is his namesake in the neighbourhood who, though illiterate, has allegedly got a government job. The only difference between the two is in the names of their grandfathers. While the former's grandfather is named Abdullah Dar, the latter's name is Ahmad Dar.

According to reports, the uneducated Nazir Ahmad Dar was appointed in the horticulture department in 1996. He is posted in the district office at Budgam. Sources in the department said Dar managed to procure the certificates of his educated namesake which he produced in support of his claim. The department did not entertain the 'genuine' claim of the educated Dar.

Though the serious case of alleged swap was brought to the notice of the state vigilance organisations, no action has been taken so far. The educated Dar approached the finance minister, Abdur Raheem Rather, who also happens to be his neighbour. He had assured him to get the right person appointed against the post. However, justice ' still eludes hint despite lapse of about four years

In another case, Mushtaq Ahmad Zargar s/o Ghulam Ahmad Zargar r/o Badipore has managed to secure a job allegedly by producing a fake certificate of academic qualification. According to reliable sources, he is barely read upto 4th standard. However, he managed to get a certificate of having passed his 9th class (under metric) examination from the government higher secondary school, Nagam, in 1996 allegedly, through his brother, Abdul Rasheed Zargar, who is a teacher at Badipore.

On the basis of the alleged fake certificate, Zargar was appointed as a peon in the animal husbandry department. He has been working at the veterinary dispensary here for about three years past. Sources said the department did not take any action to unravel the facts and bring the accused to justice even after the matter was brought to its notice.

(Kashmir Observer, August 26, 2000)

China, Taliban Hold Their First Dialogue In Kabul

Agencies

Beijing: China has established its first diplomatic contact with the Taliban in Kabul after the terrorist group took control of Afghanistan and the two sides now have "unimpeded and effective communication", a Chinese official said on Wednesday. The Taliban seized power in Afghanistan on August 15, two weeks before the US was set to complete its troop withdrawal after a costly two-decade war.

"China and the Afghan Taliban have unimpeded and effective communication and consultation," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin told a media briefing here when asked about the talks between the deputy head of the Taliban's political office Abdul Salam Hanafi and Chinese Ambassador to Afghanistan Wang Yu in Kabul.

"Kabul is naturally an important platform and channel for us to discuss key issues," Wang said, without disclosing the details.

"China respects the Afghan people's independent decision on their own future and destiny, supports the implementation of the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned principle, and stands ready to continue to develop good-neighbourly relations of friendship and cooperation with Afghanistan and play a constructive role in the peace and reconstruction of the country," he said.

China along with Pakistan and Russia kept its embassy open in Kabul while India, the US and other countries closed down their diplomatic missions after the Taliban took control of Kabul on August 15.

Since the Taliban entry into Kabul which had caught the world by surprise resulting in large scale evacuations by the US and its allies, China which had hosted a Taliban delegation headed by Mullah Abdul Ghani Baradar last month remained calm and called for an inclusive government in Kabul. In his talks with Baradar, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi had asked the Taliban to sever its links with terror groups especially the Uygur Muslim militant group from Xinjiang, the East Turkistan Islamic Movement (ETIM).

Baradar reportedly assured Wang that the Taliban will not permit the ETIM from operating from Afghanistan and called for Chinese investments in the war-torn country.

After the Taliban took control of Kabul, China called for the formation of an open, inclusive, and broadly representative government adopting moderate and prudent domestic and foreign policies and conform to the aspiration of its people and the common expectation of the international community.

US Scrambles To Complete Afghanistan Pullout As Threat Of Attacks Rises

Reuters

President Joe Biden said on Tuesday the United States is on pace to finish evacuations from Afghanistan by Aug. 31, but left open the chance of extending the deadline, saying reaching that goal depends on cooperation from the country's new Taliban rulers. The Taliban said earlier on Tuesday that all foreign evacuations from the country must be completed by Aug. 31, and asked Washington to stop urging highly skilled Afghans to leave the country.

In remarks at the White House, Biden said the United States was racing to meet that deadline as concerns mount over the threat of terrorist attacks.

"The sooner we can finish, the better," Biden said. "Each day of operations brings added risk to our troops."

Continued coordination with the Taliban remains crucial to meeting the deadline, he said, but he called it a "tenuous situation" with a "serious risk of breaking down as time goes on."

Biden said he asked the Pentagon and the State Department to develop contingency plans to push past the deadline should that prove necessary. The Democratic president, whose administration has been under fire for its handling of the pullout, said U.S. forces had now helped evacuate 70,700 people since Aug. 14. Biden said his administration was working to rebuild a system for processing refugees that he said was "purposely destroyed" by his Republican predecessor, Donald Trump.

"We must all work together to resettle thousands of Afghans who ultimately qualify for refugee status. The United States will do our part," he said.

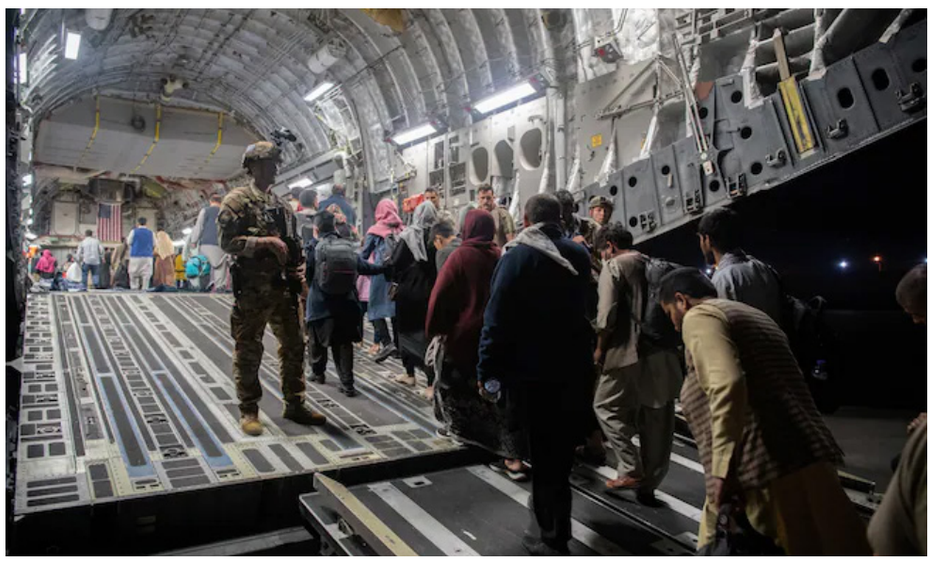
Two U.S. officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there was growing concern about the risk of suicide bombings by Islamic State at the airport, which has been overwhelmed by Afghans and foreign citizens rushing to leave.

One U.S. official said it was no longer a question of if, but when, terrorists would attack and the priority was to get out before it happened. The hardline Islamist Taliban told the thousands of Afghans crowding into the airport in the hope of boarding flights that they had nothing to fear and should go home.

"We guarantee their security," Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid told a news conference in the capital, which Taliban fighters seized on Aug. 15 from the Western-backed government after most foreign forces withdrew following two decades of war.

The Pentagon said several hundred U.S. troops had departed Kabul under a previously scheduled move but it would not affect evacuation efforts. Some Democrats in the U.S. Congress argued the evacuations must be completed regardless of the target date.

"To me, the mission of evacuating personnel takes priority over deadlines," said Representative Jake Auchincloss, a former Marine who commanded infantry in Afghanistan.



Taliban Takeover: Afghans board a US Air Force transport plane during an evacuation at Kabul airport.

G7 COMMITMENT TO AFGHANISTAN

Leaders of the G7 major industrialized nations - Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States - met virtually to discuss how to complete the chaotic withdrawal and deal with the Taliban now that they have seized power.

The G7 leaders said they would remain committed to Afghanistan and back the United Nations in coordinating immediate humanitarian help in the region, which faces a new influx of refugees.

The talks did not result "in new dates" for the end of the evacuation mission, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said, although there were intensive discussions on whether a civilian-operated airport in Kabul could be used after Aug. 31.

Study: Vaccine Protection Wanes Within 6 Months

REUTERS

The latest finding comes as several countries are rolling out additional jabs for the fully vaccinated

Protection against Covid-19 offered by two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech and the Oxford/AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccines begins to fade within six months, underscoring the need for booster shots, according to researchers in Britain. After five to six months, the effectiveness of the Pfizer jab at preventing Covid-19 infection in the month after the second dose fell from 88% to 74%, an analysis of data collected in Britain's ZOE COVID study showed.

For the AstraZeneca vaccine, effectiveness fell from 77% to 67% after four to five months. The study was based on data from more than 1.2 million test results. Previous analysis of data has suggested that vaccines provide protection for at least six months.

Under a worst-case scenario, protection could fall below 50% for older people and healthcare workers by the winter, Tim Spector, principal investigator for the ZOE COVID study, said.

"It's bringing into focus this need for some action. We can't just sit by and see the protectiveness slowly waning whilst cases are still high and the chance of infection still high as well," Spector told BBC television.

Britain is starting to plan for a Covid-19 vaccine booster campaign later this year after top vaccine advisers said it might be necessary to give third shots to the elderly and most vulnerable from September.

Phone Catches Fire As Aircraft Lands In US; Plane With 128 Passengers Evacuated

Agencies

San Francisco, August 25: An Alaska Airlines flight in the US was evacuated after a Samsung smartphone on the plane allegedly caught fire, the media reported.

A passenger's cellphone caught on fire inside the cabin of an Alaska Airlines flight from New Orleans to Seattle that had landed at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport on Monday evening, The Seattle Times reported on Tuesday.

Perry Cooper, a spokesman for the Port of Seattle, which operates the airport, said the device was determined to be a Samsung Galaxy A21.

"After much digging, I can tell you that the phone was burned beyond recognition," Cooper told The Seattle Times.

"However, during an interview with one of our Port of Seattle Police officers, the passenger volunteered the phone was a Samsung Galaxy A21. Again, we could not confirm it by looking at the remains of the device." Samsung was yet to comment on the incident.

Nearly 128 passengers and six crew members were transported by bus to the terminal. There were no serious injuries associated with the fire.

An Alaska Airlines spokesperson told The Verge that the plane's crew used fire extinguishers and a battery containment bag to "stop the phone from smoking."

A Twitter user who was on the Alaska flight posted: "The passenger was 2-3 rows behind me on the opposite side. It was like a smoke machine. Flight attendants did an excellent job and all passengers were very calm. I believe one person sitting beside them might have minor injuries".

According to tweets by Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, the passengers were taken by bus to the terminal, "Earlier this evening, POSFD responded to a report of a fire in the cargo hold of Alaska Airlines Flight 751. Upon arrival, the fire was contained and passengers and crew were evacuated from the aircraft," the airport tweeted.

"Passengers were transported by bus to the terminal, some with minor injuries. The aircraft was towed to a gate and there were no impacts to airport operations," it added. IANS

Study: High Blood Pressure Doubled Globally In 30 Years

Agence France-Presse

In 2019, there were 626 million women and 652 million men living with hypertension

The number of people living with high blood pressure has doubled since 1990, according to a major study published on Wednesday that found half of all sufferers -- about 720 million people -- went untreated in 2019.

Hypertension is directly linked to more than 8.5 million deaths each year and is the leading risk factor for stroke, heart and liver disease.

To find out how rates of hypertension have developed globally over the past 30 years, an international team from Non-Communicable Disease Risk Factor Collaboration (NCD-RisC) analyzed data from more than 1,200 national studies covering nearly every country in the world. They used modelling to estimate high blood pressure rates across populations, as well as the number of people taking medication for the condition.

The analysis found that in 2019 there were 626 million women and 652 million men living with hypertension. This represented roughly double the estimated 331 million women and 317 million men with the condition in 1990.

The analysis found that 41% of women and 51% of men with high blood pressure were unaware of their condition, meaning hundreds of millions of people were missing out on effective treatment.

"Despite medical and pharmacological advances over decades, global progress in hypertension management has been slow, and the vast majority of people with hypertension remain untreated," said Majid Ezzati from Imperial College London and senior study author.

'Time bomb'

In the analysis, published in The Lancet medical journal, Canada and Peru had the lowest proportion of high blood pressure among adults in 2019, with around one in four people living with the condition.

Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, Switzerland, Spain and Britain had the lowest hypertension rates in women -- less than 24% -- while Eritrea, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and the Solomon Islands had the lowest rates in men -- less than 25%.

At the other end of the spectrum, more than half of women in Paraguay and Tuvalu had hypertension; over half of men in Argentina, Paraguay, Tajikistan also have the condition, the analysis showed.

Authors of the research said it showed an urgent need to boost high blood pressure diagnosis and access to treatment.

Fewer than one in four women and one in five men globally are being treated for their condition.

Robert Storey, professor of Cardiology at the University of Sheffield, said Covid-19 had distracted governments from the reality of hypertension.

Afghans Race To Flee Taliban After Biden Confirms Airlift Deadline

Agence France-Presse

Kabul, Afghanistan: Afghans on Wednesday faced an increasingly desperate race to escape life under the Taliban after President Joe Biden confirmed US-led evacuations will end next week. More than 70,000 people have already been evacuated, but huge crowds remain outside Kabul airport hoping to flee the threat of reprisals and repression in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan. Biden said Tuesday the United States would stick to his August 31 deadline to completely withdraw its troops despite warnings from European allies that not all vulnerable Afghans would able to leave by then.

"The sooner we can finish, the better... each day of operations brings added risk to our troops," Biden said Tuesday.

"We are currently on the pace to finish by August 31."

Many Afghans fear a repeat of the brutal five-year Taliban regime that was toppled in 2001, and violent retribution for working with foreign militaries, Western missions and the previous US-backed government.

Washington and its allies have been flying out thousands of such Afghans every day on hulking military transports, but it has become an increasingly difficult and desperate task.

The Afghan capital's airport has been gripped by chaos as US-led troops try to maintain a secure perimeter for evacuation flights, surrounded by desperate Afghans.

Some have foreign passports, visas or eligibility to travel, but most do not. At least eight people have died in the chaos.

"Does anyone ... ANYONE ... have a contact inside the airport," pleaded one American on a WhatsApp group set up to share information on how people can access the airport.

"My guy worked for us 2010-15 and needs to get out with 5 of his family. This is real bad."

The Taliban have also been accused of blocking or slowing access for many trying to reach the airport, although they denied the charge again late Tuesday. Biden said the Taliban were taking steps to assist, but there was also an "acute and growing risk" of an attack by the regional chapter of the Islamic State jihadist group.

CIA Director William Burns flew to Kabul for a secret meeting with top Taliban leader Abdul Ghani Baradar, US media reported Tuesday, the highest-level meeting so far between the US government and the new rulers of Afghanistan.

The New York Times said the spy chief was not there to negotiate an extension to the pullout deadline, but for general talks on "evacuation operations and terrorist threats".

NEWS MAKER

Afghanistan's Hazara community, a long-persecuted minority living in fear of Taliban

Agencies

Kabul: Schools and rallies bombed, hospitals targeted and commuters ambushed: for years, the Hazara community has suffered some of Afghanistan's most violent assaults. Now, with the Taliban back in control, the majority Shiite Muslim group fears the Sunni hardliners may again turn on them -- just as they did during their last regime in the 1990s. And even as the Taliban have pledged a softer rule this time, a statue of a prominent Hazara leader was vandalised just days after the Islamists sweptback into power. Here is a brief history of the community: Hailing from the country's rugged central highlands, the Hazaras are believed to trace their lineage from Genghis Khan's Mongol invaders who ransacked Afghanistan in the 13th century.

Comprising between 10 to 20 percent of the country's 38 million people, Hazaras have been marginalised for their faith in a country riven by deep divisions.

By some estimates, nearly half of the Hazara population was wiped out in the late 19th century, with many later enslaved during the conquest of their traditional homeland by Pashtuns, the country's biggest ethnic group. Throughout the centuries, the group has been subjected to slavery, religious and economic persecution, as well as displacement and ethnic cleansing.

They have also been targeted by an array of different groups during the past four decades of conflict, including the vicious shelling of their areas. Hazara militia fighters were accused of carrying out atrocities of their own during the civil war that followed the withdrawal of the Soviet army in the late 1980s.

During the Taliban's scorched-earth takeover of the country in the late 1990s, thousands of Hazaras were believed to have been slaughtered by the militants.

The Hazaras make up the bulk of the country's Shiite minority, which has historically been despised by Sunni hardliners who consider the sect heretics. The group has also been accused of being too closely allied to neighbouring Iran, and tens of thousands have moved over the years as economic migrants to work mostly menial jobs.

Thousands of Hazaras have been trained by Iranian security forces and deployed with Shiite militias in Syria's civil war over the past decade. Last year, the Iranian foreign minister called Hazara militia fighters the "best forces with a military background" that could be used against the Islamic State group in Afghanistan. Few groups benefited from the order established by the US overthrow in 2001 of the Taliban as much as the Hazaras.

They were able to put their children in schools -- including their daughters -- and entered the political scene and workforce in unprecedented numbers.

But those gains remained tenuous. The group took the brunt of escalating violence as Islamic State suicide bombers targeted their mosques, schools, rallies and hospitals in western Kabul's Hazara enclave of Dasht-e-Barchi, killing hundreds of people.

Fearing they will again be slaughtered when international troops exit Afghanistan this summer, some in the community have started to rearm -- with a small militia based in Wardak province recruiting and training Hazaras to fight back.

Days after the Taliban returned to power, the statue of a prominent Hazara leader in Bamiyan -- where the famed Buddhas were also destroyed two decades ago -- was decapitated. The incident spurred fears that the militants still hold a grudge against the community, and that they may crack down again soon.

Drinking Water Shortage Sparks Protest In Baramulla Village

Agencies

Baramulla: Drinking water shortage on Wednesday sparked protests in Narvaw village of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. Eyewitnesses said that the residents staged a protest demonstration against the Jal Shakti department over the shortage of drinking water in the area.

The protesters including women and children blocked Sheeri-Shalteng and Zogiyaar road for hours, alleging that for the last three months they are without drinking water, while the concerned department is not paying heed to the issue.

They said that they are being forced to consume water from nearby streams and a local Mundri Nalla where animals drink water.

Meanwhile, junior engineer of Jal Shakti department, Ghulam Hassan said that the department has requested all the consumers to stop water supply to their kitchen gardens because the water source is limited for general public and department has allotted another 3-inch pipeline from Zogiyaar to Shalteng which may redress the issue.

The aggrieved residents appealed to the deputy commissioner Baramulla, Bhupinder Kumar and executive engineer Jal Shakti department Baramulla to personally intervene into the matter.

Tourism Dept Conducts Sanitation Drive At Yousmarg

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Tourism Department conducted a sanitation and cleanliness drive at tourist destination Yousmarg, Budgam on Wednesday.

Around 100 Service providers and stakeholders of different kinds collaborated with the Department in the cleanliness drive. The drive was undertaken along the main meadow of Yousmarg, banks of Doodhganga and other surrounding areas.

Besides the employees of the Tourism Department, officials from Yousmarg Development Authority also participated in the drive.

The drive has been part of the Tourism Department's efforts to keep all tourist destinations clean and ensure that natural resources like water bodies, meadows and forest fauna are not damaged or disturbed.

This year, the Department ensured that periodic and timely sanitation drives are carried at all the destinations across Kashmir to maintain and for upkeep of local ecosystems.

J&K To Get 'Libraries-on-Wheels'

Libraries Department, RRRLF Kolkatta Joint Initiative To Make Reading Material Available At People's Doorstep

SRINAGAR: The Department of Libraries & Research and Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Kolkatta are jointly going to launch a novel initiative – "Library-on-Wheels" – in J&K to reach out to the readers in the remotest corners of the UT by offering free library services at their doorstep.

Making the announcement at the concluding session of the two-day meeting of the UT-Level Library Advisory-cum-Purchase Committee (UTLLACPC) here today, Director General, National Library of India (NLI) and RRRLF Kolkatta, Prof Ajay Pratap Singh said the initiative would be launched in all the Districts of J&K to make the quality reading material available in places or areas, where it is hard to find a public library.

Prof Singh said the resources for the purchase of vehicles for Mobile Libraries would be arranged from Corporate Houses and Philanthropic organizations under CSR while the recurring cost for these vehicles including fuel, maintenance and other charges would be borne by RRRLF. The books and other reading material, he said, would be provided by J&K's Libraries Department with the District Libraries serving as the base libraries for the initiative.

He announced that on the recommendation of UTLLACPC, two public libraries from J&K including Gani Memorial Central Library, Rajouri Kadal, Srinagar and District Library Samba would be upgraded under the centrally sponsored scheme – National Mission on Libraries (NML).

The Committee approved setting up of IT Hubs at SRS Library Jammu and SPS Library Srinagar in convergence with Smart City Mission Jammu/Srinagar.

The Committee was informed that the Jammu Smart City Ltd has already formulated Rs 4.30 crore DPR for upgradation of SRS Library Jammu including setting up of IT Hub while a similar proposal is under consideration of Srinagar Smart City.

The Committee recommended that given its historic importance and rich repository of manuscripts and rare books, the Oriental Research Library, Srinagar be relocated to the upcoming Heritage Complex at Sherghari (Old Assembly Complex) where it can display the treasured collection of rare manuscripts and books. It was also recommended that the Libraries Department should approach the National Mission on Manuscripts (NMM) to get the Oriental Research Library enlisted as a Manuscript Resource Centre.

In other decisions, the Committee called for putting in place a regulatory mechanism through the Department of Libraries & Research to regulate the functioning of Private Libraries & Reading Rooms coming up in J&K.

In this regard, the Committee suggested that the Libraries Department should approach the Govt for laying down a framework for functioning of such Libraries & Reading Rooms so that the needy students and readers are not exploited.

Proposals for automation and digitization of District Libraries, establishment of Digital Libraries at Gram Panchayat level in convergence with Mission Youth, J&K; establishment of Tribal Libraries in convergence with the Tribal Affairs Department; arranging online/offline coaching for Competitive Exams including IAS/JKAS, NEET, JEE, AIPMT, CET, UPSC/JKPSC, NET/SLET, NDA/CDS, SSB, GMAT, CLAT, CAT etc through Public Libraries in collaboration with reputed Coaching Academies and Study Centres; shifting of City Central Library from SPS Library building to Gani Memorial Reading Room-cum-Library, Rajouri Kadal and establishment of Reading Rooms at Habba Kadal, Srinagar and Wanpora, Pulwama were also approved by the Committee.

FIR Against Journalist For Reporting Custodial Torture Quashed

Fetters Can't Be Placed On Freedom Of Press: J&K High Court

Agencies

Srinagar: The High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh on Wednesday quashed an FIR registered against a reporter in 2018 for publishing a story on custodial torture by the police. Justice Rajnesh Oswal held that the mode and manner in which the FIR was registered clearly reflects mala fides on the part of the police, who chose a "unique method" of silencing the reporter.

Terming the same as an attack on the freedom of the press, the High Court held, "Needless to say that press is often referred to as the fourth pillar of democracy and freedom of the press is vital for the functioning of any democratic country like India. No fetters can be placed on the freedom of press by registering the FIR against a reporter, who was performing his professional duty by publishing a news item on the basis of information obtained by him from an identifiable source."

The petitioner, Asif Iqbal Naik is a journalist associated with local daily Early Times Newspaper and Times Now, and had broken down various stories of national importance.

Naik had published a story in April 2018 bearing the heading "Father of 5 brutally tortured by Kishtwar Police," in which it was reported that one Akhter Hussain was tortured by the police during illegal confinement, owing to which he was in a critical condition.

On the basis of this story, an FIR was registered against Naik by the Kishtwar Police alleging the commission of offences under Sections 500 (defamation), 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of peace) and 505 (statement conducting to public mischief) of the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC).

Counsel for the petitioner, Advocate FS Butt submitted that the FIR was lodged to harass the petitioner so as to stop him from publishing any news item against the police establishment and to gag the press and electronic media. This amounts to infringement of the right to free speech and expression as guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution of India, he argued.

On the other hand, Advocate Sunil Malhotra argued for the State that false news was published by the petitioner with a criminal intention to instigate the peace loving inmates of Kishtwar town to assume the form of unlawful assembly and cause offences like road blockades, vandalism and destruction of public property.

The Court said that the publication of the news item on the basis of a statement made by the cousin of the person who was tortured does not amount to an offence under Section 499 RPC as the petitioner performed his professional duty of reporting the matter.

So far as allegations with regard to the commission of offence under Section 504 RPC was concerned, the Court held there was no allegation that the petitioner had provoked anyone to breach public peace or commit any other offence.

With regard to the charge under Section 505, the Court held,

Media Gags Have Monopolised Flow Of Information: NC

Srinagar: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference on Wednesday expressed concern over the accentuating curbs on the freedom of vernacular press in Kashmir saying besides silencing voices critical of the administration, the gags have monopolized the flow of information in Jammu and Kashmir.

Taking strong exception to the dwindling press freedom in Kashmir, Party Spokesperson Imran Nabi Dar said that the press fraternity in Kashmir is at the receiving end due to the executive apathy and intrinsic pressure associated with reporting in a conflict situation. The curbs and gags, he said, will further hinder the free and fair working of the press fraternity in the region. Choking the voice of an independent media, he maintained, would go a long way in widening the gap between the people and the government. This, he added, could have menacing repercussions on the region that continues to remain fragile in spite of a monopolized flow of information.

Govt To Formally Support Religious Places

Observer News Service

Srinagar: The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, PK Pole Wednesday said that government will formally support all those religious places where Urs' or annual events are held in Jammu and Kashmir. Talking to reporters on the sidelines of a function in Rajbagh, Pole said that government has framed a concrete policy to support the religious places, where Urs' or annual events are held.

He said that Kashmir is not only known for its language but for its culture and civilisation, which is known as Kashmiriyat, where Hindus, Muslims and people belonging to other religions live together.

"So to promote this culture and religious brotherhood, government is formally going to support all the religious places and for which a concrete policy has been framed," Pole said.

On being asked about re-imposition of night curfew in view of possible third wave, Pole said that Coronavirus is an invisible thing and it may be under control this time.

Indian Institute of Carpet Technology, Srinagar
Baghi-Ali-Mardan Khan, Nowshara, Srinagar
انڈین انسٹیچوٹ آف کارپٹ ٹیکنالوجی،
باغ علی مردان خان، نوشہرہ، سرینگر، فون نمبرز:۔ 0194-2411143, 2428636

(داخلہ نوٹس)

قومی پسماندہ طبقات مالی و ترقیاتی کارپوریشن، وزارت سماجی انصاف و بااختیار حکومت ہند نے صوبہ کشمیر کے بڈگام، اننت ناگ، کولگام، پلوامہ، بارہمولہ، بانڈی پورہ اور کپواڑہ ضلع کے اُن ڈیڑھ سو (150) افراد جو پسماندہ طبقات یا مالی پسماندہ طبقات سے تعلق رکھتے ہو اور جو قالین بافی میں بنیادی تربیت حاصل کرنے کے خواہشمند ہوں، کے لئے پی ام ڈکش (PM-DAKSH) کے تحت سکل ڈولاپمنٹ ٹریننگ پروگرام (SDTP) کو منظوری دے دی ہے۔

اس ضمن میں اہل امیدوارں سے پی ام ڈکش پورٹل https://pmdaksh.dosje.gov.in یا پی ام ڈکش ایپ (App) کے ذریعے آن لائن درخواستیں طلب کی جاتی ہیں۔ آن لائن درخواستیں جمع کرانے کی آخری تاریخ 05-09-2021 ہے۔

اہلیت کے معیار اور کورس کی دیگر تفصیلات درجہ ذیل ہیں:۔

کورس کا نام	کالین ویورناٹر۔ این ایس کیو ایف۔ کمپلیٹ کورس۔
عمر	اٹھارہ سال سے پینتالیس سال کے درمیان۔
کورس کی مدت	پانچ ماہ۔
وظیفہ	ایک ہزار روپیہ ماہانہ۔
مستحقین کے خاندان کی سالانہ آمدنی	٭ مالی پسماندہ طبقہ سے وابستہ افراد کی ایک لاکھ روپیہ سے کم ہو۔ ٭ پسماندہ طبقہ سے وابستہ افراد کی تین لاکھ روپیہ سے کم ہو۔
مقام	تربیتی مراکز اُن علاقوں میں قائم کیے جائیں گے جہاں زیادہ سے زیادہ اہل افراد کو منتخب کردہ کمیٹی منتخب کرے گی۔
تربیتی مراکز کی تعداد	دس (10)
کل افراد جن کی تربیت کیلئے انتظام ہے۔	ڈیڑھ سو افراد (150)۔ 15 افراد فی ٹریننگ سنٹر۔
انتخابی عمل	اہل امیدواروں کا انتخاب نامزد کمیٹی کی طرف سے کیا جائے گا۔

دستخط چیف کارڈینیٹر
DIPK-NB-2919/21

سرینگر میونسپل کارپوریشن

اطلاع عام بسلسلہ بولی نیلام گھوڑے بزریعہ سربمہر Offers

ہر خاص و عام کو بذریعہ اشتہار ہذا مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ سرینگر میونپل کارپوراشین کے پھاٹک واقع ٹینگہ پورہ ،بٹہ مالو بئی پاس میں مورخہ 29/07/2021-2/07/2021 سے چھے گھوڑے بغیر کسی دعویٰ کے بند پڑے (ضبط شدہ) ہیں۔ ان ضبط شدہ گھوڑوں کے مالکان کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ وہ مورخہ 31-08-2021 پھاٹک ہذا میں اپنے گھوڑوں سے متعلق شناخت ظاہر کرنے کے بعد جرمانہ و دیگر اکراجات ادا کر کے اپنے گھوڑوں کو واپس لے جائیں۔ بصورت دیگر ان ضبط شدہ گھوڑوں کو بذریعہ سربمہر offers حاصل کرنے کے تحت فروخت کیا جائیگا۔ اس سلسلے میں ذیر نیلامی جانور کو تفصیلات ویٹرنری آفیسر کے دفتر واقع ٹینگہ پورہ بائی پاس سے دفتری اوقات کے دوران حاصل کی جاسکتی ہیں۔

لہذا خواہشمند اصحاب اپنی مہر بند آفر مورخہ 01-09-2021 دن کے 2:00 PM بجے تک ویٹرنری آفیسر کے پاس پیش کر سکتے ہیں۔

بحکم

المشتہر:۔ میونسپل ویٹرنری آفیسر
سرینگر میونسپل کارپوریشن

DIPK-NB-2890/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir(UT)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER MUFFASIL (R&B) DIISION BUDGAM.

TENDER NOTICE

NIT No.102/e-tendering /MDB/2021-22/7518-38 DATED. 23-08-2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT, 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 T/Doc. (Rs.)	Time of completion	Class of Contractor	M.H
1	Development of road from Chowdary Mohalla to Play ground Pvt Ringzabal	4.50 lacs	200/-	15 days	DEE	District Capex Budget
2	Upgradation of road main road to Gujar Mohalla Punjabi Mohalla KLhan Mohalla alongwith soling at Kachwari C	6.09 lacs	300/-	20 days	DEE/CEE	District Capex Budget
3	Development of road from House of Bashir Kateri to Dandwari	4.00 lacs	200/-	15 days	"DEE"	District Capex Budget
4.	Development of road from Katyalie to Dupri.	10.00 lacs	600/-	25 days	DEE/CEE	District Capex Budget
5	Improvements of road Gurwan from Ab. Ahad Ganie to Bashir Ahmad Dar by way of Providing and Laying of GSB course and cross drainage pipes	7.70 lacs	300/-	20 days	DEE/CEE	District Capex Budget
6	Improvements of road from Khoospora to Wachoo by way of P/L of GSB course, WBM G-II including cross drainage pipes	6.60 lacs	300/-	20 days	DEE/CEE	District Capex Budget
7	Construction of R/wall near Waterihal Road at Different spots near House of Mohammad Yousuf at Hardwail	5.00 lacs	200/-	20 days	"DEE"	District Capex Budget

Position of AAA ***Accorded vide:-***
Position of TS = ***Accorded*** ***Position of funds: Available/Committed***

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	24 -08-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 24-08-2021 10.00 AM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	24-08-2021 from 10.00 AM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	07-09-2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids	08-09-2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam
	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)

No:7518-38
Dtd:-23.08.2021

Executive Engineer
Muffasil (R&B) Division Budgam

DIPK-7222/21

SKUAST-K Holds Webinar On Self Directed Learning

Observer News Service

Srinagar: Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, Kashmir held a daylong webinar on 'Self Directed Learning (SDL) – Veterinary Perspective' at Shuhama Campus.

The webinar was organised by the university's Division of Veterinary Anatomy, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, under the World Bank-ICAR funded National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) for the institutional development of SKUAST-K. More than 100 students, scholars and faculty members participated in the webinar.

Head Veterinary Anatomy, Prof AR Choudhary, while welcoming the guests, deliberated on the purpose of the webinar.

Director Planning and Monitoring and PI NAHEP, Prof Nazir Ahmad Ganai, talked about the concept and importance of self-directed learning and the technologies associated with it. Prof M Tufail Banday, Dean, FVSc & AH, in his address, highlighted the need for self-directed learning in achieving life-long learning. Dean Faculty of Fisheries, Prof Massarat Khan was also present in the webinar. Prof Azmat Alam Khan Associate Director Research SKUAST-Kashmir presented the first lecture. He talked about Self-directed learning: concept, conduct and curriculum placement. Prof Azmat stressed on implementation of self-directed learning and its advantages for the learners to be life-long learners. Dr Frances Shapter, Assistant professor in the School of Veterinary Science, The University of Queensland, Australia, in her lecture "Using clinical skills hub to augment veterinary technology clinical teaching" emphasised the use of simulators and other resources to augment self-directed learning in veterinary education. Dr Firdous Assit Prof Veterinary Anatomy, in his lecture "Self-directed learning readiness of Indian Veterinary students" talked about the current scenario of acceptance of Self-directed learning in the veterinary curriculum. A special talk on "International licensing examination" was lucidly presented by Dr Swaid Abdullah, Assist Prof in Veterinary Parasitology, The University of Queensland, Australia. He presented different international licensing examination protocols, procedures, and the ways to qualify them. Dr Andleeb Rafiq of the Division of Veterinary Anatomy presented the vote of thanks.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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

KO VIEW

PAGD meeting

The People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration in its meeting in Srinagar on Tuesday reiterated its demand for the reversal of the revocation of Article 370 that granted Jammu and Kashmir its semi-autonomous status within the Indian Union. The alliance said that the withdrawal of Article 370 had damaged "the very bond of our relationship with the Union of India". By demolishing the Constitution of Jammu & Kashmir, the resolution passed at the meeting stated, the government has crossed all limits of constitutionality. The PAGD rued there has been no redeeming change to the situation in the Valley following their meeting with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June. "J&K remains as far from Delhi and from the 'Dil' (heart) of India as it has ever been," said the PAGD spokesperson M Y Tarigami.

The meeting came in the wake of the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan and thus assumes some significance. There are fears that the transfer of power in Kabul would have security implications in Kashmir. This has persuaded many experts in india to get its act together in Kashmir. Former Army chief General Shankar Roychowdhury has called on the government to step up outreach in Kashmir and reassure people in the region that India will continue to be a secular democracy.

However, it seems out of question that the centre would be willing to discuss the reversal of the withdrawal of Article 370. But for now the return of statehood would be a welcome step in Kashmir. People would certainly want elections to take place and an elected government in power. It is now for over three years that the former state has been under a central rule. So, people would want the elected representatives they could approach to resolve their issues.

As for Article 370, the only remote hope it could be reversed is if the Supreme Court overturns government move. But so far the court has not found time to hear the petitions challenging the revocation of J&K autonomy.

The PAGD leaders, however, have made it clear that they were committed to the demand for a reversal of the withdrawal of the constitutional provision, saying they will fight for the restoration of the former state's autonomy through democratic means.

This is where a dialogue between the centre and the J&K leadership holds some hope and the former should engage in it sooner than later. This could go a long way in breaking the ice and putting the union territory on the road to a political normalcy. Every J&K citizen has a stake in such a dialogue and all would want it to reach its logical conclusion: a statehood for J&K and redressal of the local political and public grievances and aspirations.

OTHER OPINON

Vaccinating Children

The Indian drug regulator's emergency-use authorisation (EUA) to Zydus Cadila's Covid-19 vaccine, ZyCoV-D, is a welcome development. The second homegrown vaccine to receive an EUA can be administered to children above 12 years, raising the possibility of extending the vaccination project to the country's adolescent population. For children waiting for classrooms to be unlocked, the company's announcement that it can provide the jabs to schools by mid-September is heartening news. Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has spoken of the Centre's eagerness to begin vaccination for children at the earliest. The Centre's talks with the Ahmedabad-based company slated for later this week will, therefore, be keenly watched. They are likely to be centred on vaccine pricing and supplies. The decision to extend the inoculation project beyond the adult population must, however, factor in other imperatives, especially logistical challenges.

According to the government's projections, the country's vaccination drive is set to undergo a massive ramp-up from September onwards. More than 120-crore shots must be administered in the last four months of the year to attain the target of inoculating the country's adult population by December. Independent studies — including the Fitch Group's India Rating last week — have expressed doubts about the feasibility of this target. The government, however, maintains that vaccine supply will be increased from next month. If its claim is to hold up, an average of one crore shots will be administered every day till the end of the year — currently, the country averages less than 50-lakh shots daily. The spurt in inoculation could tax the energies of vaccinators and will require state governments to increase the number of vaccination centres. It is not yet known if the plan to increase vaccine supplies has a chapter on augmenting the teams of vaccinators. Inoculating children will, in any case, demand a further upscaling in the logistics of vaccine delivery. The government will, therefore, do well to conduct a thorough audit of the resources at its disposal before deciding to use the three-dose ZyCov-D to expand its inoculation drive.

Trial results show the new vaccine's efficacy against the variants driving the pandemic currently. The DNA-based jab does not require ultra-cold storage facilities and is reported to be cost-effective. A spring-powered device delivers the shot as a narrow streak of liquid that penetrates the skin — a big positive given that the fear of needles is known to be a major cause of vaccine hesitancy. But is the government better off, for now, harnessing these advantages for the adult vaccination project? Or does it have the wherewithal to do more? Its decision should be a carefully calibrated one.

The Indian Express

Grabbing Land to Set up Illegal Garbage Dump Sites

ULBs continue to violate MSW Rules in J&K

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

On 10th April 2021, four village panchayats in Baramulla district adopted a joint resolution by invoking section 5 of the Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) which empowers the Gram Sabha to protect the wildlife, forest, and biodiversity of the village. The section 5 of FRA also ensures that adjoining catchment areas in the village , its water sources, and other ecologically sensitive areas are adequately protected. Through the resolution, the village panchayats of Tarzoo A , B & C and Dharnambal impressed upon the Government especially Deputy Commissioner Baramulla and Municipal Council, Sopore, to stop unscientific garbage disposal in Ninglee Tarzoo area which was a severe threat to the environment and biodiversity in their area. The illegal garbage dumping site was not only causing a threat to the environment but the land that is being used to dump municipal solid waste belongs to forest department and local panchayat for which Urban Local Body i.e Municipal Council Sopore had not obtained any permission.

Background

For 10 years, the Municipal Council of Sopore in North Kashmir has been on the lookout for space for a landfill, but without success. Earlier, waste was either dumped by the roadside or near water bodies in town. Sopore town residents and traders protested the unscientific waste management but the municipal institution has not been able to do anything.

The main reason is the lack of scientific knowledge among the officials of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), plus the unavailability of financial resources. The municipal institutions in Jammu and Kashmir, particularly in small towns, are controlled by the Directorate of Urban Local Bodies in Kashmir and Jammu. These two directorates are dependent on the Housing and Urban Development Department (HUDD) in the Civil Secretariat. The unscientific waste disposal is not only causing problems in Srinagar or Jammu cities but it is a challenge for the people living in small and large towns as well like Baramulla , Sopore , Anantnag , Kulgam , Magam , Udhampur , Kathua, Poonch , Ramban and many other towns.

During the 2020 COVID-19 lockdown, trucks of the Sopore Municipal Council carrying solid waste collected from the town started illegally unloading them near the Wular wetland area in Tarzoo village. The area also falls under the Ninglee forest range. The district administration of Baramulla had given permission to municipal council Sopore to dump waste near the Wular wetland area. The district administration Baramulla was under tremendous pressure from residents of Sopore town as the municipal waste for many years was lying scattered on road sides and open plots. All the Urban Local Bodies (ULB's) across J&K never ever ensured to treat the municipal waste as per MSW Rules 2016 but instead relocated the waste. Same is the case with Sopore Municipal Council. They chose a wetland to dump its waste unscientifically violating MSW Rules, 2016. There is not a single scientific landfill site across J&K so waste is dumped unscientifically in every town.

> **A garbage dump site being built** on an eco-sensitive area—that too against the wishes of four village panchayats—makes it clear that the administration has gone out of control in Jammu and Kashmir. The Municipal Committee Magam was dumping municipal solid waste into the Ferozpur river for the last many years and from the last few months they are now carrying the waste to a nearby village namely Sanoor Kalipora

Undue advantage of COVID Lockdown

The Wular lake is a UNESCO Ramsar site in Jammu and Kashmir and one of the largest freshwater lakes in Asia with an average size between 30 to 260 square kilometers, depending on the season. The residents of Tarzoo, a huge village consisting of 5 panchayats, protested the municipal waste being dumped around their village but soon there was a national lockdown from March 21st 2020.The municipal council of Sopore took advantage of the lockdown and kept dumping its waste near the wetland. This was being done in clear violation of MSW Rules 2016, Wetland Conservation and Management Rules 2017, Water Pollution Act 1974 and other environmental laws. After a few months, residents under the Central Auqaf Committee again started their campaign. This author has been writing about the issue for more than a year. One of my articles published in June 2020 was treated as a complaint by the National Green Tribunal (NGT). On 10 July 2020, the NGT Principal Bench headed by Justice AK Goel issued notices to the District Magistrate Baramulla, State Wetlands Authority (SWA), and Jammu and Kashmir Pollution Control Board.

Chief Justice Visits Tarzoo

The residents of Tarzoo village through their Central Auqaf Committee also moved to the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir. It took a strong note of the case. Then Chief Justice Geeta Mittal visited the spot last in October 2020 and ordered that site be immediately closed. It was a historic visit as in the past a Chief Justice had never visited Tarzoo village. The waste already dumped there was buried under the soil which was transported in trucks just before her visit. The Division Bench of the High Court directed the constitution of a committee at the district level to identify an alternate location for waste treatment along scientific lines. After Chief Justice Geeta Mittal retired, the district administration and municipal officers identified another site in the same village to dump waste. Unfortunately the site happens to be forest land and a wetland catchment area. Some land (4 kanals) belong to the local Panchayat. For the last 6 months, the municipal waste has been dumped in the encroached area. Forest department hasn't given any No-Objection Certificate (NoC). The residents and their panchayat representatives are resisting this, but nobody is respecting their representations and resolutions.

Environment & Gram Sabha

According to section 5 of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) , the Gram Sabha is entrusted with protecting wildlife, forests, the environment, and the ecology of villages. The gram sabha of 4 panchayats passed a resolution asking the Municipal Council Sopore to stop the illegal and unscientific waste dumping in the area in April and till date the district administration and MC Sopore hasn't respected the order. The resolution was signed by four Sarpanches and the Central Auqaf Committee of Tarzoo. The resolution of gram sabha is binding on the government, but it seems the same has no takers.

Violation of Biodiversity Act, 2002

The Biodiversity Act, 2002 was enacted to realise the objectives enshrined in the 1992 United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). This convention recognises the sovereign rights of states to use their biological resources. There are several committees constituted at the national, state, and local levels under the Biodiversity Act, 2002.

The wetlands of the Wular lake attract a variety of bird and animal species. This is where the municipal council Sopore with the support of district administration Baramulla is dumping municipal solid waste.

At the village level, section 41 of the Biodiversity Act provides for the constitution of Biodiversity Management Committees (BMC). The BMC has to prepare a peoples' biodiversity register and has powers to ensure conservation and eco-restoration of biological resources.

Therefore, it can resist the way waste is being dumped unscientifically in the Tarzoo area, as it violates village-level biodiversity. The waste is being dumped on grazing land for local cattle and sheep, where hundreds of species of birds, including migratory birds that visit the area from October to March every year, come to rest.

The municipal council Sopore is violating the Municipal Solid Waste Rules 2016 and threatening the habitat of wildlife and biodiversity. How can garbage be dumped on forest land? The Government could have established a biodiversity park in the area instead.

Penalty of Rs 1.30 crores

The Municipal Council Sopore has no awareness about biomedical hazardous waste. The Ninglee dump site is used to dump biomedical and hazardous waste as well. The area in which the government has set up a new garbage dumpsite is part of the Wular wetland area and happens to be a forest land as well. The lake is a mere half km from the site. Wetland includes the lake and its marshes, rivers, lakes, deltas, floodplains and flooded forests, rice fields, coral reefs, marine areas no deeper than six metres at low tide, as well as human-made wetlands such as wastewater treatment ponds and reservoirs.

The State Pollution Control Board now called J&K Pollution Control Committee (PCC) vide its order no 36 -PCB of 2020 dated : 24.11.2020 directed the Executive Officer MC Sopore to deposit an amount of Rs 1.30 crores as environmental compensation. The amount hasn't been realized till date by PCC due to reasons best known to them.

Some months back Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, while interacting with District Magistrates from Kashmir valley, directed them to ensure the Forest Rights Act (FRA) is properly implemented. The joint Gram Sabha of four panchayats in Tarzoo, Baramulla, has passed a resolution to stop illegal garbage dumping in their area, but the DC Baramulla hasn't acted over it in spite of 5 months.

A garbage dump site being built on an eco-sensitive area—that too against the wishes of four village panchayats—makes it clear that the administration has gone out of control in Jammu and Kashmir. The Municipal Committee Magam was dumping municipal solid waste into the Ferozpur river for the last many years and from the last few months they are now carrying the waste to a nearby village namely Sanoor Kalipora. The villagers of Sanoor Kalipora and adjoining areas passed a resolution urging J&K Pollution Control Committee (PCC) to stop this illegal practice but till date nothing has been done. The municipal committee of Magam is now using police force to ensure people don't stop municipal vehicles from dumping the waste in the village. The Ganderbal Municipal Committee is using Beehama wetland to dump its municipal waste. The Kulgam Municipal Committee is dumping waste near the banks of Vishaw river and the Municipal Committee Budgam is dumping the waste near Mamath Kul. Ironically, the waste from towns is now carried to rural areas and the resolution of the village assemblies (gram sabhas) is also not respected. Forest department has woken up from deep slumber by dismantling the spun pipes laid near the garbage dump site by MC Sopore. There will be no end to this tussle unless ULB's don't treat municipal waste as per MSW Rules 2016. Hope Govt wakes up soon.

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

Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat is an Acumen Fellow and Founder of Jammu & Kashmir RTI Movement. He is also an Anant fellow for Climate Action

The Saga Of Never-Ending Questions

Shilpa Bhasin Mehra

> **I think the habit** of asking questions doesn't get left behind with childhood for many people. They are much older (and supposed to be more mature), but a meeting with them is more of an interrogation. There is a barrage of questions — you barely finish answering one and the second "why" comes up, and then the third "how come". At such times walking 10,000 steps seem less tiring (for regular people)

The most popular book when I was growing up was "Tell me why?" It felt great to read the intelligent questions and even better answers, so much so that one felt smarter after reading just one page of the book. That was childhood, when one is learning and curiosity is the fire that keeps the flame of learning alive.

I think the habit of asking questions doesn't get left behind with childhood for many people. They are much older (and supposed to be more mature), but a meeting with them is more of an interrogation. There is a barrage of questions — you barely finish answering one and the second "why" comes up, and then the third "how come". At such times walking 10,000 steps seem less tiring (for regular people).

I wonder if people realise how nosy and intrusive they are being. Are they ignorant/oblivious to this annoying fact or do they actually realise this but still enjoy doing so? I am not much of an asker. I want to know about your general wellbeing, and that is good enough for me. But that does not mean others won't ask me questions. It's like expecting the tiger not to eat me, because I'm vegetarian.

The point of asking a question is to gain knowledge — that is what we remember from our school days. Not to pry into the lives of others. Coming from a legal background, I respect privacy and confidentiality. If the other person/client wants to confide in me, that's fine. I would restrict the questions to what is needed for the purpose of the matter, not one extra. I am not his mother, wife or best friend (these 3 categories particularly feel they have free access to your life and its mysteries).

I feel even asking a question is an art, if you don't have it, please acquire it as a skill. If you are an examiner, you are completely within your right to ask all questions that you want. But the people one meets or talks to are not examiners. If you are making polite conversation, please keep it polite and not intrusive. If I feel very close to you, I will anyway share and the need for questions won't arise.

And if you are simply bored, play Ludo online instead. No stress for anyone.

We all have heard of OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder), I think OQD (Obsessive Question Disorder) belongs to the same family.

Unlike hypertension and diabetes, that can be measured and treated, these are more tricky. Very few would like to admit they have these disorders in the first place (although it may be quite obvious for the others).

But the good news is that we can do a lot about it ourselves. We can remind ourselves that we are having a conversation and not an interrogation. If the other person feels even a little uncomfortable, we should change the topic and drop the questions. If we are the one being questioned, I have used some of these tricks/techniques that have helped. A bit of humour always helps, like when I was asked a personal question "what's your salary", I replied "not good enough" or "overworked and underpaid". The other person got the hint and backed off. Or even deflect the question, with "aren't you in a curious mood today". That also conveys the message of stop prying.

When subtle hints don't work, just excuse yourself to use the restroom.

But what works incredibly well is a smile accompanying "I'm fine, all is good". The questions about health, wealth, job, children, household and travel seem to hit a speed breaker when you say I'm good. The questions about all the ifs and buts suddenly seem irrelevant then.

It is a great misconception that asking a million questions to the people we love, is the way to feel close to them. Our relationships are not dependent on knowing every detail of the other person's life. A definition of happiness is also finding peace. Shouldn't we give that to the people we are closest to?

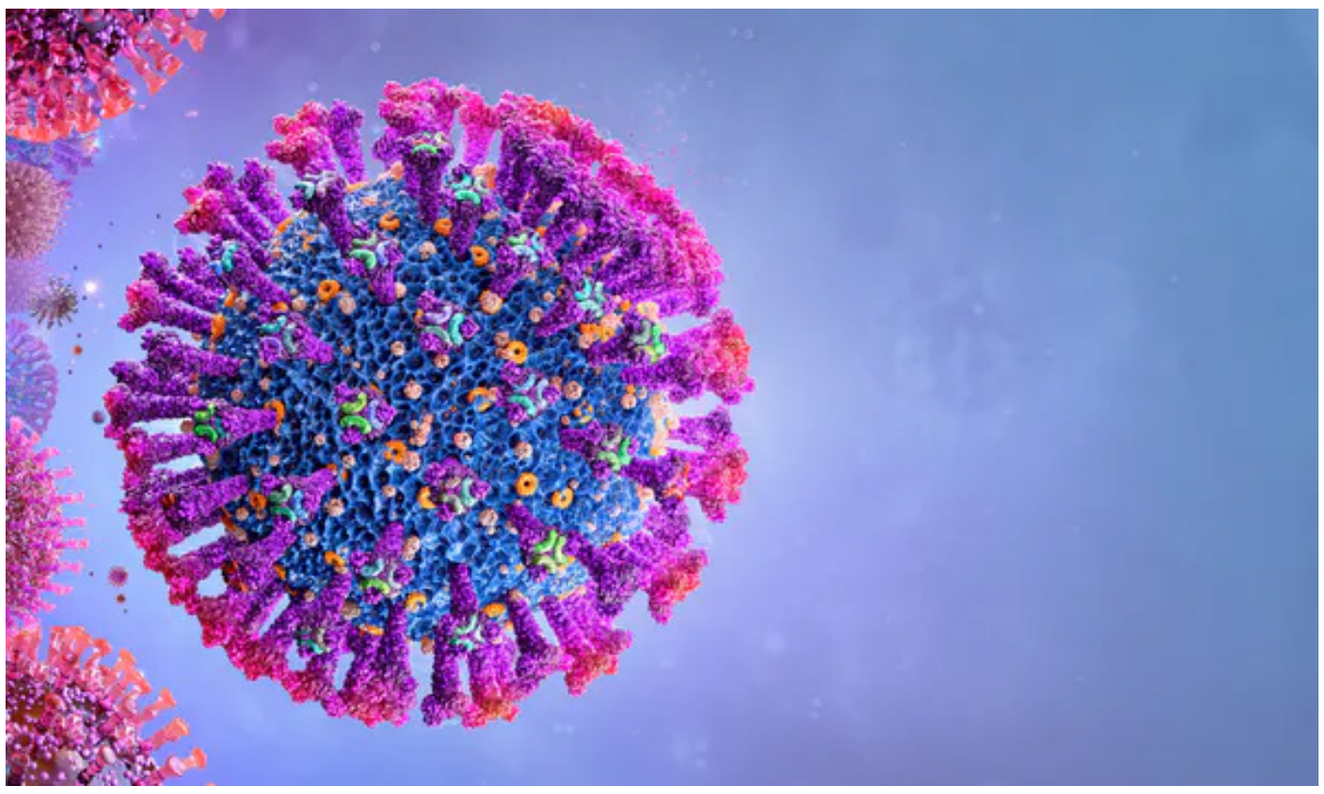
I often end a prying conversation with — let's leave that for our next one on one (with a fervent wish that half the questions would be forgotten by then).

Shilpa Bhasin Mehra is a legal consultant based in Dubai and the founder of Legal Connect.

Khaleej Times

How Will Delta Evolve? Here's What The Theory Tells Us

Hamish McCallum



The COVID-19 pandemic is a dramatic demonstration of evolution in action. Evolutionary theory explains much of what has already happened, predicts what will happen in the future and suggests which management strategies are likely to be the most effective.

For instance, evolution explains why the Delta variant spreads faster than the original Wuhan strain. It explains what we might see with future variants. And it suggests how we might step up public health measures to respond.

But Delta is not the end of the story for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Here's what evolutionary theory tells us happens next.

Remind me again, how do viruses evolve?

Evolution is a result of random mutations (or errors) in the viral genome when it replicates. A few of these random mutations will be good for the virus, conferring some advantage. Copies of these advantageous genes are more likely to survive into the next generation, via the process of natural selection.

New viral strains can also develop via recombination, when viruses acquire genes from other viruses or even from their hosts.

Generally speaking, we can expect evolution to favour virus strains that result in a steeper epidemic curve, producing more cases more quickly, leading to two predictions.

First, the virus should become more transmissible. One infected person will be likely to infect more people; future versions of the virus will have a higher reproductive or R number.

Second, we can also expect evolution will shorten the time it takes between someone becoming infected and infecting others (a shorter "serial interval").

Both these predicted changes are clearly good news for the virus, but not for its host.

Aha, so that explains Delta

This theory explains why Delta is now sweeping the world and replacing the original Wuhan strain.

The original Wuhan strain had an R value of 2-3 but Delta's R value is about 5-6 (some researchers say this figure is even higher). So someone infected with Delta is likely to infect at least twice as many people as the original Wuhan strain.

There's also evidence Delta has a much shorter serial interval compared with the original Wuhan strain.

This may be related to a higher viral load (more copies of the virus) in someone infected with Delta compared with earlier strains. This may allow Delta to transmit sooner after infection.

A higher viral load may also make Delta transmit more easily in the open air and after "fleeting contact".

Do vaccines affect how the virus evolves?

We know COVID-19 vaccines designed to protect against the original Wuhan strain work against Delta but are less effective. Evolutionary theory predicts this; viral variants that can evade vaccines have an evolutionary advantage.

So we can expect an arms race between vaccine developers and the virus, with vaccines trying to play catch up with viral evolution. This is why we're likely to see us having regular booster shots, designed to overcome these new variants, just like we see with flu booster shots.

COVID-19 vaccines reduce your chance of transmitting the virus to others, but they don't totally block transmission. And evolutionary theory gives us a cautionary tale.

There's a trade-off between transmissibility and how sick a person gets (virulence) with most disease-causing microorganisms. This is because you need a certain viral load to be able to transmit.

If vaccines are not 100% effective in blocking transmission, we can expect a shift in the trade-off towards higher virulence. In other words, a side-effect of the virus being able to transmit from vaccinated people is, over time, the theory predicts it will become more harmful to unvaccinated people.

How about future variants?

In the short term, it's highly likely evolution will continue to "fine tune" the virus:

its R value will continue to increase (more people will be infected in one generation)

the serial interval will decrease (people will become infectious sooner)

variants will make vaccines less effective (vaccine evasion).

But we don't know how far these changes might go and how fast this might happen.

Some scientists think the virus may already be approaching "peak fitness". Nevertheless, it may still have some tricks up its sleeve.

The UK government's Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies (SAGE) has recently explored scenarios for long-term evolution of the virus.

It says it is almost certain there will be "antigenic drift", accumulation of small mutations leading to the current vaccines becoming less effective, so boosters with modified vaccines will be essential.

It then says more dramatic changes in the virus ("antigenic shift"), which might occur through recombination with other human coronaviruses, is a "realistic possibility". This would require more substantial re-engineering of the vaccines.

SAGE also thinks there is a realistic possibility of a "reverse zoonosis", leading to a virus that may be more pathogenic (harmful) to humans or able to evade existing vaccines. This would be a scenario where SARS-CoV-2 infects animals, before crossing back into humans. We've already seen SARS-CoV-2 infect mink, felines and rodents.

Will the virus become more deadly?

Versions of the virus that make their host very sick (are highly virulent) are generally selected against. This is because people would be more likely to die or be isolated, lowering the chance of the virus transmitting to others.

SAGE thinks this process is unlikely to cause the virus to become less virulent in the short term, but this is a realistic possibility in the long-term. Yet SAGE says there is a realistic possibility more virulent strains might develop via recombination (which other coronaviruses are known to do).

So the answer to this critical question is we really don't know if the virus will become more deadly over time. But we can't expect the virus to magically become harmless.

Will humans evolve to catch up?

Sadly, the answer is "no". Humans do not reproduce fast enough, and accumulate enough favourable mutations quickly enough, for us to stay ahead of the virus.

The virus also does not kill most people it infects. And in countries with well-resourced health-care systems, it doesn't kill many people of reproductive age. So there's no "selection pressure" for humans to mutate favourably to stay ahead of the virus.

What about future pandemics?

Finally, evolutionary theory has a warning about future pandemics.

A gene mutation that allows a virus in an obscure and relatively rare species (such as a bat) to gain access to the most common and widely distributed species of large animal on the planet — humans — will be strongly selected for.

So we can expect future pandemics when animal viruses spill over into humans, just as they have done in the past.

By Arrangements With The Onversation

ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے

ہر خاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ مظہر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض سپر انٹنڈنگ انجینئر آر اینڈ بی سرکل اننت ناگ/ کولگام کھنہ بل کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشتہر

RNA

وسیم احمد شاہ ولد بشیر احمد شاہ ساکنہ لہند جن سلر

از نیابت لارنو باجلاس خواجہ غلام نبی لون نایب ایگزیکٹیو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول۔

درخواست منجانب: بشارت حسین گوجر بنیٹھ عبداللہ گوجر بنیٹھ ساکنہ رین آرتھر

بغرض حصول ST سرٹفکیٹ۔

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص وعام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے سکونت پذیر ہے اور اور سائل کے بو چال بلکل بکروال ہے اور سٹرٹفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کے خوہاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

۱۔ بشارت حسین گوجر بنیٹھ	36 سال	مزدوری	
۲۔روبینہ زوجہ بشارت حسین گوجر بنیٹھ	35 سال	گھریلو کام	
۳نسبسمہ جان دختر بشارت حسین گوجر بنیٹھ	11 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۴رزوآن احمد ولد بشارت احمد گوجر بنیٹھ	08 سال	زیر تعلیم	
۵،عصمہ دختر بشارت احمد گوجر بنیٹھ	06 سال	زیر تعلیم	

اسطرح سایل/سایلہ کا کنبہ 05 افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور حصول سرٹفکیٹ کا خواہاں ہے قبل از کارداری ہر خاص وعام کو بدریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو سرٹفکیٹ حذا اجرا کرنے کے نسبت کویی عتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتہر اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر آپنے عذر یا عتراض ودالت حذا کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔بعد گزرے میعاد کویی عذر یا عتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

از نیابت انت ناگ باجلاس جاوید احمد حکیم صاحب

درخواست منجانب :۔دیبا پرویز دختر پرویز احمد بٹ ساکنہ کامڑ تحصیل وضلع اننت ناگ

بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ اریا/ RBA سرٹفکیٹ۔

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص وعام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سایل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول بیک وارڈ اریا سرٹفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ سایل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام مع ولدیت	پیشہ	عمر	آمدنی
۱۔	پرویز احمد بٹ ولد غلام نبی بٹ	مزدوری	52 سال	=/5000
۲۔	مبینہ بانو زوجہ پرویز احمد بٹ	گھریلو کام	50 سال	
۳۔	سمیرہ پرویز دختر پرویز احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	25 سال	
۴۔	میمونہ پرویز دختر پرویز احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	23 سال	
۵۔	دیبا پرویز دختر پرویز احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	21 سال	
۶۔	دیا پرویز دختر پرویز احمد بٹ	زیر تعلیم	19 سال	

اس کے علاوہ اور کوئی افراد کنبہ میں موجود نہیں ہے اور کنبہ کی سلانہ آمدنی =/70,000 روپیہ تک ہے اب سرٹفکیٹ مزکورہ کی اجرائی میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو ایک ہفتے کے اندر اندر دفتر ہذا میں پیش کریں۔میعاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی عذر قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

نائب تحصیلدار۔ RNA

ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے

ہر خاص وعام کو مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ مظہر کوڈی کلاس ٹھیکہ داری کارڈ نکالنا مطلوب ہے۔اس بارے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دنوں کے اندر اندر اپنا اعتراض سپر انٹنڈنگ انجینئر آر اینڈ بی سرکل اننت ناگ/ کولگام کھنہ بل کے دفتر میں پیش کریں۔معیاد گذرنے کے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

المشتہر

غلام محمد لون ولد محمد اسماعیل لون ساکنہ لیسو برناڑ RNA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of D Class Contractor Card . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Herdeh Abura within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Farooq Ahamd Dar
S/O Abdul Aziz Dar
R/O Ban- Sharan Tehsil Karhama
Block: Herdeh Abura

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of D Class Contractor Card . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Herdeh Abura within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Showkat Ahamd Dar
S/o Abdul Khaliq Dar
R/o Ban-Sharan Tehsil Karhama
Block Kerdeh Abura

bmg

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have applied for the issuance of D Class Contractor Card . If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the Block Development Officer Herdeh Abura within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Mohammad Amin Wani
S/O Ghulam Nabi Wani
R/O Ban-Sharan , Tehsil Karhama
Block: Herdeh Abura

bmg

Office Of The Assistant Regional Transport Officer Anantnag

Whereas an joint application has been received by this office from Mr Gh Hassan Hakeem S/o Ab Rahman Hakeem R/o Kokernag Anantnag (Party no ist) as transferor (seller) owner of the vehicle TATA SOMU bearing registration No JK03A-6469 (commercial /non-commercial) covering under RP No:-166/MC/ANG. and Mushtaq Ahmad Mir S/o Ab Rahman Mir R/o Bon Dilagam Anantnag (Party No.2nd) as Transferee (Purchaser) requesting for transfer of R/C &R/P of the above noted vehicle from party No.1st to 2nd and cancellation of hire purchase agreement with J&K BANK LARKIPORA

Before the case is disposed off on its merits,anybody having any objection regarding the proposed transfer may file his objection within 7 days from the publication of this notice to the office of the undersigned .No any representation /objection shall be entertained after sitipulated period.

No: 101/8624/Mvd/Ang
Dated : 24-08-2021
RNA

Assistant regional transport officer anantnag

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

DIRECTORATE OF FLORICULTURE SRINAGAR KASHMIR

Tel-0 194-2474234 Fax -2482032 – email: - kasflori@rediffmail.com

GIST of e- TENDER NOTICE No: - 13 of 2021
D A T E D: - 20/08/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor UT of J&K, e-tender is invited from various Govt. Approved Registered Dealing Agencies/Suppliers for supply of Cow Dung Manure (Decomposed) for District Srinagar, Ganderbal and Budgam as per the details given in the BOQ: -

The NIT consisting of complete information, eligibility, criteria, specification Book of quantities (BOQ), set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from J&K State e-procurement Portal www.jktenders.gov.in/ www.dirflorikmr.in as per schedule of date given below:-

1.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	24/08/2021 from 11:00 AM to 13/09/2021 up to 02:00 PM
2.	Bid submission Start Date	24/08/2021 from 03:00 PM
3.	Bid submission End date	13/09/2021 up to 02:00 PM
4.	Date and time of Opening of Tenders	16/09/2021 at 02:00 PM

In case of any eventuality, the tender opening date will be considered the next working date.

Sd/-
Accounts Officer ,
(Member Secretary)

DIPK-7240/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) LANDSCAPE DIVISION KMR

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (for Road work/bridges/Buildings)

TWO COVER SYSTEM (above Rs. 2.50 crores)
NIT No.37/e-tendering /LSD/2021-22/DATED: -23-08-2021.
(Double Cover System)

For and on behalf of the President of India, e-tenders are invited on item rate basis/%age basis (as the case may be) from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works: -

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest Money/ Bid Security (Amt in Rs.)/Bid Security Declaration	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of tender (Technical Bid)	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Face lifting by way of Painting (Anti-Carbonated Paint) on concrete work underneath deck slab/piers of Jhangir Chowk Rambagh Flyover, Jehangir Chowk Flyover (old), Hyderpora Flyover, and TRC Grade separator.	316.25	5500/-	Bid Security Declaration	(02 Calendar Months)	31-08-2021	"AAY/ MSME"

Major Head of Account = SSCL
Position of AAA = Accorded

1.	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	23-08-2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 23-08-2021 01:00 P.M
3	Bid submission Start Date	23-08-2021 from 01:00 P.M
4	Bid Submission End Date	30-08-2021-2021 up to 6.00 P.M
5	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	31-08-2021 at 11:00 AM in the Office of Superintending Engineer (SE, CRP) PWD(R&B) Kashmir Srinagar
6	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed

Position of funds = Committed

Special Conditions: -

A. The Successful Bidder is bound to take up the work in multiple Shifts.
B. The work on all Sites (Flyovers) should start simultaneously.
C. The Uploaded documents should be Correction Free.
D. The Successful Bidder has to bear 3% Consultancy Charges.
E. Upgraded Registration Card Shall have previous Registration Card details reflected on new Card.
1. The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website www.jktenders.gov.in as per below schedule:
1.1 Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document (as mentioned above) in shape of Treasury Receipt/e-Challan/Demand Draft in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Landscape Kashmir. (The bidder who Chooses the option of Demand Draft Shall Submit the Hard Copy through registered post/Courier, to the office of Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Landscape Division Kashmir, Engineering Complex Silk Factory Road Rajbagh Srinagar within 5Days after bid opening date (latest by 05-09-2021)
(The Date of Treasury Challan, earnest money/Bid security must be between the date of start of bid and Bid Submission End date).
1.2 All 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 format given in SBD). Non submission of bid security declaration shall render the bidder as non-responsive.
2. The 1st lowest bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG in favour of Chief Accounts Officer PWD(R&B) Kashmir/ Superintending Engineer PW(R&B) circular Road Projects / Executive Engineer PW(R&B) Division Landscape Kashmir (as the case may be) within 21 days after the date of receipt of letter of acceptance and shall be released after successful completion of DLP. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond bid validity.
3. The bidder has to upload the extension of contract (if any), supported by the Supplementary agreement and revised approved extension items dully authenticated by the competent Authority.
3. Bidders can resubmit/withdraw the bids as specified.
4. The date and time of opening of Financial-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 Financial-bids of Responsive bidders shall be opened online in the Office of Chief Engineer (R&B) , Engineering Complex ._The date for same shall be intimated separately.
5. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of technical bids.
The earnest money shall be forfeited, If: -
The Hoarding indicating cost of the work/Program and year shall be erected at the work site without fail.
The Detailed work done estimate along with post execution photographic evidence shall be submitted for release of funds.
9. Design and Pattern: - Since it is a theme based Anti-Carbonated Painting the design, Theme and the pattern of painting will be provided by the Department in consultation with Chief Executive officer of Srinagar Smart City Ltd.

No: - LD/3235-45
Dated: 23/08_/2021

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Landscape Division Kashmir

DIPK-7187/21

Government of Jammu & Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (CIVIL)

Sher-i- Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Soura Srinagar.

Notice Inviting E- Tenders

NIT NO : SIMS/HEC/ET/26 of 2021-22 Dated: 20-08-2021.

For and on behalf of Lt. Governor U.T Jammu & Kashmir, E – tenders are invited from class of contract "CEE & DEE" of contractors registered with PWD/CPWD/MES/RAILWAYS.

S.No	Name of work	Adv. Cost	Cost of T/ Document	Earnest Money	Class of contractor	Time of completion
02.	Making of opening of backside of State Cancer Institute Building (Ground floor ramp side) carrying oxygen cylinders upto oxygen bank in basement of State Cancer Institute, Including protecting the ramp flooring and passage by way of chequered Iron plate at SKIMS.	Rs. 8,77,816/=	Rs. 500/=	Rs. 17,560/=	"CEE & BEE"	30 working days

1.	Major Head of Account	M&R-2210
2.	Position of AA	Accorded
3.	Technical Sanction	Accorded
4.	Position of funds	Committed
5.	Downloading/uploading of bidding documents	25-08-2021 to 06-09-2021 upto 3 PM
6.	Submission of hard copy end date	08-09-2021 to 09-09-2021 Upto 3PM
7.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)	13-09-2021 at 11.30 AM (in the office of Executive Engineer Civil SKIMS)
8.	Date & time of opening of Financial Bids (Online)	14-09-08-2021 at 11.30 AM (in the office of Executive Engineer Civil SKIMS)

Instruction to bidders regarding e-tendering process.
1. The bidding documents consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, and bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms & conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in.
2. Bids must be uploaded with scanned copy of cost/fee of tender document & earnest money (Bid Security) in the shape of DD & CDR/FDR respectively pledged to Director Finance, SKIMS Soura Srinagar.
3. Qualification criteria for the work and other terms & conditions are contained in the bidding documents, available on skims website

Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Civil)
Hospital Engineering Department
SKIMS, Soura

No: SIMS 139/ 94 /2021-22-1202-09-51
Dated: 20 -08-2021

DIPK-NB-2882/21

Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Office of the Executive Engineer, (Jal Shakti) PHE, Mechanical Rural Division, Sgr.

GIST of Fresh Short term e-Tender.

E-N.I.T. No:- PHE/MRD/TS/ 44 of 08/2021

For and on behalf of the Lieutenant Governor of Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Fresh Short term e-tenders are invited in two cover system from approved and eligible Contractors/workshop holders registered for similar nature of works with J&K Govt., Railway and other State/Central Government Organizations for the following work:-

Sr.	Nature of Work	Name of the Water Supply Scheme	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Cost of Tender Doc.	Time of Completion	Programme
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Various Electrical/Mechanical works to be carried out	Mehjoor Nagar Padshahi Bagh and Baginder Lasjan 1st	1.447	100/=	05 days	M&R

Critical Dates/Information.

1.	Publishing Date	24-08-2021 (5:00 PM)
2.	Period of Downloading of Bids	24-08-2021 (5:00 PM) to 30 -08-2021 (5.00 P.M)
3.	Period of Submission of bids	24-08-2021 (5:00 PM) to 30-08-2021 (5.00 P.M)
4.	Date of opening of Tender/Timing	01-09-2021 at (11:00 A.M)
5.	Tender Receiving Authority: Executive Engineer , (Jal Shakti) PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar	
6.	Document Cost : Non-Refundable in the shape of Treasury Challan/receipt shall be deposited to Account Head 0215 in favour of Executive Engineer (Jal Shakti) PHE Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar (The firm shall specify the e-NIT No. & name of work for which applied)	
7.	Bid Validity Period: 90 Days	
8.	The bids can be downloaded or uploaded on www. Jktenders.gov.in	
09	Instead of EMD the firm has to furnish "Bid Security Declaration", format of the declaration is mentioned in the Bid Document	

Note:- The tenderer who is declared as L1 after opening of price bid will deposit 3% of the Estimated cost of the work in shape shape of CDR/FDR before allotment is issued in his favour.

No: -PHE/MRD /TS/1273-78
DT: - 24-08-2021

Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti (PHE) Mechanical Rural Division Srinagar.

DIPK-7180/21

Global stocks mixed after Wall Street hits new high

Agencies

Beijing (AP): Global stocks were mixed Wednesday as investors looked ahead to a Federal Reserve gathering for an update on U.S. stimulus. London and Frankfurt advanced in early trading while Tokyo, Hong Kong and Paris declined.

Wall Street futures edged higher after the S&P 500 index set its second record in two weeks on Tuesday.

Investors are betting on an absence of aggressive taper signals when Fed officials speak Friday at their annual Jackson Hole meeting, Mizuho Bank's Venkateswaran Lavanya said in a report. Some Fed officials say the U.S. central bank needs to start winding down bond purchases and other stimulus as hiring and inflation rise. Others want to wait for stronger economic data that show a recovery is established. In early trading, the FTSE 100 in London rose 0.2per cent to 7,136.48 and the DAX in Frankfurt gained 0.3per cent to 15,905.85. The CAC 40 in Paris lost 0.3per cent to 6,664.31.

On Wall Street, futures for the S&P 500 and Dow Jones Industrial Average were up less than 0.1per cent. On Tuesday, the S&P 500 advanced to 4,486.23 for its second record high in two weeks. The Dow gained 0.1per cent while the Nasdaq composite climbed 0.5per cent to a record 15,019.80. In Asia, the Shanghai Composite Index rose 0.7per cent to 3,540.38 while the Nikkei 225 in Tokyo shed 0.1per cent to 25,693.95. The Hang Seng in Hong Kong declined 0.1per cent to 25,693.95.

The Kospi in Seoul rose 0.3per cent to 3,146.81 and Sydney's S&P-ASX 200 advanced 0.4per cent to 7,531.90.

India's Sensex added 0.2per cent to 56,043.03. New Zealand and Southeast Asian markets rose. On Wall Street, banks and a mix of retailers, travel companies and restaurant chains accounted for much of Tuesday's rise. They offset a slide in health care companies, household goods makers and technology stocks.

Investors bid up shares in homebuilders after the government reported sales of new U.S. homes rose modestly last month.

In energy markets, benchmark U.S. crude lost 48 cents USD67.06 per barrel in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose USD1.90 on Tuesday to USD67.54. Brent crude, used as the price basis for international oils, shed 47 cents to USD70.58. It rose USD2.30 the previous session to USD71.05.

The dollar advanced to 109.79 yen from Tuesday's 109.70 yen. The euro edged higher to USD1.1756 from USD1.1755.

Centre hikes sugar FRP to Rs 290/quintal; rules out raising sugar selling price

Agencies

New Delhi (PTI): The Centre on Wednesday hiked the minimum price that mills have to pay to sugarcane growers by Rs 5 per quintal to Rs 290 a quintal for 2021-22 marketing year, but ruled out any immediate increase in the selling price of sugar. The decision to increase the Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) of sugarcane for the 2021-22 marketing year (October-September) was taken in the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) held here. The government had fixed sugarcane FRP at Rs 285 per quintal for the current 2020-21 marketing year.

Briefing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal said the FRP has been increased to Rs 290 per quintal for a basic recovery rate of 10 per cent. He said a premium of Rs 2.90/quintal will be provided for each 0.1 per cent increase in recovery over and above 10 per cent.

There will be a reduction in FRP by Rs 2.90/quintal for every 0.1 per cent decrease in recovery.

To protect interest of farmers, Goyal said the government has decided that there would be no deduction where recovery is below 9.5 per cent.

"Such farmers will get Rs 275.50 per quintal for sugarcane in ensuing sugar season 2021-22 in place of Rs 270.75 per quintal in current sugar season 2020-21," the minister said.

The cost of production of sugarcane for the sugar season 2021-22 is Rs 155 per quintal. The FRP of Rs 290 per quintal at a recovery rate of 10 per cent is higher by 87 per cent over production cost, he said, adding that sugar cane farming is more remunerative than other crops.

The decision will benefit around 5 crore sugarcane farmers and their dependents, as well as about 5 lakh workers employed in sugar mills and related ancillary activities.

When asked if the government will increase the minimum selling price (MSP) of sugar as FRP has been raised, Goyal said: "Not necessarily".

He said the government is giving a lot of support to increase sugar exports and ethanol production. The Centre fixes sugar MSP, which is the floor price below which mills cannot sell the sweetener in the market. The current MSP is Rs 31 per kg.

SC allows Unitech Group sub-panel to negotiate claims with three ARCs

New Delh (PTI): The Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed the new board of management of Unitech Group to hold negotiations with three Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs), which are assigned around 8000 out of the 15,000 total flats for one time settlement of the mutually agreed dues.

A bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and M R Shah said that a sub-committee of four directors constituted by the new board of management will hold negotiations with Suraksha ARC, JM Financial ARC and Edelweiss ARC, about the outstanding dues and the settlement agreement and apprise it in four weeks.

The top court also permitted the sub-committee to hold negotiations with Noida and Greater Noida authorities, which has raised objections to the resolution plan presented by the new board, about the dues and the amount payable by the Unitech Group.

Rupee drops 5 paise to close at 74.24 on strong dollar

Mumbai (PTI): The rupee on Wednesday declined by 5 paise to close at 74.24 against the US currency due to a stronger dollar in the overseas markets.

Dollar demand from oil marketing companies and importers also weighed on the rupee, analysts said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic currency opened marginally down at 74.20 and later dropped to a low of 74.30 in the day trade. On Tuesday, the rupee had settled at 74.19 against the US dollar. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.04 per cent higher at 92.93.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, fell 0.15 per cent to USD 70.94 per barrel.

The rupee was dragged down by dollar demand from oil marketing companies and importers, Sriram Iyer, Senior Research Analyst at Reliance Securities, said.

The unit also weakened amid talks of speculative dollar demand from foreign banks on expectations that the Reserve Bank of India could continue to build up its forex reserves, he added.

Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities, said that the forex market is in overly thin market with low volume and volatility, which may remain till Monday.

On the domestic equity market front, the BSE Sensex ended 14.77 points or 0.03 per cent lower at 55,944.21, while the broader NSE Nifty advanced 10.05 points or 0.06 per cent to 16,634.65.

Meanwhile, foreign institutional investors were net sellers in the capital market on Tuesday as they offloaded shares worth Rs 1,644.91 crore, as per exchange data.

Govt mulls bringing amendments in Budget session for direct listing of securities abroad

Agencies

Mumbai (PTI): The government may introduce legislative amendments in the Budget session of Parliament to enable Indian companies to directly list certain prescribed classes of securities abroad, Revenue Secretary Tarun Bajaj said on Wednesday. Direct listing of securities overseas by Indian entities is allowed but there are certain issues which need to be sorted out for this to become a success, he said, without elaborating on the hurdles.

"The direct listing is under consideration of the government because to make it success there would be requirements of some amendments to legislations to ensure there is smooth trading of these securities outside the territory of India.

"We are in discussions with the players who are asking for this. Maybe in the Budget session we will see what we can do," Bajaj said.

The two-part Budget session of Parliament usually commences in the last week of January every year. Bajaj also said there is no mandatory requirement of listing of such securities at the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) at this point of time. However, he said, it will be looked at when the regulations are framed. Parliament in September 2020 passed the Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2020 that permitted direct overseas listing of Indian corporates, among other things.

Amendments were carried out in Section 23 of the Companies Act 2013 to include enabling provisions to allow direct listing of securities by Indian public companies in permissible foreign jurisdictions.

Listing of Indian companies in foreign stock exchanges is expected to increase the competitiveness of Indian companies in terms of access to capital, broader investor base and better valuations.

Markets end flat after scaling new peaks; finance, bank stocks slump

Agencies

Mumbai (PTI) The Sensex closed modestly lower while the Nifty inched up to a fresh closing high on Wednesday as bulls took a breather amid a subdued trend overseas. Banking and finance stocks succumbed to profit-booking after the sharp upmove in the past few sessions, while IT and FMCG counters bucked the trend.

After touching its all-time high of 56,198.13 in early trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex ended 14.77 points or 0.03 per cent lower at 55,944.21. The broader NSE Nifty, however, ended 10.05 points or 0.06 per cent higher at its new closing record of 16,634.65. It touched an all-time high of 16,712.45 during the day.

TCS was the top gainer on the Sensex chart, rising 1.31 per cent, followed by Infosys, Reliance Industries, Nestle India, ITC and HUL. On the other hand, Bajaj Finserv, Titan, Maruti, Bharti Airtel, Tata Steel, Axis Bank and UltraTech Cement were among the laggards, skidding as much as 3.51 per cent. The market breadth was negative, with 22 of the 30 Sensex constituents ending in the red, while the remaining eight mustered gains.

"Market opened positively but main indices closed on a flattish note due to muted performance by large caps. The broad market was more positive, as midcaps bounced after the correction mode during the month, which lifted the morale of investors.

"The global market traded positive on COVID vaccine approval and in anticipation of a dovish comment by the Fed chair in the upcoming meeting (Jackson Hole)," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. Domestic equities traded range-bound ahead of F&O expiry, said Binod Modi, Head - Strategy at Reliance Securities.

"However, smallcap stocks were in focus today with strong buying seen in a number of quality names. Additionally, investors continued to remain upbeat on IT stocks in the backdrop of sustained earnings visibility," he added.

Sector-wise, BSE oil and gas, power, energy, IT and industrials indices climbed up to 1.28 per cent, while consumer durables, telecom, realty, bankex, finance and healthcare closed lower.

Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices outperformed the benchmarks, spurting up to 0.68 per cent.

Maruti's RC Bhargava, TVS Venu call for 'concrete action' not 'lip Service to revive auto sector

New Delhi (PTI): Auto industry leaders, RC Bhargava of Maruti Suzuki India and Venu Srinivasan of TVS Motor, on Wednesday hit out at government officials for only paying lip service to the sector and not taking any "concrete action" to reverse the decline in growth over the past few years. Speaking at industry body SIAM's 61st Annual Convention, the veteran industry leaders wondered if contribution of the auto industry towards India's growth is being recognised and lamented that cars seem to be still considered as luxury, that only the rich could afford.

"We have been going through a situation where this industry has been declining over a long period of time," Bhargava, who is the Chairman of the country's largest carmaker Maruti Suzuki India, said.

Earlier in the day, highlighting the achievements of the auto industry Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant said, "It will be impossible for India to grow at high rates for a long period of time without the automobile sector being the key driver of India's growth."

"There have been a lot of statements made about the importance of the automobile industry but in terms of concrete actions, which would reverse the decline, I haven't seen any action on the ground," Bhargava said.

Bhargava further asserted, "I'm afraid words don't get us very much in the terms of extra sales but you need concrete action to make this happen."

High tax structures, additional costs in order to meet new emission norms and safety norms have led to increase in cost of automobiles, thereby making them unaffordable for consumers, he said.

"I don't think the car industry would revive either with ICEs (internal combustion engines) or with the CNG, biofuels and such things or EVs unless we address the question of affordability of cars for the customer," Bhargava asserted.

Cong govts did asset monetisations too, why didn't Rahul tear-off those proposals: FM

Mumbai (PTI): Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday launched a scathing attack on those criticising the Rs 6 lakh crore monetisation plan, wondering if Congress leader Rahul Gandhi even understands what such a move entails.

Speaking to reporters in the financial capital, Sitharaman alleged it is Congress that received kickbacks by selling resources such as land and mines.

She reminded that the governments headed by the Congress raised Rs 8,000 crore by monetising the Mumbai-Pune expressway, and in 2008, it was the UPA government that floated the request for proposal to lease out New Delhi Railway Station.

Recalling an incident where Gandhi tore off an ordinance he didn't agree with, Sitharaman questioned why he didn't tear off the RFP.

If he indeed is against monetisation, why was the RFP on the monetisation of NDLS torn to pieces by Rahul Gandhi? And if this is monetisation, did they sell off the New Delhi railway station? Is it owned by jijaji (brother in law) now? Does he understand what is monetisation?

Seeking to address concerns on cronyism and sell-offs of assets created over 70 years, Sitharaman reminded the Congress of the Commonwealth games.

Asks banks to work with state govts to push one district, one product' agenda

Mumbai (PTI) Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Wednesday said she has requested banks to work with all state governments to push the one district, one product' agenda. Banks have also been requested to have interaction with export promotion agencies, chambers of commerce and industry to understand and address the requirement of exporters on a timely manner, Sitharaman said while addressing media here on Wednesday. The Finance Minister, who is on a two-day visit to the financial capital, said between public sector banks, there should be some kind of a simple approach so that exporters are not made to run between one bank to another scouting for a better offer.

India Remains Firmly Committed To Move Forward With Goal Of Clean, Modern Mobility: PM Modi

New Delhi (PTI): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said holistic steps are being taken for the value chain associated with automobile manufacturing so that the industry becomes more productive and sustainable. In a message to the auto industry body Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) on its 61st Annual Convention, the Prime Minister also stated that India remained firmly committed to move forward with the goal of clean and modern mobility, while lauding the role of the industry in the country's progress.

"The role of the automobile industry in India's economy and progress has been remarkable. From contributing significantly towards manufacturing to furthering exports, from creating numerous employment opportunities to adding to the ease of living for people, the sector has been a partner in India's growth story," Modi wrote in his message which was read out by SIAM President Kenichi Ayukawa.

He further said, "Even during the nation's fight against COVID-19, the sensitive and active effort of the sector is deeply valued."

Stating that modernity in mobility brings about a positive impact in almost every industry and every sector of the country, Modi said, "The 21st century India remains firmly committed to move forward with the goal of clean and modern mobility. Holistic steps are being taken for the value chain associated with auto manufacturing so that the industry becomes more productive and sustainable."

He also reassured the auto industry that "all the stakeholders have an important role in our government's steadfast efforts to transform India into a global manufacturing hub".

Presence of manufacturing units of global automobile manufacturers in India is reflective of a thriving ecosystem, Modi added.

Reiterating that there are rapid changes taking place in technology, lifestyle and economy and old approaches and old practices have to be changed, he said "It is also crucial to protect our environment, resources and raw materials."

For this reason, Modi said, "India is not only emphasizing on exploring new possibilities but also encouraging a circular economy. Recently launched National Automobile Scrappage Policy exemplifies this vision."

The Prime Minister said as India celebrates the 75 years of Independence, the next 25 years are very important for the country.

"We have to work together for the next generation infrastructure, world class manufacturing and new age technology. India is committed to providing its citizens with global standards in terms of quality and safety," he asserted.

CBI files charge sheet against former Syndicate Bank AGM, others in Rs 209 crore cheating case

New Delhi (PTI): The CBI has filed a charge sheet against businessman Anoop Bartaria and former Syndicate Bank AGM Adarsh Manchanda along with 16 others for allegedly cheating the bank to the tune of Rs 209 crore, officials said.

In its charge sheet submitted in the Special Court in Jaipur, the probe agency has also charged Chartered Accountant (CA) Bharat Bomb in the matter, they said.

"It was alleged in the complaint that 118 loan accounts were sanctioned and disbursed by three branches of Syndicate Bank, namely, M I Road branch, Jaipur, Malviya Nagar branch, Jaipur, and Udaipur branch. The 118 loan accounts were housing loan accounts, term loan accounts for purchase of commercial property of World Trade Park (WTP), OD limits and Foreign Letter of Credits," CBI spokesperson R C Joshi said.

It was further alleged that Bomb had hatched a conspiracy with his employees and others, including the branch officials of Syndicate Bank, and got various credit facilities sanctioned.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) also said that the accused cheated the bank to the tune of Rs 209.93 crore by availing loans on the basis of forged and fabricated documents, bills, quotations, certificates, among others.

It was also alleged that several of the borrowers were found to be ordinary employees in firms owned by the CA and others and not eligible for such high value loans, Joshi said.

The CBI, during its probe found that as part of the conspiracy, Bomb, Bartaria and others allegedly approached officials of Syndicate Bank M I Road Branch for getting term loans for purchasing commercial properties situated at World Trade Park Ltd, Jaipur on the basis of forged Income Tax returns showing inflated income.

They also submitted forged quotations, invoices, purchase orders and work orders; forged CA certificates and audited financial statements, the CBI spokesperson said.

"It was also alleged that the then manager (Mahesh Gupta) Syndicate Bank, M I Road Branch recommended and the then AGM/Branch Head (Manchanda), Syndicate Bank, M I Road branch had sanctioned various credit facilities by violating the bank guidelines and without exercising due diligence," he said.

Poet Munnawar Rana's son held for faking attack on him to frame uncles: Police

LUCKNOW (UP)) Poet Munnawar Rana's son was arrested on Wednesday for allegedly faking an attack on himself to implicate his uncles in a false case.

The noted poet's son Tabrez Rana, who is embroiled with his uncles in a dispute over their ancestral properties, was arrested by the Raebareli police from Lalkuan locality in the Naka area here.

"Tabrez Rana has been arrested in Lucknow in the case lodged against him in Raebareli, a senior official said here.

Rana, who wanted to contest the state assembly elections from Tiloi, had staged the attack on himself to get security and media coverage, besides implicating his uncles, the official said.

He had lodged a complaint with the Raebareli police alleging that he was attacked by two bike-borne men at a petrol pump in the Hindola Ratapur area on June 28.

When a Special Operations Group of the Uttar Pradesh police probing the case scrutinized the CCTV footage of the area, several discrepancies were found in Rana's claims, police had said.

Tabrez was found alone in a vehicle at the time of the incident though he had claimed that there was another person with him, Raebareli SP Shlok Kumar had said.

During a deeper probe into the matter, it transpired that Rana had a dispute with his uncles over an ancestral property, which he had sold in February 2021.

Tabrez Rana, along with his two accomplices Haleem and Sultan Ali, faked the attack on himself, thinking that in case of the firing, he would file a case against his uncles, forcing them not to object to the sale of the property in which they had a share, the SP had said.

An FIR was lodged last Friday against Munawwar Rana also allegedly for hurting religious feelings by comparing Valmiki, who wrote Ramayana, with Taliban, police had said.

"The FIR has been registered against Munawwar Rana on the complaint of one P L Bharti, who has alleged that the poet hurt the religious feelings by comparing Valmiki with the Taliban," a senior official had said here.

The FIR was registered at Hazratganj police station under sections 153A (Promoting enmity between different groups on ground of religion, race, place of birth etc), 295 A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings of any class), 505(1)(B) (intent to cause, or which is likely to cause, fear or alarm among the public) and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

SC asks HC to expeditiously decide plea against appointment of Rakesh Asthana as Delhi Police chief

AGENCEIS

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Wednesday asked Delhi High Court to decide preferably within a period of two weeks the plea pending before it challenging the appointment of senior IPS officer Rakesh Asthana as Delhi Police Commissioner.

The 1984-batch IPS officer was shifted to the Union cadre from Gujarat cadre and appointed Commissioner on July 27 -- four days before his superannuation on July 31 -- for a tenure of one year.

A bench comprising Chief Justice N V Ramana and Justices D Y Chandrachud and Surya Kant permitted NGO, 'Centre for Public Interest Litigation' (CPIL), to move the Delhi High Court to intervene in the pending plea against Asthana's appointment.

The bench said in its order, "We request the High Court of Delhi to consider hearing the Writ Petition.., which is pending adjudication before it, as early as possible and preferably within a period of two weeks from today to enable us to have the benefit of the Judgment of the said Court.

"If the petitioner wants to file any intervention application in the matter pending before the High Court and/or to assist the said Court, it would be at liberty to do so .

The bench kept the PIL of the NGO pending before itself by adjourning the hearing for two weeks and said, The Registry is directed to list this matter after two weeks before an appropriate Bench.

A Delhi High Court bench headed by Chief Justice D N Patel is seized of a PIL filed by an advocate challenging Asthana's appointment as Delhi Police Commissioner and extension of his service by one year and had listed it for hearing on September 24 after it was told by lawyer Prashant Bhushan that the plea of CPIL was listed for hearing in the apex court.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, opposed the PIL saying the matter pertained to the appointment of police chief of a state and the high court concerned should deal with it. He said the high court may be granted some more time instead of two weeks as so far no notice has been issued to the Centre which will have to file its response.

The petition, moved by advocate Prashant Bhushan, urged the court to set aside the Centre's order to appoint Asthana after extending his service period.

At the outset, the CJI expressed his inability to hear the PIL saying, I had expressed my views during the selection of CBI Director .

The CJI in an earlier meeting of the high-powered selection panel, which also comprised the Prime Minister and the leader of opposition, had put forth the legal position which reportedly led to non-consideration of Asthana for being appointed as the CBI Director.

"There are two issues. One is about my participation... I had expressed views about the selection of this gentleman in the CBI Director selection. Second thing...as somebody has filed a petition in the High Court, rightly or wrongly. We understand that time is of the essence of the matter.

"So, we will fix a time limit of two weeks for the high court to decide the case and we will have the benefit of the high court judgment also, CJI Ramana said.

Bhushan alleged foul play saying sometimes ambush petitions by simply resorting to cut-paste are filed in collusion with the government.

The bench gave Bhushan the liberty to intervene in the pending petition or file a fresh one before the high court.

Mehta said a similar plea was pending in the high court and the NGO be asked to move there and sought to know which fundamental right of Bhushan has been violated leading him to file the petition in the apex court.

Bhushan retorted that on his petition the appointment of Central Vigilance Commissioner was annulled in past, and Asthana's appointment has been done by "egregious violations of rules" resulting into violation of fundamental rights of citizens.

The government has shown brazen violation of rule of law and gave extension of service by appointing Asthana few days before his retirement, he said.

The conditions have been laid down by the apex court in the Prakash Singh's case that recommendation has to come through the UPSC and the officer should have a minimum six months of service left at the time appointment, Bhushan said.

"So far as ambush petitions are concerned, less said is better. We have professional PIL litigants, who file surrogate pleas at behest of people who lost out in race," Mehta said towards the end of hearing.

The NGO urged the apex court to direct the central government to produce its July 27 order approving the inter-cadre deputation of Asthana from Gujarat cadre to AGMUT cadre.

It termed the extension of his tenure as well as appointment as illegal as he did not have a residual tenure of mandatory six months of service at the time of his appointment as Commissioner of Police since he was to retire within 4 days.

CONTD. FROM **FRONT PAGE**

CDS Flags Concern

terrorism in our country," Gen Rawat said.

"I think if any other support can be forthcoming from the Quad nations, in at least identifying the terrorists and getting some intelligence input to fight this global war on terrorism, I think that will be welcomed," he said.

The Quad comprises India, the US, Japan and Australia.

Gen Rawat said New Delhi was concerned about the possibility of militant activities from Afghanistan impacting India and contingency plans were put into place to deal with such a challenge.

"From India's perspective, we were anticipating a Taliban takeover of Afghanistan. We were concerned about how the terrorist activities from Afghanistan could overflow into India," he said.

"And to that extent, our contingency planning had been ongoing and we are prepared for it. Yes, the timelines certainly surprised us. We were anticipating this thing happening maybe a couple of months down the line," he added.

Gen Rawat said the Taliban has not changed in the last 20 years and only its partners have changed.

"It is pretty much the same; it is the same Taliban that was there 20 years ago. News reports and reports from the expats who have come from there are all telling us the kind of activities the Taliban is into. All that has happened is that the partners have now changed. It is the same Taliban with different partners," Gen Rawat observed.

His comments came in the backdrop of mounting concerns over the possibility of rise in activities of various militant groups including the Lashkar-e-Toiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed from Taliban-controlled Afghanistan.

Admiral Aquilino largely talked about challenges facing the Indo-Pacific, noting that it is the most consequential region for the future.

"The attack on the rules-based international order that allows freedom of navigation for all is certainly one of the most critical challenges," he said

"That freedom of navigation allows two-thirds of the world's economy to flow through the South China Sea. One-quarter of the world's liquid natural gas flows through the area. It is critical for the prosperity of all the nations and when it is challenged and potentially confronted, that will negatively impact all the nations in the region," Admiral Aquilino said.

He described the challenges as the "foundational security concern".

"There are many more. There is economic coercion, there is corruption. There are challenges that the Indians, specifically with regard to sovereignty on the Line of Actual Control... There are rules against the people of Hong Kong," he said.

LG Slams Pak

future-oriented where most of the ideas and ideals are taken from present circumstances. For the first time in history, we can proudly say that material wealth and mental wealth are developing exponentially and simultaneously," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG asked the faculty members to maintain a balance between the teaching and learning aspects to produce global talent to meet the demand of changing market dynamics.

"The educational institutions need to focus on re-skilling, up-skilling, and new-skilling to make the young generation future-ready," Sinha added.

Underscoring the reformative measures taken by the UT Government in preparing J&K's youth for Industry 4.0, the LG, as per the official spokesperson said that today, two Centres for Invention, Innovation, Incubation and Training, one each in Baramulla and Jammu are making our youth acquainted with the new technological framework of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence, besides accelerating the mission of Digital India.

"We are also channelizing the young energies through initiatives like youth clubs, and making them partners in the governance process," he said, adding "Taking higher education to the far-flung areas of the UT, Kashmir University has set up satellite campuses, and because of such efforts, it has been included in the top 50 universities of the country. The Skill Centre run by International Cooperation, Center of Excellence and Kashmir University is also facilitating the youth coming from small panchayats and towns,"

The LG, according to the official spokesperson also quoted Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam and asked the students to not believe in luck, but believe in hard work for a bright future.

"I hope Dr Kalam's words will guide you in your new journey. On August 15, the country celebrated its 75th Independence Day with great festivity. Now, the golden opportunity of the next 25 years is before you for the centenary celebrations of Independence and you must resolve to take the nation to a new height of development," the LG said.

Sharing his experiences as an IIT student in Banaras Hindu University, the LG, as per official spokesperson observed that today's generation has more resources, more access to information and tools.

"Although we are living in a world consistently shifting due to pandemic, it is also providing more challenges and opportunities for growth," he said.

On this occasion, the LG awarded gold medals to the students who excelled in academics. A total of 282 gold medals were awarded to girl students against 88 to boys during the convocation. The event was also attended by NC patron Dr. Farooq Abdullah and senior civil administration and police officials.

Sinha, who is also the Chancellor of the University, congratulated the Gold Medalists & those graduating from the University of Kashmir.

Our country has built a vibrant democracy, a modern economy, in which the most important change is to make women socially and economically strong. The academic achievement of our girls is testament to the positive transformation taking place in J&K for women empowerment, the LG said, while expressing happiness over the girl students achieving maximum gold medals.

He also congratulated the Vice Chancellor and all the faculty members for making constant efforts in bringing educational reforms, besides realizing the dream and vision of freedom fighters.

Earlier, the official spokesperson said, Prof. Talat Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, University of Kashmir delivered the welcome address and read out the university report.

BJP Govt Stifling

Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira (Gandhi) ji ... The secular India where there was brotherhood and communal harmony. All this is now being sought to be finished," Mehbooba said while talking to reporters after a party convention in Shopian district.

She said that Jammu and Kashmir would not have acceded to India if it was not a secular nation.

On the Centre's move to monetise assets, the former Jammu and Kashmir chief minister said the government is selling off all the assets created over past 70 years, mainly during the Congress' rule.

"What can you expect of this government which is selling off petrol pumps, highways, power projects? Whatever was made in past 70 years is being sold off," Mehbooba said.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday had unveiled an ambitious Rs 6 lakh crore National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) that included unlocking value by involving private companies across infrastructure sectors -- from passenger trains and railway stations to airports, roads and stadiums.

Targeting the central government, Mehbooba alleged that it is "stifling voices of dissent" and anyone who speaks against it is being arrested

Referring to the June meeting in Delhi between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and political parties from Jammu and Kashmir, the PDP chief said that she had told the prime minister during the meeting that suppression and harassment of people should end.

She accused the government of lying on arrest of political prisoners from Jammu and Kashmir.

"People are getting released after 12 years after being acquitted by courts. Just because they were under trial does not mean they were guilty. What was (BJP leader) Sadhvi Pragya Singh? She was an undertrial and yet she was made a member of parliament," Mehbooba said.

She claimed that over 1,000 people from Jammu and Kashmir are still lodged in various jails on the country.

J&K Sees 126

of pandemic last year in J&K to 324546.

Giving district-wise details, the officials said, Srinagar reported 51, Baramulla 11, Budgam 12, Pulwama 9, Kupwara 3, Anantnag 2, Bandipora 4, Ganderbal 6, Kulgam 1, Shopian 1, Jammu 5, Rajouri 3, Doda 5, Kathua 6, Poonch 4, Ramban, Kishtwar and Reasi 1 each new case of coronavirus. The twin districts of Udhampur and Samba in Jammu division reported no new case of Covid-19.

Also, the officials said, 103 more Covid-19 patients have recovered—24 from Jammu Division and 79 from the Valley.

The officials also said that fatality count remained at 4404 people—2163 in Jammu and 2241 in Kashmir, as no Covid-19 related fatality was reported from J&K during the last 24 hours.

Imran Ansari Tests

to micro-blogging website Twitter to announce that he has been infected by the virus "As I have tested positive for Covid 19 request all of you who came in contact with me for the past few days to kindly get tested and self isolate yourselves if symptomatic. Please take precautions and stay safe," Ansari said in a tweet.

Shia cleric Ansari has addressed a series of gatherings during the first ten days of the holy month of Muharram. He also addressed mourners in Magam, Ahmadpora, Shahtulpora and many parts of Srinagar. He was also seen leading an Ashura procession in Bota Kadal here on Thursday last.

Kashmiri Trucker

of the injured driver and the damaged truck and sought action against the goons from the Punjab government.

"Requesting Punjab CM @capt_amarinder @ CMOPb @RT_MediaAdvPBCM to intervene in this Matter and to take cognizance of such gory incident happened and end suffering like this with Kashmiri people in Punjab and requesting him to book all those who are involved in it," Khuehami said.

Khuehami told Kashmir Observer on Wednesday that all the accused have been traced out after intervention from Chief Minister's office.

"FIR is likely to be registered tomorrow after driver returns to Punjab" he said.

Earlier, Pathankot Police put out a Tweet announcing that cognisance of the matter has been taken.

"We have taken cognisance of the matter. Strict legal action will be ensured on the complaint of Mr Abid. We are committed to ensure the safety and security of all. Jai Hind !" the Tweet read.

180 Days Leave

also be granted, if applied for, leave of the kind due and admissible (including leave not due and commuted leave not exceeding 60 (Sixty) days without production of medical certificate) for a period up to one year reduced by the age of the adopted child on the date of valid adoption, without taking into account child adoption leave," the order reads further. However it is subject to the conditions that this facility shall not be admissible to an adoptive mother already having two surviving children at the time of adoption.

The maximum period of one year leave of the kind due and admissible including Leave not due and Commuted upto 60 days without production of Medical certificate will be reduced by the age of the child on the date of adoption without taking into account Child Adoption leave as in following illustrations: "-if the age of the adopted child is less than one month on the date of adoption, leave upto one year may be allowed."

If the age of child is six months and above but less than seven months, leave upto 6 months may be allowed.

Similarly, if the age of the child is 9 months and above but less than ten months, leave upto 3 months may be allowed and child adoption leave shall not be debited against the leave account.

Govt Cautions

strengthened, dangers of hacking cannot be over ruled," it adds.

As such, the circular asks all e-office users therefore to remain extra cautious and vigilant in respect of potential online invasions and hacking attempts.

Accordingly, the government enjoined upon all e-office users to be mindful of online invasions and interventions like hacking of e-office.

"Any unusual file movement/approval shall be reported urgently to the authorities," the government said, adding, "Further, the veracity/authenticity of any such order/direction shall be established before any action for compliance is taken," the circular adds.

Shooting Stone

resident of Dhanore Jarallan in Rajouri district was cutting wood on Wednesday afternoon when a shooting stone hit him at Dhoke in Peer Panchal area, they said. Hussein sustained serious injuries in the incident and was rushed to the sub-district hospital Surankote in an unconscious condition. However, the doctors there declared him dead on arrival.

The slain BSF man was posted with BSF 92 battalion and was currently on leave.

Conservation Architect

gave a detailed briefing to the Lt Governor on the works being undertaken by the team for preservation and restoration of Shalimar and Nishat Gardens, an official spokesperson said.

"The Lt Governor impressed upon the Conservation Architect to conduct the work of conservation, restoration, and preservation meticulously for restoring the original beauty and grandeur of the famous heritage gardens," he said.

Pertinently, J&K Government has inked an MoU with JSW Foundation for restoration & conservation of Shalimar & Nishat Gardens to restore the glory of UT's heritage places.

Sultan Takes Oath

legislative assembly on August 17. He was nominated for the top post by Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) which won the election held on July 25.

He had secured 34 votes against his rival joint opposition candidate Mian Abdul Waheed, who got 16 votes.

He succeeded Sardar Masood Khan whose tenure ended on August 24.

Mahmood also served as the prime minister of PoK between July 1996 July 2001. He is the PTI's regional president and was elected as a member of the legislative assembly from LA-3, Mirpur-III.

India has rejected the recent elections in PcK, saying the "cosmetic exercise was nothing but an attempt by Pakistan to "camouflage its illegal occupation" and that it has lodged a strong protest over the issue.

Reacting strongly on the elections in the PcK, Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said that Pakistan has "no locus standi on these Indian territories" and it must vacate all Indian areas under its illegal occupation.

Cop Dies Of Electric

district, Station House Officer (SHO) Thanamandi, Fareed Ahmad said.

Khan, who was posted at Police Station Thanamandi, was immediately rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment. However, the doctors there declared him dead, he said.

Meanwhile, a case has been registered in this regard and investigation taken up.

Head constable Mohd Arif Khan of Barhoon village, who was posted at Thanamandi Police Station, had gone out with his family members when the incident occurred, they said.

Soldier Dies During

with his fellow soldiers when he suddenly felt unconscious, reports said. He was taken to Army Hospital Base Camp Nilgrath, Sonamarg, where doctors declared him dead.

The slain soldier was a native of Jharkhand and was affiliated with 19 Infantry Division 15 Corps.

The cause of his death is being ascertained while police have started proceedings under CrPc 174. (KNT)

درخواست منجانب: محمد الطاف، لطیف احمد ، روبینہ اولاد ن محمد عبداللہ گوجر بنیٹھ ساکنہ رین آرتھر
بغرض حصول ST سرٹفکیٹ۔

اشتہار بمراد آگاہی ہر خاص وعام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں سائل نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹفکیٹ دفتر ہذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے سے عیاں ہے کہ سائل پچھلے پندرہ سالوں سے سکونت پذیر ہے اور اور سائل کے بوچال بلکل بکروال ہے اور سٹیفکیٹ حاصل کرنے کے خواہاں ہے کہ سائل کا کنبہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

۱۔ زلخیہ بیوہ عبداللہ گوجر بنیٹھ	60سال	گھریلو کام
۲۔لطیف احمد ولد عبداللہ گوجر بنیٹھ	23سال	مزدوری
۳نسمیہ اختر زوجہ لطیف احمد	23 سال	گھریلو کام
۴عدنان ولد لطیف احمد گوجر بنیٹھ	03 سال	کم سن
۵،انابیہ دختر لطیف احمد	01سال	کم سن
۶۔محمد الطاف گوجر بنیٹھ	27 سال	مزدوری
۷۔ روبینہ زوجہ محمد الطاف گوجر بنیٹھ	25سال	گھریلو کام
۸۔ عارفہ دختر عبداللہ گوجر بنیٹھ	22سال	گھریلو کام

اسطرح سایل/سایلہ کا کنبہ 08افراد پر مشتمل ہے اور حصول سرٹفکیٹ کا خواہاں ہے قبل ازکارداری ہر خاص وعام کو بدریعہ اشتہار مطلع کیا جاتا ہے کہ اگر کسی شخص کو سرٹفکیٹ حذا اجرا کرنے کے نسبت کوئی اعتراض ہو تو وہ بعد مشتہر اخبار سات دن کے اندر اندر آپنے عذر یا اعتراض ودالت ھذا کو دفتری اوقات کے دوران پیش کریں۔ بعد گزرے میعاد کوئی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

اطلاع عام۔

غلطی سے مجھے پاسپورٹ میں میرا نام Aamir Bashir Ganie اندراج ہوا ہے جب کہ میرا اصلی نام Aamir Bashir Ganai ہے اب اس کی درستی کرانی مطلوب ہے اس ضمن میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض ہو تو وہ سات دن کے اندر اندر پاسپورٹ آفس سرینگر میں پیش کرے میعاد گذرنے بعد کوئی بھی عذر یا اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

بذریعہ:

Aamir Bashir Ganai

S/o:- Bashir Ahmad Ganai

R/o:- Hassanpora Bijbehara Anantnag RNA

PUBLIC NOTICE

I Syed Iqbal Hussain F/O Syeda Mehnoor R/O Hassanabad Rainawari have to change the mother's name of my daughter in school records from Faheema To Syed Faheema .if anyone has objection, he/she can contact Mallinson Girls School within 7days from the date of publication of this notice . After that no objection shall be entertained.

Syed Iqbal Hussain
F/O Syeda Mehnoor Student Mallinson Girls School.

IT WAS INCREDIBLE TO SEE THE reception from the Spurs fans on Sunday and to read some of the messages of support I've had in the last few weeks,"

11th District Srinagar Taekwondo Championship 2021 Concludes

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The 11th District Srinagar Taekwando Championship concluded here at Doon International School, HMT.

The championship witnessed a massive participation from more than 6 districts with 250 participants over the course of two days.

The closing ceremony of the event was presided over by Shahid Iqbal Choudhary (IAS, Secretary TAD & CEO, J&K MYMDSD, J&K-UT) as Chief Guest. Rouf Ahmad Bhat (President, J&KCSNGEU), Adv Neelofar Masood (President, BTA), Abid Khan (Under Sec. to Government) presided over as Guest of Honours.

Later the ceremonial stage was joined by Maqsood Rather (Gen.Sec WAS), Aijaz Hassan (International Wushu Medalist) as special guests.

D.N Pangotra (President, JKTA) congratulated Nissar Hussain (VP, JKTA K) and the Organising Committee/ Management of Doon International School, Srinagar for organising the event.

Students of Khelo India Academy for Taekwondo in Kashmir bagged 19 medals in total with 12 Gold, 3 Silver and 4 Bronze medals.

Salman Bashir, Muslim Khan, Azmat Khan, Asma Wani, Ahsan Yousuf, Malika Saleem, Mohd. Roman, Faheem Mir, Amreen, Basit Farooq, Zubana Bhat, Aiza Sadiq bagged the Gold medals and Hadeeeqah, Hashim Majeed and Shah Faiq came with Silver medals where as in Ubaid Irshad, Hamid Qazi, Zain Nazir Sadat bagged the Bronze medals.

The event concluded on August 24, 2021.

DFA Srinagar Annual Football League 2021 Begins

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The DFA Srinagar Annual League Football Tournament 2021 kick started on Wednseday at Synthetic Turf TRC Srinagar.

The first match of the tournament was played between IFC Nowgam and Qamarwari FC. Both the teams played quality football and missed some good chances. In the 20th minute of the first half, Aqib of Qamarwari FC scored a magnificent goal which took every body by surprise. At half time Qamarawari FC was leading by one goal.

In the 58th minute of the game IFC Nowgam equalized via a goal by Adil Ahmad. Both the clubs tried hard to take the lead but failed to find the net.

The solid defences of both clubs denied their opponents any goal scoring opportunity and the match ended as 1-1 draw.

The second match was played between FC Views and Shahr-e-Khas FC. The match started with both the teams exhibiting aggressive Football. Adil scored the first goal in 10th minute for FC views. In 22nd Minute Moiz doubled the lead and the Club maintained the 2-nil goal lead till the end of first half.

In the 2nd half, FC Views consolidated their lead by scoring a third goal through Adil in 50th minute, adding the 4th scored by Moiz in 64th minute. The match ended with 4:0 in favour of FC Views.

The Tournament is organized by J&K Football Association in collaboration with J&K Sports Council.

JKFA Futsal Championship 2021 Semifinalists Announced

The Jammu & Kashmir Football Association on Wednesday revealed the teams and schedule for the JKFA Futsal Championship finals.

In the semifinal rounds, Hyderya Sports FC will lock horns with Real Kashmir FC on August 29 at 8:30 am. While in the other semifinal, Downtown Heroes FC will take on Syed Tajudin FC on the same day at 9:30 am. The Futsal Championship is being held at the Gindun Ground in Rajbagh.

India Lead World Test Championship Table With 14 Points

Press Trust of India

DUBAI: The Indian cricket team took the top spot in the latest World Test Championship standings with 14 points after its massive 151-run victory over England in the second game of an ongoing five-match series.

The rain-forced draw in the opening Test gave India four points and the outright win at Lord's 12 points. However, the team has 14 points in total, instead of 16, as it was docked two points for slow overrate.

According to the WTC rules, teams cop a one-point penalty for each over short. Each match-win is worth 12 points, while a tie gives teams six points. Four points are awarded for a drawn result.

India are followed by Pakistan (12 points), who beat West Indies by 109 runs to level the series.

The Caribbean side also has 12 points as it had won the opening match of the series and is placed third in the table.

England are placed fourth with two points. They also lost two points, earned from the drawn opening match in Nottingham, because of their slow overrate.

The third Test of the five-match series between India and England is beginning Wednesday at Headingley in Leeds.

The current WTC cycle will run till 2023. New Zealand became the inaugural champions in June after defeating India in the finals.

Pakistan Beat West Indies By 109 In 2nd Test, Level Series 1-1

Agencies

KINGSTON: Shaheen Afridi completed match figures of 10-94 as Pakistan endured a tense rain break before beating the West Indies by 109 runs on the final day of the second test to level the two-match series 1-1.

Left-armer Shaheen took 4-43 to help Pakistan bowl out the West Indies for 219 in its second innings as it chased 329 to win. He claimed the last wicket of the match, sealing Pakistan's victory when he dismissed Joshua Da Silva after tea on the fifth day.

That gave the 21-year-old fast bowler, who took a career-best 6-51 in the first innings, a total of 18 wickets in the series at an average of 11.28.

"It's such a great day for us. It's a team effort," Shaheen said.

"The team needed me to step up and it was good for me that I delivered this time.

"It was tough," he continued.

"We got to the last day and the weather is really hot. As a team we knew they were one wicket down (at the start of the day) and the second wicket came straight away. As a team, we knew that if we gave a 100 per cent effort we could win. We delivered as a bowling unit and the result came our way."

After losing four wickets in the first session, the West Indies had all but given up the chase for 329 and set itself the equally difficult task of batting through the long fifth day when a drizzle began to fall near tea.

They were 159-7 at that point and, with more than 40 overs left in the day, rain and the possibility of bad light later were their best allies. But the break proved relatively brief: tea was taken early, the covers were dried and gingerly lifted, and the outfield was made fit for play to resume. Pakistan returned eagerly, refreshed by tea, to complete its series-squaring victory.

Shaheen claimed two of the three wickets Pakistan needed in the final session to level the series after the West Indies won the tense first test by one wicket.

The West Indies again were plagued by inconsistency. Their first test win was a breakthrough for a relatively young lineup but their chances of winning the series slumped when they were bowled out for only 150 in the first innings of the second test, replying to Pakistan's 302-9 declared.

The fault lay mostly with their batsmen, who surpassed 200 in only two of four innings in the series.

"Obviously in this game the first innings total let us down," captain Kraigg Brathwaite said.

"We were behind the eight ball from then on.

"Confidence is what we need," he continued.

"I just think it is a mindset. Test cricket is never easy, it's just a mindset, and the sooner we get to that the better. Being able to get through tough periods is key for us."

The West Indies already were in a tough spot when they resumed Tuesday at 49-1, having lost opener Kieran Powell to a careless run-out in the 19 overs before stumps on day four.

Shaheen began by removing the nightwatchman, Alzarri Joseph, for 17. Hasan Ali then quickly added the wickets of Nkrumah Bonner (2) and Roston Chase (0) to leave the West Indies on the back foot at 73-4. They were 113-5 at lunch after losing the vital wicket of Jermaine Blackwood for 25.

Kyle Mayers, out of form and dismissed for a first ball duck in the first innings, showed character as he made 32 and attempted to rally the middle order. Brathwaite also played a determined role, batting 250 minutes for 39.

But both fell before tea, which was taken early because of the rain. The whole second day of the match had been washed out but this time the showers were only fleeting and Saheen wrapped up the tail to secure an important win at the start of a new World Test Championship.

I JUST THINK IT IS A MINDSET. Test cricket is never easy, it's just a mindset, and the sooner we get to that the better. Being able to get through tough periods is key for us."

Third Test: India Bundled Out For 78 On Day 1

Press Trust of India

LEEDS: India were dismissed for a paltry 78 on the opening day of the third cricket Test against England here on Wednesday.

Veteran pacer James Anderson (3/6) and Craig Overton (3/14) claimed three wickets each, while Ollie Robinson (2/16) and Sam Curran (2/21) took two each as the England bowlers wreaked havoc on the visitors.

Indian skipper Virat Kohli won the toss and elected to bat first but the batting unit cut a sorry figure with opener Rohit Sharma (19) and Ajinkya Rahane (18) being the only batsmen to reach double digit scores.

At lunch, India were struggling at 56 for four.

India had taken a 1-0 lead in the five-match series after winning the second Test by 151 runs at Lord's.

Brief Scores:

India 1st innings: 78 allout in 40.4 overs (Rohit Sharma 19, Ajinkya Rahane 18; James Anderson 3/6, Craig Overton 3/14).

5576 Teams Registered, 78064 Players To Participate In YSS Cup

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Director Youth Services & Sports J&K, Gazanfar Ali on Wednesday chaired the maiden meeting of District Youth Services & Sports (DYSS) Officers of Kashmir division at Youth Hostel here.

In a press release, the Department said that the basic agenda of the meeting was to take account of the activities being conducted by the DYSS in all 20 districts of the UT of J&K.

"The meeting was told that the calendar under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahatsav' was followed in letter and spirit across J&K by the Department. Director YS&S also enquired about the progress and pace of registering teams for YSS Cup at Panchayat Level," the release said.

"He passed on strict instructions to all the District Youth Services & Sports Officers to get the teams in 4 games viz Cricket, Volleyball, Kabaddi and Kho Kho registered before August 31 as the tourney has been proposed to begin in the first week of September."

"The chair was appraised that 5576 teams stand registered for the YSS Cup which include 78064 participating players so far," the press release added.

"Augmentation of Sports Infrastructure scheme was also discussed threadbare and DYSSOs provided details about the status of completed works and on-going projects. Many other issues pertaining to the smooth functioning of the Department were also discussed in the day-long meeting.

"Director Youth Services & Sports in his closing remarks stressed upon the officers and officials of the Department to follow calendar of activities while obeying all COVID-19 related SOPs. He directed DYSSO to prioritize the work of publicity in their respective districts."

The DYSS Director also directed the Department's district officers to nominate one official for proper and better coordination with the Media and Publicity wing of the DYSS for submitting event details and photographs on daily basis.

He also directed the DYSS officers to keep a close vigil of the developmental works pertaining to the sports infrastructure, play fields, courts etc.

Joint Director (Kashmir) Bashir Ahmed, Deputy Director Jatinder Mishra, Deputy Director Planning Ravi Kumar, Accounts Officer Mohammad Hussain, Principal Physical Education College Ganderbal Dr. Hartej Singh, SO Establishment Haji Aijaz Ahmed and other senior officers and officials of the Department were also present in the meeting.

Indian & England Players Exchanged Verbal Volleys At Lord's Long Room: Report

Press Trust of India

LONDON: India and England cricketers had a hostile exchange of words in the Lord's Long Room following on-field arguments on the third day of the second Test which the visitors won by 151 runs, a media report has claimed.

India had won in dramatic fashion, bowling out the hosts inside two sessions on the final day.

"The players were pictured arguing as they left the playing field but the rows carried on in the Long Room, which was packed with India officials, support staff and squad players, who gave their team a rousing reception as they walked inside," the 'Daily Telegraph' reported.

"Joe Root, who had just scored a brilliant unbeaten 180, and Virat Kohli are believed to have exchanged words on their way to the dressing rooms as the situation threatened to escalate before tempers cooled."

Lord's Long Room is usually packed with MCC members and the two teams go their separate ways through different staircases to their dressing rooms.

But due to COVID-19 restrictions last week, the Long Room was closed to members as was the players' dining room.

"It allowed the two sides to mingle more freely at the end of a day, making confrontation more likely in the event of a heated passage of play," the report added.

The third day witnessed India pacer Jasprit Bumrah unleashing a barrage of short-pitched delivers on England's number 11 batsman and premier fast bowler James Anderson.

India skipper Virat Kohli had on Tuesday said that his side was provoked by England but did not divulge the words that were spoken.

"I cannot give you the details of the words that were spoken, I think it's for the cameras and the stump mics to pick that up for both teams. What is said on the field and what's done in the moment, gives you extra motivation."

Premier League Defies FIFA, Blocks Players For World Cup Qualifiers

Agencies

GENEVA: The decision of the Premier League clubs was clear: No players will be released to play for countries on England's "red list."

The announcement on Tuesday by the world's richest league highlighted the escalating backlash FIFA is facing across soccer over its decision to overlook coronavirus-related quarantine requirements and concerns of clubs and leagues to squeeze in more World Cup qualifiers in the coming weeks.

The Spanish league also said it would support any of its clubs that did not want to release players for international duty with South American teams.

Unlike for other international fixtures during the pandemic, FIFA is no longer allowing exemptions for players to opt out of the trips if they are forced to quarantine on their return to countries to resume club duties.

Clubs face FIFA sanctions if they refuse to release players but Liverpool has already told Egypt that Mohamed Salah won't be released for next week's games because he would face a mandatory 10-day hotel quarantine on returning to England.

Premier League clubs also backed Liverpool's position, forming a unified front Tuesday to "reluctantly but unanimously" block almost 60 players from 19 clubs going to 26 countries on England's red list that features all 10 South American countries.

Brazil will be particularly impacted without goalkeepers Alisson (Liverpool), Ederson (Manchester City), captain Thiago Silva (Chelsea), midfielders Fred (Manchester United), Fabinho (Liverpool), and forwards Roberto Firmino (Liverpool), Gabriel Jesus (Manchester City) and Richarlison (Everton).

"Clubs have reluctantly but rightly come to the conclusion that it would be entirely unreasonable to release players under these new circumstances," Premier League chief executive Richard Masters said.

"Quarantine requirements mean that players' welfare and fitness will be significantly impacted. We understand the challenges that exist in the international match calendar and remain open to workable solutions."

The Spanish league hit out at FIFA's "unilateral decision" to grant two additional days for South American countries to play games in both September and October so three qualifiers can be played in each window, rather than the usual two. That means, regardless of any quarantine requirements on their return, players would likely not be rested enough to play for their clubs when leagues resume.

"La Liga considers that the international match calendar can not and should not be modified in this way, especially given that viable alternatives exist," said the Spanish league, which has already seen 25 players from 13 clubs named in squads by South American nations.

"LaLiga will take appropriate legal action as this change will affect the availability of players to play for their clubs, to the clear detriment of the competition's integrity."

CONMEBOL is trying to complete most of qualifying in time for the planned draw in April for the men's World Cup in Qatar next year and was granted approval for the triple-headers by the FIFA Bureau headed by Gianni Infantino earlier this month.

Concerns about FIFA's actions are being led by the European Club Association, which is headed by Paris Saint-Germain's Qatari president Nasser Al-Khelaifi.

'I Will Stay At Tottenham This Summer': Harry Kane Ends Manchester City Saga

Agencies

LONDON: Harry Kane publicly accepted on Wednesday that he won't be leaving Tottenham in the summer transfer window.

The striker had been hoping to secure a transfer away from the London club in the search of a first career trophy but a move to Premier League champion Manchester City was unable to be clinched.

The power was with the Tottenham leadership as the England captain remains under contract until 2024 and a valuation of more than $200 million for him had been reported.

"I will be staying at Tottenham this summer and will be 100% focused on helping the team achieve success," Kane posted on Twitter on Wednesday.

The need to reiterate he is staying — for now at least — reinforced how he sought a move which was first floated in an interview with former England player Gary Neville in May.

Kane, who was the top scorer in the Premier League last season as Tottenham finished seventh, made his first appearance of this campaign as a substitute on Sunday in the 1-0 win over Wolverhampton.

"It was incredible to see the reception from the Spurs fans on Sunday and to read some of the messages of support I've had in the last few weeks," Kane wrote.

Tottenham hasn't won a trophy since the 2008 League Cup and last won the title in 1961.

MiG 21 Aircraft Crashes In Barmer, Pilot Ejects

Agenceis

BARMER: A MiG-21 fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force crashed in Rajasthan's Barmer district on Wednesday evening but the pilot ejected safely, a defence spokesperson said.

"The aircraft was on a routine sortie when it crashed," the spokesperson said.

"At around 1730 hrs today, an IAF MiG-21 Bison aircraft airborne for a training sortie in the western sector, experienced a technical malfunction after take off. The pilot ejected safely. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the cause," the IAF tweeted.

The incident occurred near Bhurtiya village under Sadar police station area, Superintendent of Police, Barmer, Anand Sharma said.

"There is no civilian casualty due to the crash of the fighter plane. Policemen have reached the spot," he said.

The pilot had safely ejected, the spokesperson said. PTI

Pankaj Kumar Singh Appointed New BSF DG

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: Pankaj Kumar Singh, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service officer, was on Wednesday appointed as director general of the country's largest border guarding force BSF.

Singh is a Rajasthan cadre officer and is presently serving as the special director general (DG) of the force that guards over 6,300 km of the Indian fronts with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

He will take charge on August 31 after the retirement of IPS officer and ITBP DG S S Deswal, who is holding additional charge of the BSF DG after the tenure of Gujarat cadre officer Rakesh Asthana ended in July.

Singh's father and retired IPS officer Prakash Singh also headed the Border Security Force (BSF) as its DG in the past.

The BSF is about 2.65 lakh personnel in strength.

The government also appointed 1988-batch IPS officers Sanjay Arora (Tamil Nadu cadre) and Balaji Srivastav (AGMUT cadre) as the new heads of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD), a government think tank on police subjects. PTI

US Commander's India Meetings Feature China's Military Expansion

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: China's military build-up has been the largest since World War II and the real question is the intent behind the expansion as words of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) do not always match its deeds, Commander of the US Indo-Pacific Command Admiral John Aquilino said on Wednesday.

Admiral Aquilino, on a visit to India, held extensive talks with Chief of Defence Staff Gen Bipin Rawat, Chief of Army Staff Gen MM Naravane, Air Chief Marshal RKS Bhadauria, Navy Chief Admiral Karambir Singh, and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with a focus on further strengthening the bilateral defence partnership.

The Commander said the US's relationship with India is based on "aligned values" and presents an important model for building enduring partnerships.

"As we increase interoperability, information-sharing, and access with allies and partners across the globe, this partnership enhances our capabilities, improves our coordination, and shows that we are stronger when we stand together," he was quoted as saying in a statement issued by the Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM).

In an interactive session at the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Admiral Aquilino spoke about key challenges facing the Indo-Pacific and delved into China's rapid military build-up including in the maritime domain.

He also hinted at the possibility of increasing the number of participants at the Malabar naval exercise if leaders of the four countries that are part of it at present concur with it.

"I do not really look specifically at the nuclear threat. What I would look at is the entire Chinese way forward with regard to military expansion, the largest military build-up in the history since World War II (in) both conventional and nuclear, in all domains," he said in presence of Gen Rawat.

"I do not think I will try to explain what their intent is but trying to understand their intent is a little concerning. The articulation of defensive capabilities is what we continue to hear," he said.

Admiral Aquilino was asked about reports of China's rapid expansion of its nuclear stockpile.

"We also continue to see that the words from the PLA do not always match the deeds. So it is one of the reasons that we are concerned. That expansion, the real question is not why but what they intend to do with it and that remains to be seen," the Commander added.

He described the "attack" on the rules-based international order in the maritime domain as one of the "most critical challenges", in a clear reference to China's military aggressiveness in the Indo-Pacific.

To a question, he said coordination among Quad countries from a military perspective happens every day.

Admiral Aquilino's visit to India came nearly four months after he took charge of the oldest and largest combatant command of the US that is responsible for American military activities in the Indo-Pacific.

Without naming China, the Commander also talked about "economic coercion", corruption, actions against Taiwan, new rules that were foisted upon people of Hong Kong and the challenges that the Indians saw with regard to "sovereignty on the Line of Actual Control".

"The attack on the rules-based international order that allows freedom of navigation for all is certainly one of the most critical challenges. That freedom of navigation allows two-thirds of the world's economy to flow through the South China Sea," he said.

"One-quarter of the world's liquid natural gas flows through the area. It is critical for the prosperity of all the nations and when it is challenged and potentially confronted, that will negatively impact all the nations in the region. Those are the foundational security concerns that I see. There are many more," he added.

Aviation Employees To Be Tested For Drugs Such As Cannabis, Cocaine, Ecstasy: Draft DGCA Rules

Agencies

New Delhi: Aviation personnel, including flight crew members, air traffic controllers and aircraft maintenance engineers, will be tested by their employers for psychoactive substances such as cannabis, cocaine and ecstasy, according to the draft rules issued by aviation regulator DGCA on Wednesday.

"The worldwide spread of use of psychoactive substances, their general availability and the ever-increasing number of addicted users is a serious concern to aviation safety," the draft rules mentioned.

Airlines and air navigation service providers will have to carry out random drug-testing of at least five per cent of the flight crew members and air traffic controllers employed by them every year, stated the draft rules of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

The draft rules mentioned that commercial aircraft operators, maintenance and repair organisations, flying training organisations and air navigation service providers will also have to carry out drug tests before employing any person or admitting a trainee pilot.

These organisations will also have to test all those aviation personnel -- at the first available opportunity -- who have refused a drug test to a foreign regulator during flight operations to that country, the draft rules stated.

All aforementioned aviation workers will be tested for the following psychoactive substances -- amphetamine, methamphetamine, cannabis, cocaine, opioids, barbiturates, benzodiazepine and MDMA or ecstasy.

Whenever an aviation personnel is found positive in a drug test, the DGCA has to be informed within 24 hours.

Aviation sector companies should encourage their employees for self-declaration regarding use of psychoactive substance, the draft rules mentioned.

"Such employees shall be subjected to rehabilitation process by the organisation before return to active duty. Number of such cases shall be reported to DGCA on a six-month basis," the rules said.

In case the report of a drug test is positive, the employee will be immediately removed from duty till a confirmatory report is received, the draft rules mentioned.

If the confirmatory test -- which is being done for the first time -- is also positive, then the employee will be referred to a de-addiction centre by the organisation for a de-addiction and rehabilitation programme.

"Such an employee shall return to active duties after again having undergone the tests for the consumption of the psychoactive substance with a negative test report. In addition, clearance by treating psychiatrist and the certification by the medical in-charge of the organisation concerned shall be required," the rules stated.

If a personnel is found positive in a drug test for the second time during work, his or her licence will be suspended for three years and it will be cancelled if a personnel tests positive for a third time.

> **SUCH AN EMPLOYEE SHALL RETURN** to active duties after again having undergone the tests for the consumption of the psychoactive substance with a negative test report. In addition, clearance by treating psychiatrist and the certification by the medical in-charge of the organisation concerned shall be required."

CBI Charge Sheets Syndicate Bank Officials, 16 Others In ₹209 Crore Fraud

NEW DELHI: The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed a charge sheet against businessman Anoop Bartaria and former Syndicate Bank Assistant General Manager (AGM) Adarsh Manchanda along with 16 others for allegedly defrauding the bank of 209 crore, officials said.

In its charge sheet submitted before a Special Court in Jaipur, the probe agency has also charged Chartered Accountant (CA) Bharat Bomb in the matter, they said.

"It was alleged in the complaint that 118 loan accounts were sanctioned and disbursed by three branches of Syndicate Bank, namely, MI Road branch, Jaipur, Malviya Nagar Branch, Jaipur, and Udaipur branch. The 118 accounts were housing loan accounts, term loan accounts for the purchase of commercial property of World Trade Park (WTP), overdraft limits, and Foreign Letter of Credits," CBI spokesperson RC Joshi said.

It was further alleged that Bharat Bomb had conspired with his employees and others, including the branch officials of Syndicate Bank, and got various credit facilities sanctioned.

The CBI also said that the accused cheated the bank to the tune of 209.93 crore by availing loans on the basis of forged and fabricated documents, bills, quotations, certificates, among others.

It was also alleged that several of the borrowers were found to be ordinary employees in firms owned by the CA and others and not eligible for such high-value loans, Mr Joshi said.

The CBI, during its probe, found that as part of the conspiracy, Bharat Bomb, Anoop Bartaria and others allegedly approached officials of Syndicate Bank of Jaipur's MI Road Branch for getting term loans for purchasing commercial properties situated at the World Trade Park, Jaipur on the basis of forged Income Tax returns showing inflated income.

They also submitted forged quotations, invoices, purchase orders, and work orders; forged CA certificates, and audited financial statements, the CBI spokesperson said.

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"It was also alleged that the then manager (Mahesh Gupta) Syndicate Bank, MI Road Branch recommended and the then AGM/Branch Head (Manchanda), Syndicate Bank, MI Road branch had sanctioned various credit facilities by violating the bank guidelines and without exercising due diligence," he said.