

KASHMIR OBSERVER

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P6 THINK

JAMMU IS NOT DISILLUSIONED?

Jammu bandh on September 22 over the ending of Darbar Move and a range of other business-related issues signals that the resentments simmering over the last two years against several government measures are now finding a way to surface. The

P7 MARKET AND SOCIETY OF EDUCATION

There is a close relationship between research and development. The policies for development work are made on the basis of the results of the research departments. Therefore, research done in academic institutions is important from the point of view of overall development of the country. While



P11 SPORTS

I DIDN'T SUFFER HEART ATTACK: INZAMAM-UL-HAQ

Pakistan's former Test captain Inzamam-ul-Haq has denied reports that he suffered a heart attack, saying that his cardiac issues were detected during a health



Quote!

No one has ever become poor by giving.
— Anne Frank

NEWS DIGEST

Tour Agent Charged For Duping Hajj Aspirants

SRINAGAR: The Crime Branch of police on Wednesday produced a chargesheet against a tour operator for duping Hajj aspirants by providing them with fake and invalid passports and grabbing their money. In a statement issued here, a CBK spokesperson said chargesheet was produced against **More On P10**

Pakistani Intruder Held Along Loc

JAMMU: A Pakistani intruder was apprehended along the Line of Control (LoC) in Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir, officials said Wednesday. Army troops guarding the LoC picked up the movement of a person who attempted to sneak into this side from across the border in Keri sector **More On P10**

ACB Nabs Patwari For Accepting Bribe

SRINAGAR: The Anti-Corruption Bureau on Wednesday arrested a revenue official for demanding and accepting a bribe in Sopore area of north Kashmir's Baramulla district. In a statement issued here, an ACB spokesperson said that Patwari, Ghulam Mustafa Lone of Halqa Durro Sopore was arrested **More On P10**

Forest Fire Rages In Kupwara

SRINAGAR: A massive fire broke out in Laderwan forest area in north Kashmir's Kupwara district on Wednesday. As per reports, the fire has engulfed the forest compartment No. 55 of Laderwan Kupwara on Wednesday morning but no massive damage or any casualty has been reported so far. **More On P10**

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Contact Circulation Incharge:
Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927

Govt To Withhold Salary Of Unvaccinated Employees



File Photo: Abid Bhat

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government has decided to withhold salaries of all the un-vaccinated employees while their list has been sought for further action.

According to an order issued by the Deputy Secretary to the Government, Malik Suhail, instructions have been issued to all the

Administrative Secretaries for ensuring vaccination of all employees working in their Departments in Civil Secretariat, J&K.

"Further, a list of those employees along with name and designation who were yet to be vaccinated have been sought," the order reads.

"In this context, the undersigned is directed to request Financial **More On P10**

Govt Seeks Weekly Report On Grievance Redressal

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir government on Wednesday asked all Administrative Secretaries to furnish the details of public interactions/grievances redressed by them on a weekly basis.

On June 6, the government has issued a Circular (No. 18-JK(GAD) of 2021), asking all Administrative Secretaries to fix time slots on daily basis for meeting general public, delegations, public representatives for hearing public grievances preferably between 02:30 to 03:30

p.m. either in their offices or on notified telephone numbers or through video conferences.

"It has been desired that all Administrative Secretaries shall furnish details of action taken in this regard on weekly basis to the General Administration Department for appraisal of the Lieutenant Governor's Secretariat," reads a government order.

"It is accordingly, impressed upon all Administrative Secretaries to furnish the details of public interactions/grievances **More On P10**



We Brought Transparency, Accountability In System: LG

Observer News Service

The Union Territory government has brought transparency and accountability in the system through several reformative interventions, the Jammu and Kashmir **More On P10**

Modi Govt Committed To Build 'Naya Kashmir': MoS Home

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Nityanand Rai said on Wednesday that the government headed by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has broader vision for development in Jammu and Kashmir and is committed to build a New Kashmir. "Development has given its deep roots **More On P10**

PCI To Probe 'Intimidation' Of Journalists In Kashmir

Agencies

SRINAGAR: Taking suo-motu cognizance of former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti's concern about the intimidation and harassment of journalists in Jammu and Kashmir, the press council of India (PCI) has constituted a three member fact finding committee to look into the matter.

According to an official handout from PCI, the three member committee consists of Prakash Dubey convener and group editor of Dainik Bhaskar, Gurbir Singh Journalist

from the New Indian Express and Dr Suman Gupta editor of Jan Morchha.

The PCI said that the committee is required to make a thorough probe into the matter holding discussions with the concerned authorities and the affected journalists and collect such information as it deem fit to submit its report to the council at the earliest.

"The authorities in Jammu and Kashmir are requested to extend full cooperation and assistance to this fact finding committee for the discharge of its function," the PCI said. Taking to micro-blogging **More On P10**

J&K Sees More Recoveries, Less Cases

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: For the second consecutive day Wednesday Jammu and Kashmir reported more recoveries than new cases of coronavirus, while no new virus related death was reported from the Union Territory during the last 24 hours.

According to officials, 132 more Covid-19 patients have recovered in the last 24 hours—13 from Jammu division and 119 from Kashmir, while during the same time 100 fresh cases of virus have been detected across J&K, taking the total number of people infected since the outbreak of pandemic last **More On P10**

Placed Under House Arrest Again: Mehbooba

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday claimed that she had been put under house arrest again as she had planned to visit Tral town of Pulwama district of south Kashmir.

The former chief minister on Tuesday had alleged that Army personnel had thrashed a family in Tral town of Pulwama and injured a female member. Mufti said she was going to meet the family on Wednesday.

"Locked up in my house today yet again for attempting to visit the village in Tral allegedly ransacked by army. This is the real picture of Kashmir that **More On P10**

Forces Asked To Avoid Using Social Media At Sensitive Locations

Agencies

NEW DELHI: Amid heightened security alert in Jammu and Kashmir and western borders after Taliban take over of Kabul, Intelligence agencies in their fresh report to the government, have suggested that security personnel must avoid using various social media sites at sensitive locations especially border areas.

The sources quoting the latest Intel input, said that the surveillance agencies have noticed several attempts to 'infiltrate' in the social media groups on Facebook, Instagram, Telegram and other social networks by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) with pseudo identities.

Sources also said that the high-ups in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) must communicate with the field formations only on the secured communication network and must use the government email network by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

The security personnel have also been dissuaded from making WhatsApp calls and calls from other social networks to communicate with their families or even with their colleagues especially if they are posted or deployed on sensitive locations.

In any case, the details of the movement of units or battalions **More On P10**

Survey Shows Economic Crisis Among J&K Farmers

31.9 % Farmers Have Taken Loans For Farm, Non-Farm Businesses; Marriages And Housing

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: The National Statistical Survey (NSS), in its latest report, has revealed that almost 32 percent of the rural agricultural households in the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) have borrowed loans from commercial and rural regional banks with an average outstanding demand of Rs 30,435.

The National Statistical Survey's "Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households and Land and Livestock Holdings of Households in Rural India 2019" report has revealed that 31.9 percent of the farmers in J&K have taken loans from various banks for farm and non-farm business, housing, marriages, education and other purposes.

The report revealed that 6.7 percent of the borrowed money taken by farmers in J&K was used for revenue expenditure in the farm business, 3.4 percent for non-farm business, 3.9 for marriage and ceremonies, 2.9 for education, and 6.9 percent for other purposes.

As per the data, a major portion of the outstanding percentage of loans in J&K were



File Photo: Abid Bhat

calculated at 62.0 in scheduled commercial banks. "The farming community owed 62 percent of the outstanding money to commercial banks in J&K. 0.4 percent of the total debt belonged to rural regional banks followed by 0.2 percent to Self Help Groups." The report revealed "Agricultural community also owes 3.8 percent of

the total outstanding amount to non-institutional agencies."

As per the NSS data, the copy of which lies with Kashmir Observer, the borrowings by the farming community in J&K are lower than the national average. "The total percentage of tenant holdings in J&K was reported at 1.5, lowest in the country." The data said.

The data further revealed that around 28.4 percent of the outstanding money in agricultural households was borrowed for daily consumption purposes followed by 25.8 percent of the outstanding money borrowed for capital expenditure in farm business. "21.9 percent of the borrowed money by farmers **More On P10**



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(NAAC ACCREDITED GRADE A+)

NOTICE

In continuation to this office notice of even number dated 21/08/2021 the candidates of BG 1st, 2nd & 3rd Semester Backlog (Batch-2015) who could not download their examination forms can now download their examination forms from 30/09/2021 to 02/10/2021 with a late fee of Rs. 500/-. Thereafter no further extension shall be granted.

No. F(BG 1st/2nd/3rd Sem Form Extend (B-15) Exam)/KU/21
DATED:-28/09/2021
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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER

MECHANICAL IRRIGATION DIVISION BARAMULLA

CORRIGENDUM

Due to typographical error please read endorsement of eNIT no. 27 of 2021-22 dated: 27-09-2021, as 2298-3007 instead of 2298-2307 as inscribed in eNIT upload online.

No. MIDB/CC-02/2324-33

DATED:-27/09/2021

DIPK-9600/21

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Mechanical Irrigation Division Baramulla

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OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PW (R&B) DIVISION SHOPIAN

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

NIT No: 131/8234-43 / SPN/RnB/e-Tendering/2021-22

Dated:- 28-09-2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor Union Territory of J&K, e-tenders (In single cover system) are invited on item rate 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	Major Head of Account	Est. Cost (Rs. in Lacs)	Class of Contractor	Time of Completion (In days)	Cost of T/ Doc. (Rs.)	AAA No / Dt	TS No / Dt
1	Beautification/ Fencing of Graveyard near Goal Chowk Shopian Ward No. 05.	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	2.85	DEE	20 working days	200/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
2	Fencing of Park near Masjid Sharief Sheikh Mohalla Shopian Ward No. 09.	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	4.41	DEE	20 working days	200/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
3	Construction of Lane and Drain from H/O Gh Mohd Turey upto Farooq Ahmad Kumar at Shopian Ward No. 11.	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	1.91	DEE	20 working days	200/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
4	Construction of lane/ Drain from Main road to Baitulmal Building at Shopian Ward No. 11.	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	1.32	DEE	20 working days	200/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
5	Construction of Lane and drain (Balance length) from H/O Bahsir Ahmad Upto House of Farooq Ahmad Mir at Malik Mohalla Shopian Ward No. 06	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	4.60	DEE	20 working days	200/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
6	Construction of Lane and drain from Masjid Usman to Masjid Rehmat at Jan Mohalla Shopian Ward No. 10.	Grant in Aid MC Shopian	7.50	DEE/CEE	20 working days	300/-	MC/SPN/Works/50 of 2021. Dated:- 21-09-2021.	118/RnB/Div/ Spn/2021-22 Dt: 28-09-2021
7	Supply and Installation of Desktops All in one Computer and 11-inch iPad Pro, etc. including other accessories.	3054 Potholes	3.00	Reputed Dealers of Computer & its Accessories	15 working days	200/-	CE/R&B/K/ Ptg/17445-78. Dated:- 17-08-2021.	Under Process

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 schedule of dates given below:-

1	Date of Issue of Tender Notice	28-09-2021	
2	Document downloading Start Date.	29-09-2021	From 10.00 A.M
3	Document Downloading End Date.	06-10-2021	upto 4:00 P.M
4	Bid submission Start Date.	29-09-2021	From 10:00 A.M
5	Bid Submission End Date.	06-10-2021	upto 4:00 P.M
6	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	07-10-2021	at 10:00 A.M

- Bidders must upload the requisite cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan/Treasury Challan Receipt in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority). (Name of Work to be mentioned on the Treasury Challan / Receipt) (The Date of Treasury Challan should be between the date of Start of Bid and Bid Submission End Date) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority).
 - All the Bidders have to upload / 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" enclosed).
 - The 1st lowest Bidder has to produce an amount equal to 3% of contract as Performance Security in the shape of CDR within 03 Days before fixation of Contract.
 - The date and time of opening of Bids shall be notified on website 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 the Executive Engineer R&B Division Shopian (Tender receiving authority).
 - All other terms and conditions are as per PWD form-25 (Double agreement form)
- No. :- NIT/e-Tendering/8244-46
Dated:- 28-09-2021
DIPK-9652/21
- Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PW(R&B) Division Shopian

E-mail:- techrbpul786@gmail.com

Phone:-01933-295302



GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR(UT)

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER R&B DIVISION PULWAMA.

TENDER NOTICE

E-NIT No :- 210/EEP/RNB/ of 2021-22/7758-68

Dated: 28/09/2021

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor, J&K UT term e-tenders (In Single Cover system) are invited on Item Rate Basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K State Govt. CPWD, Railways and other State/ Central Government for the following work:-

S.No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost in (Rs.Lacs.)	Cost of T/D (Rs.)	Time of Completion in working Days	Class of Contract	Major Head of Accounts	Administrative Accord Approval No:
1	Improvement / upgradation of Bulbulnag road at Malvuri Nawa, Kousibagh, Hasanwani along with improvement/ Upgradation of roads at wanpora, Tunchi Nowpora, Honipora, Honipora Wudder Colony, Lulipora, Bangund Sether and Parigam Urwan roads by Way of WBM Grade-II and R/Wall (BW).	7.90	300/-	30 Working days	CEE & DEE	S/S	10/SE/PS of 2021-22 dated 17.06.2021
2	Upgradation of Danjibal Link on Kakapora Nawa road including interior roads at Parigam and IR at Nawa and Gudoor by way of WBM Grade-II (BW).	8.80	600/-	30 Working days	CEE & DEE	D/S	45/DDCP of 2020 Dated: 31.01.2020
3	Upgradation of Interior roads of Chandhara including roads at Lethpora and Barsoo by way of stone soling and WBM Grade-II (BW).	5.50	300/-	20 Working days	CEE & DEE	D/S	44/DDCP of 2020 Dated: 31.01.2020
4	Upgradation Nowpora Patipora road including Achan Nowpora and IR of Nowpora and Nownagri Armullah via Dragad including Latengo Wasoor road by Way of constt of r/wall and WBM Grade-II. (BW-2).	8.50	600/-	30 Working days	CEE & DEE	S/S	12/SE/PS of 2021-22 Dated: 17.06.2021
5	Upgradation of Pampore Meij road including Chatlum link and interior roads at Pampore including Befina Bathama road by way of WBM Grade-II (BW).	6.80	300/-	30 Working days	CEE & DEE	D/S	45/DDCP of 2020 Dated: 31.01.2020

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	28/09/2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	From 28/09/2021 10:00 A.M.
3.	Bid submission Start Date	28/09/2021 from 10.00 AM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	11/10/2021 upto 4.00 P.M
5.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	12/10/2021 at 11.00 A.M in the Office of the Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama
6.	Submission of Performance Security (PS)	Within 3 days of receipt of LOA. (The First lowest bidder has to provide 3% of Contract Value Cost as Performance Security instead of EMD within 3 days after opening of Financial Bid)

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of Treasury Challan/Receipt (Debited to M.H.0059 PWD) and Bid securing declaration instead of EMD as per format Appendix-1 below on Letter Head of Contractor/Agency/Firm in favour of Executive Engineer R&B Division Pulwama showing clearly the name of work along with NIT No. & S.No. failing which the tender will be rejected out rightly.
- 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 Pulwama
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.

All other terms and conditions shall be available in website www.jktenders.gov.in

Head Draftsman

DIPK-9647/21

Technical Officer

Executive Engineer,
R&B Division Pulwama

'Boys who participate in sports are less likely to experience emotional distress'



A new study led by University of Montreal psycho educator Marie-Josée Harbec, has found that boys who participate in sports in early childhood are less likely to experience depression and anxiety symptoms in middle childhood.

The findings of the study were published in the 'Journal of Developmental and Behavioural Paediatrics'.

The study also suggested that boys who experience less emotional distress in middle childhood are also more likely to be more physically active in early adolescence.

In the study, "we wanted to clarify the long-term and reciprocal relationship in school-aged children between participation in sports and depressive and anxiety symptoms," said Harbec, who did the work as a doctoral student supervised by UdeM psychoeducation professor Linda Pagani.

"We also wanted to examine whether this relationship worked differently in boys and girls between the ages of 5 and 12," said Harbec, who along with Pagani practices at CHU Ste-Justine children's hospital.

"There's widespread evidence of a crisis these days in childhood physical inactivity, and this may ul-

timately have implications for later mental and physical health," Harbec added.

Harbec and Pagani examined the sporting and physical activity habits reported by the kids at ages 5 and 12 years, as well by their parents, and also looked at symptoms of emotional distress from ages 6 to 10 years that were reported by the kids' teachers.

"We found that 5-year-old boys who never participated in sports were more likely between the ages of 6 and 10 to look unhappy and tired, had difficulty having fun, cried a lot, and appeared fearful or worried," said Pagani, the study's senior author.

"Also, boys who exhibited higher levels of depressive and anxious symptoms during middle childhood were subsequently less physically active at 12 years old. For girls, on the other hand, we did not find any significant changes," added Pagani.

Collaborating with researchers at McGill University and the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario Research Institute, Harbec and Pagani examined data from a Quebec cohort of kids born in 1997 and 1998, part of the Quebec Longitudinal Study of Child Development done by the Institut de la Statistique du Quebec.

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FURNITURE & FIXTURES

Gulfam Furniture

New Road Bagwaan pora Srinagar

Contact:-9419001154

Sunny Furniture

Nakshpora Barbarshah Srinagar

Contact:-94689323572

REAL-ESTATE

Closers (The Broker Network)

Commercial & Residential Plots on Sale

Contact:-+91 700 696 5635

STATIONERIES

Media Stationers

Dalgate Near CD Hospital Srinagar

Contact:-7006083439

SALONS & SPA

Creators Salon For Men

Hair/Spa/Beauty

Sannat nagar Srinagar

Contact:-9103119812

SERVICE PROVIDERS

Carpet Cleaning

QUALITY SERVICES

AFF

Four Furniture Shops Gutted In Babademb Blaze



Syed Hamid

SRINAGAR: At least 04 furniture shops were gutted in a major fire that broke out in Baba Demb area of Srinagar district on Wednesday morning.

Locals told Kashmir Observer that the property worth crores were damaged in a devastated fire that broke out

from one of the shops in the wee hours and within no time flames engulfed other 3 adjacent shops.

They said that soon after the incident, fire tenders and police reached the spot to douse off the flames. However, before they could reach the spot,the shops were completely gutted.

A police official said that the cause of the fire is being ascertained.

They said that at least 04 shops belonging to Abdul Rashid Nila, Aadil Hafeez Dar, Haji Mohammad Shafi and Rouf Ahmad were gutted in this massive blaze, while the cause of fire was yet to be known.

LOCALS TOLD KASHMIR OBSERVER THAT THE PROPERTY worth crores were damaged in a devastated fire that broke out from one of the shops in the wee hours and within no time flames engulfed other 3 adjacent shops.

Alam Demands Compensation To Fire Victims

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Former legislator and PC leader Mohammad Khurshid Alam on Wednesday expressed grief over the tragic fire incident at Baba Demb area of Srinagar. He has demanded immediate and adequate compensation for the victims without delay.

At least 04 furniture shops were gutted in a major fire that broke out in Baba Demb area of Srinagar on Wednesday morning.



Alam in a statement issued here urged the government to come to the rescue of the affected shopkeepers and provide them the compensation on priority. He said that

the pandemic has already been wreaking havoc on the business fraternity and with this kind of tragic episode, the shop owners have found themselves engulfed in insurmountable miseries.

Alam urged the government and especially DC Srinagar Mohammad Aijaz to compensate the losses incurred by the affected shopkeepers at the earliest so that they would be able to earn their livelihood afresh and their families do not suffer any further.

Div Com Conducts Extensive Tour Of Foreshore Road

Directs Lifting Of Scrap, Debris, Pruning Of Plants, Trees, Repairing Of Footpaths, Clearance Of Visual Pollution



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR:- The Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Pandurang K Pole on wednesday conducted an extensive tour of foreshore road along with the team of officers in a newly introduced Jammu and Kashmir Regional Transport Bus to take the cognizance of present position and features of road, footpaths and parks besides other infrastructure including electric poles & boundary walls and execution plan for its beautification.

He was accompanied by Secretary Tourism Sarmand Hafeez, DC Srinagar Ajaz Asad, Dir Tourism, G N Itoo, SMC Commissioner, Amir Athar, VC LAWDA and other officers of various departments.

During the tour, Div Com instructed VC LAWDA and CE PWD to remove the scraps, debris and construction material lying on the sides and median of the roads besides directing CE JKP-DCL to repair electric poles and wires which are hanging down.

He also instructed for developing a parking lot at the Zakura on the available land and maintenance of existing parks lying alongside the road from zakura to Habak.

While taking the note of encroachment of land, he directed revenue officers to provide profile states of the land upto 50

meters of width along the road from Dalgate to Zakura.

He instructed LAWDA officers to provide design of paintings to households so they could decorate their boundary walls which would enhance the beauty of roads and lake. Besides emphasized on them to remove temporary as well as permanent encroachment on the land.

Meanwhile, he instructed all the officers to complete all the works of their respective departments within a week and warned of strict action for any diligence in execution prescribed work.

Div Com also directed for removal of gobar heaps accumulated by locals at several places.

Further, He enjoined officers to ensure uniform signages of shops and hotels to remove visual pollution.

While taking notice of open pot-holes and hindrances at several places, he directed CE PWD to repair these to address these issues. Furthermore, he directed Dir floriculture to trim the grass, stinging nettle and weeds of parks, premises and enjoined DFO Urban forestry to carry pruning of plants and trees.

Besides, he asked for the development of springs which feed water to Dal Lake, and the making of new designs for the structures of springs.

NIFT Srinagar Campus To Be Completed By May 2022



KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary, Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta, today chaired the meeting of the UT Level Advisory Committee of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Srinagar.

Administrative Secretaries of departments of Finance, Industries & Commerce, and Higher Education, besides, Director-General NIFT, MD SIDCO, and concerned officers participated in the meeting.

At the outset, a detailed presentation on the NIFT Srinagar campus and course curriculum was made by the Director NIFT Srinagar.

It was informed that the campus of NIFT Srinagar with state-of-art facilities including labs, resource center, design studio, incubator, amphitheatre, and hostels at Ompora Budgam will be completed by May, 2022. Currently, the Institute is running two courses from temporary accommodation at SIDCO Industrial Complex Rangreth.

The NIFT campus is being constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 325.36 crore on an expanse of 16.6 acres of land will be the biggest among the 17 such campuses in the country. Once completed, NIFT will resume functioning at full capacity with 7 dedicated departments and will enroll approximately 700 students, giving 35% reservation to the

students having domicile in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

It was further informed that the construction works are nearing completion and the academic block, administrative block, auditorium, hostel building, incubation centre, and canteen block will be handed over in October 2021; whereas the rest of the infrastructure will be handed over by May 2022.

Emphasizing the need for better designs and proper branding for sustained growth of local products, the Chief Secretary asked the National Institute of Fashion Technology to take up purposeful engagement with the local artisans and self-help groups and train them in accordance with current market requirements in consultation with the Industries & Commerce Department.

Dr. Mehta urged the National Institute to establish a 'Centre of Excellence' for taking up J&K-specific projects for the revival of J&K's traditional products including Namdoh, Pashmina, Papermachie, tila, silk, and woodcraft.

Director-General NIFT mentioned that NIFT will be forming a team of faculty and experts from other Campuses to work on design intervention in crafts of J&K. He maintained that NIFT will also work towards training the artisans, weavers, and self-help groups in line with the Chief Secretary's advice.

Bukhari Cautions Govt Against Participating In All India Quota Of Medical PG Seats

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: Apni Party President Syed Mohammad Altaf Bukhari has cautioned against any move by the J&K UT government that can prove detrimental to rights of the Jammu and Kashmir Medical Post Graduate aspirants who are up in arms against joining 50 per cent All India Quota seats of all States.

Taking a strong exception to a notification issued by Medical Counseling Committee (MCC) Directorate General of Health Services Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India, in which it has asserted that J&K is likely to participate in All India Quota for admission to PG courses (MD/MS/Diploma/PG DNB) under NEET PG

2021, Bukhari advised the J&K government not to give its confirmation for any such participation.

"Participating in All India Quota would prove highly detrimental to the rights and interests of J&K Medical students and would jeopardize their legitimate rights," Bukhari said, while expressing astonishment over this official assertion that has surfaced a day after the results of PG (Medical) Entrance (NEET) were announced.

"It is totally ironic that there was no such condition in the BOPEE brochure or MCC notification at the time of submission of applications by the PG aspirants. Now the results have been declared and making an arbitrary announcement on behalf of the J & K government is totally bizarre," he as per a statement.

GMC Srinagar Organizes Programme To Celebrate ‘World Heart Day’

KO NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR: On the occasion of 'World Heart Day' celebrated on 29th September every year, the Department of Biochemistry, Govt Medical College (GMC) Srinagar in collaboration with Research Society for study of diabetes in India (RSSDI) organised an event here to celebrate World Heart Day here.

This year the theme of the day was 'Defeat Diabetes / One Nation One Day One Million Tests' and in this context around 400 Blood sugar and Glycated hemoglobin tests were done free of cost in the F-Block Diagnostic Biochemistry Laboratory, SMHS Hospital .



The event was inaugurated by Prof. (Dr) Samia Rashid, Principal/ Dean, GMC Srinagar in presence of HOD Biochemistry

Prof(Dr) Sabhiya Majid and Dr Kanwaljeet , Medical Superintendent SMHS Hospital besides other faculty ,staff and students.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR, DIRECTORATE OF TOURISM, KASHMIR

Tel:0194-2315378, e-mail: ddtreg@jktourism.or

Sub: - Application for transfer of registration certificate of Guest House under name and style "Tamana" situated at Gagribal, New Chinarbagh, Srinagar.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, Guest House under name and style "Tamana" situated at Gagribal New Chinarbagh, Srinagar is registered with this Department in the name of Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar S/o Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Najar R/o Gagribal, New Chinarbagh, Srinagar and the registration certificate bearing No. Reg/3586-89/100/L-1 dated 31.03.2005 was valid upto 31.03.2018;

Whereas, said Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar S/o Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Najar, has passed away leaving behind following legal heirs, as per legal heir certificate issued by Tehsildar South, Srinagar vide No. TKS/2020 dated 16.02.2021:-

- Mr. Bilal Ahmad Najar S/o Late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar
- Mr. Gulal Ahmad Najar S/o Late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar
- Mst Raja W/o Late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar

Whereas, all the legal heirs have now approached this office with an application for transfer of the Registration certificate of the Guest House "Tamana" situated at Gagribal New Chinarbagh, Srinagar from Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar to their names;

Whereas, the applicants have in this behalf submitted following documents in support of their application:-

- Legal heir certificate
- State Subjects/Domicile Certificate
- Pan Card/ Aadhar Cards
- Death Certificate of Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar.
- Character Certificates issued by Addl. Distt. Magistrate, Srinagar.
- General Affidavit/Revenue Extract.

Whereas, transfer of registration certificate for the Guest House is purely for purpose of running operation management of the said Guest House and do not confer any right of ownership of the hotel upon the transferees;

Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under section 39 of J&K Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011, before transfer of registration certificate of the guest house "Tamana" situated at Gagribal New Chinarbagh, Srinagar from late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar S/o Mr. Ghulam Ahmad Najar R/o Gagribal, New Chinarbagh, Srinagar in favour of Mr. Bilal Ahmad Najar, Mr. Gulal Ahmad Najar Ss/o Late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar and Mst Raja W/o Late Mr. Ali Mohammad Najar, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/ Financial Institutions/ Banks/ Development Authorities/ PHE Department/Electric Department that in case of any objection, the same should reach the office of undersigned within a period of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. No objections beyond a period of 07 days will be entertained and the request of the applicant will be considered under rules, after submission of requisite documents.

No: Reg/GH/106/DTK/363

Dated: 28.09.2021

DIPK-9613/21

Sd/-
Deputy Director Tourism,
Registration

DIAL-EMMA

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

AIRPORTS

SHIEK UL ALAM AIRPORT: 01942303311



RAILWAYS



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

HIGHWAY STATUS

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

This Day in History

- 1520 Suleiman the Magnificent succeeds his father Selam I as Ottoman Sultan (rules till 1566)
- 1939 - Germany & Russia agree to partition Poland
- 1939 - Britain first evacuates citizens in anticipation of war.
- 1940 - 47 German aircraft shot down above England
- 1958 - French Guinea becomes independent republic Guinea
- 1966 - Botswana (formerly Bechuanaland) gains independence from Britain (National Day)
- 1967 - BBC starts its own popular music radio station (Radio 1)
- 1968 - 1st Boeing 747 rolls out
- 1980 - USSR performs nuclear test at Eastern Kazakh/Semipalitinsk USSR
- 1980 - Ethernet specifications published by Xerox working with Intel and Digital Equipment Corporation.
- 1981 - Seoul, South Korea, is selected to host 1988 Summer Olympics
- 1986 - US performs nuclear test at Nevada Test Site
- 1986 - US releases soviet spy Gennadiy Zakharov
- 1986 - Mordechai Vanunu, who revealed details of Israel covert nuclear program to British media, is kidnapped in Rome, Italy
- 1988 - IBM announces shipment of 3 millionth PS/2 personal computer
- 1989 - NASA closes down tracking stations in Hawaii & Ascension
- 1989 - Senegambia separates back into Gambia & Senegal
- 1990 - The Dalai Lama unveils the Canadian Tribute to Human Rights in Canada's capital city of Ottawa.
- 1994 - Space shuttle STS-68 (Endeavour 7), launches into orbit
- 1997 - Microsoft releases Internet Explorer 4
- 1999 - Japan's worst nuclear accident at a uranium reprocessing facility in T kai-mura, northeast of Tokyo.
- 2004 - The first images of a live giant squid in its natural habitat are taken 600 miles south of Tokyo.
- 2004 - The AIM-54 Phoenix, the primary missile for the F-14 Tomcat, retired from service. Almost two years later, the Tomcat retires.
- 2005 The controversial drawings of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) are printed in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten.
- 2006 - the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Constitutional Act that proclaimed the new Constitution of Serbia.
- 2012 - Two opposition Venezuelan politicians are shot dead a week before the presidential election
- 2012 - Car bomb blasts kill at least 32 people across Iraq

From KO Archives

Israeli Counter-Insurgency Experts In Kashmir?

Agence France Presse

NEW DELHI- A team of counter-insurgency experts from Israel art touring Kashmir on the invitation of Indian Home Minister Lal Krishna Advani, news reports said Saturday. The team is headed by Eli Katzir of the Counter- Terrorism Combat Unit of the Israeli prime minister's office, reports said adding that other members of the group include senior Israeli police commanders and military intelligence personnel. There was no immediate confirmation of the report but the times of India newspaper today said the team will prepare a feasibility study of India's security needs in Kashmir, where Muslim insurgents have waged an armed homeland campaign since 1989.

The newspaper said the Israelis will also visit other areas in India which are plagued by insurgencies.

Home Minister Advani during a trip to Israel in June had sought help from Tel Aviv to fight cross-border militancy in Kashmir, where around 34,000 people have died in violence linked to Muslim secessionism.

Israel reportedly agreed to transfer information, military hardware and counter-terrorism methods, but said it will not participate in training Indian personnel or dispatch Israeli experts to India. The Israeli daily Haaretz in a similar report on Friday also said the visit was in line with Advani's June visit "India is particularly interests in improving security along its border with Pakistan, especially in Kashmir, and in particular with blocking guerrilla infiltrations it said adding experts wound up their trip cm Today.

REPORT DENIED

The government today denied a press report that home minister L.K.Advani has invited a team of Israeli counter-terrorism experts to the country.

It is officially clarified that no such team Mas been invited by the home minister, an official spokesperson said.

(Kashmir Observer, September 30, 2000)

US Says Ivory-Billed Woodpecker, 22 Other Species Extinct

AGENCEIS

BILLINGS: Death's come knocking a last time for the splendid ivory-billed woodpecker and 22 more birds, fish, and other species: The US government on Wednesday declared them extinct.

It's a rare move for wildlife officials to give up hope on a plant or animal, but government scientists say they've exhausted to find these 23. And they warn climate change, on top of other pressures, could make such disappearances more common as a warming planet adds to the dangers facing imperiled plants and wildlife.

The ivory-billed woodpecker was perhaps the best-known species the US Fish and Wildlife Service declared extinct. The woodpecker went out stubbornly and with fanfare, making unconfirmed appearances in recent decades that ignited a frenzy of ultimately fruitless searches in the swamps of Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida.

Others such as the flat pigtoe, a freshwater mussel in the southeastern US, were identified in the wild only a few times and never seen again, meaning by the time they got a name they were fading from existence.

"When I see one of those really rare ones, it's always in the back of my mind that I might be the last one to see this animal again," said Anthony "Andy" Ford, a US Fish and Wildlife Service biologist in Tennessee who specialises in freshwater mussels.

The factors behind the disappearances vary — too much development, water pollution, logging, competition from invasive species, birds killed for feathers and animals captured by private collectors.

In each case, humans were the ultimate cause.

Another thing they share: All 23 were thought to have at least

a slim chance of survival when added to the endangered species list beginning in the 1960s. Only 11 species previously have been removed due to extinction in the almost half-century since the Endangered Species Act was signed into law.

The announcement kicks off a three-month comment period before the species status changes become final.

Around the globe, some 902 species have been documented as extinct. The actual number is thought to be much higher because some are never formally identified, and many scientists warn the earth is in an "extinction crisis" with flora and fauna now disappearing at 1,000 times the historical rate.

It's possible one or more of the 23 species named Wednesday could reappear, several scientists said.

A leading figure in the hunt for the ivory-billed woodpecker said it was premature to call off the effort, after millions of dollars spent on searches and habitat preservation efforts.

"Little is gained and much is lost" with an extinction declaration, said Cornell University bird biologist John Fitzpatrick, lead author of a 2005 study that claimed the woodpecker had been rediscovered in eastern Arkansas.

"A bird this iconic, and this representative of the major old-growth forests of the southeast, keeping it on the list of endangered species keeps attention on it, keeps states thinking about managing habitat on the off chance it still exists," he said.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature, a Switzerland-based group that tracks extinctions globally, is not putting the ivory-billed woodpecker into its extinction column because it's possible the birds still exist in Cuba, said the group's Craig Hilton-Taylor.

US War In Afghanistan A 'Strategic Failure', Says Top American General



AGENCEIS

WASHINGTON: The top American general has dubbed the 20-year war in Afghanistan a "strategic failure" as the Pentagon leadership told lawmakers that they had recommended having 2,500 troops in Afghanistan to prevent a collapse of the West-supported government in Kabul, but President Joe Biden disagreed.

The White House, however, defended the presidential decision, acknowledging that it was a split recommendation from Biden's advisors and generals.

US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin, Chairman of US Joint Chief of Staff General Mark Milley and Gen Frank McKenzie, Commander of US Central Command, told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday that the Pentagon had recommended Biden about the need to keep 2,500 American troops in Afghanistan post withdrawal.

"I won't share my personal recommendation to the president, but I will give you my honest opinion, and my honest opinion and view shaped my recommendation.

I recommended that we maintain 2,500 troops in Afghanistan.

And I also recommended earlier in the fall of 2020 that we maintain 4,500 at that time.

Those are my personal views," McKenzie told the senators.

Milley told the lawmakers that he also agreed with the recommendations that the US maintain 2,500 troops in Afghanistan.

"Outcomes in a war like this, an outcome that is a strategic failure - the enemy is in charge in Kabul, there's no way else to describe that - that is a cumulative effect of 20 years," he said, adding that lessons need to be learned.

The Taliban seized control of Afghanistan in mid-August, ousting the previous elected government which was backed by the West.

"Their input was received by the president and considered by the president, for sure". In terms of what they specifically recommended, as they just said, they are not going to provide what they recommended in confidence," Austin told the lawmakers that the furious senators grilled the top Pentagon leadership on the nature of withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan.

"I always keep my advice to the president confidential, but I am very much satisfied that we had a thorough policy review and I

believe that all of the parties had an opportunity to provide input and that input was received," he said.

Defending the presidential decision, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki told reporters that there was a range of viewpoints, as was evidenced by their testimony, that were presented to the president and his national security team as would be expected.

"The president asked for a clear-eyed, did not ask them not to sugarcoat it, what their recommendations were," Psaki told reporters.

"It was also clear that would not be a long-standing recommendation, that there would need to be an escalation, an increase in troop numbers. It would also mean war with the Taliban. And it would also mean the potential loss of casualties. The president was just not willing to make that decision," she said.

"He did not think it was in the interest of the American people or the interest of our troops," she asserted.

Responding to another question, Psaki said there were recommendations made by a range of Biden's advisers, something he welcomed, something he asked them to come to him clear-eyed about, to give him candid advice.

Taliban Fighters Hit The Fairground As Afghans Fear For Freedoms

AGENCEIS

The Taliban promised a more moderate rule this time, but have already curtailed Afghans' freedoms, including excluding girls from school and sports

"This is Afghanistan!" a Taliban fighter shouts on a pirate ship ride at a fairground in western Kabul, as his armed comrades cackle and whoop onboard the rickety attraction.

With AK-47 and M4 assault rifles strapped to their chests, the soldiers cling to colourful steel benches as they are flung back and forth, their scarves and head-dresses flapping in the wind.

It was decided a rocket launcher one of them was earlier cradling was better left on solid ground.

The group -- ranging in age from 18 to 52 -- is relaxing at a small amusement park next to Qarghah Reservoir on the outskirts of the Afghan capital,

1990s, when they banned music, photography, television -- and even children's games such as kite-flying.

The Taliban promised a more moderate rule this time, but have already curtailed Afghans' freedoms, including excluding girls from school and sports.

Fighters from around the country flocked to Kabul after the Islamist hardliners swept to power in mid-August and many had never been to a funfair.

Once the three-minute ride is over the battle-hardened fighters clap, grin and giggle amongst themselves -- and the RPG launcher is reunited with its owner.

On the shores of the picturesque reservoir, other Taliban members hop into swan-shaped pedalos as the sun begins to set behind the hills in the distance. Still brandishing their weapons, they set off in pairs across the water in the pink, blue, green, yellow and blue boats, laughing as the vessels bump together.



where families and children normally ride the Ferris Wheel and carousel.

The scene is an incongruous one: the Taliban fighters were in a playful mood in the capital they seized less than six weeks ago.

Since then, Afghans have feared a return to the group's brutally oppressive rule of the

Dressed in camouflaged military uniforms and traditional Afghan clothes, they pose with their assault rifles as friends take pictures on the pebbly shore.

Nearby, a few of the more senior Taliban members take the opportunity to pray, setting down their shawls between two boats on a jetty.

At Least 100 Killed In Clashes For Yemen's Marib



AGENCEIS

At least 100 Yemeni rebels and pro-government troops have been killed in the past 48 hours as fighting intensifies for the key city of Marib, military and medical sources said Wednesday.

A string of air strikes from the Saudi-led coalition targeted the Iran-backed Houthi rebels, who have stepped up their assault on Marib, the government's last northern stronghold.

Sixty-eight Huthis and 32 loyalists were killed in the latest clashes, military sources told AFP. The tolls were confirmed by medical sources.

The rebels rarely announce casualties among their own ranks, but their Al-Masirah channel reported around 60 coalition air strikes in Marib governorate in the past two days. Hundreds

of fighters have been killed this month after the Huthis renewed their campaign for the capital city of the oil-rich province.

The Huthis initially escalated their efforts to seize Marib in February, hoping to gain control of the region's oil resources and strengthen their position in peace talks.

Marib, about 120 kilometres east of the rebel-held capital Sanaa, sits at a crossroads between the southern and northern regions and is key to controlling Yemen's north.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed and millions have been displaced in the war that erupted in 2014, after the Huthis seized Sanaa.

About 80% of Yemen's 30 million people are dependent on aid, in what the United Nations calls the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Legislation In US Senate Seeks Report On Pak's Role In Taliban Offensive, Islamabad Says Move 'Unwarranted'

AGENCEIS

WASHINGTON/ ISLAMABAD: A legislation has been introduced in the US Senate seeking a report from the Secretary of State about his assessment of Pakistan's role in the Taliban offensive that led to the toppling of the US-backed Afghan government and its support for Taliban offensive in Panjshir Valley, prompting Islamabad to term the move as 'unwarranted'.

Twenty-two Republican senators on Tuesday introduced the legislation in the Senate to impose sanctions on the Taliban in Afghanistan and on all the foreign governments that support the hardline Islamic group that seized power in Kabul.

The 'Afghanistan Counterterrorism, Oversight and Accountability Act' also seeks a report from the Secretary of State about his assessment of Pakistan's role in supporting the Taliban from 2001-2020; in the offensive that led to the toppling of the Government of Afghanistan and the looking into the Pakistan support for Taliban

offensive against Panjshir Valley and Afghan resistance.

On Wednesday, Pakistan said that the reference made towards the country in the legislation introduced in the US congress was 'unwarranted'.

In response to media queries about the draft bill introduced by US Senators, the Foreign Office said in Islamabad that the draft legislation seems to be a reaction to the debate that is underway in Washington both in the media and on Capitol Hill to reflect on and examine the circumstances leading to the US withdrawal from Afghanistan.

"The legislation includes references to Pakistan that are completely unwarranted. We find all such references inconsistent with the spirit of Pakistan-US cooperation on Afghanistan since 2001, including facilitation of the Afghan peace process and during the recent evacuations of American and other nationals from Afghanistan," the FO said in a statement.

It said Pakistan consistently

maintained that there was no military solution to the conflict in Afghanistan and a coercive approach would not work, adding that the only way to achieve long term sustainable peace in Afghanistan was through engagement and dialogue.

Moreover, sustained security cooperation between Pakistan and the United States would remain critical in dealing with any future terrorist threat in the region, said FO.

It went to declare the proposed legislative measures as 'uncalled for and counterproductive'.

The Taliban swept across Afghanistan last month, seizing control of almost all key towns and cities in the backdrop of withdrawal of the US forces that began on May 1.

On August 15, the capital city of Kabul fell to the insurgents.

The Taliban claimed victory over opposition forces in the last holdout province of Panjshir on September 6, completing their takeover of Afghanistan three weeks after capturing Kabul.

Israel Court Again Delays Ruling On Demolition Of Bedouin Village



AGENCEIS

Israel's top court on Wednesday approved another delay to the demolition of a strategically located Bedouin village in the occupied West Bank that drew international concern.

The government is locked in a legal battle with a right-wing Israeli NGO over the proposed demolition of Khan al-Ahmar, situated east of Jerusalem along a road leading to the Dead Sea.

The hamlet was set to be evacuated and demolished three years ago after it was ruled to have been built illegally, and attempts to agree on an alternative site for relocation failed.

Khan al-Ahmar's fate drew international concern, with European countries calling on Israel not to move ahead with plans to demolish it, and in October 2018, the office of then-prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu

froze the demolition plans.

Regavim, a right-wing Israeli organisation that supports Jewish settlements, in 2019 filed a petition to the supreme court demanding the state uphold its previous commitment to remove Khan al-Ahmar.

The state repeatedly requested more time to submit its response, with the court setting September 5 as a deadline.

On that day, the state asked the court for six more months, citing "progress" on the issue, and on Wednesday, a three-judge panel approved the decision.

Justice Noam Solberg said the court had accepted "the state's claim on significant progress," and requested an update in March.

Foreign states have told Israel that demolishing the village, home to around 200 residents, would mark a violation of international law.

NEWS MAKERS

Tunisia President Names Najla Bouden as First Female PM

AGENCEIS

Tunisian President Kais Saied has named Najla Bouden Romdhane, a little-known university engineer who worked with the World Bank, as prime minister on Wednesday nearly two months after he seized most powers in a move his foes call a coup.

Romdhane, Tunisia's first woman prime minister, will take office at a moment of national crisis, with the democratic gains won in a 2011 revolution in doubt and as a major threat looms to public finances.

Saied dismissed the previous prime minister, suspended parliament and assumed wide executive powers in July and has been under growing domestic and international pressure to form a new government.

Last week he brushed aside



much of the constitution to say he could rule largely by decree.

He has named Romdhane under the provisions he announced last week and has asked her to quickly form a new government, the presidency said on social media.

Ex Diplomat Fumio Kishida Picked As Japan's Next Prime Minister

AGENCEIS

TOKYO: Japan's next leader Fumio Kishida is a soft-spoken former foreign minister from a Hiroshima family of politicians, with a reputation of seeking the middle ground and a fondness for baseball.

The 64-year-old won the ruling party's leadership vote on Wednesday, beating popular vaccine chief Taro Kono to finally clinch a job he has long targeted. It was second time lucky for the experienced politician: he lost out in 2020 to Yoshihide Suga, who is stepping down after just a year as prime minister.

Kishida is widely regarded as a safe pair of hands, despite a low-key presence that has sometimes been characterised as a lack of charisma.

He has pledged to spend big on new pandemic stimulus while vowing to tackle income inequality and move away from the neo-liberal economics that have



dominated Japanese politics for the past two decades.

And seeking to set himself apart from the unpopular pandemic response of Suga's government, he has emphasised the lessons learned from his failure to win the leadership last time around.

"I wasn't good enough. I think I didn't have enough conviction," he admitted when he launched

his campaign earlier this month.

"It's different this time. I'm standing here with a strong conviction that I am the leader needed at this time."

Kishida previously served as LDP policy chief and was foreign minister between 2012-17, during which he negotiated accords with Russia and South Korea, with whom Japan's relations are often frosty.

He has called abolishing nuclear weapons "my life's work", and in 2016 helped bring then-US president Barack Obama to Hiroshima on a historic visit.

But despite his liberal reputation, he has been less direct than Kono on social hot-button issues like gay marriage.

Vaccine chief Kono said he backed same-sex marriage and called for it to be discussed in parliament.

Kishida, however, said he had "not reached the point for accepting same-sex marriage", and took a softer stance than Kono on allowing married couples to keep separate surnames, another controversial issue.

'Politics of generosity'

Tobias Harris, senior fellow for Asia at the Center for American Progress, said Kishida had been "more flexible" than Kono, "certainly on foreign policy and security policy".

"There are all sorts of things in his past that suggest that (Kishida's) conservative leanings are stronger than maybe he appeared," he added.

Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, Kishida entered politics in 1993, having previously worked at a bank as the Japanese economy boomed.

As a child, his family lived for several years in New York where he suffered racism at school, an experience he says gave him a strong sense of justice, according to Harris.

He is a big fan of the Hiroshima Carp baseball team, and is said to enjoy a drink -- unlike Suga, who is teetotal -- while his wife hails from a wealthy sake-brewing family.

A keen baseball player at school, Kishida failed three times to pass the law entrance exam for Tokyo University, much to his parents' disappointment.

DGP Singh Visits PCR Jammu, Pragalta

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Director General of Police (DGP) J&K Dilbag Singh, who was on one-day visit to Jammu, on Wednesday visited Police control Room (PCR) Jammu and Pragalta on the outskirts of Jammu City.

During the visit, DGP was accompanied by MD Police Housing Corporation, Deepak Kumar, ADGP, Jammu, Mukesh Singh, SSP Jammu, Chandan Kohli, SSP PCR, Dr M. Haseeb Mughal, CO 15th Bn Mubassir Latifi, SP Rural Sanjay Sharma, engineers from PDC, PHC and officers of JDA and revenue.

The DGP inspected various digital gadgets and facilities introduced for better supervision. The DGP inspected the video wall and also witnessed a demonstration of live feed from different static Nakas as well as of 35 highway patrols which have been synchronized with the system. By installing these facilities PCR Jammu can monitor and supervise the Nakas placed in the Jammu Zone. He also inspected the functioning of Dial 100.

The ADGP Jammu and SSP PCR

the DGP regarding the newly added digital facilities. During his interaction with officers, the DGP impressed upon using of technology and digital gadgets in a big way for their advantages in supervision and surveillance. He said that J&K Police in using lat-skirts of Jammu City.

During his visit to the Pragalta, the DGP inspected the site plan for establishment of Headquarters of the women Battalion. The Engineers and officers gave briefing with the design and layout to the DGP. While interacting with the Engineers and officers, the DGP directed for starting construction as per the layout after checking the feasibility aspect as quick as possible. The DGP also said that Police Headquarter has been giving thrust on construction of the infrastructure necessary for the newly created Battalions so that these battalions start functioning from their own headquarters and serving the people of the UT particularly the vulnerable sections of the society such as women and children.

JKRLM To Create Opportunities For Rural Livelihoods: Dr Sehrish 'Promote Opportunities For SHGs In Farm And Non-Farm Sectors'

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Mission Director J&K Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM), Dr. Syed Sehrish Asgar on Wednesday convened a virtual meeting to review the progress of RLM in District Reasi.

The meeting was attended by Riyaz Ahmad Beigh, Additional Mission Director, Kashmir, State Project Managers RLM, District Programme Managers, Block Programme Managers, MIS Assistants of District Reasi and other officials of the Mission.

On the occasion Dr Sehrish Asgar impressed upon the officials to promote diversified livelihood opportunities for SHGs in farm and non-farm sectors in the district. The main focus of the Mission is to create opportunities for rural livelihoods. The Mission has been successful in facilitating the SHGs to access various financial institutions for loans, which is significant for establishing the livelihoods, she added.

Adding further Dr Sehrish said that under convergence with various departments, the SHG members can establish their livelihoods both in Farm Sector and Non-Farm Sector. Invariably across all the rural areas, there is a huge potential for dairy farming. The need of the hour is to tap this opportunity for our SHGs through Prime Ministers Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme and Animal husbandry department.

She stressed upon the officials to use common branding for promo-

tions of SHG products from various blocks and districts and register the livelihoods in the respective sector and promote appropriate Farmer Production Organization (FPOs) / Producer Enterprises for collective production and sales.

She also impressed upon the officials to encourage the SHG individual members to open their bank accounts. The SHG member who has individual bank account can avail overdraft facility of Rs 5000 for their small consumption needs, she said.

The Mission director directed the officials to constantly update the SHG members in the meetings in their respective blocks on various social, livelihood entitlements and also impressed upon them to encourage the SHGs to resolve their day to day social issues through constant and concerted efforts.

While informing the meeting about progress of Blocks, the officials apprised that 15990 rural women have been federated into 1896 SHGs and an amount of Rs. 8.76 crore had been provided to the SHGs as capitalization from the Mission.

It was given out that in addition, the SHGs have been credit linked with the Banks to the tune of Rs 15.67 Crore. The SHG members have invested the amount in different livelihoods like, Handicrafts, Zip line, Poultry, Aromatic products, Sanitary napkins besides under convergence various livelihood initiatives have been successfully initiated with other line departments.

IUST Hosts Awareness Programmes On Eve Of World Heart Day



Observer News Service

AWANTIPORA: Syed Mantaqui Memorial College of Nursing and Medical Technology, a constituent college of Islamic University of Science and Technology (IUST) Wednesday organised Awareness Programmes on the eve of 'World Heart Day' at GMC Anantnag and SKIMS Medical College, Bemina.

World Heart Day is observed on September 29 to highlight the actions that a person can take to prevent and control cardiovascular disease (CVD). This year's theme "use heart to connect" focuses on an urgent need to find various and innovative ways to connect people to heart health, mainly in lower resource areas and community.

While highlighting the importance

of creating awareness among the public, Principal of the college Asmat Parveen deliberated on the cardiovascular diseases which are the most common causes of death claiming around 18.6 million lives each year globally.

During the event, students of the said college created awareness among the general public by delivering health talks on various topics.

Principal, Prof (Dr.) Irfan Rubani and Medical Superintendent, Dr. Shifa from SKIMS Medical college Bemina and Principal, Dr. Tariq Syed Qureshi and Medical superintendent, Dr. Mohammad Iqbal Sofi from GMC Anantnag lauded the efforts of the nursing college and IUST in organizing such health awareness programmes for the benefit of general public.



Over 16% Dropout Rate At J&K Secondary Level Schools

Agencies

SRINAGAR: With the government claims of admitting more than one lakh new entrants in the School Education Department, the Ministry of Education (MoE) on the contrary has said that there was a dropout rate of nearly 17 percent among the students of secondary level.

The MoE has also said that the highest dropout rate in the School Education Department was at the secondary level.

According to the official documents of MoE, the news agency KNO has noted that, "Drop-out rate at secondary level as per Unified District Information System for Education plus (UDISE) 2019-20 was 16.68 percent across Jammu and Kashmir."

The MoE has also suggested to the concerned authorities that the dropout rate in Jammu and Kashmir needs to be focused by the concerned depart-

ment to meet the target and the authorities must expedite community based survey identifying issues for such drop out.

Besides the dropout issue, the MoE has said that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at Secondary, Higher Secondary level as per UDISE+ 2019-20 at secondary level is 58.66 and at higher secondary level is 38.40 respectively.

"Jammu and Kashmir government needs to develop an effective and comprehensive strategy to improve the gross enrolment at both the levels," MoE said.

Meanwhile, KNO spoke to some of the teachers of government-run-schools to understand the reasons for decline in enrolment of students in the institutions.

One of the teachers said poverty among the students was one of the main reasons for the decline of enrolment in the public schools.

"Most of the students study-

ing in government schools belong from underprivileged families who quit their studies mid way to earn the major chunk for their family," he said.

The teacher also said that he has experienced several such cases wherein a student belongs from the middle class or underprivileged family and quit studies mid-way.

Another teacher said that the students of government schools are enjoying all the basic perks to continue their studies but the perception being created against the government schools also led to the decline in the public schools.

"Government schools have all the basic facilities like free textbooks, quality education, perks of mid-day meals and infrastructure but the perception that has been created against the schools is also a major reason for the decline in enrolment," he said.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR GOVERNMENT NEEDS TO DEVELOP an effective and comprehensive strategy to improve the gross enrolment at both the levels," MoE said.

Union MoS MoRTH Concludes 3-Day Anantnag Visit

Observer News Service

ANANTNAG: On the concluding day of his visit to Anantnag, Union Minister of State for Road Transport & Highways and Civil Aviation, Gen. (Retd.) Dr. V. K. Singh today inspected the Emergency Landing Project on Srinagar - Qazigund section of National Highway-44 at Bijbehara.

The officers of National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) briefed the Minister about the progress of work on the project. The Minister was informed that the executing agency is working in full capacity and all the measures have been taken for the timely completion of the project.

The Minister stressed for expediting the pace of work on the Emergency Landing Project while keeping in consideration all safety measures and standard guidelines during the execution.

District Development Commissioner, Dr. Piyush Singla informed the Minister that the district administration



THE MINISTER STRESSED FOR expediting the pace of work on the Emergency Landing Project while keeping in consideration all safety measures and standard guidelines during the execution.

is providing full support and cooperation to NHAI authorities for ensuring smooth and time bound culmination of the project. The Minister praised administration and other departments working in sync for the progress and development of the area.

Earlier, the Minister held an interactive session with the representatives of PRI's,

ULB members and other delegations at Dak Bangalow Khanabal. The public representatives held discussions with the Minister and highlighted various issues and demands concerning the development and public welfare in their respective areas. Dr. Singh assured the representatives about the prompt redressal of their genuine demands.

Good Research Methodology Important For Quality Research: CUK VC

2-Week 'Research Methodology Workshop' Organised By Drd Begins

Observer News Service

GANDERBAL: Central University of Kashmir (CUK), Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mehraj Din Mir, inaugurated the two week long "Research Methodology Workshop" for the research scholars in the disciplines of Business Studies, Social Sciences, Media and Legal Studies at Green Campus of the varsity here on Wednesday.

Addressing the participants, Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mehraj Din Mir described research as the backbone of the higher educational institutions and adopting of good research methodology an important component of the quality research. "The universities across the world are not known by in-

frastructure or the number of programmes they offer, but by the quality of research they produce every year," Prof. Mehraj Din Mir remarked.

CUK Vice Chancellor further said, that researchers of today make the humanity of tomorrow, adding that the outcome of any research should be applicable to the society for its benefit. He underscored stressed the need for adopting interdisciplinary approach and said that there is no fun in simply getting a degree if the research is not used for the benefit of the society. He lauded the Directorate of Research and Development for organising the workshop and advised the research scholars to learn and take benefit from the highly experienced experts

who will be delivering lectures during these 14 days.

Speaking on the occasion, Registrar, Prof. M Afzal Zargar, highlighted the importance of holding such workshops as an assured regular conduct of these in future. He said the scholars pursuing research in any subject or field should be very well versed with the tools and techniques used in research methodology in order to produce quality research. "The strict adherence to the ethical values of research are also imperative for producing quality research," he said. Prof M Afzal Zargar said that research is an important aspect in the teaching learning process and adopting a proper research methodology is imperative for a successful research.

Abdullah Sr. Says Youth Taking To Drugs Due To Unemployment

Says NC Cadre Will Partner Civil Society In Eradicating Drug Addiction; Curb Environmental Degradation

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir National Conference President and Member of Parliament from Srinagar Dr. Farooq Abdullah on Wednesday held lack of welfarism and Environmental conservationism post August 5, 2019 responsible in the increase rate of suicide and environment pollution in Jammu and Kashmir.

He said this addressing a gathering at the felicitation ceremony organized by Jammu and Kashmir Rural Developmental Society under its "People's Help Group Initiative" at Tagore Hall, Srinagar.

While addressing students, artists and scores of JKRDs functionaries, Dr Farooq said, "I congratulate JKRDs Chairman Mubarak Gul and other functionaries of the society for coming up with such a thought provoking initiative. I'm sure that the exhibition of the paintings espousing different perspective on different themes will encourage deeper understanding of the issues concerning our society."

Expressing concern over the increase in environmental pollution in Kashmir, he said, "The policy intervention from the government is much needed but I believe that having laws alone will never succeed in protecting environment, and eradicating social evils. The anticipated changes will take place only when the society is convinced to fully stamp it out. The situation demands overboard efforts by all of us to make a change. Here schools, religious and civil society leaders and politicians have a greater role to play in creating awareness among the masses and guiding by self examples."

He said in wake of the scathing unemployment and fast diminishing avenues for youth our youth are taking to drug addiction and substance use. The crises, he has is majorly factored by the policy paralysis of the government and the unconcerned attitude of the society.



"We cannot wait for the government to come to the rescue of our youth. We as a society have to unite our efforts to provide hope to our youth," he added.

Ruining the incapacity of the administration in providing behavioural counselling, medication to treat drug addicts and providing treatment not just for substance use but also for many factors that accompany addition, he added the dearth of de-addiction centers, absence of follow-ups has further aggravated the depressing scenario.

"Family support is also needed to build confidence among affected youth and help them overcome the menace," he further said.

Stressing on the discontinuing use of plastic, he said, "Used plastic bags find their way into our water bodies, which are the assets, we are going to bequeath to our next generation. We have to think what kind of ecosystem we are leaving behind for our future generations. So the change has to start from our homes. We must discard the use of plastics; the community and religious leaders have a greater role to play in this direction," he added.

"I along with my parliament colleagues from Kashmir have been raising the deteriorating condition of our water bodies both inside and outside parliament but our natural assets in the shape of our lakes and rivers continue to suffer due to executive apathy," he added.

Chairman JKRDs Society and Former Speaker Mubarak Gul was also present. The function concluded with Vote of thanks by Chairman JKRDs youth Wing & 'People's Help Group Initiative' Yunus Mubarak Gul

600 Kgs Of Poppy Straw Seized In Kathua

Vehicle Seized, Driver Flees: Police

Agencies

KATHUA: J&K Police on Wednesday recovered 600kgs of poppy straw from a vehicle at Hiranagar area of Kathua district of Jammu region.

A police statement issued to news agency KNO that in the recent action against drug dealing and to neutralise the activities of drug peddlers within the district, Kathua Police under the overall supervision of SSP Kathua R C Kotwal recovered 600 kgs of Poppy Straw (Bhukki) narcotics in Hiranagar and seized the vehicle along with narcotics on spot.

"During naka checking duty, police noticed one suspicious truck bearing Registration No. JK03H-6043 which was coming from Jammu towards Kathua being driven by unknown person who was signalled to stop for

checking. Sensing danger, the driver of the vehicle ignored the Police signal and escaped from the spot," the police statement said, adding that "The vehicle was chased at Rasana Morh but driver of the truck managed to run away while leaving behind the vehicle abandoned."

The police statement said that after thorough checking it was found that vehicle was laden with 1069 boxes of Apples out of which 61 boxes were filled with Poppy Straw (Bhukki) narcotics weighing around 600 kilograms.

"Thereafter all the recovered narcotics along with truck was seized and search was started to trace the accused," the police statement said, adding that "a case vide FIR No. 127/2021 U/S 8/15 NDPS Act has been registered at Police Station Hiranagar. Further investigation is underway."

3-Day Video Translation Workshop Concludes At SCERT

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The three-day video translation workshop aiming to make digital educational content available to the students of Jammu and Kashmir in local languages concluded in the conference hall of the SCERT's divisional office here on Wednesday at Bemina.

Some half a dozen educational and IT experts translated at least 10 videos which would be presented before the NCERT and Team Diksha, Ministry of Education, Government of India for quality assessment. This will set into motion the process of translating some 1800 videos produced by TiCTaLearn—an initiative supported by Central Square Foundation (CSF) and Google.org.

TiCTaLearn has created one of the largest open-source repositories of high-quality curriculum aligned digital learning resource comprising some 12,000 videos available free of cost for everyone.

Director SCERT, J&K, Prof Veena Pandita, said the workshop will allow the participants to spend more time to



practice new skills.

"The workshop will allow the participants the time to reflect, both individually and with others, to learn a brand new skill set needed for efficient translation of the content," she said. "Whatever is available is either not of good quality or is unaffordable to our students."

SCERT, Prof Pandita said, would translate high quality, animated, pedagogically sound, curriculum aligned (NCERT) Maths and Science content in three languages viz. Urdu, Kashmiri and Dogri.

The videos, once translated, will be hosted on Diksha portal wherefrom they will be accessible to a student after scanning a QR Code energised in their textbooks.

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K O V I E W

Taliban Challenge

The recent session of the United Nations General Assembly also helped bring focus back on the Taliban. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistani counterpart Imran Khan also raised the situation in Taliban ruled Afghanistan, with Khan lobbying for engaging the Taliban rather than boycotting them. This, according to the Pakistan PM will incentivize the Taliban to moderate. But New Delhi has expressed its concerns about recognizing the Taliban before the latter mends its hardline ways.

As things stand, the world is indecisive about recognizing the Taliban government. Taliban has also not helped the matters by again enforcing the harsh old laws Some of the regime's recent diktats have barred the movement of women. Earlier this month, the Taliban barred female employees from entering the ministry of women affairs in Kabul, allowing only males into the building. Taliban-appointed chancellor of Kabul University has barred women from attending classes or work at the varsity "until an Islamic environment is created". The Taliban has also yet to accommodate women in its government. This is likely to make the global recognition of the new Kabul government harder.

Meanwhile, the financial situation in Afghanistan is on the brink of collapse. The country's banking system, according to the Chief Executive of the Islamic Bank of Afghanistan, is about to unravel.

However, the situation is still unfolding in the war-scarred country and it is too early to predict what will happen in the days and weeks to come. And then it remains to be seen which country or countries will be the first to recognize it. China has already said it was ready for "friendly relations" with the Taliban, while Russia and Iran have also made diplomatic overtures.

Pakistan, which is regarded as the benefactor of Taliban, is also approaching the issue with some caution. On the other hand, the governments in the west, including the United States, are likely to take more time. The US has already frozen about \$9.5 billion of the Afghan government's reserves in US banks after the Taliban seized Kabul. The US wants the Taliban to behave responsibly and follow through on its promise not to allow Al Qaeda to operate from Afghanistan before it gives recognition to a Taliban-led government.

Be that as it may, the situation will certainly change for the good if the Taliban translates their promises on running an inclusive government into reality. And if it convinces the world that it has changed. But until that happens, the geopolitical shift that the Taliban victory has occasioned is likely to change the regional situation in unpredictable ways.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Up In Smoke

Spare a thought for the smokers. Last year, at the height of the first wave of the pandemic, researchers — first in France, later in China and India — published studies that seemed to indicate smokers were at less risk of contracting Covid, and when they did, experienced less severe symptoms. In France, there was reportedly a rush on tobaccoists by non-smokers hoping to get a little extra protection. For smokers everywhere, here, at last, was a justification — as much for themselves as for those they have been shunned by for the smell and cloud of carcinogens they spread — to take another drag. Now, unfortunately, they have been robbed of the only silver lining that pierced the haze and the tar all too briefly.

A recent study in England has collated observational and genetic data on Covid-19 and tobacco use and found that compared to those who had never smoked, smokers were about 80 per cent more likely to be hospitalised after contracting the virus. A section of scientists has questioned the earlier studies, claiming that some of the researchers had ties to the tobacco industry.

Not surprisingly, the disappointment among tobacco addicts is palpable. Unlike other substances — alcohol, marijuana and more notorious narcotics — smoking doesn't really get you high. The social cost for the addiction is hardly commensurate to the pleasure — train and plane journeys have you jonesing, you're shunned to dark corners outside bars and sometimes, even from your own homes to service the need without bothering others. All this, while it burns a huge hole in your pocket and you slowly but surely watch your health deteriorate. From France, the birthplace of existentialism, there was hope that smoking had a purpose. From England, the birthplace of utilitarianism, that hope has been taken away.

Indian Express

Jammu Is Not Disillusioned?

The September 22 Bandh Was Only About Protecting Jammu From Some Side-Effects Of The Loss Of Autonomy, Not An Opposition To What Happened On August 5, 2019



TRADERS AND VARIOUS POLITICAL PARTIES' activists are protesting protests in Jammu against the proposed opening of 100 Reliance retail stores in Jammu, a claim which the company said is 'completely untrue

IT WOULD BE ERRONEOUS TO BELIEVE that there is a rethink taking place in Jammu about the revocation of Article 370. The reasons are the divergent interests and a political culture that defines itself in adversarial terms towards Kashmir

Riyaz Wani

Jammu bandh on September 22 over the ending of Darbar Move and a range of other business-related issues signals that the resentments simmering over the last two years against several government measures are now finding a way to surface. The traders in Jammu are understandably upset over the detrimental fallout on their businesses of the government move to call off 140 year old practice of Darbar Move. As part of the bi-annual office moving, thousands of employees along with their families travelled to Jammu during winters. In recent years, a large number of affluent Kashmiris other than the employees had also chosen to make Jammu their winter home. This came as a big boost to businesses in Jammu and also enabled the social interaction between the two regions - albeit, in the current political climate there will be fewer people in the former state who will mourn the loss of the latter.

Now Jammuites are seeking restoration of Darbar Move, driven to make this demand largely by the need to protect their businesses. The traders have other urgent demands: They are sore over the government move to set up 100 Reliance retail stores in Jammu which they understandably fear can drive small time provision stores out of their businesses. There is also anger over e-auction of liquor vends which has paved the way for the outsiders to set up wine shops in the winter capital. Then there are the measures like New Excise Policy and restrictions on banquet halls which too have hemmed in businesses.

The situation of the last two years has had some sobering effect on the people in Jammu. Consequently, the celebration of the anniversary of the revocation of Article 370 this year - August 5 - was largely confined to the BJP and its allies in the region. Though a significant number of people in Hindu dominated districts of the division still support the withdrawal of autonomy, some of its provisions have begun to bite. A looming prospect of demographic change, loss of jobs and land rights have made people uneasy. People also apprehend that their region will be the first destination for the eligible outsiders choosing to settle in J&K.

There has been some unease in Ladakh too. A year ago, all parties in Ladakh closed ranks against the entry of outsiders and threatened to boycott the then LAHDC elections as a result, but the centre promptly assured these protections to the region, as opposed to what it did in Kashmir. The assurance was fulfilled this year. On September 4, Ladakh

administration decided to issue "Resident Certificates" only to holders of Permanent Resident Certificates as was the case when Ladakh was a part of Jammu and Kashmir. In Jammu and Kashmir, on the contrary, the administration has allowed outsiders who have stayed in the region for a particular duration to apply for permanent residency rights and also buy land. This has made sections of the majority community in Jammu including the traders uneasy.

But it would be erroneous to believe that there is a rethink taking place in Jammu about the revocation of Article 370. There isn't as far as the majority of the majority community in the division. The Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry has made this already clear. The reasons are the deep mutually antagonistic political cultures and the largely contradictory interests of the people in Kashmir and Jammu.

True, Jammu is witnessing a degree of anxiety about the post-Article 370 state of affairs. But as things stand, these apprehensions are not deep enough to cause people to turn against the withdrawal of J&K's autonomy. Besides, in case of Jammu, the fears of a demographic change are being trumped by the expectation of development of the region in the post-Article 370 scenario and more importantly the anticipated shift of political power away from Kashmir Valley. In fact, under the current dispensation this shift has already happened. With delimitation that is supposed to give more Assembly seats to Jammu, this power-shift will also be inherited by a future democratic government.

So, unlike Leh, majority population in Jammu is least likely to either

TRUE, JAMMU IS WITNESSING A

degree of anxiety about the post-Article 370 state of affairs. But as things stand, these apprehensions are not deep enough to cause people to turn against the withdrawal of J&K's autonomy. Besides, in case of Jammu, the fears of a demographic change are being trumped by the expectation of development of the region in the post-Article 370 scenario and more importantly the anticipated shift of political power away from Kashmir Valley

protest in large numbers or oppose Article 370. The people in the region are willing to overlook some minor discomfort as the new dispensation gives the majority community in the region a political weight that is disproportionately bigger than its demographic strength. The September 22 bandh was only about protecting Jammu from some side-effects of the loss of autonomy, not an opposition to what happened on August 5, 2019.

Jammu would certainly have fought any attempt at the apprehended demographic change and loss of land and jobs, had the region been carved into either a separate state or a union territory. And it is probably for the same reason that New Delhi didn't trifurcate J&K despite the longstanding demand for statehood in Jammu.

Going forward, it is difficult to predict how the situation would evolve over the remaining three years of the BJP government at the centre. But it would be safe to assume that Jammu would have little reason to complain if it gets more Assembly seats from the delimitation commission.

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

The author is the Politics Editor of Kashmir Observer

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Harassment Of Women Drivers In Kashmir

WEARING a pheran, with a round turban around their head, cooking and raising kids, instilling the best behaviour into them, that's what the picture of a Kashmiri woman would look like in the old times. Undoubtedly, the culture was staunchly conservative, however, the chains of this culture have been broken with increasing awareness and education. These days, we see women in each and every field, fields which were once considered "men reserved" e.g., we have Kashmiri women pilots, Judges, Lawyers, journalists, etc. We see independent and confident women advocating for what's right or wrong, or for their rights, and taking a firm stand for themselves.

We have come a long way from the era when men would drop and pick up women to take them home or to wherever they needed to go. Statistically speaking, women are good at wheels and can drive better and safer

HARASSMENT IN PUBLIC, RIDICULING, or uttering obscene words to women, should not be tolerated. Legal actions act as a deterrence to such unacceptable behaviour. Numerous sections under the IPC safeguard women against any kind of verbal abuse or insult or outrage of her modesty. Steps should be taken to cut the roots of this menace. Driving is an absolute necessity for all, irrespective of gender.

than a man. However, the lid of misogyny opens every time a woman is seen driving in Kashmir. In this forward-moving world, the thinking and mindset of some people are still trapped in past, the opinions of superiority and dominance are firmly held by these people. It has become a colloquial culture in Kashmir to pass comments and openly harass women drivers in Kashmir. You might have heard people say, "she's a lady driver, obviously, she will make mistakes",

even if the mistake is made by the male driver blame is put on women for driving rashly or recklessly. Last weekend while I was around Dal lake, an ignorant man while talking on the phone took a wrong turn and was hit by a woman's car; despite the fact that the fault was his, the man and the people surrounding him started yelling over the innocent women. But, could she say anything? No. Why? Because that is the sort of culture we, Kashmiri women grew

up in, in shackles and always the vulnerable ones. As rightly said by J.J. Rousseau, "man is born free but is everywhere in chains", Rousseau could have used gender-neutral language, he didn't, but maybe that was the culture back then, let's give him the benefit of doubt and take the essence of what he meant.

Harassment in public, ridiculing, or uttering obscene words to women, should not be tolerated. Legal actions act as a deterrence to such unacceptable behaviour. Numerous sections under the IPC safeguard women against any kind of verbal abuse or insult or outrage of her modesty. Steps should be taken to cut the roots of this menace. Driving is an absolute necessity for all, irrespective of gender. The point at the very heart of the matter is, people need to understand that driving requires skills and it has absolutely nothing to do with gender.

Sama Zehra
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Market and Society Of Education

Vijay Garg

There is a close relationship between research and development. The policies for development work are made on the basis of the results of the research departments. Therefore, research done in academic institutions is important from the point of view of overall development of the country. While discussing the science policy, Professor Jayant Vishnu Nalaukar said that the Government of India and various governments have established many research institutes to give direction to science and other research, so that a scientist can become a scientist with freedom of thought and action. able to operate in an autonomous environment. But the administration of these institutions, the decline of research jobs for young scientists, the neglect of science and social science subjects in universities and the comparatively low prestige of experts working in these areas are some of the

SIMILAR SITUATIONS arise when democratic institutions start to fail in a society and teachers, intellectuals become slaves of power or whose thinking is limited only to their own benefit. Without theoretical, ideological and empirical research, any article is like a public discussion. In such research, all those aspects which have been essential from the scientific point of view are ignored and doing so cannot be said to be suitable for the development of any subject

aspects that are facing the development of India's knowledge economy present a serious challenge.

The quality of research done in academic institutions has been questioned for the past few years. Also, none of our universities has been able to achieve high rank in the global ranking. In such a situation, it is natural to ask whether the condition of research in higher educational institutions and universities is



really so bad that it lacks elements like innovation, innovation, validity? If so, why? Is this something to think about?

In the year 2020, there has been an unprecedented increase in the number of scientific researches in the era of Covid. If seen, more than one lakh research articles were published in various scientific journals. But what is worrying is that the multilevel intellectual review of these scientific articles has now come to an end, leading to an increase in academic fraud and unethical practices. Therefore, as the number of scientific research articles increased, the quality also declined. If seen, it is a matter of serious concern not only for the educational world but also for the development of society and nation. There is no doubt that scientific research, which should be developed with a definite result, is no longer happening. It seems that the current research, especially in the field of science, is engaged in providing only information that benefits the market.

Whereas scientific information should be free from biases and personal values and reliable, not market centric. During the epidemic, the news of the side effects of some medicines or the death of a patient due to a vaccine or a complete recovery from Covid from a certain drug was in the headlines. Then later their refutations or explanations also kept coming out. Such information can come into existence only when an exploit article is published without review by a group of experts concerned.

Such information left no stone unturned to create fear and confusion among the people in the society. As a result, such incidents also came to the fore, in which people gave their lives only because of fear and confusion even before coming under the grip of Covid.

Shouldn't it be called academic dishonesty to make such misleading and false information public? No exploit or information, whether related to the field of medicine or political, religious, social

or economic, should be made public without any intellectual review. It is the ethical responsibility of the researcher and the informant. Otherwise, who will be responsible for the disorder and fear spreading in the society? This is a matter of consideration.

In this era, the number of online national, international seminars-conferences has also increased rapidly. Not only has there been a decrease in the discussion and analysis of subject experts but also the discussions and discussions on the subjects as a general public are increasing. Another challenge that has come to the fore is that it has become easy to get a certificate without attending the webinar, simply by paying the fee, or by simply filling the informational form. Because the API score depends on how many certificates of participation you have in academic programs, not on how many research articles you have submitted, their quality and current relevance. In the age of online webinars, everyone

is busy collecting more and more certificates. Therefore, should it be assumed that this period of epidemic is a period of accidents of research and theoretical discussion? And if it is indeed a period of accidents, it is not difficult to predict what will be the state of research in the post-pandemic period.

The market of goods has changed little in the market of information, it is not known. It is a matter of concern that this market of information without any truth and proof has dominated the society through newspapers and magazines and social media. Social media in particular has come to the fore as a weapon on which everyone is engaged in disseminating information through invisible or visible means, regardless of whether there is any basis for its veracity or not. And people also do not fail to transmit such information further and further. Similar situations arise when democratic institutions start to fail in a society and teachers, intellectuals become slaves of power or whose thinking is limited only to their own benefit. Without theoretical, ideological and empirical research, any article is like a public discussion. In such research, all those aspects which have been essential from the scientific point of view are ignored and doing so cannot be said to be suitable for the development of any subject.

Surveying and research, logical analysis of knowledge and information, ideological participation and relentless writing, which are counted among the important characteristics of academic intellectuals, are seen on the margins in the present era, because the complete knowledge of the subject for research work or writing work, logical Ability and commitment are essential. But in this age of the internet everything is easily available without much effort. The reality is also that now the purpose of research is not just to acquire knowledge but to get a degree. The major reason for this is also that without a degree, promotion in educational institutions has become impossible. When education deviates from its original purpose, how harmful its consequences can be, it can be understood in the present times of crisis. It is relevant to argue that the consumer society has produced cosmopolitan warlords who develop ideas for the market for the goods produced and, as a result, marginalize questions of social concern.

The author is an Educationist and Retired principal

After over 18 months of this pandemic, with the social distancing, mask wearing and on-off lockdowns, what we all want to know more than anything else is when it will all be over and how it will end. While nothing is certain, we have a lot of evidence on which to build some realistic expectations about how the pandemic will progress over the next year or so.

COVID-19 may not be the first time a coronavirus has caused a dreadful global pandemic. It's been hypothesised that the "Russian flu", which emerged in 1889, wasn't actually influenza, but was caused by another coronavirus, OC43.

The Russian flu pandemic caused four or five waves of disease over the following five years, after which it seemed to disappear. In England and Wales, most of the excess deaths it caused were restricted to 1890-91. OC43, the potential cause, still circulates today, though rarely causes severe disease.

Current evidence suggests SARS-CoV-2 – the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 – is also here to stay, a conclusion reached some months ago by many scientists working on the virus. Neither vaccines nor natural infection will stop the virus from spreading.

While vaccines do reduce transmission, they don't block infection to a high enough degree to eradicate the virus. Even before the delta variant arrived, we were seeing double-vaccinated people both catching the virus and spreading it to others. As vaccines are somewhat less effective at combating delta compared to other forms of the virus, the possibility of infection post-vaccination has grown.

Immunity to infection also starts to wane within weeks of receiving a second vaccine dose. And because immunity to infection is neither absolute nor permanent, herd immunity is unachievable. What this means is that COVID-19 is likely to become endemic, with daily infection rates plateauing depending on how much immunity and mixing there is across the population.

The other human coronaviruses cause repeat infections on average every three to six years. If SARS-CoV-2 ends up behaving the same way, this suggests that in the UK between one-sixth and one-third of people – or between 11 and 22 million – could get infected with it every year on average, or 30,000 to 60,000 a day. But that is not as scary as it sounds. Yes, emerging research (still in pre-

How Will The Covid Pandemic End?

Misha Ketchell



HOW COVID-19 WILL END WILL VARY FROM ONE COUNTRY TO another, depending largely on the proportion of people immunised and how much infection has occurred (and so how much natural immunity has built up) since the start of the pandemic

print, and so awaiting review by other scientists) does suggest that immune protection against developing symptomatic COVID-19 appears to wane. However, protection against severe disease – generated either by immunisation or natural infection – is much longer lasting. It also doesn't appear to be lost when facing new variants.

Indeed, for the other human coronaviruses, the vast majority of infections are either asymptomatic or at worst a mild cold. The signs are there to suggest that COVID-19 may end up being the same.

A pandemic with multiple endings
How COVID-19 will end will vary from one country to another, depending largely on the proportion of people immunised and how much infection has occurred (and so how much natural im-

munity has built up) since the start of the pandemic.

In the UK and other countries with high vaccine coverage and also high numbers of past cases, most people will have some form of immunity to the virus. In England, for example, it's estimated that at the beginning of September over 94% of the adult population had COVID-19 antibodies.

Among those with prior immunity, it's been shown that COVID-19 tends to be less severe. And as more people's immunity is boosted over time by natural reinfections or booster immunisations, we can expect an increasing proportion of new infections to be asymptomatic or at worst cause mild illness. The virus will remain with us, but the disease will become part of our history.

But in countries without much prior illness, even with high vaccine coverage, many people will remain susceptible. Even in countries with the highest vaccine coverage worldwide over 10% of people are yet to receive a vaccine. Virtually everyone who has not been vaccinated is likely to catch the virus. When infected, they will be as much at risk of severe disease and death (depending on their age and medical status) as at any time during the pandemic.

And in these countries, opening up will almost certainly lead to exponential growth of infections due to the large number of people with no immunity. And as the amount of virus circulating rises, there will be more cases in vaccinated people too, given that vaccines aren't 100% protective. Although

COVID-19 tends to be less severe in vaccinated people, some do still get very ill – and these countries may see a sizeable number of vaccinated people needing hospital care.

IMMUNITY TO INFECTION ALSO

starts to wane within weeks of receiving a second vaccine dose. And because immunity to infection is neither absolute nor permanent, herd immunity is unachievable. What this means is that COVID-19 is likely to become endemic, with daily infection rates plateauing depending on how much immunity and mixing there is across the population.

When these countries choose to open up will also have a critical impact. Too soon and many people will still be waiting to be vaccinated. Too late and the effectiveness of vaccines in the already-vaccinated may have started to wane.

Nevertheless, the key lesson from the Russian flu is that COVID-19 will become less relevant over the coming months, and that most countries are almost certainly over the worst of the pandemic. But it is still critical that vaccines are offered to the world's remaining vulnerable populations.

It's becoming clear that the main impact of vaccination won't be to stop people from catching SARS-CoV-2, but to reduce the severity of infection the first time people encounter the virus. If people have already been through their first or second natural infection, vaccines will add relatively little protection. To offer the biggest reduction in severe disease, vaccines need to be rolled out to as many people as possible now.

The author is a Professor of Medicine, University of East Anglia. The article is being reproduced here by arrangement with The Conversation



UGC-HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

(FORMERLY ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE)

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR

HAZRATBAL, SRINAGAR, KASHMIR, 190006

No: HRDC/KU/2021

Dated: 27/09/2021

CIRCULAR

UGC - Human Resource Development Centre, University of Kashmir is going to conduct 86th Guru Dakshita Faculty Induction Programme w.e.f. October 7th, 2021 for a period of four weeks in online mode.

Newly appointed faculty members working on substantive basis in all streams from Universities, NITs, Colleges and other higher education institutions are eligible for the said course. Teachers who are interested to attend the course are desired to register online by visiting the official website at <http://hrdc.uok.edu.in> and select the said online course. All participants can pay their registration fee of Rs. 1000/- to the following account: - Account Name: Director, Academic Staff College, University of Kashmir, Srinagar Account Number: 0007010100000807

IFSC Code: JAKAONASEEM

Bank Name and Branch: J&K Bank, Hazratbal, Srinagar

The desired participants are requested to submit duly filled in application forms along with the proof of depositing fee at the office of HRDC, University of Kashmir or email the soft copies to asc@kashmiruniversity.ac.in by or before October 5th, 2021. Due to limited seat capacity, admission will be given on first-cum-first serve basis. Further, the selected participants are required to submit the relieving order from the respective institutions before commencement of the course.

Prof. Mushtaq Ahmad Darzi

Director

DIPK-NB-3851/21

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)

HEMA COMPLEX, SECTOR -3, CHANNI HIMMAT, JAMMU/ ZUMZUM COMPLEX RAMBAGH SRINAGAR.

www.jkssb.nic.in

ADVANCE NOTICE

Subject: Computer Based Written Test (CBT) Examination for various posts- regarding.

It is notified for the information of those candidates whose Computer Based Written Test (CBT) Examination has been postponed vide this office notice No SSB/COE/CBT-II/2021/6199-6209 dated 20-09-2021, are hereby rescheduled in order to keep the process of recruitment going, the Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board has included more categories of posts as indicated in Annexure A to this Notification from w.e.f 27th of October, 2021, onwards.

All the candidates who have applied for the posts shown in the Annexure A, are accordingly informed to participate in the CBT examination to be held from 27th of October, 2021, onwards.

However, downloading of Admit Cards shall be notified later on. This is the advance notice for information of concerned candidates.

No. SSB/COE/CBT-II/2021/6350-60

Dated: 27-09-2021

DIPK-9627/21

(Ashok Kumar) JKAS

Controller of Examinations

J&K Services Selection Board Jammu

ANNEXURE A

Detail of Phase II CBT Examinations scheduled to be held by J&K Services Selection Board for posts of various Department from 27th Oct '21 onwards							
S.No	Advt No	Item No.	Department	Name of the post	Cadre of the post	Total posts	Dates of CBT Examination
1	05 of 2020	130	Public Works(R&B) Department	Junior Engineer(Civil)	UT	144	27th Oct'21 to 30th Oct'21
2	01 of 2021	1	Jal Shakti		UT	65	
3	01 of 2021	2	Jal Shakti		Div.Kashmir	72	
4	01 of 2021	3	Jal Shakti	Draftsman (Civil)	Div. Jammu	50	30th Oct'21
5	05 of 2020	132	Public Works(R&B) Department		UT	34	
6	06 of 2020	234	Home	Laboratory Attendant	UT	21	31st Oct'21 To 1st Nov'21
7	04 of 2020	048	Culture	Junior Librarian	Div.Kashmir	24	
8	04 of 2020	049	Culture		Div.Jammu	24	
9	04 of 2020	046	Culture		Div.Kashmir	4	
10	07 of 2020	333	Skill Development	Librarian	Div. Jammu	2	1st Nov'21
11	05 of 2020	151	Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs		UT	1	
12	04 of 2020	047	Culture		Div.Jammu	1	
13	01 of 2021	65	Horticulture	Photo Librarian	Div. Kashmir	1	2nd Nov'21
14	07 of 2020	310	Skill Development		Div Kashmir	1	
15	01 of 2021	117	Information		Div. Jammu	1	
16	04 of 2020	054	Culture	Cataloguer	UT	1	2nd Nov'21
17	07 of 2020	317	Skill Development	Assistant Librarian	Div Kashmir	1	
18	04 of 2020	087	Transport	Motor Vehicle Traffic Assistant	UT	18	
19	04 of 2020	091			Div.Kashmir		
20	04 of 2020	095			Div.Jammu		
21	05 of 2020	134	Public Works(R&B) Department	Works Supervisor	Div.Kashmir	76	2nd Nov'21
22	05 of 2020	131	Public Works(R&B) Department	Junior Engineer (Mechanical)	UT	30	
23	05 of 2020	142	Public Works(R&B) Department	Foreman Grade I (Mechanical)	Div.Jammu	2	
24	07 of 2020	306	Agriculture Production & Farmer's Welfare	Foreman/Senior Mechanic	Div.Kashmir	1	2nd Nov'21
25	07 of 2020	307	Agriculture Production & Farmer's Welfare	Foreman/Technician	Div.Kashmir	1	
26	01 of 2021	17	Jal Shakti	Driller	Kathua	1	
27	01 of 2021	18	Jal Shakti		Udhampur	1	
28	06 of 2020	203	Higher Education		Div.Kashmir	27	
29	06 of 2020	189	Higher Education	Library Assistant	Div.Jammu	15	8th Nov'21
30	04 of 2020	062	Culture		Div.Kashmir	1	
31	04 of 2020	110	Finance		UT	1	
32	07 of 2020	316	Skill Development	Library Assistant	Div Kashmir	1	8th Nov'21
33	07 of 2020	326	Skill Development		Div Jammu	1	
34	02 of 2021	408	Health & Medical Education		Div.Jammu	1	
35	02 of 2021	178	Health & Medical Education	Laboratory Assistant	Div.Jammu	3	8th Nov'21
36	02 of 2021	223	Health & Medical Education		Div.Kashmir	2	
37	06 of 2020	231	Home	Laboratory Assistant	UT	19	8th Nov'21
38	04 of 2020	086	Transport	Motor Vehicle Inspectors	UT	19	8th Nov'21
39	04 of 2020	088			Div.Kashmir		
40	04 of 2020	092			Div.Jammu		
41	02 of 2021	498	Cooperative Department	Junior Supervisor /Sub Auditor	Jammu	179	9th Nov'21 TO 12th Nov'21
42	02 of 2021	499			Samba		
43	02 of 2021	500			Kathua		
44	02 of 2021	501			Udhampur		
45	02 of 2021	502			Reasi		
46	02 of 2021	503			Doda		
47	02 of 2021	504			Kishtwar		
48	02 of 2021	505			Ramban		
49	02 of 2021	506			Rajouri		
50	02 of 2021	507			Poonch		
51	02 of 2021	508			Srinagar		
52	02 of 2021	509			Budgam		
53	02 of 2021	510			Ganderbal		
54	02 of 2021	511			Pulwama		
55	02 of 2021	512			Anantnag		
56	02 of 2021	513			Kulgam		
57	02 of 2021	514			Shopian		
58	02 of 2021	515			Baramulla		
59	02 of 2021	516			Bandipora		
60	02 of 2021	517			Kupwara		

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER SOCIAL FORESTRY DIVISION PULWAMA

Re-tendering of e- NIT NO: - 06 Of 2021-22 DATED:-22-09-2021

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of Jammu & Kashmir State, e-tenders are invited from approved and eligible contractors registered with J&K State Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

S. No	Name of Work	Adv. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Earnest money (Rs. In Lacs)	Class of Contractor	Cost of Tender document	Time of completion	Receiving/ opening Authority
1	Construction of Mali hut at Rakhichildren Social Forestry Division Pulwama.	12.00	Declaration Form to be submitted	"B & C"	Rs. 1000/=	2 months	Tender Opening Committee

The e-NIT Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Bills of Quantities, (B.O.Q), Set of Terms & Conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental Website:-www.jktenders.gov.in.

Position of Funds: Demanded

Position of TS/AA: Received

Publishing Date:-	23-09-2021
Download Start Date :	23-09-2021
Bid submission Start Date:	23-09-2021
Bid submission End Date:	04-10-2021 UPTO 6.00 PM
Date of opening of Technical Bids through online:	05-10-2021 AT 12.00 PM ((In the office of the Regional Director Kashmir Department of Social Forestry Rajbagh Srinagar
Date of opening of Price Bids:	05-10-2021 AT 01.00 PM ((In the office of the Regional Director Kashmir Department of Social Forestry Rajbagh Srinagar

Bids must be accompanied with cost of tender Document Fee (non-refundable) in the shape of Government Treasury Challan Receipt under

Account Head 0406-Forest, and earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee pledged to the Divisional Forest Officer Social Forestry Division Pulwama. The Bank Guarantee should be valid for 45 days beyond the bid validity.

Terms & Conditions

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website:- <https://jktenders.gov.in>
- Bids must accompany cost of tender document as shown against each work in the shape of Treasury Receipt (TR) paid to 0406/Forest head with specified tender details inscribed.
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 90 days from the date of opening of Price bids.
- In case the bid of lowest/successful bidder is found unbalanced then he has to produce additional performance security in the shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee from scheduled bank valid till completion of work before issuance of contract allotment as per details given below:-
 - Up to and including 15% below rate over advertised cost NIL
 - Greater than 15% up to and including 20% below rate over advertised cost 3% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee.
 - Greater than 20% up to and including 25% below rate over advertised cost 3.50% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee.
 - Greater than 25% up to and including 30% below rate over advertised cost 4.00% of advertised cost in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee.
 - Greater than 30% below rate over advertised cost 5% in shape of CDR/FDR/Bank Guarantee.
- Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website <http://jktenders.gov.in>
- To participate in bidding process, bidders have to get Digital Signature Certificate (DSC). As per "Information Technology Act" Bidders can get Digital Certificate form approved vendor.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical & Financial bid will be accepted in physical/hard form.
- Bids will be opened online as per time schedule mentioned above.
- Bidders must ensure to upload scanned copies of all necessary documents i.e CDR, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD duly renewed for the current year 2018-19, PAN, Valid GST registration, Treasury Receipt (cost of Tender Document).
- The successful bidder has to produce valid Labour Registration Certificate issued by Labour Department after issuance of award of contract.
- The Department will not be responsible for any delay in online submission of the bid due to any reason (technical or otherwise).
- The Department shall not be held responsible for selection criteria/policy matter being adopted by the Directorate of Information regarding publishing the NIT, in any of the newspaper under circulation.
- The Tender Accepting Authority however, reserves the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason thereof.
- All other terms and conditions shall remain same as per PWD form 25 (double leaf) and as per the detailed Tender document.
- For identification of site Shri. Javed Ahmad Hajam Jr.Mali Mobile No:- 9797877131 may be contacted

No:-SF/Pul/Acctt/775-80

Dated:-22-09-2021

DIPK-9619/21

Divisional Forest Officer,

Social Forestry Division,

Pulwama.

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



Tele/Fax: 0194-2433590, 2437647 (Srinagar); 0191-2479371, 2470102 (Jammu)

website: <http://www.jkbopee.gov.in/www.jakbopee.org>, email: helpdeskjakbopee@gmail.com/cejakbopee@gmail.com



Subject: Conduct of Physical Counselling for admission to (12th based) Paramedical (PM) Diploma courses-2021.

References:

- Notification No. 052-BOPEE of 2021 dated 10-04-2021
- Notice No. 045-BOPEE of 2021 dated 05-05-2021
- Notice No. 051-BOPEE of 2021 dated 28-05-2021
- Notice No. 053-BOPEE of 2021 dated 11-06-2021
- Notice No. D55-BOPEE of 2021 dated 29-06-2021
- Notification No. 072-BOPEE of 2021 dated 24-07-2021
- Notification No. 078-BOPEE of 2021 dated 20-08-2021.

Notification No. 097-BOPEE of 2021 Dated 27-09-2021

In pursuance of Notification No. 078-BOPEE of 2021 dated 20-08-2021 where under the Provisional Merit List (PML) of the candidates, for admission to various (12th Based) Paramedical Diploma Courses-2021 (PM/GNM/ANM/MRT) in the Government/Private Paramedical Institutions of the Union Territories of J&K/Ladakh, was issued as annexeure "A" and made available on the Board's official website www.jkbopee.gov.in.

It is hereby notified for information of all eligible candidates who have applied for admission (PM) Paramedical Diploma Courses forming Annexure "A" to this Notification that the Board shall conduct Physical Round of Counselling of these courses at BOPEE Office Jammu / Srinagar for allotment of seats of Govt./ Private Institutions of J&K/Ladakh as per the following schedule:-

COUNSELLING SCHEDULE FOR CANDIDATES WHO HAVE APPLIED FOR (PM) PARAMEDICAL DIPLOMA COURSES-2021

SNO	DATE	FROM RANK	TO RANK
1	01-10-2021	0001	0366
2	02-10-2021	0367	0739
3	04-10-2021	0741	1167
4	05-10-2021	1170	1657
5	06-10-2021	1658	2114
6	07-10-2021	2115	2585
7	08-10-2021	2586	3204
8	09-10-2021	3205	3841
9	11-10-2021	3842	4499
10	12-10-2021	4500	5175
11	13-10-2021	5176	5875
12	14-10-2021	5876	6575
13	15-10-2021	6576	7300
14	16-10-2021	7301	8188

NOTES:

- Candidates shall have to report to the BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar physically for registration/attendance & fulfillment of other formalities between 08:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. ranks wise on the dates of their counselling as mentioned above.
- Candidates are advised to bring along their Domicile Certificate issued by the Competent Authority & other relevant Certificates/documents as applicable to be presented at the time of Counselling.
- The allotment of seats (discipline/institution) shall be made in pursuance of S.O. 127 Dated 20-04-2020 and as per S.O. 249 dated 23-07-2021 to the eligible candidates in the Provisional Merit List where ever applicable.
- In case of PM Diploma courses, the candidate who misses his counselling on a particular (designated) day will be allowed by the Board to participate in the counselling on the next day provided that he/she does not stake any claim on a seat which has already been allotted to a candidate next in merit (to such candidate) on the ground that the candidate could not participate in the physical round of counselling earlier when the seat was available.
- The candidates who fail to join the allotted College/Institute after completion of counselling shall not be eligible to participate in the subsequent round of counselling i.e. up gradation round.
- The Board reserves the right to notify such changes (or any other change) as may become necessary in view of any technical difficulty or the reasons beyond its control.
- All the candidates who will report for physical counselling at BOPEE offices Jammu/ Srinagar are advised to adhere strictly to advisory issued by the Government of J&K from time to time for COVID-19.
- Seat matrix shall be uploaded separately in due course of time before counselling.
- The candidates must remain in touch with the official web site of the Board i.e. www.jkbopee.gov.in to remain informed about the Counselling Process and Daily Based Seat Matrix.
- Any candidate who may not be able to attend counselling physically owing to a valid reason can authorize a person (through Authority Letter-on prescribed format) from his/her family member to participate in the counselling on his/her behalf at BOPEE offices Jammu/Srinagar on day/date of counselling as per his/her Rank.
- The candidates are advised to see BOPEE website daily evening during counselling day's for latest seat matrix i.e. update of vacant seats available in the various institutions.
- The candidates provisionally selected for these diploma paramedical courses are advised to contact concerned College/Institute for their fee structure and other requisite documents.

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

E & O E

No. BOP EE/Exam-10/2021

Dated: 27-09-2021

DIPK-NB-3844/21

(Dr.Sunil Gupta)

Controller of Examinations

Delhi Greenest City For Real Estate In India; Ranks 63Rd Globally: Report



Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: Delhi is the greenest city for real estate in India but ranks 63rd globally, according to a study by property consultant Knight Frank.

London, Shanghai, New York, Paris and Washington DC are the world's top five green cities for real estate.

"Globally ranked 63rd, Delhi is the greenest city for real estate in India. Followed by Chennai with a global rank of 224, Mumbai with a global rank of 240, Hyderabad with a global rank of 245, Bengaluru with a global rank of 259 and Pune with a global rank of 260," Knight Frank said in a statement.

In its research, the consultant measured 286 cities on a range of factors, such as well-developed public transport networks, urban green space, and a high number of green-rated buildings.

Knight Frank also stated that India is projected to receive cross border real estate

investment of USD 2.5 billion in 2022.

US, UK, Germany, France, and the Netherlands are set to be the top destinations for cross border real estate investment in 2022.

Shishir Bajjal, chairman and managing director of Knight Frank India, said: "A series of structural reforms in recent past has put the country's real estate sector on high trajectory attracting global attention."

He noted that the improving pandemic scenario in the country coupled with policy interventions to support growth in realty sector would help in attracting global capital.

"The country's commercial real estate sector has evinced strong global investor interest in segments led by office and warehouse. With best-in-class global participation on capital as well as development front, we expect that the volume and quality of product offerings will see a marked scale-up in near future," he added.

Sensex Skids For 2nd Day; HDFC Twins Top Drags

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI: Equity benchmarks buckled under selling pressure for the second straight day on Wednesday, weighed by banking and finance counters, as global sentiment remained risk-averse amid spiking US bond yields and inflation concerns.

A depreciating rupee, which tumbled for the fourth session on the trot, also took a toll on investor confidence, traders said.

The 30-share BSE Sensex opened weak and extended its losses, before staging a comeback in late-afternoon trade to close at 59,413.27, still down by 254.33 points or 0.43 per cent.

Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty declined 37.30 points or 0.21 per cent to finish at 17,711.30.

HDFC was the top laggard on the Sensex chart, shedding 1.96 per cent, followed by Kotak Bank, Asian Paints, UltraTech Cement, HUL, HDFC Bank and Tech Mahindra.

The HDFC duo and Reliance Industries accounted for most of the benchmark's losses.

On the other hand, NTPC, PowerGrid, Sun Pharma, SBI, Titan and Tata Steel were among the gainers, rallying as much as 6.52 per cent.

"Domestic market started on a very negative trend due to global sell-off on Tuesday and high crude prices. Spiking US treasury yields and slowing economy were impacting growth stocks.

"During the day, European and Asian markets recovered and crude prices stabilised. Indian growth-oriented sectors like energy, metals and pharma also recovered strongly but selling continued in other sectors like private sector banks and consumption," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

According to S Ranganathan, Head of Research at LKP Securities, markets are wary of inflation on the back of supply side disruptions and higher commodity prices.

"As China pulls back on the back of power shortages, export opportunities are seen opening up for several Indian companies with the PLI schemes providing the catalyst... As the gap between growth and value stocks widen, we are witnessing sector rotation in several pockets," he noted.

Sectorally, BSE finance, FMCG, bankex and capital goods shed up to 0.70 per cent, while utilities, power, metal and realty spurted as much as 3.87 per cent.

Broader BSE midcap and smallcap indices rose up to 0.62 per cent.

Asian markets stayed on the backfoot following heavy losses on Wall Street in the overnight session due to rising bond yields and concerns over economic recovery. Bourses in Shanghai, Tokyo and Seoul ended in the red, while Hong Kong closed higher.

India's External Debt Rises 2.1 Pc To USD 570 Billion

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: India's external debt rose modestly by 2.1 per cent year-on-year to USD 570 billion as of March-end 2021, notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the finance ministry.

External debt to GDP ratio rose marginally to 21.1 per cent from 20.6 per cent as at end-March 2020.

Reserves to external debt ratio, however, increased to 101.2 per cent from 85.6 per cent during the same period, thereby consolidating the country's position as a net creditor to the world, as per the status report on India's external debt released by the ministry.

The sovereign debt at USD 107.2 billion rose higher by 6.2 per cent over its level a year ago, mainly because of an increase in external assistance more than compensating the fall in FPI investment in government securities (G-Secs), it said.

The augmented external assistance reflected larger disbursement of COVID-19 loans from multilateral agencies during 2020-21.

The non-sovereign debt, on the other hand, grew 1.2 per cent on a yearly basis to USD 462.8 billion.

Commercial borrowings, NRI deposits and short-term trade credit account for 95 per cent of the non-sovereign debt.

While NRI deposits grew 8.7 per cent to USD 141.9 billion, commercial borrowings at USD 197.0 billion and short-term trade credit at USD 97.3 billion shrank by 0.4 per cent and

4.1 per cent, respectively.

At March-end 2021, long-term debt (with original maturity of above one year) was at USD 468.9 billion, recording an increase of USD 17.3 billion over the year-ago level.

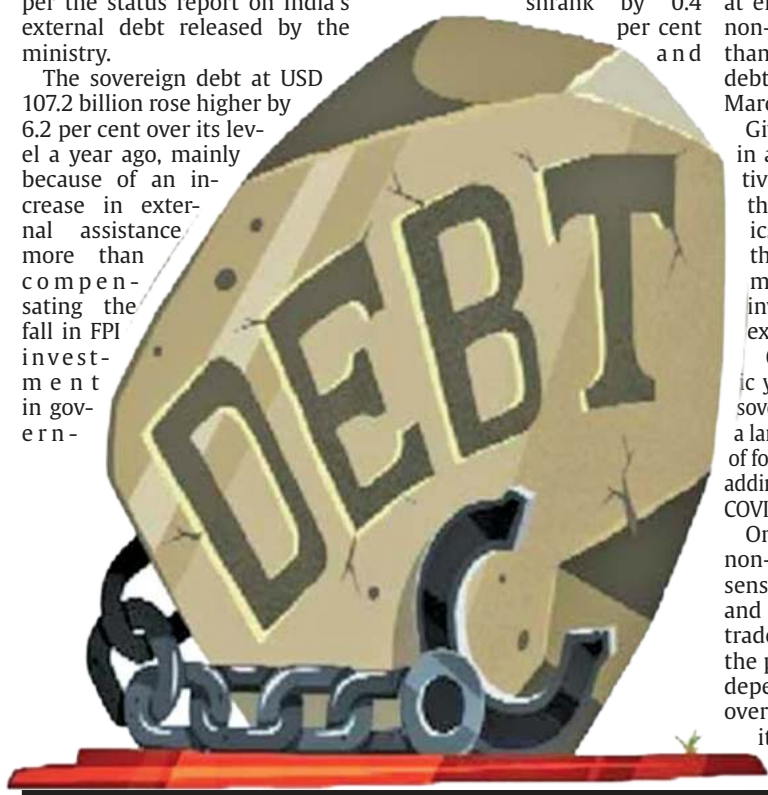
US dollar-denominated debt remained the largest component of India's external debt, with a share of 52.1 per cent as of March-end 2021, followed by Indian rupee (33.3 per cent), yen (5.8 per cent), SDR (4.4 per cent) and the euro (3.5 per cent).

"Over the years, policy on external debt has enabled the private sector to access foreign debt in a calibrated manner. As at end-March 2021, the level of non-sovereign debt was more than four times that of sovereign debt, compared to half as at end-March 1991," it said.

Given its relative size, typically in a normal year, it is the relative rise in non-sovereign debt that influences the dynamics of India's external debt, thereby supplementing domestic savings to fund larger investments as the economy expands, it said.

On the contrary, in the pandemic year, it was the relative rise in sovereign debt that accounted for a larger share in the overall growth of foreign debt (2.1 per cent), it said, adding this increase was due to the COVID-19 loans.

On the other hand, within the non-sovereign debt, the growth-sensitive commercial borrowings and import-sensitive short-term trade credit shrank. Therefore, the pandemic disrupted growth-dependent constituents, though overall external debt level rose, it added.



Airtel Rolls Out Made-In-India Dth Set Top Boxes

Aims To Fully Transition To Domestically Manufactured Stbs By End Of 2021

OBSERVER NEWS SERVICE

SRINAGAR- Airtel Digital TV, the DTH arm of Bharti Airtel ("Airtel") has introduced Made-in-India High Definition Set Top Boxes for customers to contribute to local manufacturing and Government of India's Atmanirbhar vision. The Set Top Boxes are being manufactured in Noida, Uttar Pradesh by Skyworth Electronics.

Airtel plans to fully transition to Made-in-India Set Top Boxes, including the high-end Airtel Xstream 4K Android TV Box, by the end of 2021 and contribute to local manufacturing and Government of India's Atmanirbhar vision.

CEO - DTH, Bharti Airtel Sunil Talwar, said: "This is a major milestone in Airtel Digital TV's growth journey and a sign of India's fast-growing manufacturing capabilities. The Covid-19 in-



Definition (HD) TV services with Dolby surround sound with 667 channels including 86 HD channels, 60 Airtel in-house services, 6 international channels and 4 interactive services including EduTech.

The Airtel Xstream Android 4K TV Box brings the best of linear TV and OTT content to any TV screen with the convenience of one device and one remote. This is one of the many first-in-India launches by Airtel which also includes Airtel Black, India's first all-in-one solution for Homes. This program allows a customer to combine 2 or more of Airtel services (Fiber, DTH, Mobile) together in one plan. Airtel Black entitles the customer for one single bill, one Customer Care number with a dedicated team of relationship managers, and priority resolution of faults and issues.

Govt Begins Air India Bid Evaluation



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The government has begun evaluation of financial bids received from Tata Group and SpiceJet founder for the acquisition of Air India, sources said.

With this, the privatisation process of the national flag carrier has moved to the next phase as the government looks to expeditiously conclude the deal.

The financial bids are being evaluated against an undisclosed reserve price and the bid offering the highest price above that benchmark would be accepted.

If successful, this will mark the return of Air India to Tata fold after 67 years.

The Tata Group founded Air India as Tata Airlines in October 1932. The government nationalised the airline in 1953.

Tatas operated a premier full-service carrier, Vistara, in partnership with Singapore Airlines. It wasn't immediately known if the group put in the bid on its own or through budget carrier AirAsia India.

Singapore Airlines was said to be not keen on participating in the privatisation programme as it would only add to Vistara's and its own financial troubles.

The government is seeking to sell 100 per cent of its stake in the state-owned national airline, including Air India's 100 per cent shareholding in AI Express Ltd and 50 per cent in Air India SATS Airport Services Private Ltd.

The stake sale process, which begun in January 2020, faced delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic. In April 2021, the government asked potential

bidders to put in financial bids. The last day for placing financial bids was September 15.

Tata Group was among the multiple entities that had put in an initial expression of interest (Eoi) in December 2020 for buying the Maharaja.

With previous attempts since 2017 failing to get any significant interest and after receiving feedback from potential investors, the government in October last year sweetened the Eoi clause relating to the transfer of Air India's debt to the new investor, giving bidders flexibility to decide on the quantum of humongous debt they want to absorb.

As per the Air India Eoi floated by the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) in January 2020, of the airline's total debt of Rs 60,074 crore as of March 31, 2019, the buyer would be required to absorb Rs 23,286.5 crore. The rest would be transferred to Air India Assets Holding Ltd (AIAHL), a special purpose vehicle.

Air India has been in losses ever since its merger with domestic operator Indian Airlines in 2007.

The airline, which was formed by the Tatas as a mail carrier in 1932, will give the successful bidder control of 4,400 domestic and 1,800 international landing and parking slots at domestic airports, as well as 900 slots at airports overseas.

Besides, the bidder would get 100 per cent of the low-cost arm Air India Express and 50 per cent of AISATS, which provides cargo and ground handling services at major Indian airports.

Shopping For Jeans? You Could End Up Paying More Than You Ever Did

MARVIN G. PEREZ, BLOOMBERG



Cotton futures raced past \$1 a pound for the first time in nearly a decade as adverse weather and shipping snags threaten supplies, driving up costs for clothing around the world.

Crops in several key-growing countries are seeing problems, from rain-drenched fields in the U.S. to bollworm-infested ones in India. At the same time, cotton buyers need more of the fiber. Mexico and China are buying record amounts. Also causing trouble for supplies are high freight rates and geopolitics, with international backlash about labor violations in Xinjiang, China's biggest producing region. The U.S. banned imports earlier this year.

All of this is coming together to drive up prices, which means the cost of making clothing will be on the rise. That will squeeze margins for apparel makers like Levi Strauss & Co., and result in inflation for everything from T-shirts to jeans if retailers try to pass on

the expense to consumers.

In New York, the contract for December delivery climbed as much as 3.6% to \$1.0155 a pound, the highest since November 2011. The price has surged 28% this year. Gains are being intensified by traders rushing to cover short positions.

With cotton projected to see a second year of global supply deficits, traders are focusing on an updated figure for the shortfall that is due this week from researcher Cotlook.

While the spike to \$1 is psychologically significant, the rally likely won't surpass the \$2 level reached in 2011, said Louis Rose, a director of research for Rose Commodity Group in Tennessee.

SHORT TAKES

Airtel Fined Millions In This Nation For Cheating Customers Of Call Time

AGENCIES

LILONGWE: Malawian regulators on Wednesday fined the local unit of Bharti Airtel the equivalent of around \$2.6 million for skimming on airtime owed to consumers in one of the world's poorest countries.

The Competition and Fair Trade Commission imposed a 2.1-billion-kwacha (\$2.6 million) fine on mobile operator Airtel Malawi for engaging in "unconscionable conduct" in withholding airtime owed as part of a loyalty programme.

Airtel Malawi is part of Bharti Airtel Limited that operates in 18 countries across Asia and Africa. The company describes itself as the largest mobile operator in Africa.

The commission's acting executive director Apoche Itimu told a news briefing that the commission launched an investigation into Airtel Malawi on September 16, following several complaints from consumers.

Gold Jumps Rs 264; Silver Climbs Rs 362

NEW DELHI: Gold in the national capital on Wednesday rose by Rs 264 to Rs 45,123 per 10 gram with recovery in global precious metal prices along with rupee depreciation, according to HDFC Securities. In the previous trade, the precious metal had settled at Rs 44,859 per 10 gram.

Silver also jumped Rs 362 to Rs 58,825 per kilogram from Rs 58,463 per kilogram in the previous trade. The Indian rupee declined 13 paise to 74.19 against the US dollar in opening trade on Wednesday.

In the international market, gold was trading with gains at USD 1,739 per ounce and silver traded flat at USD 22.26 per ounce.

"Gold prices pared some of the previous losses on Wednesday after falling to seven-week lows," according to HDFC Securities, Senior Analyst (Commodities), Tapan Patel.

Navneet Damani, VP Commodities Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services said, gold prices traded steady after inching lower in the previous session, weighed by a rise in the dollar and US Treasury yields. (PTI)

Rupee Slides 8 Paise To End At Over 1-Mth Low Against Dollar

MUMBAI- The rupee slid by 8 paise to close at a more than one-month low of 74.14 against the US dollar on Wednesday, declining for a fourth session in a row due to month-end dollar demand and a stronger greenback in the global markets amid rising bond yields.

The rupee dropped to an intra-day low of 74.26, a level not seen since August 26, but suspected RBI intervention limited its losses.

In the four trading sessions to Wednesday, the rupee has lost 50 paise or 0.68 per cent as the US bond yields firmed up on fears of tapering in bond purchases by the US Fed before the end of the year.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened lower at 74.18 and witnessed an intra-day high of 74.08 and a low of 74.26 against the US dollar in day trade.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR DEPARTMENT OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT INDUSTRIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE GANDERBAL

E-MAIL: itigbl@gmail.com

Provisional selection for admission for the session 2021-22-23 in various trades

It is hereby notified for the information of all those candidates who have applied for admission in various courses being offered by this Institute that the selection list is available on the website www.itiganderbal.com.

The Selected candidates will have to complete the admission formalities by or before **01/10/2021**. The selection is subject to verification of the following certificates in original.

- 1) Class 10th /8th marks certificate
- 2) DOB Certificate
- 3) Domicile Certificate
- 4) Category certificate, if any
- 5) Discharge certificate from the Institute last attended

Errors and omissions accepted.

No: - ITI/Gbl/Trgs/2021/323
Date:-27/09/2021
DIPK-9578/21

Sd/= (Er. G. N. Shah)
Superintendent
ITI Ganderbal

Pentagon Leadership Wants To Discuss ISI's Ties With Taliban Within Closed Doors

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

WASHINGTON: US Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin along with two of his top generals have told Senators that the ties that Pakistan and its spy agency ISI have with the Taliban can only be discussed within closed doors.

In the public domain they can only say that the relationship between the two is going to become increasingly complex post withdrawal.

"An in-depth conversation about Pakistan probably would be better suited in a closed hearing here so, Austin told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee when Senators asked pointed questions about recent news reports of the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), the intelligence wing of Pakistan Army, and its ties with the Taliban.

His two generals, Gen Mark Milley, Chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen Frank McKenzie, Commander of US Central Command said the same.

"I've had several conversations over the years and also recently with Pakistanis and there's no question in my mind that the relationship between



Pakistan and the Taliban is going to become increasingly complex. There's a whole series of issues there that have national security interests for the United States that are best handled in a different session, Milley said.

ISI chief Lt Gen Faiz Hameed dashed to Kabul on an unannounced visit in August last week and met top Taliban leaders. He was the first high-ranking foreign official to visit Afghanistan since the Taliban seized the Afghan capital in mid-August.

Three days after Hameed's

visit, the Taliban announced an interim government dominated by the hardline leaders of the insurgent group. At least 14 members of the Taliban's hardline interim government are on the UN Security Council blacklist, including acting Prime Minister Mullah Mohammad Hasan Akhund and his both deputies.

The inclusion of top leaders of the pro-Pakistan Haqqani Network in the interim government is an indication of the influence Islamabad, especially its intelligence agencies have over the Taliban.

Pakistan's relationship with the Taliban is going to become significantly more complicated as a result of the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, McKenzie said.

"In fact, they're going to see pressure moving into Pakistan from Afghanistan in ways that they've been able to deflect before because of the pressure that we and our allies had on them," he said.

"So, I think that's a significant problem that Pakistan is going to face. I'd like to talk about their special weapons perhaps in the closed session. As has been noted by several people, in order to get to Afghanistan, you have to fly over Pakistan unless you come from the north. And that's a subject of continuing deliberation with Pakistan," he added.

"I can shed a little bit more light on that going forward. But, actually, over the last 20 years, we've been able to use what we call the air boulevard to go in over Western Pakistan. And that's become something that's vital to us, as well as certain land lines of communication. And we'll be working with the Pakistanis in the days and weeks ahead to look at what that relationship is

going to look like in the future. But I can talk a little more in the closed session, he said.

Senator Jeanne Shaheen said that it's long been publicly reported that the Pakistani intelligence services have maintained a close and continuing relationship with the Taliban.

"Do we expect that relationship to become more complicated now that the Taliban is in power? Are we concerned about Pakistan's nuclear weapons and the potential that terrorist groups might be able to get access to those weapons? he asked. "Can you talk a little bit about how you see the relationship with Pakistan and the Taliban playing out and the challenges that presents for the United States? the Senator asked.

Senator Gary Peters asked about shared interest with Pakistan.

"I think that one key shared interest is the prevention of a humanitarian disaster in Afghanistan or in the region. And so, I think we'll continue to share that interest. I do think there are some intersections in terms of certain types of terrorist activity that I think we can both remain focused on, Austin said.

Mid-day Meal Scheme To Be Now Called PM POSHAN, To Cover Students Of Pre-Primary Classes Also

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI: The national mid-day meal scheme in government and aided schools will now be known as PM POSHAN Scheme and will also cover students of balvatikas or pre primary classes, the government announced Wednesday.

Encouraging "Tithi Bhojan" to allow people from community to provide special food to children on occasions and festivals, using harvest from "school nutrition gardens" for cooking mid-day meals, cooking competitions to promote ethnic cuisine and innovative menus and involvement of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPO) and Women Self Help Groups in implementation of the scheme, are among the features which have been added in the new scheme.

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the roll-out of the 'PM POSHAN in Schools' scheme that will provide hot cooked meal to students of elementary classes in government and government-aided schools across the country. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Today the CCEA cleared the PM POSHAN (Poshan SHakti Nirman) Scheme for providing one hot cooked meal in government and government-aided schools from 2021-22 to 2025-26, earlier known as 'National Programme for Mid-Day Meal in Schools' popularly known as Mid-Day Meal Scheme. This is a centrally-sponsored scheme which covers all school children studying in classes 1 to 8 in government, government-aided schools," Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan told reporters.

"Under the new scheme, mid-day meals have been extended to students studying in pre-primary or Balvatikas in addition to children studying in class 1 to 8 in government

and schools across India. This will benefit about 11.80 crore children studying in 11.20 lakh schools," he added.

The CCEA has approved the continuation of the national scheme of PM POSHAN in schools for the five-year period 2021-22 to 2025-26 with the financial outlay of 2 54061.73 crores from the central government and 31733.17 crore from state governments and union territory administrations.

"Central government will also bear additional cost of about Rs 45000 crore on food grains. Therefore, the total scheme budget will amount to 130794.90 crore. The concept of Tithi Bhojan will be encouraged extensively. Tithi Bhojan is a community participation programme in which people provide special food to children on special occasions and festivals.

"Government is also promoting development of 'School Nutrition Gardens' in schools to give children first-hand experience with nature and gardening. The harvest of these gardens is used in the scheme providing additional micro nutrients. School Nutrition Gardens have already been developed in more than 3 lakh schools," he said.

While social audit of the scheme is made mandatory in all the districts, special provision is made for providing supplementary nutrition items to children in aspirational districts and districts with high prevalence of Anemia.

"Cooking competitions will be encouraged at all levels right from village level to national level to promote ethnic cuisine and innovative menus based on locally available ingredients and vegetables. Involvement of Farmers Producer Organizations (FPO) and Women Self Help Groups in implementation of the scheme will be encouraged. Use of locally grown traditional food items for a fillip to local economic growth will be encouraged," Pradhan said.

HDFC Bank Issues Record High Of Over 4 Lakh Cards Post Embargo

AGENCEIS

MUMBAI: HDFC Bank today announced a record of over 4 lakh credit cards issued since the embargo being lifted. The record issuance marks the aggressive growth path the Bank has charted post the embargo to re-invent and co-create its credit cards portfolio with strong products and partnerships.

The bank also announced the relaunch of 3 cards. HDFC Bank's Millennia, MoneyBack+ and Freedom cards have been reinvented to put more power into the hands of the customers, by adding a host of new features and benefits. Creating and co-creating new card products is part of the

Bank's strategy to straddle every customer segment.

"As a leader in the cards space, we promised, we would be back with a bang. We are now pushing the pedal not only to acquire new customers, but also to enhance offerings of our existing cards," said Parag Rao, Group Head – Payments, Consumer Finance, Digital Banking & IT, HDFC Bank.

"Our strategy to re-invent, create and co-create has been crafted based on the analysis of customers' buying behaviour, the categories they spend on and the spend patterns. The months that we have spent readying and sharpening our strategy are now bearing fruit.

China Unveils Plan To Bring Algorithms Of Its Internet Industry Under State Control To Tighten Censorship

Press Trust of India

BEIJING: China on Wednesday unveiled a three-year plan to bring the algorithms related to internet information services of its fast-growing web industry under state control.

Chinese regulators will strengthen the management of algorithms related to internet information services to foster "healthy" and "orderly" development of the industry, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

A three-year campaign will seek to put in place a sound management mechanism and supervisory system, and a standardised algorithm ecosystem, according to new guidelines issued by nine

ministries or departments including the Cyberspace Administration of China.

The guidelines urged enterprises to strengthen their sense of responsibility and set up responsibility systems for algorithm security and sci-tech ethical review systems. Legal violations and malpractices related to algorithms will be severely punished, the report said, citing guidelines.

The guidelines also called for efforts to prevent the abuse of algorithms, prohibiting activities that use them to tamper with public opinion, attack competitors and infringe upon the rights and interests of internet users.

Algorithms that are used as specifications for performing data

processing, calculations, automated reasoning and other tasks have emerged as one of the most important assets of Chinese tech companies.

Internet companies in China have long been tasked with adjusting their algorithms to restrict users' access to information deemed inappropriate by the government while promoting those that are considered beneficial.

The operators of the most successful video platforms such as ByteDance's TikTok and anime-streaming service Bilibili rely on algorithms to continuously learn about the personal interests of their users and recommend relevant content or products to them, Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

Govt Seeks

redressed by them on weekly basis to the General Administration Department on every Friday by 04:00 p.m. on the email ID jkgadadm@gmail.com for appraisal of the Lieutenant Governor."

Meanwhile the government asked all Deputy Commissioners in Jammu and Kashmir to remain available in their offices between 02:30 to 03:30 p.m. every day except on tour days for meeting general public/delegations for redressal of their grievances. "The action taken report in this regard shall be shared on weekly basis with the General Administration Department."

The government also asked them that the practice of organizing Block Diwas shall be revived immediately by following Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) and with due regard to other SoPs in place on account of the pandemic.

We Brought Transparency

Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha said on Wednesday asking the officials of the administration to ensure that the public grievances are redressed in the shortest possible time.

The LG made these remarks during the interaction with the public through virtual mode during the 7th Round of "LG's Mulaqaat- Live Public Grievance Hearing" at Civil Secretariat, an official spokesperson said.

During the two-hour-long programme, he said, the LG interacted with as many as 20 individuals selected randomly from all 20 districts of the UT, and took detailed information regarding the status of their grievances from the concerned DCs and other officers. The LG, he said directed the officers to ensure quality disposal of every genuine public grievance to make the system more effective, responsive, and vibrant. "Government has brought transparency and accountability in the system through several reformative interventions. All the officials of the administration must ensure that the public grievances are redressed in the shortest possible time," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

On the grievance of Danish Mattu from Srinagar, regarding the allotment of shops by SMC, the LG, he said, directed the Commissioner SMC to resolve the issue, fix responsibility for the unnecessary delay, and take appropriate action against erring officials.

"Manzoor Ahmad Wani from Pulwama while projecting his grievance regarding the commencement of work on a Stadium sanctioned for his village, informed with satisfaction that its work has been started a few days back after lodging the grievance on JK-IGRAMS," the official spokesperson said.

Similarly, he said, on the grievance of Vijay Kumar Sharma of Hiranagar, Kathua pertaining to the inclusion of left out eligible beneficiaries in PMAY-Urban Scheme, the LG issued directions to Divisional Commissioner Jammu and

DC Kathua to address the matter on priority basis by holding a special camp within a week.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG also expressed satisfaction on the high rate of disposal of District-wise and department-wise grievances.

Rehana Batul Commissioner/Secretary Public Grievances gave a detailed overview of the overall functioning of the Jammu and Kashmir Integrated Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (JK-IGRAMS).

"She also briefed the Lt Governor about the progress on disposal of grievances from March 2021 to August 2021," the official spokesperson said.

Modi Govt Committed

and no power on earth can stop the prosperity of the region," Rai said, while addressing the farmers and PRIs here on Wednesday.

The Union Minister, who reached this frontier district for a three day visit as part of the Union Government's public outreach programme, laid foundation stone of Model Agriculture Farm at Khahipora-Zachaldara in Handwara, an official spokesperson said.

The Minister, he said was informed that the 10 kanal farm, having project cost of Rs 50 lakh, shall benefit 8000 farm operating families of the area.

He further said that the farm is being developed on scientific lines for dissemination and demonstration of farm technology to the farming community with a sole aim of doubling the farmer's income by 2022, a slogan by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Minister also inspected various stalls established by Agriculture and its allied departments.

"The Minister said that it is crystal clear that the developmental initiatives initiated by Union Government from time to time have percolated down to the people at grass root level," the official spokesperson said.

"He said the Government headed by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi has broader vision for development in Jammu and Kashmir and is committed to build a New Kashmir. He said people of Kashmir have whole heartedly supported prevalence of peace in the region. He urged upon the youth and all stakeholders to take advantage of new initiatives of development," he added.

He further said that the Minister asked the people present on the occasion to be brave enough to inform him about clear picture of development taking place in their areas, adding that the sole aim of Union Government's public outreach programme is to assess the development at grass root level.

The official spokesperson said that Rai expressed satisfaction over the positive approach and interest of youth in education and said that 13 youth from J&K including 9 from Valley have qualified the prestigious UPSC exam and urged upon the youth to take keen interest in education and development of their personalities.

"While interacting with people associated

with handicrafts and other stall vendors, the Minister stressed upon the need for enhancement of marketing avenues in addition to production, adding that the whole of India is a market place for products of Kashmiri origin," he added.

Later in the afternoon, the official spokesperson said that the Minister in a meeting with security agencies reviewed the security scenario of the area. High level officers of Army, BSF, CRPF, Police and Intelligence Agencies besides Deputy Commissioner Kupwara attended the meeting.

Survey Shows Economic

in J&K was used for housing," It said, "The total percentage of agricultural households reporting crop production in J&K till June 2019 was reported at 99.1 percent."

The NSS survey has also revealed that J&K, in terms of agricultural households having accessed technical advice, recorded a booming 67.5 percent.

As per the survey, J&K consisted of 12,55,700 households out of which 54.8 percent owned agricultural land between 0.01 to 0.40 hectares. "More than 5,900 units were surveyed in first stage visit-1 in rural areas, covering 58,035 households and 5,894 first stage units were surveyed in visit-2 covering 56,894 households in J&K." The report said.

As per the NSS, along with the outstanding amount, the survey has also collected the information on the source, nature and purpose of the loan. "Loans reported in the survey also include outstanding interest." The survey said.

PCI To Probe

site Twitter, the PDP chief thanked the PCI for constituting the committee.

"Thankful to the @PressCouncil_IN for their decision to constitute a fact finding committee to probe journalists being harassed in J&K. Hope the local administration ensures their full cooperation so that this committee can discharge its duty. (sic)," Mehbooba said.

Mehbooba on Monday shot a letter to PCI seeking its intervention to prevent the continued harassment of media by the authorities in Jammu and Kashmir.

J&K Sees More

year to 329320.

Out of fresh cases, officials said, 76 were reported from Kashmir Valley and remaining 24 from Jammu division.

Giving district-wise details, the officials said that Srinagar reported 49, Baramulla 9, Budgam 5, Kupwara 4, Bandipora 3, Anantnag and Pulwama 2 each, and one new case each in Ganderbal and Kulgam districts. Shopian district in south Kashmir reported no case of Covid-19 on Wednesday.

There was no death due to the virus for the second day in a row. So far 4422-2173 in Jammu and 2249 in Kashmir have succumbed to the virus.

Placed Under

visiting dignitaries must be shown instead of GOLS sanitised & guided picnic tours," Mufti tweeted.

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief also posted a picture of a security forces vehicle allegedly blocking the main gate of her residence on Gupkar road.

On Tuesday, Mufti had tweeted: "Army from Yagwani camp in Tral ransacked homes & ruthlessly thrashed a family last night. The daughter owing to her serious injuries was admitted to hospital. Not the first time that civilians from this village have been beaten up by army in this area."

Govt To Withhold

Commissioner (Additional Chief Secretary)/Principal Secretary to the Government/Commissioner/Secretary to the Government/Secretary to the Government, not to draw the salary of un-vaccinated employees working in his/her department besides sharing their details with the General Administration Department for further action," the order said.

"The matter may be treated as most urgent," the order said.

Forces Asked

or even the personnel going on leave should not be shared on social media platforms, the alert said. A senior official in the forces said that these do's and don'ts have been part of the protocol for every personnel and had been adhered to by everyone in the forces.

The intelligence agencies have confirmed reports that ISI has been trying to infiltrate WhatsApp groups of security forces to gather sensitive information.

The agencies have noticed that multiple groups with pseudo identity have been trying to infiltrate Facebook, WhatAapp, Telegram, Signal, WeChat etc, and they have been asked not to accept any invitations on the social network by unidentified numbers or groups.

Tour Agent Charged

Hamidullah Mir, proprietor of M/S Kaba Tour and Travels before the

Court of sub-judge Pattan, in a case FIR No. 17 of 2018 U/S 420 RPC filed at the police station crime branch Kashmir.

Giving details of the case, the spokesperson said that Crime Branch Kashmir received a complaint from Ghulam Rasool Khanday of Pattan Bala, stating therein that he and his wife intended to undertake Hajj Pilgrimage and for that purpose he contacted Mir and paid him an amount of Rs 3.80 lacs for arranging visa/ air tickets and accommodation at Harmain Sharief (KSA) and other related facilities for them.

"The accused provided them visa for proceeding to Saudi Arabia for Hajj Pilgrimage and accordingly they proceeded for Pilgrimage on 16.9.2016, but were stopped at Delhi airport

and were not allowed to proceed ahead on the ground that their visas are invalid and are not meant for Hajj/Umrab," the CBK spokesperson said.

"These passports/visas were verified/ confirmed which turned to be fake and false. On this count, case with FIR No: 17/2018 U/s 420 RPC was registered in PS crime branch Kashmir and investigation was set into motion," he added.

The CBK spokesperson further said that the allegations were established in the course of investigation against the accused and it was also established that the accused had duped other Hajj aspirants hailing from Pattan area.

He further said that the offence under section 420 RPC has been proved against the accused Mir and accordingly the charge sheet was presented before the court.

Pakistani Intruder

on Tuesday, the officials said.

They said the infiltrator was challenged and taken into custody for questioning.

Nothing incriminating was recovered from his possession, the officials said, adding further details are awaited.

ACB Nabs Patwari

for accepting bribe for issuance of documents pertaining to inheritance.

The ACB, as per the spokesperson acted swiftly after receiving a complaint through its helpline alleging the Patwari was demanding illegal gratification for issuance of documents pertaining to transfer of ancestral land.

"The complainant alleged that the Patwari was approached by the complainant and his brothers and sisters umpteen times for documents pertaining to inheritance, but the said Patwari demanded Rs. 15000/- for issuance of these documents," the ACB spokesperson said.

After negotiating, he said, the concerned Patwari settled for Rs. 5000 as illegal gratification.

"On the receipt of the complaint, Case FIR No. 10/2021 was registered in Police Station ACB Baramulla U/s 7 P.C ACT 1988 and investigation taken up," it reads.

The ACB spokesperson further said that a team was constituted that laid a successful trap and caught the revenue official red-handed while demanding and accepting the bribe money from the complainant.

"He was arrested and taken into custody. Further investigation into the case is going on," he added.

Forest Fire Rages

The area falls under the forest range of Kralpora division.

The employees of the forest department have reached the spot to douse the flames.

Locals have said that the forest protection force personnel have also reached the spot.

Hafeez Out Of National T20 After Contracting Dengue



PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KARACHI: Former Pakistan captain Muhammad Hafeez was on Wednesday ruled out of the ongoing National T20 Championship after contracting dengue and has also been rendered doubtful for upcoming T20 World Cup in the UAE.

Hafeez, who will turn 41 next month, is now under treatment at his home in Lahore and it remains to be seen if he will gain fitness in time for the mega ICC event, starting October 17.

"It depends on the severity of the dengue virus that one has contracted but yes it is an illness that leaves one pretty weak and it takes around a month to regenerate platelets and make a full recovery," a local doctor said.

A reliable source in the Pakistan Cricket Board said that the medical panel of the board was in touch with Hafeez and keeping a close watch on his treatment and recovery. The Pakistan World Cup squad is expected to leave around October 14 for the World Cup.

Initially Hafeez had complained of food poisoning when he was staying at the team hotel in Rawalpindi for the first leg of the National championship but when his condition didn't improve he went to Lahore where he was diagnosed to have contracted dengue.

Hafeez is one of Pakistan's most senior players after Shoaib Malik having appeared in 55 Tests, 218 ODIs and 113 T20 internationals.

His recent form has not been good but he was seen as an automatic selection for the World Cup after scoring a heap of runs in late 2019 and 2020 in T20 internationals as the former captain has now retired from Tests and ODIs.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has set October 10 as the deadline for the World Cup participating nations to make changes in their squads announced earlier this month.

Teams are also allowed to have travelling reserves with them in the tournament at their own expenses as the ICC is footing the bill for only 15 players and eight officials for each team.

Hafeez recently was in disagreement with the PCB after he was asked to prematurely terminate his contract with the Guyana franchise and return home early from the Caribbean Premier League.

The former captain was not amused with the situation as he was given a deadline until September 12 to return to Lahore or risk being dropped for the World Cup.

The board had earlier given NOCs to all players to play in the CPL and report back for the home series against New Zealand by September 17.

I Didn't Suffer Heart Attack: Inzamam-ul-Haq

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KARACHI: Pakistan's former Test captain Inzamam-ul-Haq has denied reports that he suffered a heart attack, saying that his cardiac issues were detected during a health check-up that he underwent due to an upset stomach.

The 51-year-old, on his YouTube channel, said that he was overwhelmed to see the outpouring of support from people but asserted that he didn't suffer a heart attack.

Inzamam, who played 120 Tests and 378 ODIs for Pakistan, was admitted to a private hospital on Monday night after complaining of breathing difficulty among other issues.

"I saw reports saying I had suffered a heart attack. I did not. I went to my doctor for a routine check-up, who said they wanted to conduct an

angiography. During angiography, they noted an artery of mine was blocked, so they inserted stents to alleviate that problem.

"It was successful and easy, and I came back home after just 12 hours at the hospital. I feel fine," he said.

Inzamam said he had gone to hospital owing to an "upset stomach".

"I went to the doctor because I felt a very slight bit of discomfort. It wasn't even close to the heart area, but the stomach. Had I delayed getting it checked out, doctors said the heart could have been damaged," he said.

"I want to thank everyone in Pakistan and around the world for praying for my health. I want to thank the Pakistan people, and cricketers from Pakistan and around the world who sent their good wishes," added Inzamam.

DFA Srinagar League: 4 A-Division Matches Played

Super Division 1st semifinal today



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Four matches of the DFA Srinagar A-Division League were played on Wednesday here. Two matches of the League were played at Synthetic Turf, TRC, while the other two were played at Gindun Ground, Rajbagh.

The first match between Mehjoor FC and Seven Star FC, was won by Seven Star FC by 2 goals to 1. Inayat and Umer scored one goal each for Seven Star FC while Sahil was the scorer for Mehjoor FC.

The second match was played between United Kashmir FC and Pandrathan FC. United FC won the game 2-0. Aqib and Hassan were the scorers for Pandrathan FC.

The third match of the day was played between Real Cos-

mos FC and Baghi Hamdan FC. Real Cosmos FC defeated Baghi Hamdan FC by 2 goals to 0. Umair Khan scored two goals for Real Cosmos FC.

The 4th match was played between Makdooim FC and Nishat FC. Both teams played a 1-1 draw.

In Super Division, the first semifinal match of the League was announced on Wednesday.

The first semifinal will be played between Jehlum Sports and Syed Tajuddin FC on 30-09-21 at 4:00 PM. While the other semi will be played between Real Kashmir FC (U-18) and Galaxy FC.

1st Positive Kashmir Knockout Championship 2021

In the ongoing first edition Positive Kashmir Knockout Championship, Downtown He-

roes defeated Syed Tajuddin FC 2-0 on Tuesday. The match, played under the floodlights, saw the first goal scored by Heroes' foreign recruit, Frank. The second goal for Downtown Heroes was score Diler in the 75th minute. Diler was named man of the match.

'Pele Of Kashmir' League Cum Knockout Tournament 2021

Organised by the Welfare Forum Eidgah, 'Pele Of Kashmir' League Cum Knockout Tournament 2021 will begin from October 4. The matches will be played at the Idgah Playfield in Srinagar.

The tournament is dedicated to famous Kashmiri footballer, Late Farooq Ahmad Bhat, who was known as the 'Pele' of Kashmiri football.

NIFF Demands J&K's Inclusion In I-League Qualifiers 2021

Union MoS Anurag Thakur assures support

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The National and International Footballers Forum (NIFF) J&K on Tuesday demanded the inclusion of an eligible J&K football team in the I-League Qualifiers 2021.

The Forum in a meeting with Union Minister Youth Affairs & Sports, Anurag Thakur, discussed the possibility of fielding a J&K team at the I-League 2nd Division Qualifiers.

"The Minister was very disappointed to hear that one top team from J&K has been disqualified from I-League 2nd Div by AIFF on the basis of submitting fake documents allegedly with the support of some officials of JKFA and taking a strong note of



it he assured to take matter with the concerned authorities for inclusion of some other eligible team from J&K in I-League in place of the disqualified team," a NIFF statement said.

"The Minister assured that all measures will be taken to safe guard the game of football

in J&K which is the most popular game in the territory," the statement added.

"NIFF members also appraised Advisor Farooq Khan and Secretary, J&K Sports Council Nuzhat Gull about the shameful incident," it said.

"NIFF also requested the Advisor Sports, Secretary JKSC and Honble Minister for revival of Govt Departmental teams which have always played a big role in football history of J&K," the statement concluded.

The NIFF demand regarding I-League Qualifiers comes after Hyderya Sports football club was disqualified by AIFF from the upcoming Qualifiers over alleged "fake bank guarantee" of 25 lakh INR.

IPL 2021



Last Place SRH Face Uphill Battle Against CSK

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

ABU DHABI: Virtually out of the play-off race, bottom-placed Sunrisers Hyderabad will hope to keep their new-found momentum intact when they face table toppers Chennai Super Kings in the IPL on Thursday.

The biggest decision for Williamson-led think tank has been to drop their big hitting opener David Warner, who aggregated just 181 runs at an average of 24.37. With speculation rife about the Aussie's future at his favourite franchise Hyderabad, the onus would be on the Kiwi skipper to revive the fortunes of the Orange Army.

English opener Jason Roy seized the opportunity on his debut to set it up with a quick 60 before Williamson sealed the challenging chase of 165 with nine balls to spare.

Even as the odds are high against them, the Williamson-led will look to win all their remaining four matches and also pray that the other results go in their favour. For a side that relies heavily on their overseas recruits, the onus will be on the likes of Wriddhiman Saha and Priyam Garg to step up.

"We can say the performance was improved. There was clarity in roles to, want to build on this, want to see the younger players take their opportunity and enjoy

the cricket," Williamson had said after their seven-wicket win.

On the match against table toppers CSK, Williamson said, "It's a new venue, and CSK, top of the table, tough to beat. But as we know every team in this tournament is good. Hopefully we can play with a smile on our faces."

The MS Dhoni-led side are coming on the back of a hat-trick of wins and have virtually sealed their Play-off chances. It was Ravindra Jadeja who once again proved to be their game-changer on Sunday as his eight-ball 22 runs cameo pulled off last ball two-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday.

The duo of South African great Faf du Plessis and Ruturaj Gaikwad have shown great chemistry up front while the likes of Moeen Ali, Suresh Raina and Ambati Rayudu form the core of their batting.

Young Indian opener Gaikwad especially has been in the form of his life with scores of 40, 38 and 88 not out as he has given the side strong starts in the power-play. The bowling department may look to be their weak link as it remains to be seen if Hyderabad is able to capitalise on it.

West Indian star all-rounder Dwayne Bravo was rested against Kolkata as it would be no surprise if he returns to the side in place of Sam Curran who leaked 56 runs from his four overs against KKR.

Cricket Australia To Postpone Afghanistan Test Indefinitely

Says won't engage with Taliban

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MELBOURNE: Cricket Australia will formally announce indefinite postponement of the one-off Test against Afghanistan this week after making it clear that it won't engage with the South Asian nation if the ruling Taliban do not lift the ban on the women's game.

According to the Australian Associated Press, Cricket Tasmania (CT) chief executive Dominic Baker told radio station Triple M that a formal announcement in this regard is expected soon.

"It will be formally postponed indefinitely this week. It's not acceptable that they don't allow female sport. If they want to play competitive male sport, particularly in the cricket sphere, they're going to have to rethink what they do," said Baker.

Taliban has stated that women's cricket will not continue in

the country.

Baker said Cricket Australia would keep the chances of hosting the Test later, if situation improves in Afghanistan.

"We'll give you an opportunity to work on how female cricket becomes a part of your program," he said. The one-off Test was originally scheduled in 2020 but was postponed to November 27 this year because of COVID-19.

The Australian Cricketers Association (ACA) had supported CA's decision to put the game on hold. "What is happening now in Afghanistan is a human rights issue that transcends the game of cricket."

"And while we would love to see players such as Rashid Khan play against Australia, hosting this Test Match cannot be considered if that same opportunity to play the game is denied to Roya Samim and her team-mates," it said.

NEWS MAKERS

Real Madrid Stunned 2-1 By Moldovan Team Sheriff



AGENCIES

MADRID: The start to life in the Champions League couldn't be going much better for Moldovan club Sheriff. Sébastien Thill scored a 90th-minute winner as the newcomers stunned Real Madrid 2-1 at the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium on Tuesday.

Thill netted with a powerful shot into the top corner from the edge of the area to give Sheriff its second consecutive victory. It leads Group D with six points, three more than Madrid and five more than both Shakhtar Donetsk and Inter Milan, which drew 0-0 in Ukraine in the other group match.

Sheriff beat Shakhtar Donetsk 2-0 in its opener at home, while Madrid won 1-0 at Inter.

"For us this is a dream come true to have won here," Sheriff captain Frank Castañeda said. "We're so happy, and just enjoying it. We have full faith in what we've been doing and things are going well for us. We didn't just come here to sit around, we know how good our players are and luckily for us Madrid weren't able to take their chances and we took ours."

Messi Scores 1st PSG Goal In 2-0 Win Against City

AGENCIES

PARIS: Lionel Messi's superb first goal for Paris Saint-Germain was well worth the wait and delivered a timely reminder of the electric skill that has helped him win a record six Ballon d'Or trophies.

It also punished his former coach Pep Guardiola's team as PSG beat Manchester City 2-0 in the Champions League group stage on Tuesday.

Messi charged from midfield toward the penalty area in the 74th minute, opening up more space as Achraf Hakimi made a dummy run to his right, and received a clever flick from Kylian Mbappe before curling a fine strike into the top right corner with the most famed left foot in world soccer. The ecstatic crowd rose to their feet.

"I'm very happy to have scored. I've not been playing much recently and I'm adapting to my teammates little by little," Messi said through a translator.

"The more we play together the better it will become. We need to grow together and increase our level."

Messi netted an astounding 672 goals for Barcelona but it was his first for PSG in three starts and four games overall since a shock summer move from the Spanish club. "The goal was fantastic," Guardiola said.



It was the kind he scored for fun playing under Guardiola at Barcelona. The pair won the Champions League in 2009 and 2011, with Messi scoring in both finals.

City had not lost its five previous meetings with PSG, winning 2-1 in Paris and 2-0 at home in last season's semifinals before losing to Chelsea in the final.

PSG started its dream attack of Messi, Neymar and Mbappe, but it was unheralded midfielder Idrissa Gueye who opened the scoring in the eighth minute.

The Senegal international thumped the ball into the top corner after Neymar's scuffed shot fell to him just inside the penalty area following Mbappe's cross from the right.

"I get a lot of scoring chances in this team, the forwards make a lot of runs so the second ball often drops to me inside and outside the penalty area," Gueye said. As midfielders, we are there to try and finish (chances).

Wasim Khan Resigns As Pakistan Cricket Board CEO

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

KARACHI: In an expected development, Wasim Khan has resigned as the Chief Executive Officer of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

The PCB in a short statement said that the Board of Governors would be meeting later Wednesday on call to consider the resignation.

Wasim Khan was brought in as CEO by the former Chairman Ehsan Mani in early 2019.

He was expected to complete his three-year contract until February next year but it was certain that he would not get extension.

New PCB chief Ramiz Raja, like any other previous Chairman of the board, is expected to announce his new management very soon.

The PCB on Wednesday also confirmed that a Pakistan Shaheen squad would tour Sri Lanka next month to play a four-day game and three ODIs.

Kuldeep Yadav Undergoes Successful Knee Surgery

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MUMBAI: Indian left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav underwent a knee surgery on Wednesday for an injury that he sustained during the ongoing IPL in the UAE.

Kuldeep posted the update on his official Twitter page. "Surgery was a success and the road to recovery has just begun. Thank you so much to everyone for your amazing support. The focus is now to complete my rehab well and be back on the pitch doing what I love as soon as possible," tweeted the 26-year-old.

On September 27, PTI had reported that Kuldeep sustained a serious knee injury and was likely to miss most of the upcoming domestic season, having already come back to India with his IPL campaign cut short.

Boxing Great Manny Pacquiao Announces Retirement

AGENCIES

MANILA: Boxing legend Manny Pacquiao is officially hanging up his gloves.

The eight-division world champion and Philippines senator on Wednesday announced his retirement from the ring. "As I hang up my boxing gloves, I would like to thank the whole world, especially the Filipino people for supporting Manny Pacquiao. Goodbye boxing," the 42-year old said in a 14-minute video posted on his Facebook page.

"It is difficult for me to accept that my time as a boxer is over. Today I am announcing my retirement." Pacquiao finished his 26-year, 72-fight career with 62 wins, eight losses and two draws. Of those 62 wins, 39 were by knockout and 23 by decision. He won 12 world titles.

Amarinder Singh Meets Union Home Minister Amit Shah

Press Trust of India

New Delhi: Former Punjab chief minister Amarinder Singh met Union Home Minister Amit Shah at his residence here on Wednesday, raising speculation over his future plans ahead of the Assembly polls in the state.

The meeting that lasted for around 45 minutes came amid indications that Singh may be seeking the support of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Sources said the former Punjab chief minister is learnt to have discussed the farmers' issues, besides the internal security situation in Punjab with Shah.

Singh has been alleging that instability in Punjab may give Pakistan a handle to create disturbance in the border state. He has also accused Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu of being "close to (Pakistani Prime Minister) Imran Khan" and

alleged that he is "dangerous" for the border state.

Singh arrived in the national capital on Tuesday, days after he quit as the chief minister of Punjab.

The sources said the veteran Congress leader may also meet some of the "Group of 23" leaders, including Kapil Sibal and Ghulam Nabi Azad.

Singh's meeting with Shah assumes significance as the Congress leader had not opened his cards and had claimed that he had not quit politics and would fight till the end.

He had also launched a scathing attack on his bete noire, Sidhu, who was appointed as the president of the Punjab unit of the Congress.

Sidhu quit as the Punjab Congress chief on Tuesday.

As regards his political future, Singh had said there were several options before him.

Defence Ministry Approves Procurement Of Military Hardware Worth Rs 13,165 crore

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: The defence ministry on Wednesday approved the procurement of military platforms and hardware worth Rs 13,165 crore that includes 25 indigenously-developed ALH Mark-III helicopters.

The cost of acquiring the helicopters has been estimated at Rs 3,850 crore, while a batch of rocket ammunition will be procured for Rs 4,962 crore, the defence ministry said.

The procurement proposals were approved at a meeting of the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) that was chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

Out of the total procurements, equipment and platforms worth Rs 11,486 crore will be sourced from domestic entities.

"The DAC accorded Acceptance



of Necessity (AoN) for capital acquisitions proposals for modernisation and operational needs of the Indian Armed Forces amounting to approximately Rs 13,165 crore.

"Of the total amount approved, procurement worth Rs 11,486 crore (87 per cent) is from the domestic sources," the ministry said in a statement.

In addition, the DAC also approved a few amendments to the Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020 as a part of "business process re-engineering to ensure further ease of doing business for the industry as well as measures to enhance procurement efficiency and reducing timelines", the ministry said. PTI

Delhi Restaurant That Denied Entry To Saree-Clad Woman Asked To Shut For Lack Of Licence

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI: A restaurant that allegedly denied entry to a saree-clad woman here was issued a closure notice by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation for operating without a proper trade licence, following which the owner said he has shut operations.

SDMC officials said on Wednesday that a closure notice was issued to the Aquila Restaurant located at Ansal Plaza in Andrews Ganj for operating without a valid licence.

The September 24 closure notice said the area public health inspector found during a check on September 21 that the facility is running without a health trade licence and under unhygienic conditions. It also flagged encroachment on public land.

SDMC Trade Licence under insanitary condition from health point of view and create nuisance."

In a social media post last week a woman had alleged she was refused entry in the south Delhi restaurant because she was wearing a saree.

The woman had also posted a short video of her argument with the restaurant staff, alongside a couple of pictures of herself in the saree.

Later, the restaurant claimed that the incident was "misrepresented".

In the SDMC House meeting Wednesday, Congress councillor from Andrews Ganj Abhishek Dutt raised the issue and moved a proposal demanding a fine of Rs 5 lakh be imposed against any restaurant, bar or hotel that de-



"The public health inspector again inspected the site on September 24 and found that the trade is running under the same condition. You are directed to close the trade within 48 hours of the receipt of this notice failing which suitable action, including sealing will be taken without assigning further notice," the SDMC notice issued to the restaurant-owner said.

In his response on September 27, the owner said, "I have closed-down the above said trade immediately and I shall not run the same trade without

nies entry to any person wearing traditional Indian attire.

"The restaurant was running illegally without licence. The notice was issued to the eatery only after I raised the issue. Now, the authorities have informed that the restaurant has been shut. It is a matter of probe that how the restaurant was running without a licence," he told PTI.

Taking cognisance of the case the National Commission for Women (NCW) had on September 23 had asked the Delhi Police to probe the incident. PTI

Man Given Anti-Rabies Shot Instead Of Covid Vaccine In Maharashtra's Thane; Doctor, Nurse Suspended

Agenceis

Thane: A man was administered an anti-rabies medicine instead of Covid-19 vaccine at a medical centre in Maharashtra's Thane district, following which a doctor and a nurse of the facility were suspended, a civic official said.

Local resident Rajkumar Yadav went to the civic-run medical centre in Kalwa area here on Monday to get a jab against the coronavirus infection.

He stood in a wrong queue and after being vaccinated, he was informed that he was administered the vaccine against rabies, a spokesperson of the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) told reporters on Tuesday.

The man panicked, but he is fine and has no complications,



the official said.

He later complained to authorities and based on a preliminary enquiry, a woman doctor, who was in-charge of the medical centre, and a nurse were placed under suspension for the goof-up, the official said.

The medical centre, located in a slum colony of Kalwa, provides vaccination against various diseases to people in the area. PTI

Azad Writes To Sonia Seeking CWC Meeting On Cong Affairs

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has written to party president Sonia Gandhi demanding an immediate meeting of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) to discuss the current state of affairs in the organisation.

Sources said Azad, a former leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha who currently leads the 'Group of 23' leaders who have demanded organisational overhaul in the past, has sought internal discussions in the wake of exodus of its leaders.

Senior party colleague has also demanded that an immediate meeting of the CWC, the highest decision-making body of the

party, be convened and wondered who in the party was taking decisions in the absence of a full-time president.

Their demand comes in the wake of turmoil in Punjab Congress after the ouster of Amarinder Singh as chief minister; former Goa chief minister Luizinho Faleiro and leaders like Sushmita Dev and Abhijeet Mukherjee quitting the party; and senior Kerala Congress leader V M Sudheeran resigning from the AICC.

Their demand comes in the wake of turmoil in Punjab Congress after the ouster of Amarinder Singh as chief minister; former Goa chief minister Luizinho Faleiro and leaders like Sushmita Dev and Abhijeet Mukherjee quitting the party; and senior Kerala Congress

leader V M Sudheeran resigning from the AICC.

Azad, along with 22 other leaders, had last year written to Congress president demanding organisational overhaul and elections to all party posts.

Sonia Gandhi has thereafter held a meeting with some such leaders including Azad and it was decided to hold elections for the new Congress president by June.

However, the same could not happen in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

The leaders of the 'group of 23' have claimed that they are wanting reforms in the party in order to strengthen the organisation to take on the BJP and Narendra Modi and are raising issues in the interest of the party.

Over 2,700 Billionaires Globally, \$52 Billion Can Protect Every Child: Kailash Satyarthi

Observer News Service

UNITED NATIONS: Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi has said that USD 52 billion can provide social protection for every child and every pregnant woman in low income countries, underlining that this is "not a big amount" in a world with over 2,700 billionaires.

Speaking at a high-level UN event on 'Jobs and Social Protection for Poverty Eradication and a Sustainable Recovery' on Tuesday, Kailash Satyarthi, the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize winner, gave a clarion call for bold and proactive leadership to end child labour and poverty.

He said that USD 52 billion can provide social protection for every child and every pregnant woman in low income countries.

"That is not a big amount. This is just two days of COVID-19 relief measures as well as 0.4% of the social protection fund which is spent in rich countries," he said at the virtual event.

"We are not so poor. I refuse to accept that the world is so poor when 2,755 billionaires exist in this world. We have made progress when we didn't have enough resources, we helped children and declined child labour," he said, adding that the world of today is much more resourceful in technology and other areas.

"We did it in the past and we will do in the future. There is no dearth of bold ideas. But what we need is bold leadership in all spheres of life... compassion in leadership, courage in leadership and proactive leadership with a sense of urgency," he said.

Mr Satyarthi noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed and exacerbated all the injustices and inequalities prevailing in the society and the worst sufferers have been the most marginalised children, particularly in developing, low-income and middle-income countries.

He pointed out that many more

children have been pushed into chronic poverty situations due to the pandemic. These children are out of school, denied health care, have no proper adequate access to safe drinking water or safe, clean air.

"They are the children who are sold and bought like animals and sometimes at lesser prices than animals," he said in his impassioned remarks.

"They are the children who are exploited as child labourers and are breaking their backs for our economies," he said.

Underlining that "these children are our children," Mr Satyarthi cautioned that if nations are not able to protect their children, most of the Sustainable Development Goals will not be accomplished.

He voiced worry that even during the pre-pandemic years of 2016-2020, about 10,000 children were pushed into child labour every day.

"There is no excuse for that. There



is no justification for that because it was the pre-pandemic time. This is not just apathy and insensitivity of the international community and all of us, including me and you. This is a crime against future of humanity," he said.

He said the 160 million child labourers are "160 million empty seats in the classrooms" and these are children who are "occupying 160 million jobs of adults."

Mr Satyarthi noted that even if the spending on education is adequate, "nobody can bring these children to school" untill additional efforts are made in freeing them from the "clutches of their masters."

He underlined that social protection programmes will be successful especially for the children when "we take swift and direct measures so that these children could be benefitted directly. Only then they will be freed from these situations."

According to the concept note of event, which was addressed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres and several other world

WE DID IT IN THE PAST AND we will do in the future. There is no dearth of bold ideas. But what we need is bold leadership in all spheres of life... compassion in leadership, courage in leadership and proactive leadership

leaders and top UN officials, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to serve as a harsh reminder of the perils stemming from global inequities and a reminder of the urgency to redouble efforts towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

"The equivalent of an unprecedented

ed 255 million jobs were lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to a sharp increase in poverty and inequalities. Declining labour income has been distributed unevenly between workers, with youth, women and low-skilled workers seeing the sharpest drops in disposable income," the concept note said.

The High-Level event included a policy discussion to frame the ambitions needed for a socio-economic recovery to advance decent job creation, social protection and poverty eradication.

The event focussed on pressing issues including application of effective economic, social and environmental policies at country level through dialogue with social partners and other stakeholders; global norms and standards underpinning the socio-economic recovery and a just transition and current efforts to achieve just transitions in the context of ambitious climate action and the COVID-19 recovery and solutions that support accelerating and scaling up these efforts, particularly in developing countries.

KASHMIR OBSERVER

Watch to know more in this episode of **Inkishaf** on **Kashmir Observer** YouTube Channel



<https://youtube.com/c/kobserver>

INKISHAF

by Dr Raja Muzaffar Bhat

Unbearable Toothache At Dental College

Why patients landing at Govt Dental College Srinagar complain about a painful procedure due to the campus administration's inability to repair the flood-ravaged oral health equipment?



THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR THAT.
There is no justification for that because it was the pre-pandemic time. This is not just apathy and insensitivity of the international community and all of us, including me and you. This is a crime against future of humanity."