

KASHMIR OBSERVERTM

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P5 STATE

NEWBORN DIES AFTER FATHER HELD FOR 'RANSOM' BY LD SECURITY GUARDS

A family from frontier district of Kupwara on Monday alleged that they lost their newborn baby after the two security guards at the Valley's maternity hospital—Lal Ded didn't allow

THINK

OMICRON MIGHT EVADE ANTIBODIES – BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T HAVE IMMUNITY

With the highly mutated omicron variant spreading rapidly, people want to know if immunity from vaccination or a prior infection will be enough to protect them against getting



P11 SPORTS

MOHAMMAD HAFEEZ RETIRES FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET

Veteran Pakistan all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez, who captained his national team in every format of the game, announced his retirement from...



Quote!

Fiction is the lie through which we tell the truth

Albert Camus

NEWS DIGEST

CRPF Constable Shoots Self Dead

SRINAGAR: A paramilitary Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel on Monday allegedly committed suicide inside his camp in Karan Nagar area of this capital city. Head Constable Suresh Kumar of CRPF G/49 Battalion allegedly committed suicide by shooting himself dead using his service rifle inside his camp in the busy Karan Nagar area of the city. **More on P10**

BSF Seizes Arms, Drugs In Samba

JAMMU: The Border Security Force (BSF) seized a consignment of arms and heroin along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district on Monday, officials said. The consignment was found packed in a white-coloured sack hidden in "sarkanda" (wild grass) near the Chamliyal border outpost, they added. **More on P10**

Cop Injured In Hit & Run Accident

SRINAGAR: A traffic policeman on Monday was injured after being hit by an unknown vehicle in Humhama area of central Kashmir's Budgam district. Shabbaz Ahmed Dar (131/SPO) of Razwan village of Budgam was performing his duty near Railway Bridge Humhama area when a vehicle hit him, reports **More on P10**

Stray Dogs Kill 10 Sheep In Ganderbal

SRINAGAR: A pack of stray dogs attacked and killed 10 sheep in Gund area of central Kashmir's Ganderbal district, reports said Monday. According to reports, Muhammad Yousuf Ahangar was taking his flock to a nearby local stream in at Ahangar Mohalla, Ramwari Gund village of the district **More on P10**

Do You Get Your Copy of
KASHMIR OBSERVER
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If Not

Contact Circulation Incharge:
Irshad Ahmad: 7006276927

Gunfire Rattles Shalimar

2 Militants Killed In Twin Srinagar Encounters



KO Photo Abid Bhat

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Police on Monday said that the government forces killed a most wanted Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) militant and a foreign national in two back to back encounters near Shalimar Bagh, Srinagar.

Saleem Parry of Hajin town in Bandipora, described by police as a most wanted and 'dreaded' militant, was killed in a joint operation of police and CRPF in Shalimar area of

the city on Monday afternoon, a police spokesperson said.

The encounter with the Lashkar militant, he said, started after a search operation was launched in Shalimar on the basis of specific input about the presence of a militant in the area.

Saleem, he said, fired upon indiscriminately upon the search party which was effectively retaliated leading to a brief shootout & subsequently his killing. **More on P10**

BSF Kills 'Intruder' Along IB In Samba

Press Trust Of India

An intruder was shot dead on Monday when BSF troops resorted to firing following the detection of suspicious movement along the International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir's Samba district, a senior officer of the force said. The alert troops of the Border Security Force (BSF) **More on P10**

Fresh Snow Spell Likely To Disrupt Surface, Air Traffic



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Weatherman on Monday issued an advisory for moderate to heavy snowfall in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh from till January 9 and warned about road and aerial traffic disruptions as well as avalanches and drop in day temperature.

"Two Successive Western Disturbances most likely to affect Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and adjoining areas from 3rd January (late night) to 9th January (forenoon), 2022," reads the advisory sent by Met department to divisional

commissioners of Kashmir as well as Jammu.

Under the influence of these weather systems, the weatherman said that widespread moderate rain and snow was expected in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh regions.

"Light rain/snow would commence at a few places of Kashmir from 3rd January evening and thereafter increase in intensity & distribution," reads the advisory, adding, "Main activity of this system will be the occurrence of moderate to heavy rain/snow, most likely during 5th and **More on P10**

J&K Sends More Men to Army Than UP, Bihar

Zaid Bin Shabir

SRINAGAR: Revealing some unprecedented details about the natives of the erstwhile state of Jammu & Kashmir and their idea of joining the Indian Army, the Defence Ministry's data from 2020 has revealed that J&K had the fourth highest army recruitment in India during 2017-2019 year.

As per the details available with Kashmir Observer, the erstwhile state of J&K had witnessed 185 army recruitments per 10 lakh population from 2017-2019. The former state was led by the state's of Himachal Pradesh where the overall recruitment per 10 lakh population during the three years was recorded at 402, Uttarakhand had recorded 271 per million population and Sikkim where the footfall of such recruitments was recorded at 185 per million.

Notably, as per the figures given by Ministry of Defence and sorted out by India In



Pixels(IIP)---an independent organisation that sorts National data in figures---the highest recruitments in India were witnessed in conflict ridden regions including J&K and north east states---Sikkim(185), Arunachal Pradesh(127), Manipur(104) and Mizoram(139).

As per the data, the erstwhile state is preceded by the state's of Punjab where

the recruitment per 10 lakh population was recorded at 174 and Haryana where the same rate was recorded at 122 per million population.

The Defence Ministry's data has also revealed that since 2016 (till 2019), there had been a positive increment in the overall recruitments for Indian Army in the erstwhile state. During 2016-17, a total of **More on P10**

Srinagar Police Chief Shifts 19 SHOs

Agencies

SRINAGAR: The Senior Superintendent of Police Srinagar Rakesh Bhalwal on Monday ordered transfers of nineteen Station House Officers (SHOs) in this capital city.

As per order issued by District Police Headquarters Srinagar, Inspector Tariq Ahmed has been transferred from DPL Srinagar to police station Rainawari as SHO, Sub-inspector Rakesh Pandita from police station Rainawari to PC Srinagar. **More on P10**

Mehbooba Seeks Release Of Downtown Mechanic

Agencies

SRINAGAR: PDP president and former Chief Minister of erstwhile J&K state on Monday wrote a letter to Home Minister Amit Shah, seeking his personal interference to release the 19-year-old youth Arsalan Feroz who was arrested by NIA with the claim of him being an "operative of TRF (The Resistance Front).

Mehbooba's letter to Amit Shah comes on **More on P10**

2021 Saw Much Lesser Violence, Very Little Political Activity In J&K

Press Trust Of India

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir administration tightened its grip over the situation in the union territory with very little political activity allowed in 2021 but the draft proposal of the delimitation commission to give more seats to Jammu region briefly threatened to disturb the semblance of normalcy.

Protests, which were almost a daily fixture in the political spectrum of Kashmir, have nearly disappeared from the horizon and civil administration does not approve any requests for large assembly while heavy deployment of police and paramilitary troops ensure that no spontaneous demonstrations break out. Political observers feel that

the large-scale use of UAPA and Public Safety Act against dissenters has led to calm, which might be temporary in the long run.

The assessment has been proven right as Kashmir's police chief IGP Vijay Kumar listed managing the funeral of veteran separatist leader Syed Ali Shah Geelani as one of the major achievements in the year-end media briefing.

The administration headed by Lt Governor Manoj Sinha seemed to have got the grip of the situation in the union territory as it successfully managed the fall out of the death of Geelani in September.

Given the popularity of the separatist leader, Geelani's death was expected to bring his followers out on the streets. It might have very well happened but the

authorities sealed off some roads for few days and snapped internet services for about a week to ensure it did not happen.

With armies of India and Pakistan agreeing to a ceasefire long the Line of Control (LoC) in February, the guns along the border areas fell silent. As security forces eliminated most of the top leadership of the militants in Kashmir, many would have believed that the situation was almost peaceful in Jammu and Kashmir.

However, things took a dramatic turn in October as the ultras started targeting unarmed civilians including those belonging to minorities.

Nearly a dozen persons were killed by the militants, the security forces upped their operations but in the process



questions were raised on the genuineness of the encounters.

One such encounter -- that took place at Hyderpora in November -- drew national and

international attention after it came to light that at least two of the three locals killed in the operation were not linked to militancy.

For the first time since abrogation of Article 370, the police were forced to return the bodies of slain men they had dubbed as overground workers of militants. In the wake of Covid outbreak, the police started burying the bodies of militants in remote areas of north Kashmir with only close relatives of the deceased allowed to take part in the final rites.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah finally visited Jammu and Kashmir -- more than two years after the repeal of Article 370 that gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir and reorganising of the erstwhile state into two union territories.

Shah's visit came in the backdrop of rising civilian killings by militants who hit back at soft targets after suffering major

setbacks at the hands of security forces earlier in the year.

The home minister's visit was high on symbolism as he addressed several constituencies during his extended four-day visit to the union territory.

His visit to the residence of a slain Muslim police officer, followed by a meeting with the families of those cops, political workers and ordinary civilians who fell to the bullets of the militants during year was a clear message to the nationalist forces that the government will not let them down even after they are gone.

Shah sought to boost the morale of paramilitary forces as he spent one night each in a BSF camp (in Jammu) and a CRPF camp (in Pulwama area of Kashmir). He also paid tributes **More on P10**



To place an advertisement

CALL +91-194 2502327

Monday - Saturday (9am - 6pm)

No 5- Dal Lake Boulevard Srinagar, 190001, Kashmir

از نیات ساگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول ساگام درخواست منجانب:۔ عبدالرشید ولد رحمت اللہ گوجر ساکنہ ہلڑا رہامہ بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ۔

اشہار ہمداد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر مذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کہنہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	عبدالرشید ولد رحمت اللہ گوجر	62 سال	سکدوس ملازم	21915
2	شہنازہ زویہ عبدالرشید گوجر	58 سال	گھریلو کام	

اس طور پر ساکن کا کہنہ 02 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دروازہ مفتی اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیار گذر کرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار۔

از نیات ساگام با اجلاس ایگزیکٹو مجسٹریٹ درجہ اول ساگام درخواست منجانب:۔ اشفاق احمد ولد عبدالرشید گوجر ساکنہ ہلڑا رہامہ بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ۔

اشہار ہمداد آگاہی ہر خاص و عام۔

معاملہ مندرجہ عنوان الصدر میں ساکن نے ایک درخواست بغرض حصول ST سرٹیفکیٹ دفتر مذا میں پیش کیا ہے جو کہ زیر کاروائی ہے۔ پٹواری حلقہ سے رپورٹ طلب کی گئی جس سے عیاں ہے کہ ساکن کا کہنہ بذیل افراد ہیں۔

نمبر شمار	نام ولدیت	عمر	پیشہ	آمدنی
1	اشفاق احمد ولد عبدالرشید گوجر	39 سال	مزدوری	5000/=
2	آمنہ بانو زویہ اشفاق احمد گوجر	30 سال	گھریلو کام	
3	آمینہ اختر دختر اشفاق احمد گوجر	17 سال	مزدوری	
4	رمیز احمد ولد اشفاق احمد گوجر	13 سال	گھریلو کام	

اس طور پر ساکن کا کہنہ 04 افراد پر مشتمل ہے۔ لہذا سرٹیفکیٹ اجراء کرنے میں اگر کسی شخص کو کوئی اعتراض ہوگا وہ اپنا اعتراض ایک ہفتہ کے اندر دروازہ مفتی اوقات میں اپنا اعتراض پیش کرے۔ معیار گذر کرنے بعد کوئی بھی اعتراض قابل قبول نہیں ہوگا۔

RNA

نائب تحصیلدار۔

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BOARD OF SCHOOL EDUCATION
SUB OFFICE BUDGAM

The Candidate whose photograph is published in the noticels claiming to have lost his/her Marks/Achievement Card of Class 10th Session Annual 2015 under Roll No. 234246 issued by the Jammu and Kashmir State Board of School Education with following particulars:

Name: **Tabassum Mushtaq**
Parentage: **Mushtaq Ahmad Rather**
Class: **10th**
Roll no: **234246**
Year : **2015**

Now the candidate has applied for Duplicate Marks/Achievement Card.
Anybody having any objection may file the same before undersigned within seven days from the date of publication of this notice. Besides the original Marks Card be treated as cancelled.

Sd/- Assistant Secretary
Sub Office Budgam

Genuine Ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Father's Name has been wrongly spelled in my Driving License bearing DL No: JK0320170000019as GHY QADIR WANI While the correct spelling is Gh Qadir Wani which needs immediate correction. If anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in ARTO Office Anantnag within a period of seven days from the date of publication of this notice. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name:- **Shabir Ahmad Wani**
S/O :- **Gh Qadir Wani**
R/o **Nowgam Kuthar Anantnag**

RNA

Office of The Regional Transport Officer Kashmir
NOTICE

Where as an application for transfer of ownership has been received from Aabid Nabi Mir S/O Ghulam Nabi Mir R/O Ward No 5 Bandipora A/P Sonwar Sgr (Transferor) of I-20 Sports bearing registration No. JK01AL- 8147 chasis No: 29282 Engine No: 835098 Model 2019 in favour of Irshad Ahamd Bhat S/O Mohammad Yousuf Bhat R/O Near ED Bank Nowgam Bypass Sgr (Transferee).

Now, therefore, it is notified for the information of the general, public that representation/ Objection, if any in connection with proposed transfer will be received within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the daily newspaper Kashmir Observer to the address of undersigned. No, representation/ objection shall be considered unless it is made writing it is made in the aforesaid period.

Sd/-
NOJK-RTOK 030
Dated: 03/01/2022
Regional Transport Office,
FKO
Kashmir

CLOTHING & HOME APPLIANCES
YARDIMCI MULTI-VENTURE
Deals with clothing and home appliances at whole sale rates.
Contact:-0194-3550112
G-mail- yardimciunique92@gmail.com
I.G: yardimci_multi_venture_
F.B: yardimci multiVenture

ELECTRONICS
10X MOBILE STORE
All types of Mobile and Mobile Accessories
Main Market Sannat Nagar Srinagar
Contact:-7889657769

TECH WORLD
All Mobile and Electronic Accessories Xerox also available.
Sannat Nagar Srinagar
Contact:-9149965005/ 9682370979

Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Directorate of Ayush, J&K
(Bemina Srinagar/Indira Chowk Jammu)

Tele/Fax: 0194-2490443, 2490455 (May-Oct)
0191-2543988, 2543955 (Nov-Apr)

Subject: Extension in the last date for submission of application forms for the Post of Medical Officers (Community Health Officers)-Ayush under National Ayush Mission on contractual basis.

NOTICE

It is to inform that the last date for submission of application forms for the Post of Medical Officers (Community Health Officers)-Ayush under National Ayush Mission on contractual basis advertised vide this office Notice No. Dir-Ayush/NAM/11195 Dated 16-12-2021 is hereby extended up to 24th January 2022 (5.30 PM) in view of the representations received from various Ayush doctors.

However, other terms & conditions mentioned in the aforementioned advertisement notice for the said posts shall remain unchanged.

DIPK-16054/21
No: Dir-Ayush/NAM/11966-69
Dated: 31 -12-2021

Dr. Mohan Singh
Director Ayush J&K Jammu

J&K Sainik School, Manasbal
(www.jksainikschool.in)

NOTIFICATION

Sub: Admission to class VI & IX session (2022-23).

Online applications are invited from the eligible students of Kashmir Division & Ladakh UT for admission in class VI & IX session 2022-23 against available seats in the School. Application forms are available online on School website (www.jksainikschool.in) . Students fulfilling eligibility criteria can apply for the J&K Sainik School Entrance Examination admission test - 2022 (JKSSEE).

Class	Date of Birth	Academic qualification
VI	Between 02.07.2010 & 01.07.2012 (both dates inclusive)	5 th pass from any Government or private recognised School
IX	Between 02.07.2007 & 01.07.2009 (both dates inclusive)	8 th pass from any Government or private recognised School

Important dates:

Online submission of forms & deposition of fee through Credit/Debit card/Net banking. (Non refundable)	From 10.01.2022 to 10.02.2022 (05:00 pm).
Tentative date of examination	03.04.2022 (Sunday)

Candidates will have to submit the application form and fee of Rs. 550/- (Rupees five hundred fifty only) online before the last date. Candidates are advised to read the prospectus carefully and go through the instructions regarding filling up of online application form available on school website. Candidates must ensure e-mail address and mobile number provided in the online application form of their own or that of their parents, as all information / communication will be sent by the School through email on the given e-mail address or SMS on given mobile number.

Principal
JKSS/2272/Trgs
Dated: 31.12.2021

DIPK-NB-6320/21
J&K Sainik School,
Manasbal.

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Directorate of Tourism, Kashmir
e-mail: ddtreg123@gmail.com

Subject : - Change/Transfer of ownership in the Registration Certificate of Travel unit namely M/s Holiday Blaze Tour & Travels.

Public Notice

Whereas, this office has received an application dated nil from the proprietor of Travel unit running under the name & style M/s Holiday Blaze Tour & Travels situated at Gupt Ganga, Ishber near K2 School, Srinagar in which he has requested for change of ownership of his Registration certificate to his sister namely Ms. Rabiya Majeed.

The applicant along with his application has submitted Registration Certificate, Education certificate, State Subject, Character Certificate and other related documents in support of his claim for favour of change in the registration records of this office.

Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred on me under Section 39 of Registration of Tourist Trade Act 1978/82/2011 before the request of the applicant is considered for change of name in the Registration Certificate, the matter is hereby notified for information of General Public/Financial Institutions/Banks/Organizations, etc. for purpose of inviting objections if any. The same should reach this office within a period of 7 days from the date of publication of this notice in the local newspapers. No objections whatsoever beyond the period of 7 days will be entertained and request of the applicant will be considered as per rules.

No: Reg/2019/1289/DTK
Dated: 31.03.2021

Deputy Director Tourism,
Registration (Kashmir)

DIPK-16073/21

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have lost all the Documents of my Vehicle Bearing Regd No:-JK03V-7057. Now I have applied for the duplicate of the same if anybody having any objection in this regard he/she may file his/her objection in the office of the ARTO ANANTNAG. Within a period of seven days. After that no objection shall be entertained.

Name :- **Nisar Ahmad**
S/o :- **Gh Mohi Ud Din**
R/O:- **Gundhal KO**
Banihal Ramban

RNA

PRESS RELEASE



Nehru YUVA Kendra Anantnag organized two days Block level sports meet of block Sagam/ Breng at HSS Devalgam w.e.f 21/12/2021 to 22-12-2021. A large number of students from various sports Club and Mehla Mendals of the Block participated in the various events. Prizes were awarded to the Winners and Runners up teams and Third Places.

RNA

Office of the District Ayush Officer Budgam

Email: admobudgam@gmail.com
Phone: 01951-256323

Press Release

Subject:-Registration of the Ayush Clinical Establishments in District Budgam

The Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir has ordered to get all the Ayush Clinics' and other related establishment Registered under the Registration and Regulation Act 2010 and in this connection all concerned are here by informed to approach the office of undersigned for Registration of their Ayush clinical Establishments up to 15th of January 2022 failing which the illegal run of these establishments will not be allowed and action as warranted under Rules will be initiated against the defaulters.

-sd-
District Ayush Officer Budgam
(Convener District Registration Authority)
Budgam

No:-Est/Ayush/Bud/1043-46
Dated:- 31/12/2021
DIPK-16058/21

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir
Government of Jammu & Kashmir
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (R&B) LANDSCAPING DIVISION KMR. ENGINEERING COMPLEX, RAJBAGH, SRINAGAR

TENDER NOTICE
NIT NO. E-66/2021-22/LSD/SRINAGAR/JAMMU
DATED: - 03/01/2022

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, E-TENDERS (IN SINGLE COVER SYSTEM) ARE INVITED ON PERCENTAGE BASIS FROM APPROVED AND ELIGIBLE CONTRACTORS REGISTERED WITH J&K STATE GOVT., CPWD, RAILWAYS AND OTHER STATE/CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE FOLLOWING WORKS:-

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Rs. In Lacs)	Cost of T/ Doc. (Amt in Rs.)	Earnest Money/ Bid Security (Amt in Rs.)	Time of completion	Time & Date of Opening of tender	Class of Contractor	Head of Account
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Removal of old trees guards & reusing same after repairs at various sites of all Sub-Divisions	3.00 lacs	Rs. 200/-	Rs. 6000/-	15Days	11.01.2022 at 11.00AM	"DEE"	M&R 2059

Position of Funds:- Available.
Administrative approval:- Accorded.
Note:- The above-mentioned work shall be mandatorily completed during the current financial year 2022-23.
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 date given below:-

1.	Date of issue of Tender Notice	03.1.2022	
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents	03.1.2022	04.00 PM
3.	Bid submission Start Date	03.1.2022	from 04.00 PM
4.	Bid Submission End Date	10.01.2022	up to 04.00 PM
5.	Deadline for receiving the Hard copy (Original e-challan or Treasury challan/receipt and EMD)	Hard copy to be submitted by the successful bidder (L1) only within seven days after Financial evaluation.	
6.	Date & time of opening of Bids (Online)	11.01.2022 at 11.00AM	in the office of the Executive Engineer R&B Landscaping Division, Rajbagh, Srinagar

- Bids must be accompanied with cost of Tender document in shape of e-challan or Treasury challan/receipt (Non-refundable) along with bid security declaration certificate as per format (Annexure A), failure to do so shall be render the bidder as Non-Responsive.
- First lowest bidder has to submit Performance security Deposit 5% of allotted cost in shape of CDR/FDR/DD/BG (BG validity should be 45days more than bid validity days i.e 120+45=165Days) pledged to Executive Engineer R&B Landscaping Division, Rajbagh, Srinagar (Tender receiving authority). & the original DD should reach to the office of Executive Engineer R&B Landscaping Division, Rajbagh, Srinagar within 3 Days after the Bid submission end Date.
- 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 Landscaping Division, Rajbagh, Srinagar (Tender receiving authority)
- The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 120 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The earnest money shall be forfeited, If:-
a) Any bidder/tenderer withdraws his bid/tender during the period of bid validity or makes any modifications in the terms and conditions of the bid.
b) Failure of Successful bidder to furnish the required performance security within the specified time limit.
- Failure of successful bidder to execute the agreement within 28 days after fixation of contract. 50% of the normal deposits (deducted at 10% from running bills) to be released after virtual completion of the work and balance 50% after completion of DLP.
- Additional performance security required as per NIT conditions shall be released after virtual completion of the work.
- Earnest money in the shape of CDR/FDR/BG shall be released after DLP is over successfully.
a. Extension of time shall be also admissible in the event of temporary suspension of work.
48.The tender/bid is liable to rejection if it does not fulfill the requirements as laid down in NIT.
49.All other terms conditions are as per PWD Form 25 (Double agreement Form)
50.The Employer can cancel the NIT/LOI/ALLOTMENT at any stage without any reason.
No:-LD/ 5412-19
Dated:- 03-01-2022.

DIPK-16131/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
R&B Landscaping Division,
Rajbagh, Srinagar



Proposal For Restoration Of Five Heritage Buildings Finalised: Govt

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: A meeting of District Level Co-ordination-cum-Implementation Committee (DLIC) was held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad here today to finalize and formulate a comprehensive action plan for restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of Architecture and Heritage of religious places/assets in district.

On the occasion, the meeting discussed threadbare the action plan prepared for restoration, revival, preservation and maintenance of identified sites of religious places/assets.

It was given out that DPR has been formulated for restoration and development of identified 5 sites on heritage pattern in district including development of Ziyarat of Hazrat Sheikh Dawood RA, restoration of Temple at Ganpatyar, restoration & conservation of Shrine of Syed Mohammad Hussain Mazandarani, Khankahi Sokhta, Reconstruction of Mangleshwar Bhairav Asthapan at Brari Nambal, Babadam and development & restoration of Ram Mandir at Safakadal.

While reviewing the action plan of the projects finalized for development and renovation of all 5 sites, the DC directed the executive agency to complete all codal formalities for the start of the restoration works.

Mehbooba Writes to HM Over Detention Of City Youth By NIA

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti on Monday wrote a letter to Home Minister of India to ensure the release of Srinagar youth from National Investigation Agency.

Arsalan Feroz- a 19 year old youth from Zaldagar Srinagar was arrested by NIA recently. NIA in its official statement claimed that Arsalan is a TRF operative, however, his family staged a protest terming the charges baseless. Mehbooba Mufti informed that family members of Arsalan including his father who has recently suffered a minor heart attack came to meet her and vouched for his innocence.

"Arsalan is 19 years old who had earlier been arrested by police on 21 October last year. After spending over 40 days in police detention, he was cleared by police and accordingly released. I don't know why the NIA arrested him, though family handed him over to the agency. NIA is claiming that he is a TRF operative, but family say otherwise," Mehbooba Mufti said.

Mehbooba Mufti said that since police have no jurisdiction over the NIA and the probe agency directly falls under Home Ministry, she will write to the Home Minister of India about it.

Will Ensure Adequate Oxygen Supply In City Hospitals: Admin



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR : The Deputy Commissioner (DC) Srinagar, Mohammad Aijaz Asad on Monday conducted an extensive visit of various City Hospitals and took stock of the functioning of the Medical Oxygen Generation Plants(OGPs) at SMHS, Chest Disease and JLN Hospitals to ensure adequate and uninterrupted supply and availability of Medical Oxygen there.

The Director Health Services, Kashmir, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Rafter and Chief Engineer MED accompanied the DC during the visit.

At SMHS hospital, the DC was apprised that four Medical Oxygen Plants of 1000 LPM capacity each are presently functioning and cater the requirements of the patients admitted in Hospital particularly in Operation theatre, Trauma

ward, Emergency unit, besides Covid dedicated wards. He was also informed that the Hospital has a bed capacity of over 750 beds.

While inspecting the Medical Oxygen plants at Chest Disease hospital, the DC was informed that the Hospital is presently able to generate about 3400 LPM capacity of Medical oxygen.

Later, the DC also visited JLN Hospital Rainawari and took stock of the functioning of the supply of Oxygen Plants. He was informed that the JLN hospital has capacity of generating more than 2000 LPM capacity of Medical Oxygen.

During his visit, the DC directed all the concerned Medical Superintendents to conduct audit of all the Oxygen Plants and ensure adequate pressure levels of the Oxygen supply so that optimum utili-

zation of the plants is ensured. He also asked them to work with added zeal and dedication and leave no stone unturned while delivering patient care facilities particularly while dealing Covid-19 patients.

He also stressed on ensuring proper electricity backup for uninterrupted oxygen supply to the patients particularly during the adverse weather conditions.

Later, the DC also took stock of availability of Covid care facilities available at these hospitals and enquired about the availability of medicines, beds, ventilators and other equipment requisite for treatment of patients in these hospitals.

Chief Planning Officer, SDM East/Incharge Covid-19, Chief Medical Officer, Executive Engineer MED and other concerned accompanied the DC during the visit.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
JAMMU AND KASHMIR
SERVICES SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)
Hema Complex, Sector -3, Channi Himmat, Jammu/ ZumZum Complex Rambagh Srinagar.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Subject: Revised notice for conduct of Computer Based Written Test (CBT)/OMR Examination/ Skill Test for various posts in the Month of January-February 2022- regarding.

No. SSB/COE/CBT-VI/2021/9242-53

Annexure "A"

(Ashok Kumar) JKAS
Controller of Examinations
J&K Services Selection Board Jammu
Dated: 31-12-2021

S. No.	Advertisement No.	Item No.	Name of the post	Cadre of the post	Total	CBT/Skill Test Exam date	Examination Mode
1	04 of 2020	099	Election Assistant (Junior Scale)	UT	110	10-01-2022 onwards	Type Test (Skill Test)
2	05 of 2020	133	Draftsman(Mechanical)	UT	20	18-01-2022	CBT
3	04, 05, 06, 07 of 2020, 01, 02 and 03 of 2021	Various	Junior Assistant, Cadrex Clerk, Cashier, Jr Assistant /Computer-cum-Jr Assistant/ Clerk/Store Attendant and Welfare Organizer	Various	1534	20-01-2022 and 22-01-2022	CBT
4	04 of 2020	106	Accounts Assistant (Finance)	UT	972	30-01-2022	OMR
5	04 of 2020	118	Sub Inspector	UT	2	1st Week of February 2022	CBT
	04 of 2020	121	Sub Inspector	Div. Jammu	48		
	04 of 2020	123	Sub Inspector	Div. Kashmir	12		
6	04, 05, 06, 07 of 2020, 01, 02 and 03 of 2021	Various	Junior Scale Stenographer, Personal Assistant and Steno Typist	Various	249	01-02-2022	CBT
7	04 of 2020	099	Election Assistant (Junior Scale)	UT	110	06-02-2022	Descriptive nature (working knowledge of Urdu)
	02 of 2021	455	Patwari	Pulwama	11		
	02 of 2021	458	Patwari	Anantnag	15		
	02 of 2021	464	Patwari	Kupwara	36		
	02 of 2021	468	Patwari	Shopian	17		
	02 of 2021	471	Patwari	Bandipora	16		
	02 of 2021	475	Patwari	Baramulla	47		
8	06 of 2021	668	Sub-Inspector (Police)	UT	1200	15-02-2022 onwards	CBT
9	05 of 2021	689	Junior Engineer (Civil)	UT	163	03rd Week of February 2022	CBT
10	05 of 2021	690		Jammu	11		
	05 of 2021	691		Samba	7		
	05 of 2021	692		Kathua	20		
	05 of 2021	693		Udhampur	12		
	05 of 2021	694		Reasi	7		
	05 of 2021	695		Doda	5		
	05 of 2021	696		Kishtwar	9		
	05 of 2021	697		Ramban	4		
	05 of 2021	698		Rajouri	10		
	05 of 2021	699		Poonch	6		
	05 of 2021	700		Srinagar	11		
	05 of 2021	701		Ganderbal	4		
	05 of 2021	702		Budgam	5		
	05 of 2021	703		Anantnag	15		
	05 of 2021	704		Pulwama	8		
	05 of 2021	705		Kulgam	12		
	05 of 2021	706		Baramulla	29		
	05 of 2021	707		Kupwara	17		
	05 of 2021	708		Bandipora	5		
	05 of 2021	709		Shopian	1		
11	01 of 2021	025	Senior Horticulture Technician	Div.Jammu	12	04th Week of February 2022	CBT
	01 of 2021	063		Div. Kashmir	16		
12	04 of 2021	657	Deputy Inspector Fisheries/ Equivalent	Div.Kashmir	32	04th Week of February 2022	CBT
	04 of 2021	656		Div.Jammu	10		
	04 of 2021	655	Inspector Fisheries/Farm Manager/ Equivalent	UT	6		
					4726		

DIPK-16100/21

(Ashok Kumar) KAS
Controller of Examinations
J&K Services Selection Board Jammu

DIAL-EMMA

- TRAFFIC POLICE : 9419993745, 01998-266686
- PCR: 0194-2452092,2455883
- PDD: 0194-2450213
- FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES : 2479488,245222,2452155
- CAPD: 18001807011
- SMC HEALTH OFFICER: 9469409081
- Ambulance: Kashmir EMS Service: +91 94841 00200

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 - (Closed)

Srinagar- Leh- (Open)

HIJRI
CALENDAR
--
1443

PRAYERS

FAJR

6: 08

ZUHR

12:35

ASR

3:57

Magrib

5:37

ISHA

7: 03

This Day In History

- 1998 - Wilaya of Relizane massacres in Algeria: over 170 are killed in three remote villages.
- 1998 - A massive ice storm hits eastern Canada and the northeastern United States, continuing through January 10 and causing widespread destruction.
- 1999 - Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura is sworn in as governor of Minnesota.
- 1999 - Gunmen open fire on Shiite Muslims worshipping in an Islamabad mosque, killing 16 people and injuring 25.
- 2000 - After 2 months, Catherine Hartley and Fiona Thornewell, reach the South Poll, the same day as Sir Edmund Hillary 48 years before.
- 2000 - 19 are killed after two trains collide in Asta, Norway.
- 2004 - Spirit, a NASA Mars Rover, lands successfully on Mars at 04:35 UTC.
- 2004 - Mikheil Saakashvili is elected President of Georgia.
- 2006 - Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel suffers a second, apparently more serious stroke. His authority is transferred to acting Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.
- 2007 - The 110th United States Congress convenes, electing Nancy Pelosi as the first female Speaker of the House in U.S. history.
- 2010 - The Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention removed HIV infection from its list of communicable diseases of public health significance.
- 2010 39th Fiesta Bowl: #6 Boise State beats #3 TCU, 17-10
- 2010 - The Burj Khalifa, world's tallest building at 829.8 m (2,722 ft), officially opens in Dubai
-

From KO Archives

7 Hurriyat men sit for 7 hours, remain undecided

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR-The APHC executive today raised suspense several notches higher as it failed to arrive at a consensus on choosing a delegation for its proposed visit to Pakistan, and concluded its seven-hour long session by authorising its chairman to nominate the team. Unanimity eluded the apex council of the conglomerate of some twenty political, religious and social organisations on this issue as well; there were two dissenting votes when the proposal to authorise the chairman, moved by Abdul Ghani Lone, was put to vote in the 7-memeber chamber.

The apparently straight forward task of picking a delegation from a professedly cohesive group, was according to the executive members, spiked by passports (or, rather the lack of them) and procedural niceties - though variation in perceptions, too Hurriyat euphemism for the irreconcilable differences within its executive, is the more likely cause The APHC chairman, Professor Abdul Ghani Bhat, inadvertently gave an inkling of this in a cryptic remark that he made to Kashmir Observer. "Choices would have gone against certain members," he said when asked why the Hurriyat executive was unable to unanimously select a team.

He however skirted the issue when pressed and said that a decision had been taken in a previous meeting that the Hurriyat would announce the delegation on January 2, and later an executive member had suggested that the entire council should take the trip. "Now Mr. Abdul Ghani Lone has said that he won't go, and a decision taken in a meeting cannot be reversed in the subsequent one."

"When considering a team, you cannot be biased. You have to be fair, honest and ..."after a long pause - "pragmatic."

He said he would announce the team well in time for the January 15 deadline.

Neither Prof. Bhat, nor Mirwaiz Umar Farooq and neither Abdul Ghani Lone (the three leaders who were available on phone) had a convincing answer as to why they should make the announcement of the team contingent upon the government of India issuing passports to the Hurriyat's executive members, apart from the excuse, "don't have passport, can't travel".

The Hurriyat cannot give the government of India or anyone else the privilege to influence the APHC decisions, said Lone in reply to the same question.

PTI adds. Today's meeting was attended by Bhat, Lone, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, Syed Ali Shah Geelani, Yasin Malik, Maula mi Abass Ansari and Sheikh Abdul Aziz amidst tight security at the Hurriyat headquarters at Rajbagh in Srinagar.

A similar meeting on December 17 at the same venue had witnessed violent clashes between the supporters of pro-Pakistan and pro-independence factions of the amalgam in which 12 people were injured. The centre is understood to -have given, clearance for issuance of travel documents to only four hurriyat leaders - Bhat, Lone, Malik and Ansari, Umar Farooq already possesses travel documents.

With regard to Geelani, who represents the powerful Jamaat-e-Islami in the Hurriyat, the centre has stated that no application, written or verbal, had been received from him, which he has contested.

Pro-Pakistan constituents of the hurriyat have been pressing for Geelani's inclusion in the team to Pakistan

Hizbul Mujahideen has also asserted that the visit by Hurriyat delegation no including Geelani would be fruitless. Geelani, who was in New Delhi, returned here yesterday specially for the meeting.

(KASHMIR OBSERVER, 04 January, 2001)

Yemen: Houthis seize UAE vessel carrying ‘military supplies’

DUBAI: Yemen's Houthi fighters say they have seized a UAE-flagged vessel in the Red Sea, claiming it carried "military supplies" after the Saudi-led coalition accused the armed group of "piracy".

The vessel "entered Yemeni waters without authorisation" off the coast of Hodeidah and was carrying out "hostile acts", the Houthi military spokesman Yahia Saree said on Twitter on Monday.

The seizure of the Rwabee marks the latest assault in the Red Sea, a crucial route for international trade and energy shipments.

First word of the Rwabee's seizure came from the British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations, which only said an attack targeted an unnamed vessel around midnight.

The coordinates it offered corresponded to the Emirati-flagged landing craft Rwabee, which had not given its location via satellite-tracking data for hours, according to the website MarineTraffic.com.

Hours later, a statement from the Saudi-led coalition, carried by state media in the kingdom, acknowledged the attack, saying the Houthis had committed an act of "armed piracy" involving the vessel.

The coalition asserted the ship carried medical equipment from a dismantled Saudi field hospital in the distant island of Socotra.

"The Houthi militia must immediately release the ship, otherwise the coalition forces shall take all necessary measures and procedures to deal with this violation, including the use of force," Brigadier-General Turki al-Malki said in a statement on Monday.

The Houthis later aired foot-

age from the Rwabee on their Al Masirah satellite news channel. It showed military-style inflatable rafts, trucks and other vehicles on the vessel, a landing craft that lowers a ramp to allow equipment to roll on and off. One brief clip showed what appeared to be a collection of rifles inside a container.

"It is completely obvious today that the information that this ship was carrying a civilian field hospital is not correct," said Yahia Sare'e, a Houthi military spokesman. "This is clearly military equipment."

Saudi state television alleged the Houthis transferred the weapons onto the ship.

In 2016, Emirati vessel SWIFT-1, which had been sailing back and forth in the Red Sea between an Emirati troop base in Eritrea and Yemen, was attacked by Houthi forces.

The Emirati government asserted that the SWIFT-1 carried humanitarian aid. UN experts later said of the claim that they were "unconvinced of its veracity".

Yemen was plunged into chaos in 2014 when Houthi rebels seized control of the capital Sanaa. A coalition, led by Saudi Arabia, intervened in 2015 in support of the government.

During the conflict, which has killed tens of thousands and pushed Yemen to the brink of famine, the Saudi-led coalition has launched thousands of air raids inside Yemen that also hit markets, schools and hospitals. Houthi forces have regularly sent drones and fired missiles into Saudi Arabian cities.

Some four million people have been internally displaced during the fighting. In September, the World Food Programme warned that 16 million Yemenis were "marching towards starvation".

Pakistan ready to host SAARC Summit, India can join virtually: Foreign Minister Qureshi

Press Trust of India

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said on Monday that his country was ready to host the 19th SAARC Summit and India can join it virtually if the leadership in New Delhi is not willing to visit Islamabad.

Addressing a press conference to highlight the achievements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2021, Qureshi accused India of making SAARC dysfunctional through its stubbornness by refusing to come to Islamabad for the Summit meeting.

"I reiterate the invitation for the 19th SAARC summit. If India is not ready to come to Islamabad, it can join virtually... but it should not stop others from attending the moot," he said.

SAARC — a regional grouping comprising Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka — has not been very effective since 2016 and its biennial summits have not taken place since the last one in Kathmandu in 2014.

The 2016 SAARC Summit was originally planned to be held in Islamabad on November 15-19, 2016. But after a terror attack on an Indian Army camp in Uri in Jammu and Kashmir on September 18 that year, India expressed its inability to participate in the summit due to "prevailing circumstances".

The summit was called off after Bangladesh, Bhutan and Afghanistan also declined to participate in the Islamabad meet.

Noting that there was no change in relations with India in 2021, Qureshi cited the alleged dominance of "Hindutva thinking" in India for sabotaging the prospects of good ties between the two countries.

"Unfortunately, ties with India in 2021 were frozen. In our view, the potential of regional cooperation has been hit by aggressive Hindutva behaviour in recent years," he said.

He said Pakistan wanted peaceful ties with all its neighbours, including India, but the responsibility for improving the relations was on India.

Qureshi said peace with India was not possible without resolving the Kashmir issue.

The bilateral relations deteriorated after India withdrew



the special powers of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcated the state into two union territories in August, 2019.

India has told Pakistan that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Islamabad in an environment free of terror, hostility and violence.

Qureshi dwelt at length on Pakistan's ties with the rest of the world and concluded by saying that political, economic and diplomatic relations improved last year with the entire world, including the US, Russia and China.

Qureshi specially mentioned that the ties with Bangladesh were improving and Prime Minister Imran Khan has interacted with his Bangladeshi counterpart Sheikh Hasina.

He said Khan invited Hasina to visit Pakistan who also invited him to visit Bangladesh.

To a question on the reported 'Cold War' between China and the United States, he said Pakistan's policy was clear and Islamabad will not become a "part of any camp".

Responding to another question on removal of fencing by the Taliban forces on the border, he said Pakistan carried out the fencing work and was aware of the latest incidents (of its removal) while adding that "Afghanistan is our friend and we will be able to resolve it."

Qureshi's remarks on the SAA-RC Summit came after Pakistan Prime Minister Khan last month expressed hope that his country would host the much-delayed meeting when the "artificial obstacle" created in its way is removed.

Khan made the remarks during his meeting with Secretary-General of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Esala Ruwan Weerakoon, who paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister here.



Iran President Says Trump Must Face Justice for Soleimani Killing

TEHRAN: Iran's President Ebrahim Raisi has said former United States President Donald Trump must face justice for his role in the assassination of top general Qassem Soleimani two years ago, or else Iran will have revenge.

In a televised speech on Monday, the Iranian president said as the "main criminal and killer" who ordered the deadly drone attack on Soleimani's convoy in Iraq, Trump must face "God's ruling" and suffer "qisas", which is the Islamic term for retaliation in kind.

Addressing the American officials during his speech, Iran's chief executive said, "Martyr Soleimani was official guest of the Iraqi government and by assassinating him, you both violated sovereignty of Iraq and assassinated an entire nation." "In the face of this horrible crime, the main violator and murderer and criminal, that is, then president of America [Donald Trump] must be put on trial and be punished in accordance with the God's command," Iran's president said.

Raisi called for the formation of a "fair court" in which Trump, former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and other American officials are sentenced and punished.

"If Trump and [his secretary of state, Mike] Pompeo and other criminals face trial before a just court and their horrible crime is prosecuted and they are punished for their brazen acts, it would be good. Otherwise I tell all the American statesmen that have no doubt that the [Muslim] Ummah will take revenge [for

the assassination of Gen. Soleimani and his companion]," Raisi said.

Meanwhile, judiciary officials have promised to continue following up on the assassination in local and international venues. The country had previously requested Interpol "red notices" for the arrest of Trump and dozens of other US officials.

A local court was set up on Monday, and officials have invited the Iranian public to formally register any grievances they may have with foreign powers for assassinating the general.

Meanwhile Iran's top human rights official has said Tehran has identified more than a hundred suspects in connection with the horrendous crime.

Speaking in an interview with the state television, Kazem Gharibabadi, secretary general of Iran's Human Rights Office, explained that 125 individuals, mostly US citizens, have already been identified, and that some countries that were involved in the terrorist act were also asked to provide Iran with related information and documents.

"No individual, institution, country, or political faction involved in the assassination of General Soleimani can and must be able to enjoy impunity," Gharibabadi underscored. "School of Soleimani"

Raisi on Monday delivered his remarks at an event in Tehran's Grand Mosalla to mark the second anniversary of the killing of the general. The event was televised live and included singing, recit-

ing of poetry, flag-waving and speeches.

A week of events and programmes to commemorate the former commander of the Quds Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) began on Friday and continued on Monday, with gatherings in Soleimani's hometown of Ker- man and other cities across the country.

The event in Tehran was attended by high-ranking officials and envoys of regional allies like Palestine, Syria and Yemen who are part of the so-called "resistance axis" supported by Iran and expanded by Soleimani for decades.

During his speech, Raisi also painted Soleimani as a man who was more than a mere person "and became a culture, a way, a school".

"He is not a person, he is a school. And this school is neither destroyed by terror nor by missiles," the president said.

Raisi said the general never feared the US even as he was fully aware of its military power, "and believed from the depths of his soul that America can't do a damn thing against us", echoing a phrase favoured by Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Iranian media was awash with content about Soleimani on Monday, and a documentary on him was slated to be aired soon by state television. Cities were filled with posters of Soleimani, at times pictured next to Iraqi commander Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, who was part of Soleimani's convoy and was also killed along with several others in the drone attack.

Taliban dump 3,000 litres of liquor into canal in anti-booze raid



KABUL: The Taliban regime in Afghanistan has once again demonstrated its commitment to its interpretation of austere Islamic practices. On Sunday, Afghanistan's intelligence agency, the General Directorate of Intelligence, released video footage that showed its agents had dumped around 3,000 litres of liquor into a canal in Kabul.

The agency said the liquor was seized during a raid in the capital and three alcohol dealers were arrested in the operation. The agency did not specify the time or location of the raid.

In the video uploaded by the agency on Twitter, a religious scholar was quoted by AFP as saying, "Muslims have to seriously abstain from making and delivering alcohol."

While sale and consumption of alcohol was barred in Afghanistan even during the previous western regime, the Taliban have been stricter in cracking down on liquor. "Since the Islamists seized power on August 15, the frequency of raids, including on drug addicts, has increased across the country," AFP reported.

In Christmas Day Error, British Bank Hands Out 130 Million Pounds



LONDON: Santander's UK bank has been seeking to recover 130 million pounds (\$175 million) it paid out on Christmas Day by mistake. Due to a "technical issue," 75,000 payments by some 2,000 corporate and commercial account holders were made twice to their recipients, the bank said in a statement sent to news agency AFP, confirming a report in The Times.

The duplicated transactions made on Christmas morning came from the bank's own reserves, meaning that none of the clients were left out of pocket, the bank said.

It added that it "will be working hard with many banks across the UK to recover the duplicated transactions over the coming days".

The bank said the payments could have included wages and payments to suppliers.

The Times reported that the payments were made to accounts in numerous UK banks, which are now being asked by Santander to recover the money.

One bank told the newspaper that it would be reluctant to recover the funds if the account holder had already spent the unexpected windfall and this would tip them into overdraft.

Santander said that it also had "processes in place as a bank to seek recovery of those funds directly from recipients".

The bank said the error was caused by a scheduling issue which "we quickly identified and rectified".

Comments The British high street wing of Santander has 14 million account holders and made a net profit of more than 1 billion pounds in the first three quarters of 2021.

Hong Kong's 'Citizen News' to shut down tomorrow

A Hong Kong online news site said on Sunday that it would cease operations in light of deteriorating press freedoms, days after police raided and arrested seven people for sedition at a separate pro-democracy news outlet.

Citizen News announced its decision in a Facebook post on Sunday.

It said it would stop updating its site on January 4, and it would be shuttered after that.

"We have always loved this land, but at present, we are helpless as we are not only facing wind and rain, but tornadoes and huge waves," it said in a statement.

"We have never forgotten our original intentions, but it is a pity that the rapid changes in society in the past two years and the deterioration of the media environment have prevented us from achieving our ideals without worry."

Citizen News is the third news outlet to close in recent months, following pro-democracy newspaper Apple Daily and online site Stand News. Authorities have moved to silence dissent in the semi-autonomous city, once known as a hub for vibrant media outlets, after Beijing implemented a sweeping national security law following massive pro-democracy protests in 2019.

The impending closure of Citizen News came days after au-



thorities raided Stand News and arrested seven people—including editors and former board members—for allegedly conspiring to publish seditious material.

Stand News announced on the same day that it would cease to operate.

Two former editors of Stand News were later formally charged with sedition.

In December, the opposition was shut out from elections under a new law that puts all candidates to a loyalty test, and monuments commemorating the bloody 1989 Tiananmen Square crackdown in Beijing were taken down.

The US and other Western governments have condemned diminishing press and civil freedoms that Beijing promised to uphold for 50 years following Hong Kong's 1997 handover from Britain.

Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam last week defended the raid on Stand News, telling reporters that "inciting other people ... could not be condoned under the guise of news reporting."

Israeli Media Sites Hacked With Soleimani Message On His Anniversary

DUBAI: Websites of two major Israeli newspapers were hacked on Monday, the anniversary of the 2020 killing of Iranian general Qassem Soleimani, replacing its content with his message and an image depicting a missile coming down from a fist bearing his ring on Israel's Dimona nuclear facility.

The website of The Jerusalem Post showed a scene from an Iranian missile drill last month in which Tehran destroyed a mock-up of Israel's nuclear reactor in Dimona.

In the picture, the rocket appears to be fired from the iconic ring Soleimani wore, with the caption: "We are close to you where you do not think about it," in English and Hebrew.

The Twitter account of the Maariv newspaper, which has the same owners as the English-language Post, briefly held the same message, but soon took it down. Maariv said its website was also hacked.

"We are aware of the apparent hacking of our website, alongside a direct threat of Israel. We are working to resolve the issue," the Post tweeted.

The site was back online about two hours after the hack.

Former US president Donald Trump sent shock waves through the region on January 3, 2020, with the targeted killing of Soleimani, who was commander of the Quds Force, the foreign operation arm of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards.

Soleimani was killed in a US drone strike in Baghdad ordered



by Trump, along with his Iraqi lieutenant Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, bringing Middle East on the brink of war. Trump said at the time that the drone strike came in response to a wave of attacks on US interests in Iraq, warning he would hold Iran responsible if such assaults continued.

Five days after Soleimani's killing, Iran retaliated by firing volley of missiles at the largest US military base in Ain al-Assad near Baghdad, and another near Erbil in the north. Hundreds of US soldiers reportedly suffered traumatic brain injuries from the explosions.

Iran is preparing to launch a week-long activities to mark the anniversary of Soleimani's killing. Authorities said the main event of the commemoration would be held on Monday, without elaborating. They added that a display of "Iran's missile capabilities" would be held on January 7.

Iranian officials have pledged repeatedly that Soleimani would be avenged.

Last month Iran fired multiple ballistic missiles at the close of five days of military drills that generals said were a warning to Israel. Iranian Revolutionary Guards forces finished the drill by blowing up a target set up to resemble Israel's Dimona nuclear complex. Iranian TV broadcast images of missiles striking the target structures and issued a threat to Israel.

Images from the strike were used in the Jerusalem Post and Maariv hack.

Iranian and Iran-backed groups have been repeatedly accused of trying to hack Israeli sites in recent months, part of a years-long shadow war between Iran and Israel that has taken place on land, in the air and at sea. It entered the cyber realm years ago, most famously in 2010 when the Stuxnet virus — believed to have been engineered by Israel and the US — infected Iran's nuclear program, causing a series of breakdowns in centrifuges used to enrich uranium.

HC Raps Admin For Constructing Community Hall Without Completing Process Of Land Acquisition

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: Taking a serious note of government constructing a multi-purpose community hall without completing the process of land acquisition from its owners in Ramban district, the Jammu and Kashmir High Court has directed the authorities to complete the process within one month and provide additional compensation of Rs 10 lakh within two weeks to the aggrieved party.

The division bench comprising Chief Justice Pankaj Mithal and Justice Javed Iqbal Wani observed that right to property or land is a constitutional right and no one can be deprived of his or her property without following the procedure prescribed in law and payment of adequate compensation.

Hearing a petition filed by Krishan Singh and others through advocate Rajdeep Singh, the bench in his five-page order said it was crystal clear that the land of the petitioners has been utilised for the construction of a multi-purpose community hall but without there being a formal acquisition.

The hall stands constructed without acquisition of land and without payment of any compensation...they (respondents) accept that as against the estimated cost of acquisition of Rs 15 lakh, the indenting department has deposited a sum of Rs 4.50 lakh only but even that has not been distributed to the lawful owners of the land, the order said.

The petitioners claimed that they are residents of Batroo village in Pogal Paristan area of Ukhral and are owners of land measuring two kanals and three marlas (11706.8 square feet) with nine walnut trees which was utilised by the government in the year 2012-13 for the construction of multi-purpose community hall without any lawful authority.

The land was not acquired and no consent of the petitioners was taken to use it. The petitioners were not even paid any compensation, the petitioners alleged, adding initially the government took over 5989.51 square feet with two walnut trees but subsequently, the assistant commissioner (revenue), Ramban, submitted a report seeking the entire land with all nine walnut trees.

Accordingly, a notification under Section 4 of the State Land Acquisition Act was issued on January 9, 2018, notifying the proposal to acquire the land for the construction of community hall in Dhanmasta-Batroo village.

Right to property/land used to be a fundamental right but now it has

been recognised as a constitutional right vide Article 300A of the Constitution of India. It provides that no one can be deprived of his property.

The constitutional right has been acknowledged to be akin to a fundamental right and more importantly a basic human right. Thus, no one can be deprived of his property without following the procedure prescribed in law and payment of adequate compensation, the order said.

It said the proceedings for acquisition of any land commences with the issuance of notification under Section 4 of the Act proposing to acquire the land for public purpose.

Once the Government is satisfied on consideration of the report of the Collector that the land needed for public purpose, it directs for issuance of a declaration under Section 6 of the Act. Such a declaration is the conclusive proof of the acquisition of the land, the order said.

In the case at hand, till date no declaration under Section 6 of the Act has been issued and published, meaning thereby that the land has not been finally acquired and there is simply a proposal to acquire the said land, it said.

The action of the respondents in constructing a community hall on the land in question without waiting for the final acquisition of land and in the absence of the invocation of the urgency clause, is nothing but an abuse of the process of law depriving the petitioners from their valuable right to possess property, the order said.

The court said since the community hall has already been constructed and the land cannot be restored to the petitioners, it is desirable that the respondents complete the acquisition proceedings at the earliest and make a final award so that the petitioners may be compensated in a fair manner as per the market-value of the land.

"In view of the facts and circumstances, we issue a writ in the nature of mandamus commanding the respondents to forthwith distribute the estimated cost of acquisition of the aforesaid land within a period of one month, conclude the acquisition proceedings and pronounce the final award within a period of three months.

A further writ in the nature of mandamus is issued to the respondents to pay a token compensation of Rs 10,00,000 to the petitioners for illegally depriving them of their land without any authority of law and thus violating their human rights. This amount shall be paid to the petitioners within a period of two weeks, the court said.

Newborn Dies After Father Held For 'Ransom' By LD Security Guards

Syed Burhan/ Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: A family from frontier district of Kupwara on Monday alleged that they lost their newborn baby after the two security guards at the Valley's maternity hospital—Lal Ded didn't allow them to move the baby to intensive care Unit (ICU) for want of a tip.

The aggrieved father—Mohammad Amin and his relatives held a strong protest at the hospital premises demanding strict punishment for the security guards.

Medical Superintendent Lal Ded Hospital Dr Syed Muzaffar told Kashmir Observer that the patient was admitted in the hospital on 2 January and delivered the child at 12:30 AM.

"They baby wasn't well and was supposed to be shifted to the ICU. The father took the baby and was on the way to the ICU when he was stopped by the two lady security guards asking for the tip," Dr.Muzaffar said.

He said the father gave some money to the guards but they were demanding more as a result the precious time was lost. "The baby couldn't survive" he said.



The aggrieved father said that his baby was healthy but was asked to shift to the ICU "As I reached the end of the labor room, the security guards did not allow me to leave and asked for money", he alleges.

Amin says that he offered 800 rupees but the guards refused to take the money and did allow him to proceed to the children's ward for ten minutes.

"Doctor had told me to take the child to the ICU quickly but the guards on duty prevented me. As I left the room, the child died, said Amin, while tears trickle down his eyes. "My wife is telling me to show her the child. What should I tell her?" he questioned. After the incident, protests erupted in the vicinity of the hospital.

Dr Syed Muzaffar admitted that the attitude of the guards on duty

was unprofessional and unethical.

Dr. Muzaffar further said that under hospital norms a senior hospital staffer has to accompany the patient and attendant to ICU but in this case it seems the staff would have been slightly away.

The Medical Superintendent said the father of the dead child has given us a written complaint and on that basis he had constituted a committee which terminated the services of the guards.

"I terminated both the female security guards and we will make sure that such episodes don't take place in the future".

He also assured that the matter is being thoroughly investigated.

Pertinently it is to mention the private security guards at the hospital were provided by a Srinagar based company which includes both male and female staff.

Porcupines Wreak Havoc On Budgam Orchards

Auqib Javed

SRINAGAR: The Himalayan porcupines have wreaked havoc on orchards and fields in Budgam by peeling the bark of apple, almond and other trees besides damaging vegetables and eating corns of saffron.

A group of farmers from Budgam told Kashmir Observer that a heavy presence of wild rodent porcupines, have caused huge damage to the orchards. They allege that no steps were taken by government to catch the porcupines and take them to their original habitats.

"We are very much worried. The population of the porcupines have increased and they mainly attack the crop during the night when no one is available in the Orchards," said Ali Mohammad Malik, a Saffron grower from Central Kashmir's Budgam district. The people most affected are those living in Charar-e-Sharief, Hafroo Batpora, Nagam, and other villages of Budgam.

Malik maintains that the trees would be dead in the coming months."It takes decades to grow trees but these animals come and fish it off with a night. The govt should wake up now" he added.

According to reports, porcupines prefer to eat the nutritious inner tree bark or phloem. To get to the phloem, they remove the bark all the way down to

the inner layer of the tree, where the wood begins.

The animal started damaging the orchards and the crop in last year also, however, the Wildlife authorities issued the advisory to the orchardists and asked them to spray pepper and guard fruit trees to avoid the damage.

The farmers were also asked to use poultry mesh for making a guard and for small trees farmers can use pepper.

However, Malik says they the advisories seems not to be working now as the animal still manage to damage the tress and the crops. Ifshan Dewan, Wildlife Warden, Wetlands Kashmir told Kashmir Observer that the department is in touch with the Horticulture department to see what can be done.

"As such there is no such effect but we will still see what to do," she told Kashmir Observer. When asked whether the department can kill or capture the rodents, she said "it's not easy to do that. As such we don't have any provision"

Bring Public Welfare Matters To Fore: LG To Public Representatives

Observer News Service

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha on Monday asked public representatives to continue their efforts of bringing public welfare matters to the fore.

Sinha made these remarks during his interaction with Juhi Manhas Pathania, Vice-Chairperson, DDC Udhampur, at Raj Bhavan here on Monday, an official spokesperson said.

The Vice-Chairperson, he said, apprised the Lt Governor of various public issues and demands which included augmentation of power supply, construction of national highway from Sudhmahadev to Dudu upto Basantgarh, roads from Draman to Lakhote, Dhar road to Sortha, Gadana to Kutt/Dager and other roads; establishing a Kendriya Vidyalaya, besides other matters.

She was accompanied by DDC members Mool Raj, Pinky Devi, and Rakesh Chander Sharma.

Meanwhile, the official spokesperson said that Manzoor Ahmad Khan, District President BJP Anantnag also called on the Lt Governor and projected various developmental issues of his district.

"The Lt Governor while interacting with the public representatives assured that all genuine demands and issues projected by them would be looked into for an early redressal on merit. The Lt Governor urged them to continue their efforts of bringing public welfare matters to the fore," he added.

Mehta Asks Transport Dept To Improve Efficiency Of J&KRTC

Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Chief Secretary Dr ArunKumar Mehta on Monday directed the Transport Department for improving operational efficiencies in J&K RTC to enable it to post operational profits in next three months.

He made this observation while reviewing the functioning of the Transport department in which Commissioner Secretary, Transport and other senior officers of the department were present, an official spokesperson said.



Mehta, he said, also stated that the department has to move towards complete end to end digitalization of all services being rendered on line and ensure introduction of e-office in all the subordinate offices.

"The Chief Secretary said that the department should ensure that the fleet of motor cycles purchased by the de-

partment is deployed on the National Highways for enforcing lane discipline amongst the commuters," the official spokesperson said.

"He further directed the department to take steps to ensure that the road side parking is not allowed anywhere on the National Highways," he added.

According to the official

spokesperson, earlier Commissioner/Secretary, Transport in his presentation informed that the department has been generating more revenues from the last 03 years and all the services are being provided by the department on line.

"He further informed that the department will implement a vehicle tracking platform for safety and enforcement in J&K to ensure continuous monitoring of all public services vehicle for better road safety of women and girl child," he said.

Probe Ordered Into Samba Bridge Collapse

Press Trust Of India

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir administration has ordered a magisterial probe into the collapse of the iron shuttering bridge resulting in injuries to 27 people in Samba district, officials said on Monday.

The major bridge is being constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) over the Devika river at Ramgarh-Koulpur, the officials said. "A probe has been ordered into the collapse. The inquiry will be headed by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) and

the report will be submitted in three days," Samba Deputy Commissioner Anuradha Gupta said.

She said that the district administration will bear the entire treatment cost of the injured out of District Red Cross funds.

The iron shuttering connecting two of many pillars caved in around 4.15 pm on Sunday, injuring a total of 27 labourers.

"The iron shuttering collapsed during the laying of concrete slab. A rescue operation was immediately launched and all the 27 labourers were evacuated to nearby hospitals," the DC had said on Sunday.

Anjuman Remembers Gen Qasim Soleimani On His Death Anniversary

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Anjuman-e-Shari'a Shian Monday paid tributes to General Qasim Soleimani, the head of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Re-

nefarious plans and aggressive intentions of anti-Islamic arrogant forces in the Middle East.

As per the statement, president of Anjuman-e-Shari'a Shian,



Agha Syed Hassan Al-Musawi Al-Safwi paid homage to General Qasim Soleimani and termed his martyrdom as a great shock to the Islamic world.

He said that the valuable services and deeds of the martyr will always be remembered for the protection of the Islamic Revolution and the support of the oppressed in the region.

He further said that the great benevolence done by Qasim Soleimani to humanity by wiping out the notorious terrorist group ISIS in Syria and Iraq is unforgettable.

Other dignitaries who addressed the gathering included Syed Muhammad Hussain, Syed Muhammad Safvi and Agha Syed Mujtaba Abbas Al-Musawi.

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT JAMMU (CHIEF JUSTICE'S SECRETARIAT) ADVERTISEMENT NOTIFICATION

No.: Dated: Subject- Advertisement for the post of Steno Typist in Subordinate Judiciary of UT of J&K.
a) Date of Commencement for submission of online application = 03.01.2022
b) Last Date for submission of online application = 30.01.2022
c) Last Date for submission of fee = 30.01.2022
Online applications are invited from eligible candidates who are domiciles of UT of Jammu and Kashmir, in terms of J&K Reservation Act, 2004 & the Rules framed there under as amended up to date, for participating in the selection process for the posts of Steno Typist in J&K Subordinate Judiciary, as shown below.
Number and Break-up of posts, category-wise:

Item No.	Name of the post And Grade	Cadre	No. of posts With breakup	Prescribed Qualification
01	Steno-typist Level-5 (Rs. 29200-92300)	Kashmir Division	OM 23	a) Graduate or equivalent from any Recognized University. b) Diploma in Shorthand and typewriting from a recognized institute, having speed of 60 W.P.M in Shorthand and 30 W.P.M in typing on the computer key Board
			RBA 05	
			SC 04	
			ST 05	
			EWS 04	
			LAC 02	
			PSP 02	
			OSC 02	
			Total 47	
			OM 21	
02	Steno-typist Level-5 (Rs. 29200-92300)	Jammu Division	RBA 05	c) Graduate or equivalent from any Recognized University. d) Diploma in Shorthand and typewriting from a recognized institute, having speed of 60 W.P.M in Shorthand and 30 W.P.M in typing on the computer key Board
			SC 04	
			ST 04	
			EWS 04	
			LAC 02	
			PSP 02	
			OSC 02	
			Total 44	

Note: - Number of posts may increase or decrease, depending on vacancy position at the time of final selection.

- A) Candidates belonging only to the concerned Division can apply, except for those belonging to reserved categories who are permitted under J&K Civil Services Decentralization Act, 2010, to apply in any division.
B) Age as on 01.01.2022.
I) Should not be below 18 years; and
II) Not above:-
a) 40 years in case of Open Merit candidates.
b) 43 years in case of SC/ST/RBA/ALC/OSC/EWS/PSP candidates
c) 42 years in case of Physically Challenged candidates.
d) 48 years in case of Ex. Servicemen.
e) 40 years in case of candidates in Government Service/Contractual employees.
3. The applicants must be in possession of the prescribed minimum academic/ technical qualification and must fulfill all other eligibility conditions as shown against the post, by or before the last date of submission of application forms.
4. The prescribed fees for applying to the above said posts is Rs. 300/- (Rupees Three hundred only) which shall be non-refundable.
5. Applications along with the prescribed fee shall be received only through online mode on the Recruitment Portal of the High Court of J&K, link of which shall be activated on the website of the High Court: <http://jkhighcourt.nic.in>.
6. Before applying online, candidates are advised to carefully go through the guidelines for online submission of applications. These guidelines will be available on the online portal of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir.

Important Instructions:

- a) The reservation for various categories would be determined as per the provisions of J&K Reservation Act, t 2004 & the Rules framed there under as amended up to date.
b) Submission of Application Form and fee payment shall not be accepted/entertained after the cut-off date fixed for receipt of the same.
c) Candidates shall not be required to submit the printout of the Application Form /fee payment receipt to the office of Principal Secretary to, Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of J&K at this stage.
d) Please note that the above procedure is the only valid procedure for applying. In no other mode, the Application Form would be accepted and even online incomplete Application Form would not be accepted.
e) The printout of the application along with the fee payment receipt and required copies of documents however shall be kept ready to be submitted as and when required.
f) The in-service candidates / contractual employees shall submit photocopy of the filled up online application form through proper channel viz. the concerned Head of Department. In the event of failure of the candidate to route the application through proper channel, his /her eligibility shall be assessed as if he/she is not an in-service candidate. The Head of Department concerned shall forward the application form of the in-service candidates at the address of the Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court of J&K within 15 days after the last date of filing their Application Form.
g) The last date for the submission of online application forms as prescribed above shall be the cut-off date for determining the eligibility to apply for the post. Any qualification/experience acquired after last date of receipt/submission of online application form i.e. 31.01.2022 shall not be taken into account for any purpose.
h) The prescribed qualifications reflect the bare minimum requirement of the job and mere possession thereof shall not entitle a candidate to be called for the test.
i) Call letters shall not be issued individually however, wide publicity shall be given through print and electronic media, official Website <http://jkhighcourt.nic.in> of the High Court about the venues, dates of the test for the information of eligible candidates. No claim of being unaware of the dates/schedule for the test shall be entertained.
j) No TA/DA will be paid for participation in the test.

(-Sd-)

(Rajeev Gupta)

Principal Secretary to,

Hon'ble the Chief Justice

DIPK-16068/21

KASHMIR
OBSERVER

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K O V I E W

Destination Kashmir

At 8,960 feet, Gulmarg, Kashmir's wonderland of snow, is teeming with tourists. According to the tourism department, the occupancy of the hotels in the famous hill resort has steeply gone up. With international travel continuing to be barred if not banned, Kashmir has become the preferred destination for the tourists in the country. More so, in the winter when unlike the most parts of mainland India, it snows in Kashmir. Other tourist resorts and Srinagar is also witnessing tourist rush. November last, as per tourism department figures, witnessed the second-highest number of monthly tourist arrivals to Kashmir at 1.28 lakhs. Over 6 lakh tourist footfalls have been recorded in Kashmir this year so far. These are glad tidings for the sector.

Things are likely to look up further with India's economy recovering fast from the ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic. That is, if the new virus mutant Omicron doesn't usher in yet another nationwide wave. India, according to the latest projections by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), is poised to grow at 9.5 percent in 2021 and 8.5 percent in 2022. In 2020, India's economy had contracted by 7.3 percent following the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the IMF's World Economic Outlook, India's projected growth is way ahead of that of the global economy which is forecast to grow at 5.9 percent in 2021 and 4.9 percent in 2022 respectively.

Mercifully, in 2021, Kashmir economy was able to recover some of its losses. In 2020, the Valley's economy suffered grievously. According to an estimate by the local business bodies, the Valley's economy suffered a loss of over Rs 50,000 crore. Its fallout on the ground was grim. Sectors of the economy like tourism, handicrafts, hotel industry, IT, transport etc were crushed. People were forced to shut down their old unviable businesses and start new ones. Here's hoping that the recovery continues. Double-digit growth is what is needed to lift the lakhs of people out of poverty and bring lost jobs back.

Tourism is one of the mainstays of Kashmir economy. And the return of tourists to the Valley in large numbers is a positive development. Sounding a note of caution though, tourism in Kashmir is not only about whether the pandemic is on or gone. The security situation is a factor too. While the Covid-19 lockdown may have been responsible for infrequently shutting the Valley off over the last two years, the security situation too has not been good.

At the best of times, the situation in the Valley remains uneasy and uncertain. And sometimes a big local event could make the region a site of geopolitical tension just like the Pulwama attack did. Truth is that while tourism is a boon for Kashmir it needs a peaceful environment to thrive, something that the Valley has lacked for the past thirty years. And considering the ongoing state of affairs, fundamentally the situation remains the same.

So, while we look forward to a bountiful tourist arrivals in winter, it is important that the state of siege that has more or less prevailed since the repeal of Article 370 in August 2019 is lifted. And this siege is not about the lockdown or the frequent denial of the internet and phones but about the political uncertainty and unpredictability.

O T H E R O P I N O N

Slow Poke

Yet another promise — or was it a jumla? — made by the Narendra Modi government has been broken. The Centre had pledged, no less to the Supreme Court, that the process of inoculating 94 crore adults with two doses of Covid-19 vaccines would be completed by December 2021. Data, predictably, tell a different story. According to official figures, 60.5 crore adult Indians had received two shots till the evening of December 31. The ground left to cover is expansive. An estimated 34 crore targeted recipients are yet to get the second dose; worse, 10 crore Indians above the age of 18 have not been given even the first shot of the vaccine. Over 50 per cent of eligible Indians are fully vaccinated. The corresponding figures for the United Arab Emirates, China, Portugal, the United States of America and even Brunei are 93 per cent, 86 per cent, 89 per cent, 62 per cent and 89 per cent, respectively. Some of these nations are now expediting booster shots as Omicron, the latest variant of Covid, scourges the global community at lightning speed. The Centre has attributed the slow pace of vaccination to shortages in vaccines. Experts, however, point out that the combination of delayed approvals and production shortages has amplified the crisis. What has added to the mess is Mr Modi's vacillations on vaccine policy pertaining to pricing.

The Centre's ineptitude has been matched by glaring public indifference towards safety protocols. The festive season has led to severe lapses with predictable consequences: India's daily case load of Covid has registered a sharp spike. It is possible that Omicron, which is even more contagious than the Delta variant, may soon lead the infection surge. Although the Omicron wave in other parts of the world suggests that it may be less fatal, the Centre and the states must undertake necessary steps on a war footing. This is because local conditions influence epidemiological behaviour. Moreover, further medical challenges cannot be ruled out. Israel, for instance, has already reported its first case of 'Florona' — a double infection caused by coronavirus and influenza. It is possible that the world's confrontation with Covid would be a long-drawn-out battle. India, a populous nation with mediocre health infrastructure, cannot falter when it comes to taking basic precautions such as completing mass inoculation at the earliest.

Telegraph India

Gujjar-Pahari: The Vicious Divide in Pir Panjal Region

Sajid Bukhari

The greatest weapon white men have used in the past against our people has always been their ability to divide and conquer." With these words, Malcolm X was trying to make blacks understand that people in power exploit them for their gains and then to further maintain this status quo, divide them at different levels on different issues to divert the oppressed from raising their voice against injustice and oppression. Blacks of mid-20th century were wise enough to take words of Malcolm X seriously and thus liberated themselves .

Comparison between the above mentioned situation and dynamics between Gujjars and Paharis in Pir Panjal region of Jammu and Kashmir, illustrates a stark difference where Gujjar Pahari rift is not only deeply interracial but also prolonged.

This rivalry is not new. Like a dormant volcano it has always been there but the turn of events leading to sudden eruption of hatred and hostility are concerning as August 2021 marked only the second anniversary of abrogation of the special status of J&K and its bifurcation by the BJP led government. This situation was something which required people to focus on impending capitalist ambitions to exploit the resources of this region, and much dreaded demographic changes. Situation demanded them to be united and unanimous against this exploitation and for securing their rights. However, they have been successfully turned against one another to divert the focus.

The reason behind recent animosity and rift is the demand for the Schedule Tribe status by Pahari speaking people which has been opposed by the Gujjar Tribe. This debate of demand and its opposition has created a lot of chaos in the society because Paharis think it is their right to get this status whereas the Gujjar Tribe claims that adding Paharis into Schedule Tribe would violate their rights.

The term 'Scheduled Tribes' is not defined anywhere in the Constitution though Article 366 (25) refers to scheduled tribes as "such tribes or tribal communities or parts of or groups within such tribes or tribal communities as are deemed under Article 342 to be Scheduled Tribes for the purposes of this constitution", whereas Article 342 states, "for specification of tribes or tribal communities or parts or groups within tribes or tribal communities which shall for the purposes of this Constitution be deemed to be Scheduled Tribes in relation to that State or Union territory, in pursuance of these provisions, the list of Scheduled Tribes is notified for each State or Union Territory and is valid only within the jurisdiction of that State or Union Territory". The procedure followed for specification of a community as scheduled tribes is not given in any statute but was explained by the Lokur Committee of 1965 as indications of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with the community at large, and backwardness of such Tribe, both educationally and socially. In 1989, Eight communities that are Bot, Brookpa, Changpa, Garra, Mon, and Purigpa, Balti and Beda, were notified as tribes in Jammu and Kashmir whereas Bakewals, Gujjars, Gaddis and Sippis were notified as the scheduled tribes under the constitution after Scheduled Tribes Amendment Act, 1991. Despite recommendation from the government of Jammu and Kashmir in 1989 and thereafter, Paharis were not recognised as Tribe and their demand was rejected several times. The demand is peaking again as GD Sharma Commission is soon to submit its report, inter-alia, on the inclusion and exclusion of the communities from the current list of Educationally and Socially backward classes.

There is no debate over how Gujjars and Bakawals are the most backward in the region. People belonging to the same face alienation for years because of casteism and other socio-political reasons, even now they are stigmatised at different levels making them the most deserving for affirmative actions which they already enjoy. Nevertheless, it is also to be taken into consideration that there is no concept of creamy layer exclusion in Scheduled Tribe reservation like Other Backward Classes, thus resulting in horizontal discrimination within the tribe. This renders the underprivileged poor, alienated and backward in all dimensions.

Whereas in the case of Pahari Speaking people, there is no trace of any stigma attached with their identity but as per a study of the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies New Delhi, socio-economic conditions are not as good as the people of many other communities of Jammu and Kashmir. This became more authentic when the



A few months ago they danced and lured Gujjar community and now people from Pahari community are being gathered in conventions in the name of reservation, that too under their political party's banner. It is sad but true that the public, despite knowing their history, are falling for the trap

State Backward Class Commission of Jammu and Kashmir, in its report of 2017 submitted, "From perusal of the record obtained from various institutions, we are satisfied that a case is made out in favour of Pahari Speaking People to be considered for being treated as a class of people suffering from socio-economic backwardness and inadequacy of representation and, in the judgment of the Commission, deserve reservation to the extent of three percent".

There are some communities and groups like weavers and ironsmiths in Rajouri and Poonch which go through almost the same circumstances of nomadic life as Gujjars do. However, a majority of Paharis include not only so-called "upper caste Muslims" but Brahmins, Mahajans and other "upper caste" Hindus as well. This seems to be one of the reasons that Paharis were never considered a part of one tribe. Meanwhile, any commission constituted under Article 342 of Indian Constitution for this purpose will firstly see whether all Pahari speaking people qualify as a 'single tribe' and then the rest of the procedure will be followed to decide whether they can be recommended to be Scheduled Tribe or not.

There are arguments from both sides of the parties but contention of this article is not to analyse who deserves what, rather to emphasise how this issue is being used to increase animosity between people of this region.

Historically speaking, this animosity didn't develop overnight but was being injected over time. For instance, since long, days such as Gujjar Day are being celebrated every year on 22nd May on the day of Kushan King Kanishka to assert different identity from the rest of the society.

This further widened the gulf and created a sense of alienation in the society, and as a reaction Paharis started organising conventions at

different places to further polarise the people, adding fuel to the divisive fire. More surprising is the fact that such days and such conventions aren't only to gain political advantages but are being endorsed and promoted by most elites of the society including educationists, government officers and so-called civil society. On the other hand, leaders from both sides find it an easy ground to make their careers.

People might see it as a mere rift on reservation but the fact is that this rift is what will divide people in a way that our upcoming generations will treat each other as untouchables. It is not just a prediction as it has already started reflecting itself within the people from both sides starting from social media.

This could be further seen in our social relations in this region which has followers of Islam as majority, a religion which rejects any and every type of superiority and believes in complete brotherhood yet there are rare cases of inter-caste relations. Needless to state, even in worse situations there shouldn't come any trait of superiority in our heart and mind, particularly in case of Muslims because even the last Sermon of Prophet Muhammad (s) which is gist of Islam defies such discrimination in all its forms as reported in Musnad Ahmed, "O People! Your Lord (God) is One and your father (Adam) is one. Beware, an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab and a non-Arab has no superiority over an Arab, a white has no superiority over a black and a black has no superiority over a white, except with righteousness/piety..."

However, in our case, the level of ignorance and hate is so high that it permeates even in universities and educational institutions, where students from different corners come together and have friend circles from different regions, religions and ethnicities. A major section of students of Pir Panjal find themselves comfortable only with people from their own communities. Meanwhile, Gujjars share spaces exclusively with Gujjars and Paharis with Paharis only. This is the mindset of learned people. As for those who don't have the opportunity to learn, not much can be expected.

People of Pir Panjal need to understand that divide and conquer is an old tactic and this is what people in power are playing. A few months ago they danced and lured Gujjar community and now people from Pahari community are being gathered in conventions in the name of reservation that too under their political party's banner. It is sad but true that the public, despite knowing their history, are falling for the trap. It is fine to ask for something but at the cost of conscience and what the upcoming generation will have to pay is something unimaginably devastating therefore it is high time for the people from both sides to sensitise people and sit on a common platform to decide future course of action and responsibility to stabilise the situation. More importantly because of the current situation of Jammu and Kashmir, any sort of division anywhere at any level will only lead people of Jammu Kashmir towards destruction and desolation.

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

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Get Vaccinated

If it isn't already obvious, the Covid-19 threat is far from over. Across India, cases are increasing drastically. This will soon reflect in Kashmir as well. Omicron has taken over the globe. It isn't obvious if it will be as devastating as the Delta Variant but vaccination is our only way to keep us safe.

While vaccination doesn't keep one from getting covid, it does decrease the chances of getting severe symptoms, hospitalisation and even death. Vaccination also reduces the transmissibility of the virus as well.

Maharashtra, which has seen quite an increase in the number of cases has also reassured its popula-

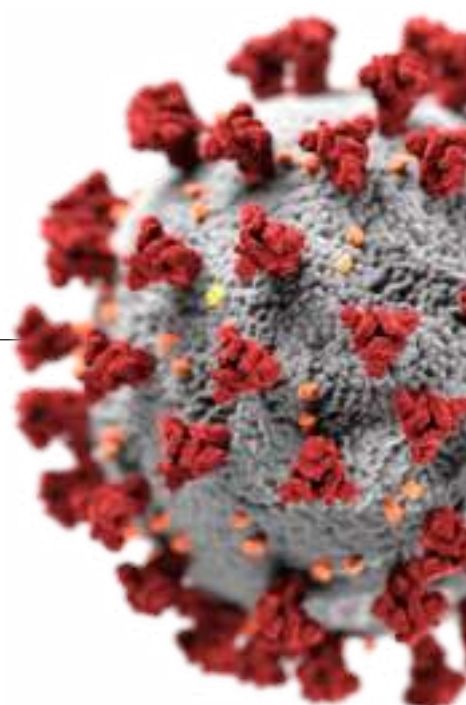
tion that a majority of the cases are asymptomatic. This may either be because of vaccination or it may be because the omicron strain is mild.

However, we must take what we have at hand. We hope that the government considers booster vaccine shots for high risk groups which need it the most. In addition to getting vac-

cinated, we must also follow the 101 of covid-19 SOPs.

A mask may not always save you from getting covid-19 but it may save others from you at your public work-places or even your family.

.....
Hooda Syed



OMICRON

Might Evade Antibodies – But That Doesn't Mean You Don't Have Immunity

“IF PRIOR IMMUNITY DOES PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PROTECTION, then precautionary measures to slow omicron's spread, together with vaccinating and boosting people, should prevent intolerable strain on healthcare systems. But if not, then increased social restrictions are inevitable as the variant spreads around the world and potentially replaces delta, which is currently the dominant variant.”

Yurchanka Siarhei

With the highly mutated omicron variant spreading rapidly, people want to know if immunity from vaccination or a prior infection will be enough to protect them against getting infected or developing severe disease.

If prior immunity does provide sufficient protection, then precautionary measures to slow omicron's spread, together with vaccinating and boosting people, should prevent intolerable strain on healthcare systems. But if not, then increased social restrictions are inevitable as the variant spreads around the world and potentially replaces delta, which is currently the dominant variant.

Early studies – all of which are still pre-prints, so yet to be formally reviewed by other scientists – suggest that omicron is handled less well by existing immunity. But research also suggests that giving a third booster vaccine dose may provide protection. So, the bad news isn't as bad as it could be, but the good news also needs to be treated with caution. Here's why.

More to immunity than antibodies

Inevitably, early reports have focused on the most quickly accessible data, which is the amount of antibodies people have in their blood that are capable of neutralising the new variant.

Overall, the data consistently suggest that omicron can escape these neutralising antibodies to some extent: the reduction in neutralisation in double-vaccinated people is somewhere between 10- to 20-fold to 40-fold compared to delta. That said, in people who had received two vaccinations and had also been infected, the level of neutralisation of omicron was higher.

This may seem alarming. But it's not the whole story. In previous studies that have looked at earlier forms of the virus, levels of neutralising antibodies have correlated well with levels of protection – greater neutralising activity equating to better protection.

But lower levels of neutralising antibodies



doesn't necessarily mean people are completely exposed. Past studies have also found that many people with low levels of antibodies do still appear to be sufficiently protected, particularly against severe disease, even with the newer variants like delta. We may find that the same applies with omicron.

This is most likely because neutralising antibodies that attack and nullify the virus are just part of the immune response. There are also binding antibodies, which attach to the virus or to infected cells to flag them to other immune cells for destruction, and T cells and memory B cells, which can attack the virus directly and produce more antibodies to fight it.

Even in the initial absence of antibodies that can neutralise the virus, these mechanisms may also provide a level of protection against infection or symptomatic disease. This may still be sufficient to reduce the likelihood of omicron causing severe disease and limit its impact on health systems.

A boost of good news?

Two of the recent reports also strongly suggest that a third booster dose of a COVID vaccine dramatically increases levels of neutralising antibodies against the widespread delta variant and that this would also increase neutralisation of the omicron variant.

One of these (a press release from Pfizer) suggests that a booster can provide quite a marked increase in neutralisation of omicron, although this only included a summary of the results and not the full dataset.

A closer examination of what data is available in these studies reveals that reduced neutralisation of omicron can be extremely variable (which is why it would be helpful to see Pfizer's results in full). While some vaccinated or previously infected people are good at neutralising omicron, some have almost no neutralising antibodies, even after a booster dose.

So are these people still likely to be protected against infection or severe disease? It's hard to say. As discussed above, we don't know the

extent to which the immune system's other mechanisms can provide protection.

However, we do know these other immune mechanisms target different parts of the coronavirus to neutralising antibodies. And while the part of the virus that neutralising antibodies target – the spike protein – is heavily mutated in omicron, the bits these other mechanisms focus on aren't so badly affected.

We can hope that people with low levels of neutralising antibodies, even after a booster, will therefore be protected by these other immune defences remaining largely undiminished. This, though, is not a given, and we need further studies to measure real-life protection.

Optimism rather than confidence

Overall, then, what we know so far is that vaccination or prior infection should provide some protection against omicron, and that for most people protection should be increased by a booster vaccine dose.

But the crucial message from these early studies is that we still need a lot more information to assess the national and global impact of the rapid spread of this new variant. We need more and larger studies on neutralising antibodies after different combinations of vaccines and previous infections.

We also need studies of the ability of other protective mechanisms (T cells, binding antibodies) to control infections and disease caused by omicron. And we need to know how much these mechanisms are also boosted by a third vaccine dose.

And above all, we need large, real-time studies of levels of infection and disease attributable to omicron to allow rapid, rational public health decisions to be made. Research groups around the world are addressing all these areas and, in the near future, we can expect their reports to make the situation clearer.

The authors are Professor of Comparative Immunology, University of Bristol and Professor of Genetic Epidemiology, University of Bristol. The article is being reproduced by arrangements with The Conversation

Agents Of Hope

Ekram Kabir

A week ago, I asked my friends what they thought were the ten good things that happened in 2021. Something they saw or read in the news. Or experienced. They didn't bother to mention ten. They talked about just one. They all said the best news was that they and their family members didn't contract Covid-19.

Quite simple. Survival has been the only news.

Their response reminded me of the world we have started living in. We, each individual, now live in constant worry -- Covid-19. We may not have any memory of many other plagues of history, but we may have to carry the memory of Covid as long as we live.

Well, to my mind, Covid may have returned with a bigger cast of shadow but the humans have been winning against many other diseases -- Malaria and HIV-AIDS.

Malaria, which has been a killer disease across the world for many decades and still, kills half a million people every year, might be vanquished with a vaccine -- the first ever. Another new vaccine regarding HIV has shown a 97% response rate in the first phase of clinical trials. There were about 40 million people with HIV in 2020 with hundreds dying of it every year. Going forward, these trials are hopeful signs and 2022 is likely to experience greater success in this respect.

We thought we would see some hope in the environment and climate change fronts because representatives from the whole world gathered in Glasgow for a now-or-never climate summit. The delegates came out frustrated. The rich countries didn't want to restrain themselves in polluting the earth and its air.

Take deforestation in Brazil's Amazon, for example. The deforestation surged to a 15-year high as it emerged that the forest has begun emitting more carbon than it can absorb. But you can't just blame Brazil



for this to happen. The global meat industry is also responsible for destroying the Amazon rainforest; they are felling trees every day in search of land where they are to farm corn for global livestock.

In our country, we have been pushing ahead with our development agenda. However, we seemed to have ignored the environmental impact of development. 2020 had exposed a few big financial crimes. We hoped things would improve in 2021. We are yet to make a difference in post-Covid purchasing ability and financial ease of the people. The rich still got richer and the poor, poorer.

The report of about Tk71,000 crore being siphoned off to overseas lands was very depressing. There was

a time when the colonizers used to send the local wealth to their countries. Now the locals send local wealth to those countries. We the locals have been proven to be more colonial than the colonials.

The budgets for the big projects kept on increasing. And we didn't observe any tough measures against the corrupt in 2021.

The year 2021 was a continuation of boasting about digital revolutions across the world. Covid has helped us to leapfrog in our digital pursuits. More and more people had adopted digital technologies in their lifestyles and were happy to do everything with their handsets. We spoke of digital conveniences, but willfully ignored the fact we had started a 'loneliness'

“THE ONLY PACIFYING ELEMENT FROM THIS GRIMNESS FOR US IS HOPE.

The global leaders have not sounded very hope-mongering at the end of the year. They need to. They must give us hope. Their actions must make us hopeful. Their words should be full of hope

revolution with it.

News reports claimed an enormous number of the global population were traumatized and suffering from various kinds of mental illnesses. We haven't heard politicians across the globe talk about this silent killer -- mental trauma. Yes, we do understand that profit-mongering doesn't care about people's psychological state, it only cares about glamour and physical comfort.

If news reports since 2006 are any indicator, there have been more and 3,000 public protests across the world since then. Many things had happened since then. Starting from global recession to pandemic -- public happiness or satisfaction was a distant cry. We are indeed living in an era of mass discontent.

The only pacifying element from this grimness for us is hope. The global leaders have not sounded very hope-mongering at the end of the year. They need to. They must give us hope. Their actions must make us hopeful. Their words should be full of hope.

As we enter another year, we want our leaders to be hope messengers and agents of hope, not agents of war, conflict and disparity.

Ekram Kabir is a story-teller, a yogi and a communications professional. He is an email away: ekabir@gmail.com. The article was originally published by Dhaka Tribune

Researchers Find Kids Are More Comfortable Confronting Peers

Agencies

A recent study led by an international team of researchers has found that children globally will challenge peers if they break the 'rules', but how they challenge them varies between cultures.

The study has been published in the 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences Journal'.

Led by the University of Plymouth, UK and Freie Universitat Berlin, Germany, the study analysed the behaviour of 376 children aged five to eight from eight societies in Africa, Asia, Europe, and South America.

The children were each taught to play a block sorting game - with half taught to sort the blocks by colour, and half taught to sort them by shape. They were then put into pairs, with one playing the game and the other observing.

The research showed that observers intervened more often when the other child appeared to play by the wrong set of rules. The more a child intervened, the more likely their partner was to change their behaviour. The study also showed that the type of intervention varied - with children from rural areas using imperative verbal protest more than children from urban areas.

The study was the first to analyse children's behaviour in challenging norm violations across cultures worldwide, and added to our understanding of how norms allowed people to achieve coordination and cooperation.

Lead author Dr Patricia Kanngiesser from the University of Plymouth said, "What is new about this study is that we observed children's behaviours and travelled worldwide to do so - we didn't ask children what they intended to do, but measured what they actually did in real-life social interactions."

"It was also really interesting to see that how the children corrected



each other varied by location. To our surprise, children from rural

small-scale communities protested as much or even more than children from urban settings. We assumed that, because everyone knows everyone else in small scale communities, direct interventions would be less common, as people could rely on more indirect ways such as reputation to ensure compliance with rules. But we actually found the opposite to be true," she added.

"The next step is to explore further what motivates children to intervene and how they learn to intervene. For example, do they learn from adults or older children around them how to react to rule-breaking?" she concluded.

Study Examines Best Time To Make Your Investment Decisions

Agencies

A new study has found that if you are a night owl, making your investment decisions first thing in the morning might be a bad idea.

The research has been published in the 'Journal of Business Venturing'.

The study showed time-based factors, like time of day and whether you're a morning or evening person, can influence investment decisions and your ability to evaluate whether a startup will be successful.

"Early-stage investments - when not a lot is typically known about a company and the time to make a decision is compressed - can be risky with high failure rates," said Jeff Gish, assistant professor of management at UCF and a co-author of the story.

"Trying to pick a winner is difficult enough under those circumstances, but we've also learned that when you make those decisions can have a significant impact on whether they turn out to be successful," he added.

Individuals have an internal clock called circadian rhythm that regulates our alertness and



awake-sleep cycles. In general, individuals tend to fall into three general types with respect to what time of day they are more awake and alert in a 24-hour cycle. Those with a circadian process shifted earlier in the day are known as larks, while owls are more alert later in the day. The third group of individuals is the intermediate.

"What we found was when individuals evaluated an investment opportunity at a time that conflicted with their body's natural internal clock -- for example, a morning person or lark making a decision late in the day or evening -- they tended to make poor choices," said Cristiano Guarana, assistant professor of management and entrepreneurship at the IU Kelley School of Business and a co-author.

"This tension may not be recognized by those making the investment decision and over time could result in substantial losses for people who, on average, possess much less investment knowledge than angel investors and venture capitalists," Guarana added.

Gish and Guarana each have studied how lack of sleep affects cognitive skills needed to be successful in evaluating ideas and making business decisions. Gish has founded multiple businesses and now invests in others' entrepreneurial ventures.

The three-part study looked at early-stage investment decisions via equity crowdfunding where non-professional investors can invest a relatively small amount for an ownership stake in a startup. Study participants were recruited from social media accounts for active followers of several leading equity crowdfunding platforms in the U.S. -- such as Wefunder, Fundable, and EquityNet -- and surveyed about whether they were a morning versus an evening person, their investment experience and time zone information.

Participants were then asked to complete a decision-making task at an assigned time; for example, if they had had \$1,000 to invest, how much would they allocate to certain companies? The companies being evaluated were based on actual investment opportunities, including several desirable opportunities that had performed well and several undesirable opportunities that had performed poorly. Participants also were asked to report their sleep quantity and crowdfunding experience.

The study showed that owl investors invested more than lark investors in an unsuccessful venture in the morning, while lark investors invested more than owl investors in an unsuccessful venture in the evening. The same types of errors occur, in the opposite direction, with successful ventures.

With sites StartEngine, Microventures and others making it easier than ever for amateur investors to jump into equity crowdfunding with the click of a button, determining when you are best equipped to make those decisions could impact your wallet.

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT JAMMU

(Chief Justice's Secretariat)

Subject:- Appointment against the divisional cadre post of Counsellor in the Family Court, Jammu pursuant to Advertisement Notification No. 03 dated 26.06.2020.

ORDER

No. 1335_ Dated 30-12-2021

Consequent upon the finalization of the selection process and preparation of Select-list by the Selection Committee, constituted for recruitment to the divisional cadre post of Counsellor in the Family Court, Jammu pursuant to Advertisement Notification No. 03 dated 26.06.2020, and the recommendation of the Selection Committee by Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Appointing Authority), the following candidate is appointed as Counsellor, against a substantive vacancy in the pay scale of L-7 (44-900-142400), in the Family Court, Jammu, initially on probation for a period of two years.

S. No.	Roll No.	Name of the Candidate, Parentage & Address
1.	JCI075	Ms. Gokila Verma - D/o Shri Vijay Kumar Verma R/o East Extension I-A, Trikuta Nagar, Jammu.

NOTE:-

a) Appointment shall be subject to verification of personal antecedents and the documents submitted by the candidate in support of her application form.

b) Posting order of appointee shall be issued separately.

c) For collection of posting order the appointee shall approach to the Principal Secretary to Hon'ble the Chief Justice within a period of 10 days from the date of issuance of this order. In case the appointee fails to collect her posting order within the stipulated time, it shall be presumed that she is not interested in taking up the job.

By Order.

Rajeev Gupta
Principal Secretary to
Hon'ble the Chief Justice

No.535-540/PSY- 520

Dated: 30-12-2021

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH AT JAMMU

(Chief Justice's Secretariat)

Subject:- Waiting list for the divisional cadre post of Counsellor in the Family Court, Jammu pursuant to Advertisement Notification No. 03 dated 26.06.2020.

ORDER

No: 1337 Dated : 3o -12-2021

Consequent upon the finalization of the selection process and preparation of Select-list and Waiting-list by the Selection Committee, constituted for recruitment to the divisional cadre post of Counsellor in the Family Court, Jammu pursuant to the Advertisement Notification No. 03 dated 26.06.2020, and the approval of the recommendations of the Committee by Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Appointing Authority), the following Waiting-list is issued for the Family Court, Jammu, which shall remain in force for six months period from the date of issuance of appointment order of selected candidate.

S. No.	Roll No.	Name of the Candidate, Parentage & Address
1.	JCI007	Ms. Shevali Raina D/o Shri Raj Kumar Raina R/o H. No. 520, Sector-3, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

By Order.

DIPK-16003/21

No. 547-552/Psy-520

Dated 30-12-2021

Rajeev Gupta
Principal Secretary to
Hon'ble the Chief Justice

Governments of Jammu and Kashmir

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER SRINAGAR

(Chairman District Red Cross Srinagar)

NOTICE

Subject: Collection of District Red Cross funds for the year 2021-2022

The Red Cross is an organization helping in rehabilitation of victims of natural calamities. The Red Cross Society has been established in District Srinagar as well and a fund has been set up in the office of Deputy Commissioner Srinagar for the said purpose. Funds procured under Red Cross are utilized by the District Administration for providing Relief CA/Tamer/Dialysis/Heart/Destitute patients/ Fire Cases/Widows & Needy person accidental Injuries and victims of other calamities and disasters.

The Secretary to Government, School Education Department has already issued Order instruction (vide No: 108-EDU of 2018 Dated: 01/02/2018) for the purpose and accordingly in pursuance of the said circular/instructions, all the Government / private Educational Institutions of District Srinagar from first primary to Higher Secondary are supposed to remit the Annual Red Cross funds 2021-2022 of enrolled students in the office of the Deputy Commissioner Chairman District Red Cross Committee, Srinagar up to 01/01/2022 to 31/03/2022 during office hours against proper receipt and get Reconciliation Certificate for the year 2022 fine would be Imposed as prescribed if not paid in time.

Accordingly concerned heads of the Primary/High and Higher Secondary Schools of District Srinagar are hereby asked through the medium of this circular to remit their respective Red Cross funds immediately in the office of the Chairman District Red Cross Committee, Deputy Commissioner Srinagar.

No: 404/DCS/21 DRCC
Dated 31-12-2021

(Dr Syed Haneef Balhi) KAS
Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
Srinagar

DIPK-16006/21

Jammu & Kashmir

Haj Committee

Under Department of Haj & Auqaf,
Govt. Of Jammu & Kashmir

Press Release

It is for the information of all the Intending Haj Pilgrims of Haj 1443(H) 2022(AD) who have applied for Haj 2022 and have not (NOT) received their Cover Numbers through SMS till date are requested to approach / contact J&K Haj Committee, Bemina, Srinagar during office hours either personally or through following telephone numbers so that their Cover Numbers are generated well before the last date i.e. 31st January, 2022.

0194-2495365
0194-2495367

DIPK-16087/21

Sd/-
Executive Officer
J&K Haj Committee
Srinagar

No.Haj/2022/Cs/Pr/120/ 111
Dated: 30-12-2021

Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti PHE Division Chadoora.

Gist Notice Inviting e- Tenders

e-NIT NO:-63/PHEDC of 01/2022 (2021-2022)

For and on behalf of the Lt. Governor of Union Territory of J&K, Executive Engineer PHE Division Chadoora invites tenders by e-tendering mode in single cover system from reputed dealers/distributors/firms/agencies registered with J&K UT for the supply of stationery items detailed below. The firm should deposit Earnest Money to the tune of Rs.5000/- in shape of CDR/FDR pledged to the Executive Engineer Jal Shakti PHE Division Chadoora.

S.No	Item	Quantity	Rate to be quoted/Item
1.	Cartridge -303	05No	RTQ
2.	Cartridge 12-A	15No	RTQ
3.	Cartridge -88A	05No	RTQ
4.	Toner for photostat machine	06No	RTQ
5.	Drum for photostat machine	02No	RTQ
6.	Pen drive/OTG 16GB+32GB	10No	RTQ
7.	Keyboard	02No	RTQ
8.	Mouse	02No	RTQ
9.	USB Hub	06No	RTQ
10.	Paper A4	08Box	RTQ
11.	Paper Ps	01Box	RTQ
12.	File cover Superior	15dozen	RTQ
13.	Dak Pad superior	10No	RTQ
14.	File tags big size	05bundle	RTQ
15.	Paper pin T.head	20box	RTQ
16.	Stapler pins small	01box	RTQ
17.	Calculator Casio	04No	RTQ
18.	Pencil	02box	RTQ
19.	Highlighter	05No	RTQ
20.	Mouse pad	04No	RTQ
21.	Dongle	02No	RTQ
22.	Marker	01box	RTQ
23.	Register small	10No	RTQ
24.	Register big	20No	RTQ
25.	Carbon	02Box	RTQ
26.	V5 Pen	03Box	RTQ
27.	V7 Pen	03Box	RTQ
28.	UPS Double Battery	02No	RTQ

Position of funds:- Available

The bidding document can be downloaded from the website jktenders.gov.in where in all the terms and conditions are highlighted in details.

Important Dates.

Date of Publishing 01-01-2022

Date of downloading the bidding documents. 01-01-2022 to 06-01-2022 upto 4:00 PM

Date of submission of bid online 01-01-2022 to 06-01-2022 upto 4:00 PM

Date of opening 07-01-2022 11:00 AM

General terms and conditions:-

1. EARNEST MONEY:
a) The tender shall be accompanied with an earnest Money in shape of CDR for Rs. 5,000/- in favour of the Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti PHE Division Chadoora.

b) After award of the contract the EMD of all the unsuccessful bidders will be released.

c) In case the successful bidder failed to deliver the ordered items within 03 days the EMD shall be liable to be forfeited.

d) The EMD of the successful bidder will be released after successful completion, testing and commissioning of the devices.

e) No interest will be paid on the deposited Earnest Money.

f) No adjustment towards Earnest Money deposit shall be made against any outstanding amount.

Note:- Tender without EMD will be out rightly rejected and no further correspondences in this regard will be entertained.

2. The work should be executed under the proper guidelines/SOPs issued by the Govt. in view of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

3. The bidder must have registration certificate dealership of the reputed company. Certificates must be enclosed/ attached/uploaded.

4. PRICE/Rate:
a) The quoted rate shall be FIRM and FOR basis to Divisional Office PHE Division Chadoora, which include cost of materials, taxes & duties i.e. Central Sales tax / VAT / Excise duties, packing, forwarding, freight & any other charges as applicable.

b) The bidders are requested to quote the price of each and every item with percentage of taxes / duties as applicable.

5. The department shall not be responsible for any injury to the personnel/workers in event of any accident/mishap occurred during the execution of the job. Any claim with the personnel/workers arising due to loss or damage in advent of any accident/mishap has to be settled by the contractor.

6. COMPLETION PERIOD: The work shall be completed in all respects within 03 days from the date of issue of work order or LOI whichever is earlier.

7. REJECTION OF JOB: If the devices/equipment used by the supplier are found defective in material or workmanship or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of the contract specification, the department shall either reject the material or ask the supplier verbally to rectify / replace the defective material free of cost to the department, if the supplier fails to do so, the department may:
a) At this option replace or rectify such defective materials and recover the extra costs so involved from the supplier, AND / OR
b) Terminate the contract with forfeiture of CDR.

8. The bids are to be submitted in single cover system cover system as under:-
i/- Technical bid Cover "A": a/- Registration Certificate of the bidder.
b/- Latest GST Return Statement (Not Prior than 12/2021)
c/ EMD in the form of CDR Pledged/in favour of the Executive Engineer PHE Division Chadoora.
d/ BOQ

The payment shall be released upon successful installation commission of the items, subject to the availability of funds.

All other terms and conditions shall be the same as are laid down in P.W.D Form No: 25.

No:-PHEDC/6966-72
Dated:- 01-01-2022

DIPK-16063/21

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Jal Shakti PHE Division Chadoora.

RBI Allows Offline Digital Payments

Press Trust Of India

MUMBAI: To push digital transactions in rural and semi-urban areas, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday issued a framework allowing offline payments up to Rs 200 per transaction, subject to an overall limit of Rs 2,000.

An offline digital payment means a transaction that does not require internet or telecom connectivity.

Under the offline mode, payments can be carried out face-to-face (proximity mode) using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets, and mobile devices.

These transactions will not require an additional factor of authentication (AFA), the Reserve Bank of India said, adding that since the transactions are offline, alerts (by way of SMS and/or e-mail) will be received by the customer after a time lag.

"Transactions are subject to a limit of Rs 200 per transaction and an overall limit of Rs 2,000 for all transactions until the balance in the account is replenished. Balance replenishment can only occur in an online mode," said the Framework for Facilitating Small Value Digital

Payments in Offline Mode.

The framework incorporates the feedback received from the pilot experiments on offline transactions conducted in different parts of the country during the period from September 2020 to June 2021, it said.

"Offline transactions are expected to give a push to digital transactions in areas with poor or weak internet or telecom connectivity, particularly in semi-urban and rural areas. The new framework is applicable with immediate effect," the RBI said. The offline mode of payment, it said, can be enabled after obtaining the specific consent of the customer.

The customers, it added, will continue to enjoy protection under the provisions of circulars limiting customer liability and will have recourse to the Reserve Bank Integrated Ombudsman Scheme for grievance redress.

Offline payments can be made using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets, and mobile devices. "Offline payments shall be made in proximity (face-to-face) mode only," it said and added that such transactions may be offered without AFA.



Dubai's Emaar Group To Develop 5 Lakh Sq Ft Shopping Mall In Srinagar

Press Trust Of India

DUBAI: Dubai-based realty firm Emaar Properties on Monday said it will develop a 5 lakh square feet shopping mall at Srinagar in Jammu & Kashmir. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between the governments of Dubai and Jammu & Kashmir to facilitate investments into this proposed project, Emaar said in a statement. This will be the first significant FDI investment in the union territory, it added.

According to the MoU, Emaar will develop 'Emaar Mall' of 5,00,000 square feet in size in Srinagar. "The UAE and India are considering other investments into real estate, hospitality and mixed use commercial and residential projects in Jammu and in Srinagar," Alabbar said.

"The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has created a very attractive investment landscape, and this FDI project is a reflection of the close brotherly relations between UAE and India. We are looking forward to several projects being announced in the near future and



reflection point and we will invite other UAE investors to look at this opportunity too," he said. Mohamed Alabbar, Founder of Emaar, said the company intends to bring a world-class mall experience to residents of Jammu and Kashmir and also the tourists. "EMAAR is also considering other investments into real estate, hospitality and mixed use commercial and residential projects in Jammu and in Srinagar," Alabbar said.

"The Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has created a very attractive investment landscape, and this FDI project is a reflection of the close brotherly relations between UAE and India. We are looking forward to several projects being announced in the near future and

significant employment opportunities being created in the process," said Aman Puri, Consul General of India in Dubai.

Last month, the Jammu and Kashmir government opened the union territory to the country's real estate investors by signing 39 MoUs worth nearly Rs 19,000 crore at a real estate summit held in Jammu. As many as 20 MoUs were signed for development of housing projects, while 7 were inked for commercial, 4 for hospitality, 3 infratech, 3 film and entertainment and 2 finance projects. In 2005, Emaar Properties entered the Indian real estate market in partnership with India's MGF group and invested Rs 8,500 crore through joint venture Emaar MGF Land.

DUBAI EXPO 2020

Investment From GCC Crucial For Growth Of J&K: Principal Secretary I&C

Observer News Service

DUBAI: The Union Territory (UT) of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) has witnessed tremendous transformation after the LG administration took over the reign, stated Ranjan Prakash Thakur, Principal Secretary, Industry and Commerce, J&K, while speaking at inaugural ceremony of J&K week at the India Pavilion in EXPO 2020 Dubai on Monday.

The J&K pavilion was inaugurated by Ranjan Prakash Thakur in presence of Dr Aman Puri, Consul General of India in Dubai and Deputy Commissioner General for India at Expo 2020 Dubai.

"We need to develop J&K into a modern and a progressed UT as the destination is abundantly blessed with unique composite culture and incredible heritage besides thousands of years of its matchless artwork and handicrafts", maintained Thakur.

Talking about growth trajectory of the Union Territory, Thakur said that at EXPO 2020 Dubai, we are showcasing



the rich heritage of J&K besides the investment opportunities here which have substantially evolved in the last 2 years.

Thakur also highlighted the specific investment opportunities in the region under the leadership of Prime Minister. The Union Territory is witnessing major developments in line with the heritage of the region beautifully displayed at the pavilion.

Principal Secretary also talked about the sectors in J&K

which have business potential for growth making a mention of tourism as one of the most crucial sectors. "Kashmir valley will be a key destination for development of hotels, hospitals, handloom and horticulture while Jammu will be focusing on growing sectors such as production, pharma, inland container depot and real estate", he asserted.

Unemployment Reaches 4-Month High Of 7.91% In Dec: CMIE

Press Trust Of India

NEW DELHI: India's unemployment rate touched a four-month high of 7.91 per cent in December 2021, data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) showed on Monday.

The unemployment rate had stood at 7 per cent in November, the highest since August which was at 8.3 per cent, according to the CMIE data.

The urban unemployment rate was at 9.30 per cent in December from 8.21 per cent in November 2021, while the un-

employment rate in rural areas stood at 7.28 per cent from 6.44 per cent in the previous month, according to the data.

CMIE Managing Director and CEO Mahesh Vyas told PTI that in December 2021, the number of jobs increased but the number of jobseekers was even higher.

"This is a good sign as the influx into the labour market was high. Around 8.3 million additional people were looking for jobs. However, four million jobseekers got employment," he stated.

Saffron Blooms In Rajouri As Cultivation Trial Bears Fruit

Observer News Service

RAJOURI: Influenced by the cultivation of saffron in the Kishtwar area of Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory, the District Administration Rajouri picked up an idea of Saffron cultivation in the district.

The District Administration desired the project to be taken up on an experimental basis by the Agriculture Department in Darhal Sub Division as the terrain and climatic conditions of that area are almost akin to that of Kishtwar.

The Department selected one farmer Vishal Chander Sharma of Panchayat Kot Dhara, Block Dhangri, Zone Fatehpur. The farmer possesses only 15 kanal un-irrigated land in which he has been growing Wheat and Maize crops.

He agreed to cultivate saffron in 15 marlas for which the saffron seed (ora) was purchased by the Agriculture Department from Pampore Kashmir and supplied to him. In addition to the seed, some other assistance like fertilizer, labour charges, weedicides etc was also provided to him.

The technical issue in saffron cultivation is the preparation of bed which was a great challenge for the farmer as he was to grow saffron for the first time but he was able to accomplish it.

With no prior experience in growing saffron, the help of

the experts from Kishtwar was sought who assisted the farmer in the cultivation of the saffron.

Sowing of the seed was done on August 24, 2021 but after 3-4 days of sowing, there were heavy rains for 28 days affecting its germination and delayed sprouting. Cultural operations were done during the entire process.

Blooming started on Dec 12, 2021 and flowers bloomed the same day. The blooming process continued for 15 days resulting in 734 flowers in total and on average 45-50 flowers per day. Plucking of the flowers was done on the same day of blooming.

Stigmas were separated from the flowers on the second day of plucking. The sweet and pleasant fragrance of the flowers was a matter of great pleasure and encouragement for Vishal.

The field was looking beautiful, particularly in the morning, and presented a magnificent view to the passerby. The farmers of the adjoining area are also fascinated and expressed their desire to cultivate saffron in the forthcoming season.

Now the challenge for the Agriculture Department and the farmer is protection, preservation and multiplication of the seed for future cultivation.

Vishal Chander, farmer is highly thankful to the District Administration Rajouri and Department of Agriculture for motivating him to cultivate saffron in this area.

'Funds Allocated Must Be Utilized For Development Of Agri Sector'



Observer News Service

SRINAGAR: The Director Agriculture Kashmir, Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal Monday in a meeting of senior officers reviewed the physical/financial progress on the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes and Capex budget.

On the occasion, Scheme wise/ district wise expenditures on various centrally sponsored schemes were reviewed.

The Director highlighted the importance of effective and timely utilization of funds for the welfare and wellbeing of the farming community.

He said every single penny allocated must be utilized for the development of the agriculture sector and for the benefit of the farming community. He also instructed the concerned officers to submit the utilization certificates immediately on all schemes.

Iqbal impressed upon the officers of departmental farms to make ef-

forts for the optimum utilization of these departmental assets.

'Department will have to make 2.90 crores of seedlings available to the farming community in the upcoming season and as a team, we will overcome this challenge', he added.

The meeting discussed the progress on the implementation of centrally sponsored schemes including PM Kissan, Soil Health card scheme, Registration of Bee Keepers on Madhu Kranti portal, Registration of new FPOs etc in detail and instruction regarding various issues were passed on to the concerned officers.

The meeting was attended by Joint Director Agriculture Extension, Joint Director Agriculture Inputs, Joint Director Agriculture Farms, Joint Director Apiculture and Mushroom, Joint Director Agriculture engineering, Joint Director Marketing, Deputy Director Planning, all Chief Agriculture Officers and other senior officers of the department.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, GENERATION DIVISION LJHP BARAMULLA

(Email id: xeneljh@gmail.com)

Gist of E-NIT No: GD/LJHP/29 of 2021-22

Dated: - 30-12-2021

(Tender ID: 2021_SPDC_155579_1)

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, J&K Power Development Corporation, sealed bids affixed with revenue stamps worth Rs. 6 valid for 180 days, pledged to the Chief Engineer Generation Wing PDC Srinagar, are invited from OEMS (original equipment manufacturers)/Registered firms/A class Electrical/ mechanical contractors having sufficient experience of the relevant job for following works:

S. No	Description	Qty	Estimated cost (Lacs)	Amount of EMD	Cost of tender specification (Non refundable)	Time of completion
1.	Replacement of nonfunctional and damaged lights of main hall of PH for illumination/lighting along with placement of proper lights at other floors like turbine, MIV etc inside PH along with renovation and revival of its circuitry, protection and control along with replacement of damaged cabling/wiring. Providing of new floor lights at 132KV switchyard, divisional stores complete job including replacement of damaged cables/wiring, protection & control and providing of protection and control of 3x35 MW LJHP power house	As per online BOQ	8.56	5% Bid security to be submitted by successful bidder before placement of LOA	Rs. 1500 Non-Refundable may be transferred through DD/RTGS/NEFT or any other digital mode into the Account of Ex. Engineer GD/LJHP Baramulla, on account of cost of bid document under A/c No 0213010200000045 J&K Bank T.P.Baramulla IFS Code: JAKAOTHSIL and the soft copy of bank transaction ID/DD/transfer receipt shall upload with online bid document	60 Days

CRITICAL DATES

1.	Date of Issue of tender notice	30.12.2021
2.	Period of downloading of bidding documents.	31.12.2021 to 12.01.2022
3.	Bid submission start date	31.12.2021
4.	Bid submission end date	12.01.2022
5.	Date & time of opening of Technical Bid (Online).	13.01.2022

- The complete bidding process will be online. The online bids must be submitted in two separate covers. Cover one distinctly marked as "COVER-I" shall contain techno commercial bid, and Cost of tender document. Cover-II distinctly marked as "COVER-II" shall contain price bid only.
- Bid documents can be download from the website www.jktenders.gov.in. The bid documents contain Qualifying criteria for the bidders, specifications, Bill of Quantities, terms & conditions and other details.

The following authenticated documents are to be submitted along with the tender; otherwise the tender will be liable to rejection.

- Proof of purchase of tender document.
- Prescribed EMD (Exempted)
- Copy of Registration certificate
- Copy of valid GST Registration Certificate.
- Copy of IT PAN card.
- Copy of LOAs/ Documentary evidence of having executed similar jobs as per technical criteria
- Documentary evidence of financial capability

The bidder shall satisfactorily meet the following Qualifying Criteria as per CVC guidelines:-

- Technical Criteria: Experience of having successfully completed similar works during last 7 years ending last day of month previous to the one in which applications are invited should be either of the following: -
 - Three similar completed works costing not less than the amount equal to 40% of the estimated cost. Or
 - Two similar completed works costing not less than the amount equal to 50% of the estimated cost. Or
 - One similar completed work costing not less than the amount equal to 80% of the estimated cost.
- Financial Criteria
 - Average Annual financial turnover during the last 3 years, ending 31st March of the previous financial year, should be at least 30% of the estimated cost.
 - Authority reserves the right to: -
 - Increase / Decrease the quantity of work.
 - Reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

No GD/LJHP/Tech/845-53
DATED: 30.12.2021
DIPK-NB-6299/21

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
GENERATION DIVISION LJHP
GANTAMULLA BARAMULLA

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR OFFICE OF THE DIVISIONAL FOREST OFFICER URBAN FORESTRY DIVISION SRINAGAR

e-NIT No.: 10 of 2021-22 DATED:- 30-12-2021

For and on behalf of the Hon'ble President of India, e-tenders (Two cover system) are invited from registered, reputed and resourceful Contractors/Firms registered with Jammu & Kashmir Govt./Central Govt. Organizations for the following works:-

Name of Work:- Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by carrying out afforestation by means of Planting of Conifer plants, Broadleaved plants, Fruit plants, Medicinal Plants, Dibble & Patch Sowing and all other associated operations as per site conditions involving extraction/lifting/carryage of plants from different Nurseries of Urban Forestry Division / JKFR Nurseries.

S. No.	Particulars of Work	Adv. cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Bid Security	Class of contractor	Cost of Tender Document	Time of completion
1	Planting of seedling / saplings in pits of size 45cmx45cm-45cm within the available blanks of identified site including extraction/carryage/lifting of plants from different nurseries of Urban Forestry Division Srinagar / JKFR Nurseries by mechanical transport within a maximum lead of 100 Kms and headload carriage including loading and unloading up to site of work with all operations, in Zabarwan, S.Park range, as per break up: (i) Conifer Plants=14850 Nos (ii) Dibles = 4125Nos (iii) Patch Sowing = 4125Nos (iv) Seed Balls = 20000 Nos Area to be treated = 14 Hectare Note: Plant material shall be supplied departmentally..	5.41	BSD Form	"C" & "D" Class PWD Contractor/ Forest Contractor / JKFC Contractor	300/=	One calendar month.

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

Position of Funds: Budgeted.

Position of AA: Accorded.

Position of TS: Accorded.

Publishing Date:-	30-12-2021
Download Start Date:	31-12-2021 from 03:00 PM
Bid submission Start Date:	31-12-2021 from 03:00 PM
Bid submission End Date:	08-01-2022 up to 06:00 PM
Date of Opening of Technical Bid through online:	10-01-2022 at 11:30 AM in the office of the Conservator of Forests Srinagar Circle, Srinagar
Date of Opening of Financial Bid through online:	To be opened (Online) at any convenient date and time after complete Evaluation of Technical Bids Received.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- The bids shall be deposited in electronic format on the departmental website: <https://jktenders.gov.in>. Bidders are advised to download bid submission manual from the "Downloads" option as well as from "Bidders Manual Kit" on website [jktenders.gov.in](http://www.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.
- Bids uploaded must accompany Govt. Treasury Receipt (cost of tender document) in the shape of Treasury Challan for the amount shown against the work above to be deposited in Govt. Treasury under Account Head 0406: Forest and Bid Security in the shape of Bid Security Declaration form duly filled in with time period prescribed and addressed to Divisional Forest Officer. The bids for the work shall remain valid for a period of 75 days from the date of opening of bids.
- The bidders have to submit their Technical & Financial bids online in electronic format with digital signature. No Technical or 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 BSD Form, Valid Registration Card issued by PWD/CPWD/Forest Dept. duly renewed for the current year 2021-22, PAN, Valid GST Registration, Govt. 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 bidders should not be involved in any forest related offence.
- The successful bidder has to complete the work in stipulated time being a seasonal activity otherwise the successful bidder shall be liable to action under rules.
- 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 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.

No: DFO/UF/L/Tender/5422-27
Dated: 30/12/2021
DIPK-16042/21

Sd/-
Divisional Forest Officer,
Urban Forestry Division,
Srinagar.

Javed Akhtar Questions Silence Of PM, His Own Over 'Bulli Bai' Row

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI: Veteran screenwriter Javed Akhtar on Monday said "appalled" with everyone's silence, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his own, over the harassment of Muslim women, whose doctored pictures were put online for auction in a latest incident of hate crime against Muslims.

Hundreds of Muslim women, including prominent personalities, were listed for "auction" on an app called 'Bulli Bai' with photographs sourced without permission and doctored. It has happened for the second time in less than a year. The app appeared to be a clone of Sulli Deals which triggered a similar row last year.

Akhtar took to Twitter and

said he was stunned by the prevailing "silence" over these issues.

"There is an online auction of hundred women There are so called Dharm Sansads, advising the army the police and the people to go for the genocide of almost 200 MLN Indians. I am appalled with every one's silence including my own and particularly of The PM. Is this Sub ka saath?" the 76-year-old tweeted.

Akhtar also commented on a Dharma Sansad held in Haridwar last month sparked public outrage over hate speeches allegedly delivered by some participants against Muslims. A second FIR was lodged against 10 persons in connection with the event on Monday.

Akhtar's son, actor-filmmaker

Farhan Akhtar also tweeted against the "sickening" act of putting women for 'auction', which first emerged on Saturday.

"This is sickening! Request authorities to take swift and strict action against the people behind this grotesque act," Farhan tweeted on Sunday.

Several other Bollywood personalities, including actors Swara Bhasker, Richa Chadha, Shruti Seth and screenwriter Varun Grover also commented on the issue and called it "disgusting".

Grover said the targeting of Muslims in the country is systemic and deliberate.

"Islamophobia is not the right word for what we are seeing today. Phobias, though irrational, still have an element of doubt, external triggers, potential cures. The genocide calls, auctions

are deliberate, doubtless hatred aided by news TV propaganda and support from the system," the screenwriter tweeted.

On Monday, the Delhi Police sought details from the GitHub platform about the developer of the controversial 'Bulli Bai' app and wrote to Twitter for information about the account handler who first posted about it.

After demands for action against those behind the app, IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had said on Sunday that the government is working with police in Delhi and Mumbai, where cases have been registered in the matter.

He also said that GitHub has blocked the user who had uploaded the app and that the Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), the country's nodal agency on cyber security, and

police are coordinating further action in the matter.

A senior Delhi Police officer said on Monday, "As part of the probe into the matter, we have written to Twitter seeking information about the account handle who had first tweeted about the 'Bulli Bai' app."

"This is to know how the person concerned came across the alleged application which had offensive contents being written about women of a particular community."

The development comes after the Delhi Police on Saturday night registered an FIR against unknown persons for allegedly uploading a doctored picture of a woman journalist on a website. The journalist had lodged an online complaint and shared a copy on Twitter.

HC Sentences Delhi Police Officer To One-Day Imprisonment For Contempt Of Court

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court has sentenced a police officer to jail for a day for contempt of court after he arrested a person in breach of the directions of the Supreme Court. Justice Najmi Waziri refused to accept the apology tendered by the Delhi Police officer in the contempt proceedings and stated that personal liberty can be curtailed only by a procedure established by law.

The High Court also fined the police officer Rs 2,000 and imposed a nominal cost of Rs 15,000 for these proceedings on him, to be paid to the petitioner who suffered incarceration for 11 days.

"Keeping in mind that R-3 is a serving police officer with the Delhi Police, that he has served for seven years and may have a long career ahead of him, he is sentenced to simple imprisonment for one day along with a fine of Rs 2,000 as well as nominal costs of Rs 15,000 for

these proceedings, to be paid by him to the petitioner within four weeks," the court said in its order passed in December.

Justice Waziri clarified that the order would be kept in abeyance for two months from its receipt in order to accord sufficient opportunity to the officer assail it if he so desired.

The High Court noted the petitioner was arrested on allegations of criminal breach of trust, entailing a maximum sentence of three years, without the mandatory issuance of a notice of appearance under section 41A of Criminal Procedure Code in terms of the Supreme Court's directions in Armesh Kumar case.

Justice Waziri said the "high-handedness of the police officer" in specific breach of apex court's directions was "evident" and the arrest of the petitioner was not warranted in the manner in which it was done.

CONTD. FROM FRONT PAGE

2 Militants Killed

As per the police records Parray was a categorized militant and was active since 2016 and was wanted by law in several "terror crime cases".

"He was involved in several civilian killings including the killing of Bashir Ahmad Dar and his brother Ghulam Hassan Dar at Shahgund Hajin on 05/05/2018, killing of Hilal Ahmad Parray at Parray Mohalla Hajin on 16/05/2018. Besides, he was also involved in the throat slitting of many civilians in Hajin area," the police spokesperson said.

The killed LeT militant, he said, was also involved in providing logistic support to the militants operating in the area to carry out attacks.

He further said that Parray had spread a "reign of terror by abducting civilians and killing/torturing" them in the name of informers, besides being involved in reviving the militant folds of LeT in Hajin and its adjoining area.

Soon after Parray's killing, the police spokesperson said, another joint operation was carried out by police, CRPF and Army in the Gasu area under the jurisdiction of Police Station Zakoor.

During the said operation, he said, foreign militant identified as Hafiz alias Hamza of Pakistan linked with LeT was killed.

While interacting with media persons, the police spokesperson said that IGP Kashmir said that Hamza was involved in a series of attacks, including the recent killing of two policemen at Gulshan Chowk Bandipora on December 10, last year.

The Pakistani militant, he said, shifted to the Harwan area of the city due to frequent cordon & search operations in Bandipora.

"He was also involved in killing of a CRPF personnel at Hajin Bandipora, killing of a civilian namely Nadif Hanief Khan of Bilal Colony Soura in Buchpora," he said.

Moreover, the police spokesperson said that both the killed militants were also involved in attack on search party of police and government forces in Hajin in which one police personnel Ct Zaheer Abbas was killed.

"Incriminating materials, arms and ammunition were recovered from both the encounter sites. Police have registered cases under relevant sections of law regarding both the encounters and further investigation has been initiated," he said.

The police spokesperson quoted IGP Kashmir as congratulating the police and central forces for conducting successful operations without any collateral damage.

BSF Kills 'Intruder'

detected the suspected Pakistani intruder's movement along the IB in Ramgarh in the early hours and opened fire after challenging him, officials said.

The intruder did not pay any heed and was subsequently shot dead by the troops, they added.

Meanwhile, an infiltration attempt by militants was scuttled along the Line of Control (LoC) in Poonch district in the early hours of Monday, officials said here.

Troops guarding the Hamirpur area of Bimber Gali sector picked up movement of a group of suspected militants who were trying to infiltrate into this side from across the border under the cover of darkness, they said.

The alert troops scuttled the infiltration bid by challenging the group, who fled back into Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

A landmine, part of an anti-infiltration obstacle system, also exploded during this, the officials said.

They said a search operation was underway.

178 Test Covid

The twin districts of Rajouri and Kishtwar reported no new cases of

Covid-19.

"Moreover, 109 Covid-19 patients recovered during the time, 19 from Jammu Division and 90 from Kashmir," officials said.

Also, they said that no new Covid-19 related fatality was reported in J&K during the last 24 hours. So far, 4530 persons—2199 in Jammu and 2331 in Kashmir—have died due to the virus.

The officials also said that one new confirmed case of mucormycosis (black fungus) was reported Monday. So far 51 black fungus cases have been confirmed in J&K, the officials said.

LG Launches

which was badly hit by the disease since its outbreak in early 2020.

"As the inoculation drive for the children aged between 15 and 18 years started across the country, it has also launched in Jammu and Kashmir. In the coming week, the targeted population (8.33 lakh) will be vaccinated," the Lt governor told reporters after launching the vaccination drive from the Government Higher Secondary school for boys in Gandhi Nagar here.

Lauding the contribution of the medical fraternity, including doctors and nurses, in the fight against the pandemic, Sinha said five districts, among a total of 20, have already registered 100 per cent vaccination of the targeted population.

"The government has assured 70 per cent doses (for the children) and the rest will be provided shortly. We are concerned about the completion of the process within the stipulated time," Sinha said.

Referring to the high-level meeting chaired by him to review the COVID-19 status, Omicron and preparedness of health infrastructure here on Sunday, the Lt governor said the meeting was convened in the wake of increase in the cases of Omicron variant in the country.

"We are keeping our preparations ready. So far, we are saved from this (Omicron) threat," he said, adding "our effort is to provide the best possible (medical) services to the people".

As many as 822 vaccination sites have been set up across 20 districts for the vaccination of the children, officials said, appealing to the youngsters to come forward and get themselves vaccinated.

The officials said hundreds of teenagers, who had registered for the first dose through various modes, turned up to receive the shot.

Special vaccination centres have been established in government schools and private coaching centres as well to cover the intended age group of individuals, they said.

Later in a tweet, the Lt governor said, "COVID-19 vaccination starts for children aged 15-18 years in J&K. My humble request to the young friends to get vaccinated. Vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic."

The teenagers, who have turned up to get the first shot of COVID-19 vaccine, were excited and expressed a hope to get back to their schools soon.

"I was waiting for the day to get my dose of the vaccine as the pandemic forced us to stay back at our homes most of the time over the past nearly two years. We want to get back to the school as soon as possible," Harmanjot Singh, a student of Class 11 of a private school, said.

Principal of Jodhamal School Deep Khare said the response to the special camp organised at the school for the vaccination of the students was encouraging.

"There was no apprehension in the mind of the student or their parents. Everyone was waiting for this vaccination drive and not a single parent raised any concern," he said.

Khare said there are 550 students of 15-18 age group and some of the students who are outside the station due to ongoing winter vacation will be inoculated later.

"The government has made the

vaccination very easy and we believe it will be a game changer for resuming offline classes. After vaccination, the students can attend their classes without any fear and we are expecting to resume the offline classes for students of 9-11 classes shortly," he said.

On December 25, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the inclusion of the 15 to 18 age group in the nationwide Covid immunisation programme from January 3.

Eligible teenagers will be administered Covaxin as it is the only vaccine with Emergency Use Listing (EUL) for the 15-18 age group, and it is also recommended by the 'COVID-19 Working Group' of the National Technical Advisory Group on immunisation.

The children taking the vaccine were kept under observation for 30 minutes and would be given the second dose after 28 days.

Parents accompanying their children also expressed satisfaction over the drive and possible resumption of offline classes.

Vaccination Critical

Jammu & Kashmir, an official spokesperson said Monday. He said the vaccination for the UT was started from Government Higher Secondary School (Boys), Gandhi Nagar in Jammu division with the inoculation of the dose to the children under 15-18 years age group.

"Vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the Covid pandemic. My humble request to the young friends to get vaccinated," Sinha said, as per official spokesperson.

"Don't be complacent after getting vaccinated. It's crucial to continue following COVID protocols & guidelines," he added.

According to the official spokesperson, the LG asked the health officials to keep the vaccinated children under mandatory observation period.

"J&K Government has made all preparations for the smooth administering of Covid vaccine to the 15-18 age group. A robust action plan has been prepared for the vaccination drive starting from today," he said.

According to the official spokesperson, the vaccination drive for the children in the 15-18 years age group will be carried out across the Union Territory.

"Online & walk-in registration, besides other required facilities are made at the vaccination centres. School education department has also been asked to encourage the children to get vaccinated," he added.

Fresh Snow

8th January and gradual decrease thereafter."

It said the system is likely to cause heavy rain and snow mainly in Pirpanjal Range of Jammu Division (from Bhaderwah to Banihal), upper reaches of Kashmir (Gulmarg, Sonamarg, Baramulla and Kupwara, and Drass sub-division in Ladakh).

Regarding probable impacts, the weather advisory says that there may be disruption of surface and air transport including Jammu-Srinagar Highway, Srinagar-Leh Highway (Zojila Pass), Leh-Manali, Mughal Road, and Sadhna pass.

"(there are) chances of snow avalanches and landslides in vulnerable areas besides disruption of power supply in hilly areas."

There may be water logging in low lying areas besides further dip in day temperatures, it said.

"People in snow bound areas are to avoid venturing into sloppy areas during heavy snow," it reads, adding, "People are also advised to maintain proper ventilation."

Meanwhile, Most places in Kashmir experienced warmer than usual nights as minimum temperature at several places stayed above the freezing point on Monday, officials said.

Srinagar recorded the minimum temperature of 3.0 degrees Celsius, up

from the previous night's 0.3 degrees Celsius, the officials said.

Gulmarg, the famous skiing resort in north Kashmir, recorded a low of minus 5.8 degrees Celsius -- slightly up from previous night's minus 6.2 degrees Celsius.

The officials said Pahalgam recorded a low of minus 3.0 degrees Celsius down from minus 1.7 degrees Celsius the previous night.

They said Qazigund recorded the minimum of 1.4 degrees Celsius, while the nearby south Kashmir town of Kokernag recorded a low of 0.6 degrees Celsius.

The mercury in Kupwara in north Kashmir settled at a low of 2.0 degrees Celsius.

Kashmir valley is currently under the grip of the 40-day harshest winter period known as 'Chilla-i-Kalan' which began on December 21.

'Chilleh Kalan' is a period when a cold wave grips the region and the temperature drops considerably leading to the freezing of water bodies including the famous Dal Lake here as well as the water supply lines in several parts of the valley.

The chances of snowfall are the most frequent and maximum during this period and most areas, especially in the higher reaches, receive heavy to very heavy snowfall.

J&K Sends More

1954 people from J&K were recruited in the army and in 2017-18, the number had slightly slipped to 1817. But, as per the data, the recruitments in J&K had seen a hefty boost during 2018-19 year when the total recruitments in the region had reached to over 3500. "3672 people were recruited from J&K during 2018-2019." The data reads.

It is pertinent to mention here that the state's/UTs where the idea of Nationalism had seen a drastic increase since 2014 have been placed in the category of "parts of India" that have recorded the lowest recruitments. As per the data, Uttar Pradesh had recorded only 28 recruitments per one million population during 2017-19, Madhya Pradesh has recorded 25 recruitments in the same category and Chhattisgarh has recorded 21. Gujarat had recorded only 16 recruitments in the same category during 2017-19 year.

Notably, as per the IIP sorted data, the lowest recruitments in India during 2017-19 were recorded in Goa(02), Tripura(69) and Meghalaya(89).

Srinagar Police

Inspector Sohail Mushtaq from DPL Srinagar to police station Batamaloo as SHO, Inspector Aijaz Ahmed from police station Batamaloo to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Aftab Ahmed from DPL Srinagar to police station Panthachowk as SHO, Inspector Nazir Ahmed from police station Panthachowk to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Sameer Ahmed from police station Lalbazar to police station R.M.Bagh as SHO, Inspector Towsif Ahmed Mir from police station R.M.Bagh to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Hafizulla from DPL Srinagar to police station Lal Bazar as SHO, Inspector Sabzar Ahmed from police station Shaheed Gunj to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Gowher Hussain from police station Nigeen to police station Shaheed Gunj as SHO, Inspector Lateef Ahmed from DPL Srinagar to police station Nigeen as SHO, Inspector Owais Ahmed from police station Zadibal to police station Safakadal as SHO, Inspector Towseef Ahmed Lone from police station Safakadal to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Javaid Ahmed from DPL Srinagar to police station Zadibal as SHO, Inspector Syed Junaid from police station Kralkhudd to police station Zakoor as SHO, Inspector Parvez Ahmad from police station Zakoor to DPL Srinagar, Inspector Khalida Parveen from police station Women to DPL Srinagar and Shaista Mughal to police station Women as SHO.

"All the transferees be deemed to have been relieved for their new place of transfer with immediate effect", the order further reads.

Mehbooba Seeks

day when the family including father of Arsalan met the PDP president. It also comes a day after the family staged at press enclave here, stating that he was innocent and that there was no justification in NIA claims as police had already released him.

"I am writing to you regarding the arrest of a nineteen year old student from Srinagar, Asrsalan Feroz was first detained by J&K police on 21st October 2021. After forty days he was subsequently released since nothing was found against him," reads the letter shared by Mehbooba on her twitter handle.

Arsalan son of Feroz Ahmad Ahanger resident of Zaldagar, M. R. Gunj Srinagar, was arrested on December 30 by NIA during searches in a case relating to conspiracy hatched for radicalising, motivating and recruiting youth of Jammu & Kashmir to effect violent activities in Jammu & Kashmir and rest of India by Sajjad Gul, Salim Rehmani alias Abu Saad and Saifullah Sajid Jutt, Commanders of LeT/TRF.

"Till date there has been no FIR or case registered against this young boy in any police record. Oddly enough according to NIA, Arsalan who recently couldn't take his twelfth grade exam owing to his detention has been accused of being a TRF operative including in radicalisation & motivating youth to join the ranks of militant organisations."

Mehbooba mentions meeting with "his crestfallen family today including his father who suffered a stroke because of the dire situation his son is in."

"It's an utter tragedy that a young boy has been arrested despite no previous adverse police records," she writes.

Such actions, she said, can have catastrophic consequences for him and his family.

Arsalan, she said, comes from a modest background where in they are already struggling to make ends meet.

"You can well imagine the mental anguish & suffering his arrest has brought upon them," she said and recalled his last trip to Kashmir when Shah spoke emphatically about engaging with the youth here. "Despite our political differences, I am sure we can agree that such incidents will only alienate our young generation further & leave them with permanent scars & a sense of despondency for a long time," she said, adding, "I request you to personally intervene in this case & ensure that justice is served." While the letter nowhere mentions word release, Mehbooba on twitter said that she urge Home Minister to "look into this case to ensure his release at the earliest."

2021 Saw Much Lesser

to the 40 CRPF jawans who were killed in the suicide bomb attack at Lethpora in Pulwama district in 2019.

While Shah's visit was aimed at reviewing the security situation and plugging the loopholes, the political class back home feel the graph of the security situation was going downwards.

After over two years of curbs, the political activity seemed to pick up towards the last quarter of the year with mainstream political parties like National Conference, People's Conference and new-entrant Apni Party holding rallies and workers' conventions across the union territory.

While PDP also did the same in Jammu region, it failed to get permission from authorities most of the time when it tried to hold similar events in the valley.

The politicians believe that the easing of curbs on political activity was due to the government's realisation that it cannot hold down dissent by

force too long.

"It was due to the farmers' agitation that the government has relented a bit but the activity is still nowhere near it should be in a vibrant democracy," veteran communist leader M Y Tarigami said.

National Conference spokesman Imran Nabi Dar added that the results of District Development Council elections were also in part responsible for the lifting of curbs.

"There was a general realisation following the DDC elections that they cannot put down dissent by force for too long. People will speak whenever they are given a chance," Dar said.

He said dissent was an important part of democracy "but it has been criminalised in Jammu and Kashmir".

Both the political leaders felt that 2021 was disappointing but they were hopeful for the coming year.

"This year was full of disappointments as none of the expectations were fulfilled. The expectations were raised by the assurances given by the Prime Minister during the all party meeting in Delhi. Contrary to bridging the gaps, the gulf is widening at all levels," Tarigami said.

The Communist leader said while the Prime Minister accepted that there are distances between Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir, there have been no conciliatory steps.

"Look at what is happening in villages and the city as well. Distances have increased and hearts have broken due to the widening gap. Instead of reaching out, the beaten tracks are followed. Harsh laws are used to silence the society including media," he added.

Dar said the gravity of the situation can be gauged from the fact the dissenting works of local media are disappearing from their archives.

They might be disappointed with 2021 but the political class of Jammu and Kashmir is hopeful of a better year ahead. It is evident from the second rung leaders changing parties and other events which usually take place before an election.

CRPF Constable

official sources said Monday.

Though the reason behind the extreme step was not known immediately, police have registered a case and started investigations.

BSF Seizes Arms,

The officials said the seizure included three AK rifles along with five magazines, four pistols along with seven magazines, five packets of heroin and some assorted ammunition.

The sack was noticed during patrolling, the officials said, adding that it had the markings of "Karachi Fertilizers Company Limited".

It was not immediately known whether the consignment was dropped by a drone or was smuggled from across the border by arms and narcotics smugglers, the officials said, adding that further details are awaited.

Cop Injured In

said Monday. Dar, suffered serious injuries in the accident and was removed to the JVC Hospital Bemina for treatment. His condition is reportedly critical.

The car driver, according to reports, fled from the spot leaving the traffic cop injured on the ground.

Meanwhile, Police have registered a case and launched a hunt to nab the accused driver.

Stray Dogs Kill

on Sunday late afternoon when over a dozen dogs attacked the sheep.

The canine attack forced Ahangar to run for safety, even as some locals appeared at the spot and dispersed the stray dogs.

"Five sheep died on the spot while the same number of sheep later on succumbed after treatment," Ahangar told a local news agency KNT.

An official said that the owner of the flock will surely be compensated.

Stokes Backs Root, Says 'No Ambition' To Be England Captain



Press Trust of India

SYDNEY: England's premier all-rounder Ben Stokes has made it clear that he has no captaincy ambition, backing, to the hilt, his under-fire Test skipper Joe Root and head coach Chris Silverwood in the wake of the Ashes debacle.

Root and Silverwood have faced sharp criticism following England's dismal show in the ongoing Ashes series, which the visitors trail 0-3.

Root has come under fire for his captaincy during the Ashes with Geoffrey Boycott, Michael Atherton, Ian Chappell and Ricky Ponting among his more high-profile critics.

"I've never really had an ambition to be a captain," Stokes, the England vice-captain, told reporters.

The 30-year-old has led England in one previous Test, a defeat by West Indies in 2020 when Root was on paternity leave.

He also led England to a 3-0 ODI series win over Pakistan last year when an entire squad had to be replaced because of an outbreak of COVID-19.

"Captaincy is more than about setting fields, picking the team, making decisions out there in the middle.

"A captain is someone you want to go out and play for. Joe Root is someone I always want to play for."

Root is set to become England's longest-serving Test skipper when he leads the side out in the fourth Test here on Wednesday. He will overtake predecessor Alastair Cook, who captained the side for a record 59 matches.

While Root has been in imperious touch with the bat, this is the third Ashes series he has led without a win, but Stokes doesn't expect the 31-year-old to step down just yet.

"It's totally Joe's decision. He shouldn't be forced into doing it. I'm sure Cooky (Alastair Cook) felt the same way. He did it for so long and when he knew his time was up, his time was up.

"Those discussions haven't entered anywhere near Joe yet. I don't sense that at all with Joe. He's brought this team a long way. He's done some great things.



REAL KASHMIR'S ACADEMY team trials at DFA Zone Pattan on Sunday witnessed young footballers give their best in chilling cold. This is the first time RKFC is making a foray into finding footballing talent outside Srinagar. The club is all set to launch its Pattan youth academy soon. District Football Association (DFA) Zone Pattan thanked RKFC and appreciated their efforts to create a grassroots academy in Pattan.

India All Out For 202 On Day 1 Of 2nd Test

Press Trust of India

JOHANNESBURG: India were all out for 202 on the opening day of the second Test against South Africa here on Monday.

India, who reached 146 for five at tea, added 56 runs at the loss of five wickets during the final session of the day.

Stand in skipper KL Rahul (50) was the top-scorer for the visitors while R Ashwin (46) played a crucial knock towards the end of the innings.

Left-arm pacer Marco Jansen (4/31) was the pick of the South Africa bowlers while Duanne Olivier (3/64) and Kagiso Rabada (3/64) also played their part in wrapping up Indian innings.

India lost two wickets in the post-lunch session—that of Rahul and Hanuma Vihari (20 off 53) and three in the morning



session after electing to bat.

South Africa were 35/1 after 14 overs when last reports came in, with captain D. Elgar and K. Petersen on the crease. M. Shami removed A. Makram in the fourth over of the match.

Brief Scores:

India 1st innings: 202 all out in 63.1 overs. (Mayank Agarwal 26, KL Rahul 50; Duanne Olivier 3/64, Marco Jansen 4/31, Kagiso Rabada 3/64).

Bangladesh 401-6 At Stumps On Day 3 Of 1st Test



Agencies

MOUNT MAUNGANUI: Captain Mominul Haque scored 88 to lead Bangladesh to a 73-run, first-innings lead over New Zealand in the first cricket test Monday, in one of its best-ever performances away from home.

Mominul shared a 158-run partnership with wicketkeeper Liton Das, who made 86, steering Bangladesh to 401-6 at stumps on the third day in reply to New Zealand's first innings of 328.

Bangladesh has seldom been so commanding in New Zealand, where it has never won a match in any format, or anywhere outside the sub-continent.

It began the day 175-2 with Mahmudul Hasan Joy 70 not out after a 104-run partnership on the second day with Najmul Hossain Shanto (64). Joy was out early for 78 and Mominul and Liton Das then combined in a partnership which occupied the next 52 overs and saw the tourists attain a first-innings lead 20 minutes after tea.

Trent Boult dismissed both Mominul and Liton Das within four overs of each other in the final session to slightly diminish

the tourists' commanding possession. But the day belonged to Bangladesh and for the second day in a row they finished with the upper hand.

It wasn't always easy. When he was on 9, Mominul edged a ball from Neil Wagner to wicketkeeper Tim Blundell but was relieved when television replays showed Wagner had overstepped. The South Africa-born fast bowler nursed a grievance for the rest of the day, during he failed to take another wicket, and engaged in a war of words with Mominul until his dismissal.

Mushfiquur Rahim came and went quickly, bowled by Boult for 12 to leave Bangladesh 203. From then the day belonged to Mominul and Liton Das who were finally separated when Bangladesh was 361-5, already 33 ahead.

Mominul reached his 15th test half century from 147 balls and Das his 11th from 93 balls. His swifter scoring increased pressure on the New Zealand bowlers, who have bowled 156 overs.

Mominul finally was out, trapped lbw by Boult on 88 and Das followed, caught by Blundell from Boult's bowling not too far from stumps.

I-League Suspended For 6 Weeks After Fresh COVID Outbreak



Press Trust of India

KOLKATA: The I-League was on Monday suspended for at least six weeks by the All India Football Federation (AIFF) after a fresh COVID-19 outbreak hit the participating teams inside the bio-bubble here.

It has been learnt that the total number of COVID-19 cases now stands at 45 after the latest round of tests which prompted the AIFF to suspend the league

for six weeks.

"The I-League stands postponed for at least six weeks," a top official told PTI.

The I-League officials will take stock of the situation in the first week of next month and decide the future course of action.

I-League was suspended for a week on Wednesday after COVID-19 breached its bio-bubble.

Eight players and three officials had tested positive for the

dreaded virus, last week.

Five players and three team officials from Real Kashmir FC, one player each from Mohamman Sporting, debutants Sreenidi Deccan FC and Aizawl FC had returned positive.

Thirteen teams are competing in this year's I-League across three venues -- the Mohun Bagan Ground in Kolkata, the Kalyani Stadium at Kalyani and the Naihati Stadium at Naihati.

Mohammad Hafeez Retires From International Cricket

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Veteran Pakistan all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez, who captained his national team in every format of the game, announced his retirement from international cricket on Monday, saying that he achieved more than he could ever imagine during a career spanning nearly two decades.

The 41-year-old top-order batter and off-spinner had announced his retirement from Test cricket in 2018.

Hafeez represented Pakistan in 392 international matches in which he scored 12,789 runs and took 253 wickets.

"Today I say good-bye to international cricket with pride and satisfaction. In fact, I have earned and accomplished more than I had initially envisaged and for that, I am thankful to all my fellow cricketers, captains, support staff and the Pakistan Cricket Board....," Hafeez said in a statement posted by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).

He played 55 Tests, 218 ODIs and 119 T20Is for the country including three ICC ODI World Cups and six T20 World Cups.

"...of course, my family who made big sacrifices to ensure I achieved my aspirations of representing Pakistan at a global stage," said Hafeez.

His international debut came in an ODI against Zimbabwe in 2003 and his last match was Pakistan's defeat to Australia in the T20 World Cup semi-final last November.

"I am extremely fortunate,



lucky and proud to have been considered worthy of donning the national kit with Pakistan emblem for 18 years.

"When you have a professional career as long as mine, you're bound to have your share of highs and lows, and I was no different.

"Results apart, I can say with conviction that I had more highs as I had the privilege of playing with and against some of the finest exponents of the bat and the ball of my era," Hafeez said.

During a successful career, he won 32 Player-of-the-Match awards, the fourth-highest among Pakistan players in all international cricket, with only Shahid Afridi (43), Wasim Akram (39) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (33) placed ahead of him.

Besides, Hafeez also earned nine Player-of-the-Series awards, which made him joint-second in the all-time list with Imran Khan, Inzamam and Waqar Younis.

He was a member of the Pakistan side that won the ICC Champions Trophy 2017 in England and Wales.

Can't Take Head Coach Job Full-Time: Saqlain To PCB

Press Trust of India

LAHORE: Former Pakistan spinner Saqlain Mushtaq has conveyed to the PCB that he would be unable to take up the head coach job with the national team on a full time basis due to his personal commitments.

According to a well-informed source in the Pakistan Cricket Board

(PCB), Saqlain, who has worked as interim head coach with the Pakistan team since September, has informed PCB chief Ramiz Raja of his inability to take up the role full-time.

"Saqlain told the chairman that while he was happy to have contributed as interim head coach he wouldn't be able to accept a long term and permanent assignment as head coach as he had prior business and personal commitments."

"Saqlain conveyed that already his business has been affected due to his absence with

the Pakistan team as interim head coach," the source said.

Saqlain was appointed in the interim role with the national team while working as a coach

at the High Performance Centre in Lahore after Misbah-ul-Haq and Waqar Younis suddenly announced their resignations as head coach and bowling coach soon after returning from the

West Indies tour. The source said that Saqlain had told Ramiz that he would continue to work as coach at the High Performance Centre as he wanted to remain based in Lahore but would be available for short tour or series assignments.

Both Babar and Saqlain had recommended having foreign coaches with the national team in the same meeting with Ramiz.

The PCB has already given advertisements for five coaching positions including a power hitting batting coach and head coach for the High Performance Centre.

Pandey Felicitates Gagan Singh For Clinching Gold Medal

Observer News Service

Jammu: Director Information and Public Relations, Rahul Pandey on Monday felicitated Gagan Singh Jamwal, departments' employee, for clinching gold medal in the 59th National Roller Skating Championship held at Mohali, Chandigarh.

Pandey termed the victory of Gagan and his team as a proud moment for the JK UT and DIPR as well. He complimented and

wished him a great future ahead with many more medals, an official spokesperson said.

Deputy Director Information (Central) Subash Dogra, Deputy Director Information (PR) Mridhu Slathia, Deputy Director ((AV) Chander Parkash Kotwal and Administrative Officer, Anil Kumar Mehta also congratulated Gagan Singh Jamwal and his team members for bringing gold medal for the UT, he added.

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (JAL SHAKTI DEPARTMENT)
PHE GROUND WATER DIVISION SRINAGAR.
BAGHI-ALI- MARDAN NOWSHERA SRINAGAR.

EXTENSION NOTICE
In view of "NO Response" for following tenders

- Construction of Gravel Packed Production Well for WSS Mohanpora Wachi Shopian./e-PHE/GWDS/ 66 of 12/2021, Dated- 21-12-2021
- Construction of 02 No. 125 mm dia Machine Drilled Hand Pumps at Water Scarcity of Vail Nagbal in District Anantnag./e-N.I.T. No- PHE/GWDS/ 67 of 12/2021 Dated 21-12-2021
- Construction of (02 No) 125 mm machine drilled hand Pump wells at New Colony Trehgam-D AND Vidhya Nagar Trehgam-D in District Kupwara./e-N.I.T. No- PHE/GWDS/ 62 of 12/2021
- Construction of (04 No) 125 mm machine drilled hand Pump wells at Mundigam in District Kupwara./e-N.I.T. No- PHE/GWDS/ 62 of 12/2021

which WERE scheduled to be downloaded till 31-12-2021 (upto 02.00 P.M) are hereby Extended as per the details given below..

S.No	Item	Fresh Date
1	Last date of Downloading of bids	06/1/2022 (0 2:00 P.M)
2	Last date of Submission of bids	06/1/2022 (0 2:00 P.M)
3	Date of opening of tenders	07/1/2022 (0 2:00 P.M)

Note:-
All other term and conditions shall remain same as laid down in Master NIT issued vide above referred endstt. No's.

No: PHE/GWD/5404.
Dated:-31-12-2021.
DIPK-16090/21

Executive Engineer
(JAL SHAKTI Department)
PHE Ground Water Div. Sgr.

JAMMU & KASHMIR PROJECTS
CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER JKPC LTD GANDERBAL/BANDIPORAUNIT.

FRESH NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS
NIT No: 25/e-Tendering/DGM/JKPC/UNIT-Ganderbal-Bandipora of 2021-22
Dated: 30.12.2021

For and on behalf of the Managing Director, JKPC Ltd, e-tenders (In Double cover system) are invited on item rate basis from approved and eligible Contractors registered with J&K union territory Govt. CPWD, Railways and other States/U.T. and Central Governments for the following works.

S.No	Name of Work	Est. Cost (Amount In Lacs)	Cost of Tender Document (in Rupees)	Time of completion	Class of Contract	Class
1	Construction of Balance civil works at PHC Nunner at Ganderbal	140.10	3000	120 Days	AAY	1 st

The Bidding documents consisting of specifications, bill of quantities (B.O.Q) set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/ downloaded from the website www.jktenders.gov.in

Sd/-
Deputy General Manager
JKPC Ltd.
Unit-Ganderbal-Bandipora.

No: Ten/2564-68
Dated:- 30-12-2021
DIPK-NB-6313/21

Book Governor Malik, Or Apologise: Congress to PM Modi

Agenceis

NEW DELHI: The Congress on Monday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to give a clarification on Meghalaya Governor Satya Pal Malik's allegation that he was "arrogant" on the farmers' issue and demanded an unconditional apology if it was true.

Congress spokesperson Randeep Surjewala said the Prime Minister should come forward and tell the truth to the nation, and sack the Governor, if he is not telling the truth.

"The entire nation is shocked with the text of the conversation between BJP-appointed Governor Malik and the Prime Minister on the farmers' agitation."

The Congress leader said the "anti-farmer" and "insensitive" face of Prime Minister Modi, his government and the BJP stands exposed.

"If Governor Malik is lying, he should be sacked and an FIR should be registered against him. But if he is not lying, Prime Minister Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah must come forward and apologise to India's toiling farmers and farm labourers. Otherwise, they will never pardon them," the Congress chief spokesperson told reporters.

"We demand that prime minister and home minister apologise unconditionally to farmers and tell them by when will families of farmers who died (during the farm laws protest) will be compensated," he said.

Targeting PM Modi, he said, "Mr Prime Minister, is this the language of the person holding the highest public office and elected by farmers." Senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge asked PM Modi whether Mr Malik's remarks were true.

Mr Kharage also shared a video clip on Twitter of Malik from an event in Haryana, where he is saying that the Prime Minister was "arrogant" when he went to meet him on the issue of farmers and had a fight with him within five minutes.

Mr Malik claimed in the video that PM Modi was not ready to accept that farmers who were protesting against three agricul-

ture laws of the Centre last year died due to him and instead, asked him to meet Mr Shah.

"Meghalaya's Governor Sri. Satya Pal Malik is on record saying PM was 'arrogant' on the issue of farmers and Home Minister Amit Shah called the PM as 'mad'. Constitutional authorities speaking about each other with such contempt!" Mr Kharge tweeted.

"Narendra Modi ji is this true?" the Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha asked.

Mr Malik is also heard saying in the video clip that when he met Mr Shah, the latter told him that "people have clouded his (Modi's) vision" and he should keep meeting the Prime Minister.

The Congress also shared Mr Malik's comments on its Twitter handle and alleged that it was due to Modi's arrogance that so many farmers had died.

"Due to the arrogance of PM Modi, farmers agitated on the streets for an entire year. As the elections approached, PM Modi realised his mistake and withdrew the agri laws, but farmers of the country will never forget nor forgive the pain and sting caused by this mistake," Congress said on its official Twitter handle.

"It was PM Modi's arrogance about the agri laws that forced the farmers to agitate on the streets for more than a year and over 700 farmers died. The countrymen have paid a big price for PM Modi's arrogance," it alleged.

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra targeted Modi alleging that he has an "anti-farmer" mindset and "false apologies" or withdrawal of the laws would not matter.

National Conference leader Omar Abdullah tweeted, "This man was their hatchet man in J&K now he bites that hand that fed him. The people of J&K can certify the untrustworthiness of Mr Malik."

Reacting to Mr Malik's allegation, Rajasthan Chief Minister and Congress leader Ashok Gehlot said, "I don't think Shah can use such language for the prime minister."

"Only two people are ruling the country



Lakhimpur Kheri Violence

SIT Files 5,000-Page Chargesheet, Mos Ajay Mishra's Son Named Accused

Agenceis

Lakhimpur: The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the October 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence case on Monday filed a nearly 5,000-page charge sheet.

Ashish Mishra, the son of Union Minister of State for Home Ajay Kumar Mishra, has been named as an accused in the case.

Ashish Mishra, who has already been arrested, was named as the prime accused in the case, according to sources.

Further, the number of accused in the case increased to 14 as another name has been added.

"The name of one more person, Virendra Shukla, has been added in the charge sheet. He has been charged under Section 201 of IPC,"

the prosecution lawyer said.

A total of eight people were killed in the Lakhimpur Kheri violence incident which took place on October 3, 2021, during a farmers' protest against the now-repealed three controversial farm laws.

Among the dead were four farmers, a journalist, two BJP workers and a driver.

A total of 13 persons are accused in the case, including Ashish Mishra and former Union Minister Akhilesh Das's nephew Ankit Das.

All the 13 accused, including drivers of the three SUVs and associates of Mishra and Das, are under arrest and are currently lodged in the Lakhimpur Kheri jail.

While the Allahabad High Court is yet to take a call on the bail application of Ashish Mishra, the bail pleas

of the other accused are pending before a local court in Lakhimpur Kheri.

The SIT had recently requested a local court to add two charges in the case, attempt to murder and voluntarily causing grievous hurt, against Ashish Mishra and the 12 other accused.

The court had admitted the SIT's plea and ordered the addition of the charges, including under sections of the Arms Act.

The SIT had said in a report submitted to the court that the four farmers and the journalist were killed in the violence as part of a "pre-planned conspiracy".

The SIT wrote in the report that the deaths "did not happen due to negligence or callousness" and that that accused persons' actions were "deliberate with an intention to kill". — IANS

Bulli Bai Case: Delhi Police Writes To Twitter To Remove Objectionable Content

Agenceis

Delhi Police have sought information from social media giant Twitter about the account that first tweeted about the 'Bulli Bai' app and asked it to remove the offensive content, sources said on Monday.

A shocking incident of harassment and insulting women of the minority community on social media came to light after a Delhi-based woman journalist lodged a complaint with the Delhi Police stating that she was being targeted by some unidentified group of people on a mobile application named 'Bulli Bai' created on GitHub platform.

"Bulli Bai", popped up on January 1, with a number of pictures of women including journalists, social workers, students and famous personalities, accompanied by derogatory content.

According to the sources, the police, in a letter, also sought information from software development platform GitHub about the 'Bulli Bai' app developer.

The victim journalist in her complaint had stated that she found out on January 1 morning that a website portal called bullibai.github.io (since deleted) had a doctored picture of



her in an improper, unacceptable and clearly lewd context.

"The term Bulli Bai itself seems disrespectful and the content of this website/portal is clearly aimed at insulting Muslim women as the derogatory term 'Bulli' is used exclusively for Muslim women," read the complaint.

She further said that the entire portal is designed to insult Muslim women and investigation is required as to whether there is an organised conspiracy regarding the same.

"Bulli Bai" was also being promoted by a Twitter handle with the name @bullibai, with its display picture of a "Kha-

listan supporter", and saying women can be booked from the app.

This handle was at the same time promoting Khalistan content as well.

Notably, the act of targeting the woman of minority community comes just six months after derogatory "Sulli Deals" mobile app had surfaced where photos of Muslim women were displayed without their consent.

The Delhi Police had registered an FIR on Sunday against unidentified people that are involved in harassing and insulting women of the minority community on social media.

Amit Shah Discusses Threats From Global Terror Groups At High-Level Meet

Agenceis

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Monday reviewed the country's prevailing security situation and emerging challenges that include threats from global terror organisations, illicit use of cyberspace and "movement of foreign terrorist fighters".

This was the first such high-level meeting, chaired by Mr Shah and attended by the top brass of the country's security and intelligence apparatus, in the new year.

"Hon'ble Union home minister conducted a high-level security meeting today to review the prevailing threat scenario in the country and the emerging security challenges," an official statement said.

He highlighted the continued threats of terrorism and global terror groups, terror financing, narco-terrorism, organised crime-terror nexus, illicit use of cyberspace, movement of foreign terrorist fighters, it said. The home minister stressed the need for better co-ordination and synergy among



the central and state security agencies in countering the ever-changing counter terrorism and security challenges.

The heads of security agencies of the country, prominent central intelligence agencies, Central Armed Police Forces, intelligence wings of armed forces, revenue and financial intelligence agencies attended the meeting, the statement said.

The DGPs of states and Union Territories also joined the meeting through video conferencing.

Wankhede's Tenure Ends At NCB, Will Report To DG DRI

Agenceis

Narcotic Control Bureau's Mumbai Zone head Sameer Wankhede will report to DG, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). His tenure at NCB ended on Monday.

IRS Sameer Wankhede faced a lot of flak after arresting Bollywood megastar Shah Rukh Khan's son Aryan Khan in connection with a drug case.

During Aryan Khan case, Sameer Wankhede was given four months extension which ended on December 31.

Sameer had said that it was for the government to decide his next posting.

NCP leader Nawab Malik who held several press conferences against Wankhede had even alleged that because of lobbying by BJP leaders, Wankhede was not transferred from NCB.

On the request of Sameer Wankhede the probe of Aryan Khan case was given to senior officials of the NCB.

As soon as the Wankhede's tenure at NCB ended, the matter started trending on social media, some requesting the home ministry to give him another term.

Earlier, during the probe in Aryan Khan case, when Wankhede was visiting his mother's grave he was followed by two people who later turned out to be cops.

Wankhede had been visiting his mother in cemetery everyday since 2015. Some individuals went to cemetery and took CCTV footage of him. Allegations were that those two individuals are Mumbai cops. Matter had been flagged off to the Mumbai Police Commissioner also.

Meanwhile, the charge sheet in Aryan Khan case is yet to be filed before the Mumbai Court. The NCB sources said they have prepared a draft charge sheet and that they wished the charge sheet would be filed by Wankhede, but now other officials will file it.

Respond to China on Galwan: Rahul Gandhi tells Govt

Agenceis

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to "break the silence" over Chinese "incursions" in the Galwan region of eastern Ladakh.

The opposition party has been targeting the Modi government over its handling of Chinese incursions in eastern Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh.

"Our tricolour looks good at Galwan. There should be a response to China, Modi ji, break the silence," Gandhi said on Twitter.

Earlier, Gandhi had sought to corner the government after China "renamed" 15 places in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Just a few days back we were remembering India's glorious victory in 1971. For the security and victory of the country, wise and strong decisions are needed. Hollow words do not win," he had said on Twitter on Friday.

Congress spokesperson Gourav Vallabh had hit out at the government saying that while China was renaming places in Arunachal Pradesh and setting up villages in Indian territory, the government was still carrying on with 100-billion-dollar trade with China.

He alleged that in the last 19 months, the Indian reaction to Chinese aggression has been to remain silent.



25th year OF PUBLICATION

KASHMIR OBSERVER

The methods used to consume news have changed over time from newspapers, to television, to the Internet on our computers to carrying the news around with us 24/7 on smartphones in our pockets.

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